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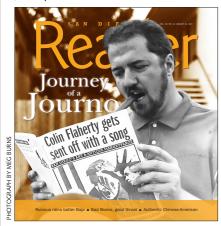
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January 26, 2023



And a good time was had by all — page 6



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Brown pelicans take the dive

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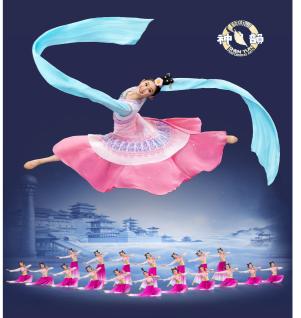
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIJUANA

Earthquake buckles bridge, rain ruins road

Unhappy New Year for drivers heading east

On April 14 of last year, an earthquake with an epicenter in Ensenada rattled Tijuana hard enough that the city closed its Simon Bolivar bridge. Eventually, it was determined that the bridge's infrastructure was so badly damaged that it had to be torn down. The bridge connected the Via Rapida Poniente highway with the city's two most populous districts, La Presa and La Presa Este. Authorities forecast that a new bridge would take six months to build, but that deadline has come and gone, and the project doesn't seem to be nearing completion.



Without the bridge and the embankment, the usual 25-minute trip has turned into 90 minutes or more.

the issue is that the bridge is not already working. If something like this would have happened closer to the downtown, it would be another story."

Francisco Javier has been a public transportation driver for 20 years, and he uses the road daily. Without the bridge and the embankment, his usual 25-minute trip has turned into 90 minutes or even more on Fri-

important to connect downtown and the east. It's unbelievable they haven't gotten it done yet."

IVAN MOLINA

THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Transit bonanza "86,000 additional homes with the scrub of a pen."

The most contested update to the land development code has been passed 3-1 by the city's land use and housing committee. Sustainable Development Areas — the city's new term for places where transitoriented housing can be built — was the "hot topic" of the proposed ordinance. The term refers to places that have good walk, roll, bike, or other micro-mobility access to transit. It does not replace "transit priority areas," which will remain in the code, applying to state programs that use that definition. Rather, it will apply to city incentive programs, mainly Complete

Communities and the ADU density bonus program.

The city says the new definition aligns with climate equity and housing goals. Officials said the change has a huge potential to lift housing, expanding by 5224 acres the amount of developable land when compared to the current "transit priority areas," which are defined by state law and don't account for physical barriers like steep hills and freeways that residents may encounter when trying to reach a bus or trolley. Eligibility for the city's housing incentive programs will also expand: there is a potential increase of 3342 acres in areas with high economic and educational opportunities, where affordable housing has historically struggled for a toehold.

Still, the move was not without its critics. A crowd of citizens spoke before the committee voted, most in opposition. Even vice-chair Joe LaCava, who said the concept originated from comments made by himself and councilmember Von Wilpert to try to align transit priority areas based on walkable and not geographic distance, wanted to hold it back. "It is a significant policy shift," said LaCava, "which I strongly believe does not belong in the annual code update." Geoffrey Hueter, chair of Neighbors For A Better San Diego, said it was buried in the staff report that 688 acres of commercial land is eligible for Complete Communities. He said that if you do the math, then at an average density of 125 units per acre — the average across the city's Complete Communities — you get "86,000 additional homes we're adding to San Diego with the scrub of a pen."

Other critics suggested that citizens should not have to take transit to get to transit. "It's actually being called the end of

"It takes me three times more than usual. The issue is not that the river destroyed the embankment; the issue is that the bridge is not already working."

As a result, rush hour traffic has become a permanent headache for the nearly half million people who live on that side of the city.

Then, on New Year's Eve, the wallop of heavy rainfalls led to the collapse of a provisional embankment road that the city has been using to keep traffic flowing while the new bridge is under construction. For now, the municipality is working on the embankment rebuild, but there have been no announcements about when the construction will be over or when the road will be reopened.

Sonia Garcia works in San Diego but lives in the El Florido neighborhood. She says the time spent in traffic to get back home, together with the two hour wait time to cross the border, is affecting her physically and even emotionally. "I can't believe I'm spending that much of my time coming back home," she says. "When I cross the border early in the morning, I'm rested, but after a full-time shift, I don't want anything but to get home — and it takes me three times longer than usual. The issue is not that the river destroyed the embankment;

days, he says. "We get back home exhausted, and there's no more left to play with the children, or if my wife wants to go out. Such a terrible situation. It affects us all, economically and physically."

Drivers earn their wages based on how many trips they can make in a day. Heavier traffic post-bridge closure means fewer trips, so they have to work overtime to make up the lost earnings. "This administration has opened new roads and we are thankful for that as drivers," says Javier, "but it seems like there is no priority to this issue unless people protest and demonstrate. That's the only way the government will look into it."

Alberto Guitierrez has driven this route daily for the last 10 years, and describes the current traffic as "unbelievable." He works near La Jolla, and so he must contend with border traffic as well as the mess in town. "It is just insane how much traffic we are having the last few years," he says. "Whether the municipality is building a metro system or not, the roads need to be working, at least. This bridge is really

"You've heard complaints that most people won't walk a mile to get to a bus stop. That's true. But this isn't just about walking to transit. Neighborhoods in

SDAs are walkable, bikeable, and close to jobs."

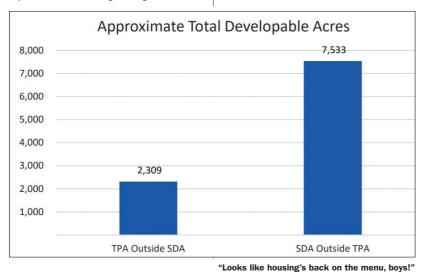


transit, because it incentivizes development farther from where people will use it," said Tom Mullaney with Livable San Diego. While the state's "transit priority areas" use 1/2 mile as the distance to a major transit stop, the city's Sustainable Development Areas extend that to one mile, which some say is too far. According to Neighbors for a

Better San Diego, bus use falls off rapidly just 1/4 mile from a stop.

But Jessie O'Sullivan, with the mobility advocacy group Circulate San Diego, supported the change. "You've heard complaints that most people won't walk a mile to get to a bus stop. That's true. But this isn't just about walking to transit. Neighborhoods in SDAs are walkable, bikeable, and close to jobs," he said. "Even if people in these areas drive, they're going to drive shorter distances."

SHEILA PELL



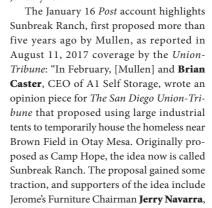


UNDER THE RADAR

Sunbreak's second chance

It didn't take long for **Rupert Murdoch**'s Fox News and the *New York Post* to pick up on a homeless opinion piece co-authored by exbasketball pro **Bill Walton**, adding to growing suspicions that San Diego's Democratic mayor **Todd Gloria** may be in for a high-profile election battle waged by well-connected national Republicans next year. "Most of us can no longer walk or bicycle our downtown city streets, sidewalks, and parks without facing an obsta-

cle course of tents, bodies, human excrement, needles, trash, and a slew of walking zombies who are impossible to distinguish between those just down on their luck and others who are out-of-control substance abusers about to attack us," writes Walton in the *Post*-quoted piece, said to be written with local political idea-man **George Mullen**, that initially appeared in the online *Times of San Diego* on January 15.



Metropolitan Airpark CEO Charles Black, the East Village Residents Group, Jacobs Center for Innovation chairmen Norm Hapke Jr. and Val Jacobs Hapke, Serving Hands International, and former San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn." But the idea went nowhere.

These days, the plan is to lobby the Biden Administration for free federal property and military services near

Miramar Ranch. "We need our President and federal government to lease 2000 acres of MCAS Miramar land to Sunbreak Ranch at \$1 per year, and to designate this land as a temporary 'federal emergency homeless help zone.' This will eliminate local red tape and opposition," the *Post* account quotes the Walton-Mullen piece as saying. "We need our President to deploy the military and security services to build a tent city for Sunbreak Ranch on this site with surplus equipment from the

Afghan and Iraq deployments. Our military and security services have the manpower, expertise, and equipment to build out this entire tent city within weeks. The cost of this Sunbreak experiment is minimal compared to the untold tens of billions of dollars currently being spent (to no avail) on homelessness annually."



Patrick Soon-Shiong has lost a round of his augmented reality patent battle against Niantic, maker of the games Pokémon Go and Harry Potter: Wizards Unite. According to a January 5 account by Bloomberg Law, a San Francisco federal court has ruled that a patent infringement claim brought by Soon-Shiongowned NanWorks LLC [sic] can't be enforced "because it covers an abstract idea."



George Mullen: pitching pitching tents for the homeless up in Miramar.

When the case was filed in September 2020, the website *ScreenRant* reported that Nant-Works claimed Niantic had misappropriated "three patents that cover the use of "groundbreaking" AR systems for video games." Four years ago, NantWorks acquired a minority interest in San Diego video game developer Daybreak, maker of *EverQuest* and *H1Z1*, the *Union-Tribune* reported on September 6, 2018. "Working with NantWorks, NantStudio and Dr. Soon-Shiong will allow us to maintain our cutting-edge development in the video game industry and to benefit from Nant's technological expertise and reach as a resource," majority owner **Jason Epstein** said in a state-

ment cited by the paper. In late 2020, Stockholm-based games group Enad Global 7 bought Daybreak for \$300 million.

Meanwhile, in other local video game maker news, San Diego Amazon Game Studios chief **John Smedley** has abruptly quit the company after seven years, reports *Bloomberg News*. "Amazon first launched Amazon Game Studios in 2013 and has had spotty success so far, cancel-



John Smedley isn't going to play, er, make Bezos' little games any more.

ing several games and releasing one, *Crucible*, that was shut down after a month," notes the January 11 post. "After a lot of thought, I've decided it's time for me to try my hand at something new," read a Smedley email to staff cited by the account. **Andy Sites** will step in as studio head while Smedley wraps up and helps with a transition, according to the letter. The departure comes as Amazon is set to begin laying off 18,000 employees...

continued on page 4

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.

Comments from SDReader.com — not

edited for punctuation, spelling, or grammar.

San Diego - Fentanyl City Cover Story, December 14, 2022

Loved the article! Great work! And true... "So, there is hope. We can fight this battle by communicating honestly and uniting for a common good. And most of all, by following through on the plans we have made to help others before it's too late." Never give up!!! Keep up the great work!

> -MPinedoA January 4, 2023

Thank you so much for the feedback. Stay safe.

> -Spike Steffenhagen January 7, 2023

Uber drivers share war stories of Southwest melt-down

Neighborhood News, January 2, 2023

I would never take Uber or Lyft. It's internet hitchhiking. Getting into a vehicle of a total stranger (especially at night) should be against anyone's better judgment.

> -Uber-cautious December 30, 2022

It goes both ways. We have straingers getting into our car sitting behind us, thus we are completely defenseless.

-Uber-defender January 5, 2023

I wouldn't drive for Uber or Lyft either. You are defenseless but being in control of the car gives the driver an advantage.

> -Uber-negative January 7, 2023

Jacumba - the next **Palm Springs?**

Cover Story, January 11, 2023 I remember as a kid the only thing in Jacumba/ Boulevard worth stopping for was the Wisteria Candy Cottage!

> -Sweet tooth January 11, 2023

Well, the Candy Cottage is still here and making candy. -Sweet pusher January 13, 2023

Really, the last sleepy out outpost in SD is being turned into Vegas!? Please no. Pl-le-ase!

> -Not in my outpost January 12, 2023

Definitely not being turned into Vegas! More like just being dusted off - and brought back more closely to its foundations of a small dusty western town with hot springs and an intimate community and its historic culture around nature, music, healing and art. Yes the hotel will be nice, but we have a very

intentional plan to offer something for everyone, local specials, and other offerings to make a place for everyone and all economic situations. The hot spring lake is 100% free to the public, we will always offer a form of free access to the springs, we believe this water and this place is owned a little bit by everyone but at the same time we would like to offer jobs and opportunity to this community and allow it to be sustainable and offer a quality of life to its residents, so we do have to have a working business to do that. We have zero intentions of being the new vegas or palm springs for that matter. We live here ourselves and only want the best for this community and everyone that

> -Jacumba clarifier January 13, 2023

lives here.

This was such a fun article to read, my only knowledge of Jacumba is through a man whom I was with for 30 years. He had a tinted, pen-and-ink drawing of the Jacumba Hotel. After his death in 2019, I contacted the manager of the Jacumba Resort. asking if he would be interested in a donation of the framed drawing. I believe it was Dave Landman and his wife who came to my home in Palm Springs to pick up the framed art, she was very gracious but he seemed disappointed in it. They later emailed me that they

had donated it to the local library where it would be seen by more people. Artist unknown. but my partner Larry Guthrie had valued it and it hung in every home he lived in. He had owned property in Boulevard and in Lake Morena village and loved the area. Good memories. -Patricia Radtke

It's the water and the great people that draw us to Jacumba. Check out the Bathhouse Bazaar on the first Saturday of the month. Crafty Liane, unique creations of color

and light. Sculpture,

beaded suncatchers, jew-

January 19, 2023

elry and more to make you happy. See you in February for Valentines Day! -Bathing beauty

Great read! I'm excited to experience this rare destination!

> -Jacumba soon January 20, 2023

January 20, 2023

A second home for **Uruapan carnitas**

Feast! Resturant Review, December 14, 2022

"Actually" Carnitas Uruapan on Spring St. opened in 2011 and is no more "original" than the subject of this article. Carnitas Uruapan Mexican Family Restaurant was located on Broadway in Lemon Grove for many years, and this new location is far more representative of that spot.

-Suomynona January 13, 2023

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Republican Mission Valley developer Tom Sudberry came up with \$5000 on January 17 for liberal Democratic County supervisor Nathan Fletcher's 2024 state senate bid. The cash shows how much local politics has changed in a decade, since Sudberry was written up in a June 12, 2012, *U-T* story as the top donor to the GOP-backing Lincoln Club with \$241,966.

"I feel like there's more going on politically that's affected our business, and I look at the state of California, which in the last several years has become the least business-friendly state in the nation," Sudberry complained to the paper.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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Journey of a OUINO

Colin flaherty gets sent off with a song





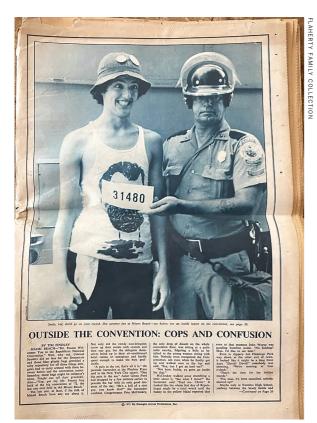
hree years ago in these pages, I eulogized Mr. San Diego: civic leader George Mitrovich, the man who famously "knew

everyone." Now I'm back to pay tribute to his fellow flack and Kensingtonian, Colin Flaherty, who died last January in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, and who was an unmissable fixture of the San Diego scene for over 25 years. There was at least one obvious reason for that: he was big. Colin admitted to being 6'5," but I often suspected he was an inch or two taller. But size aside, he bestrode the local PR and journalism world like a colossus. In the Copley papers, he wrote a weekly column that appeared under the byline of his father-in-law, ex-congressman Lionel Van Deerlin. He ghosted for others as well, and also wrote prolifically under his own name: in the old Evening Tribune and San Diego Union, the SD Business Journal, San Diego Magazine, L.A. Times, and in the early '90s, even the San Diego Reader. (He also turned up in the Wall Street Journal and dozen other venues, but we're sticking with local color for now.) Every year, it seemed, Colin would walk away with one prize or another at the San Diego Press Club Awards.

His PR clients included a raft of politicians, and such enterprises as Qualcomm, Fidelity Investments, and Barratt American homes. Friends included editor/columnist Tom Blair; sometime-mayor and broadcast personality Roger Hedgecock (for whom Colin occasionally substituted on-air); and famous malpractice attorney Dan Broderick (at least until Dan's ex-wife Betty shot both him and Wife #2 in 1989). On a level of







Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail: Seventeen-year-old Colin Flaherty getting booked in Miami Beach, August 1972. From the September 28, 1972 issue of Rolling Stone. Photo credit: Mark Diamond.

slighter acquaintance, maybe I could mention Karen Wilkening, 1991's "Rolodex Madam," who sticks in memory because I first met her and Colin at some mutual friends' backyard party. (No, they weren't dating; Karen was a surprise guest — though Colin was delighted.) But one person who was not Colin's friend was George Mitrovich. As I was friends with both, I could never figure out what the deal was. Maybe they were too much alike: a couple of movers and shakers who both happened to have a history with Joe Biden. (George hosted Biden as a speaker at his City Club some twenty times; the teenaged Colin arranged meet-and-greets for the future President when he was just a 29-year-old Senate candidate back in Wilmington.) But whatever the reason, Colin's splenetic outbursts against George were always hilarious. "That no-talent sycophant did not deserve such a graceful remembrance," Colin wrote me after I sent him the Mitrovich article. "Preening, pompous, all-around pretender..."

The road wanderer

Colin wasn't a pretender, at least not when it came to ideas. He followed the truth as he saw it, even when it took him far afield of his former worldview. He was a wanderer, in both the physical and philosophical sense. I say wanderer, not traveler: there were two peculiarities about Colin that I spotted way back in 1991, and the first was that he seldom, if ever, drove a car. (Going car-free happens to be the preference of many writers, or so I was once told by Mr. Never-Had-a-License Ray Bradbury, a lifelong resident of

Los Angeles.) Colin rode motorcycles, so it wasn't a question of not having a license. In fact, it may not have been much of a choice at all. Years after I knew him, I stumbled across this little column from the 1985 Evening Tribune, in which Colin proudly announces that he hasn't got a car, proclaiming "I take the bus." Then he drops the punchline in the biographical note at the bottom: "Flaherty is a political consultant who lives in Hillcrest. His wife is getting their car in a divorce settlement. He intends to buy another, but not until he can afford to get a nice one."

The other thing I noticed about Colin is that he didn't drink alcoholic beverages, of any kind — even 3.2 beer, if they still make that. He had a cover story to explain it: many years ago in Colorado, he had gotten ticketed for a DUI. That was one of the first things he told me about himself. I had a mental image of him going through Colorado Springs on a big Triumph cycle, but I'm pretty sure you don't want to be blotto on a motorcycle. Maybe it was a car? Maybe the story was just a white lie, something you tell your hosts when the drinks table arrives. At any rate, sober and carless are also good excuses to go hitchhiking. Then when someone gives you a lift, you can say you don't drink, and tell the tragic story of why. And hitchhiking, which is sort of the apotheosis of wandering — literally getting taken for a ride — was something Colin was good at.

For a long time Colin's main commercial client was a busy and prosperous home builder in Riverside and San Diego Counties. At one point,



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TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3



Colin moved to a big new house in a little place called Winchester, and set about perfecting his golf game. This was a useful skill when his client took him on trips to England and then Scotland, where they played the links at St. Andrews. (I'm no aficionado - I hit a few buckets with him once many years ago — but from what I'm told, he was an excellent golfer and could have turned pro if he'd focused as much on the game when he was young as he did in middle age.) When the client went into bankruptcy protection during the economic cratering of 15 years ago (the company has since emerged, safe and sound, I hear), Colin lit out for the territory. He went on a hitchhiking trip, venturing almost at random and writing of his adventures along the way. Eventually he packaged it as Redwood to Deadwood: A 53-Year-Old Dude Hitchhikes Across America (2011).

This was not his first long-distance hitchhiking adventure. At, 17 he thumbed it to South Florida to join the crowds protesting the GOP convention. He memorialized this tale, and many other tasty autobiographical



Book signing for White Girl Bleed a Lot, subtitled The Return of Racial Violence to America and How the Media Ignore It.

nuggets, in *Redwood to Deadwood*. I'll condense the story here, but try not to chop it up too much:

The first big hitchhiking trip I ever took was the 1500 miles down to Miami Beach for the Republican National Convention in 1972. I was one of those people convinced that Republicans in general and Nixon in particular were the source of all evil in the history of the planet if not the universe. So down I went, and ended up spending two days in jail with Allen Ginsberg for my troubles. I was in

a bookstore recently when a college student came and sat next to me. She was carrying a volume of great American poets, and there was good old Allen glaring at me from the cover...

I was going to try and impress her that Mr. Ginsberg and I were old cellmates, and how — between meals of Dade County baloney sandwiches and Kool Aid — he led me and the other miscreants in chanting OOOMMMMMMM.

Or was it OMMMMMM-MMMM. Whatever.

But I decided to forgo this

excursion into the literary life with this eager academe. Nothing worse than trying to impress a coed with meeting a famous poet in jail and have her either not believe you, or worse, not care.

Come to think of it, there are millions of things worse.

After two days, the Dade County authorities dropped charges and let us all go. Soon after, I called my folks and they asked me how I was doing... "Anything happen to you?"

"I just got out of jail."

I think my dad laughed.

Though he did not really

think it was that funny when a month later a picture of me getting arrested ended up as the cover picture for Hunter Thompson's story in Rolling Stone magazine on the Republican National Convention.

Actually it was a near-full-page photo, and the reporter was one Tim Findley. However, Hunter S. Thompson did reproduce a small version of the picture in his book *Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail '72*. And Thompson is who Colin wanted to write about here — apparently, he was not a fan. He continues:

Thirty-seven years later, I wrote an article for Aspen. com (where Hunter lived) about his life and death. It was not an appreciation. I was actually going to convert the first few sentences of that Aspen.com article into a poem for the finals of the...Steamboat [Springs] Poetry Slam.

Hunter Thompson is dead. He killed himself 40 years ago when he figured out it was a lot easier being a circus clown with a typewriter, a bottle of bourbon and a fistful of drugs instead of being a writer.

It just took a while.

Redwood to Deadwood is very much a collage of autobiographical vignettes like that, told against a background of real-time travels on the road, circa 2009. So in bits and pieces you learn that he grew up in Delaware, went to Salesianum (a private Catholic boys' day school in Wilmington), had a bit of college at University of Delaware, dropped out, joined a carnival, worked as a cook in Key West, toured Mexico on a motorcycle...and finally hitchhiked from Wilmington to San Diego... where he promptly won a Regents Scholarship to UCSD. After which he married the daughter of Congressman Van Deerlin, had two kids, got divorced, wrote lots of newspaper columns, news stories, press releases and political flackery... and this is pretty much where we came in.

The grey areas around Black and White

It might be surprising to hear that the guy who used to work for Biden and who hated Nixon enough to do jail time went so sour on a guy like Thompson. But as I said, Colin followed his lights.



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Case in point: in 1991, he wrote an inside feature story for the Reader that resulted in the freeing of a young black man, Kelvin Wiley, sentenced to four years in Soledad Prison for beating his white girlfriend, Toni Di Giovanni. In reality, the woman had staged her "beating" and persuaded her young son to lie to the police. This is still pointed to as a landmark case of exoneration, as well as a sterling example of investigative legwork.

Colin's story begins with quotations from a couple who took a trip with Kelvin and Toni, and recalled her doing meth and calling him a "stupid n****r," after which he broke up with her. Two weeks later, she accused him of beating her savagely and attempting to strangle her with his belt. "What followed," writes Colin, "was a strange series of inept in-





In 1991, Colin wrote an inside feature story for the Reader that resulted in the freeing of a young black man, Kelvin Wiley, sentenced to four years in Soledad Prison for beating his white girlfriend, Toni Di Giovanni. In reality, the woman had staged her "beating" and persuaded her young son to lie to the police.

vestigations, contradictory and recanted testimony, and evidence not admitted that...might at least have placed Toni's story of the attack in considerable doubt." He begins by interviewing neighbors, who heard and saw nothing from the normally loud condo, then notes that nobody from law

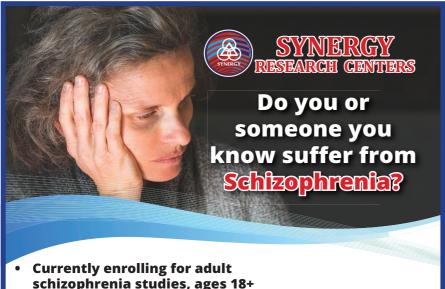
enforcement ever did the same. He notes that she had told a similar — and false — story about a previous boyfriend, but that the judge would not allow this to be presented in court. He interviews Kelvin's neighbors, who recall seeing his car parked at home on the day of the alleged assault. He tallies up changes in Toni's story — notably, she said she was beaten with a box wrench, but when no corresponding wounds were found, she changed the weapon to a belt. He talks to jurors, he investigates testimony, and he combs documents for gems like this from the judge: "[Di Giovanni] possesses cer-

tain mermaid qualities where she can lure various men up to be thrashed on the rocks right in front of her, and she helps do the thrashing." When the Union-Tribune wrote up the exoneration years later, they noted Colin's reporting.

All of which makes it remarkable that years later, Colin wrote two books about what he described as a media conspiracy to conceal black-on-white hate crimes. Beginning in 2012, there was White Girl Bleed a Lot, subtitled The Return of Racial Violence to America and How the Media Ignore It. Two years later, he came out with 'Don't Make the Black Kids Angry': The hoax of black victimization and those who enable it [sic]. Incendiary stuff, to be sure. But canny Colin made sure to adorn the book covers with glowing endorsements from such

esteemed black conservatives as Allen West and Thomas Sowell. After all, the story here was not the existence of black crime (the focus was often on young "flash mobs"), but rather, the news media's determination to minimize coverage of it. Reviewing the first one in National Review, Sowell wrote: "Reading Colin Flaherty's book made painfully clear to me that the magnitude of this problem is even greater than I had discovered from my own research. He documents both the race riots and the media and political evasions in dozens of cities across America." Veteran talk-radio hosts Barry Farber and Neal Boortz also praised the books as "brave" and "brilliant."

Colin sold the books mainly through Amazon, and they rocketed to the top of whichever category Amazon was placing them



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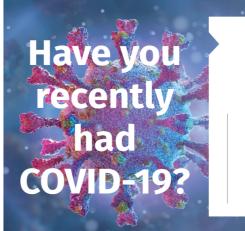
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- Volunteers will be contributing to scientific research.
- Compensation up to \$200 for time and effort.

La Jolla Institute Institutional Review Board Approved for use until: 8/30/2023 Protocol # IB-233-0820 A10







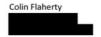
in. Once when he was in New York for a Newsmax segment in 2015, I had lunch with him and saw him compulsively checking his iPhone every few minutes to see how sales were going. "Sold another ten copies! Another fifteen copies!" But the wheels came off around 2016, when Colin got caught up in the cancel-culture frenzy that accompanied that year's presidential campaign. Many conservative authors and imprints were suddenly banned by Amazon, and soon enough, Colin had to look for other venues. YouTube pulled his channel, a major source of income. He moved on to Bitchute and other video and podcast platforms, selling more books in new editions.

Colin was not part of any racialist organization or any other eldritch movement. He generally shunned such outfits (he called one group that approached him "creepy"). He flew solo all his life. a successful freelancer and entrepreneur. But vou could see the Left attempting to tar him with that "creepy" brush, at least by 2015. Trying to put a dark spin on the burgeoning enthusi-



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION 1102 Q Street · Suite 3000 · Sacramento, CA 95811 (916) 322-5660 · Fax (916) 322-0886

October 29, 2021



RE: Franchise Tax Board Interagency Intercept Collection Program

Dear Mr. Flaherty:

Our records reflect that there is an outstanding balance in connection with an administrative penalty imposed against you by the Fair Political Practices Commission as follows:

Case(s): Flaherty, Colin, 1999/0783 (2003)

Balance Due: \$76,000.00

As you may know, California's Franchise Tax Board operates an intercept program in conjunction with the State Controller's Office, collecting delinquent debts individuals owe to state agencies (Cal. Gov. Code§§ 12419.2, 12419.7, 12419.8, 12419.9, 12419.10, 12419.11, and 12412.12).

If the debt is not settled, or if you do not provide sufficient objections, with in the next 30 days your name will be submitted to FTB for participation in this program and, in the event you are owed a tax refund or you win a California Lottery prize in 2022, FTB will intercept from that money the amount you owe the FPPC.

The FPPC sent me a copy of a recent letter (October 29, 2021), in which they limply threaten to have the Franchise Tax Board garnish that \$76,000 if Colin ever wins the California Lottery! Bwah-hah-hah! Colin loved black humor, and would have enjoyed this immensely.

asm for Donald Trump's presidential bid, *The New Yorker*'s Evan Osnos called Colin a "white nationalist" who had written a "self-published book." (How's that for a sneer? By that point, Colin had actually produced three or four.) But Colin had spent years in the politico-journo trenches, and wasn't going to cry in his alcohol-free beer just because a Leftie

hack slapped a label on him. There in Wilmington, he kept working: as an occasional radio host (WDEL), as a podcaster, and as guest commentator on the cable news channel Newsmax. He even tried his hand at writing spy thrillers, winning first prize for a chapter in the *Washington Post's* "Summer Spy Serial" contest, July 2011. A sample:

Even if the mysterious stranger was legit — and there was no chance of that — there was just no way they were going to tap Al-Zawahiri on the shoulder and ask him to come along nicely. Alex continued:

"Listen Mister Whatever Your Name Is, I do not know how you got the idea we are some kind of super spies. But if you are so intent on catching this terrorist, I suggest you call him on the phone, tell him he just won a 52-inch flat-screen TV, and he can collect it at the American embassy. When he shows up, it should be

easy enough for you to win your \$25 million sweepstakes. That works all the time on TV. Which I think you watch too much of. Now if you will excuse us, my wife and I would like to get back to our dinner.

Alex got up to leave the room. The visitor did not move...

The laughable lottery lien

When Colin died, I knew he'd been ill for a couple of years (cancer). After he passed, I suddenly became curious about a long-ago matter that had entangled the two of us. About 25 years back I was living in Seattle and occasionally doing freelance design and web work for Colin and his PR clients. (His big corporate fish at that time was Qualcomm.) Once, he FedExed me a paycheck with a few hundred dollars extra. Colin "suggested" that my friend and I use some of this bonus to contribute to a political campaign he was managing in the desert hamlet of Perris, California. So my assistant and I each wrote out a personal check to "Riverside County Business & Property Owners Coalition," mailed them off, and never thought about it again.

At least not till 2003... when someone from Sacramento tracked me down

(I'd moved 3000 miles away) and rang me up. Somebody named Dennis Pellon, from something called the Fair Political Practices Commission. Basically, I was being interrogated about a suspicious 1997 contribution to that Riverside County campaign fund. FPPC was trying to frame it as "money laundering." I angrily stonewalled, pointing out that my income from Colin had far exceeded whatever trifling amount I may have given, and that if I chose to contribute to a political campaign, that was entirely my business. (At the time, I remembered my donation as de minimis, maybe \$50. But I recently found diary notes that tell me my friend and I each wrote a personal check for \$250. Oopsie! Enough to get me on FPPC's radar, anyhow.)

Puzzled, I phoned and e-mailed Colin. "Just ignore it," he said. Years later, I discovered the FPPC had fined Colin \$76,000 for a wide variety of alleged infractions, some of them utterly absurd. Supposedly, he had broken campaign finance rules thirty-eight times, with a \$2000 fine for each. One of these purportedly illegal donations was \$4000 for a birthday cake and balloons for Governor Pete Wilson.

Did Colin ever pay that whopping "fine"? No he did not. Nor did the FPPC

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"Just ignore it," Colin had told me. He knew FPPC wouldn't make any serious effort to collect their "fine" because that would trigger a legal response, and then the claim might well be vacated by the court. It wasn't a legal judgment, it was a demand by a "public ethics" quango that claimed to be non-partisan. Like everyone in Sacramento, I guess. The FPPC didn't care for Colin's political work, and also frowned on Pete Wilson's birthday cake and balloons.

The "money laundering" allegations described what were evidently routine campaign procedures in local politics — at least in that time and place. Rather than make it look as though candidates or initiatives are being funded mostly by one wellheeled interest (say, a big developer), you gift money to others and suggest that they donate of their own volition. A little sneaky, you think? That's politics, and both sides were doing it. Small-town micro-campaigns are seldom "grassroots" in origin. In early 2005, I recall, Colin was managing a campaign to shoot down a no-growth initiative (Proposition X) in Santee. The three biggest contributors in favor of the proposition lived in La Jolla, Tucson, and Jackson Hole — or so Colin assured me.

A nun in Lebanon

Colin grew up Catholic, but he seems to have given all that up in late adolescence. Still, he did ask for a Catholic funeral, or memorial service, in the little city of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, where his mother's family had lived. Lebanon is about 25 miles west of Reading, and historically largely German. What the town is known for, so far as I can tell, is a couple of foodstuffs: there's a pre-Lenten pastry called a Fastnacht CAN DIEGO TRIBUNE 12-17-85

Ready for the true confessions of a bus rider?

Special to The Tribune

HAVE a terrible secret. My friends don't know, but I've been doing it for a long time. Well, some of my permissive friends know. But it makes them a little uncomfortable.

We hear that Southern California is a tolerant place. Not so. At least not in my case. If I were a communist, a transvestite, a bank robber or a foreign spy, maybe they'd understand. I'd rather do anything than what I do now.

I take the bus. I don't have a car.

There, I said it. I'm relieved. It's been a heavy burden. You don't think so? Try this at your next cocktail party, "I don't have a car, I took a bus here."

Some people try to be polite. "You don't have a car? How, uh—nice," they say as their knuckles whiten around the glass that seems to be holding them un.

itely say as their knucktes whiten around the glass data seems to be holding them up.

I even lied about it once. "Where's your car?" In the shop I said. I did it to save them the embarrassment of knowing someone without

did it to save them the chinari statement of the course of

and see what I mean.

There are whole sections of San Diego where a pedestrian is about as welcome as a flat tire. The corner of Midway and Rosecrans or Kearny Mesa, for example. You can't walk there. They're like free-

ways.

And how about Mira Mesa? That's not a town, it's one huge garage.

The houses are dominated by driveways bigger than interstate highways. They're not homes. They're only places people stay while they park their cars at night.

San Diego was built around the car. Our freeways are one of the best mass transportation systems in the world. Every major land-use decision in San Diego during the last 20 years has focused on our cars. How much traffic will it cause? Where

years has recused vota tash; we much tashe with tashes where will we put our cars?

The right of cars to move freely about San Diego has demolished more property rights than many Third World dictators.

Not driving a car is almost subversive.

I wonder if all those social engineers who talk about buses like old friends ever ride them?

By the way, if you ever see me waiting for a bus, I'd appreciate a ride.

But don't tell anybody, OK?

Flaherty is a political consultant who lives in Hillcrest. His wife is getting their car in a divorce settlement. He intends to buy another, but not until he can afford to get a nice one.

The biographical note at the bottom of a 1985 Evening Tribune column: "Flaherty is a political consultant who lives in Hillcrest. His wife is getting their car in a divorce settlement. He intends to buy another, but not until he can afford to get a nice one."

(because you eat it the day before Ash Wednesday), and Lebanon bologna — which is not a vile pink luncheon meat, but a dry beef sausage rather like a giant salami, a delicacy they've been making there since the 1700s. I give you all this so you'll realize what an out-theway place it was for most of the 60-odd people who showed up — some from as far away as Temecula — for the memorial service and the reception.

Colin wanted the service in Lebanon so that his favorite cousin, a Franciscan nun named Sister Margaret Bender, could sing at it. For her part, Sister Margaret, an enthusiastic musico, looked forward to fulfilling Colin's last wish. And so Colin's far-flung family, Saturday evening mass, we pretty much filled up the place. But the service didn't quite go according to plan. Sister Margaret was not able to sing at people would show up, so he hadn't bothered engaging the organist or other music-makers. (Cue up a sad trombone.) I think the likelier reason is that the pastor simply forgot about making the arrangements until he emerged from sacristy and noticed the big crowd and the Franciscan nun. Fortunately, he didn't waste much time on sermonizing, and as there were no hymns or music, things proceeded very quickly: in and out in 25 minutes flat.

After that disappointment, many of us were in need of a drink. So we gathered back at the hotel, where we had a fine reception that lasted well into the night. And after a couple of hours, Colin's cousin finally did get to sing — sans accompaniment. A happy ending, and a good time was had by all.

- Meg Burns







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San Diego Reader January 26 , 2023

Calendar

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 26

OCEANS AT NIGHT



An adults-only audience is invited to experience a blend of art, science, and technology after hours at the Birch Aquarium. The new monthly series explores the ocean after dark, with interactive experiences of ocean phenomena like bioluminescence. Enjoy live music, a glow lounge, life-sized games, glowing nighttime dives, and ocean views.

WHEN: Thursday, January 26, 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

WHERE: Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla. aquarium.ucsd.edu



ORIANTHI

37 year-old Australian guitar icon Orianthi first gained wide notice as Michael

RIANTHI

Jackson's guitarist for his ill-fated This Is It tour. Since then, she's played with Alice Cooper, Steve Vai, and Carlos Santana. She's touring in support of her fifth studio album Rock Candy, her second release of 2022 following a Live From Hollywood concert DVD.

WHEN: Friday, January 27, 7 pm WHERE: Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista. brickbybrick.com

Saturday | 28

WOOD: A FURNITURE SHOW

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furniture mak-

ers, showing their

work at an event

hosted by Brian

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ture in contemporary,

exhibited, along with detailed veneering and marquetry works. This exhibition is presented in association with the San Diego Fine Woodworking Association.

WHEN: Saturdays, 11 am to 4 pm, Through Friday, February 24

WHERE:

Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 East Grand Avenue, Escondido. escondidoarts.org

READ OR DIE BOOK AND ZINE FAIR

A zine (pronounced

"zeen") is a selfpublished, noncommercial print work that is typically produced in small, limited batches. Peruse works at over fifteen book and zine vendors and listen to music by Bastard Noise,

Badge Grabber, and author readings live-scored by Abominomicon.

WHEN: Saturday, January 28, 4 pm to 9:30 pm

Wednesday 1

Drive, UCSD. staystrange.com

BLOCK 112: SAN DIEGO'S 1880S WORKING CLASS

The San Diego Archaeological Center hosts a living room lecture on Downtown San Diego's Block 112 in the 1880s, which reflected the same urban diversity that was typical of large Eastern cities. Of the 50 residents, 16 were established white or African American citizens. The other 34 were immigrants, and often, ethnic minorities — Chinese laundrymen, a Mexican mill hand, a French gunsmith, a German day-laborer, a Welsh musician, a Japanese lunch man, and an Irish baker. Cindy Stankowski's presentation explores their everyday lives, ambitions, and lifestyle.

WHEN: Wednesday, February 1, 6:30 pm to 8 pm

WHERE: sandiegoarchaeology.org





SHEEP AND GOATS

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Contact: 831 3rd St., Encinitas 760-975-2403, www. lightsandiego.com

Attendance: 700-800 "on any given Sunday."

Associate Pastor: Stevy York

Age: 29

Born: Escondido

Formation: Biola University, La Mirada

Years Ordained: 8

San Diego Reader: What is the mission of your church?

Associate Pastor Stevy York: It's simple: In San Diego as it is in heaven. The three expressions of that mission are to be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and do what Jesus would do if he were you. Jesus teaches us how to be human and shows us what the flourish-

ing life is. He shows us that he's the paradigm for what someone in relationship to God looks like. He's also so much more than that: he's not just an example but also truly our savior. He invited his disciples by saying, "Follow me." That phrase in the first century was relevant to those who heard him say it. When a rabbi at that time asked you to follow him, the rabbi meant for you to spend as much time as possible with him to become like him... So, when Jesus invited his disciples, that's the same invitation to usnot to just know a lot of facts about Jesus, but to become like Jesus and do what Jesus does. We believe that as we

live the life of Jesus in our everyday lives, we will see the world look more and more like the kingdom of God.

SDR: Where is the strangest place you found God?

PY: My wife and I just had our first child. I was changing my son's diaper in the middle of the night, and I felt hit with the reality that Jesus came to us like thisas a baby. Jesus had his diaper changed. There's such humility in that idea—and through it, as I was changing my own son's diaper, God struck me with the humility and wonder of the Incarnation.

SDR: Where do you go when

PY: There's life after death,

so I believe I will be with God in his presence. I also believe there is life after life after death. God is bringing a new creation, renewing all things. In Revelation, it talks about a new heaven and a new earth, so we will be a part of God's new creation, living in harmony with God and with others. Many people might think heaven is floating on clouds with babies in diapers holding harps. But the Bible paints a picture of a new heaven and new earth, which is a very physical reality where we will be living with God in his uninhibited presence and fulfilling what we were always created to do, co-rule



ating goodness and beauty. Based on my humble reading of scripture, there are some for whom being with God in eternity forever would not be a joy. They have chosen a life in which being with God isn't a delight for

choice doesn't force them to be in relationship with him in his presence forever. So, the alternative is eternal separation from God, which we call hell. In the same way that people don't have a wellarticulated view of heaven, very few people have a wellarticulated vision of hell. I don't think it's a flame that is always burning and there's a guy waiting there in a red suit with horns. But I do know it exists as a place of separation from God for all of eternity.

them. God in honoring that

- Joseph O'Brien

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

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.

ART

Acupuncture Arrives in the USA: A 50-year Journey It came to our shores with the Chinese immigrants in the 1800s, but was still illegal in the USA in the 1970's. Fridays, 1pm; Saturdays, 1pm; Sundays, 1pm; through Sunday, January 29, \$5. San Diego Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Beauty of Manuscript Illumination In this docent-led talk, significant manuscripts will be discussed along with their influence on the art of the late Medieval and early Renaissance. Thursday, January 26, 11am; free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (ONLINE)

Wood: A Furniture Show WOOD, A Furniture Show, hosted by Brian Murphy of Murphy's Fine Woodworking, will feature a gathering of furniture makers in Southern California showing their work. Handcrafted furniture will be exhibited in a variety of wood mediums and techniques, including innovative contemporary, traditional and whimsical art furniture. as well as detailed veneering and marquetry works. Saturdays, 11am; through Friday, February 24, free. Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

BOOKS

Jonathan Maberry: Son of the Poison Rose Join author Jonathan Maberry for a discussion and signing of the second installment in his epic Kagen the Damned fantasy series. Saturday, January 28, 3pm; free. Artifact Books, 603 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (ENCINITAS)

Read Or Die Book and Zine Fair A Book and Zine Fair. Over 15 book and zine vendors plus music by Bastard Noise, Badge Grabber and author readings live scored by Abominomicon. Saturday, January 28, 4pm; \$10. Che Café, 1000 Scholars Drive, (LA JOLLA)

Sofía Lapuente & Jarrod Shusterman: Retro Sofía Lapuente and Jarrod Shusterman, discussing Retro with Gina Chen and Adalyn Grace Thursday, January 26, 6pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 3555 Rosecrans Street Suite 107,.

Weekends with Locals: Larry Allen Lindsey Weekends with Locals will be hosting Larry Allen Lindsey, author of Long Slow Target. Sunday, January 29, 2:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA

BREWERY EVENTS

7th Anniversary Party Enjoy specialty beer tappings, live music, games, and more. Saturday, January 28, 1pm; \$10-\$25. Pure Project, 9030 Kenamar Drive #308. (MIRAMAR)

Mission Bay High School Music Fundraiser Mission Bay High School Music Fundraiser Offers A Day of Music at The Gärten Sunday, January 29, 12pm; free-\$20. Deft Brewing, 5328 Banks St., Suite A. (LINDA VISTA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Beginners Nature Photography Workshop Photography lessons will be led by local photographer and naturalist Hector Valtierra and will be limited to the first 10 people to sign up via email Nancy_Fernandez@fws.gov. Saturday, January 28, 9am; free. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Meditation Meditation, Awareness and Awakening with Turiya Saturday, January 28, 11am; free-\$20. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Peering Into the Profession of Pharmacy Learn about the profession of pharmacy. Through a Q & A conversation with a practicing pharmacist, students will discover how pharmacists serve the community and make a difference in improving health. Saturday, January 28, 10:30am; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue, (LA JOLLA)

Poetry: Learning from Modern-day Masters Poetry: Learning from Modern-day Masters with Anna DiMartino Tuesdays, 5:30pm; through Tuesday, February 7, \$144-\$168. 18 and up. Inspirations Gallery, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #204. (LIB-ERTY STATION)

Still Life Painting Class Series Learn still life painting techniques in this class series with Kelly Gallaher. All materials included; appropriate for ages 12+. For ages 12-16, parents must remain onsite for the duration of the class. Tuesdays, 4pm; through Tuesday, February 7, \$100-\$120. Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens, 415 Avenida Granada.

Symphony at State: Collaborative Piano Masterclass A

and co-reign with God, cre-

Collaborative Piano masterclass featuring Janna Ernst, SDSU Alumnus and veteran collaborative pianist and coach. Rhapsody Hall, Saturday, January 28, 12pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

VITA Tax Help Volunteer income Tax Assistance (VITA) offers free tax filing assistance. By appointments only. Saturday, January 28, 10am; Tuesday, January 31, 12pm; free. 18 and up. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

COMEDY

Andrew Dice Clay Andrew Dice Clay is proud to be one of America's most controversial and outrageous comics. Friday, January 27, 7pm; Saturday, January 28, 7pm; \$75-\$130. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Craig Shoemaker The LoveMaster Saturday, January 28, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; \$17. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

lan Bagg Friday, January 27, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; \$17. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Open Mic Thursday, January 26, 6:30pm; free. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Ryan O'Flanagan Ryan O'Flanagan from Comedy Central's This Is Not Happening, Netflix's Stand Up Special, and HBO's Crashing. Thursday, January 26, 8pm; \$10-\$25. Backyard Kitchen & Tap, 832 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Yannis Pappas AS SEEN ON: YouTube's "LongDays", The Joe Rogan Experience, Comedy Central, ABC, and more! Thursday, January 26, 8pm; Friday, January 27, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 28, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Le Cirque du Lux Sunday, January 29, 8pm; \$23-\$41, 21 and up. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

Line Dance Class Line Dance Class with Connie & Renee Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, February 23, free. Comstock Bar and Grill, 316 West Mission Ave., Suite #115. (ESCONDIDO)

DISCUSSION **GROUPS**

Lesley Stern Memorial Symposium The Department of Visual Arts at UCSD invites you to a gathering of friends and colleagues in honor of Professor Emerita Lesley Stern's life and work. Friday, January 27, 1pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Move Forward After Loss Free Workshop Helps People Move Forward and Find New Relation-



San Diego *Reader* January

ships After Loss Tuesdays, 6pm; through Tuesday, February 14, free. 21 and up. The Elizabeth Hospice 8989 Rio San Diego, Suite 190, San Diego, 92108

San Diego Debtors Anonymous Intergroup Social A live, in person Debtors Anonymous event that welcomes newcomers. old timers, and returnees. This is an informational and networking open house with a Stand-Up comedy performance by one of the local members. Saturday, January 28, 1pm; free-\$10. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

San Diego Home Improvement Expo The show focuses on San Diego-area experts, services, products, and businesses. Saturday, January 28, 10am; Sunday, January 29, 10am; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

San Diego Trailblaze Challenge Info Sessions RSVP for a no-commitment info session to learn more. Thursday, January 26, 6pm; free. 18 and up. Movin Shoes Pacific Beach, 1892 Garnet Avenue.

Student Symposium Hear students present their research on one of San Diego's recognizable historic ranch houses. The Los Peñasquitos Ranch House was constructed in 1823 by Francisco María Ruiz. the recipient of the first Mexican land grant in San Diego County. Saturday, January 28, 11am; free. San Diego Archaeological Center, 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

FOR KIDS

Baby Storytime Enjoy songs, fingerplays, books, and more with your baby. All children are welcome. Geared toward pre-walkers. Tuesdays, 1pm; through Tuesday, December 19, free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Circus Vargas In the all NEW 2023 production, Circus Vargas channels the "City of Lights" in their latest, greatest production, Bonjour Paris! Thursday, January 26, 7pm; Friday, January 27, 7:30pm; Saturday, January 28, 1pm, 4pm and 7pm; Sunday, January 29, 12:30pm, 3:30pm and 7pm; Monday, January 30, 7:30pm; Wednesday, February 1, 7pm; \$19-\$75. Westfield Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North. (MIS-SION VALLEY)

Dance Party Storytime All children are welcome. Geared toward toddlers - 3. Saturdays, 10:30am; through Saturday, December 30, free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway

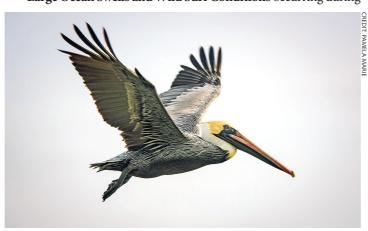
Library NExT: Messy Science Ready to get messy in the name of science? Conduct noisy and colorful experiments and explore the science of volcanoes, rain clouds, glaciers and more. 6th Grade to 8th Grade. Saturday, January 28, 3pm; free. Logan Heights Library, 567 South 28th Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

OUTDOORS

Local waterfalls are pumping, big surf moves sand, brown pelicans

San Diego County's Waterfalls, swollen with runoff and snowmelt from recent storms, should be at their very best during the next month or two. Three of the most accessible are: Green Valley Falls at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park; the falls below the first palm grove in Borrego Palm Canyon (Anza-Borrego Desert State Park); and the falls at the midpoint of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve — a three-mile walk from either its east or west entrance. Hikers and climbers can explore many other waterfalls (some with heights up to 100 feet) in remote areas of the county.

Large Ocean Swells and Wild Surf Conditions occurring during



A BROWN PELICAN TAKES FLIGHT.



LOCAL WATERFALLS BENEFITTING FROM RECENT RAINS.

San Diego's winter season can leave certain area beaches partially or wholly denuded of sand. The powerful waves pull sand off the beach and move it into deeper waters off shore, leaving behind deposits of rounded cobbles where sand has been removed. During spring and summer, gentle wave action returns much of the sand, usually in time for the arrival of summer tourists. Artificial sand replenishment projects are usually in the works, too, whereby sand dredged from waters off shore is transported back to the shoreline.

The California Brown Pelican displays its most colorful plumage on its head and neck from late December through February in anticipation of the March-April breeding season. Brown pelicans typically stay in flocks, and can often be seen flying in "V" formation along the coast. The brown pelican can spot a fish from heights of 70 feet and dives headfirst into the water to grab its prey. No other known pelican uses this technique to catch fish.

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.

Love on a Leash Enjoy dogs with Love on a Leash. This program is geared toward children ages 6-10. Fridays, 3:30pm; through Friday, May 26, free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Lunar New Year Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit with balloon animals, crafts, and entertainment. Lion Dancers at 3:00 pm. Saturday, January 28, 1:30pm; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Toddler & Preschool Storytime Recommended for ages 2-5, this storytime program includes books, songs, games, and early literacy fun. This program will be held outdoors. Thursdays, 10:30am; through Thursday, January 26, free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

LECTURES

Adrian Martin: A Film Critic's **Tale** A talk from Adrian Martin. Making Audiovisual Essays: A Film Critic's Tale. Thursday, January 26, 6pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive.

Bishop Dolan: A Spirituality of Accompaniment Bishop John P. Dolan of Phoenix, former auxiliary bishop of San Diego, will deliver the first talk in a four-part speaker series offered through the

University of San Diego's Center for Christian Spirituality. Monday, January 30, 5pm; free. USD Ministry Center, Founders Hall, 5998 Alcalá Park, (LINDA VISTA)

Block 112: San Diego's 1880s Working Class San Diego Archaeological Center presents: Block 112 in Downtown San Diego reflected the same urban diversity that was typical of large Eastern cities. This presentation reveals clues about their everyday lives, ambitions, and lifestyle. This event will be held on Zoom. Cost: Pay what you wish. Wednesday, February 1, 6:30pm; sandiegoarchaeology.org/ block-112/. (ONLINE)

January Green Living Tour The one-hour tour showcases sustainability in action. Eco Team docents will walk you through worm bins, greywater systems, innovative compost projects, tool lending library, water-wise garden, and more DIY, climate-friendly solutions. Saturday, January 28, 10am; free-\$12. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation, 137 North El Camino

Optimal Diets for Longevity Optimal Diets for Longevity: Keynote with Dr. Valter Longo Friday, January 27, 7:30pm; \$30. Hyatt Regency La Iolla at Aventine, 3777 La Jolla Village Drive.

NATURE

Birding Basics Class Join MTRP Trail Guide and experienced birder Winona Sollock for an educational bird identification class. You will also learn how to use a field guide, so bring one along if you have it. Classes meet at the Visitor Center in Classroom A. The class is free and open to the public. Seating is limited to the first ten people and masks are suggested. Saturday, January 28, 1pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

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, January 28, 9:30am; and Sunday, January 29, 9:30am. free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Nature Walk Join an MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk. Walk includes a visit to the lush riparian habitat of the Kumeyaay Lake shoreline and if time allows, we'll explore the Grasslands Trail which leads to

a Kumeyaay grinding rocks site and the picturesque Old Mission Dam overlook. Walks start from the Kumeyaay Lake Campground Entry Station. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, January 28, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Oceans at Night Birch Aquarium is launching Oceans at Night, an event that invites a 21+ audience to experience an immersive blend of art, science and technology after hours. The new monthly series celebrates the wonders and mysteries of the ocean after dark. Thursday, January 26, 6:30pm; \$67-\$75. 21 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

SPECIAL EVENTS

American Red Cross Blood Drive You can help save a life by donating blood at your library. Sign up online at redcrossblood. org, using the sponsor code MVLI-BRARY. Saturday, January 28, 10am; free. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Mardi Gras at SeaWorld Enjoy live music and performances including a New Orleans Jazz band, Mardi-Gras processional,

Louisiana-inspired laser show, plus multiple performers, colorful costumes, and festive decor. Saturdays, 10am; through Saturday, February 25, \$89-\$109. SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling Institute: Learn the Art of Storytelling! The Storytelling Institute, a free six-week course presented by the Storytellers of San Diego, is open to everyone who would like to hone their skills in this ancient art form. The Institute culminates in a storytelling slot for each participant at the San Diego Storytelling Festival at the Coronado Public Library on March 18. Tuesdays, 6:30pm; through Tuesday, March 7, free. Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue, (CORONADO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Gulls Home Game Friday, January 27, 7pm; Saturday, January 28, 7pm; Wednesday, February 1, 7pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

THEATER

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.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee features a book by Rachel Sheinkin and a score by William Finn. An eclectic group of six mid-pubescents vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing stories from their home lives. the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; one speller leaves a champion. At least the losers get a juice box. Evening shows are rated R for language.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. 8PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, JAN. 29.

Blues in the Night

Yvette Freeman Hartley's director's note tells us that this musical revue sings "the tale of three women and one man's broken love life while living in a cheap Chicago hotel in 1938." And there are nods in that direction: Anise Ritchie's Lady from the Road pauses in her perusal of her scrapbook to let us know that Ciarra Stroud's Girl with a Date has a broken heart and is looking to mend it with new love, and that Karole Foreman's Woman of the World used to be a big deal, but now it's just cheap wine from a fancy decanter. But Elijah Rock's Man in the Saloon remains something of an enigma - and come to think of it, he doesn't seem all that blue. Actually once the songs start in. neither do the girls - Lady from the Road takes a happy, naughty stroll down memory lane with "Take Me for a Buggy Ride," Girl with a Date is excitedly "Taking a Chance on Love," and even Woman of the World recalls "Stompin' at the Savoy."

Those are good songs, and they're sung by good, distinctive singers. But they're nobody's idea of blues. Really. there's a lot more sex than sadness in the lyrics - "Kitchen Man" very nearly cuts its double entendres to singles with lines like "Oh how that boy can open clams, no one else can baste my hams" - especially in the first act. It's a fine performance, but after a while, you might start to wish for more of a narrative through-line. You've got a man up there on stage - why not use him to give those ladies a right to sing the blues? Yes, they do sing that one: act two is a little heavier on the suffering and sorrow, but only a little. Director Hartley's note goes on to assure you that Blues in the Night "will take you on a bouncing, soulful buggy ride through love that will help wipe away any blues you may have," and that's probably a better description of what's going on here. It's a feel-good show, not a feel-bad one.



The Pale Blue Eye: Cool Edgar Allan Poe origin story, bro.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SUITE D, 858-481-1055. CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

The Ferryman

The Tony Award winning Best Play The Ferryman by Jez Butterworth will be the first production in the Conrad Prebys Theatre at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center starting January 27. The show takes place in Armagh, 1981 during the heart of The Troubles. The Carney farmhouse in Northern Ireland is a hive of activity with preparations for the annual harvest. A day of hard work on the land and a traditional night of feasting and celebrations lie ahead. But this year they will be interrupted by a visitor. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD, 760-433-3245. 7:30PM FRIDAYS.

Lucky Stiff

Harry receives the unexpected news that he has inherited a fortune from his late Uncle Anthony, on the condition that he takes Anthony's dead body on a special trip to Monte Carlo. If Harry fails, the money will go to the Universal Dog Home of Brooklyn. However, also hot on the tail of Uncle Anthony's money is Rita, Anthony's lover with whom he embezzled \$6 million behind her husband's back. And hot on Rita's trail is her brother Vinnie, who has been blamed for the crime! With mistaken identities, love interests, disguises, farcical chases, and an omnipresent corpse, Lucky Stiff is an offbeat musical murder mystery. This life-affirming musical will keep you entertained and enthralled as the story of a dead man's holiday is played out in front of your eyes. A co-production with Oceanside Theatre Company.

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Ripcord

Ripcord: A comedy of one-up-womanship. It's not every day you see a play based on two senior women in competition for sole access to the room of an assisted living facility. But that's exactly what David Lindsay-Abaire, the Pulitzer Prize winning author of Rabbit Hole, Fuddy Meers, and Good People, has put forth in the quirky comedy. Contains adult language and themes. Directed by Kira Blaskovich

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

MOVIES

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.

M3GAN - Her gave us a female AI that gradually lost interest in her human user because he was so limited. It was a sad experience. Ex Machina gave us a female AI that gradually grew to hate her human user because he was so limiting. It was a frightening experience. But M3GAN gives us a female AI that doesn't discard or hate her human user, because her whole raison d'etre is to take care of her. And despite its sad setup — a little girl loses her parents in a car crash - and a smattering of frightening moments, it is first and foremost a fun experience. Machine learning may one day be the death of us all, but we're still far enough out from the Rise of the Machines to indulge a wry chuckle at the prospect. Pretty roboticist Gemma (Allison Williams) is a victim of her own genius: the "smart toy" she's built — essentially, a pet that never dies and can talk - is getting dinged in the marketplace by a cheaper, dumber knockoff, Her boss wants her go lower, but that's not how geniuses operate. She's got something really special in mind, but then life dumps a just-orphaned niece in her lap, and the deadline is looming. But wait! What if her new invention is just what a grieving little girl needs? Someone to be with her, to console her...to protect her from the mean dog next door. There's nary a surprise in sight plotwise (and while we're at it, blessedly few jump scares); what's unexpected is how human, and even funny, the story of a robot girl gone rogue manages to be, 2023, 2022. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Missing — There's a story in this followup to 2018's Searching — a film in which the father of a missing girl decides to play cybersleuth and learns just how much he doesn't know about his daughter. And it's a pretty clever inversion of the original: this time, it's the parent who's missing, and instead of realizing she wasn't as close to family as she thought, distraught daughter June (Storm Reid, winsome) has to wrestle

with how she's pushed her mother away. (Mom's final "I love you" text before going silent didn't even rate a heart emoji in reply, just a tepid like.) Or at least, she has to feel bad about it while she's doing the real work of the movie, which is to dazzle and delight the viewer with her internet savvy and quick thinking as the film itself finds ways to put its whole world on a computer screen. Photo Booth and Face Time give us the user/ protagonist, while a host of social media apps and streaming video services provide the rest: Instagram, the Ring doorbell cam, tourist-town view cams, security cams, etc. June's frantic bounce from Notes to Mail to Google to errand service site to this, that, and the other is both delightful and dizzying, and that works to Missing's advantage, because it keeps you from feeling too many feelings or asking too many questions, especially once the revelations start. Again, the drama is not the point: Searching's dad went looking for his little girl and learned the awful truth that he's looking for a stranger; Missing's little girl goes looking for Mom and learns the lovely truth that she's been loved all along. The horror has to come from outside that dynamic. and when it does, it's just not as gutwrenching. But if a sequel's job is to do the original one bigger, then mission accomplished. (Points also for the swipe at the ghoulish rise of real-time true-crime.) 2023. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

STREAMING

Black Phone — In his first turn

as a full-blown villain, Ethan Hawke

stars as "The Grabber," a serial killer whose plans are diverted when his latest kidnap victim, 13-year-old Finney (Mason Thames), begins receiving calls from the disconnected phone in his dank basement accomodations from five previous fatalities offering advice on how to bring down the executioner. The first hour affords viewers more genuine nerve damage, not just garden variety jumpscares, than any Blumfield horror outing since Paranormal Activity. As much as I'd like to call it, "It done right," the masked killer's motivation remains too big a mystery. And if phone calls from dead victims weren't a big enough strain on one's critical thinking, we rely on younger sister Gwen's (Madeleine McGraw) telekinesis to solve the crime. It's a great mask — an update on Lon Chaney's toothsome killer in London After Midnight — one that changes expression with the lighting. As much as I admire Hawke, the grinning veil provides most of the chills. Whether she's cursing out ineffectual police or bartering with Jesus for her brother's life, the film belongs to McGraw. Suffice it to say, if Gwen was the lead character, she'd have been freed and our villain slaughtered before the half-hour mark. Scott Derrickson (Dr. Strange) directs. (2021) — S.M. ★★★ (AMAZON PRIME)

The Last Emperor — An historical epic whose stupefying beauty is surpassed only by its stupefying dullness. The life of Pu Yi, emperor of China at age three and an average Communist citizen at his death, affords plenty of material for a movie; and Bernardo Bertolucci's stated fascination with "the metamorphosis of a man who, as the Chinese say, changes from a dragon to a normal person" sounds as alluring an angle as any. But the movie is not really about that. It is undoubtedly about, in the sense of around and in the vicinity of, the man's life as "a dragon," and specifically about the material splendors of his life as that, thrown at you with a showy vulgarity that (unlike, say, some of Visconti's nosings-about in the aristocracy) goes far beyond the needs of accurate reporting. Undoubtedly, too, the protagonist has stopped being a dragon and has become a normal person by movie's end. But the metamorphosis is missing. In some ways -- in scale, and in its two-and-three-quarter-hour length -- the movie is a throwback to the epics of the Sixties (albeit without the orchestral overture and the intermission and the souvenir program). But Bertolucci's commodious framework is much less filled, not in terms of material things, but in terms of justifying incident and action, than that of any Sixties epic. And the dialogue, by Bertolucci in collaboration with Mark Peploe, would not be out of place in comic-strip balloons. With John Lone and Peter O'Toole. (1987) — D.S. ★ (HBO MAX)

The Pale Blue Eye — $\operatorname{Director}$ and co-writer Scott Cooper reteams with Christian Bale, star of his earlier films Out of the Furnace and Hostiles. And once again, Bale is a worn and world-weary man who has seen things - and probably done things. This time, he's a retired New York police detective living alone in wintry Upstate New York - just close enough to West Point that he gets called in when one of the cadets is found mutilated and hanged. He doesn't have much else to do, seeing as how his wife is dead and his daughter is elsewhere, so he starts asking questions, and winds up finding a helpmate in another cadet, an odd fellow named Edgar Allan Poe. Poe, gamely played with Southern aristocrat-in-exile bearing by Harry Melling, is the real reason to watch here. The case itself relies too heavily on happenstance, and fails to make sufficiently spooky use of its old books about black magic and Satanism (and also the guy who knows about them, played by Robert Duvall). And unlike his simmering ex-con in Out of the Furnace and haunted veteran in Hostiles, Bale comes off more subdued than anything else; his one big outburst about the way the school imposes too many rules is both out of character and out of place. He does know how to put a melancholy mood across, and Cooper knows how to make the movie follow suit. But this particular story, taken from a novel by Louis Bayard, needs more of a hothouse feel, what with its institutional and familial secrets, its nervous disorders, and its big literary starin-the-making. (2023) — M.L. \bigstar (NETFLIX)



Punk panoply "I'm 64 years old with one leg. I don't need any help falling down," Social Spit frontman Cliff Cunningham tells me. He's not spewing random trivia; he's responding to my question about whether he's drunk yet. "I slowed way down on that stuff, it catches up after a while." In Cunningham and his band's case, "a while" is 40-plus years spent staying close to home to play shows. Cunningham is a retired postal worker, and the romance of the road has dimmed with the risk and reality. Social Spit did venture out on the road "a couple times," according to Cunningham, who calls each

show a "disaster," with sub-

par attendance. "We played

one time in Las Vegas at the

there were about six people

there. Enough said." Today,

is 59. "Two of the guys had

the average band member age

full-time jobs, so touring was

out." Besides, he says, "Driv-

show just isn't appealing. The

getting eight drink tickets and

In contrast, Some Kind of

Nightmare, a band composed

often share a stage with Social

have no fixed address, though

they consider San Diego their

from San Diego to New York

City and back to San Diego,"

according to guitarist/singer

State Chy and bassist/singer

home base. "We had gone

Spit, tours so often that they

of mid-thirties players who

ing 150 miles to play one

cost of travel today versus

no guarantee of any cash?"

Double Down Saloon, I think

Molly Mess. "That tour completely changed our outlook on life. We didn't want to come back to our jobs and rent. We just wanted to keep going. The tour felt like home more than stationary living. We talked to our friends from the band Clepto, who were living on the road. They gave us advice on how to make the transition, and we dove in. The benefits are the riches in experience. It's something new every day. Playing shows is therapy within

Social Spit: keening for a cat.

itself, then adding meeting

new like-minded people who

become family. They are our

people. Then there's the travel-

ing aspect. We get to be a part

of all of the scenes across the

country, explore different cities,

and make music along the way.

Yes, there's struggle, but it's so

The two bands may differ in

their musical approach to punk

but both draw from experience

and anger. While Some Kind of

Nightmare rages against every

aspect of the system (particu-

larly the health care system,

which had a direct effect on

Molly's treatment and recovery

from breast cancer) and repre-

sents the underdogs in the war

of the classes, Cunningham is

still angry about his cats being

killed at a party — and he

sings about it on "Shitist." He

rock and their travel habits,

worth it. Releasing creativity

and art is healing."



Some Kind of Nightmare: the road is a trip.

the first Friday of January, along with Texas troubadour, Some Kind Of Nightmare tourmate

ing together."

As Cunningham headed back to his home in Ramona, Some Kind of Nightmare prepared for the road. "The downsides to tour life are the risks that come with it," granted Chy. "The absence of everyday creature comforts. Not having your own bed to sleep in. Your own kitchen to cook in. Or your own living room to lounge in. But you find routines to follow out of the unfamiliar, and every challenge becomes a learning experience to grow from. Shows may fall through and vans may break down, but you have to keep going."

- Spike Steffenhagen

CONTRIBUTORS

happened, probably this fucking psycho that was hanging out at my house. I don't know if he stepped on the cats on purpose or kicked them or what, but I threw everyone out. The only consolation, if you want to call it that, is that it they were kittens, and I didn't have them long enough to get really attached. I was just getting ready to know them." After a pause, Cunningham says, "I'm still pissed." To cheer him up, his bandmates purchased him a novelty stuffed animal, marketed as "Dead Cat" in the '80s, that came complete with a death certificate. The singer serenades the toy when they play the song live.

Both bands shared the

stage in City Heights on

Prince, and local ska-core trio Midnight Track. Each band was different, and Cunningham liked it that way: "This was great. I used to think all the same types of bands should play together, but the definition of what punk is has expanded and this show proved that different styles are excit-

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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

explains, "No one is sure what

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THIS WEEK'S

SHOWS

Bellamy's Restaurant:

Belly Up Tavern:

Black Cat Bar:

Brick by Brick:

Presents, \$15.

\$18-\$20.

Casbah:

Cannonball:

Witch Fingers. \$15.

and Agonista. \$12.

The Jam Berries. \$10.

CRAIG

& 8:30pm

Lewis. \$20-\$25.

Che Café:

Smith.

\$25.

\$26-\$46.

Thursday, 6pm — Jake Taylor

Friday, 6pm — Dalton Gazette.

Thursday, 8pm — Colin James.

Friday, 8pm — Led Zepagain.

Tuesday & Wednesday, 8pm -

The Wood Brothers. \$35-\$61.

Saturday, 9pm — Milky Wayne

Destruction and Distinguisher.

Friday, 7pm — Orianthi. \$30-

Saturday, 7pm — Damage Inc.

Tuesday, 5pm — Jemille Vialet.

Thursday, 8pm - Frankie & the

Saturday, 8pm — The Neighbors

Sunday, 8pm — Love for L Dula.

Friday, 8pm — Junior Boys.

Monday, 7:30pm — Nathan

Raney, Brujoy Bruja, Gable. \$7.

Wednesday, 8pm — Black Joe

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Tripp.io and

IAN BAGG

Fri, 1/27 @6:30pm

howtime, edv Central)

Thursday, 6pm — Within

Saturday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.

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online at SDReader.com/music.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Cool Rush Band, Free.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Monterey Jazz Festival On Tour. \$44-\$84. Saturday, 10am & 11:30am 123 Andres. \$15-\$25.

Coomber Craft Wines:

Wednesday, 6:30pm - Gregory Page.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, 7pm — The 3D Blues Band. Friday, 5pm — Eddie Lightner & Duke Paul Acoustic Duo.

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Ke'Ahi. Sunday, 4pm — Farrah Camu. Tuesday, 4pm — Casey Turner.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and

Thursday, 6pm — David Shyde. Friday, 6pm — Helena Holleran. Saturday, 6pm — Rachel Jay. Tuesday, 6pm — Andrew Peña.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar: Saturday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Farmer & the Seahorse: Friday, 4:30pm — Sean McCole. Saturday, 11am — Freddie Walton.

Frankie's:

Sunday, 6pm — Jazz Jam. Free.

Garage Kitchen + Bar:

Friday & Saturday, 7pm -Adam Bergoch.

House of Blues:

Friday, 7:30pm — Morat. \$35-\$85.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — Jemille Vialet. Saturday, 7pm — Whitney Shay.

Sunday, 11am — Jesse Johnson.

La Valencia Hotel:

Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro. Saturday, 11am - Jemille Vialet.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort: Friday, 7pm — Shay Skylar.

Madam Bonnie's:

Friday, 7pm — Andrea Loraine Jazz Band. Free. Saturday, 7pm — The Mad Hat Hucksters. Free.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Friday, 7:30pm — Prince Again: Tribute to Prince. \$15-\$32.

Mingei International Museum:

Monday, 6pm — Winter Songs of Ukraine Fundraiser, \$60.

Mission Bay Resort:

Thursday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.

Friday, 6pm — Israel Maldonado. Saturday, 6pm — Helena

Holleran. Sunday, 6pm — Freddie Walton.

Monday, 6pm — Jemille Vialet. Tuesday, 6pm — Tim Rose.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 9pm — The Edge. Free.

Friday, 9pm — P-Tek. Free.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Inspector. \$42. Friday, 7:30pm — Dolly Disco

Dance Party. \$15-\$25. Saturday, 7:30pm — The FABBA Show. \$15-\$19. Sunday, 7:30pm — The Music of Steely Dan. \$37-\$64.

Nick & G's:

Saturday, 6pm — Anna Ballew.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, 7:30pm — Niko Moon. \$38-\$115. Tuesday, 7pm — Trampled By

Turtles. \$74-\$220.

Pure Project Vista:

Saturday, 7pm — Saturday Sessions: Austin Burns. Free.

Rustic Root:

Tuesday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Seabird:

Sunday, 4pm — DevvLov.



Thu, January 26
CITY SOUL COLLECTIVE Fri. January 27

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Wed, February 1, 7pm TRIVIA NIGHT

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PHOTOGRAPH BY KELLY HAMMOND



SUN ROOM

Sun Room was founded in 2020 by Long Beach transplant Luke Asgian, while attending Point Loma Nazarene University. Their music has been heard on the Netflix program *Outerbanks*. An upcoming EP called Outta Their Minds is so far preceded by a single for "Cadillac." "It's short and sweet with unhinged vocals and guitars," says singer Luke Asgia, "reminiscent of early '60s British Invasion bands. The song is exciting, fast, and intentionally unpolished, especially the unruly outro that seems to go about 200 miles per hour." They'll play Soma on February 3.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL KLAYMAN



ALLISON ADAMS TUCKER

A music video for Allison Adams Tucker's single "The Wind," from her new EP 1977: Retro Trilogy, was shot on the Big Island of Hawaii. "Producer Matt Pierson put together an amazing band for this project, and we laid down the tracks at Sear Sound NYC. We had a couple live performances before the studio sessions to get us ready for the music, including a show at the Blue Note New York." The band features Kevin Hays (piano, melodica, vocals), Tony Scherr (bass), Kenny Wollesen (drums, vibes), Yotam Silberstein (guitar), Bashiri Johnson (percussion), and Peter Sprague (guitar).



BURT BACHARACH

The Songs of Bacharach & Costello collects all of the published songs that Elvis Costello has written with iconic composer Burt Bacharach. Due in early March, the 45-song set includes live recordings of Bacharach and Costello performing with orchestras in New York and London. Also featured are Bacharach and Hal David songs that Costello has performed and recorded, including "I'll Never Fall In Love Again," which Bacharach and Costello performed together in Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me.



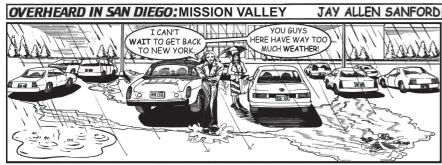
KENI YARBRO

Singer-guitarist Keni Yarbro performs jazz, R&B, Motown, classic rock, reggae, and island music. As an acoustic soloist, he specializes in inventive covers of deep cuts from artists such as Steely Dan, Al Jarreau, Steve Perry, Boz Skaggs, and Stevie Wonder. He appears Friday, January 27, at La Valencia Hotel



ISRAEL MALDONADO

Israel Maldonado has been performing professionally for over three decades, playing in Latin-influenced local bands such as Agua Dulce, Sambrasil, and Sol E Mar. He also teaches guitar. bass, and Latin drumming, including Brazilian and AfroCuban percussion. He's been performing solo around town, hosting open mics, and playing in Puente and a trio called Tres con Todo. He appears Friday, January 27, at Mission Bay Resort.



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HR AOK in OB

A trip to The Holding Company releases memories

January 15, a rainy Sunday. It's 1 pm; my friends Ted Winter, Sandra McBride and I are pregaming by drinking Heinekens and doing White Runtz bong hits. At 1:45, I get a text from my friend Mark Lebowitz, aka Libby, who has procured my ticket for me: "Yo, where are you? I just parked and am walking." That's our cue to drive from PB over to OB; we're going to The Holding Company (THC) to see the legendary Paul Hudson, Joseph I, HR (Human Rights) — the throat of Bad Brains. The Reggae hardcore act has influenced bands such as the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Beastie Boys, and Living Colour. HR was my idol as a teenager and young adult. There was such a spiritual charisma about him. In his earlier days, his energy could not be surpassed: he snarled and screamed his lyrics, and he could do a standing backflip. You never knew what you were going to get at a Bad Brains or HR show — or not get. Bad Brains was supposed to play at Soma back when it was off Morena, in or around 1995. Darryl, Dr. Know, and Earl

showed up, but no HR. I'm sure others have similar stories. (What was not known, back when he was going through problems and demonstrating erratic behavior, was that he has schizophrenia. He also needed brain surgery in 2017 for SUNCT Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder causing sporadic, excruciating headaches.)

We arrive in OB at 2:05 and decide to park in the Hodad's Parking Lot for \$25.00. Not a bad decision, considering it is starting to rain heavily and street parking seems scarce. My friend Libby is waiting for us with our tickets. Lo and behold: as we're walking inside to meet him, HR is walking out. He says "Greetings." I respond, "Blessed we are." At least we know he's shown up for the gig. I'm in a haze, so I'm not quick enough to ask him for an exclusive interview. Drat. Inside, Libby leads us to my other old friend Tommy Wieneski, who is with still another old friend, Preslee Foster. I can't mention Bad Brains and HR without recalling the days of skateboarding, drinking beers, smoking pot and listening to the band with the likes of Libby

Michael Williams is my attentive bartender, back where it's light. The room gets darker as you get closer to the stage. There is a cute girl walking around, managing the sound system. There is a smoking area outside in the front. As far as I'm concerned, it's Sunday and I'm at church. MC Ras Mike jumps on stage to get the party started. After announcing the lineup, he shouts out, "No smoking in here! I already tried that, and they didn't like it; go outside



HR holds forth at The Holding Company.

to smoke!" He then welcomes the first act, T. Irie Dread. They play Reggae, plus funk and soul, including a blistering version of "Red Hot Mama" by Funkadelic that has everybody shaking their rump.

I spy HR walking around and settling in at the bar area. I use this as my opportunity to approach him. He has his back against the bar, facing out. I introduce myself and let him know I'm covering this for the *Reader*. He nods, as if to say, "cool." I ask, "Is there anything, any words of yours I can use for this story?" He give me a wide, closed-mouth smile and bobs

his head up and down. I tell him I'm going to quote him word for word. That gets a little laugh out of him.

Amalgamated comes on after T. Irie Dread and plays a cool Ska set with some Reggae grooves sprinkled in. Then it's time to hit the smoking area. I encounter Ras Mike hitting the pipe and ask him for a hit. I liked his interaction with the crowd. As I'm taking a big hit, my friend Libby comes out and I spill some of my beer on him. "I was standing here to trying keep my feet dry and you spill beer on them!" he complains. As I'm smoking with Ras Mike, saying that I've learned to expect the unexpected at an HR show, two women approach us. I ask them what brings them there. Shannon, the voluptuous one with jet-black hair and ice blue eyes, shouts, "HR \$12? Hell yeah!" Her friend's name is Sara. I ask her if it's Sara with an H. "Sara with an H is an asshole!" is her response.

I see Ras Mike walking back in, and he turns and says, "Follow me in, it's time." Ras Mike announces the band and HR as if he's announcing the starting lineup of a basketball team. HR comes out with a mismatched Adidas suit and big dark women's sunglasses with flowers on the rim. He no longer has those dreadlocks with the two big ones on the back of his head. He looks borderline frail. But while he may not move like he used to, he's still performing and touring. His manner and posture serve to remind the crowd of the spirituality of the setting. He ends his set with the songs that I used to end my nights with: "I Love I Jah" and "Leaving Babylon." How fitting. ■

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Monday, 8pm — Auz Fontaine. **Free**.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Catbamboo and Ando San. \$12. Wednesday, 7:30pm — King Pari and Vicky Farewell. \$15.

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Vigilante Coffee:

Saturday, 10:30am — The Soto Six. Free.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Thursday, 12pm — Ben Benavente.

Whistle Stop Bar:

Sunday, 8pm — Dazy and Alien Boy.

Winstons Beach Club:

Saturday, 4pm — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. **Free**.

UPCOMING SHOWS

BNS Brewing & Distilling: *Friday, Feb. 10* — West of 5.

Friday, Feb. 10 — West of 5 Free.

Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, Feb. 11 — KODO. \$28-\$70.

Bang Bang:

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Nils Hoffmann. Thursday, Feb. 9 — Cuffing Season

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — Save Ferris. \$22-\$39 Friday, Feb. 3 — Grateful Shred. \$32-\$56. Saturday, Feb. 4 — Grateful Shred. \$32-\$56. Monday, Feb. 6 — Loudon Wainwright III. Tuesday, Feb. 7 — Foghat. Wednesday, Feb. 8 - Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra. \$35-\$62. Thursday, Feb. 9 — Billy Nation: A Tribute to Billy Joel. Friday, Feb. 10 - GoldFish. Saturday, Feb. 11 - Dead Man's Party. Tuesday, Feb. 14 - Nena Anderson': A Dolly Parton Valentine's Day Wednesday, Feb. 15 -DeVotchKa. Thursday, Feb. 16 — The Lone Bellow. Friday, Feb. 17 - Karl Denson's Tiny Universe. Saturday, Feb. 18 - Karl Denson's Tiny Universe. Sunday, Feb. 19 - Kitchen Dwellers and Lindsay Lou.

Monday, Feb. 20 — Ace Frehley

Wednesday, Feb. 22 - Eric

Hutchinson.

Bloom Nightclub:

Friday, Feb. 3 — Vnssa and Red & Ted. \$10-\$30.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, Feb. 10 — D.R.U.G.S and Varials.
Saturday, Feb. 11 — The Flatliners. \$22-\$27.
Thursday, Feb. 16 — Early Moods. \$10-\$15.
Friday, Feb. 17 — Wacken Metal Battle Round 1. \$12-\$15.
Saturday, Feb. 18 — Wacken Metal Battle Round 2. \$12-\$15.
Sunday, Feb. 19 — Nite and Persekutor.
Tuesday, Feb. 21 — Rotting Christ and Carach Angren.
Wednesday, Feb. 22 — Tsunami

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Bomb and Death By Stereo.

\$20-\$25.

Friday, Feb. 3 — Motown: The Music That Changed America. \$35-\$75.
Saturday, Feb. 4 — Motown: The

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Motown: The Music That Changed America. \$35-\$75. Saturday, Feb. 4 — Motown: The

Music That Changed America. \$35-\$75. Sunday, Feb. 5 — Motown: The

Music That Changed America. \$35-\$75.

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Nick Hakim. Thursday, Feb. 9 — Unsane. Saturday, Feb. 11 — The Stone

Wednesday, Feb. 15 - Early

Thursday, Feb. 16 — Bass Drum of Death.

Sunday, Feb. 19 — Deke Dickerson and Nashville Ramblers

Monday, Feb. 20 — Daring Greatly.

Wednesday, Feb. 22 — James Brandon Lewis and The

Comstock Bar and Grill:

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Cadillac Fringe Band. Free. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Mojo Brew Band. Free. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Still Around Band. Free.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — Deadheads Night. Thursday, Feb. 16 — Keep On Duckin'

Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve:

Sunday, Feb. 5 — Free Ecocentric Concert: Dryad. Free.

Elijah's Restaurant & Delicatessen:

Saturday, Feb. 11 — San Diego Mesa College Jazz Quartet at Elijah's. Free.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:

Saturday, Feb. 11 — Anna Danes.

House of Blues:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — M.A.G.S. Friday, Feb. 3 — The Moss. \$108-

\$125 Saturday, Feb. 4 — Danny Ocean.

Thursday, Feb. 9 — GloRilla. Friday, Feb. 10 - A Flock of Seagulls and Strangelove. Friday, Feb. 10 - Larkin Poe. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Electric

Wednesday, Feb. 22 — Kenia Os.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Friday, Feb. 17 — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. Free.

La Jolla Woman's Club:

Wednesday, Feb. 22 -Preservationist Jazz Band Fundraiser Free

Mesa College:

Wednesday, Feb. 15 - Free Weekly Recital Hour: San Diego Bluegrass Society. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, Feb. 16 - Allie Colleen. \$15-\$20.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — Soul Seekers. Free

Thursday, Feb. 2 — Soul Seekers. Friday, Feb. 3 — FreeMartin Saturday, Feb. 4 — 91 Octane. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 9 — James Allen. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 9 — James Allen Country Band. Friday, Feb. 10 — Thea the Band.

Saturday, Feb. 11 — Tube

Amp'd. Free. Thursday, Feb. 16 — April Lee & Kevin Artisan Duo.

Fired up over Phase 4's fantastical sound

Recently, I came across some vinyl records with the label "Phase 4 Stereo" on them. I promptly contacted my friend who is into vinyl and handed them over to him. He must have thought me

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

I was baptized into classical music after the invention of the CD. Names like Mercury Living Presence, RCA Living Stereo, and London/ Decca Phase 4 Stereo meant nothing to me. As a classical music associate at Tower Records in the 1990s, I saw the re-release of the Living Presence and Living Stereo recordings on CD. I don't recall seeing London's Phase 4 Stereo at the time, but they have since been re-released as well.

I do recall certain "regulars" being excited to see the Living Presence and Living Stereo recordings

on CD. I also recall trying to memorize The Penguin Guide to Classical Music. The Living Presence and Living Stereo recordings didn't get much love from Penguin. My attention was focused on Georg Solti, Herbert von Karajan, and an emerging Simon Rattle.

Now I find myself obsessing about Phase 4 Stereo, and the recordings made by Leopold Stokowski in particular. They are all the things that Stokowski was: over-thetop, manipulated, unnatural, and unrealistic, examples of the technological advancements run amok in classical music. And I love them.

Some of the Stokowski Phase 4 Stereo recordings are on YouTube, and I've been giving them all of my attention of late. YouTube is not the media of choice for the audiophile, but I lack the

will to put an analog stereo system together with a vinyl turntable. Where would I put it? YouTube it is, and you know what? The grandeur of the sound is at least implied.

One of the Phase 4 records I gave away was the Stokowski version of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5. The final two movements are available on YouTube. If you are familiar with the symphony, then you are going to notice some changes at the end. Stokowski was famous for changing the orchestration of almost every piece of music he conducted. The obvious thing here is the lack of a grand pause and the inclusion of a crazy horn part in the final bars.

The entire recording of Scheherzade by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov is also available on the platform. Phase 4 Stereo used up to



Leopold Stokowski and Phase 4: sometimes, it doesn't suck to run amok.

24 microphones, which allowed the engineers — and Stokowski — to emphasize individual elements of the orchestra. You will never hear Scheherzade sound like this in a concert hall. The YouTube version sounds as if it is being overpowered by its

The final piece I'd like to visit is Antonio Vivaldi's The Four Seasons. This is as far from period instrument and period performance practices as you can get. This is ballsto-the-wall, pedal-to-themetal music making.

Classical Music this week

Johan Dalene & Giorgi

Gigashvili Don't miss this chance to see 20-year-old Swedish phenom Johan Dalene, joined by Giorgi Gigashvili. Sunday, January 29, 3pm; \$43. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Rossina Grieco Former child prodigy pianist Rossina Griego will perform a special concert. Born and raised in La Iolla, she made her solo piano debut with the San Diego Symphony at age 8, in 2003. Saturday, January 28, 4pm; \$50-\$55. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street.

Scandinavian Winter

Soprano Irene Marie Patton and baritone Andrew Garrett ioin the Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra in a program of Scandinavian music. Admission is free with free-will donation. Sunday, January 29, 2:30pm; free. All Saints' Episcopal Church Hillcrest, 625 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Symphony at State: Collaborative Piano Masterclass A Collaborative Piano masterclass featuring Janna Ernst, SDSU Alumnus and veteran collaborative pia-

nist and coach. Rhapsody Hall.

Saturday, January 28, 12pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive.

Symphony at State: Trombone Masterclass

Trombone Masterclass featuring Megumi Kanda, Principal Trombonist of the Milwaukee Symphony. Rhapsody Hall. Thursday, January 26, 5pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive.

Symphony at State: Trombone Recital Trombone Recital featuring Megumi Kanda, Principal Trombonist of the Milwaukee Symphony.

Rhapsody Hall. Friday, January 27, 7pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive.

Symphony at State: Trumpet Masterclass

Trumpet Masterclass featuring Matthew Ernst, Principal Trumpet of the Milwaukee Symphony. Rhapsody Hall. Friday, January 27, 4pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive.

Symphony at State:

Trumpet Recital Trumpet Recital featuring Matthew Ernst, Principal Trumpet of

the Milwaukee Symphony and Janna Ernst, veteran collaborative pianist. Also featured will be the SDSU Trumpet Ensemble. Rhapsody Hall, Saturday, January 28, 4pm; free. SDSU School of Music and Dance, 5500 Campanile Drive.

Through Her Voice: Songs by Women Composers

Soprano Dr. Maribel Ruiz-Velasco and pianist Gema García Grijalva will perform works by female composers from around the world. Friday, January 27, 1pm; free. Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Friday, Feb. 17 — Dad Bods and Amy. Free. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Sonic Tonic.

Music Box:

Friday, Feb. 3 — RJD2. \$30. Saturday, Feb. 4 — The Floozies

and Maddy O'Neal. Sunday, Feb. 5 — Twisted Gypsy. Thursday, Feb. 9 — Savon, AbJo, JR Jarris. \$15.

Friday, Feb. 10 — Beyonce Vs Rihanna.

Saturday, Feb. 11 — Jungle

Thursday, Feb. 16 — Kaki King. Friday, Feb. 17 — Paul Oakenfold.

Saturday, Feb. 18 — Fleetmac Wood. Sunday, Feb. 19 — White Reaper

and Narrow Head

Nate's Garden Grill: Saturday, Feb. 18 — Tinkersmith.

Navajo Live:

Friday, Feb. 17 — Into The Void & One Night in the City. Free.

Observatory North Park:

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Yacht Rock Revue. Tuesday, Feb. 7 — Margo Price and Lola Kirke. Thursday, Feb. 9 — Eden. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Bikini Bottom Rave.

Thursday, Feb. 16 — Inner Wave. Friday, Feb. 17 — El Tri. Wednesday, Feb. 22 — Fidlar.

Panama 66:

Sunday, Feb. 12 - Uptown Rhythm Makers. Free.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:

Friday, Feb. 3 — Guy Davis & Happy Traum. \$20-\$25.

Point Loma Nazarene University: Saturday, Feb. 4 — SDUSD M.S. Honor Band & Orchestra. Free.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Saturday, Feb. 11 — Richie Furay and Back to the Garden.

Poway Library:

Saturday, Feb. 11 — Moonlight Serenade Orchestra. Free. Wednesday, Feb. 22 - Ukulele Jam Session, Free.

Powav's Irish Pub: Saturday, Feb. 4 — West of 5.

Free.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — Surfer Joe and The Tourmaliners. \$18. Friday, Feb. 3 — Mac Sabbath.

Saturday, Feb. 4 — The Mattson 2 and Paul Cherry. Wednesday, Feb. 8 — David Hillyard & The Rocksteady 7 Thursday, Feb. 9 - SUUNS and Lorelle Meets the Obsolete. Friday, Feb. 10 - Jackie Mendoza and Vàkoum. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Death Cab

Sunday, Feb. 12 - Jeffrey Martin and Taylor Kingman. Friday, Feb. 17 - Karate and Rex. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Sea Wolf.

Wednesday, Feb. 22 - White Denim. Thursday, Feb. 23 — Weapons of Mass Creation.

Saturday, Feb. 25 — Pon de Riri: Rave to Rihanna.

Soma:

Thursday, Feb. 2 — JID and Saturday, Feb. 18 - Peachy San Diego.

Sound:

Friday, Feb. 3 — Ziggy Marley. Saturday, Feb. 4 — Ziggy Marley. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Steve Aoki. Saturday, Feb. 25 — Big Gigantic.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas, 890 Balour Drive. :

Friday, Feb. 17 — Hutchins Consort Fiddle Fest. \$20-\$35.

Sunshine Brooks Theatre: Saturday, Feb. 18 — Six String Society's 27 Club. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Six String Society's 27 Club.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:

Saturday, Feb. 4 — Carpenters Legacy. \$68-\$108. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Who's Bad: Michael Jackson Tribute. \$19-

Friday, Feb. 24 — Tito Puente Jr. & his Latin Jazz Orchestra. \$39-\$49.

Til-Two Club:

Friday, Feb. 24 — Sleepy Hollow, Plenum, Machine Politik. \$8.

Viejas Arena:

Saturday, Feb. 4 — YG, OhGeesy, Day Sulan.

Yiddishland California:

Friday, Feb. 10 — Jewish Songs of Love. \$20-\$40.

Immigrant ingenuity

I pause to think about how much of a staple these things have been in my life.

ch, dreich. Ye coulda picked a better night, sailor," says Annie. "It's chucking it down."

Annie's my Scottish friend. She's right about the rain. Says it takes her back to "Caledonia." That's the old name for Scotland. She says *dreich* means "miserable weather" in Scottish. She and I, and our buddies Kim and Pam, are crowding around the welcome

desk of Fortunate Son, this romantically Chineselooking place in Normal Heights. Out on the patio, collapsed triple-canopy red and gold umbrellas shine in the lights and flap drippily in the wind and rain. The inside's jam-packed with red lanterns, golden dragon cushions, red and gold tablecloths, wait staff in red and gold dragon aprons. It's cozy.

Except we're cold and wet. We wanna sit down, but the hostess says no dice. "Hour and a half wait," she says.

Hopefuls on a Saturday night. Restaurant does not take

"What?!" says Annie. "This weather? Why don't you do reservations?"

"Sorry," says the girl. "You could wait in the Swan.'

We're in Normal Heights, on Adams. Long and short is, we do run and huddle in the ubercute Swan bar next door. But it has its challenges too. Like, the rain is getting in, splashing itself onto all the window tables. Still, it's kinda fun. Everybody's friendly, sharing the misery.

Then finally, the girl from Fortunate Son appears. She races in out of the rain, spots us, and shouts, "You've got a table!"

So now we're settled at table 61, surrounded by those glowing red paper lanterns and a green forest of upside-down plants hanging from the ceiling. Red — for the Chinese, a lucky color, right? — is everywhere. So are dragons. Turns out the place is deliberately aimed at giving us the total Chinese-American experience. "Working class American-Chinese food," announces the menu proudly. It's a license to go all-out on the kind of deliciously clichéd Chinese dishes we've all had at our local noodle shop when we were in a hurry and didn't want to spend a lot.

This is the nosh that has been evolving here ever since 15,000 Chinese workers came (or maybe were brought) to the U.S. to build the East-West

> railroad between 1863 and 1869. And Chinese cooks have spent the time ever since then adapting their cuisine to whatever ingredients they could find here - and so making their

food safe for us Barbarians

to chow down upon.

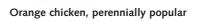
The menu gets scholarly about it, says the place "attempts to chronicle the cultural exchange between the United States and China that helped turn restaurant dining into an egalitarian ideal and a democratic experience in the early

20th century."

Tony Guan — the chef who runs the kitchen here at Fortunate Son - writes, "Among my chef friends and the epicurean élites, i.e. 'foodies,' the conversation around great Chinese food was always centered on authenticity, with classic American takeout dishes not considered authentic. But I've always seen [American-Chinese dishes] as a by-product of [the] enormous creativity and ingenuity of Chinese immigrants. They adapted to what was available to them in the early 20th century." Nice to hear such a positive message

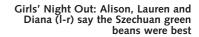
in this time when we're not feeling a lot of good vibes between the two cultures.

Whatever, this "everyman's" menu is short, but offers plenty of dishes we recognize, from Kung Pao chicken to Dan Dan noodles. Hmm. I check the choices: "Kung Pao Chicken, with sour fermented chili sauce, roasted peanuts, garlic, ginger, \$15.99." "Crab Rangoon, with cream cheese, sweet chili sauce, and scallions, \$11.99." Other offerings are still vaguely familiar: shrimp and pork dumplings with black vinegar and chili oil (\$13.99); Szechuan green beans with interesting flavorings like pickled mustard stem, garlic, Fresno chilis and almond dust for \$10.99; or General Tso's Chicken (or, for vegetarians, General Tso's Cauliflower), with ginger, garlic and Shaoxing wine (a rice wine from eastern China). The ladies leaving the table we're coming to - Alison, Lauren and Diana — reckon the Szechuan beans were the best thing they had here tonight. "Along with the Dan Dan noodles, and the salt and pepper shrimp — awesome — but the beans were great because they were woked, not fried, and were crisp and fresh and had a pickled mustard flavor." They cost \$10.99.



The rest of the menu is a combo of noodle dishes, like lo mein noodles with cabbage and carrots for \$9.99, or rice dishes. And one of the best deals has to be the simple fried rice, with Chinese sausage, peas and carrots for — hey hey! — \$6.99.

So yes, standard issue stuff, but I pause to think about how much of a staple these items have been in my life, keeping me going on many an evening as I sit at my laptop. Not your odd-tasting ragouts of newts' eyes and dragon tails, but just honest wok-stir-ups of pork and rice and noodles — and



usually, a healthy dose of garlic and spice and

"I know exactly what I want," says Annie now. "Dumplings and Dan Dan noodles. And a Chinese beer." I go for the fried rice,

but add shrimp for \$5.99, making a total of thirteen bucks. We share, natch, and I must say Annie's dumplings are the greatest. Nice pork and shrimp combo, plus soy-saucy, garlicky, squelchy little food purses with sexy crisp spots.

And to wash it all down, we get bottles of Nanjing beer. That's a first. Nice, in a German lager way. (And that's no surprise: The way I heard it, back in the day, it was a German brewer went through all Asia, setting up breweries that produced his exact back-home brewskis.)

It's still coming down cats and dogs when we head out, but for some reason, it doesn't seem to matter. For a moment we all turn into Gene Kelly, swishing up water from the roadside with our soaked shoes. "I'm singing in the rain..." ■

The Place: Fortunate Son, 2943 Adams Avenue, 619-391-3766

Prices: Kung Pao Chicken, with roasted peanuts, garlic, ginger, \$15.99; Crab Rangoon (cream cheese, sweet chili sauce, scallions,) \$11.99; shrimp and pork dumplings, \$13.99; Szechuan green beans, with fresno chilis and almond dust, \$10.99; General Tso's Chicken, \$15.99; General Tso's Cauliflower, \$12.99; dan dan noodles (sichuan sesame sauce), \$13.99; lo mein noodles, \$9.99; fried rice (Chinese sausage, peas, carrots), \$6.99

Hours: 5pm-11.30pm, Monday to Thursday; 3pm - 11.30pm, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Nearest Bus Stops: Adams and 30th



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

Uncle Tetsu sends vou home with Japanese cheesecake

Uncle Tetsu; 4609 Convoy St. Kearny Mesa. While noodles, dumplings, and other savory fare draw the most attention to the Convoy District, you could practically fill a guidebook to the neighborhood based solely on singular Asian dessert restaurants. I'll have to circle back soon to excitement wouldn't let me put off highlighting the district's latest

Priced at \$13, the roughly 6-inch diameter cakes sit stacked behind the counter and ready to go, in what turns out to be pretty impressive packaging. Some sort of muslin or cheesecloth gently wraps the delicate cakes inside its cardboard box, and

> you to slice each cake without attempting to lift it onto a cutting board.

both unfold easily at home, allowing

The original, aka plain, cheesecake lets you know what this style is all about, but it's more fun to delve into the different flavors (and colors). On a daily basis, you can expect to find cakes featuring traditionally Filipino ingredients: whether the purple-hued ube, or green pandan coconut, which combines coconut with a vanilla-tasting grass. It's also pretty tough to go wrong with

and personally, I think this cake's soufflé texture

or any of the tea flavors occasionally offered as

was no way I could leave without the Oreo cheesecake, which was offered on special. Despite the large Oreo wafer sitting atop its browned face, the cake's restrained sweetness made it taste better to me than most cookies 'n cream desserts, without ruining the kids' enjoyment. Everybody won. Convoy dessert enthusiasts may notice Uncle Tetsu opened in the suite next door

to another popular specialist: Mochinut, the bakery that makes chewy, mochi-infused donuts. Looking at the two, side by side, made me wonder how any reasonable person

could be expected to choose between such tasty treats. My 12-year-old had a different, intriguing

by Ian Anderson

Fay and resident Advanced Sommelier Evan Vallee host a six-course wine-pairing

dinner that is Mediterranean/Italian themed.

Thursday, January 26,

6:30pm; \$165. 21 and up.

Sandpiper Wood Fired Grill & Oysters, 2259 Avenida De

La Playa. (LA JOLLA)

ter Nun-of-the-Above (Tootie) with the

Sisters of Sequin. Each entree includes unlimited

Mimosas, Champagne, or Bloody Marys. Sundays,

Gospel Brunch Hosted by Sis-



strawberry

Japanese

heesecake by

Uncle Tetsu.



The daily selection of cheesecakes on display at Uncle Tetsu.

12pm; through Saturday, December 30, Lips Restaurant, 3036 El Cajon Boulevard, (NORTH PARK)

San Diego Dim Sum Tour Enjoy a walking tour through the heart of Asia-town and end at a popular Asian supermarket. Trip length 1-2 miles. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 31, \$69. Jasmine Seafood Restaurant, 4609 Convoy St., Suite A. (KEARNY MESA)

Street Food Market Lane Field Park Market is a street food market showcasing 20+ food vendors, as well as boutique coffee, with live music from 12:30pm until 2:30pm. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Saturday, December 31, free. Lane Field Park, 1009 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Bacon Experience Taste your way through a 3-course menu, featuring bacon-inspired dishes. The Bacon Experience is for two people. Each course is paired with a special craft beer. Welcome Starter Bacon

Candy, First Course (choice of one): Brussels Sprouts with bacon, Fried Hush Puppies, Crispy Deviled Eggs. Second Course (choice of one per person): Bacon & Egg Alfredo, PB & J Burger, Bacon-wrapped BBQ Bison Meatloaf. Third Course (choice of one flavor): Loaded Donut Holes; Maple Bacon, Peanut Butter Caramel, Banana and Bacon. *Taxes and service charge will be calculated during checkout. Reservation @ ldbeerclub. com requires prepayment. Monday, January 30, 4pm; \$85. 21 and up. Lazy Dog, 1202 Camino Del Rio North.

Tijuana Street Food Tour Enjoy an all-inclusive street food tour in Tijuana. Guests meet at the McDonald's at the San Ysidro Trolley Station. Passports required. wildfoodietours.com. Saturdays, 12pm; through Sunday, December 31, \$69. San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)



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- For Inside Dining or Take Out

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PERSONALS

BAD BOY BOBBY Robert Ewing magician, Bad Boy Bobby. A World of Magic, old friend Judith Jeannotte needs you to call her ASAP. (213) 561-7487 no texting.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF Jennifer Christine Stringer. 1/27/84-4/15/22, your boyfriend Roy and your father love and miss you so much. RIP.

LEASE IN HAND 1971. I run a big trashed warehouse into art stu-dio living space 31 Crosby Street NYC. William barking Essex England on plasters brick wall rewires ceiling 1972. Beauty and safety.

PROMISE NO WHITE WATER rafting for rainiest date in 100 years every thing otherwise will always be alright.

DEAR JOE I'm learning to live without you. But I still miss you everyday. I love you. Please heal, and come back to me.

BEULAH still no sign of fruit loop.

CONGRATULATIONS to the both of us, Kuda!! 2023 is off to a great start!!! Kuda

DEPRESSED, LONELY PRIS-ONER needs pen pal. Please write to: Judah Mcbreairty #22730269 451 Riverview Park way Santee, CA 92071.

HELP ME FIND Hector M (chino) I need you to come back because

I miss you so much don't believe the hype, I love you smokey

WILL THE FOLKS who filled all the potholes in La Jolla head on over to Ingraham St. and help out! The Driveway Society.

THANK YOU THANK YOU for all prayers answered HMR.

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST your sponsorship in helping me to secure 4 dental implants on the top. Keith, (619) 551-6368, thanks!

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

YOUR OPINION Strike out the name The Padres, a name with religious identification. Hit a home run for a new name. How about the Amigos? The Center for Applied Critical Thinking, CACT. (619) 428-1274

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

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blackpantherparty.org. New membership open. leannanelson18@

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASS-ES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Join us Thursday, January 19, 7-9pm, for a 2-hour class on Taoism and how it relates to the practice of Taiji, \$25. Sign up on our website. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. taoistsanctuary.org.

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CATHOLIC WOMAN I am looking for a room near Trolley station or Little Italy \$850. I have a small older very well behaved poodle. Call or text (949) 300-5295.

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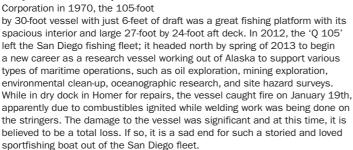
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Big waves, big sharks, and big tuna at the Cortez

Dock Totals 1/8 - 1/21: 691 anglers aboard 43 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past two weeks caught 6 blacksmith, 68 calico bass, 124 halfmoon, 2 halibut, 15 lingcod, 30 perch, 195 spiny lobster (721 released), 36 rock crab, 800 rockfish, 422 sand bass, 7 sanddab, 393 sculpin, 2 sheephead, 2 triggerfish, 212 whitefish and 22 yellowtail.

Saltwater: A bit of sad news from this past week is the burning of one of the San Diego fleets former long-range standouts among sportfishing vessels, the *Qualifier 105*. Built by Rohr Corporation in 1970, the 105-foot



Now, back to the good news. Fishing over the past couple weeks was more about being able to get out to the grounds than catching. With several atmospheric rivers bringing rain and unsettled conditions, options were greatly limited for all but a few trips south of the border for rockfish, along with local half-day and lobster trips. While the long range fleet is enjoying great fishing off the southern half of the Baja Peninsula, the shorter-range trips up to 3-days didn't get much of a window.

That said, a few yellowtail were scratched off of Colonet, and signs along the northern Baja coast indicate that they will still be around when the weather settles enough to target them. Along with some decent yellowtail, pangeros from Ensenada and south to San Quintin have been getting a solid bite on rockfish, sheephead, and lingcod. Boats heading south from full-day to 3-day runs should find plenty of action when weather and conditions allow.

One of the effects of the train of storms rolling down from the northwest was a huge swell out at Cortez Bank. Big wave surfers made the trip out to take advantage of waves reaching to well over fifty feet, and the first guy in saw tuna boiling in the impact zone. Sea lions were huddling in tight groups just out of the zone, which can be a sign of larger predators near. The first surfer off the boat, Jonathan Hoover, took a rescue jet ski to check conditions and noticed a large boil. He looked down and saw an "80 to 100-pound tuna; what was left of it anyway, just the head, as it slowly drifted down through a flurry of scales into the depths." A little while later, another surfer saw an 18-to-20-foot great white shark just out of the zone. Throughout the trip, tuna were boiling around the break zone, while the surfers (and I am sure, the sea lions) kept a watchful eye for the "man in the gray suit."

Fishing Cortez can be iffy, but sportfishing captains are well aware of the risks, and when conditions are doable, fishing vessels can access the area



Happy hoopsters with some tasty bugs aboard the Jig Strike.

is rare, with maybe a few days in any given year when there is a surfable break at all — and conditions allow for the trip out. Being able to surf the giant 50-plus-foot waves is more of a "few times in a decade" kind of rarity. It's listed as #5 in the Center for Surf Research's list of largest waves in the world, but at 110 miles offshore, it is also the least accessible for surfers. For anglers, the news of bluefin tuna still crashing around the Cortez is a good sign, and I am sure when conditions allow, boats will get out

safely for a good part of the

year. For big wave surfers, being

able to surf the giants at Cortez

there on them and we will see them again in the counts.

Closer to home, the rainy conditions seem to have lobster feeding well, as is often the case when runoff stirs up the inshore water. Lobster follow and are triggered by scent, and the stirred conditions can get them moving more on their nightly hunts. Hoop-net trips on the *Excalibur*, *Alicia*, and *Jig Strike* have been doing very well on numbers, though the legal-to-short ratio has varied from 1-in-10 to 1-in-4 on any given night. Ratio aside, the bugging has been very good in general.

For the short-range half and full-day trips, along with scratching sand bass off the flats and calicos off the local kelp beds, and rockfish trips south of the border during the closure in local waters, the *Dolphin* will be holding their 6th annual halibut tournament held every Wednesday from February 1st through March 29th. Tickets are \$85, with \$10 going toward the jackpot. 1.5-to-3-day runs will be either looking along the Baja coast for yellowtail and rockfish, or make the trip west, weather permitting, for bluefin tuna. Bluefin might also show further out off the northern Baja Coast, as returning long-range boats often see them 30 to 60 miles out and within 100 miles of the border. If those reports come in during the long-range season through early spring, I expect to see a few 1.5 to 3-day boats run to the south-southwest to target bluefin, with the second option being the great rockfish and lingcod fishing found of those banks further offshore. They're out there, so go get 'em!

Notable catches:

1/8 – 9 hoop-netters aboard the *Jig Strike* ½-day twilight trip raised 122 spiney lobster, with 21 kept and 101 released.

1/12 – 20 anglers aboard the *Premier* ³/₄-day run south of the border limited out with 200 rockfish caught.

1/15 – The *Pegasus* managed a run south to off Colinett between the storms, returning to the dock with 22 yellowtail, 95 rockfish, 46 whitefish, 1 sheephead, and 15 lingcod for the 17 anglers aboard.

1/19 – 9 hoop-netters aboard the *Excalibur* twilight lobster trip caught 86 lobster and 15 rock crab, with 67 of the lobster too short to keep and released.

1/21 – 23 anglers aboard the Sea Watch extended ½-day run south caught 116 rockfish and 38 whitefish.

Fish Plants: 1/26 – Lake Poway, trout (1500), 1/27 – Santee Lakes, trout (TBD), 1/29 – Lake Wohlford, trout (1500), 2/6 - Lake Jennings, trout (1500)

DANIEL POWELL

more: (855) 367-8834. / recruitment@artemis-research.com

PAID KNEE PAIN STUDIES If you have chronic knee pain you may qualify for a paid study. Please contact us to learn more: (855) 367-8834. / recruitment@ artemis-research.com

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LABORER / OCEANSIDE | need someone to assist me getting the rentals ready - must be able to follow directions. (760) 410-6605

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CAREGIVER (EAST COUNTY). Active Quadriplegic male seeking PT caregiver in East County area (Santee/Lakeside La Mesa/ El Cajon). Must have reliable transportation and be dependable, energetic, enthusiastic, compassionate. Experience preferred but

will train right person. Must pass fingerprint and background check. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required. Duties include: personal care, transferring, dressing, bathing, grooming, cooking, cleaning, shopping. Please send resume or prief description of why you are an excellent candidate to agarciajr14@sbcglobal.net or leave message at (619) 596-9343.

LOOKING TO HIRE a female an home supportive service caregiver with the vehicle in San Diego to work Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for a nice middle age senior lady. Please call no texting for an interview. (619) 269-3434 as soon as possible.

PAPERWORK HELP Interested in helping at my home, computer

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PART-TIME WORK AT HOME | am rejoining the workforce after being a homemaker for 3 years. Lots of experience in transcrib-ing, typing, working with children office/clerical work. My last job was a delivery driver. Want entry level remote position with some benefits. (760) 705-8457 / lutz. jenn@gmail.com

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

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



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DRYWALL STILTS \$50 need new straps, call (619) 264-7148, ask for Tom.

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

HIGH BIAS CASSETTE TAPES can be used for recording, ten cents each. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

HOT POINT WASHER XL capacity, \$100. Two large mirrors, \$50 each. (760) 749-8266

MISC ITEMS Golf set clubs, bag, ball \$220 sell \$45. New womens, cleated leather Nike's \$20. \$200 7 Air Filters sell \$35. 2 never used walkers, \$20 each. Interested, call (619) 384-4960

PORTABLE CD PLAYER cd player with charger and head-phones, still in the box \$40. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278

SOLID BAMBOO FLOORING 22 SQ FT This tongue & groove solid flooring is made from natural bamboo in Toast finish. It is durable, scratch & dent resistant. 23 pieces (out of 24 in a full box) of 3.75"x 37.75"x 5/8". New in excellent condition, \$35. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

TWO BRAND NEW PENDLE-TONS for tall XL, very expensive new with tags, \$40 each. Old angel mirror, \$50. (858) 739-2689

VINTAGE SOLID WOOD MIR-ROR This mirror (31-3/4"x 16"x 1-7/8") with 3/8" wood frame weighs 18.5 lb. Hanging hardware not included. The glass is 1/2" thick & has some dark spots, scratches and discoloration which reflect its vintage nature. \$20. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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



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

VINTAGE TABLE LAMP BRASS VINIAGE TABLE LAMP BHAS: 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 or email for more info/pictures. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BRAND NEW CRUTCHES 5'2"-5'10" These Guardian 52 - 5 10 These Gutantian crutches are for short adults up to 300 lbs. with push-button height adjustment & wing-nut hand grip adjustment, comfortable crutch pads and hand grips w/ non-skip tips. Brand new and never used \$20. Text or email for more info/ pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@

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

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RATTAN WOOD SPICE RACK STORAGE This handmade organizer (11"x 6"x 10" H) is strong, stable and very durable. It has 3 upper sections and 2 bottom shelves and can be used in kitchen, bathroom or other rooms at home / office. Excellent condition. \$12. Text or email for more info/ pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@

SCOTTS HANDY GREEN II SPREADER This hand-held spreader has an ergonomic design which reduces wrist fatigue for applying lawn grass seed or fertilizer (up to 1,000 sq. ft). It is heavy duty and rustproof. Like new, clean, and in excellent condition. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@ amail.com

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 or email for more information or pictures. (619) 800-5568 / cadbcsd@gmail

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.

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IKEA ORANGE PLASTIC KIDS TABLE This children's play table is lightweight but sturdy & easy to clean (30-3/8 "x 21-5/8" x 18-7/8

high). Perfect for kids to sit at and play, draw, or do crafts both indoors or outdoors. Clean & in good condition. \$20. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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

SOLAR PANEL MOUNTING SYSTEM Universal mount holds 10 large solar panels, can be used when roofs aren't suitable for mounting solar panels, can be used to power an off grid EV charging station, if your roof is shaded by trees or needs repair, excellent, \$2,600., (760) 746-7209.

VINTAGE GOLD & BROWN MIRROR The beautiful ornate wooden frame (10-1/4"x 10-1/4" & 7/8" to 1-3/8" thick) of this mirror (4-5/8"x 4-5/8") is very beautiful & decorative. The mirror is in excellent condition with no scratches or blemishes. \$25. Text or email for more info/pictures. (619) 800-5568 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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BEAUTIFUL RED SWIVEL BAR STOOL This heavy duty counter height (25") barstool is very sturdy and well constructed. It has comfortable 3" foam pad on seat & backrest. Black steel frame construction & legs. Like new and in excellent condition. \$60. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BLACK SQUARE MIRROR (24"X 24") This good looking contemporary wall mirror with gold trimming would compliment a nice home or office. Actual mirror size is 17.75"x 17.75"). Heavy duty hanging hardware is included. Clean and in good condition. \$25. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@gmail.

CAMERA COLLECTION Agfa Argus, Kodak, Leica, Zeiss. \$300. (760) 757-5445

MISC FOR SALE Small, free-standing wine refrigerator \$75 obo. White, brass daybed with trundle, rose design \$100 obo. Please text or call (760) 835-0322.

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR Merits brand, model P326A, New, unused in the box, all accessories manual, (213) 561-7487 no texting, appt, Judy.

TABLE LAMP METAL CYLIN-DER BODY The body of this unique table lamp is 4.5" in diam-eter 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. \$20. Text or email for more info/pictures. (619) 800-5568 / cadbcsd@gmail.

> WOMEN'S WINTER CLOTHING extra large to plus size leather jackets, coats, jeans, sweaters, skirts, boots, shoes, handbags \$20 or best, excellent condition. Please call (619) 269-3434."

BROWN & GOLD VINTAGE DESK LAMP This classical desk lamp has twin fluorescent lamps (1 working), flexible gooseneck, and a rocker on/off switch on the base. Minor cracks on shade are covered with tapes. The lamp is in good working condition. \$25. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

GEORGE FOREMAN GRILL-ING MACHINE This "Lean Mean Fat Reducing" grill (9"x10") has nonstick cooking surfaces on top and bottom and can grill burgers, steaks, chicken, seafood and veretables. Simple plug-in electric. Good working condition. \$8. Text or email for more info or pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail

COSBY, STILLS, AND NASH RECORD \$30 (858) 262-0592

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SEALS & CROFTS RECORD Greatest Hits record. \$8 (858) 262-0592

VINTAGE JOURNEY RECORD \$20 (858) 262-0592

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MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following items: a couple of brand new clocks, blue v-tech house phone laundry basket fancy candle holder. I am also selling three pairs of brand new pants never worn and a belt also never worn pants size 38x30 call (619)

CASINO STUFF I WON Very very cheap, the more you buy, the better deal you get. Kitchen stuff, luggage, lot's more, new in boxes. (760) 747-1013

COACH large 14 x 11 x 6 black diaper, multi use travel tote bag. Neoprene, 5975 Hamptons, no changing pad, very nice condition, \$30. Elaine (858) 674-7213.

MISCELLANEOUS surfboards, skateboards, bicycle, some tools, please make offer. Call (619) 296-4065, leave message.

PLAYGROUND STATION Excellent condition. Price in store is \$6,000. I'm selling it for \$2,800. Wood strong playground. Claudia Solano (619) 600-1558.

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NEW QUEEN MATTRESS \$300 Sleepy rest firm queen prime. Paid \$500. Cash only. You pickup Mapaul16@gmail.com.

BRAND NEW VANS HIGHTOP suede, light mint green, lace up front, zipper back, purchased for \$100, selling for \$25, size 7. (619) 601-3591.

SHOES AND TRAVEL BAG 2-3 pairs of women's shoes, new, size 7-7.5. And a new travel bag and new purse. Each item is \$10 each. (619) 283-8417

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MISC FOR SALE drones from \$11, stun gun/flashlight combina-tion \$20, all brand new. Grow lights. Text for prices and pictures. (619) 850-3264

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Least Competent Criminal

 The Rockdale County (Georgia) Sheriff's Department posted a list of its top 10 most wanted fugitives on Facebook on Nov. 28, Fox News reported. One local criminal evidently felt left out, though: Christopher Spaulding, an area man with two warrants for his arrest, commented, "How about me?" The sheriff's department responded, "We are on the way" and on Dec. 1 arrested Spaulding. Later, they commented, "We appreciate you for your assistance in your capture!" Spaulding's warrants were for felony violation of probation.

Questionable Judgments

- A 72-year-old woman was arrested on Nov. 29 in Berlin after she allegedly turned off her hospital roommate's ventilator -- twice! -- because the sound of it was annoying her, The Washington Post reported. After the first incident, police said, the woman was told the machine was necessary to keep the roommate alive, but she switched it off again later in the evening. The other patient had to be revived, although she is expected to recover. The suspect was charged with suspicion of attempted manslaughter.

Making a Statement

- Mindy Janette Stephens, 46, was arrested on Dec. 1 and charged with illegal dumping after an incident that took place on Nov. 10 in Electra, Texas. According to KXAN-TV, Stephens, seen on security footage wearing a white hazmat suit and a yellow mask, deposited three 5-gallon buckets of human excrement at the front door of the Electra police department, then got in her SUV and drove away. Stephens told another media outlet that she had been renting an apartment to a man who had not paid rent or utilities for a year, and after she evicted him, she found the buckets of waste. "He'd been pooping in the buckets," she said. She said she called the police department to ask what she should do with them, but officers weren't helpful - so she took the buckets to the station. City wastewater officials removed them, and Stephens bonded

Bad Behavior

- Five-year Chicago police veteran Henry Capouch, 30, was arrested for battery and disorderly conduct on Dec. 5 in St. Petersburg, Florida, where he was vacationing, The Smoking Gun reported. According to officers, Capouch was discovered around 12:30 am by an employee of Jimmy B's Beach Bar as he was "(urinating) on the ice in the machine." The worker told Capouch to stop, but instead he shoved both him and a security guard. Police said Capouch actively resisted and did not obey commands while being arrested. They said he showed an "indication of alcohol in-

Wrong Place, Wrong Time

- On Nov. 28 at around 1:45 am, an unnamed 27-year-old man visited the Apple store on Fifth Avenue in New York City and made a huge purchase: 300 iPhone 13s. (The store is open 24 hours.) He bought the phones to resell through his small business.

But, the Daily Star reported, he didn't get very far with them: As he walked to his car, another car pulled up and two men jumped out, demanding his three bags. The customer defended himself, but the thieves made off with one of the bags, which contained about 125 phones, worth approximately \$95,000. The New York Police Department is investigating.

Anger Management

- Mark Curtis Wells, 51, of Biloxi, Mississippi, and another golfer got into an altercation on Nov. 28 at Hollywood Casino, WXXV-TV reported. They had played earlier in the day at Bridges Golf Course, where the argument allegedly began, police said. When officers arrived at the casino parking lot, they found one of the men suffering a facial injury: His nose had been bitten off. Wells took off from the scene in a Tesla but turned himself in on Nov. 30 and was charged with mayhem. The nose was not found.

Who Knew?

- In June 2023, people in South Korea will suddenly become younger, the BBC reported. On Dec. 8, the South Korean parliament voted to switch from two traditional methods of counting age to the more widely recognized international method for official documents. Currently, Koreans are one year old at birth and then gain another year on the first day of each following year. An alternate method has them at 0 upon birth, then adding a year each Jan. 1. So, for example, someone born on Dec. 31, 2002, is 19 years old using the international method. But under Korea's

traditional methods, they might be 20 or 21 years old. One member of parliament said the change would reduce "unnecessary socioeconomic costs, because legal and social disputes as well as confusion persist due to the different ways of calculating age."

Unclear on the Concept

 Phoenix police officer Christian Goggans, who had been assigned to home duty, took advantage of the situation by dedicating more hours to his porn career, KOLD-TV reported. Goggans is facing an internal investigation after he allegedly traveled back and forth to Las Vegas while on the clock to produce and star in pornographic videos. He posted the films to a public Twitter page (using his "stage" name, Rico Blaze), which has since been made private. A Phoenix PD public information officer said Goggans' work-from-home assignment required only that he call in once daily.

Ewwww

- Muscle Shoals, Alabama, experienced a thunderstorm on Dec. 10 that brought more than lightning and heavy rain, WHNT-TV reported. The city's utility board manager, James Vance, said lightning struck controls at a sewer pump station, which allowed almost 2000 gallons of sewage to flow into the streets of the Camden Cove subdivision. The sludge eventually flowed into a stormwater retention pond, and utility crews were able to clean up the mess.

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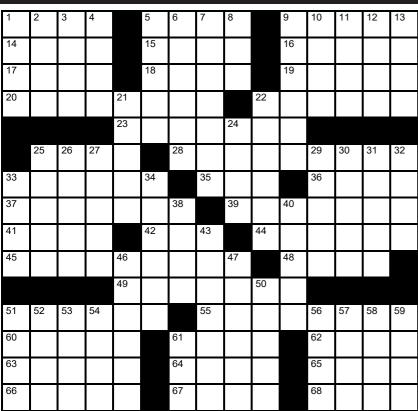
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Across

- 1. [Hey! Over here!]
- **5.** Cacio e (pasta dish)
- **9.** Capital city that rings in the New Year by dropping a huge potato
- **14.** "Future Nostalgia" singer Dua
- **15.** "Too bad, so sad!"
- **16.** Urge forward
- **17.** Face-to-face exam
- **18.** Cube, such as onions
- **19.** Some red carpet dresses
- **20.** Scrolling Instagram, to some
- 22. Doesn't disturb
- 23. Kind of turn

- **25.** Cut (down)
- 28. Bad-mouth
- -mâché
- **35.** Day before hump day: Abbr.
- **36.** Do more than just check out
- **37.** Pedicure part, perhaps
- **39.** [l'm out]
- **41.** Run for the hills
- **42.** San Francisco's ____ Hill QB
- **44.** Most faithful
- **45.** Literary character given the task of painting "thirty yards of board fence nine feet high"
- **48.** "Noted"

- 49. Marketplaces
- **51.** Chap
- **55.** Maternity surprise ... or, read a different way, this puzzle's theme
- **60.** Out of gas
- **61.** "Live Without

- **66.** Builds anticipation for
- **67.** Times Square sign for

SUDOKU

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

Down

- **1.** "The __ _ thickens!"
- 2. Modern search party?
- 3. Inbox clogger
- **4.** Account
- **5.** "The Taming of the Shrew" setting
- 6. Draw out
- 7. Super saver?
- **8.** Direction opposite WNW
- **9.** First family with the dogs Major and Commander
- **10.** Skip past
- 11. NASDAQ debuts
- **12.** Novak Djokovic, for one
- **13.** "Anything _____?"
- 21. Revealing, in a way
- **22.** "Think this looks good

- on me?"
- 24. Shade of purple
- 25. Italian name of six popes
- **26.** Nikki Giovanni's "____ of Friendship"
- **27.** Quinceañeras, e.g.
- 29. operandi
- **30.** Shake hands (on)
- 31. "Almost!"
- 32. Didn't discard
- **33.** "As if!"
- **34.** View from a control tower
- **38.** "End of the Road" group II Men
- **40.** Like a good apple
- **43.** One reading Kerouac or Ginsberg, say

- (Van Halen concert video) **62.** Split
- **63.** Group that protects a
- **64.** One thing after another?
- Poupon mustard 65.
- B'wav fans
- **68.** Highest point
- **46.** Living spaces **47.** Least cooked
- **50.** Fashion photographer
- **51.** "Then again," in texts
- **52.** She plays Frankie on "Grace and Frankie"
- coffee
- **54.** "Molto **56.** Lydia Ko's sports org.
- **57.** Surname at the O.K.
- **58.** Branch headquarters?
- **59.** River with a mythical ferryman
- ___-country (music 61. genre)

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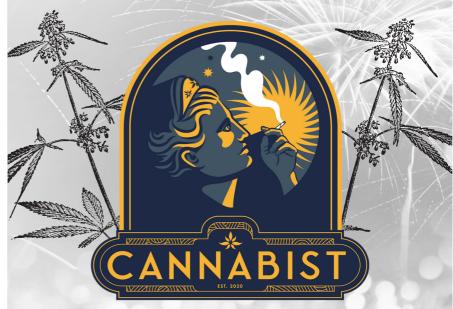
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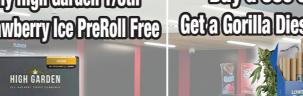




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