

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 48 | NO. 5 | FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Reader

Make Am

There were very fine people on both sides, &
I'm not talking about the Neo-nazis and white
supremacists because they should be condemn-
ally

Trump Love

Fractured friendships
following 45

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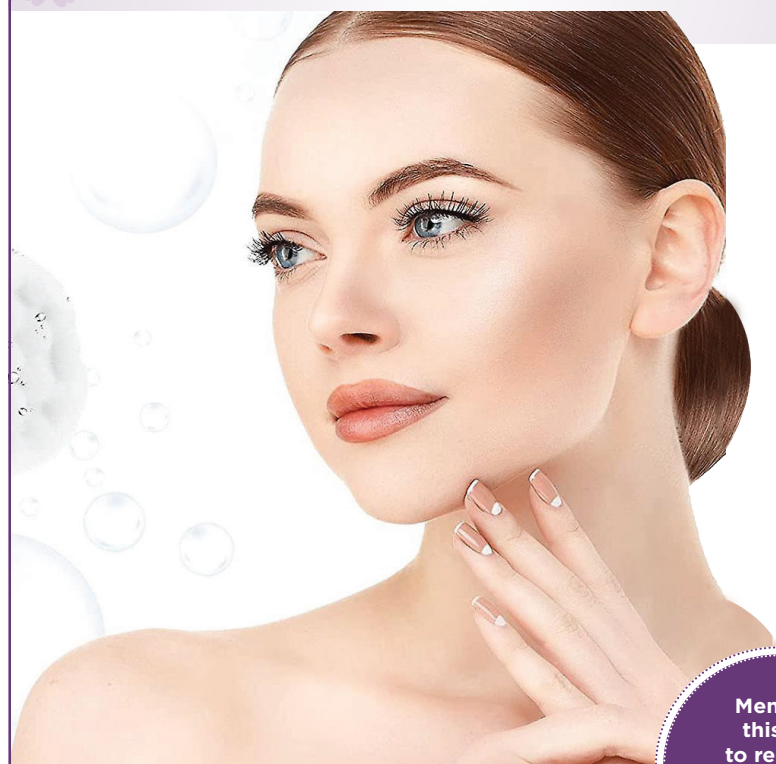
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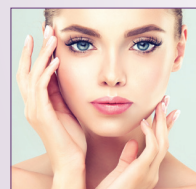


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February 2, 2023



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

ALPINE Can't unring the Bell? Zombie development may be shambling toward reality

A rural housing project that has been in limbo for decades is worrying Alpine neighbors who have learned that it may be revived. The 152-home zombie project, known as the Bell Bluff extension, was set to be the second phase of the nearly 600-acre Rancho Palo Verde subdivision until it stalled over lack of water supply, fire risk, and biological impacts. Those challenges have only intensified since its 1979 environmental impact report was approved. And in the interim, the county's climate and growth goals have shifted away from sprawl to a village approach. (While the proposed development is located in the Alpine Community Planning Area, it falls well outside the village center.)

According to the Cleveland National Forest Foundation, the extension could have disastrous consequences to the Cleveland National Forest, as it would require building a bridge across the Sweetwater River, opening the door to development on the untouched side of the river. Other critics include neighbors of Bell Bluff, (a 3400-foot peak seven miles east of Alpine) and the Potrero Planning Group. Opponents want the county — in keeping with their goal of reducing sprawl and a November 2022 resolution to promote biodiversity — to cause the property to revert to acreage and cancel the subdivision. The property, now held by out-of-town investors, transferred to Alpine Rancho Palo Verde Planning LLC in 2017.



What's the point of a lake without lakefront living?

But while nay-sayers say they have obtained public records that show the little-known project is moving forward in the planning department, the hurdles it faces today seem insurmountable. A temporary lien contract that was extended by the county over the years expired on June 14, 2012. No further extensions were approved. When the environmental report was prepared over 40 years ago, conditions were drastically different, critics say, and that a new report is required under state law. For one thing, CalFire recently updated its hazard maps, which identify the area as a very high fire severity zone. An egress route along the Bell Bluff Truck Trail to the southeast that existed in 1979 is now blocked by a large Sunrise Powerlink operations center. The development also falls within the county's Multiple Species Conservation Program area, which wasn't established until 1997.

And an email from county planner Jenna Roady, the previous environmental coordinator on the project, said last February that no determination had been made that an updated environmental review is not required. At a

minimum, an addendum will be needed. "We are in the process of reviewing cultural and biological studies for the project," she said.

SHEILA PELL

SANTEE YMCA = You May Change Anywhere? Locker room encounter brings trans tensions to a head



PHOTO CREDIT: YEIP

Until recently, the curly slide was the wildest thing at the Y.

On January 11, 17-year-old Rebecca Phillips told the Santee City Council about an experience she had two weeks prior at Santee's Cameron Family YMCA on Riverwalk Drive. When she walked out of the shower, she said, she encountered a naked male in the female locker room. "I immediately went back into the shower," continued Phillips, "and hid behind their flimsy excuse for a curtain until he was gone." She said that when she reported the incident to management, "They confirmed the man I saw was allowed to shower wherever he pleased, as long as you are not a red flag on Megan's Law, the California sex offender registry." Phillips continued, "This is the YMCA where hundreds of children spend their summer afternoons in childcare camps.

was therefore denied access to the female locker room. But Crunch staff gave Wood access to the female locker room in September 2017 after an anti-gay slur was allegedly used against Wood in the male locker room. Wood still sued Crunch the following May, and was awarded an undisclosed settlement in 2021.

In a Facebook post last year, Wood attacked Emma Weyant, the female college swimmer Florida governor Ron DeSantis declared the rightful winner after she lost the NCAA championship to Lia Thomas, a biological male who identifies as a woman. Wood called Weyant and her fellow swimmers "COWARDLY TERFS" for complaining that it was unfair to force

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Nay-sayers say they have obtained public records that show the little-known project is moving forward in the planning department.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

them to compete against a male. (TERF stands for “Trans-Exclusionary Radical Feminist,” a term used by trans activists against women who object to what they see as transgenderism’s infringement on women’s rights.)

Over the phone, Santee Vice Mayor Laura Koval told me, “The bar for protecting children should be set much higher than the sex offender registry. All women know that at some point in our lives, we have felt threatened by a male. There should be a safe space for us to shower and get dressed. As a woman, I would be uncomfortable around males in that

side the Santee YMCA to hear elected officials from Santee, Lakeside and El Cajon speak on behalf of women’s and girls’ rights. Earlier that day, the Santee School District suspended classroom-based trips to the *Y. Times of San Diego* reporter Ken Stone and KPBS reporter Andrew Dyer called the rally and school district decision “trans panic.” A few dozen counterprotestors rallied to support the Y’s policy.

After San Diego County supervisors Nora Vargas, Nathan Fletcher and Terra Lawson-Remer voted to redefine “woman” last year, Fletcher ridiculed people who said that treating transgender people “equally or fairly” would “diminish” the rights of women and girls. “It won’t and it hasn’t. And it never will...A year from now, we can come back here and none of this stuff we’ve heard about will have come to fruition.”

“A male who identifies as a woman might also feel uncomfortable and unsafe in a men’s facility. We need to find a solution for them.”

space, but I am very uncomfortable having them around girls.” Koval added, “A male who identifies as a woman might also feel uncomfortable and unsafe in a men’s facility. We need to find a solution for them. We love the YMCA in Santee, but this needs to be fixed.” For its part, the YMCA stated in a press release, “Our YMCA operates in accordance with California law, which gives people the right to access the locker rooms, changing rooms, and bathrooms that align with their gender identity.”

I polled a Santee community group on Facebook and 100 percent of 38 respondents objected to the Y’s policy. In every other social media poll I posted, more than 90 percent of respondents objected. In addition, the entire Santee city council expressed opposition. And on Wednesday, January 18, hundreds of people rallied out-

California Senate Minority Leader Brian Jones, who represents Santee, said, “In 2011, I voted against the law that prohibits exercise and recreational businesses from being able to protect minors from instances of poor judgement or malicious actions by adults in locker rooms. Unfortunately, we are witnessing the consequences of Sacramento Democrat politicians’ far-left policies. Everyone should feel comfortable in a locker room — particularly young minors. It’s unacceptable that an adult was allowed to expose themselves to a minor, and then the minor was ridiculed for expressing discomfort.”

Michael Botello, communications director for county supervisor Joel Anderson, said Anderson was unable to comment, but made sure to let me know his pronouns are he/him/his.

ERIC BARTL

UNDER THE RADAR

The messy business of abortion

A La Jolla biotech mogul who bankrolled RU-486, the lucrative day-after abortion drug, looms large in a new expose by *Mother Jones*. According to the piece, “In 1986, a North Carolina lawyer named **Joseph Pike** purchased one of the earliest manufacturers of intrauterine devices for \$1.1 million.” Pike later sold the company for \$65 million and headed off for La Jolla, intending to play golf and partake of other pleasurable pastimes of the super-rich. “But soon Pike heard from the Population Council about a business proposition: It wanted to develop and market medication abortion in the United States,” says the story. “Pike was the Council’s go-to because they’d worked together on the copper IUD. The Council had developed it and then granted Gynopharma the license, and it collected royalties as Pike



Susan Buffett, one of the wealthy liberals Pike pitched on RU-486.

successfully built up the IUD business and sold it.” Described by *Mother Jones* as “a Manhattan-based reproductive health nonprofit,” the Council also held patent rights to French developed RU-486, otherwise known as mifepristone. “In 1994, Pike got to work, traveling the country with **Susan Allen**, a doctor and abortion provider he’d brought on to be the face of the abortion pill effort. Pike recalls that they spent their time pitching wealthy liberals, including **Susan Buffett**, **Gloria Vanderbilt**, a George Soros representative, and a handful of other celebrities. His fundraising overlapped with the O.J. Simpson murder trial, and Pike says he even met with one of Simpson’s defense lawyers, **Bob Shapiro**.”

Then in late 1996, the Council found out about Pike’s past. “Pike had pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor forgery charge in North Carolina, tied to a 1985 real estate deal. He’d gotten a suspended two-year sentence, 18 months of probation, and a fine. He had also been stripped of his law license.” RU-486 investor KCC, “a unit of Beverly Hills-based Giant Group Ltd., a part owner of the Rallys Hamburger fast-food chain,” sued Pike in Los Angeles, according to a November 1, 1996, *LA Times* account of the dispute. Giant alleged Pike “had mishandled the \$13 million he raised,” the *New York Times* reported in a November 1997 follow-up. “The suit marks the first disclosure of the companies involved with the drug’s U.S. manufacture.” Pike counter-sued Giant, owned by Hollywood mogul **Burt Sugarman**, in San Diego

Superior Court, accusing Giant “of defamation and of exposing him and his family to threats from anti-abortion groups,” the *LA Times* reported November 14, 1996.

Meanwhile, the Population Council lodged a complaint against Pike in New York State court, alleging the La Jolla money man had not been candid about his criminal history. The legal wrangling was ultimately settled out of court, with Pike said to have ended up a passive investor in the effort.

Pike has created other biotech ventures, including GalleonBio, of which he is chairman of the board. “Based on multiple years of research and scientific innovation in rare earth metals, GalleonBio’s scientists have developed a unique therapeutic technology platform of products containing strontium,” says the firm’s website. The board includes **Kenneth D Herbst**, an Emeritus Profes-

sor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine. Meanwhile, per *Mother Jones*, “The end of *Roe v. Wade*, mixed with the FDA’s new approval of retail sales for mifepristone, could unlock immense profit. Their product’s mission may be a social good, but creating value for investors — themselves — seems to have become a driving motivation: one where women faced with impossible circumstances are reduced to the impersonal language of customer capture.”

Sheriff’s guy moves to the OC

The former top in-house attorney for both ex-San Diego sheriff **Bill Gore** and his predecessor **Bill Kolender** is currently employed across the line in Orange County as chief of the OC sheriff department’s oversight department, the Office of Independent Review, according to a January 24 post at *VoicesofOC.com*. “Until his appointment to the OC watchdog role this October, **Robert Faigin** was the top lawyer for San Diego



Bill Kolender’s legacy lives on, perhaps to his old lawyer’s chagrin.

County’s sheriff for 21 years,” per the piece. “Two decades into his watch at the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department, state auditors raised alarms last year about ‘the high rate of deaths in San Diego County’s jails compared to other counties,’ citing failures to meet its constitutional duties to fix ‘systemic problems.’” According to the story, “The [Office of Independent Review] search that led to Faigin’s hiring was led by super-

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LETTERS

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

Cruelty in the captions?

The photograph of a “granny cottage” in Del Mar (“Affordable housing laws descend on Del Mar”, Neighborhood News, Jan 10) was captioned “Why would you ever ruin such an adorable addition by making it low-income housing.” Is it author Sharon Pell who holds the poor in such disdain, or Reader editors? Who there is certain low-income people are trash? Who among your readers agree?

People who qualify for low income housing are often tidy, pleasant people in need of a tidy, pleasant home. Some low-income people’s lives have been devastated by disabling injuries or long illnesses. The family racks up massive medical debt. Reduced to Social Security Disability income, all their savings cannot stop the slide into poverty. Then there are those living paycheck to paycheck who have been laid off, students scraping every penny to push through college, parents who chose poverty over abuse — people just as good, just as worthwhile as the typical Del Mar resident. Del Mar mayor Dwight Worden insistence that provid-

ing homes for those struggling to move out of poverty “doesn’t feel right”, as he said. It feels like the worst kind of NIMBY. Cruelty based on ignorance.

Lynn Nielsen
Kensington

Reader photo caption editor responds: A thousand pardons, Ms. Nielsen. The caption was an attempt at mordant humor, criticizing the practice noted in the article of installing ADUs and then using them as extra bedrooms or offices.

Flaherty fan, Burns booster

What a fantastic send-off story about Colin Flaherty who gave the best days of his life to San Diego as a creative journalist and as son in law to our U.S. Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin. I know most all of those mentioned, being a political junkie(San Diego Councilman and State Board of Equalization officer) myself over an ongoing span of some 60 years and ongoing. An outstanding gathering of family and friends in Pennsylvania for him.

It is not only the Fair Political Practices Commission that terrorizes us with threats to seize our lottery winnings(ha!), all agencies of Cal. can and do this and wonder why the IRS has not chimed in. They already go after our casino winnings over a certain amount. Colin did the Lords work in rescue of Kelvin Wiley from false imprisonment, and the Lord remembers such things we do for others in

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Integrity Charter School District, San Diego, California, here after referred to as “OWNER”, acting by and through its governing board and representatives, in accordance with Public Contract Code 20118.2, is requesting sealed bids, for the furnishing of a Priority One Erate Data Services and ISP Services under the Request for Proposals(RFP's) #470 23A.4 Data Services and 470 23A.4 ISP Services for Integrity Charter School.

All bids shall be delivered to **Infinity Communications & Consulting, Inc. 4909 Calloway Dr. Suite 102, Bakersfield, CA 93312**, by **February 20, 2023** up to, but no later than, 1:00 P.M. Proposals received after the specified due date, time or other than at the location shown will be considered non-responsive.

Each bid must conform to the RFP's and bid documents. Copies of the RFP's and bid documents are available and must be obtained from the following website: [HYPERLINK "http://www.infinitycomm.com/projects"](http://www.infinitycomm.com/projects)

The services requested depend on partial funding from the School and Libraries Division's E-rate Program and California Public Utility Commission's California Teleconnect Fund (CTF). All contracts entered into as a result of this advertisement shall be contingent upon the approval of discounts from the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC) and CTF and the OWNER's acceptance of the discounts. The Contractor shall be responsible to invoice and collect payment of the discounted contract amount from USAC and CTF. The undiscounted contract amount will be the maximum amount that the OWNER is liable. On the day of the bid the Contractor shall supply their Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and must certify that their SPIN is “current”, to have their proposal considered. OWNER is requesting a three (3) year contract with two one (1) year voluntary contract extensions starting on July 1, 2023.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 60 days after the date set for the opening of bids. For information or questions regarding bidding, please email **Bryanda Ramirez at p1bids@infinitycomm.com**

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

We tend to spend a lot of time here at *Unreal* on the coast – from Sunset Cliffs to Mission Beach, from La Jolla on to Del Mar and points north. It's pretty clear that if you're going to live in San Diego and you have a lot of money, there's a good chance you're going to spend that cash to be near the ocean. But there's one neighborhood we tend to skip as we make our way up the coast, and that's Pacific Beach. I just dug through the archives and found we haven't seen a single PB



An open kitchen, yes, but not too open.

mansion in at least five years. In that same time-frame, we've visited Del Mar at least a dozen times, and La Jolla twice as often as that.

Granted, a lot of the immediate shoreline near PB is occupied by Mission Beach or south La Jolla, and the part that most readily comes to mind

is a several-block stretch populated from September through May by trust fund kids from out of state taking a six-year tour of SDSU's undergraduate

program. Still, you don't have to step too far off the beaten path to find actual neighborhoods populated by full-time residents — like the one where I used to spend weeks at a time on a best friend's couch during childhood summers in an effort to escape the East County heat. Which brings us to 4215 Dawes Street, and what Zillow remarks refer to as an “uncommon opportunity in a legacy neighborhood.”

“Homes in this area pass generationally and rarely go up for sale,” the listing continues — and this seems to be true, given how rare it is I find something nice enough to write about in an area that has some outstanding homes in the mix. Dawes is the fourth north/south street from the Pacific in a neighborhood that gener-

ally uses an alphabetical naming convention to indicate how far you are from the beach (Bayard is two blocks, Cass three, and so on). The 4200 block is near the south end of the street, just a couple of blocks from Sail Bay. It's an ideal location for those seeking the best of both worlds: not too far from the beach bars and college kids on Grand or Garnet, but also close to the more subdued bayside crowd. What say we have a look inside?

The first thing we see is a nighttime shot of the front. The low-sloping tile roof and the chimney — thick at the base before tapering near the output — are about the only hints that this home was built all the way back in 1929, when tile was still a luxurious roofing option and

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LETTERS

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need. Amused he knew so many of our notables and had unvarnished opinions on some of them.

Colin and I were both hitchhikers. He would have saluted that. My thumb carried me all over Europe as a UC Berkeley student, and even today, while catching a flight to Sacramento as a Board of Equalization member, I've parked free at Liberty Station for a few days, walked across the street to catch the morning-bus direct to the nearby airport; and then, well dressed, bared my thumb with a \$5 bill to attract uber or good citizen to share the morning for a few minutes and a few blocks. About half the time the bus arrives first. The other half it's a curious local and when they find I am an ex-Councilman off to Sacramento they seem pleased to host and anxious to share the moment. Locals are nice.

For decades I have enjoyed San Diego *Reader* and a prime reason is stories like Meg Burns writes. May we see more of her.

Mike Schaefer
La Jolla

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

Amazon deliverer drives off with Encinitas golden retriever

Neighborhood News,
December 27, 2022

Sheriff's detective Monica DeLatorre led a team of deputies who served the search warrant on her suspect's apartment. The detective testified before Honorable judge Laura Duffy.

—Eva Knott
December 27, 2022

At least she got her dog back. Don't let your dog run loose in the neighborhood, and don't steal a dog, especially when you're on the job. I hope both women learned a valuable lesson.

—Finger Waggoner
December 28, 2022

Affordable housing laws descend on Del Mar

Neighborhood News,
January 10, 2023

Wow those poor people are losing their coastal views, how dare the government try to help house people. The fact that Del Mar is taking time to try and fight helping people says a lot about the character of the city.

—Jealous and viewless
January 10, 2023

I don't live in Del Mar or have an ocean view, but I completely understand the problem. Someone selected a house and paid for it based on its qualities - including ocean views. If they did the right research and found that building codes did not allow why should the state be allowed to take that away from them?

I live in Encinitas where the city has encouraged the building of ADUs. That seems to have worked well. The state forced rezoning that will allow 220 units to be built at the end of a small street that will destroy the current neighborhood (not mine). There are better and worse ways to allow affordable housing and that decision should be local based on the attributed of the neighborhoods.

—Voice of sanity
January 11, 2023

5 Peaks of Mission Trails

Roam, January 17, 2023

Inspiring tale. I've done all the peaks but never in one day. With all the recent rains this should be a beautiful spring out there, and at age 83 I think I'm ready for the real, 17-miles in one day deal. Need to get off the computer and start getting in shape. Maybe we should form a club of septuagenarians and octogenarians and do it together!? Maybe we'd want to first check to see if the Medevac helicopters had an age limit at which they'd be willing to respond to requests for an evacuation unit equipped with a few IPAs.

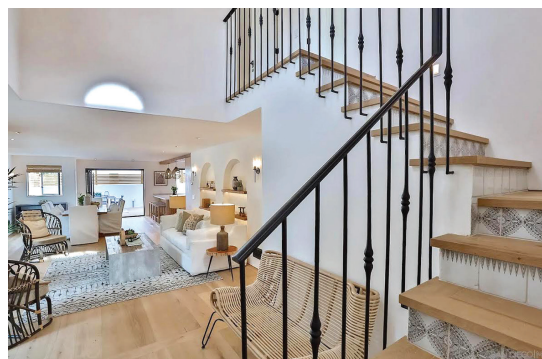
—Stuart Hurlbert
January 18, 2023

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 5

fireplaces were as much a source of warmth as a status symbol. Everything else looks shiny and new, and for good reason — the house was virtually gutted after a sale just over a year ago and is being offered up as a flip. This after the prior owners held it for at least 20 years.

Inside, we land in a living room that's perfectly fine: there are some arched alcoves sporting decorative bric-a-brac, a feature that is not entirely uncommon in upscale builds, but still indicates a touch more effort than most modern builders put in. (Someone really likes these arches, because there are three pictures in a row of them.) The fireplace seems to have been converted to run on natural gas. Speaking of which: while the "gorgeous oak hardwood floors" look pleasant as they peek out from under a rug, the tile surrounding the fireplace seems like an afterthought — as if



A moment upon the stairs to admire that tile work.

someone forgot that you can't have wood flooring directly abutting that kind of heat and stuck the tile in at the last minute.

The kitchen and dining area lie just past the living room, and since the kitchen is situated around a corner, this doesn't qualify as a fully-clichéd "open concept" look, even if it does look like a wall was blown out to provide bar seating. The flow in here is nice, as are the light wood cabinets, exposed ceiling beams, and the range, which looks large enough to cook the kind of meals I wish I could do all at once. It also looks like there's a hidden prep area/pantry in back; we get a peek at it after passing through a half-bath outfitted with

an airplane toilet.

Something I am not a fan of: the gold plumbing and lighting fixtures everywhere. I still like silver, although I know it's going out of style after 15 years as a favored color, and I can tolerate the black or "oil-rubbed bronze" look that's beginning to take over. But please do not give me gold trim; it reminds me too much of my grandmother's house in the '70s. Alas, everything old becomes new again — or something...

Outside, we get a partially enclosed patio featuring wraparound wood composite decking, an outdoor dining area, a window that opens to provide more bar seating and a pass-through from the kitchen, and a

sunken conversation pit equipped with another gas fireplace.

"The wood and tile-inlaid staircase is an invitation to the upstairs primary bedroom with sitting area, fireplace, balcony, and sumptuous spa-retreat bath," the listing continues. This setup is good: there's more than enough space to make folks feel comfortable without the ridiculous expanse we might find in an owners' suite 90 years or so younger. Another pair of bedrooms downstairs share a Jack-and-Jill bath in between; they also open to another private patio and sitting area.

The Dawes house last sold in January 2022 to a D Clippinger Separate Property Trust for a reported \$1,825,000. Pictures from back then show a perfectly good house, although some of the paint colors on the cabinetry and walls are highly questionable. After the "ground-up, roof-down luxury remodel to stand the test of time," it was re-listed in mid-January with a \$3,995,000 price tag that remains unchanged to date. ■

San Diego cops bust Christmas drifting sideshows

Neighborhood News, January 9, 2023

Side shows are a menace to society. Find something else to do.

—Furious but not fast
January 9, 2023

Now crush the cars and make sure they keep up the payments.

—Vin-dictive Diesel
January 10, 2023

Gonzo Report: Memories of leaping and Lemmy

Gonzo Report, January 5, 2023

Far-left BS. Quit telling people how to behave and let us be mature adults.

—Sane adult
January 8, 2023

Hob Nob Hill happy hour: Skrewball Peanut Butter Whiskey with a Mother Earth Nitro Vanilla Cream beer chaser.

Tin Fork, December 29, 2022

A little history: Sadly, at least for service personnel who ventured into the restaurant (originally Melody Grill, then Dorothy's Oven before the present name) during its first 50 years or so, there was no alcohol served. For almost as long, there were no soft drinks either. While there's a new interior, and the lunch and dinner menus have a bistro vibe, the capacious breakfast offerings remain the restaurant's reigning attractions into the eighth decade.

—Hob Nob Historian
December 29, 2022

Under the radar

continued from page 3

visors **Andrew Do** and **Doug Chaffee**, both of whom saw some of their biggest election campaign support from the sheriffs' deputies' union." Adds the item, "Faigin is coming into the Office of Independent Review as the county Sheriff's Department has faced numerous controversies over the past decade. They include the jailhouse snitch scandal that caused at least half a dozen murder and attempted murder cases to fall apart, and an evidence booking scandal that caused criminal cases to be dropped against 67 people."

Jennifer Rojas, described as a policy advocate for the American Civil Liberties Union, is among critics not pleased with Faigin's appointment. "By hiring a former attorney for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the OC Board of Supervisors shows they are more concerned with shielding law enforcement from liability over the core tenants of civilian oversight: transparency and accountability," Rojas is quoted as saying.

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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Dr. Sonia Sharma: researching why Alzheimer's hits women harder.

Sex, disease, and the establishment

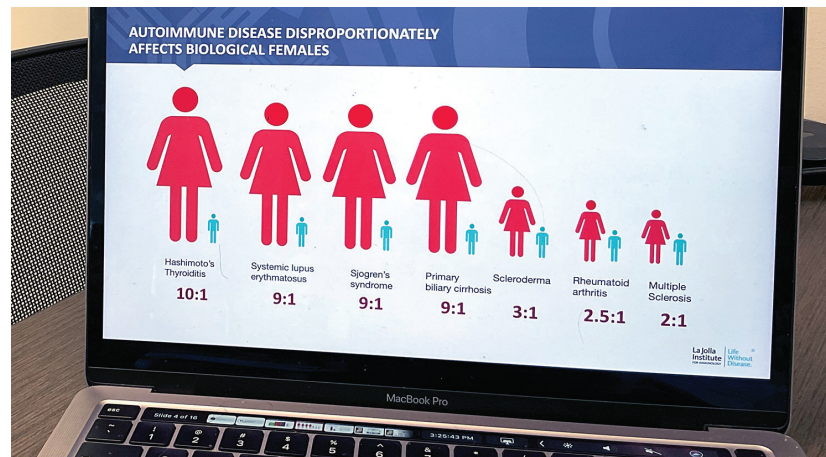
Dr. Sonia Sharma makes no bones about it: when she's studying immune diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, she concentrates on women, not men. She is also one of those vital, loquacious academics who actually likes talking to outsiders about her trade — which from today will, often as not, involve staring through the brand-new multi-million-dollar microscope they have just unpacked here at the LJI lab. (That's the La Jolla Institute for Immunology.) It feels like there's a lot of money floating around the research establishment, but with reason: LJI can wrap itself in impressive figures: 35 years old, voted #1 in the world as a research workplace ten years ago, with about 500 researchers and staff — every one, looks like, a PhD.

I have been asking Dr. Sharma about her insistence on identifying female Alzheimer cases as though she could find differences based on the sex of the blood sample giver. She has been facing some pushback — mainly, it seems, from men. “Looking at any disease under the gender-specific lens does not take anything away from anybody,” she says, here in her lab office. “Wouldn't you want to know, thinking about male health, if your disease is different from a woman's, which would mean you get different treatment, and she gets different treatment? And doesn't that make everybody better?”

Sharma is one of a team of researchers here at LJI, a place that is all about breakthrough immunology. “We believe no other biomedical discipline has greater implications for human health than immunology,” LJI's blurb reads. Its researchers study immune-related diseases like asthma, cancer, covid-19, diabetes and Parkinson's, under the ambitious stated aim of creating a “Life Without Disease.” Sharma has just been made a tenured professor here.

“We like to study metabolites that regulate these diseases,” she says. “By ‘metabolites,’ I mean small molecules in circulation in

our blood that can protect us from vascular inflammation. Also, omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids that are shown to be brain protective. These are dietary metabolites. Fish oil!



Dr. Sharma's autoimmune casualty figures.

We went into this trying to look at it from a gender point of view, because women are two-fold more likely to develop Alzheimer's than men.”

She studies Alzheimer's Disease along with the other immune diseases. Her beef? Women, she says, as the major victims of Alzheimer's (two-thirds of the five million Americans living with the disease are women) have been ignored as a separate category worth studying by many medical researchers. “Women have different vulnerabilities to AD, and also different protections against it.” Part of the reason for her push, she implies, is that the world of medicine has always been male-dominated, that it doesn't study women's immune disease weaknesses and strengths, and that the big bucks still largely fund studies that treat men and women as identical.

“I'll give you an example of what we found in our research,” she says. “We did a study of small molecule metabolites — perhaps an amino acid, a fatty acid. And we had women

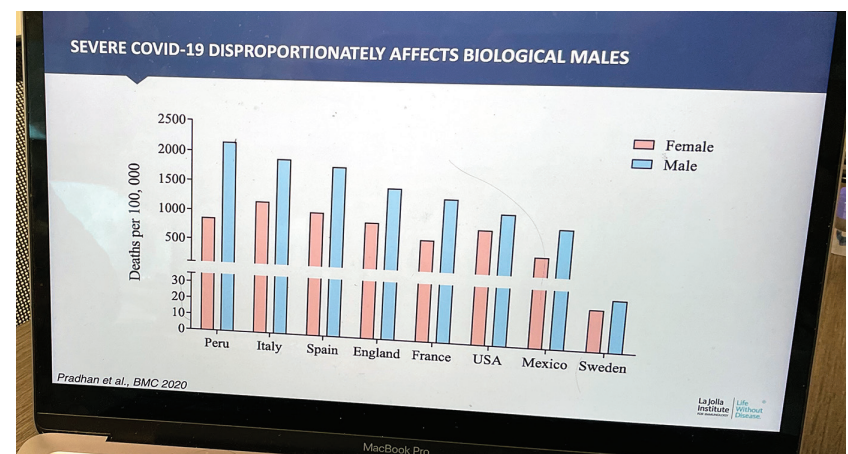
and we had men. We took blood [samples] from them when they had no AD, and then when they developed AD. And what did we find in our analysis? We found that there was a specific group of protective metabolites. Those were metabolites that were high in the blood of women who didn't have Alzheimer's, and low in the blood of women who did have Alzheimer's. We also found that men didn't have [those protective metabolites] at all.”

And yet women get Alzheimers more than men? “It's counterintuitive. But the women who had had [the supply of protective metabolites] were younger women. Older women were losing it, and the men never had it. So what it looks like is perhaps that younger women have evolved mechanisms to protect themselves against Alzheimer's. Men lack these protective molecules, and that may leave them vulnerable to developing AD. But men might be also less prone to it. Because it's established that women have stronger immune

women have to have stronger immune systems to protect the developing fetus. This is a known. But they don't last. But women have higher antibody [counts], higher levels of certain immune cells in their blood, and they're more responsive to vaccines. Severe covid is a men's disease, because men are less protected by their immune systems. Women need more protection because we have [monthly cycles], ‘the heat.’ So we women have the protective shield [of our antibody cells]. But if that shield wears off, then as we age, we're more prone to Alzheimer's.” (An additional factor: women tend to live longer than men.)

But Alzheimer's research, Dr. Sharma says, is out of step. “With the majority of experiments that are done, especially in humans but also in mice, folks tend never to take [gender differences] into consideration. We have all this information about the disease, and yet we're missing half the puzzle. Part of the problem was women not being in high positions [in the medical research establishment], and the [issue of] women's particular interaction with immune diseases like AD has just not been thought of as important. And now we turn in hindsight and say, ‘Yeah, we have all this important other information about the disease, but we're missing half of the puzzle.’ But if [somebody got up and said], ‘I'm going to study female mice, and I'm going to study gender differences...’ — she laughs. “It wasn't something you as a woman would want to say that you were looking at. [The response] would probably be, ‘Okay, why do you want to study something — female response to AD — that's only happening in half the population?’ And that sounds very [reasonable]. But then you turn around and you say, ‘Wait a minute, no! Why *wouldn't* you want to fill in the other 50 percent of the picture? It doesn't change. Have we cured Alzheimer's? No! We haven't. Have we cured cardiovascular disease? No we haven't. Maybe it's because we're not looking at the full picture.”

systems than men, because they're having babies, and a lot of viruses interfere with babies' development. Remember Zika? German measles? HCMV? It causes heart defects. Zika causes microencephaly. Child-bearing



Dr. Sharma's stats show men biggest covid victims.

The 1800s were so different

Unofficial Mayor of Chinatown

In 1880, Marston and Camp urged Quin to return to San Diego. The California Southern Railroad was under construction, from National City to San Bernardino. Because the labor force was largely Chinese, Marston and Camp felt that "Quin's bilingual talents and business training made him an ideal selection for labor contractor, despite his relative inexperience...thus began an extraordinary rise from house servant to merchant and contractor." He opened a store in San Diego's Chinatown. – *Jeff Smith* **JULY. 30, 1998**

Cave Johnson Coutts

Ysidora's brother-in-law, Don Abel Stearns, gave her the Guajome land grant surrounding Mission San Luis Rey. Coutts resigned his commission with the Army and built a ranch on land that "had neither running water nor a tree in sight." His home, "built with the labor of 300 Indians," had the first piano and the first iron safe in California. Legend also claims that two of his paintings "had hung on the walls of Columbus's ships." – *Jeff Smith* **AUG. 20, 1998**

My Very Beloved Chanita

Little medical care existed in Old Town except for the traditional *curandera* (curing woman) who relied upon her knowledge of herbal medicines and her experience with

things such as childbirth to heal people. Chanita was famous in the Guadalupe Valley for stitching up a man whose wife had cut him with a machete in a domestic fight. He would show his scar to anyone who cared to look at it. – *Therese Adams Muranaka* **DEC. 10, 1998**

Early Old Town Vices

In 1858, an advertisement in the *San Diego Herald* reported that the billiard table at Franklin House had been refurbished. Card games pool or billiards and gambling became prevalent in every saloon. The earliest minutes of the Common Council in 1850 made an ordinance that anyone with a monte bank, fan bank, roulette table, or other table "at which any game of hazard



Ah Quin and his wife, Sue Leong, had 12 children and lived in a two-story house on Third Street.

shall be played" had to purchase a license costing \$35 a month. – *Jeff Smith* **JUN. 1, 2000**

Horse Rustler Escapes Justice

The herd plowed through tall brush. Visibility was so limited, the deputies devised a plan: Ries and Rodriguez would circle in front and

turn the herd around. As they rode, however, Kriss spotted a man and ordered him to stop. They exchanged words in English. Kriss drew his pistol, fired, and missed. The man shot at Kriss. Missed. Kriss fired. Missed. The man rode behind a tree, took careful aim, fired, and galloped away. – *Jeff Smith* **JUN. 8, 2000**

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Trump Trumps Love

Fractured
friendships
following
45

“I can’t say anything to him online about his anti-Trump rants, because he would immediately attack me and our friendship would be over.”

Kevin Williams is a popular musician, based out of North San Diego County, who has played in local clubs and bars for more than 20 years. His son Reagan Williams is a musician as well, a twenty-one-year-old guitar whiz who fronts his own blues band. But over the last couple of years, the gigs that used to come so easily have become increasingly hard to find. Both father and son now mostly play from the back of a flatbed truck that they drive around to popular local gathering spots, places such as Turnarounds, a makeshift beachfront parking lot off the Coast

Highway in Carlsbad. You might think the pandemic is to blame, thanks to the toll it took on live gatherings of all sorts. But the elder Williams would disagree. “At the height of the pandemic,” he attests, “we played more shows on the trailer than any other musician was performing.” But, he says, his efforts earned him “not one single recognition from anyone in the local music community.”

The senior Williams attributes this to just one thing: his vocal support of former President Don-

ald Trump, support which frequently takes the form of Facebook posts — posts that he says have cost him innumerable friends on the social media platform. “I’ve been a musician in liberal circles my whole adult life,” he says, “but now that I’ve been very vocal, politically, over the last two years, it’s impossible to get gigs. It’s mind-blowing. The blues community rejects my son wholeheartedly, and the lady who runs the blues society has literally called me a racist. A racist? I used to smoke weed

on the same bong with my black roommate, and my son's godmother — who, if me and my wife Summer had died before Reagan turned eighteen, would have inherited everything to take care of him — is black. So for me to be

“There was a time when people could have different points of view and still like each other.”

called a racist...” He trails off, bemused.

As for Facebook, Williams says he's spent “thirty to ninety days at a time in Facebook jail for telling the truth, for saying things like, ‘Andrew Cuomo grabs women.’” He says the suspensions have come because a former friend keeps reporting him. So why not just unfriend him and avoid the hassle? “I would never cancel anybody over politics,” Williams says. “This is a guy in my neighborhood who's hired me twice to play gigs for parties in his yard. Now he says I'm bullying him on Facebook and reports me. But that's fine. I couldn't care less.”

Divided we fall?

The political divide in the United States has been growing steadily over the last few years, to the point where it's shattering long-time friendships and even tearing apart families. Donald Trump, the border crisis, Roe vs. Wade,

the storming of the Capitol — pick a side on any of these, and don't you dare socialize with anyone who disagrees with you. A *New York Times*-Siena College poll, released in October 2022, found that nearly one in five registered voters said politics had hurt their relationships with friends or family. Back in 2020, a Pew Research survey found that the majority of both Donald Trump and Joe Biden voters said they had “just a few or no friends who support the other candidate.” That same year, a study from the Public Religion Research Institute found that eight out of every ten Republicans believe the Democratic

Party has been taken over by socialists, while eight out of every ten Democrats believe the Republican Party has been taken over by racists.

David Tweedy is a clinical psychologist with Senior Medical Associates of Carlsbad. He advises that family members and friends on opposite ends of the political spectrum simply avoid discussing politics “and focus on other common interests instead. If it comes up, they can reinforce the ground rules of having no political conversations,” Tweedy says. “I try to inspire people to focus on being their best self, to limit their alcohol consumption, and play games to help people re-engage with each other in a fun and safe way.” The main thing, says Tweedy, “is for you to keep emotional control and not be triggered by others' insensitive comments. If you feel that you are losing control, don't get upset — take a walk, do something that distracts the discussion, or kindly suggest that this is not a good time or place for this topic. If the offender refuses to relent, take several slow breaths and think about the things

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COURTESY RICK STEPHENS

Rick Stephens lost a good friend and father of his god-daughter due to his political beliefs.

that you admire about that person — and simply don't respond. If you find yourself being triggered by certain statements or unsolicited opinions, it becomes your challenge to overcome. It's personal now, which is great, as you have more control over your own reactions than you do over others."

Hypnotist for Trump

Several San Diegans interviewed for this story shared experiences similar to the shunning and shaming that Kevin Williams experienced. Some were happy to go public, while others asked not

to be identified by name, fearing that by recounting their experiences, they would risk further ostracization. Among the former is Marshall Sylver, one of San Diego's better-known public figures. After launching his career — first as a magician and then as "the greatest hypnotist of all time," an act which got him on David Letterman six times — he wound up headlining in Las Vegas and touring the world, teaching business and personal development. He now divides his time between Las Vegas and a beach house in Carlsbad.

Sylver is an outspoken conservative who has no qualms about expressing his views in person — at presentations and on social media sites such as Facebook. "While I don't identify as either a Democrat or a Republican, I certainly do identify as very conservative," he says. "I believe in border walls. I believe in questioning elections when they are worthy of questioning. I believe in individual rights as to what does or does not go into our bodies. And I believe Donald Trump was the greatest thing that ever happened to this country. I person-

ally shared the stage with him 30 times, so I have insights into the man that average people do not. And I think the reason there is so much opposition to Donald Trump has nothing to do with the Democratic or Republican parties, and everything to do with disrupting corrupt politics as usual."

Sylver's views led to a rift in his family. "I come from a large family — I have ten siblings — and our family, during these strongly political times, has been substantially divided. There are people in my family who won't talk to me. I'm completely open to talking to anybody in my family. I love them, and I wish them very well. But I also know the challenges. For whatever reason, they have come to a conclusion different from what I hold, and they don't want to be near me." It's sad, he says. "There was a time when people could have different points of view and still like each other. But whether it's big tech or the mainstream media or just devolving social graces, it just seems that people are all about 'Either my way or the highway' — and I think that's bad for ev-

eryone. And at least in my personal experience, right-leaning and conservative types tend to be more polite and quiet about their opinions, and often won't say anything, while left-leaning, liberal types have — in

willing to have an opinion, and there's no doubt that I've lost substantial sales by taking a stand. But at the end of the day, if we don't stand for what we believe in, then what's the point? I like the fact that I have an opinion

"In this realm of podcast people that they love, they are the only ones telling the truth, and this person is stuck in that."

my experience — been louder, more vocal and more violent."

Sylver says that in addition to the rift within his own family, he's lost dozens of friends over the last few years, both in real life and on Facebook. How does that make him feel? "Let me put it this way," he says. "Years ago, when I quit doing drugs, I lost every friend I had because I realized we had nothing in common. And when I refuse to be quiet about my belief in our great country and what it means to the future of my children, it's a very similar situation. People sift themselves out. I've been attacked plenty of times by people because I'm

about how many genders there are, about what should and should not be taught in public schools, and about respecting law enforcement and holding them accountable, simultaneously."

In 2020, he recalls, three days of Black Live Matters protests were planned for Carlsbad village. "The organizer, a young white woman, decided it would be held right in the heart of Carlsbad, and this was at a time when we were all still reeling, attempting to recover from the first covid-19 lockdown. I called her up and said, 'Do you realize every business in town is going to have to board up their windows?' And when I said,

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‘Couldn’t you hold it outside of the village?’ — to protect these businesses that had just gone through a lockdown — I got massively attacked. They said I was a racist. I said, ‘I’m not a racist at all. I’m just against the fact that you’re effectively shutting down every business in our village, regardless of what they believe in, and that impacts everyone in a negative way, because it inhibits commerce.’

MAGA gay

Mark Patton — not his real name — is a gay Republican who lives in East County. When Donald Trump first announced his intention to run for president, Patton talked up his candidacy on Nextdoor. “Immediately, liberals started attacking me, and then I would end up getting canceled,” he says, “meaning they [Nextdoor] would kick

me off for five or however many days.”

After the 2016 election, Patton continued to be vilified for his political views — which he was not shy about sharing. He’s worn Trump T-shirts out in public, even for the annual Gay Pride parade, and he flies a Trump flag outside his home. “There’s a friend of mine who lives down the street from me, and he’s liberal,” he says. “And he says his friends were appalled by my flag, and when he told them I was gay, they really had a cow about it.” His vocal support of Donald Trump and the Republican party, he says, has led to his being shunned within the gay community, and the abrupt loss of several longtime friends. “I play on a softball league,” he says, “and there were some who wouldn’t play with me because I am a Republican, a MAGA sup-

porter. People didn’t like me and didn’t want to be friends with me, because they thought I was too Republican. No one said anything to me directly, but I know they went behind my back and didn’t want me to go on tournaments

“He was a surf rat, a beach bum, just like me. But after Trump got elected, I realized that he went far right.”

with them. They’d try to find someone else if they could. To this day, I don’t really practice with them. I’m still on the team, but I am less interactive with them because of this.”

Patton says he also has been shunned on gay social media websites such as Grindr and Growlr. “I get really attacked when I’m on there. On one site, I did a profile — I just wanted to see what would happen — so all

I put was ‘Trump 2020,’ and the vulgarity of [the responses]... I didn’t say anything to anybody, but the attacks came from all the gay liberals: ‘FU.’ ‘You’re a joke.’ ‘Hope you rot in hell.’ I could go on and on. They never pulled

the profile, but people would not talk to me. I personally feel our gay community discriminates against gay Republicans. I think they are the worst out of all the people who discriminate; if they find out you’re a Trump supporter, they don’t want to have anything to do with you. They will attack you.”

What hurts most, Patton says, is that several longtime friends no longer want anything to do with


him. One in particular was a good buddy “who I’ve known for twelve years,” he says. “We’d talk most every day, and hung out all the time — going to movies, Padres games, just regular stuff. I knew his friends didn’t like me to hang out with them, because every time they brought up politics, I would immediately chime in. I wouldn’t hold back. But now, we don’t even really talk at all anymore.”

Just don’t engage

One North County man does what he can to avoid political discussions with a very close family member, but sometimes finds it can’t be avoided — much to his frustration. “I’m very middle of the road, and this person is a far-right conspiracy theorist,” he says. “They got brainwashed, because they think everything outside of these conspir-

acy theories is fake news. In this realm of podcast people they love, they are the only ones telling the truth, and this person is stuck in that.” It’s gotten to the point, he says, “where we can’t really talk about anything other than very narrow topics. We talk about food, we talk about family, and that’s about it.” This close relative, he says, was never political until about three years ago, “when Trump just kind of pulled them in: ‘He’s a great man; he’s trying to make America great again.’ I asked, ‘When was America great? When white men owned slaves? During Reagan? I can rip that apart as well. He gave us a lot of problems.’”

Another San Diegan, we’ll call him Alan Ross, is a closet Republican. He works at a manufacturing business and moonlights as a musician in



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two bands. His political stripes, he says, remain hidden. “I never make any political comments online,” he says. “I really don’t want to be outed as voting for Donald Trump, but I did. I voted for him because he’s for small business, and what he did while in office helped my business. But the uptick, after he was elected, of people who don’t want to be your friend anymore if you voted for him, is just crazy. It seems like if you’re a Democrat you can go ahead and say whatever you want — I noticed this on Facebook — and you have a whole legion of people who will back you up. But any Republican who says anything, they grab onto that person. I have friends who have told me, ‘This person is dead to me now,’ just because he’s a Republican. I saw, pretty early on, that people were losing friends, so I just shut down. I haven’t lost any friends, because I don’t go looking for trouble. I have a great friend, I love him, but I can’t say anything to him online about his anti-Trump rants, because he would immediately attack me and our friendship would be over. It’s really

sad to me, because I think friendships should come way before politics. So I just don’t engage.”

That’s it, I’m done

Rick Stephens, however, takes issue with Ross’ assertion that it’s the liberals who are canceling the conservatives. A former San Diegan, Stephens is black and very, very liberal. He recently retired as a director at a New York City sports broadcaster, a job he got after moving back to his native New Jersey in the ‘80s. He still has a large cadre of friends in San Diego, but their number shrunk by one just a few months ago, after a disturbing phone conversation with an old surfing buddy who now lives in East County. The two met 40 years ago when they were both working at a San Diego car dealership. They became fast friends. Both were in their twenties, both were the sons of military families — Stephens’ dad was a Marine, while his buddy’s pop was in the Navy — and they had lots of common interests. They were even roommates, for a spell. “We were just like the best of friends,” Stephens

says. “We lived in the same apartment together, and after I moved back East we stayed in touch. When his daughter was baptized, I was co-godfather, along with a lieutenant commander in the Navy.”

Stephens and his friend

“I have friends who have told me, ‘This person is dead to me now,’ just because he is a Republican.”

saw each other whenever Stephens returned to San Diego for a visit, and frequently spoke on the phone. But after the November 2016 election of Donald Trump as president, Stephens says, he noticed a pronounced change in his longtime friend. “He was a surf rat, a beach bum, just like me, but after Trump got elected, I realized he went far right. We were talking about it, and he would make this case about how much he hates Nancy Pelosi and how great Trump was. We got into a disagreement about the whole politics of Trump, and then he made a comment about me having a low IQ because I was too stupid to realize

that Trump is the greatest thing in the world. I said, ‘Fuck you man,’ and hung up.”

The two didn’t talk for a year and a half. Stephens missed his old friend, but was chagrined every time he thought back to that conversation. Eventually

the lieutenant commander with whom Stephens shared godfather duties brokered a peace. “He intervened and said, ‘You guys gotta talk. This is not good. You’ve been friends too long and shouldn’t argue over politics.’ So he got us back together, we talked, and we agreed to not talk about politics.” When Stephens’ friend got into some trouble with the law, and asked

his old buddy to write him a character reference, he did. “Even after all the crap he had said to me, I agreed. I wrote that we were longtime friends, and that he was a man of character — even though I was lying at that point, because I knew he was a Trumpster. I did all that for him.”

Still, something sour remained. “Fast forward to the insurrection. When Trump was out of office. I asked him, ‘So what do you think about what he did, and the whole way everything went down? — What do you think of Donald Trump now?’ And he said he was still a supporter. I said, ‘But the guy, like, he tried to overthrow the government, dude, what part of this don’t you believe?’ He said, ‘Oh, that’s all left-wing news, you can’t believe any of it.’ I said, ‘Obviously, you watch

Fox News,’ and he said, ‘Right.’ And I said, ‘So all the other channels say one thing, but you will go along with Fox News, which is an arm of the Republican party?’ And he said yes. Well, to make a long story short, we went back and forth, and finally he said to me, ‘Rick, you know what? I gotta tell you, you’re a stupid fucking nigger.’ Jesus Christ! I said, ‘Really, dude? That’s where you went?’ And that’s the last time we spoke.”

Stephens gets emotional while recounting the incident. “It’s like, this is a guy I lived with. He was my best friend, I was godfather to his child...we were besties, you know? I knew his parents; I would go over and have Thanksgiving dinner with them. And for him to go there and call me a nigger.... That’s it, I’m done.”

— Thomas K. Arnold

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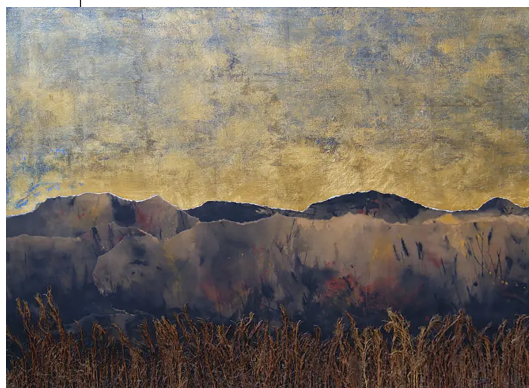
Reader

Thursday | 2

BEYOND KING TUT: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

One hundred years to the day after the discovery of King Tut's tomb, a new exhibition created in partnership with the National Geographic Society will bring ancient Egypt to San Diego. Photography and technology combine in a multi-sensory exhibition with nine galleries exploring the 3300-year-old story of King Tut: his rule as a child pharaoh, his family, the discovery of his tomb, the mysteries surrounding his early death, and his journey to the afterlife.

WHEN: Every day, 10 am to 7 pm, through Monday, March 27
WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. beyondkingtut.com



WHEN: Friday, January 27, 6 pm to 8 pm through Sunday, February 19, 11 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue, Downtown. sparksgallery.com

Saturday | 4

TASTE OF BARRIO LOGAN

Check in at Attitude Brewery and experience the culture of Barrio Logan on a food, sips, and beer crawl. Get sample dishes and libations from participating venues like Los Chilaquiles, Crab City, Tucumbo Ice Cream, Chikita Cafe, Casa Xovi in the ArtHub, El Carrito

Restaurant, and Birria 664. Then hit the finale at Re-Bru.

WHEN: Saturday, February 4, 1 pm to 4 pm

WHERE: Barrio Logan, along Logan Avenue and Newton Avenue. tasteofbarriologan.com



Friday | 3

PAISANOS MEXICO

Sparks Gallery and the Instituto Municipal de Arte y Cultura de Tijuana are pleased to present an art collection bridging the physical boundary between San Diego and Tijuana and fostering connections between creators and patrons. Consider a discussion surrounding migration and movement through a collection of two-dimensional artworks whose narratives are inspired by their creators' proximity to the border and life spent between two countries.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2: BEYOND KING TUT: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

YG, OHGEESY, DAY SULAN

Compton rapper YG (short for Young Gangsta) released his debut single in



YG

1990, and is touring in support of his 2022 album *I Got Issues*. LA rapper Alejandro Coranza, better known as OhGeesy, is a founding member of the hip-hop group Shoreline Mafia. Compton rapper Day Sulan released

her debut single in 2019 and has collaborated with YG.

WHEN: Saturday, February 4, 7:30 pm
WHERE: Viejas Arena, 5500 Canyon Crest Drive, SDSU. as.sdsu.edu/viejas_arena

Sunday | 5

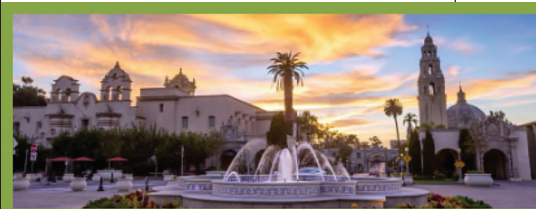
WEEKEND WITH LOCALS: WELCOME 2 UR ADVENTURE

Welcome 2 UR Adventure is a travel guide written for both locals and visitors. It provides an easy-to-read "Cliffs Notes" version of travel and adventure in San Diego, with local pictures, direct website links, lists of free and afford-

able things to do, must-visit attractions, local resources, info on where to hike, kayak, and golf, planning tips for beaches and bays, a collection of top Instagramable spots, suggestions for picturesque wedding locations, and the skinny on the spot where the first margarita in the States was served.

WHEN: Sunday, February 5, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

WHERE: Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. warwicks.com



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

ART

Art Exhibition Join local artists of Open Studio Art for an exhibition and artist talk. Each artwork within this exhibition tells a story about the creativity, imagination, and personal expression of these artists. Saturday, February 4, 10am; San Diego Archaeological Center, 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

First Friday La Jolla Art Walk During La Jolla’s monthly art walk, a variety of artwork and Judaica will be available for purchase. Friday, February 3, 4pm; **free.** Yiddishland California, 1128 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Free Art Exhibition Opening “Biophilic Harmonies” A Solo Fine Art Exhibition by Artist Rachel Berkowitz, featuring large-scale mixed-media paintings through March 31. There will be an opening reception on February 4 with musical performances at the gallery from 6pm-9pm. Saturday, February 4, 3pm; **free.** Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Lost in Translation: A Game of Telephone Opening Night of Lost in Translation: A Game of Telephone, where the results of a yearlong game of Telephone between 27 local artists and authors will be revealed. Saturday, February 4, 6pm; **free.** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Rendezvous with Paint Opening Reception Over 95 ready-to-hang original paintings plus refreshments and the fellowship of other art enthusiasts. The exhibit runs through February 25. Friday, February 3, 5pm; **free.** San Diego Watercolor Society, 2825 Dewey Road #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Still Life Painting Workshop Create a still life painting inspired by local artifacts from the Center’s collections. Materials will be provided. Instructor Jean C. Wheat. Saturday, February 4, 2pm; \$5-\$10. San Diego Archaeological Center, 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

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)

Rhyme & Verse

Annabel Lee
A poem by Edgar Allan Poe on his birthday

It was many and many a year ago,
In a kingdom by the sea,
That a maiden there lived whom you may know
By the name of Annabel Lee;
And this maiden she lived with no other thought
Than to love and be loved by me.

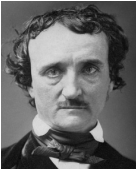
I was a child and she was a child,
In this kingdom by the sea;
But we loved with a love that was more than love—
I and my Annabel Lee;
With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven
Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,
In this kingdom by the sea,
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling
My beautiful Annabel Lee;
So that her highborn kinsman came
And bore her away from me,
To shut her up in a sepulchre
In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in heaven,
Went envying her and me—
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,
In this kingdom by the sea)
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love
Of those who were older than we—
Of many far wiser than we—
And neither the angels in heaven above,
Nor the demons down under the sea,
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee.

For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And the stars never rise but I feel the bright eyes
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,
In the sepulchre there by the sea,
In her tomb by the sounding sea.



Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) was an American poet, fiction writer, editor and literary critic. His name is almost synonymous with the macabre because of the tales which he wrote in that genre. He is also considered the progenitor of the detective story and an early pioneer in the science fiction story. Although born in Boston, he moved to Richmond, Virginia, when he was two years old. His life was brief, but his output was voluminous — and significant both for American and world literature. He shares a birthday, January 19, with another tragic figure of the south, Robert E. Lee, commanding general of the Army of the Confederacy, who was born two years before Poe.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

Weekend With Locals: Welcome 2 Ur Adventure Book launch and book signing opportunity with travel author Camille Segobia. Sunday, February 5, 2:30pm; **free.** Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Weekends with Locals: Sonia Gomez-Neri Weekends with Locals will be hosting Sonia Gomez-Neri, author of *Don’t Forget About God*. Sunday, February 5, 12pm; **free.** Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Divine Light Meditations Transform Your Life with Divine Light Meditations Saturday, February 4, 2pm; Soul of Yoga, 627 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Exploring POV via Prompts Exploring POV via Prompts with Aimee Truchan Thursday, February 2, 10am; \$36-\$42. 18 and up. Inspirations Gallery, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #204. (LIBERTY STATION)

Free Design & Remodeling Seminar Free Design and Remodeling Seminar, developed for homeowners who are considering a major project, such as a new home, whole home remodel, addition, kitchen, ADU, or outdoor living space. Friday, February 3, 10am; **free.** Jackson Design and Remodeling, 4797 Mercury Street. (KEARNY MESA)

Introduction to Buddhism & Meditation Introduction to Buddhism & Meditation with Jef-

frey Zlotnik Co-Founder of the Dharma Bum Temple. Friday, February 3, 7:30pm; **free.** First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

Kids Ukulele Class After-school group ukulele lessons for kids ages 7-12 taught by Omar Bernal Wednesdays, 4:30pm; through Wednesday, March 1, \$90. Mid-City Community Music, 4011 Ohio Street. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Learn Yiddish Through Songs Learn some well-known and some lesser-known Yiddish tunes with local Yiddishist Jana Mazurkiewicz Meisarosh. Imagine a night in a shtetl, learning, analyzing, singing, and schmoozing with friends with a glass of wine in hand. The class will take place in-person and on Zoom. Mondays, 6:30pm; through Monday, April 3, \$20-\$30. Yiddishland California, 1128 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Learn to Cook Without Recipes Classes Handling your knife properly is a lifelong and essential skill for all cooks, from beginner to experienced home cook. Mondays, 5pm; through Monday, June 26, \$30. 18 and up. creative-cookco.com/classes/knife-skills-class/. (ONLINE)

Oasis Presents: Don’t Downsize, Rightsize! Senior Real Estate Specialist Lorelai Taylor will give you tips and strategies to lighten your load and rightsize your life. Tuesday, February 7, 1pm; **free.** 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Poetry: Learning from Modern-day Masters Poetry: Learn-

ing 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. (LIBERTY STATION)

Still Life Painting Class Series Learn still life painting techniques in this class series with Kelly Gallagher. 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.

Ukulele Class Learn to play the ukulele or improve your skills. Bring your own ukulele or borrow one from the library. All skill levels welcome. Wednesday, February 8, 5pm; **free.** Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Ukulele Classes Basic Music Theory, Technique and Music History with James Clarkston. Friday, February 3, 10am; \$100-\$120. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Yiddish Art Classes for Children This class is aimed for children of all backgrounds, ages 5-10. The class will involve art making and interpretation, based on the rich cultural heritage represented at Yiddishland. No electronic devices are allowed in the classroom. Class materials are included in the price. Wednesdays, 12:45pm; through Wednesday, March 8, \$25-\$150. Yiddishland California, 1128 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

COMEDY

A Mom’s Valentine Comedy Show Two drink minimum. Wednesday, February 8, 8pm; \$20-\$30. 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

Adam Carolla The Adam Carolla Show - Live Audience ACS Podcast Taping - (early seated show) Sunday, February 5, 6:30pm and 10pm; \$40-\$70. 21 and up. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

American Me Comedy Benefit For REINS Therapeutic American Me Comedy- A Benefit For REINS Therapeutic Horsemanship Program. Lineup of comics including: Nic Novicki, Von Decarlo, Alan Henderson, Kevin Davis and host Jason Rogers. Thursday, February 2, 7:30pm; \$20. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Hollywood Showcase Show Five comics will perform Friday, February 3, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; Saturday, February 4, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; \$17. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Pundemonium Pun Competition Word nerds from across the city battle to see who’s the punniest of them all and win prizes. Saturday, February 4, 10pm; **free.** 21 and up. Finest City Improv, 3746 Sixth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Sklar Brothers AS SEEN ON: Netflix, ESPN, Comedy Central, Entourage, Curb Your Enthusiasm & Dumb Town podcast! Thursday, February 2, 8pm; Friday, February 3, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, February 4, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Voicebox San Diego Celebrate the month of love with storytelling inspired by John Prine’s “In Spite of Ourselves.” Nicole Hernandez joins Dave Bowers, followed by improvised music. Sunday, February 5, 7pm; \$10. 21 and up. Finest City Improv, 3746 Sixth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

DANCE

Collage 2023: Dance Matters San Diego Civic Dance Companies present Collage 2023: Dance Matters, winner of a Bravo Award for Best Dance Show in San Diego for three years in a row. Friday, February 3, 7:30pm; Saturday, February 4, 3pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, February 5, 2pm; \$15-\$20. Casa del Prado Theatre, 1600 Village Place. (BALBOA PARK)

Dances of Universal Peace A heart-centered experience combining movement, sound, and breath. Embracing the many sacred traditions of humanity, this practice promotes peace with live music and open-hearted friends. Saturdays, 4pm; through Saturday, December 9, **free**-\$10. First Unitarian Univer-

salist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

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)

The Black Iris Project Broadway veteran and San Diego native Jeremy McQueen brings his Emmy-award-winning New York City-based ballet collaborative to San Diego for the west coast premiere of two original ballets: *WILD* and *A Mother's Rite*. Wednesday, February 8, 7:30pm; \$26-\$40. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Move Forward After Loss Free Workshop Helps People Move Forward and Find New Relationships 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 Trailblaze Challenge Info Sessions RSVP for a no-commitment info session to learn more. Thursday, February 2, 6pm; **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley YMCA, 5505 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

FOR KIDS

Art Club for Children 5-10 This art class is designed for children ages 5-10 at any level and of all backgrounds. The objective is to engage participants in the culture and heritage of Yiddishland through art. Learn: Painting, drawing, sketching, basic jewelry making, and book making. Class materials are included in the price. Mondays, 3:30pm; through Monday, March 6, \$25-\$210. Yiddishland California, 1128 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Circus Vargas In the all NEW 2023 production, Circus Vargas channels the "City of Lights" in their latest, greatest production, Bonjour Paris! Thursday, February 2, 7pm; Friday, February 3, 7:30pm; Saturday, February 4, 1pm, 4pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, February 5, 12:30pm, 3:30pm and 7:30pm; Monday, February 6, 6:30pm; Wednesday, February 8, 7pm; \$19-\$75. Westfield Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North. (MISSION VALLEY)

Dance Pants Party Recommended for toddlers, preschoolers, and early elementary-school age kids, this simple dance program will feature "The Wheels on the Bus," "Baby Shark," and more. This program will be held outdoors. Audience: Recommended for ages 1+. Wednesdays, 10:30am; through Wednesday, February 22, **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

OUTDOORS

Pear blossoms blooming, green comet, useless Groundhog Day

Ornamental Pear Trees are Bursting into Bloom all over town. The thousands of white blossoms appear in sheets and clusters, rather like snow when viewed from a distance. Nice specimens can be seen along Lake Murray Boulevard, along Clairemont Mesa Boulevard between Highway 163 and Interstate 15, and in parts of Downtown San Diego.

Ground Hog Day Arrives Wednesday, February 2. If the sleepy woodchuck sees his shadow, so the story goes, he'll hole up for another six weeks of winter cold. None of this means much in San Diego, where a February warm spell can easily push the thermometer into the 80s.



GROUNDHOGS ARE MEMBERS OF THE RODENT FAMILY. THEY ARE ALSO KNOWN AS WOODCHUCKS OR WHISTLEPIGS.



PEAR BLOSSOM IN FULL BLOOM

The Sun Strides North in February, swinging higher across the sky each successive day. Already quite noticeable is the change in the time of sunset, currently almost a minute later per day, and sunrise, currently almost a minute earlier per day.

A "Green Comet" Will Be Passing Closest to Earth on February 1 and 2. Neither the tail nor the color will be visible to the human eye; only long-exposure astrophotography will reveal them. There is, however, a slim chance of spotting it with the help of a clear night far away from cities and any other light pollution. A few hours before dawn on February 1 or 2, look to the North near Polaris and you might see a round, faint ball of white fuzz. That my friends, is the Green Comet. Named "C/2022 E3" or "ZTF" for short, the comet was discovered last year at the Palomar Mountain Observatory; it visits us only once every 50,000 years. The green color is due to the comet's rare carbon-to-carbon molecular bond being ignited by ultraviolet light as it passes near the sun.

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.

NATURE

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)

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, February 23, **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

FUNDRAISERS

Warrior Spirit 5K Run/Walk & Family Festival Mitchell Thorp Foundation will be hosting its 14th Annual Warrior Spirit 5K Run/Walk & Family Festival. The 5K event raises awareness and funds for children who suffer from life-threatening illnesses, diseases, and disorders. There will be food, live music, vendors, ponies, bounce houses, prizes, and activities for the entire family. Saturday, February 4, 8am; \$20-\$55. Poinsettia Park, 6600 Hidden Valley Road. (CARLSBAD)

Full Moon Hike All ages and most hiking levels, pet approved. Saturday, February 4, 7pm; **free**-\$5. Mt. Woodson Castle, 16302 N. Woodson Drive. (RAMONA)

Tu B'Shvat Food Forest Festival Coastal Roots Farm, a non-profit Jewish community farm and education center in Encinitas, welcomes community members from all backgrounds to celebrate Tu B'Shvat, the Jewish New Year of the Trees. This year's theme is "Enter the Forest;" the event will feature hands-on activities for all ages, such as Food Forest tree maintenance, climate change education, delicious local food, and drinks. Sunday, February 5, 11am; Coastal Roots Farm, 441 Saxony Road. (ENCINITAS)

Wildlife Walk Take a hike with a Park Ranger and find out about the wild and feral animals. 1.5 miles long on dirt surfaces with some hills and steps. Bring water, sun protection and sturdy shoes. Meet near the comfort station at the north end of the parking lot. Saturday, February 4, 1pm; **free**. Chollas Lake, 6350 College Grove Drive. (OAK PARK)

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

John Early Tuesday, February 7, 7pm; \$35. 21 and up. Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

Motions & Emotions: Filipino American Stories of Healing Over 15 Filipino American artists will be presented by The Thoughtful Beast and New Americans Museum in "Motions & Emotions: Filipino American Stories of Healing." The event includes an art exhibit and three performances

addressing Filipino American intergenerational trauma. Attendees of the event will experience an array of artistic mediums including painting, rap, dance and embroidery. Fridays, 10am and 7pm; Saturdays, 11am and 7pm; Sundays, 11am and 2pm; through Sunday, February 19, \$5-\$20. New Americans Museum, 2825 Dewey Road #102. (LIBERTY STATION)

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 every-



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one 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)

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.

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.

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



The Notebooks of Leonardo DaVinci: Drama or comedy? It's all a matter of perspective.

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.

The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci

As I made my way up the aisle after the show, I heard a fellow attendee mutter, "Well, that was a bit too cerebral for me." It was all I could do not to stop and assure him that if he wasn't grinning at what he'd just seen, he was probably too cerebral for it. Yes, the text spoken by the eight actors was taken entirely from the titular notebooks, and yes, the action on stage served as a sort of illustration of those excerpts, and yes, Leonardo Da Vinci is one of the great geniuses of human history. But writer-director Mary Zimmerman hasn't given us Da Vinci the genius; she's given us Da Vinci the man. And small surprise: these aren't his treatises, these are his notebooks, the place where you can find his advice on portrait lighting

alongside his complaints about how much his, um, manservant has stolen from him lately. Their presentation here is occasionally profound and insightful, as in the twice-recounted memory of peering into a dark cave as a boy and noticing the simultaneous rise of fear and excitement in his breast. But it's much more frequently funny, a good-natured ribbing of the Great Man. My cerebral theatergoer was most likely trying to follow the talk of force and weight when he should have been paying attention to the actor's hilarious scribbles on the chalkboard while he spoke. And maybe he didn't notice when an exhaustive account of bodily proportions got interrupted by one actor's hesitance to have anyone measuring any sort of lengths around his nether regions. But how was he not guffawing at Leonardo's account of how we might make human flight possible, or his petulant treatise on why painters are superior to sculptors (ahem Michaelangelo ahem)? There is beauty in the staging and wonder in the words. But go in looking for laughs, and let the cerebral stuff creep in 'round the edges. THE OLD GLOBE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, 619-234-5623, CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

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'être 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 in 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 gut-wrenching. 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

The Man from U.N.C.L.E. — What does it say when they set out to make a Cold War caper and they wind up casting a Brit (Henry Cavill) as the American, an American (Armie Hammer) as the Russian, and a Swede (Alicia Vikander) as the...well, not a Swede? Answer: not much, which is okay, since this smirky reheating of the '60s television series *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* is much less interested in what it says than in how it looks. And it looks great: the suits, the dresses, the cars, and oh yes, the actors, all in top, mid-century modern form. There has to be a story, of course, and so there has to be a bad guy, and it can't be the Americans or the Russians, so...the Nazis were big only, what, 20 years ago? Great! Except not so much, since the detour into concentration camp atrocities take what mostly feels like a spy vs. spy romp into dark 'n gritty(TM) territory. It's a weird misstep, like serving Bordeaux with sole. Ditto the explorations of our Russian spy's unhappy past. Otherwise, though, it's harmless good fun from the analog era of spycraft, directed with relative restraint by Guy Ritchie (Sherlock Holmes). (2015) — M.L. ★★ (AMAZON PRIME)

The Pale Blue Eye — Director and co-writer Scott Cooper re-teams 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 star-in-the-making. (2023) — M.L. ★ (NETFLIX)

The Outfit — If you're going to make one of those stagey movies where the action is confined almost entirely to a single set and the interactions are confined almost entirely to a single character, it helps to have a single set where something fascinating can happen, and a character whose past is gradually excavated by those interactions. *The Outfit* gets that much right, placing us in the shop of a bespoke suitmaker both frequented and used as a drop by the mob, and making the character a solitary exile from Saville Row. It helps, too, to have that character played by someone with Mark Rylance's gravitas and appeal: what's going on behind those sad eyes and that careful manner? Even better, director and co-writer Graham Moore seems to promise at the outset that he's going to go about his story the way his star goes about making a suit — starting with measurement. Not simply the calculation and tabulation of physical proportions, but the sort of assessment that's indicated by the phrase "taking the measure" — of a man, and of a situation. (One of those measurements must account for the sweetish girl who works for him, and who would do well to get clear of The Neighborhood.) The local boss has gotten word through the tailor shop drop that he's being considered for incorporation into the titular organization, but there's a snag: an FBI informant in his ranks, and an incriminating tape that needs checking. But if this review is heavy on the concept and setup, that's because they're the really good parts. It's tempting to start complaining about loose threads and an unprofessional reliance on good fortune as opposed to precision planning. But really, it's when a character conveniently turns into a plot-zombie for the sake of the big reveal that you know the end result just isn't going to hang right. (2022) — M.L. ★ (AMAZON PRIME)

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Alila Marea Beach Resort:
Thursday, 5pm — Christian Taylor.
Friday, 5pm — Kai Kalama.

Bang Bang:
Saturday, 8pm — Nils Hoffmann. \$20-\$25.

Barefoot Bar and Grill:
Friday, 6pm — Lauren Leigh.

Beaumont's:
Friday, 9pm — Eleftheriou. \$5.
Saturday, 9pm — Rare Form. \$5-\$10.

Bellamy's Restaurant:
Thursday, 6pm — Jake Taylor Smith.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, 8pm — Save Ferris. \$22-\$39.
Friday & Saturday, 8pm — Grateful Shred. \$32-\$56.
Monday, 7:30pm — Loudon Wainwright III. \$35.
Tuesday, 8pm — Foghat. \$55-\$97.
Wednesday, 8pm — Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra. \$35-\$62.

Black Cat Bar:
Friday, 10pm — Clinton & Kyler and Hunter Burgamy.

Bloom Nightclub:
Friday, 9pm — Vnssa and Red & Ted. \$10-\$30.

CSU San Marcos:
Monday, 7:30pm — Daniel Adam Maltz. **Free.**

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:
Friday, 7:30pm, *Saturday*, 2pm & 7:30pm, *Sunday*, 7:30pm — Motown: The Music That Changed America. \$35-\$75.



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PunchCard • Dying Species

Mon, 2/6
LADY DOTTIE & THE DIAMONDS

Tue, 2/7
SOMETHING FUNKY
Funk, Jazz, Blues, Soul, & Boogaloo

Fri, 2/10
BAD ASS
The Victims • Systematic Abuse
Revolt-Chix • Cochinas Locas

Sat, 2/11
DROWSE
Neutral Shirt
And Today It Was You

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Cannonball:
Thursday, 5pm — Keni Yarbro.
Tuesday, 5pm — Israel Maldonado.

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — Deb Talan (of the Weepies). \$20.
Friday, 8pm — Dune Rats and Chastity. \$15.
Saturday, 8pm — Nick Hakim.
Monday, 8pm — Ikana and Erratic Impulse. \$7.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Matt Heckler and John Leeroy. \$15.

Comstock Bar and Grill:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Cadillac Fringe Band. **Free.**

Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD:
Thursday, 5pm — Widening the Embrace: A Reduced Carbon Footprint Concert (CA-NY). **Free.**
Saturday, 8pm — Widening the Embrace: A Reduced Carbon Footprint Concert (CA-Korea). **Free.**

Crafted Culture:
Friday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:
Thursday, 6pm — Deadheads Night.
Friday, 7pm — Rosebud & Platypus Egg.

Duke's La Jolla:
Friday, 3pm, *Tuesday*, 4pm — Kekoa.
Sunday, 4pm — Kai Kalama.

Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve:
Sunday, 12pm — Free Eco-centric Concert: Dryad. **Free.**

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:
Monday, 6pm — Whitney Shay.
Friday, 6pm — Jonny Tarr.
Tuesday, 6pm — DevvLov.
Wednesday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:
Friday, 6pm — Jemille Vialet.
Saturday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.



GRAND COMEDY CLUB



ERIK GRIFFIN
(Comedy Central, Workaholics)
Fri, 2/3 @6:30pm & 8:30pm
Sat, 2/4 @6:30pm & 8:30pm



LARA BEITZ & JESSICA MICHELLE SINGLETON
(Slobs Pod, Netflix)
Fri, 2/10 @6:30pm & 8:30pm
Sat, 2/11 @6:30pm & 8:30pm



QUINN DAHLE
(The Tonight Show, Comedy Central)
Fri, 2/17 @6:30pm & 8:30pm
Sat, 2/18 @6:30pm & 8:30pm

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GrandComedyClub.com

Farmer & the Seahorse:
Thursday, 4:30pm — Kai Kalama.
Friday, 4:30pm — Gabriele Dagrezio.
Sunday, 11am — Jonny Tarr.

Garage Kitchen + Bar:
Friday & Saturday, 7pm — Adam Bergoch.

House of Blues:
Thursday, 7:30pm — M.A.G.S. \$15.
Friday, 7:30pm — The Moss. \$108-\$125.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Danny Ocean. \$44-\$64.

L'Auberge Del Mar:
Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde.
Friday, 5pm — Matt Heinecke.
Saturday, 7pm — Jarred Matthew.
Sunday, 11am — Joanna Gerolaga.

La Valencia Hotel:
Thursday, 5:30pm — Johnny Martin.
Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Sunday, 11am — Jesse Johnson.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:
Friday, 7pm — Rachel Jay.

Madam Bonnie's:
Friday, 7pm — Ghost Jazz Trio. **Free.**

Mission Bay Resort:
Thursday, 6pm — Farrah Camu.
Monday, 6pm — Jesse Ray Smith.
Wednesday, 6pm — Ben Benavente.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 9pm — Soul Seekers. **Free.**
Thursday, 9pm — Soul Seekers.
Friday, 9pm — FreeMartin.
Saturday, 9pm — 91 Octane. **Free.**

Music Box:
Friday, 7:30pm — RJD2. \$30.
Saturday, 7pm — The Floozies and Maddy O'Neal. \$25-\$140.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Twisted Gypsy. \$18-\$78.



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the inside track
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Cook kid's kicks and drip Bepul Kicks, a sneaker and fit shop in National City's Westfield Plaza Bonita, has become command central for local hip-hop artists such as 22Gfay and Lil Weirido. "Most of the time, my gear is in their videos," says the shop's owner, 15-year-old entrepreneur (and high school student) Kyle Jang. "Rappers have a big play in my business, because my customers follow what the rappers wear and listen to their music most of the time."

Lil Maru, a local 18-year-old rapper, took a photo with Jang at Jang's brick-and-mortar store. Underneath the subsequent Instagram post, Maru commented "Ma boi, 100," slang for "My buddy is 100 percent authentic." The "On The Block" rapper has 123,000 Instagram followers; his YouTube page, launched in May 2020, recently surpassed 39,000,000 views.

Bepul Kicks gear is worn in other local rap videos as well. Gfeeni, who recently dropped the "Everybody Hates Feeni" visualizer, also has mad love for the 15-year-old, calling him a "stand-up businessman." Continues the rapper, "He carries himself professionally. I go by all the time. I stopped recently for a Sp5der shirt and Bape socks." Gfeeni is seen in one of his videos rocking a Supreme ski mask, which Jang sells alongside Padres hats. Padres gear has been a popular accessory for San Diego rappers dating back to The Legion Of Doom's 1988 anthem "This Is Diego." Local hip-hop artists also like to show their "1904" roots, with the "19" representing the nineteenth letter in the alphabet, and "04" being the fourth — hence "SD."

Sneakers are another major

part of the hip-hop artists' "drip" — fashion worn on social media and at live events. Drip is a demonstrable asset when it comes to the artists' branding and allure. In the



Lil Maru, Kyle Jang, Lil Weirido

1980s, costly shoes such as Air Jordans were go-to items to be worn on record covers; they signified how far the artists had come. And to this day, when hip-hop artists return to San Diego, flush with cash from touring, they tend to re-up on clothing and accessories. This year, Lil Maru and 22Gfay will be traveling through 15 cities with GirlzLuhDev for their *From Me 2 You* tour. Their last stop is here in the 619 at Downtown's House of Blues on March 26. After that, they'll likely connect with Jang for some fresh gear. Jang hopes to sling his \$1900 pair of Nike Dunk Low Off-White Lot 1 to the rappers — white low-top Nikes with a metallic silver swoosh and goldish-yellow soles. The pricey sneakers first sold in August 2021 for \$150; now-a-days, good luck finding them in San Diego. Jang, one of the only sneaker dealers in town to have them for sale, explains the ensuing price hike. "There were 50 colorways and they were very limited. Then, due to the passing of the designer, Virgil, prices went

up." (Virgil Abloh designed for Louis Vuitton and Fendi and founded Off-White, a high-end Italian clothing line that collaborated with Nike.) Jang also sells other crossover sneakers, with some fetching over \$1000 a pair.

To obtain footwear for his customers, the sneakerhead competes with corporate conglomerates at the Westfield Plaza Bonita mall, including Champs Sports, House of Hoops, Foot Locker, Journeys, and Macy's. His own store, located on the mall's first floor, is packed with over 250 pairs of sneakers from brands such as A Bathing Ape, Nike, Supreme, Off-White, and Adidas — all favorites of local hip-hop heads. The brand names are also emblazoned on hoodies, T-shirts, baseball caps, beanies, ski masks, and socks — popular items among young graffiti artists, DJs, and breakers.

Jang explains that the "Bepul" in Bepul Kicks "is my last name's definition in Korean, but I made it into an English word." The "kicks" is slang for sneakers. "I get the mass amount of shoes from all the connections I have made from being in the business for around five years now," he says. "I got into the business just trying to get some extra cash for myself — to buy and sell my own shoes, so I could afford the shoes I liked."

Jang's father, who helps watch over the storefront, says that business was better in 2021 — 2022 saw it drop around 50 percent. But young Jang is always looking forward, especially to the day when he obtains his driver's license. He says that both sneaker purchases and networking within the local hip-hop community will be easier — and potentially more profitable — with a vehicle.

— Mike Madriaga

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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

THE GONZO REPORT

Eclectic electric

Chicago House in a Japanese club

The recent storms and floods didn't deter hundreds of electronica and house music fans — myself included — from bundling up and rendezvousing at downtown's Bang Bang Japanese restaurant and nightclub on January 14. Electronic lounge music from the second floor — courtesy of resident DJ Jesusdapnk, also known as Jesus Diaz — echoed down a flight of stairs and spilled out onto Market Street, beckoning us inside.

As I strolled upstairs, the bass became more prominent. The stairway doubled as an echo chamber, enclosed as it was by a white, high-gloss tile — decor inspired by a Tokyo subway station. The look made the entrance into a dope photo op: I passed a group of girls wearing beauty pageant sashes and silk dresses,

snapping selfies and group shots. "Keep it moving," said the security guard. The *Tōkyō no chikatetsu* (Tokyo subway) motif continued at the top of the stairs, where a dot matrix electronic sign displayed *hiragana* and *katakana* — Japanese characters and numbers. Another digital display featured the E. Honda cartoon character from the *Street Fighter II* video game.

By that point, the music was hitting loud and clear. Diaz blended a deep house track with jazzy overtones together with a downtempo song, followed by some of his own cuts. In the foyer, a massive geometric art ensemble surrounded the multi-faceted check-in stand. The walls were decked with octagon sculptures amid a hundred or so painted triangles on matte-black surfaces. Mirror balls of different sizes completed the space-age collection. Up top by the sushi bar's entrance sat a Japanese *rikisha*, a human-powered two-wheeled cart designed for



This place is lit: the Lantern Room at Bang Bang

people-moving.

"Coming through, excuse me," yelled a waiter sporting a Hawaiian shirt and bearing two enormous sushi platters. I followed him as he weaved through the crowd in the Lantern Room. He was nimble and swift, and swayed to the deep house music as he moved. He dropped off the platters close to the DJ setup.

Now offstage, Jesus Diaz/DJ Jesusdapnk told me, "From 5-10 pm, it's a restaurant here at Bang Bang. Then after that, it turns into a club. Every weekend, they'll bring an international

artist to headline the club, and it's mostly in the realm of electronica — but not the mainstream stuff." Diaz sipped on a giant can of Sapporo beer and continued, "I dropped a lot of the original songs I produced, kinda loungey and deep [house]. That way, I get the reaction of the people."

Some attendees laid down their chopsticks and danced by their tables. The dining room was packed, with Japanese lanterns hanging from the ceiling and a long and fully stocked bar. A popular sushi dish here is called the Roll Party, a gigantic platter that costs \$150. Table service for spirits involved top-shelf brands like Grey Goose and Belvedere. A more lively group hit the sake bombs: glasses filled with beer into which the drinkers dump shots of saké (rice wine). Then they guzzle the mix as it fizzes.

At around 10 pm, the Bang Bang staff removed the dining tables in the adjacent Garden Room to make room for the disco-theque, where another set of DJs played on an elevated stage. To access the Garden Room, the clubgoers and diners passed through a *torii*, an old-school Japanese gate like you might find at the entrance of a shrine. "Our D.A.S. speaker system provides a crisp and bumping sound," touted Kayley Griffith, the club spokesperson.

(continued on page 22)

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<p>SAT. FEB. 11</p> <p>THE FLATLINERS Broadway Calls, Bandaidd Brigade</p>	<p>SAT. FEB. 18</p> <p>WACKEN METAL BATTLE The Bastard Saints, Druide, Cranial Detriment, Corpsemaker, California Villain, Godhammered, Corpus</p>	<p>SUN. FEB. 26</p> <p>SHOW ME THE BODY Jesus Piece, Scowl, Zulu, TRIPPPJONES</p>
<p>THU. FEB. 16</p> <p>EARLY MOODS with special guests</p>	<p>SUN. FEB. 19</p> <p>NITE Persekutor, Salacious, Beliath</p>	<p>MON. FEB. 27</p> <p>JUNNY DJ Minjeong</p>
<p>FRI. FEB. 17</p> <p>WACKEN METAL BATTLE Gravity Grave, Fadrait, The Oathbreakers, Maskeratt, Parasitic Existence, Drillbit, Mister Fister</p>	<p>TUE. FEB. 21</p> <p>ROTTING CHRIST Carach Angren, UADA, Gaerea</p>	<p>THU. MAR. 2</p> <p>THE SPILL CANVAS Arms Akimbo, Sleep It Off</p>

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A wake-up call for the woke

There exists what was once a tremendously popular piece of music about a Native American which was written by a composer of African descent whose forbears had been slaves in the New World prior to the American Revolution of 1776. I'm willing to bet that the average acolyte of woke culture — nay, even the most erudite acolyte of woke culture — has not heard of this phenomenon.

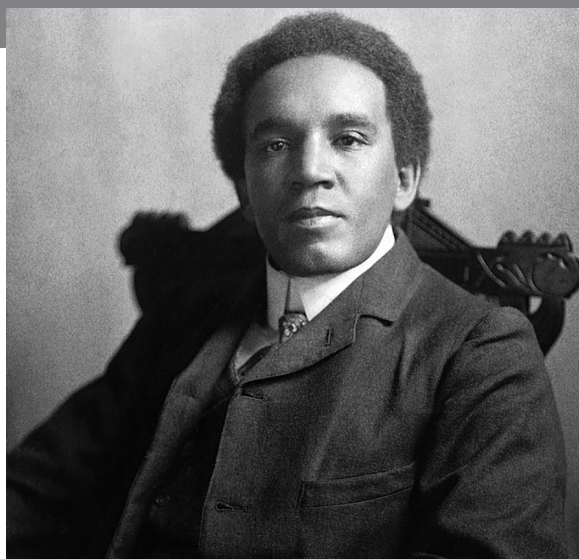
The piece of music is *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* and the composer is Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. It is a lost piece of music that was once as popular in England as Handel's *Messiah*. Coleridge-Taylor attended The Royal College of Music and graduated in 1896. Edward Elgar was a champion of the young composer, along with

Coleridge-Taylor's professor of composition Charles Villiers Stanford. The premier of *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* at The Royal College of Music in 1898 was a triumph; composer Sir Hubert Parry called it "one of the most remarkable events in modern English musical history."

Sadly, Coleridge-Taylor had sold the piece to the publisher Novello for 15 guineas and received nothing in royalties for the hundreds of thousands of copies that were sold to choral societies worldwide. Coleridge-Taylor did retain the rights to two subsequent compositions based on the Hiawatha legends, but these did not fare as well as the original. Impoverished for most of his life, Coleridge-Taylor died of pneumonia at age 37. Elgar had called

him the most promising of the younger generation of composers. Composer Arthur Sullivan (of Gilbert and Sullivan) was an admirer. Before he died, Coleridge-Taylor had composed 82 pieces of music that he considered worthy of an opus number. All of them, even *Hiawatha*, have since become ignored and/or forgotten.

Perhaps the topic of Hiawatha is too sensitive for modern audiences, since the poem, while based on Native American legends, was written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. But what of Coleridge-Taylor's excellent *Symphony in A minor*? This symphony is full of hope and optimism. Perhaps those sentiments are out of style as well. What then of his *Symphonic Variations on an African Air*? This is a delight-



A fully developed and sadly forgotten composer: Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Classical Music this week

La Jolla Music Society: Camarada - Essence of Tango Join Camarada for an evening to explore the wide range of tango from the 1900's all the way to an exciting world premiere by Andrés Martín. The Essence of Tango is a curated time-travel experience high-

lighting several famous tango composers: Villoldo, Pugliese, Gardel, Francini, Pontier, Salgan, Troilo, Mores, and Astor Piazzolla. Saturday, February 4, 7:30pm; \$35-\$95. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Le Salon De Musiques Chamber music with up-close seating. Following the concert, meet the artists and fellow concertgoers while savoring a high tea buffet. Sunday, February 5, 4pm; \$45-\$95. La Jolla Woman's Club, 7791 Draper Avenue.

SD Symphony Jacobs Masterworks: The Torres Cycle: Wilfrido Terrazas The Torres Cycle by Wilfrido Terrazas is a music ritual which honors and celebrates the seven cardinal directions: North, South, East, West, Above, Below, Center. A processes

of reconciliation between us and the places we inhabit and their histories. The Torres Cycle was released by New Focus Recordings in April 2022. Thursday, February 2, 7pm; free-\$15. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Saturday, Feb. 18 — Gabriele Dagherio.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar: Friday, Feb. 10 — Dave Schulz. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Anna Danes. Saturday, Feb. 11 — David Shyde.

Farmer & the Seahorse: Thursday, Feb. 9 — David Shyde. Friday, Feb. 10 — Alex Elisabeth. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Danielle Angeloni.

Sunday, Feb. 12 — Whitney Shay.

Garage Kitchen + Bar: Friday, Feb. 10 — Adam Bergoch. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Adam Bergoch. Friday, Feb. 17 — Adam Bergoch.

House of Blues: Thursday, Feb. 9 — GloRilla. \$40-\$65. Friday, Feb. 10 — Larkin Poe. \$30-\$75. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Electric Feels.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: Friday, Feb. 17 — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. Free.

L'Auberge Del Mar: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Jackie Foster. Friday, Feb. 10 — Puro Feeling. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Rachel Jay. Sunday, Feb. 12 — Helena Holleran.

La Valencia Hotel: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Whitney Shay. Friday, Feb. 10 — Keni Yarbro. Thursday, Feb. 16 — Kristi Krause.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort: Saturday, Feb. 11 — Shay Skylar. Friday, Feb. 17 — Gabriele Dagherio. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Sean McCole.

Madam Bonnie's: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Kermil Jazz Trio. Free. Friday, Feb. 10 — Frankly Swingin' Band. Free. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Mar Picao. Free. Tuesday, Feb. 14 — Liquid Bricks Jazz Trio. Free.

Mesa College: Wednesday, Feb. 15 — Free Weekly Recital Hour: San Diego Bluegrass Society. Free.

Mission Bay Resort: Friday, Feb. 10 — Matt Heinecke. Sunday, Feb. 12 — Brian Pierini. Monday, Feb. 13 — Jesse Johnson. Tuesday, Feb. 14 — Sarah Ingraham. Wednesday, Feb. 15 — Marelle.

Moonshine Beach: Thursday, Feb. 16 — Allie Colleen. \$15-\$20.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: Thursday, Feb. 9 — James Allen. Free. Thursday, Feb. 9 — James Allen Country Band. Friday, Feb. 10 — Thea the Band. Free. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Tube Amp'd. Free. Thursday, Feb. 16 — April Lee & Kevin Artisan Duo.

Music Box: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Savon, AbJo, JR Jarris. \$15. Friday, Feb. 10 — Beyonce vs Rihanna. \$10-\$15. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Jungle Brothers. 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. Free.

Navajo Live: Friday, Feb. 17 — One Night in the City. Free.

Nick & G's: Friday, Feb. 10 — David Shyde. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Sarah Ingraham. Friday, Feb. 17 — Johnny Martin.

Nova SD: Saturday, Feb. 18 — Noizu.

Observatory North Park: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Eden. \$30-\$85. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Bikini Bottom Rave. Thursday, Feb. 16 — Inner Wave. Friday, Feb. 17 — El Tri.

Panama 66: Sunday, Feb. 12 — Uptown Rhythm Makers. 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.

Rancho Bernardo Library: Saturday, Feb. 11 — Music for a Lifetime. Free.

Rustic Root: Tuesday, Feb. 14 — Helena Holleran.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library: Sunday, Feb. 12 — Courtney Noyse. Free.

Seabird: Sunday, Feb. 19 — Farrah Camu.

Side Yard: Saturday, Feb. 11 — Jonny Tarr. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Christian Taylor.

Soda Bar: Thursday, Feb. 9 — SUUNS and Lorelle Meets the Obsolete. \$21. Friday, Feb. 10 — Jackie Mendoza and Omo Cloud. \$12. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Death Cab For Karaoke. Sunday, Feb. 12 — Jeffrey Martin and Taylor Kingman. Tuesday, Feb. 14 — Healing Potpourri. Wednesday, Feb. 15 — Amp Live. Friday, Feb. 17 — Karate and Rex. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Sea Wolf.

Soma: Saturday, Feb. 18 — Peachy San Diego.

Sound: Saturday, Feb. 11 — Steve Aoki.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre: Saturday, Feb. 11 — Who's Bad: Michael Jackson Tribute. \$19-\$29.

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park: Friday, Feb. 10 — Enter the Blue Sky and Lindsay White. \$15-\$18.

University Club Atop Symphony Towers: Wednesday, Feb. 15 — Christian Taylor. Saturday, Feb. 18 — David Shyde.

THE GONZO REPORT

continued from page 21

"And when it comes to lighting, our pixel flex, intertwined with our greenery, provides a unique experience for our clubgoers." The "greenery" included plants and flowers hung throughout the high-ceilinged room; lasers beamed amid the vines and leaves.

The main dance floor below was flanked on each side by table service spots for the VIPs. Up top hung a massive five-foot mirror ball. "I remember when this place first opened [in 2013], they had to bring in that mirror ball through the ceiling with a crane," said DJ Halo Varga, the headliner for the night. The San Marcos-based DJ started spinning house music in 1989 as a grom in Chicago. "I was inspired by Derrick Carter, the late Frankie Knuckles, and Boo Williams," he said. The music at Bang Bang is predominantly House, often built from altered disco dance songs popularized at 1980s Chicago underground parties. The genre evolved in the 1990s, bringing in samplers and drum machines, and Varga evolved along with it; the result was his signature Chicago House style. "Then I moved to San Diego in 2000, bringing all I learned in from Chicago." He spins with both CDJs and turntables. "For vinyl, it's an artform," he said. "When people see you play records on turntables, they have a different appreciation for the music." ■

Waterbar: Thursday, Feb. 16 — Puro Feeling.

Westfield University Towne Centre: Thursday, Feb. 9 — Ben Benavente. Saturday, Feb. 11 — Mike Myrdal. Sunday, Feb. 12 — Nathan & Jessie. Thursday, Feb. 16 — Ben Benavente. Friday, Feb. 17 — Tyler F. Simmons. Saturday, Feb. 18 — Dalton Gazette.

Mediterrasian mashup

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

Nirwana Indian Gastrobar showcases tacos, sliders, and pizza

Nirwana Indian Gastrobar; 8242 Mira Mesa Blvd, Mira Mesa. This menu can't be pinned down. I see both pasta and chow mein, kabobs and wings, tacos and "artisan pizza." But mostly, there's Indian food. A drink at the bar might shed some light on the situation. More specifically, the bartender will.



An Indian pizza, featuring paneer, curry leaf, onions, bell peppers, cumin, and szechwan peppers.

Welcome to Nirwana Indian Gastrobar. The bar and restaurant recently opened in Mira Mesa — part of what appears to be a growing trend of Indian fusion gastropubs in San Diego (see also Sorrento Valley's Daru Indian Gastropub and South Park's Curryosity). However, I'm told Nirwana's more of a refresh of a two-headed operation that's been part of the Village at Mira Mesa shopping center for a couple years.



Tikka naan "tacos" of chicken tikka masala served on naan flatbread.

The previous two restaurants — Inchin's Bamboo Garden and Tappizza — showed hints of what was to come. Inchin's offered Chinese food, while Tappizza clearly focused on pizza, including a few India-inspired pies. The two concepts shared a dining patio, full bar, and kitchen, which occupied the center of the space, with a dining room on either side.

Nirwana — apparently named after its chef/owner Archana Nirwan (who also operates Naturally Desi Café in Rancho Bernardo) — now occu-

pies both dining rooms, while its menu combines the varied influences of its predecessors, and then some. Indian, Chinese, Italian, and American elements may be found both in food and cocktails, though South Asian flavors clearly headline the concept, led by "large plates" including lamb or prawn curry (\$18), chicken or vegetable *biryani* (\$17), and a fish and potato stew called *macher johl* (\$18).

But I'm drawn first to the list of "small plates," which appears to be some fashion of bar menu. Off-beat highlights include an adaptation of Southern Indian yogurt rice called curd rice poppers (\$11), and *tikka naan* tacos (\$13).

I could not resist the latter, which see a chicken *tikka masala* loaded, taco style, into a pair of folded *naan* flatbreads. Despite their name, and being served in one of those W-shaped taco trays, the *tikka* tacos didn't wind up feeling like a cultural fusion to me, because I nearly always wrap my *tikka masala* in a side order of *naan*.

The taco order includes a vegetarian-friendly option, which replaces chicken with the cubed cottage cheese *paneer*, and as the friendly bartender pointed out to me, much of the menu may appeal to vegetarians. Key examples of this may be found in the menu's "Between buns" section. In addition to a *tandoori* chicken burger, this features *samosa* sliders (\$14) — which literally places veggie-filled dumplings between halves of a soft dinner roll — and Bombay sliders (\$14), which replace beef patties with spicy, fried potato fritters.

Still, if you're anything like me, most mesmerizing will be the pizza and pasta page of the menu. For one, it's tough to resist the concept of Tandoori spaghetti (\$16), which puts the famous clay oven baked chicken (or *paneer*) and its classic marinade over pasta. Then there's the butter *makhni* rigatoni (\$16), which employs butter chicken (or *paneer*) and its own spicy tomato curry, known as *makhni*, thickened with cashew paste.

Both of these are also offered in pizza form, and alas, I have no photos of pasta to share, because I had to try one of those Indian-styled pies. You'll find a relatively conventional pizza with pepperoni (\$14), though even the margherita pie (\$14) combines the *tikka* sauce and more *paneer*. And yes, there's a *paneer* pattern here. The prevalence of vegetarian dishes inspired me to take a stab at trying it on pizza. And since Nirwana takes so many left turns with its menu, including Chinese dishes fried rice and *Szechwan* noodles, I decided to take the leftist of turns: the *Paneer* 65 pizza.

That's the veggie alternative to Nirwana's Chicken 65 pizza, which refers to a well-known-in-India fried chicken seasoning (established in 1965). But coating *paneer* with 65 seasoning and putting it on a pizza with onion, bell peppers, curry leaves, cumin, dried chilis, and mustard seeds isn't all that makes



One of two dining rooms.

it unique. The sauce turns out to be some sort of *Szechwan* pepper relish. I don't know if anything quite like this has ever been served in San Diego before, or indeed whether it should be, but I'm glad Nirwana's here to challenge us to try it.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Amaya Napa Valley Wine Pairing Dinner Amaya Napa Valley Wine Pairing Dinner with Pahlmeyer & Hillwalker Wineries Thursday, February 2, 6pm; \$250. 21 and up. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Ice Cream for Breakfast Day Annual Ice Cream for Breakfast Day celebration flavor, Maple Soaked

Pancakes. First 50 Splendid Rewards members at each shop get a free limited Ice Cream for Breakfast Day mug. Saturday, February 4, 9am; free. Jeni's at The Beacon, 7740 El Camino Real, Tenant J. (CARLSBAD)

Old Rioja Guided Wine Tasting Spanish Wine Scholar Rick Fisher hosts a tasting of five wines from Northern Spain's Rioja region, one of the storied categories of ageable red wines. Tickets must be purchased in advance @ vinocartasd.com. Saturday, February 4, 2pm; \$90. 21 and up. Vino Carta Little Italy, 2161 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Taste of Barrio Logan Experience the culture of Barrio Logan on a food, sips and beer crawl. You will have the opportunity to discover, savor, and indulge in these incredible establishments in just one day. Saturday, February 4, 1pm; \$45-\$65. Barrio Logan along Logan Avenue and Newton Avenue

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Drinks All Around

BY AMANDA
TASCHER

TONY PROSPER

Q&A Restaurant and Oyster Bar
408 Pier View Way, Suite 101
Oceanside



The new-ish rooftop bar Cocobana is what lures me to the Brick Hotel in Oceanside. But the Q&A bar below is where I start things off — by

trying an oyster for the very first time. Bar Manager Tony Prosper welcomes me inside and suggests the drink Diamonds & Pearls, calling it their twist on a New Orleans classic cocktail known as the Ramos Gin Fizz.

Swirling prosecco shimmers in a champagne flute topped with a raw Atlantic oyster and a candy pearl. “With the grapefruit-infused gin and the lemon juice, you’re gonna get more of a citrus flavor,” says Prosper. “Then when we add the watermelon; it’s gonna sweeten it up. And prosecco, too, is a little bit sweeter than a champagne, so they balance each other out. The charcoal gives that texture and brings it all together. It’s going to be a very light, refreshing cocktail.”

Popularly used for detoxing, activated charcoal elevates the drink in more than one way, says Prosper. “Gives the drink that little color — or else it’d be a light pink because of the watermelon simple, and the Gin Rosa is actually pink, too. The charcoal just darkens it and gives it that glittery, shiny shimmer.” (That’s the “diamond” part of the drink’s name.) Besides the visual, “In my experience,

when you have activated charcoal, what it does is give it a texture more than a flavor. Makes it more smooth. And then the citrus kind of cuts it.”

Prosper says he likes recommending this drink “because there are some people who come in who maybe aren’t big fans of oysters, or who have never had them. So this is kind of like an intro. Not only do you get the drink, but you have an oyster that comes with it — so you don’t have to buy six oysters and maybe not enjoy them. This is like: you get your cocktail, test out the oyster, and then go from there.” I find this reassuring.

Prosper swears he’s never seen anyone totally biff it with the oyster, but warns me to first eat the candy pearl before going in. “What I like to do is this: I like to shoot the oyster with my first sip,” he says. In his opinion, the citrus elements within the cocktail pair well with the seafood, and even serve as a sort of ‘mignonette’ chaser. However, he adds, “Some people like to put the oyster in the drink and just take a big gulp... some people are pretty brave.”

Q&A RESTAURANT AND OYSTER BAR’S DIAMONDS & PEARLS



- 1 oz Malfy Gin Rosa
- ½ oz watermelon simple syrup
- ½ oz lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon activated charcoal powder
- 1 egg white
- Prosecco

Add ingredients to a shaker tin and dry shake with an egg white to create froth. Then add ice, shake again, and strain into a champagne glass. Top with prosecco. Garnish with a raw oyster and a candy pearl.

HAPPY HOUR

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

BANKERS HILL

Barrio Star: Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 3-5pm: \$6.50 beer and wine. \$8.50 margarita, Sangria, michelada, \$18 margarita flight. \$5 a la carte tacos. Tuesday, 3-close: \$6.50 beer and wine. \$8.50 margarita, Sangria, michelada, \$18 margarita flight. \$5 a la carte tacos.

BAY PARK

Off Shore Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: All beer \$1 off, \$4 house wine, \$4.25 well drinks. Saturday, 9pm-close: All beer \$1 off, \$4 house wine, \$4.25 well drinks.

CARMEL VALLEY

Death By Tequila: Monday, 3-6pm: \$9 classic margaritas, \$18 margarita flights, \$10 cocktail of the month, \$6 Mexican lager, \$9 select wines, \$8 D&T Micheladas. Michelada Monday all day - \$2 oysters, \$6 Micheladas, \$9 Campechana Tuesday, Tequila Tuesday: Half off most Tequila shots all day Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$9 classic margaritas, \$18 margarita flights, \$10 cocktail of the month, \$6 Mexican lager, \$9 select wines, \$8 D&T Micheladas

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

Gaslamp Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, wine, specialty cocktails, \$5 wells. \$2 off appetizers.

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

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

HILLCREST

Urban Mo's Bar and Grill: Thursday, 5-8 pm: \$6.50 Martinis

LA MESA

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa: Friday, All day: Clam chowder \$5 cup, \$7 bowl. After 4pm: Prime rib \$24. Sunday, 11am-2pm: \$4 Bloody Marys, \$5 Champagne.

LITTLE ITALY

King and Queen Cantina: Daily, Noon-6pm: \$1 off drafts, \$4 beer bottles, \$7 well drinks, wine, sangria, \$8 margaritas. Appetizers \$5 to \$9.

NORTH PARK

Original 40 Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 off all beer and wine.

Verbena Kitchen: Wednesday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$6 draft beers, \$7 house wines, \$9 house select cocktails. \$1 oysters, \$9 chips and dip, \$14 ceviche, \$19 charcuterie & cheese boards.

OCEAN BEACH

The Holding Company: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: Half off draft beer, half off most whiskeys & tequila, \$2 pint beer of the day, \$4 well drinks, \$10 pitchers of beer, \$15 off all towers

Lucy's Tavern: Monday-Friday, 12pm-6pm: \$5 Espolon blanco, \$5 Mellow corn, \$5 Skrewball, \$1 off wells and pitchers. All day \$7 12oz PBR or BUD cans & mellow corn whiskey shot. Saturday-Sunday, All day: \$7 12 ounce PBR or BUD cans & mellow corn whiskey shot.

OCEANSIDE

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

OLD TOWN

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

Old Town Mexican Café: Tuesday, Half off well drinks and selected appetizers all day.

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Tuesday, 6pm-close: 2 for 1 tequila shots, \$5 Margs, \$4 Dos XX & Pacifico's, 2 tacos for \$7.10 Wednesday, 7pm-close: 2 for 1 whiskey shots, \$5 chicken tenders Thursday, 7:30pm-close: \$5 beers Sunday, 7:30pm-close: \$7.10 slushies

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

Bub's Dive Bar: Monday, Thursday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$5 select drafts and wells. \$1 wings, half off Red Baskets. Tuesday, .

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

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

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

POINT LOMA

Catalina Lounge: Monday-Friday, 3pm-7pm: \$1 off beer & wine, \$5 Espolon blanco, \$5 Highwest bourbon, \$5 Skrewball. All day \$7 Estrella lager & Mellow corn whiskey combo. Saturday-Sunday, All day \$7 Estrella lager & Mellow corn whiskey combo.

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

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

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

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

SAN CARLOS

Navajo Live: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-7 pm: \$3 well drinks, \$3 domestic beer, \$1 off all other alcoholic beverages

SAN MARCOS

Churchill's Pub and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells. Sunday, All day: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells.

\$5 Wells, \$4 Domestic
Extensive Craft Beer Selection
Happy Hour All Day Everyday



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PERSONALS

JOE HERE I have healed and would very much like to see you again. Love, Joe.

HECTOR WYA Hector wyd Hector you better not be up to no good Hector don't you miss me Hector I love you don't be mean xoxoxo.

MY DARLING FRANK, I miss you so much dear. I can't wait for you to hold me in your big strong arms again. Forever yours, Katherine.

THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY would like to remind us that passing on the right is poor form. If you must pass do so on the left. Thank you.

BAD BOY BOBBY Robert Ewing magician, Bad Boy Bobby. A World of Magic, old friend Judith Jeanotte 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 studio 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 PRISONER 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.

BIKE ACCIDENT Aiden's bike accident

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) 917-6975

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

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 - thank you. Ann, Jennifer. (619) 917-6975

NOTICES

INTO POETRY, SPOKEN WORD? Poetry and spoken word artists, and scholars, sought for local radio show. The Electric Picnic. KNSJ 89.1 FM is an FCC licensed, non-profit, all-volunteer radio station. Ask for Marie. Interested listeners see KNSJ.org - Public Affairs. (619) 283-1100 / info@knsj.org

SHOP @ PLATO'S CLOSET TODAY! Buy-sell-trade gently used clothes, shoes & accessories with us! Our prices are up to 70% lower than mall prices! Open 7 days a week! Monday-Saturday: 10am-9pm Sunday: 11am-7pm. Located at: Plato's Closet San Diego. 5943 Balboa Ave San Diego, CA 92111. info@platosclosetsandiego.com

ITREASURESANDIEGO.COM San Diego's most sophisticated treasure hunt. Original. Unique. Challenging. Educational. Fun.

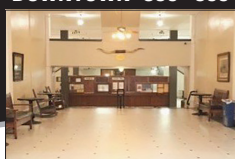
REMOTE PSYCHIC MEDIUM READINGS Star reads by phone or Skype only. She's read Tarot and Angel cards for over 40 years. Let her help you. indigochakrahealing.com/readings star@indigochakrahealing.com

ART CALL "OCEAN-EARTH-AIR" 100 artists from across California will be selected for show at Poway Center month of April 2023. Cash Awards. 3 entries for \$30. All mediums wall art. Deadline 3/18/2023 Enter at: www.surfingmadonna.org/artshow. produced by Surfing Madonna. (760) 877-0869 / cathy@surfingmadonna.org

CLASSES / LESSONS

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Join us outdoors Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings or indoors for Qi Gong 6pm Tuesday and Taiji 6pm Wednesday. Taoist Sanctuary. Sign up on our website. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. taoistsanctuary.org.

DOWNTOWN \$590-\$900



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CHILDREN'S YIDDISH ART CLASSES Children ages 5-10 will be introduced to Yiddish cultural concepts and biographies of Jewish artists. The objective of this course is developing creativity, critical thinking, and appreciation of the arts. Enroll at www.yiddishlandcalifornia.org! (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

JUDEO-SPANISH LANGUAGE CLASS This new course of Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) language is based on Sephardic folk songs and tales which will be used in order to teach some grammar and vocabulary. Visit www.yiddishlandcalifornia.org to register (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

YIDDISHLAND KIDS ART CLUB Children ages 5-10 will explore art as a form of communication across cultures. The objective of this program is developing creativity, critical thinking, and appreciation of the arts. Enroll at www.yiddishlandcalifornia.org! (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

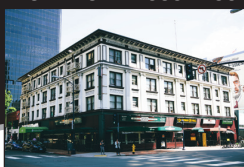
YIDDISH LANGUAGE CLASS-ES Yiddish for Beginners with Avi Fried. This is an alef-bays (alpha-beta) learning course that will teach how to read Yiddish in Yiddish. Sundays, January 15- February 19. Visit www.yiddishlandcalifornia.org (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

YOGA IN YIDDISH Yoga in Yiddish (with English Translation). The slow and gentle nature of this class is perfect for beginners and is also great for students who can sink deeper into their practice. The language of instruction is Yiddish with English translation. (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

TEMPLE STYLE TAI CHI LESSONS give direction to your life. Regulates blood pressure and all functions. Call (619) 357-0525. Ask for Gerald. First class is free.

YAAANA ART CLASSES FOR KIDS This art class is designed for children ages 5-10 at any level and of all backgrounds. The objective is to engage participants in the culture and heritage of Yiddishland through art. yiddishlandcalifornia.org/yiddish-art-class-for-children/ (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

DOWNTOWN \$650-\$750



Classic building in downtown San Diego. Nice sized private rooms share common bathrooms. Property is well maintained with friendly staff. Peaceful and comfortable building with cable TV hookups and on-site laundry. Close to work. MTS stop very close with easy access to the downtown free shuttle.

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YIDDISHLAND ART CLASSES Yiddish art classes for children ages 5-10. The class will involve art making and interpretation, based on the rich cultural heritage represented at Yiddishland. yiddishlandcalifornia.org/yiddish-art-class-for-children/. (619) 719-1776 / info@yiddishland.ca

BLACK PANTHER PARTY SD blackpantherparty.org. New membership open. leannanelson18@gmail.com

HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPE DESIGN, redesign, troubleshooting, diagnostics on the spot. Solve your problems, improve your design, improve your maintenance today - no guessing! Educated, trained and experienced, 6th generation native, 6th generation horticulturalist in San Diego County. No sales, no installation, no maintenance. Check me out at EdwardsHorticulture.com, then call (619) 402-8670.

ROOMMATES

OTAY RANCH, \$1,300 Room for rent, furnished, AC, tv, internet, non smoker, no drugs, no pets. \$1,300/month, \$300 deposit. Call Carlos (858) 999-7980.

FURNISHED PRIVATE BEDROOM 6595 Montezuma San Diego. Equipped kitchen privileges, shared clean bathroom. \$775/monthly, including utilities and cable. Apts (619) 287-3060, voicemails welcome.

LOOKING FOR ROOM to rent that takes a small dog and cat. Employed, female, nice, courteous. Can cook, clean, and massage. Serious only. Can pay or exchange. Call (619) 458-5656

WELL FURNISHED ROOM AVAILABLE I have a well furnished place available for rent in a well conducive environment. You are having a separate Bathroom, bedroom, living room, Kitchen and separate entrance. (347) 605-1011 / gikmetmurad@gmail.com

MATURE GAL SEEKS ROOM TRADE!!! Respectful, trustworthy, quiet, clean, genuine, free of addictions or drama. Pet free but love 'em! Searching for a space to hang my hat. before January 31st! Willing to do housekeeping, pet care, cooking, etc in lieu of rent. Please reply w/details! ladyin-need1920@gmail.com

CATHOLIC WOMAN I am looking for a furnished room or apartment in nice safe area \$850. I have a small older very well behaved poodle. Call or text (949) 300-5295

MUSICIANS WANTED AVAILABLE Composer seeks assistant/copyist/ piano/ sightreading. Room / board/ stipend, composition lessons. Busco musico asistente que sepuede leer musica/toca piano. Cuarto, comidas, felia. (619) 457-8516, jebroe5@gmail.com

ROOM FOR RENT Independent living. Nice view home. Quiet. Wi-fi, tv, meals, laundry. Shared

room \$800 La Mesa (619) 750-4447. A place to call home!

TINY ROOM TO LIVE PLEASE 64 year healthy single, no family, never married non-smoker. Clean SoCal native low income full time job, male high school/college graduate. Seeking somber room in Solana Beach, Cardiff, Lucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

SANTEE, \$800 2/2 home w/ homeowner, dog. Same price furnished/unfurnished. No kids under 18. Pools, spas, clubhouse, tennis. AC & heat, kitchen, W/D. No tobacco, or add'l pets. Share util. (619) 499-9663, phone calls preferred.

RENTALS

LA MESA, \$2199-2699. 3BD+2BA (\$2699) and 2BD+1BA (\$2199) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

LA MESA, \$2199-2699. 3BD+2BA (\$2699) and 2BD+1BA (\$2199) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

OCEAN FRONT CONDO FOR RENT We have 1, 2 and 3 bed available furnished / unfurnished from \$1,100-\$1,900 with amenities and with an amazing view. Come down and enjoy what other Americans are enjoying, these properties are in great areas of Rosarito. condosbaja@gmail.com

HOME FOR RENT 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom rental home it may be just the home for you. Also, you're sure to enjoy staying warm by the fireplace. The patio/balcony will provide you hours of outdoor enjoyment. You'll enjoy the convenience of W/D hookups. Sc (207) 200-4867 / timothymorrisrice@gmail.com

NEWLY REMODELED Scripps Ranch loft, private entrance, one bedroom, private bathroom. Pool, Jacuzzi, washer/dryer facilities. Park one block away, with hiking trails. Call (858) 399-0095.

\$400/MONTH long-term directly in front of the river ocean five minutes away 13 month contract. Ensenada a Rosarito LA mission 30 minutes across the border. (760) 250-7055.

FOUR BEDROOM TWO BATHROOM with a Jacuzzi 1 acre of property \$1200 month 13 month contract we also do daily and weekly rentals \$100 a night \$500 a week Rosarito and Ensenada La mission (760) 250-7055.

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directly in front of the River ocean five minute walk bring your motorcycle pets we call this Rancho Santa Fe south of the border exclusive neighborhood Gated and garden (760) 250-7055.

MEXICO ENSENADA ROSARITO La mission three bedroom two bathroom directly in front of the river five minute walk from the ocean \$1200 a month (760) 250-7055.

PENTHOUSE two bedroom two bathroom Jacuzzi directly in front of the river and ocean the ocean five minute walk away \$1500 a month Rosarito and Ensenada La mission 30 minutes across the border (760) 250-7055.

STUDIO FOR RENT directly in front of the river the ocean five minute walk away completely furnished wash machine and dryer 750 a month long term 13 months Mexico 30 minutes from San Diego borderline to Ensenada rosarito La mission. (760) 250-7055.

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

REAL ESTATE



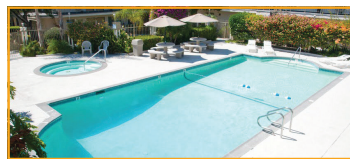
REMODELED GOLDEN HILL HOME 2Bd home on large lot with ADU potential. Great cul de sac street with underground utilities and a block from million dollar condominiums. Priced below a recent appraisal and reviewing all offers as a trust sale. Robert Realty (619) 852-8827. (619) 222-7474 / oblucky@gmail.com

SHARP GOLDEN HILL HOME Remodeled 2Bd home on large lot with ADU potential. Great location with million dollar condos a block away. Quiet street with underground utilities. Trust sale bring offers. (619) 549-3412 / oblucky@gmail.com

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ized workshops for therapists and couples. Seeking trial arrangement with hopes for long-term. Please email courtyard@mailbox.org.

MUSIC

UPRIGHT PIANO Leaving the state, must sell. Used Kawai, excellent condition, in Oceanside. Regulated and tuned, \$300 firm. Randall (805) 914-8873.

SAN DIEGO CHORAL SOCIETY San Diego Choral Society is accepting new singers sdchoralsocty@aol.com.

STREAM MY NEW ALBUM. WORLD Artist/songwriter/lyricist J and performance for booking or features. Album out now. Melody. unitedmasters.com/m/Moniciliffordimonicilifford127@gmail.com

DUMBKEK DRUM 212 inch tall dumbek drum with wooden base in excellent condition \$250 or best offer. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

CHRISTIAN MUSICIANS NEEDED to start a band. Meet weekly, Saturdays & Sunday after church at World Beat Center. Pays \$100 per practice session. Email lasiboye@yahoo.com or call (619) 753-7378

SINGER NEW TO THE AREA, female rock, country, blues, looking for other musicians to jam/ play with. Please call or text (949) 300-5295.

REGGAE SKA POP progrock fusion professional lead/rhythm guitarist for recordings, gigs, tours. CD/Tour credits. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973.

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

PETS

13 WEEKS FRENCHIES PUPPIES Frenchies puppies available text or email. Thanks! (619) 250-0772 / miguelabarnet@aol.com

WANTED AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD DOG 1-4 years old, to a very loving dog family who have had Australian Shepherd's before and love them. (760) 806-7607

FRENCH BULLDOGS 4 male 1 female available for viewing starting 2nd week of February. They were dewormed at 2 weeks and 4 weeks they will also get there first shots at 6 week, mother is my personal dog and the stud is my sister dog great family addition to any home. (619) 964-7323

PIPE CORRAL heavy duty, small. \$150, text (619) 872-8250.

REHOME 1 YR OLD PUPPY Really sweet loving 1 year old puppy with all her shots and has been spayed. Need an awesome home. Re home fee of \$100. Currently lives with an 80 Lab mix she is Greta with dogs and kids. Really special dog, 12 lbs doubt she will get any bigger. (951) 326-7116 / sassom85@yahoo.com

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SPORTS

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BICYCLES

BIANCHI VELOCE ROAD BIKE: Carbon fork, light green color, made in Italy, purchased new, only ridden a few times, \$650., in Escondido, call (760) 746-7209.

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

TRI BIKE Brand new, never used tri bike for sale. \$250. Text (858) 733-0770 for pix.

2023 SPECIALIZED TURBO LEVO A 2023 Specialized Turbo Levo \$4,800. 2023 Specialized Turbo Levo Comp \$7,000. 2023 Specialized Turbo Levo SL Expert Carbon \$8,500. 2023 Specialized Turbo Kenevo SL Expert \$9,000. 2023 Specialized Turbo Levo Comp Alloy \$5,900. 2023 Specialized Turbo Levo AI

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

2 BIKES Full size cruiser styles, \$50 for both. Text (619) 872-8250.

MOTORCYCLES

MOTORCYCLE CARRIERS One aluminum, tilts with built in ramp, \$200. other steel, heavy duty with separate ramp, \$125. Each 400 lb. Capacity. Text: (619) 928-8220.

NEED HELP getting 2001 Valkyrie running. (619) 669-5781

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

AUTOMOTIVE

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

2016 MAZDA CX5 GRAND TOURING Automatic, AWD, 2.5L, 4 cylinder engine, 4 door, red metallic color, black leather seats, 94,700 miles, original owner, well cared for and maintained by a nurse, the reason for selling-the car was replaced by a new Tesla, \$16,500 call (760) 746-7209.

1991 CADILLAC DEVILLE White 1991 Cadillac DeVille only two owners, all new fuses, new spark plugs and ignition coil, new battery, new gas tank, and two new ECMs. It's not registered because of a misfire but it was a great daily commuter car. Still runs great. (619) 430-0078

4 BIGFOOT ALL-TERRAIN TIRES Big-O All Terrain tires, M+S, LT245/75R16, mounted on 6 lug aluminum wheels, balanced, the wheels are Sprinter wheels, used, \$225., in Escondido, call (760) 746-7209.

FULL ELECTRIC 2017 MERCEDES 2017 Mercedes Benz Full Electric does not drive 30000 miles needs new motor drive assembly 2nd owner at MB Kearney Mesa \$7500. (619) 866-9169 / usambf@gmail.com

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

WANTED. STEEL WHEEL/S 16X6.5" Wanted. 16x6.5" Steel wheel/s used on my Mazda (as well as several other Japanese makes). 5lug 114.3 pattern, +52.5mm offset. 67.1mm hub bore. Mazda part # is 996SJ06560 that could be stamped on inside of rim. Call (619) 583-5218. / redwoodvil-lagehouse@gmail.com

1971 VOLKSWAGEN MANX style dunebuggy body yellow Fiberglass, black top. Onroad/offroad. Street legal, street license 2023, clear title. Excellent condition, 60k miles, \$9,900, must sell or trade. (760) 420-3641, San Marcos.

1987 TOYOTA PICKUP four cylinder, 22r good condition, four speed, short bed, two doors, AC, all original. Runs great (619) 576-8196, \$3,995.

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

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

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

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

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

1995 GMC VANDURA 2500 high top conversion van. TV, stereo, new \$500 tires. Needs oil pump. Sell as is, \$2000 firm. (619) 408-9517

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

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

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

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

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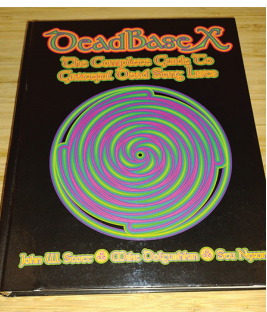
BROWN & GOLD VINTAGE DESK LAMP This classical desk lamp has twin fluorescent lamps (1 working), flexible gooseneck, and a rocker on/off switch on the base. Minor cracks on shade are covered with tapes. The lamp is in good working condition. \$25. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



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“You’re the enemy now, dude,” hissed Nate. Nate is a close friend of mine who I’ve known for about six years, and like me, he enjoys a difficult hike. The two of us were snaking our way up McGinty Mountain, which overlooked Jamul and Rancho San Diego. Nate grew up in the area, and it was one of his favorite hikes.

“I’m the enemy?” I asked teasingly while looking out at Jamul. The sky was crystal-clear with nary a cloud in sight, and the valley was lush with green from the recent rainstorms.

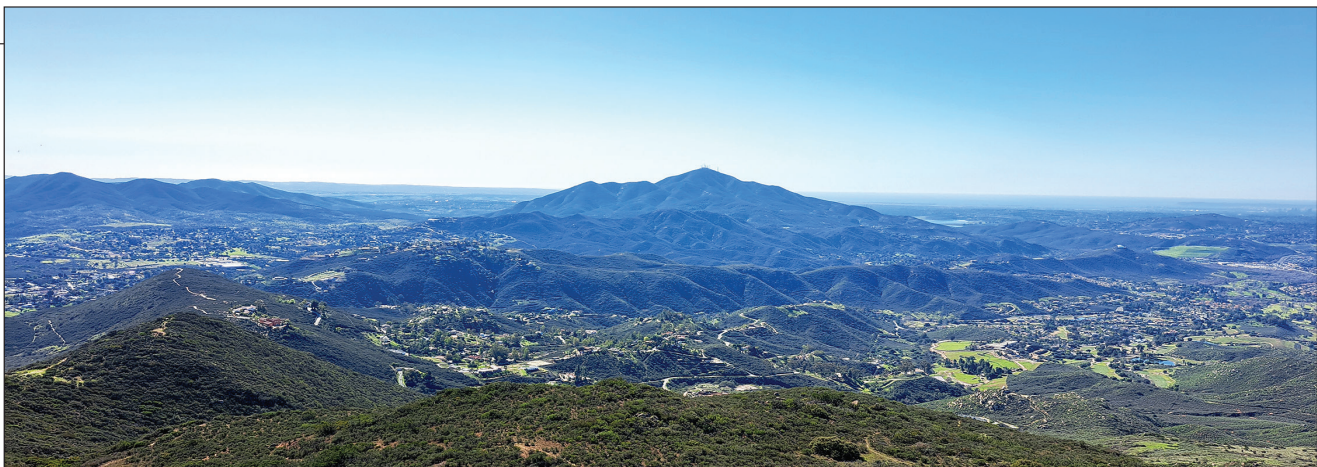
“You are,” Nate growled. “First you wrote about Lawson Peak, and now you’re going to write about McGinty. You’re revealing all my favorite hiking spots!” His face was completely flushed, but I couldn’t tell whether it was red with rage or ruddy from exhaustion. Nate cleared his throat: “If you keep writing about these remote hikes, we’re going to start bumping into tech bros who wear Patagonia fleece vests and blast music on the trail. Is that what you want? To turn every hiking trail into the frontside of Cowles?”

I smiled slyly and quipped back, “So then I shouldn’t write about your alternative route up McGinty?”

“Absolutely off limits!” Nate boomed, his voice stern. “You’d be a real S.O.B if you told people about my secret path.”

“Mmmk,” I muttered while typing his response into my phone to reference later for this article. “But just so you know, you sound like a Karen — using your own privilege to demand things be done your way.” I expected Nate to quip back, but to my surprise, he remained silent. I lifted my head to look at his face and saw it was flush with rage. I wanted my words to sting, not to insult. I sighed, irritated by my mouth’s inability to play nice.

Over the next few minutes, I endured an awkward silence. I could tell Nate was chewing over



View from McGinty looking west at San Miguel.

some harsh words for me, but he kept quiet. Fortunately — and no one tells you this — one of the upsides to hiking a lot is that you get used to chafing, especially when two people butt heads. Eventually, we both smoothed over our ruffled feathers and resumed chatting, though we stuck to more pleasant topics.

As we bantered, Nate and I climbed up the first of McGinty’s two steep sections. Here, the path slopes up from the parking lot into a series of gentle switchbacks; hikers gain about 550 feet over three-quarters of a mile. As a reward, they are met by a small plateau that overlooks Jamul. To our surprise, someone had carried up two colorful Adirondack chairs and planted them near the edge of the hill so that we could sit and take in the view. This time of year, the valley below looked like a small village: grassy meadows mixed with half-hidden homes. Surrounding the valley was a ring of hills that receded into the distance until they lapped against the base of San Miguel Mountain to the east and Otay Mountain to the south. But Nate and I never stop to rest until we reach the peak, so I snapped a photo and we carried on.

The path briefly climbed before leveling off along a broad ridge that meandered behind



Plateau with chairs overlooking Jamul.

several picturesque mansions. As we passed the homes, we began the second steep section of the hike. Here, the ground rises sharply and gains 600 feet of elevation over three-quarters of a mile. As our breathing became more labored and the conversation withered, I lowered the brim of my hat so that I could see only six feet ahead of me. I’ve found that by looking down and focusing on my breathing, it’s easier to endure the climb. Still, I had a hard time slipping into the flow. In the back of my mind, Nate’s words were gnawing at me. I felt that he was partially right, and that by writing about local hikes, I was potentially contributing to their overcrowding.

On the peak, I snapped some photos of several familiar plants, including a San Diego County sunflower. Then I scrambled up a nearby boulder and looked out with wonder on the familiar land stretching out before me. The day was clear and my eyes were far-seeing. To the west, I found the gray silhouettes of San Clemente and Catalina Islands, about 90 miles away. But strangely, my eyes were drawn north, where I was amazed to see a snowy peak lying low on the horizon like a white, bushy caterpillar. The stranger was too far west to be San Jacinto and too tall to be Santiago; only later when looking at a map did I discover that I was looking at Mt. Baldy, 110 miles away.

After I got my fill of the view, I got down from the boulder. Nate’s words still echoed in my mind, so I decided to return to the conversation from earlier. Clearing my throat, I said, “After thinking it over, my goal isn’t to get people who read my articles to go on the same hikes as me. If I were, then my articles would focus on the trail, not my experience on the trail. Instead, I’m trying to share the importance of getting outside; to encourage people to find their own McGinty Mountain, the way you did.”

Nate sipped some water from his CamelBak with an expression that was both thoughtful and intense. Clearly, he had been waiting for this conversation to resume and I braced for a full-on assault about how I was wrong. But then Nate said, “I love these trails, and yeah, I feel selfish and want to keep them to myself, but who am I to dictate who should or should not go hiking?”

I was too dumbfounded to respond, and the resounding silence was filled by the rustle of grasses as a gentle breeze sailed by. Then Nate continued, “It’s the same mindset people have when they say, ‘Well I want affordable housing, but not in my backyard.’ Eff that, man. If you got more people on the trail and those people all learned to respect the outdoors, then maybe we’d have more sustainable-thinking hikers. And that doesn’t feel like a bad thing.” As he spoke, I gently kicked at the ground with my boot. It was red and silty with a bit of clay mixed in. Then we started talking again and I considered his words with care.

An hour later, we had moseyed back to the parking lot. Nate no longer lives in San Diego and we both knew it would be a while before we would see each other again, so we said goodbye and wished each other the best. Walking back to my car, I heard Nate holler from behind, “You know, feel free to mention my secret path. Just don’t tell people where it is.” As I spun around to look at him, sunlight washed over my face and blinded me. Even though I could barely see him against the light, I still recognized enough of my friend to smile warmly and nod.

Just as the leaves renew with the arrival of spring, so too did my friendship with Nate renew during the journey back. I suppose I had forgotten how good friends don’t just support each other, but they hold each other accountable; and in so doing, bring out the best in each other.

— Ryan Brothers

MCGINTY MOUNTAIN

Located near Jamul, McGinty Mountain is a moderately strenuous hike. Its length of 4.5 miles and elevation gain of around 1300 feet mean that the hike will take most people 2 to 3 hours to complete. Dogs are allowed.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 19 miles

Hike length: 4.5 miles • **Difficulty:** Moderately strenuous • **Season:** November - May



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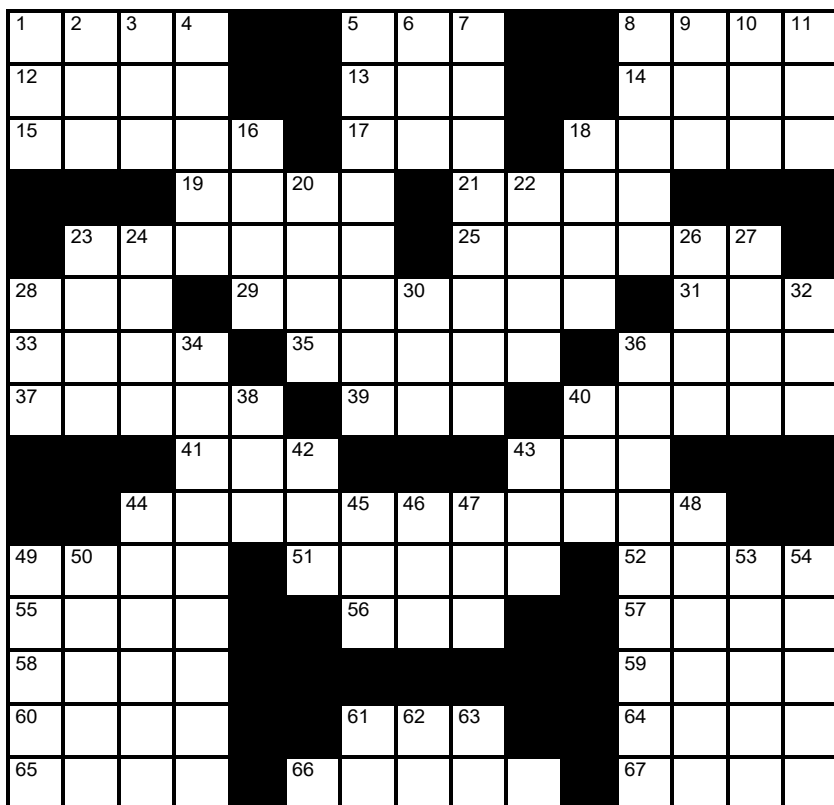
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The solving of the puzzles will no longer put you in contention for a Reader T-shirt and hat.

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

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Across

1. Yearn (for)
5. Work ____ sweat
8. Ophthalmologists call it a hordeolum
12. Pastoral poem
13. Neither's partner
14. "Suuuuure"
15. Thanksgiving pie choice
17. Dietary guideline letters
18. More than needed
19. Painter Magritte
21. Bargaining ____
23. With 25-Across, children's entertainer who famously wears a 56-/61-Across
25. See 23-Across
28. Suffix with senator or president

29. Emmy-winning scientist who famously wears a 56-/61-Across
31. "The Matrix" hero
33. Nursery bed
35. Some jeans
36. A little bit of everything?
37. Nobel Prize laureate ____ Ishiguro
39. Performed
40. Contacting privately via Twitter or Instagram
41. "Quiet!"
43. Untruth
44. Comedy legend who famously wore a 56-/61-Across
49. "Peek-____!"
51. Rent-____ (purchasing

- option)
52. Bibliography abbr.
55. L'homme upstairs?
56. With 61-Across, fashion accessory depicted by the arrangement of black squares at the bottom of this puzzle's grid
57. ____ Nostra
58. Water under the drawbridge
59. Cut drastically
60. Backside, as the Brits call it
61. See 56-Across
64. Financial aid factor
65. Pickleball dividers
66. Frog habitats
67. "With God ____ witness ..."

Down

1. ChapStick target
2. Sappho's "____ to Aphrodite"
3. MoMA's home
4. Harsh light
5. Let out, as a fishing line
6. Okra unit
7. Scorpion, e.g.
8. Dinner time, for some
9. Hashtag accompanying a nostalgic photo
10. "Oh, quit ____ bellyachin'!"
11. In-flight announcement, for short
16. Novice, informally
18. The Emerald Isle

20. Author Gaiman
22. Casual greetings
23. Prefix w/military or medic
24. Part of QE2: Abbr.
26. Opposed to
27. Like superbright colors
28. "Eww"
30. Super Bowl of 2022
32. "!!!!"
34. Certain urban maps
36. Apple pie, campaign buttons and such
38. "Well, what do we have here?!"
40. ____ de los Muertos
42. Crude shack

43. K-O connection
44. Transfer from Stanford to Princeton, say
45. Corn discard
46. "Woo-____!"
47. "That hu-u-u-urts!!!"
48. Popular new holidays gifts of 2001
49. TV's Don Draper, e.g.
50. "Free your pores" brand
53. "____ to recall ..."
54. Household name?
61. "____ Kill a Mockingbird"
62. Out's opposite
63. "Shape of You" singer Sheeran

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

MEDIUM:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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

Not a Game

— On Dec. 11 in Katwe Kabatoro, Uganda, a 2-year-old boy was playing near a lake when a hungry, hungry hippo "grabbed ... the boy from his head and swallowed half his body," the *Telegraph* reported. Bystander Chrispas Bagonza witnessed the event and started chucking rocks at the hippo, which caused it to spit the toddler out. As the beast lumbered away, onlookers rushed the child to the hospital, where he was treated for injuries sustained in the attack. Police warned residents in the area to be on the lookout for the hippo, as they can become aggressive when they feel threatened.

Awesome!

— This week's "And What the Heck Have YOU Done?" story comes from Golden, Colorado, and 8-year-old Maddock Lipp. On Dec. 1, *The Denver Post* reported, Lipp skied with his family on Mount Heogh in Antarctica, achieving in his short lifetime a big feat: He has skied on all seven continents and is unofficially the youngest person to do so. Lipp said he liked Antarctica best because he "got to ski next to the penguins." He hopes to nab a Guinness World Record for the accomplishment.

Extreme Measures

— An Argentinian soccer superfan became alarmed on Dec. 13 as he headed home to watch his team's match with Croatia in the World Cup semifinals, *Oddity Central* reported. The 53-year-old was frustrated at the slow progress of the bus he was riding, so when

the driver stopped and stepped out to buy something at a kiosk, the soccer fan allegedly hopped into the driver's seat and took off toward his home. He drove about 4 miles, then abandoned the bus and its occupants and continued on foot. But police officers caught up with him and took him into custody — and he missed the whole game.

Bright Idea

— Even as it was naturally going out of style, the name Karen took a big hit in the last few years, when it suddenly became synonymous with an entitled, demanding, complaining woman. But one British TV and radio personality can't bear to see the moniker disappear completely, so he has a plan, *LAD Bible* reported. Matt Edmondson has vowed to pay 100 people to legally change their name to Karen, with the hope that they'll keep it relevant. What's the catch? He'll only pay you the standard fee to have your name changed, about \$51. In addition, he's launching a board game called -- you guessed it! -- Karen.

Art = Pain

— Elito Circa, 52, a Philippine artist, creates his paintings with an unusual medium: his own blood. Circa told Reuters that using his blood started when he was young and had little access to painting supplies. Now he sources his "paint" every three months when he goes to Manila's health clinic to have 500 ml extracted, which he stores in a cooler in his studio. "My artwork is very important to me because they come from me, it is from my own blood, my DNA is part of it," Circa said.

Mistaken Identity

— Police officers in London were summoned to Laz Emporium, an art gallery, on Nov. 25 after a call about a "person in distress," *Sky News* reported. In a gallery window, the figure of a woman could be seen slumped over, with her face in a bowl of soup. Officers broke into the gallery, only to find that the "woman" was a mannequin, and the scene was art. The American artist, Mark Jenkins, created the piece, titled "Kristina," on a commission from the gallery's owner, Steve Lazarides. Turns out these officers weren't the first to be fooled; paramedics were called out to assist the woman in October.

Your Tax Dollars at Work

— Someone aboard the USNS Yuma, a Navy transport ship moored on the Greek island of Crete, is having a superior bathroom experience, thanks to the installation of the Bio Bidet BB-1000, *The Washington Free Beacon* reported on Dec. 12. At a cool \$553, the BB-1000 offers a heated seat, blow dryer, remote control, deodorizer and an "effective enema function," which a retailer called "the absolute strongest spray pressure of any electronic bidet seat on the market." The Military Sealift Command confirmed the purchase but declined to offer more details.

Bright Idea

— A homeowner in East Grand Forks, Minnesota, was puzzled when he discovered five bullet holes in the siding of his house, along with another in his son's bedroom window, the *Grand Forks Herald* reported. Police were summoned,

and they questioned a next-door neighbor, Michael James Powers, 76, who readily admitted that he'd been shooting at a squirrel that was on his bird feeder; as he put it, "Well, that's war." Powers was aiming from his own bedroom window, and said it wasn't the first time he'd shot at squirrels. He offered to go talk to "the other guy" and make it right, but officers had something different in mind: they arrested him for reckless discharge of a firearm. When Powers told his wife he was being arrested, she responded, "Well, I told you."

Wait, What?

— Cameron Newsom, 42, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, was treated for stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma on her tongue in 2013, the *New York Post* reported. Removing the tumor meant also removing part of her tongue, which doctors replaced with skin and muscle taken from her thigh. Through all of her experiences in treating the cancer, she said, "The weirdest part ... was when I felt a rough texture on the 'high' part of my tongue — and when I looked in the mirror, it had started growing leg hair!" Newsom had to learn to speak again and still finds eating a challenge, but she's back to being a gymnastics coach, even with her fuzzy tongue.

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- Premium Pads
- Most 4 cylinder Cars + tax

\$179
Free Inspection

TRANSMISSION SERVICE

Includes filter, pan gasket, fluid, most cars, From
+ tax & hazardous materials fee

\$179

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

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

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

\$149

TUNE-UP & OIL CHANGE

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

\$95⁹⁵

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

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

Most cars



\$64⁹⁵

ALIGNMENT

4 wheel, toe adjustment only, most cars.

\$49

TIMING BELT

Call for price.

AC SERVICE

\$39

Most cars, freon extra

GENERAL AUTO REPAIR

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

Just off the 905 freeway • Se habla español

Offers good with this ad. Must present prior to service. Expires 3-6-23


Ask us about snap! financing



PREMIUM INDDOR \$30 1/8THS!
SPECIAL DEALS REGULARLY

DIME™ INDUSTRIES
KANHA
STIIIZY
froot
BUD RUSH DELIVERY
EST. 2019

WEST COAST CURE™
NOW ACCEPTING APPLE PAY 



SCAN FOR MENU

20% OFF FOR ALL FTP

CHECK OUT OUR DEALS

15% OFF EVERY SUNDAY

C9-0000359-LIC *non combinable

★ SATURDAY FEB 11TH ★ SAN DIEGO, CA ★

MARCH AND ASH
PADDY'S BADDIES
@PADDYSBADDIES

MEET PADDY THE BADDY PIMBLETT

MARCH AND ASH VISTA
11 - 12:30 PM
MISSION VALLEY
2 - 3:30 PM

RSVP MEET PADDY




★ **MERCH** ★ **GOODIES** ★

Know the risks associated with cannabis: marchandash.com/risks | C10-0000076-LIC, C10-0000636-LIC

GSG PL, INC. C10-0000298-LIC

Golden State Greens
Cannabis you can trust

WAKE N' BAKE!
20% OFF! 7:00AM - 8:00AM

GET IT DELIVERED IN AS QUICK AS - 30 MINUTES! -

\$10 EDIBLES
\$15 EIGHTHS NUG
\$12 EIGHTHS SHAKE

GET AN 1/8TH FOR \$1 WITH ANY DELIVERY ORDER OVER \$100

MUST BRING THIS AD TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTS.

3452 Hancock Street | San Diego, CA 92110 | www.goldenstategreens.com | CALL FOR DELIVERY! 1-844-420-8387



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DISCOUNTS AND DISCOUNT DETAILS!



Harbor Collective

San Diego's Hottest And Most Trendy Dispensary

Alien Labs/Connected 1/8ths: **Buy 2 Get A Promo 1/8th for \$1 + Tax**

CRU 1/8ths: **Buy 2 Get A Promo 1/8th for \$1 + Tax**

Mlx & Match 1/2 OZs: **Zips, Chula, 2 for \$75 + Tax**

1oz (28g)
Zips
\$75
+ tax

1oz (28g)
flower
smalls
\$30
+ tax

Zips 6pk
Prerolls
2 for
\$25
+ tax

1 full
gram Zips
Cartridge
\$12
+ tax
(Limit 8)

ASCND Cartridge:
Buy 1 Get A
Promo
Cartridge for
\$1
+ tax

MARMAS
Gummies
2 for
\$14
+ tax

Must present Reader Ad. Cannot combine discounts. In-store only. While supplies last.

Top Brands Offering Demos & Special Promotions

24-HOUR SECURITY • ATM ON SITE

619-841-2045 • 2405 E. HARBOR DRIVE, 92113

(Just South of the Convention Center and the Gaslamp!)

Lic #C10-0000262

ORIGINALS



SAN DIEGO

PREMIUM CANNABIS GROWN BY OG⁵ FOR THE MASSES

6220 FEDERAL BLVD • 619-310-5232

SCAN ME



SCAN ME



In Store Deals

VALID FROM : 2/2-2/9 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



Flight

CULTIVATED BY
ORIGINALS

PREMIUM INDOOR FLOWER

1/2 OZ'S • \$60
\$64.65 OUT THE DOOR



STOP IN FOR MORE EXCLUSIVE SPECIALS
PLEASE BRING IN THIS AD OR TAKE A PIC TO GET THE DEALS LISTED

C10-0000775-LIC



Turn in this
coupon and get
25% off your next
purchase.*

25%
OFF

Valid through
02/11/2023

FIRST-TIME CUSTOMER DISCOUNT

The best first time customer discount in town.

FIRST VISIT **25% OFF**

SECOND VISIT **30% OFF**

THIRD VISIT **35% OFF**



Connect with us
online

SCAN ME

3703 Camino Del Rio S
San Diego, CA 92108

*COUPONS AND DISCOUNTS ARE NOT COMBINABLE WITH ANY OTHER PROMOTION.
RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

C10-0000213-LIC

BRING IN THIS COUPON TO SAVE

25% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE

EXPIRES 02/22/23



4645 DE SOTO ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92109

SAN DIEGO'S HIGHEST EXPERIENCE

C10-0000472-LIC



619-439-6457
7 DAYS, 7AM-9PM
JUNGLEBOYSSANDIEGO.COM

C10-0000904-LIC



Jungle Boys
SAN DIEGO

8160 PARKWAY DRIVE
LA MESA, CA 91942
RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET
FROM LA MESA COSTCO!



41% OFF
THE ENTIRE STORE

FIRST TIME CUSTOMERS ONLY

MUST PRESENT AD • EXCLUDES POPS • CANNOT COMBINE WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS

ALL CUSTOMERS

EVERYDAY PRICES!



Jungle Boys **POPS**

\$57²⁰
OUT THE DOOR PRICE

10G SMALLS



Jeeter **\$31⁹⁹**

BABY JEETER • OUT THE DOOR PRICE

AND



STIIIZY \$41²⁵

1G CLASSIC POD • OUT THE DOOR PRICE

**GUARANTEED LOWEST
PRICES IN LA MESA!**

STIIIZY *Jeeter* *Alien Labs* **CBX**
ColdFire *RAW GARDEN* *KIVA*

ALL OFFERS EXPIRE: 02/28/23



Backpackboyz



BACKPACKBOYZ

Sun Grown Flower

\$70

Per Ounce



**ALL
BACKPACKBOYZ**

1/8TH **\$25**

TRADITIONAL CO

**Buy Any Traditional Co 1/8th
Get a Sugar Pie PreRoll Free**

HIGH GARDEN

**Buy Any High Garden 1/8th
Get a Strawberry Ice PreRoll Free**

LOWELL

**Buy a 35s Joint pack
Get a Gorilla Diesel PreRoll Free**

JEETER

**Baby
Jeeter - \$25**

HASHISH

CONCENTRATE DRIP

**Buy 2
Get 1 Free**

STIIIZY

**Buy 2 Stiiizy Product
Get 1 Free 1/2g Pod**

CALI BANGER

**Buy Any Cali Banger
Item and Get 1 Free**

STIIIZY

**Buy 2 Multipacks
Get 1 Multipack Free**

**Infused PreRoll
of White
Chocolate Gelato**

**1/2 Gram - \$15
Full Gram - \$30
Disposable - \$20**

LIME

**Buy any Lime Product
Get 1 Free Gushers
Infused PreRoll**

THE CURE COMPANY

**Buy and Cure
Company 1/8th
Get 1 Free Cure Company
PreRoll**

HUSH

**Buy any Hush Product
Get 1 Free Orange Cream
Cookies Infused PreRoll**

KANHA

**Buy any 2 Kanha Gummies
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(Watermelon, Strawberry
Indica, Pink Guava)**

Scan for More Deals and Menu



8260 Parkway Dr, La Mesa, 91942

619-439-6370

Offers Good While Supplies Last. Expires 2/16/23

C10-0000772-LIC

MARCH AND ASH

Brand Daze

























UP TO

25% OFF

ALL MONTH LONG*

SELECT BRANDS

FEBRUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 	3 	4 
5 	6 	7 	8 	9 	10 	11 
12 	13 	14 	15 	16 	17 	18 
19 	20 	21 	22 	23 	24 	25 
26 	27 	28 	Learn more at MARCHANDASH.COM			



SEVEN LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

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Open Daily 7AM - 9PM
2835 Camino del Rio S
San Diego, CA 92108

CITY HEIGHTS
Open Daily 7AM - 9PM
2281 Fairmount Avenue
San Diego, CA 92105

CHULA VISTA TELEGRAPH
Open Daily 6AM - 10PM
684 Telegraph Canyon Rd
Chula Vista, CA 91910

CHULA VISTA H STREET
Open Daily 6AM - 10PM
885 East H Street
Chula Vista, CA 91910

VISTA
Open Daily 9AM - 10PM
2465 Dogwood Way
Vista, CA 92081

IMPERIAL VALLEY
Open Daily 8AM - 10PM
2433 Marshall Ave
Imperial, CA 92251

IMPERIAL BEACH
Open Daily 8AM - 10PM
740 Palm Ave
Imperial, CA 91932

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| Know the risks associated with cannabis: marchandash.com/risks | C10-0000076-LIC, C10-0000541-LIC, C10-0000636-LIC, C10-0000778-LIC, C10-0000887-LIC, C10-0000908-LIC, C10-0000984-LIC | RSP-22-01

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Rated San Diego's Best Implant Dentist by San Diego Magazine!

New Teeth Today! Same Day Dental Implants!

New
Patient
Dental Exam
Includes cleaning
and X-Rays

\$99

(\$450 value)
in absence of
periodontal disease.

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Dentistry**

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Premium Implant Package **\$2,499**

(Strictly Limited Time) implant fixture, custom milled abutment,
solid zirconia crown, free dental CT scan.
Implants from \$62/month OAC & 60 months financing.

Hybrid All-On-4 from **\$13,999** NO MORE DENTURES!

ALL YOUR DENTAL NEEDS IN ONE LOCATION!

Implants, Braces, Veneers, Invisalign, Crowns, Zoom Whitening, Periodontics,
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Saturday Appointments Available • Se Habla Espanol

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Is a Loma Linda University Graduate • Is a Diplomat at International Academy of Dental Implantology

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619-404-0061
SmileDesignerSanDiego.com

University Dental (College Area)
6324 University Ave, San Diego, 92115
619-319-9640
UniversityDentalSanDiego.com

* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply.
Offers good through 3-6-23. **No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anaesthesia may still be required.
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Most Insurances Accepted • Same-Day & Early Evening Appointments Available • Free Second Opinion Consultation • Financing & Payment Plans Available
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Cannabis



25% OFF

FOR VETERANS ALL DAY EVERY DAY



DELIVERY AVAILABLE IN ALL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY





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Cannabis



FIRST-TIME PATIENT DEAL



50% OFF STIIIZY
Flower and OG pods

50% OFF JEETERS
All Jeeters products

40% OFF CANNABIOTIX
All Cannabiotix products



DELIVERY AVAILABLE IN ALL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY



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Contribute to the expansion of Jaxx Cannabis by participating in our REG A+ capital raise, Weed4thePeople. With an investment share as low as \$4.20, you can be a part of an organization that is taking the cannabis market to the next level.

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