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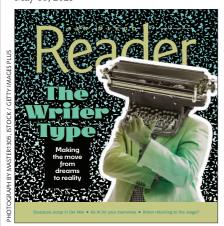
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May 18, 2023



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIIUANA

The perilous passage to Playas

Being stuck in traffic is worse when the road might collapse

One month has passed since a landslide took place at El Mataderom, the cliff upon which the road to Playas de Tijuana was built. The road, part of a project to connect Playas with downtown Tijuana, was opened to the public in 1960. But the passage of time, a lack of proper maintenance, and the heavy rainfalls this year have caused severe problems for residents of Playas. Now, the municipality has closed one of the lanes, which is at great risk of collapse, while working on replacing the water pipeline with a bigger one. Traffic



Tijuana sees your Solana Beach bluff collapse and raises.

she said. "There are mothers that need to take

their kids to schools, people that need to go to the hospital. This affects all our daily lives, and we haven't seen any plans for a long-term

"We know the government has no money for it ... But what we need here is a bridge."

congestion has doubled the time for neighborhood drivers to get in or out of the area. And the constant fear of the road collapsing while underneath commuters trying to make it home has locals concerned about how the government will handle this situation.

Gabriela Guinea, a local activist in Playas, has worked with her neighbors to document that when the repair work is not being watched by police, heavy semi trucks are driving through, despite the danger. "We feel unsafe with how city hall is dealing with this,"

solution. We are above the vehicle density this road was meant for. We know the government has no money for it, and has always chosen the cheapest solution. But what we need here is a bridge."

Guinea and other neighbors have tried since 2021 to establish communication with Mayor Monserrat Caballero. They want to complain about the secrecy of a real estate project building in Playas which they believe will make congestion worse. But the mayor hasn't responded, and the only way they think



The traffic congestion has now doubled the time for neighborhood drivers to get through the area.

the municipality will hear them out is if they protest. "We are getting organized to get the mayor's attention with a demonstration to highlight the importance of thinking about long-term solutions that could build a bridge once and for all. If the local government has no money to do so, they can ask for aid from the federal one. That's their job, isn't it?"

now lower, we need to spend more money on gas, and we are afraid of a collapse while in the traffic. There is no way to run, you know?"

IVAN MOLINA

DEL MAR

Octetra objections Will public art mar Del Mar?

A proposal to put a modern sculpture by an acclaimed artist outside the Del Mar Civic Center nearly died two weeks ago — before the public could even weigh in. "I'd rather just rip the Band-Aid off now," said deputy mayor Dan Quirk, indicating that he thought the whole issue was too divisive to remain on the table. But after a heated exchange about everything from how the art would take away public space to how it might

block sunset views, the Del Mar City Council voted 3-2 to proceed to a 60-day public comment phase.

In April, as opposition mounted to what would, if installed, be the city's first permanent outdoor art, the council decided to increase that public comment period from 30 to 60 days. They also decided to install



"Not Ferrari red" — but chosen with children mind!

There are only two ways in and out of Playas. The second access point presents its own traffic problems, because there are several bottlenecks in overpopulated neighborhoods before drivers can even get close to the exit. Gregorio Ramirez, a public transport driver, explained that since his transportation service is provided by a company under a government concession, their wages are based on the number of round trips they are able to make daily. Thus they have seen their incomes affected directly because of the slow traffic. "I don't think they will finish the repairs in seven months as they have said," he lamented. "It will be more likely to for them to finish it in seven years. Though our incomes are

"story poles" to clearly show the size of the proposed pieces, and to add a "none of the above" option to their surveys, in case anyone disliked all the possible sculptures. But that wasn't enough to quiet critics who saw the permanent art installation, which would be donated to the city, as a liability, one that would require maintenance and reduce public space, and could pose a safety risk to children who climbed it. "If you're going to have something permanent, it really needs to be widely vetted, not by a small group of people," said Laura DeMarco, a former member of the San Diego Museum of Art collections committee.

The arts advisory committee, which

continued on page 3

advises the city on public art projects, was recommending *Octetra*, a sculpture by the renowned late artist Isamu Noguchi. Other options were *Play Sculpture*, also by Noguchi, and *Celeste* by Carol Bove. While the committee has brought temporary art to various locations around town, this would be the first community-owned art the committee has helped to install, said artist and committee member Karla Leopold. "Looking

grounds and offered ideas, helping them settle on three "world-class sculptures." *Octetra*, an eight-foot-high see-through pyramid of bright red structures, was chosen with children in mind, said committee member Julie Maxey-Allison. "It's very interactive." Concerns that children might fall from the piece would be addressed by a risk analysis, a city report said. The committee also fielded questions about the sculpture's color — "Not Ferrari red" — as well as its material and transparency.

Del Mar's version of the piece would be fiberglass and manufactured by the Isamu Noguchi Foundation, Grossman said. Earlier

"If you're going to have something permanent, it really needs to be widely vetted, not by a small group."

at the surrounding towns: La Jolla, Encinitas, Oceanside, which are all filled with community art" — including museums, workshop spaces, and art education — "I hang my head." Art brings people together and draws visitors to town, she added. "Somehow, Del Mar seems to have missed the message." Leopold reminded the council that they were the ones who created an art committee to advise them on art-related issues. "As a member of that committee, I'm advising you that the art we're presenting to you today will put Del Mar on the art map."

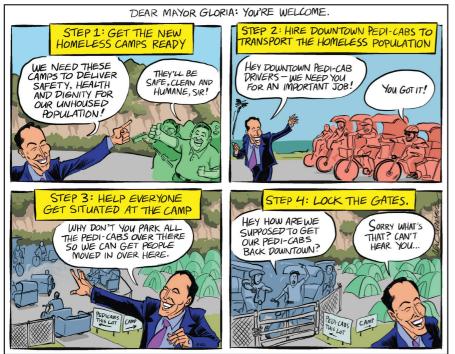
Finding art that would be a fit for the site was a seven-year mission, said Bonnie Grossman, the committee's chair. They finally hired New York art consultant Vivian Brodie, who walked the Civic Center

versions of *Octetra* were made of concrete and other materials in other locations. There are about 12 total around the world. Answering concerns that the work might not be able to withstand the local climate, she replied, "Sailboats are made out of fiberglass, and they're in the water all the time."

Harder to answer were claims that the sculpture is just wrong for the town. "Futuristic modern design does not feel right at all for Del Mar," read one comment. Councilmember Dwight Worden, who supported the work, said the city has heard from nearly as many who are fiercely opposed as those who are in favor, and observed, "If we're looking for noncontroversial art, we're dreaming."

SHEILA PELL

Neal Obermeyer



UNDER THE RADAR

Pot and trash talking La Mesa Vice Mayor Colin Parent, CEO of self-styled pro-transit nonprofit Circulate San Diego, has of late been under the microscope for soliciting \$700,000 over the past five years for Circulate from a host of special interests that do business in La Mesa, including San Diego Gas & Electric, Byrd, and Lyft. "California does require that donations that elected officials help solicit to a nonprofit be disclosed to the public through a behested form," Parent, who

was paid \$141,000 in 2021 by Circulate, told the *Union-Tribune* May 7. "I carefully follow those requirements and file all the necessary behested forms." According to the *U-T* report, Parent "says he has recused himself from voting on any issues that present direct conflicts between his work and fundraising for Circulate San Diego and his public service as an elected official."

Meanwhile, at least one elected official in another small city has also taken advantage of the so-called behesting practice to raise cash for his favorite cause, which happens to be himself. A Behested Payment Report filed by Chula Vista Mayor John McCann on February 27 shows he solicited \$5000 from Awin Management Inc. of Scottsdale, Arizona to cover the costs of his December 13, 2022 "Swearing-In Ceremony & Reception for Mayor and Council." Awin is an affiliate of Republic Services, Chula Vista's trash pickup provider. Last summer, when McCann was on the council, the city and Republic cut a controversial deal to cover the costs of a Teamsters strike, per a July 3 *U-T* account. On February

1, he got \$4000 from San Diego Gas & Electric for the swearing-in. He also colleced \$5000 each from Seven Mile Casino and developer HomeFed, as well as \$10,000 from March and Ash, a city-licensed pot dispensary. Per the *U-T*, March and Ash was a client of Grassroots Resources, a campaign consulting outfit run by **Jesus Cardenas**, who quit last month as top honcho to San Diego city council Democrat

Stephen Whitburn after the paper reported that Grassroots Resources had been suspended by the state, apparently for back taxes.

New School problems Downtown's NewSchool of Architecture and Design, long troubled by board turmoil, financial shortcomings, and plunging enrollment, has been warned by the WASC Senior College and University Commission that its accreditation is hanging in the balance. Noting that the NewSchool "has

experienced serious financial problems with total operating expenses exceeding total revenues for the past two years," a March 17 letter to interim president **Chiaoling Hsu** adds that "enrollment has shown a significant downward trend over the last six years, falling short of overly optimistic projections." In addition, "the board has experienced significant disruption, turnover, and diminution in size and capacity." The once-vaunted design school now faces a sanction period, not to exceed two years, to repair

the damage. "If an institution has not remedied the deficiencies at the conclusion of this sanction period," per the letter, "The Commission is required, under U.S. Department of Education regulations, to withdraw the institution's accreditation or extend the timeframe for good cause shown. The extension may not exceed two years."



Colin Parent: following the behested request.

Public polling politics As the political season

ramps up, attorneys for the state's Fair Political Practices Commission have signed off with a few warnings about an effort by San Diego County Supervisor **Terra Lawson-Remer** to have local taxpayers pick up the substantial tab for professional polling in her district. "The County may use public funds to conduct a survey among constituents to gauge support or opposition to local issues in order to inform the Supervisor's agenda so long as the survey does not constitute campaign activity. Additionally, should the results be used for a political purpose, it may qualify the County as a committee and it would incur reporting requirements under the Act," says an April 7 letter of advice from FPPC General

Counsel **Dave Bainbridge** to Senior Deputy County Counsel **David Stotland**. "From the facts provided, it appears the aim of the survey is to gather information from constituents regarding the policy and legislative issues of interest to residents of the district." Adds the opinion: "While the survey is likely to identify the Supervisor as it is squarely focused on the constituents of her district, this is not the type of activity typi-



cally considered to be campaign-related barring additional information indicating a relationship to a campaign other than the mere fact that the official is an elected official. Note, however, that each communication must be assessed on a case-by-case basis considering the entirety of the message and the factual context in which the communication is made."

Stotland also asked "whether public funds may be used to survey constituents within the $\it continued on page 13$

LETTERS

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

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

University Heights neighbors steaming over eight-story newbie

Neighborhood News, Apr. 18, 2023 Nice informative article -Apprecianado April 18, 2023

8 stories on that block is ridiculous. I can understand that height on El Cajon Blvd. or even with a larger lot, but it makes no sense in that spot. Definitely concerned when

they say there's plans for

40 or 50 more of those.
-Good Sensor
April 18, 2023

Very exciting to finally see this progress in the community. If there really are 50 of these going up nearby we will finally see some stabilization in rent and home prices. We are decades behind in housing construction, and as a result we have seen the prices of homes and rents skyrocket. If we can all get behind these projects we can really make San Diego a community for all again. I hope every community, particularly around Balboa and Uptown can see 50 or more of these go up. Making true dense and walkable communities that can allow the neighborhoods to thrive like never before.

-Dream Liver April 18, 2023

I 100% agree. The only way we are going to get out of the housing crisis is with we get projects like this built in mass. This will mean at least 49 people (and probably more like 70-80) that want to live in

the neighborhood won't be bidding up the value of all the single-family homes in the area or the existing apartments. And if we get 50 more projects than you're looking at 2500-3500 less and if you multiply that by every community across San Diego and continue that for the next decade than we might actually get to a point where it's affordable to live in San Diego as landlords won't have the ability to constantly raise rents if we can get supply to keep pace with demand.

-Housing Crisis Counselor April 18, 2023

San Diego is becoming primarily a gay community and housing construction should be oriented to the needs of the gay community, and not those of legacy residents raising children in single-family homes. Construction of large dense high rises within walking distance of bars and restaurants is necessary for full realization and fulfillment of the gay lifestyle. Many more gays are coming to San Diego and affordable space must be made for them to live as a matter of social equity and to rectify past homophobia. Socialism is also on the horizon and single-family homes must be razed and replaced with government-subsidized high-rises to provide people of color with housing equity as compensation for past discrimination. Areas like Fresno, Las Vegas, and Sacramento still exist for those who want to own single-family residences and raise families. Mayor Gloria understands this and has implemented gay-centric and equity-oriented development policies which are long overdue. The mayor has been thwarted in his efforts by a coalition of legacy whites and climate change denialists who cling to their 1950s vision of an America

of white picket fences and

single-family homes.

nomes. -Fully Woke April 18, 2023

These commenters must write for *The Onion*, as none of these people exist in reality (seriously, are these comments satire?).

- 1. Demand for housing will NEVER decrease in San Diego, as it is pleasant to live here (for the time being). Thus, housing will NEVER become affordable, because demand will always be higher than supply. Want evidence? Take a look at Los Angeles.
- 2. People do not have a god-given right to live in San Diego. If you want density, move to Chicago or NYC. If you like quiet suburban housing developments of single family homes, pay for a very high priced home in San Diego. Don't have that kind of money? Move someplace else. Just about anywhere else in the entire country provides affordable single-family homes.
- 3. Stop voting Democrat. Please, can moderate individuals who do not want to change the character of our communities; can stop pandering to drug addicts that cannot afford any kind of housing, regardless of the cost; can discontinue the force feeding of density into our communities, while being unable to simply fix potholes, talk about plan for all the cars this new density will bring; please, can someone who can actually manage a city, rather than virtue signal, please can you run for office. You will have my vote.

-Steven B April 18, 2023

Developers are big buyers of politicians. Nothing new here. Corruption rules!

> -Hail Caeser April 19, 2023

Entitlement is so ugly.

-Under-entitled
April 19, 2023

That's being delusional to think the prices for rent and home ownership will decrease or level out. When a very small lot, 2,235 sq. ft. in North Park, with an older house on it is listed for sale for 1.2 mil, and appeals to the developers, by the time they pay a million plus for the dirt, demo the house, compact the soil, build a multi story anything, pay the interest and payment on their construction loan, the rent is not going to be cheap enough for minimum wage earners, Social Security, Disabled, welfare recipients, to afford. The developers are not in the game as a hobby, they have to make a profit or they won't build. Even when they start to go belly up, because they can't break even at the end of the month due to vacancy, or high rents, due to high development costs, and can't make their payments the banks don't want to be in the rental business, so they will stop loaning, which will keep the rents high.

-B-Real April 19, 2023

That is why we need socialism, a guaranteed monthly income, and free medicare for all. Average people will never be able to afford rents in San Diego without government assistance. The government should build and own the high-rises and provide free rentals to victims of capitalism and structural racism. Forcing entitled classes to pay more for electricity based on income so the poor get free electricity is only a start. Similar plans should be implemented with regard to cable TV, internet access, cell phones, college tuition. air travel, etc. Getting rid of the SAT which forced poor students to compete against students from wealthy families who could afford SAT camp and private tutors is also a step toward achieving equity. Social equity factors should be used to determine who should repay their student loans. California and the U.S. is going socialist and there is nothing the wealthy can do to stop it.

o to stop it. -Hail Castro April 20, 2023

A 2,000 or 3,000 even 5,000 dollar a month apartment is far, far, far more affordable than a 1.2 million dollar house. We don't necessarily even need prices to drop though they will if we build "enough" supply we just need more affordable options of which apartments are relative to the single family homes they are replacing. No this is not a minimum wage earners place to live but it's great for a young working professional who can't afford a single family home yet.

Los Angeles builds even less

housing than San Diego in

-Maximum wager April 20, 2023

relative terms. We need a dramatic increase in supply and even if never surpasses or even if it demand increases even more relative to supply; building new units and a diverse set of unit types in all neighborhoods is a great thing for optionality, for improvement in the safety of the construction and amenities offered, etc. I agree, but not everyone here including high earners want a singlefamily home. But objectively we need a diverse set of earners to function as a city. A waitress working her way through college is not going to be able to buy a single-family home, but she could live in an apartment, and I imagine most people such as the commenters here would probably prefer they do so instead of overfilling a single family home with six renters.

Fair to question elected officials; lots of problems here.

-Question the authorities April 20, 2023

Bullets for the Bully

City Lights, May 20, 2004

Excellent news but how can't change those flip flops.

-Fashion Questioning March 18, 2023

Sneaking kiosks with ads into downtown San Diego

Neighborhood News, May 2, 2023 Who got paid off to allow this trash?

-Not on my sidewalk May 4, 2023

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Hammer of the Gods: The Led Zeppelin Saga

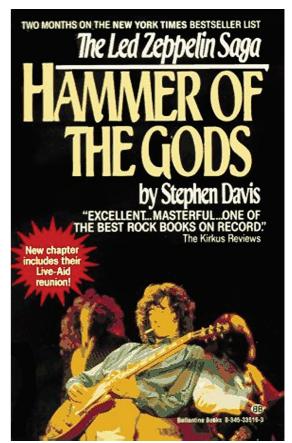
Stephen Davis, 1985

THE DRESSING ROOM of the San Diego Sports Arena was a madhouse. The band changed into its stage clothes amid a jumble of roadies, well-wishers, and local record and radio executives trying to introduce their children. Robert [Plant] called for tea and honey, ignoring the mountain of fried chicken, fresh fruit, and crates of fans' gifts piled in a corner. Just as they were about to go on, Led Zeppelin piled into a washroom for a bit of blow in privacy. Then they hit the stage with "Rock and Roll" and the San Diego Sports Arena erupted. The crowd immediately flattened the seats and pressed up close to the stage like netted fish. As the show heated up, dozens of girls were hoisted on their boyfriends' shoulders. Many of the girls took off their halter tops and wiggled their bare breasts at the band, causing a stampede backstage as the roadies scrambled to get a look. Gradually Zeppelin's avowed Apollonian intent reverted to a Dionysiac bawdiness. People fainted and were either trampled underfoot or passed over to the crowd to the security men in front of the stage. The sheer body heat inspired the band. Jimmy [Page] whanged into the rarely played "The Crunge" and manipulated the theramin with wild shamanistic gestures. Robert constantly pleaded for order, and the show turned into a masterpiece. As the band left the stage for the last time after an hour of encores, a huge white-hot neon sign at the rear of the stage lit up the hall with its undeniable message: LED ZEPPELIN.

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"Dozens of girls were hoisted on their boyfriends' shoulders. Many of the girls took off their halter tops and wiggled their bare breasts at the band, causing a stampede backstage as the roadies scrambled to get a look."







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Personal.ai cofounders Kristine Kaiser (left), Suman Kanuganti, and Sharon Zhang

Memory machine

"It's almost like an infant," says Jonathan Bickoff. It's a refreshingly simple take on one of the most tortured topics currently getting bandied about among La Jolla's digi-pioneering crowd: AI. Artificial Intelligence: an evolution-leaping phenomenon which, some say, threatens to make mankind a primitive sidekick to technology within the decade.

But here is Bickoff, talking all warm and fuzzy about a

new, highly personal evolution of AI. A kind which promises to evolve alongside you. Like any infant's mind, it arrives empty, until you start filling it up with your experiences and thoughts. The warm, fuzzy part is knowing that those experiences and thoughts will never go away, never get forgotten — and will remain easily accessible in the bargain. "Imagine if you could have the answer to anything you once knew," reads *Personal.ai*'s web intro, "or could recall every detail about your conversations, without endless scrolling or searching. Your personal AI is the digital library of you."

Bickoff says the genesis for all this came back in 2020, before the arrival of all these recent AI companies (they say there are 150+ in San Francisco alone, and maybe three in San Diego). It started with Bickoff's boss Suman Ganuganti's last company, called Aira, head-quartered in La Jolla and built around the idea of augmenting the lives of blind and low-vision people. Similarly, he says, *Personal.ai* is about augmenting memory, another frail and fallible human trait. "And memory is obviously something that's incredibly personal."

The event that catalyzed this seed of an idea was also incredibly personal: "It happened when [Suman's] mentor and business partner Larry Bock passed away from pancreatic cancer — pretty rapidly," Bickoff says, adding



Jonathan Bikoff

that Suman missed not only Bock's presence — the emotional attachment — but alsohis more intellectual aspects: the knowledge, the advice. "He had the insights. And it occurred to Suman that much of this could be reproduced and trained into an AI model, with each of us developing our own personal AIs, like video diaries" — as opposed to large, external, enterprise AIs which have no memory. "Nobody had done it, and still today, nobody

else has done it," he says. "The only personal language model that exists is ours: Generative Grounded Transformer, as opposed to the most popular language model, which is GPT, Generative Pre-trained Transformer. That middle word is important to note: Large Language Models" — LLMs, the basis for most current AI — "are pre-trained. Whereas our models arrive empty, and so become grounded in up-to-date text, up-to-date data."

Also, with large language models, the data set is pretty massive. It can take weeks, Bickoff says, or even months, to train a large language model, and the data set is usually public or generic data, things that are out on Twitter, NVIDIA, or Google, Wikipedia etc. "But LLMs are incapable [of building up quick, incremental knowledge of you], or at least not trained on proprietary data, meaning anything that is not on the web. So with Personal.ai, the biggest difference comes from that training data set: our day-to-day lives and creations. Where LLM generic AI is trained on public data, our model is trained on personal data. And we have a three-year start on any competition."

Personal.ai's website continues, "Estimates suggest that 20 percent of our workday is spent searching for information, not to mention time spent capturing it. Our goal in our approach

is to reduce the time people spend looking for information by creating an ambient recall experience." Is it going to take off? Already, before its launch on May 11th, Bickoff says his company has a 40,000-strong waiting list of potential customers.

Here's hoping they can keep all that personal info locked away from the bad guys.

Book space as happy place

"McKinley Elementary's library hadn't been updated since 1970," says interior designer Heather Vitti Pruett. "Fifty years!" Then, back in 2018, Pruett suddenly found herself in a position to do something about that, after she enrolled her daughter Riadon at the South Park school. "I decided that I wanted to get involved in the PTA, or PTC — Parent Teachers' Club — and it just so happened that at my

age/organization, book cases. The kids went around to each and every class, took all of these images to all of the classrooms, and we did what was called The School Votes. Every student, every teacher got to vote, down to kindergarten: 'Which image do you like the best?' They counted up the votes; I took the top three of each category, and used that in the implementation of the design."

Cut for a two-year covid hiatus, and arrive at last year, when, with a new student library committee in place, Pruett took a second run at the project. "I came up with a PowerPoint presentation, where I talked about the principles of design, and it was really cool to see the kids using that. Everything that you see in there was selected by the kids: the carpet, the paint, the furniture. I treated them the same I would any other client. I brought them three different options of, for instance, flooring:

"I watched the kids come in, sit down. They couldn't stay in one place, because the layout was boring."

first PTC meeting, the principal announced the Beautification Committee was going to be doing a library remodel. I thought, 'This is great. It's right up my alley.' So I went and talked to Deb [Ganderton, the then-principal of McKinley], and basically volunteered to take over the project."

And she did. Except, if you listen to her, it seems the school's kids were the ones who really took over. "First, I sat in the library and watched. I watched the kids come in, sit down. They couldn't stay in one place, because the layout was just boring. There was no real interest. I talked with the teachers, I did questionnaires, I did interviews. I also wanted to get the kids' perspective. So Deb sent out something to the other teachers, and soon kids aged 8-11 formed a student committee and volunteered! I said, 'Let's get concept images.' Well, these kids found about 150 [library] images. I took them and separated them into categories of library design: architectural details, seating, storpurple, green, gray. The one that got installed was the one that they picked. From there, we went into teams. And the kids [took] the paint and the fabric, and they were holding them up against each other."

It was all hands to the pump. She even painted the student-chosen octagonal circulation desk herself. Pruett says that her "we can do this" approach also drastically cut costs. Example: she actively wheeled and dealed with suppliers — Interface Carpet Company donated the carpet, Sherwin Williams gave them paint at half off — shamelessly sought and used parent volunteerism, and donated much of her own labor, working weekends for months. Result? "The projected budget was \$200,000. We did it for \$60,000."

But did the effort make a difference? "I went back, on a library day, to see the kids in action. And they were really happy. They wanted to grab books, they wanted to sit at the cool furniture. And so they should. These kids helped design this library."



Heather Vitti Pruett: redesigned library for \$16K, a quarter of projected cost



McKinley's library after kid-directed redesign

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San Diego Reader May 18, 2023

Making the move from dreams to reality

hesitate to admit this, but much of my writing is rooted in dreams. Before your eyes roll L back in your head and you start struggling with whether or not to feign interest — you know, the way you do when someone starts breathlessly relating the crazy dream they had last night in all its interminable, incomprehensible detail — let me explain. As an English Lit major at UCSD in the early '80s, I jotted down both dreams and nightmares and used them as frameworks for short stories, poetry, flash prose, and even a few creative nonfiction shorts. I used — and still use — imagery from dreams as cornerstones during construction. When I'm someone else in a dream, I scribble down what I see through a stranger's eyes. I keep editing to a minimum until the piece coalesces.

I avoid tricky interpretations. The reader should have the opportunity to interpret without an implied author hovering overhead.

And while harvesting dreams made me feel as though I were cheating, imaginatively speaking — other students had sweated over their work for weeks, while I produced fresh pieces daily — the professors were generally impressed by my originality, and never quizzed me about process. While Allen Ginsberg's buddy Jerome Rothenberg was a visiting instructor, he appreciated my story about Galileo going blind while charting the moon. I didn't mind blending genres like horror and surrealism if that made the work compelling. I recall one about Darcy, my girl-friend, feeding a half-man/half-fish pages she had

ripped from my imagined chapbook. He was perched on a big round bed with purple sheets. He wiggled his fins and said "Fun, fun, fun" before grabbing her. Darcy resisted, at first. But in no time, they were rolling around on the bed like high school lovers. Darcy disliked it. She thought I was revealing intimate details.

It's not like dreambased writing doesn't require work. To begin with, there is the discipline of documentation. If I fail to write down a memorable dream immediately, it flies out the window and flutters away like a disoriented homing pigeon, lost forever. Whenever you snag something captivating, either through your conscious mind or the subconscious, don't let it loose. Document it. I write everything

down in a journal on my nightstand. If you suffer from writer's cramp, share it with your partner during donuts and coffee. Sometimes that sharing can brand it on your long-term memory.

There are other sorts of dreams: the kind that never leave us, waking or sleeping, the kind that embody our desires. Why was I considering a master's in creative writing? Why indeed. I'd just received my undergrad degree at UCSD and was sick of taking classes, especially since it was a six-year journey crossing the finishing line. And the time had come for me to buckle down and work. I took a job selling cars at Rancho Olds in Kearny Mesa, in part because Barry, my big brother, was numero uno at Mike Salta Pontiac in Honolulu and was raking in the big bucks.

I figured if I could sell half as many cars as he did, I'd be happy.

But I also knew, deep down, that it would be a false happiness. I'd been in love with writing since I was seven, when I sent my mother a letter from Moloka'i to Boston In that letter, I wrote about manure. dung beetles, and the ranch hand burning a dead horse. Gramma hated how my parents took separate vacations every summer, with my father putting in overtime at his Honolulu office while my mother frolicked in Beantown. But it gave me the impetus to write.

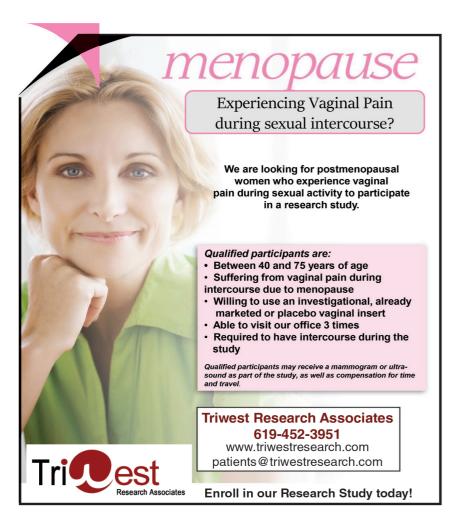
I lugged my dream and my passion for creation into the Olds dealership, where I yakked with fellow salesmen about writing. Usually, their eyes glazed over. Few of them read. Most picked up copies of *The* San Diego Reader only for coupons, or to check on dates for future events. I was the only college grad on the lot, except for the owner's son. I tried journaling at the dealership, but that didn't work, because you had to keep your eyes trained on the rows of new and used cars in a constant quest for ups. At least that part wasn't so bad; I loved turning on the jets to beat rivals to the customers. The manager kept an eye out for the most aggressive and rewarded them with demos and cash bonuses. The salesmen who were too shy or too lazy to pursue buyers vanished within 48 hours. There was a minimum wage safety net but, if you failed to exceed that with commissions, you were marked for termi-

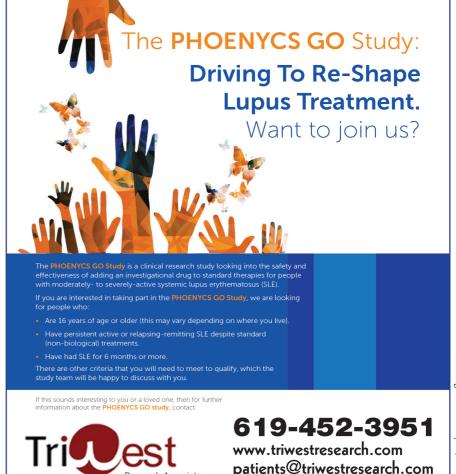
nation. I converted my

love for writing into a desire to win at sales, and it seemed to work, because I was top dog my first month. I would break the ice with shoppers by talking about growing up in Hawaii, including stories about my old man fighting in the South Pacific during World War II. I also weaved in tales about Gramma's life as a pioneer woman on Moloka'i. She'd been the first woman on the island to drive cattle for a living. I converted the shoppers into an audience — and at the same time, the telling and retelling of family histories fused those stories to my soul.

Barry congratulated me on my sales ability, suggesting that one day, I'd open my own "sled lot" of used cars and make a fortune. But big bro's praise made me feel hollow. I scolded myself for not doing something more important, an occupation that truly mattered. I wondered if I might be better off pursuing an advanced degree. My father suggested I apply to law school because I had written above average essays at UCSD, and he wanted me to do something practical with my life before I became a beach bum. He saw car sales as temporary, and a career best suited for the uneducated. I resisted. I disliked law, medicine, accounting, and teaching. Politics was a hotbed for crooks. As for the arts, I was lousy at most. I couldn't paint, draw, sing, act, or play the guitar. I lacked the patience needed for photography and film. All I could do was write.

During my UCSD days, I'd rubbed elbows





with visiting writers by assisting the University Events Office with airport-to-school shuttles. These artists had left marks on the world, and I wanted to do that, too. Perhaps I thought their abilities with the pen would pass to me through osmosis. Some were famous. Others clung to the fringes of fame. Members of the Beat Generation were considered gods by undergrads. Ginsberg, Kerouac, and Burroughs were the Big Three, but some of the Beats' shine rubbed off on those who had crossed paths with them, people like Ed Dorn and Robert Creeley. The Black Mountain poets were respected on campus, even if they did not share the same rung on the literary ladder as William Carlos Williams or Sylvia Plath.

Famous or otherwise, the writers and poets I shuttled rode shotgun in my Honda Z600 coupe, a pint-sized hatchback powered by a two-cylinder motorcycle engine. I drove it like a sports car up Interstate 5, switching lanes and weaving between vehicles that seemed the size of tanks. Outrider poet Anne Waldman kept her eyes shut. The Beat-adjacent Gary Snyder chewed gum nervously.

Occasionally, UEO slipped me some cash for entertainment, a few shekels to treat our guests to drinks and chips. I drove Snyder straight to Bali Hai on Shelter Island, where we shot tequila. Ginsberg thought I was an airhead; he told me to hunt down some pot pronto and was curious if I had any Asian pals he could meet. "Chinese or Japanese?" I asked. "Japanese," Ginsberg requested. I waited for Tell Me a Riddle author Tillie Olson while she shopped for a sympathy card at the airport gift shop. Hunter S. Thompson guzzled Wild Turkey from a chrome flask on our way to his gig at Revelle Cafeteria. He belched as he stumbled through campus, and confessed he was low on ammo. I gave him a tour of The Hump, a grassy knoll offering a bird'seye-view of the quad. "Get some 'shrooms," he said.

The writers kept coming. Bobbie Louise



Vonnegut (left) said he saw me (right) making it as a writer. "You're loose, Kirby," he said, "and that's a good thing.

Hawkins thanked me with a signed copy of Frenchy and Cuban Pete and rambled on about her lovelorn life with Creeley. I got a pep talk from Kurt Vonnegut on our drive back to Lindbergh Field;he told me that I reminded him of John Irving, his former student. Vonnegut said he saw me making it as a writer. "You're loose, Kirby," he said, "and that's a good thing. John was loose, too." Did Vonnegut mean I seemed relaxed and spontaneous? He hadn't read a single

word I'd written. Maybe he'd observed my joie de vivre after I announced I was going for a dip in his pool after checking him into the swanky La Valencia Hotel in La Jolla. I had swan-dived into the deep end, surfaced, and watched Vonnegut circle the pool, wringing his hands. After about ten circles, he'd flopped down on a lounge chair, lit a Pall Mall, and blown smoke through his nose.

He reminded me of a trial attorney about to present his case to the jury. I suggested we in-

Abbott

dulge in Black Russians before sunset. His soldout "So You Want To Be a Writer" talk was scheduled for seven sharp at the gym, and I figured a few drinks might relax him. I was right. Vonnegut avoided an attack of his dreaded Flop Sweat that occasionally derailed him at speaking engagements. His talk inspired me. He emphasized the importance of writing simple sentences, developing a consistent voice, and having the guts to cut out superfluous rants.

Hearing him, I wanted to be a writer more than ever. He answered questions thoughtfully. His jokes sent waves of laughter through the sea of fans.

The only glitch came after he was finished, when the adoring crowd swelled up and swept toward the stage for signatures. They pushed and pushed. Hands waved copies of Slaughterhouse-Five, Palm Sunday, and Cat's Cradle. All those bodies pressed in and pinned Vonnegut against the secondfloor railing. I knew a few more pushes would shove him over that railing and down two floors to the blacktop. I picked out the six biggest guys I could find wearing yellow Crowd Control shirts and had them form a protective halfcircle between Vonnegut and the advancing mob. "Push!" I told them. We had enough muscle to move the crowd back a few feet. I saw an opening and grabbed Vonnegut's forearm. I snuck him through a corridor and out an open door, and we scrambled down two flights of steps. We were alone in the night

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Kirby and Darcy at Del Mar Beach in the early '80s.

air. I was breathing hard. So was Vonnegut. We were like teammates who'd somehow snuck through a hoard of would-be tacklers to reach the open field. "Let's get whiskey, brother," he told me. "I know just the place," I replied. I'd read that Vonnegut liked dimly lit bars with lounge seating and drove him to Bully's in Bird Rock.

That was then, this was now. The days at Rancho Olds dragged on. Darcy said I seemed depressed. On the lot, I filled up balloons off the helium tank and tethered their strings to windshield wipers, side-view mirrors, and antennae. Once, I played the chivalrous knight and left the showroom to help a woman change a flat tire. I searched for distractions, encouraging a salesman who had worked as an Elvis impersonator to croon "You Ain't Nothin' But A Hound Dog" a cappella.

But no matter what I tried, I grew sick of that new car smell, and avoided test-driving the Oldsmobiles that had just rolled off the massive delivery trucks. Cars without histories bored me. I loved the beaters, those high mileage trade-ins that had locked in the odors of former owners — and their pets. Selling used cars became my thing, and I had fun with the customers. I told the children of a PB couple that gold doubloons had been hidden inside a used Volvo, and they scoured the back seat during our test drive. Fred Dean, the former defensive end for the Chargers, parked his jacked-up Nova out on the curb and wanted to test drive a red 1973 Stingray. He floored it on the 805 as I dug my fingernails into the dash. Upon returning to the dealership, fans spotted their long-lost hero and pulled over. The curb outside Rancho Olds was bumper to bumper and I waved at the showroom. Salesmen charged out. But the only things the locals wanted were Fred Dean autographs and the chance to see his Super Bowl ring.

It felt as though my literary aspirations were on life support. I started a journal. My first entry was "Kung Yee Fat Choy," a nightmare about Mr. Fong having his lung removed on New Year's Eve: "I'm waiting for that cold edge to razor cherry blossoms out of me. I've become a harvest of flowers, for doctors."

My mother asked why I never wrote about the car lot. I told her that day might come, although I knew sales and creative writing rarely mixed. I felt I should get more serious, so I bought an IBM Selectric II off a Hillcrest chiropractor for \$99, one with a willow-green casing freckled with rust spots. I moved a stack of magazines off my desk to make room for it, and fantasized about that first manuscript. I slid open the window and spotted the shingled roof of the Mission Bay Visitors' Center and the mobile home park behind it. The breeze kicked up, carrying with it the stench of outboard exhaust, kelp, and stagnant mud. My golden retriever howled from the backyard — I was late for our daily walk down to De Anza Cove.

I grabbed a wooden chair and stuck it in front of the Selectric, believing the Great American Novel would pour out of me like rain gushing from a spout. Nothing came. I leaned back in the chair. Still nada. I tapped a few keys for exercise. Over

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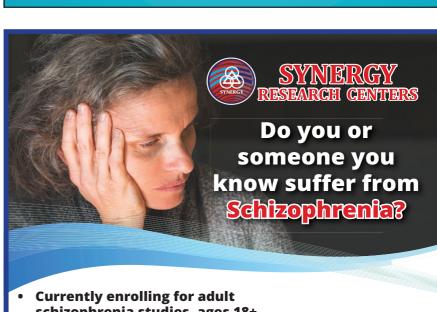
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the next two hours, not a single word registered on my onionskin paper. I shook my head. I was a fraud, a self-deceiver, and a poseur like one of those espresso-sippers out in front of the Pannikin on Girard Avenue. I revisited the Selectric every night after work for a week, sitting and waiting for the muse until twilight fireworks lit up the sky over Sea-World. Still nothing. Eventually, during an explosive grand finale on a Saturday night, something bled out onto the onionskin: PO-ETRY. Actually, it was prose poetry, since it lacked linear structure, but there was plenty of rhyme and above average imagery. The theme was lost love:

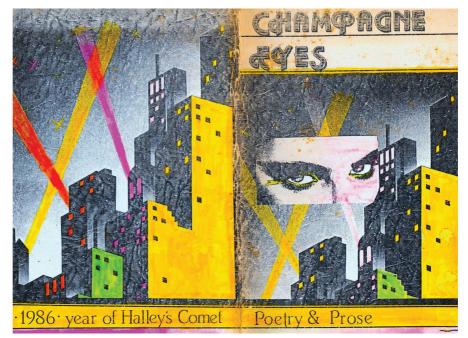
Love From A Distance

He loved her but she married another man and moved to another island. He often drove to the cliffs and stared out at the hump across the channel. He ran into her on her island. She'd been married two months and worked at the car rental. When she passed him his keys, their hands touched and there was a moment where anything was possible.

Then she told him she was expecting a baby. He hadn't noticed the bump at first but now he did. He asked for directions to his hotel. The highway skirted a pineapple field that stretched to the horizon. He was tempted to stop but the fruit was too small and green. As he drove east, he prayed the baby would never be born.

More prose poetry spilled onto the pages. I noticed a feeble attempt to balance humor with pathos, and cursed myself for mixing metaphors. My dialogue sucked. But flash fiction and poetry did seem to come naturally, so I kept going. I bought books by Rimbaud and Kafka at the Blue Door Bookstore in Hillcrest. I considered the life of Brownie, my grandmother, who died alone. She'd been a Waikiki girl all her life but chased a World War I vet to Moloka'i, motivated by his promise they'd marry if she could adapt to the rigors of country life. She hated remote Moloka'i Ranch but stuck it out, learning to shear sheep and to drive cattle.

I felt it was my duty to write as much about her as I possibly could from my string of thirteen straight summers



Darcy designed the cover of *Champagne Eyes*: Madonna's eyes hovering over the twilight cityscape of New York. The sky was webbed with searchlight beams. I hand-colored the covers to give the books a personal touch.

on her ranch. I crafted a rambling stream-ofconsciousness monologue meant for her ears only. Catarina Wright, her mother, had insisted that Brownie's son Harold remain with her at the family home in Kaimuki because of the poor schools on Moloka'i. I contemplated the shame she must have felt for not raising my father, the kind that breeds such a wicked self-loathing it sends

agony bone deep.

I stapled together my best verse and stuffed the manuscript in a big envelope addressed to SFSU's Creative Writing Program. I knew theat workshop competition on the graduate level would drive me to become the best writer I could possibly be. And I needed a break from sales. I was often too exhausted to write. Darcy told me I needed "total immersion." I felt important mailing work to mags such as The New Yorker, The Paris Review, and The Atlantic. I was going to make it as an artist, just as Vonnegut had predicted. But my SASEs boomeranged back, carrying with them those poisonous rejection slips. I knew it was considered cool for struggling writers to plaster rejections all over their walls. I didn't. I opened SASE mail on Clairemont Drive, ripped up the slips, and tossed them in the trash before retreating inside.

I fought back by organizing my poems and flashes into a manuscript and self-publishing a 30-page chapbook titled *Champagne Eyes*. Darcy designed the cover: Madonna's eyes hovering over the twilight

cityscape of New York. The sky was webbed with searchlight beams. I hand-colored the covers to give the books a personal touch. The first piece was a flash written from the perspective of a Tijuana flower vendor I'd seen a hundred feet south of the turnstile entryway:

THE ROSES ARE FIFTEEN

Your purchase? Fifteen red long stems roped by white string. You bought at noon, at the border where roses grow like weeds with many thorns, thorns threatening your hands in this desert heat. Roses struggle out of the dust of my land, senoritã, and I pick these weeds because you buy them instead of the flowers on your side. You want the discount. But there is trouble with my blossoms—they wilt *after you pass the checkpoint.* Your guard waved you home after smelling their innocence in your hands, but my roses die even as you drive because my sweat was not enough to keep them alive. Buds droop in clumps, refusing life beyond the border. Thorns are stilettos on the stems, blades jutting from twisted frames. My supply? Over forty bunches. You took the biggest. I said it looked like a dozen, take them. I lied. I let you have the extras because I knew you would be happy with a bargain. You made the deal. I only hoped the thorns would not cut badly, you waiting patiently for the buds to

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open, you not believing a newborn could die in your arms with no warning at all. You must watch surrendering petals drip off the buds: they bleed across the table and spill, staining your floor. You purchased my flowers. Now live with them as their romance drains. My roses seduced and deceived you. Careful not to wound yourself as you pull fifteen stems from the dead water, one by one.

I donated a signed copy of Champagne Eyes to UCSD's Special Collections, figuring I'd contributed in a small way to literature while making my name available to searchers at Central Library. I took another ten copies to the Blue Door Bookstore and placed them on the back poetry shelf beside other selfpublished chaps. My price was \$3.95, of which the Prufrockian clerk said I'd receive 60% of sale proceeds. I made frequent pilgrimages to check on my book and, upon discovering two had been sold, I bounded out of the store with renewed hope. Hemingway and James Joyce had self-published their early work too, so I was in good company. I felt giddy driving home, knowing that somewhere, strangers were reading my work.

I checked out a biog-

raphy of William Burroughs and grew fascinated with his Cut-Up Technique. Then I did the unimaginable: I took a straight edge to my clunky prose and sliced the pages into quarters. I rearranged quarter pages, juxtaposing lines in a quest for narrative structure and jolting language. Much was nonsensical and often ludicrous. But I did unearth fresh imagery, bizarre linkage, and tangential thought. The Cut-Ups' endless possibilities loosened me up; maybe Vonnegut would have been pleased. I discovered the power of verbs, and how overusing adjectives bogs down voice. Jewels emerged. I selected an emerald and crafted "New Jersey Suburbs at Dusk," the sort of flash piece Hemmingway stuck between stories in his coming-of-age classic In Our Time. But I avoided minimalism, and instead drilled down into suburban ennui by comparing garage sale shoppers to museum

visitors and suggesting that teen boys became their fathers when faced with fear. Burroughs had taught me that there were other ways of producing art besides relying on dreamscapes, experience, and childhood memories. (He was also a big fan of druginduced visions, but I wasn't about to to run all over town searching for that first fix.)

Anne Rice, SFSU's Creative Writing Chair, read my manuscript. So did Stan, her husband. I was fortunate that Stan was a fellow poet. Their response letter arrived the day before Thanksgiving. I sat in front of the Selectric and ripped it open, accidentally tearing the school's seal. Despite the fact I had not published a single poem in a literary review or magazine, Anne informed me that I was to begin my writing journey in San Francisco two weeks after Christmas. My golden barked. I knew my old man would swear I was nuts. I had three grand in savings.

I phoned Darcy. She said I owed it to myself to pursue my dream and

that she would drive up to San Francisco with me. I sat in front of my Selectric and tapped a random key. It jumped, staining the paper with an X. Brownie entered my thoughts. She was riding her mare Jetty down the dirt road, humming "Oh My Darling, Clementine." Jetty pranced. Brownie saw me and tipped her wide-brimmed lauhala hat. "I remember most everything, Gramma," I whispered, "and I can

write it all down." I stuck out my hands, extending them over the keyboard. My fingers dropped until the tips touched the letters. The keys began to sing. I wrote about Brownie at 16 on the Waikiki Boardwalk. She was heading for the coconut palm shack that marked the Outrigger Canoe Club. She prayed she'd

cross paths with her girlhood crush - and maybe her future husband.

Kirby Michael Wright

KIRBY MICHAEL **WRIGHT** *is a novelist*, journalist, short story writer, poet, playwright, and screenplay writer. He has published over 500 works in literary reviews and magazines worldwide. His plays have been performed in New York at Manhattan Rep and The Secret Theatre. Wright's screenplays have won the Chautauqua International Film Festival, the Honolulu Film Awards, the Headline International Film Festival, the California Film Awards, and the Mexico International Film Festival. The Queen of Moloka'i, his true story adventure, is based on the life and times of his Hawaiian grandmother. He lives in Vista.

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Supervisor's district in order to determine their preferred outreach methods, with the results remaining confidential for privacy purposes," per the letter. The response: "Should the information be used for political purposes — i.e., to craft campaign communications, target likely voters, etc. — this will be a contribution from the County to the Supervisor. To the extent that the constituent contact information will be kept confidential, great care should be taken to ensure that the contact information is used for governmental purposes only and that the contact information is not used by Supervisor Lawson-Remer, or any other elected official, for campaign purposes including but not limited to campaign communications."

> - Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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





San Diego Reader May 18,

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BUSINESS HOURS: TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM - 7 PM

, 2023

Friday | 19

FESTIVAL

TEMECULA BALLOON & WINE

The Evening Balloon Glow, held on

Friday and Saturday just after sunset,

will display a gathering of hot air bal-

that they are illuminated but do not

lift off. Then on Saturday and Sunday

morning, over 50 balloons will lift off

from the festival grounds. Just \$20 will

get you a ride on a balloon that is teth-

ered to the ground by ropes that ensure

it does not rise higher than 50-75

feet. Even features music from Brad

Paisley, REO Speedwagon, and Scotty

McCreery. Plus: beer garden, wine tast-

loons inflated by propane burners, such

ELCOME TO IT



from their usual repertoire of gospel music and Negro spirituals to present a music revue that celebrates the many genres of American music that are derived from those spirituals.

WHEN: Saturday, May 20, 5 pm to 7:30 pm WHERE: Joan B. Kroc Theatre, 6611 University Avenue, Rolando. mlkccsd.org

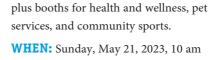
Sunday | 21

ESCONDIDO FESTIVAL: BEER, STREET FOOD, KIDS ZONE

Enjoy live music, beer & wine garden,

and art in the garden. Vendors will be selling handcrafted jewelry, soap, candles, glassware, clothing, purses, belts, hats, sunglasses, teas, home decor, and toys. Food options include BBQ, Mexican, Thai, Filipino, curries, Chinese, Italian, desserts, kettle corn, fun-

nel cakes, vegan options, coffee, and ice cream. There will be a kids zone, photo booths, crafts, tarot readings,



WHERE: Grand Avenue, Escondido. downtownescondido.com/escondido-

street-festival

Monday | 22

FREE RADIO CONTROLLED AIRCRAFT FLYING **CLASS**

Learn how to fly a radio controlled aircraft. The planes, batteries, chargers, transmitters, and buddy boxes are provided. Head instructor Don Davis and a team of flight instructors will be at the field.

Johnson Field is located on about 70 acres and has a 600'x40' asphalt runway, four separate helicopter

pads, a pit area with tables and chairs, toilet facilities, and parking.

WHEN: Saturday, May 13, 12 pm to 5 pm WHERE: Johnson Field Pankey Road, Fallbrook palomarrcflyers.com

Tuesday | 23

A HISTORY OF SAN DIEGO'S SUNSET CLIFFS PARK

Hear a History Talks lecture with Author Kathy Blavatt, who grew up on Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and married her husband Ray at Villa Surf above the Cliffs' Garbage Beach. Historian Blavatt relates the park's many transformations since 1900, and also looks to its future. Included in the talk: visionaries, Theosophists, WWII, watersports pioneers, and horticulturists.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 24, 7 pm to

WHERE: Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue, Downtown. gaslampfoundation.org





WHEN: Friday, May 19 through Sunday, May 21 WHERE: Lake Skinner, 701 Warren

ings, and food available for purchase.

Saturday | 20

Road, Temecula. tvbwf.com

ALL 'BOUT THE BLUES MUSICAL REVUE

The Martin Luther King Junior Choir San Diego, also known as the MLK Choir, will depart





ANIMAL

Pupapalooza 3rd-Annual dog festival will have more than 20 locally-owned dog-themed vendors on hand, adoptable pups from The Animal Pad dog rescue organization, food trucks, and live music. Second Chance will be releasing a special beer specifically for the festivities: Guava Wheat Ale (4.5% ABV) that will be available on draft and in 16-oz cans. Second Chance will donate proceeds from the event to The Animal Pad. Saturday, May 20, 2pm; free-\$150. Second Chance Beer Co., 15378 Avenue of Science #222. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

The Cantu Foundation: Dog Adoption Event Sunday, May 21, 1pm; free. Pure Project North Park, 2867 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

ART

Community Quilt: Uvlade In the wake of another mass shooting in the United States, local San Diego artist Antonia Davis created a quilting project as an act of healing, community, and resistance. Members of the public are invited to help finish the quilt in a supportive and healing environment. Wednesday, May 24, 6pm; free. Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. (EMERALD HILLS)

Meet The Artist During Meet the Artist hours, the public is invited to speak with Edra Soto and contribute to an upcoming project. Saturday, May 20, 3pm; Sunday, May 21, 3pm; free. ICA North Institute of Contemporary Art San Diego, 1550 South El Camino Real. (EMCINITAS)

Pigments of Imagination An Interactive Virtual Reality Composition Thursday, May 18, 5pm; free. UCSD Calit2 Auditorium at Atkinson Hall, 9500 Gilman Drive #0436. (IA JOLIA)

SoCal Coastal & Desert Landscape Show Art Scene West and Matt Drey Arts are co-producing an art exhibition of recent works by landscape artists Darrel McPherson and John Cornfield. Saturday, May 20, 7pm; free. Kava Collective, 1731 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Story Quilts and Poetry "Story Quilts" features the work of eleven local textile and fiber artists; Sandra Lauterbach, Nancy Lemke, Viviana Lombrozo, Nelda McComb, Dan Olfe, Marty Ornish, Karen Rips, Tara Ritacco, Dinah Sargeant, Deborah Weir, and Susan Willen. Sunday, May 21, 2pm; free. PHES Gallery, 2633 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

Warner Springs Wine & Art Trail Enjoy a self-guided driving tour along San Diego County's scenic byway and the North Mountain Wine Trail. Discover new terrain and works by professional artists and talented artisans. Spend the day or weekend meeting local artists, picnicking and sipping wines at small family wineries, and hiking trails. Saturday, May 20, 11am; free. Warner Springs, 31652 Highway 79, (WARNER SPRINGS)

BEER

It's Beer O'Clock Cancer Fundraiser The 100% volunteer-based nonprofit behind San Diego Festival of Beer, San Diego Professionals Against Cancer is hosting a fundraiser with games with prizes and food and drinks. 15 percent of all beer and food sales from the night will be donated to San Diego Professionals Against Cancer. Thursday, May 18, 5:30pm; free. Original 40 Brewing Company, 3117 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

VolunBEERS: A Hoppy Service Project Enjoy craft brews while making no-sew pillows for Dreams for Change participants in their Safe Parking Program. The pillows created at this event will be donated to their Safe Parking Program that provides supportive services and a safe place to park for families and individuals who are living in their vehicles. Tuesday, May 23, 6pm; \$20-\$25. Pure Project at the Park, 2865 5th Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Yoga & Beer Yoga session, guided by Sascha of Carlsbad Village Yoga, followed by a glass of Pure beer. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Sunday, May 21, 9am; \$20. 21 and up. Pure Project Carlsbad, 2825 State St. (CARLSBAD)

BOOK SIGNINGS

A Return to the Cradle of Bitchin Ocean Beach Historical Society and Point Loma High Alumni Association presents author A. Lee Brown and sculptor Richard Arnold. Lee and Richard are longtime friends, and are both former Pointers, Qwiigs and OB Lifeguards. The program will be based on Lee's recently published book Cradle of Bitchin, A Story of Mentors, Watermen, & the Sea. While it explores the California beach culture's inherited Hawaiian concepts of Kumu a' o (mentorship of the young) and Lokahi, (the unity between the sea and humanity) it is also a memoir of a vouth and adolescence in the Ocean Beach of the 1950s and 1960s. Thursday, May 18, 7pm; free. Water's Edge Faith Community, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

Benjamin Gilmer: The Other Dr. Gilmer Warwick's will host Benjamin Gilmer as he discusses and signs his new book, *The Other* Dr. Gilmer: Two Men, a Murder, and an Unlikely Fight for Justice. This event is free and open to the public; free admittance is subject to available space. To ensure seating, pre-order one book per seat. Friday, May 19, 7:30pm; free-\$18. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Minh Lê & Raissa Figueroa: Real to Me Warwick's, in partnership with La Jolla Riford Library, presents Minh Lê and Raissa Figueroa as they discuss and sign their new book, *Real to Me*. Saturday, May 20, 2:30pm; free-\$18. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Unwavering: Military Author **Discussion** Military nonfiction authors Taylor Baldwin Kiland (Lessons from the Hanoi Hilton) and Judy Silverstein Gray will discuss their new book Unwavering: The Wives Who Fought to Ensure No Man Is Left Behind with journalist Dean Nelson. This is a free event, but special reserved seating is available by pre-ordering your signed copy of the book. Reserve seats and register online at coronadohistory.org. Thursday, May 18, 7pm; free. Coronado High School, 650 D Avenue. (CORONADO)

Weekends with Locals: KC Grifant Weekends with Locals will be hosting KC Grifant, author of Melinda West: Monster Gunslinger. Sunday, May 21, 12pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Ayenue. (LA JOLLA)

Weekends with Locals: Sonia Gomez-Neri As part of our ongoing Weekends with Locals Program we will be hosting Sonia Gomez-Neri, author of *Don't Forget About God.* Sunday, May 21, 2:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Be Your Own Archivist: Textile Conservation Annabelle Camp from Balboa Art Conservation Center will demonstrate proper techniques to preserve beloved textiles. She will demonstrate the best practice for storing textiles, focusing on low cost, archival methods for hanging and folded storage and provide tips on proper climate and pest prevention. Saturday, May 20, 1pm; \$15-\$20. Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. (EMERALD HILLS)

Composting & Manure Management Workshop Learn how you can both protect your local watershed and produce a soil amendment by composting large animal manure. Sunday, May 21, 10am; free. Walnut Grove Park and Barn, Olive Street at Sycamore Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Composting Workshop The workshop will include instruction and demonstration in the building and maintenance of a backyard compost pile and worm bin. Saturday, May 20, 8:30am; free. Escondido Community Garden,

Summer Fun Giveaways

In honor of our upcoming special issue, we're heating things up with awesome prizes!

Jamie Kennedy at Grand Comedy Club

Deadline: Monday, May 22

@midnight



Deadline: Tuesday, May 23

@midnight

The Wedding Singer at The Moonlight

Deadline: Wednesday, May 24

@midnight

The San Diego Smooth Jazz Festival

Deadline: Thursday, May 25

@midnight

Tickets to the Birch Aquarium

Deadline: Friday, May 26

@midnight

Tickets to Del Mar Racing

Deadline: Saturday, May 27

@midnight

Cake in Concert at The Rady Shell

Deadline: Sunday, May 28

@midnight













SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Coastal Vineyard

Contact: 5663 Balboa Ave. #605, San Diego (Sunday gatherings: 10 am at Kavod Charter School, 6991 Balboa Ave.) 858-456-5045 www.coastvineyard.org

Membership: 70 Pastor: Michelle Wilson

Age: 53

Born: Lawrence, KS

Formation: University of California-San Diego; Bethel College, San Diego; Fuller Theological Semi-

nary, Pasadena

Years Ordained: 26

San Diego Reader: Why did you become a minister?

Pastor Michelle Wilson: It was a long, con-

voluted path. I grew up as an atheist and was severely depressed as a young person. I had a

lot of trouble finding meaning in life. I was not doing OK, and I was not safe being around myself by the time I was part-way through college at UCSD. A friend of mine had introduced me to Jesus at that time, and my life completely turned around over the course of the next couple years... I felt like I was not alone inside my own head, and later came to understand that was the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. From that moment on, it was my understanding that my life was forfeit. I had agreed that I was going to give up my old life and my new life was going to be entirely for him. So, I would do whatever

God would have for me to

do... But it was a gradual process of one step at a time, doing the next thing that the Holy Spirit seemed to be inviting me to be a part of. I think of my job as trying to help other people follow Jesus, and I love it. I love trying to follow Jesus. I'm not always good at it, but I love trying, and I love helping others follow Jesus.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PW: We call ourselves a community of love, and talk about building a community of love — loving God, loving each other and loving the world. We're highly relational, and want to build strong relationships with one another and bless the world

around us.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PW: I don't really think of heaven and hell as places that people go to. In the Bible, we see this picture of heaven coming down to earth and of a reuniting of heaven and earth. So, I think of eternal destiny more in terms of time rather

than place. There is a time coming when God will make his home with humanity, and our union with God — those who are in Jesus — will be complete, and all things will be restored. I look forward to that time. There's a question about who gets to participate in that time, and

Michelle Wilson

I don't know the answer to that. Only God gets to decide who will be there. But I don't think we go to a place; the kingdom of God becomes fully established, and we enter into a future state of eternal life and unity with God. Where do we go in the meantime? That's a hard question. In the Bible, there is a reference to sleep. People are asleep and are going to be woken up later; but you also see in some other places references to immediate entry into paradise. Jesus tells the thief on the cross that we're going to be in paradise today. So that's a question I don't know the

answer to. Are we waiting? It seems to me that God must not experience time the way I do. For those that pass away, does it seem instantaneous? I don't know the answers to all the questions.

- Joseph O'Brien

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

Centre City Parkway at Decatur Way. (ESCONDIDO)

Envisioning a Sustainable City of the Future Use Google Earth to survey sites around the world where people have settled through history. Then create a design for a sustainable home in a place of your choice. Tuesday, May 23, 4pm; free. Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Free Workshop: All About Worms Join Solana Center for this workshop to discover why red wiggler worms are composting superstars. Saturday, May 20, 10am; free. Allied Gardens-Benjamin Library, 5188 Zion Avenue. (ALLIED GARDENS)

Free Workshop: All About Worms Learn how to properly care for and compost with worms. Advance registration at link. Wednesday, May 24, 5:30pm; free. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Group Divine Light Healing Night Experience a Direct Divine Light healing performed in a supportive group setting led by SAI faculty teachers Neil Mintz and

Melissa Love and facilitated by certified SAI healers. Friday, May 19, 6:30pm; \$20. Spiritual Arts Institute, 527 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Macrame & Brass Air Plant Hanger Craft Workshop Learn to create a decorative brass air plant hanger with step-by-step instructions along with all of the supplies. Finish off your masterpiece with your choice of air plant. No previous experience required. Wednesday, May 24, 6:30pm; \$45. Mike Hess Brewing Ocean Beach, 4893 Voltaire Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

Macrame Plant Hanger Workshop All attendees will get to choose their accent macrame cord(s) and wooden beads to make the plant hanger uniquely theirs. No prior experience is needed and each attendee will leave with a finished plant hanger and a 4" ceramic pot, ready to be filled and hung. Sunday, May 21, 5pm; free-\$45. Graze by Sam, 555 West Date Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Paint & Sip: I Need a Vacation Art class guided by local art-

ist Nataly. Sunday, May 21, 5pm; \$45. 18 and up. Solterra Winery & Kitchen, 934 N. Coast Highway 101 (LEUCADIA)

COMEDY

Armed Forces Comedians Saturday, May 20, 8pm; free-\$10. 18 and up. Tepik Sports Grill, 710 Seacoast Drive. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Bret Ernst Bret Ernst (Comedy Central, Cobra Kai) with Leah Bonnema and Jim Pine opening. 2 Item minimum purchase per person (food or drink). Friday, May 19, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; Saturday, May 20, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; \$20. 18 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Chula Vista Comedy Club: Steven Briggs Tuesday, May 23, 7:45pm; free-\$10. 21 and up. El Cruce+241, 241 3rd Avenue Suite C. (CHULA VISTA)

Clean Comedy Show 2 item minimum purchase per person. Open mic 6:30-7:30 (drop names at 6:15). Ages 12 and Up. Thursday, May 18, 8pm; \$5. 12 and up. Grand Comedy Club, 340 East Grand Avenue, (ESCONDIDO)

Comedy Under the Stars Friday, May 19, 8pm; free-\$10. 21 and up. Bolt Brewing, 8179 Center Street. (LA MESA)

Craig Robinson AS SEEN ON: NBC's "The Office", Knocked Up, This Is The End, Hot Tub Time Machine, Hot Tub Time Machine 2, Mr. Robinson on NBC, Ghosted on FOX & more! Thursday, May 18, 8pm; Friday, May 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, May 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$35-\$40. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN

Ganser with Feliz Monday, May 22, 7:30pm; \$18. 21 and up. Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

I Got Bit By A Monkey Once

Four true stories: a monkey bite; a long bus trip; an arrest; and a mugging. Matt shares hilarious anecdotes and stories with irreverence, high energy and just enough self awareness to know he is the idiot as evidenced by his acceptance in the Poor Life Choices Festival. Thursday, May 18, 9pm; \$10. 18 and up. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Neal Brennan Saturday, May 20, 7:30pm; 18 and up. Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

On Earth As It Is In Hell This solo show combines comedy, storytelling, and history to explore how our beliefs about the afterlife evolved and why they matter today. Tuesday, May 23, 6pm; Wednesday, May 24, 7:30pm; \$10. Centro Cultural de la Raza, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

13th Annual Adam D. Kamil Media Awards The awards consist of a grand prize of \$2,000 and two finalist prizes of \$1,000 each. Winners will be announced at the ceremony, and the grand prize winning project will be screened. The event will allow time to view works in the gallery, eat, and socialize. Friday, May 19, 5:30pm; free. Adam D. Kamil Gallery, Mandeville Center, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Green Market Local businesses displaying their eco-friendly products for you to shop while mingling with the community. Sunday, May 21, 12pm; free. Pure Project at the Park, 2865 5th Avenue.

Green Market at Pure Project Vista Featuring an array of goods from local and sustainable vendors. Saturday, May 20, 12pm; free. Pure Project Vista, 1305 Hot Spring Way. (VISTA)

May Green Living Tour The Green Living Tour is a bi-monthly, one-hour tour at Solana Center's home base in Encinitas that showcases sustainability in action. Saturday, May 20, 10am; free-\$15. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation, 137 North El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Sisterhood of Service Event will honor more than 100 women who have served military service San Diego. Thursday, May 18, 10am; free. Mission Beach Women's Club, 840 Santa Clara Place. (MIS-SION BEACH)

The Art of Contentment Meditation Retreat Enjoy a peaceful weekend away in the Cuyamaca Mountains. Pricing includes retreat sessions, onsite accommodations,

and five vegetarian meals. Friday, May 19, 4pm; Saturday, May 20, 7am; Sunday, May 21, 7am; \$395. Camp Stevens, 1108 Banner Road. (JULIAN)

LECTURES

A History Of San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Park History Talks Lecture with Author Kathy Blavatt, who grew up on Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and married her husband Rav at Villa Surf above Sunset Cliffs' Garbage Beach. Wednesday, May 24, 7pm; free-\$5. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

How British Silversmithing Changed America's Dinner **Tables** Culinary Historians of San Diego will present "How British Silversmiths Changed America's Dinner Tables," by Carolyn Tillie. Saturday, May 20, 10:30am; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard (FAST VILLAGE)

In Conversation With Ian Cooper Ian Cooper in conversation with Lauren Mackler: Adam D. Kamil Guest Lecture: Ian Cooper is Jordan Peele's producing partner and the Creative Director of Monkeypaw. Thursday, May 18, 6:30pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

MUSIC

Joshua Tree Music Festival Campground



Thursday, May 18, 10am; Friday, May 19, 10am; Saturday, May 20, 10am; Sunday, May 21, 10am; \$50-\$450. Joshua Tree Lake RV and























SANDIEGO CONTRARA

JUNE 7-JULY 4 •

SDFAIR.COM

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. Flowers are in full bloom; sages, deerweed, sunflowers, and purple Ceanothus. The park is full of birds, many migrating so not often seen in San Diego, visit while they're here. Walks start from the Visitor Center. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, May 20, Sunday, May 21, Wednesday, May 24, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

River Day Hike Celebrate the 20th annual River Days by hiking within the San Diego River watershed. Discuss the flora and fauna that inhabit the San Diego river and its surrounding areas, and their importance in our ecosystems. Recommend wearing long pants, closed-toed shoes, a hat, and sunscreen, and bringing water. Thursday, May 18, 9am; free. Crestridge Ecological Reserve, 1171 Horsemill Road. (EL CAJON)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month with Japanese Drummers "Genbu Daiko," Cultural Dancers "Imahen Taotao Tano," cultural exhibits, crafts, and Genbu Daiko, a contemporary percussion ensemble. Saturday, May 20, 2pm; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road (POWAY)

Encinitas Cruise Nights Enjoy new and familiar car clubs and local live bands. Thursday, May 18, 5:30pm; free. Downtown Encinitas Mainstreet Association, 818 S. Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

Escondido Street Festival Enjoy live music, a beer & wine garden and Art in the Garden. Sunday, May 21, 10am; **free**. Grand Ave., Escondido

Marklin HO Model Train Special Sale American & European Styles including engines, freight cars, and passenger cars, all in boxes. Friday, May 19, 5:30pm; free. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado.

OUTDOORS

Mule deer roam Cuyamaca Park, high tides peak, lunar gardening

Mule Deer by the Dozens continue to roam through the 25,000 acre Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Take an early-morning drive down Highway 79 through the park, and you'll likely spot deer on or near the road.

Wild Oats, Foxtails, and Other Non-Native Grasses growing around San Diego have mostly turned gold, but other varieties of wild grass, such as rye, remain green in some areas. Yellow waves of wild mustard continue to put on a good show, especially on the steep slopes and road cuts overlooking several of the local freeways.

Wild Hyacinths and Mariposa Lilies have popped out on San Diego's hillsides. Both flowers arise from underground bulbs, and



THE MARIPOSA LILY (CALOCHORTUS AUREUS) IS A BULB-FORMING PERENNIAL NATIVE TO THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES.



MULE DEER ARE NAMED FOR THEIR LARGE EARS, WHICH LOOK LIKE THOSE OF A MULE.

were considered delicacies by the California Indians.

Wild Lilac (*Ceanothus*) is Currently Blooming in San Diego County, mostly at elevations higher than 4000 feet. Blossom colors range from pure white to various shades of blue or lavender. Some fine examples may be seen along the upper Noble Canyon Trail in the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area atop Mt. Laguna.

May's Highest and Lowest Tides are Occuring this Week. On Thursday the 18th, the tides rise to 6.73 feet at 9:10 pm and then recede to -1.21 feet the following morning at 4:21 am, and on Friday the 19th, the high tide is 6.66 feet at 9:42 pm and then recedes to -1.18 feet at 4:53 am.

Look Up in the Sky on May 19 and you'll notice that the moon is missing. That's because the new moon has arrived. It's also a good day to start your summer garden. While the moon's gravitational pull famously affects the ocean's tides, the cycles of the moon also affect moisture levels in the soil and assist plant growth.

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.

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.

1996: A Blink-182 Musical

CBS Big Brother reality TV star Daniel Durston has created the first and only original musical incorporating the music of San Diego's Blink-182. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13. World premiere staged reading:

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BL., BALBOA PARK. 619-235-6135. 7:15PM SATURDAY, 3:45PM SUNDAY, MAY 21.

79 Ways To Die

All mind-numbing Shakespear monologues are replaced with blood.
CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125
PARK BL., BALBOA PARK. 619-235-6135. 6PM FRIDAY.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare. Directed by Jersten

Seraile. Shakespeare's hilarious fairytale about the fickleness of love comes to life on our stage just in time for spring. Spend the evening in an enchanted forest filled with fairies, a quartet of confused royals, and a troupe of actors desperately trying to put on a play for the king.

STAGEHOUSE THEATRE, 8800 GROSS-MONT COLLEGE DR., EL CAJON. 619-644-7234. 7:30PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY.

All 'Bout the Blues Musical Revue

The Martin Luther King Junior Choir San Diego, also known as the MLK Choir, will depart from their usual repertoire of Negro Spirituals and gospel music to present a music revue that celebrates the many genres of American music derived from the Negro Spiritual. In its 14th annual fundraising event, MLK Choir members will perform popular music from yesterday and today, in keeping with this year's theme, "Back and Forth Through Time."

JOAN B. KROC THEATRE, 6611 UNIVER-SITY AVE., ROLANDO. 619-269-1552. 3PM & 5PM SATURDAY.

Arson 101, A Choose Your Own Adventure

This two-artist multidisciplinary choose-your-own-adventure romance asks the audience to decide: what do you do when the the flames of a new connection begin to turn to ash? Do you stay and tend to the embers? Do you leave to pursue a new spark? Do you do a dance about it? From the first flare of courting to the blaze of conflict, each step of the journey rests in the audiences' hands, with the performers using every tool in their actordancer-musician-clown bag of tricks to play along.

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BL., BALBOA PARK. 619-235-6135. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 1PM SATUR-

The Chronicles of Kalki

This comic-book-infused girl-gang thriller chronicles the adventures and mysterious disappearance of Kalki, a young woman who may or may not be the final avatar of Vishnu. Has Kalki come to rid the world of demons and evil or just to make high school a hell of a lot more interesting? Produced in partnership with Mysterious Galaxy Bookstore and Little Fish Comic Book Studio.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Fringe Festival: What They Said About Sex

Steve Budd wondered what other people knew about sex that he didn't. So he asked them. Meet a gay man, a tantric sex practitioner, a trans man, and a sex-positive octogenarian, and take a wild ride through their stories and secrets—and Steve's. Satisfy your curiosity about what other people do between the sheets. Check out the newest mashup of personal storytelling and documentary theater from an awardwinning solo performer who "sparkles with manic and irrepressible charm." CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BL., BALBOA PARK. 619-235-6135. 4PM FRIDAY, 7:30PM MONDAY,

Good People

Middle-aged Margie Walsh is a nice woman from a poor neighborhood. Some of her friends might even say she's TOO nice. When she gets fired from yet another job, her landlord threatens eviction. Determined to keep a roof over her daughter's head, she turns to a former friend, who made it out of their neighborhood of Southie, as they call South Boston, for help finding a job. From the moment she steps into Dr. Michael Dillon's office, tensions mount in this reunion of old friends as they navigate the decisions that led them down different life paths. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATUR-DAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAY 21.

How To Be Japanese: Your Normal Is Not My Normal

Normal: Conforming to a standard; usual, typical, or expected. All of us at some times or in some ways feel like outsiders. That whatever it is that is normal does not include us. But when we enter a new culture, we actually are the outsider. An excellent vantage point to question the status quo.

MARIE HITCHCOCK PUPPET THEATRE,
2130 PAN AMERICAN ROAD WEST, BALBOA PARK. 619-544-9203. 6PM FRIDAY,
4PM SATURDAY, 2:30PM SUNDAY, MAY 21.

Mark Pleases You

For his entire life, comedian Mark Vigeant did everything he possibly could to make everyone around him happy. The moment he decides to change gears and focus on himself, a freak accident kills him onstage. After being sent directly to hell, Mark is given one chance to convince his 11-year-old self not to be a peoplepleaser. The only problem? Mark hates that fat, stupid idiot.

MARIE HITCHCOCK PUPPET THEATRE, 2130 PAN AMERICAN ROAD WEST,

MARIE HITCHCOCK PUPPET THEATRE, 2130 PAN AMERICAN ROAD WEST, BALBOA PARK. 619-544-9203. 6PM THURSDAY, 4PM FRIDAY, 7:30PM SUNDAY, MAY 21 & WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

Murder on the Links

Who knew murder was supposed to be an occasion for amusement? Omri Schein, that's who. His Comical Mystery Tour rolls merrily along, circling back to where it started with last season's *The Remarkable Mister Holmes* musical, for which he was the writer. Then it was down to Coronado for more Holmesian hijinks as the villain (and other characters) in *Baskerville*. Now he's acting again, this time in the starring role: Agatha Christie's Hercule

Poirot, the fastidious fellow with the Belgian accent, the fine moustache, and the deep faith in the little gray cells' power to deduce (as opposed to say, grubby forensic work). His fellow Baskerville actor Brian Mackey is along for the ride — there, he was the master detective; here, he joins three other actors in playing a whole bunch of parts. (The play's handling of that particular aspect gives a good sense of its sense of humor: at first, it's content to let the change of costumes do its work on the imagination. But gradually, the story's labyrinthine plot places increasing demands on the cast, so that at one point, Mackey the suspected Englishman is forced to distinguish himself from Mackey the interrogating Frenchman by holding his dapper cardigan to his chest and switching from one outsized accent to another. Silly, but effective, if you're amenable. Other bits are a bit more guaranteed groany: the mispronunciations of Poirot's name as Poy-rot by an Englishman, the mispronunciation of bunker as bunk-ay by a Frenchman, etc.) The other static character is Poirot's friend Arthur Hastings (Kim Morgan Dean), who also serves as an able narrator but an unreliable partner, seeing as how easily his head is turned by a pretty face. At one point, he gets so enmeshed that the rest of the cast must take over his duties, much to his dismay. For his part, Schein shuffles and mugs, eyes bugging at the audience, daring them to laugh, but plays his eccentric character straight.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAY 21.

Rose & Walsh by Neil Simon

Directed by Jerry Pilato, this was Neil Simon's last play, a romantic comedy. It portrays two great literary figures and their enduring love. At a beautiful beach house on the tip of Long Island, Rose, a celebrated but nearpenniless author, receives nightly visits from Walsh, the love of her life and a famous writer himself. Now Walsh must go away forever, but not before securing Rose's financial future with an extraordinary proposal that promises to change everything. Starring Connie Terwilliger as Rose, Lee Price as Walsh, Ruth Russell as Arlene, Raymond Evans as Gavin

POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 3PM

San Diego Fringe Festival: Sadec 1965 - A Love Story

Solo show written and performed by DC-based storyteller Flora Le, is part of the 2023 San Diego Fringe Festival. This storytelling piece is best described as "Motorcycle Diaries" meets "Eat, Pray, Love" set in Vietnam. In 2013, Flora rode a motorcycle across Vietnam for six weeks, solo, in an attempt to make sense of her difficult relationship with her estranged Vietnamese father. Flora was on a quest to understand why her father, who left Vietnam with a scholarship to study in Canada in the mid-1960s, never spoke about Vietnam. Since the answers she was looking for would never come from him, Flora decided to go on a road trip across the country, riding a total of 2100 miles in six weeks, from the Chinese border in the North to the village of Sadec, her father's hometown in the Mekong Delta, to reclaim the story of her origins and make sense of the difficult man that her father was. MARIE HITCHCOCK PUPPET THE



The Chronicles of Kalki: Supernatural, not super serious.

ATRE, 2130 PAN AMERICAN ROAD WEST, BALBOA PARK. 619-544-9203. 4PM THURSDAY.

Xanadu

Slap on your roller skates, pump up the glitter, and get hip to the muses in Xanadu, the laugh-out-loud musical stage adaptation of the 1980 film, starring Olivia Newton John. This Tony Award-nominated, hilarious, roller skating, musical adventure is about following your dreams despite the limitation's others set for you. Rating: PG-13 SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE, 4652 MERCURY ST., CLAIREMONT. 858-560-5740. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

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.

Air — "Nostalgia" is, famously, taken from a Greek word that refers to the pain from an old wound — the pang of the past. The good old days that are gone for good. The simpler time. The happy childhood. The days when a kid could still sing along with the "Be Like Mike" Gatorade commercial — Sometimes I dream/ That he is me... and thrill to the image of the basketball GOAT playing ball with a little kid on an outdoor court in some neighborhood park. You know, before things got...complicated. (You don't have to have seen The Last Dance to know that Jordan is no longer the universally beloved figure he once was.) And nostalgia is the only reason I can think of to explain why old friends Ben Affleck and Matt Damon have reteamed for a movie that so artlessly sets out to make us love shoe company Nike for managing to butter up a college hoops star better than Adidas or Converse, (And it is artless, particularly in its brute-force "remember the '80s?' pop-culture montages and deeply onthe-nose soundtrack selections, but also in its stock camerawork from Robert Richardson, its muted energy, and its glib elisions — divorced dad Iason

Bateman's speech about how he doesn't

mind where Nike makes their shoes is nothing short of craven.) The paunchy Damon at least looks fully committed to the part of a smart sports guy whose job is on the line, and his sparring with Affleck's Big Boss Phil Knight is enjoyable. And there's some good talk about branding - about the athlete giving meaning to the shoe instead of the other way 'round. But Ma Jordan's (Viola Davis) speech about why her boy must be the first player to get a cut of every sale is savvy dressed up as profundity, just as Damon's big pitch is flattery dressed up as wisdom - and a pre-emptive defense against criticism. 2023 — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Covenant — Remember the first First Blood movie? You know, the one in which America was rotten for how it treated its returning vets, but hot damn, America sure did produce badass military heroes like John Rambo. This is a bit like that: America signed up a whole bunch of Afghani interpreters over its 20-year mission there, promising them visas to the States when the job was done, and then somehow forgot a bunch of them after it pulled out. But Jake Gyllenhaal's John Kinley is "a man with a hook in him" - he is bound to his unit's interpreter by something stronger than a governmental promise. The superior first half of the movie patiently covers the hook's insertion, as Kinley learns to work with, trust, and even rely on the spiky but not quite surly Ahmed (Dar Salim). The two have a winning chemistry: commanding officer Gyllenhaal understands the point, and therefore the limit, of his authority, and Ahmed evinces a believable loyalty born of equal parts honor, self-interest, and rage against his enemies. Director Guy Ritchie exercises considerable restraint in his depiction of action: again and again, he is content to pull back, hold the shot, and let what happens be enough to engage the viewer. And again and again, it's enough, as the religiously relentless Taliban goes about its deadly work. There are touches of smirky-cool slickness here and there, but fewer than might be expected. Instead, there is a welcome surfeit of sincere emotion and idealism - which is not, of course, the same thing as patriotism, but still leaves room for American heroes, (2023) - M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Renfield — There's just enough of a movie here to sustain the working

out of its splendid central dynamic: the sick relationship between a bad man and devoted enabler. The bad man in question is very bad indeed, the self-described "Lord of Death" Dracula (Nicolas Cage, deadpanning Bela Lugosi to great effect). And the enabler, of course, is trusty servant Renfield, here embodied with curious sweetness by Nicholas Hoult. It seems that several centuries of obtaining victims for his bloodsucker of a boss haven't quite drained his humanity - even now, hiding out in presentday New Orleans, he makes a point of only going after bad guys, the sort that drive people to attend support groups for co-dependents. But it seems that bad men have bad blood, and an impatient, recuperating Dracula demands something purer and sweeter: "happy couples, nuns, a busful of cheerleaders." That sets up Renfield's meeting with frustrated cop Rebecca (Awkwafina, doing what she can with an overwritten part), a woman willing to stand up to a bully, even if it kills her. She is our hero's inspiration, but their fledgling relationship cannot compare, dramatically or comedically, with the one he's already got going on. Roberk Kirkman's story takes its pop psychology seriously, which is what makes its application here so much fun. When Cage bellows, "I'm the real victim here! anyone who's ever known a narcissist may find themselves wincing through the grin. Alas, the scaffold built around the central conflict — having to do with a nasty gang that Dracula decides to recruit to aid in his plan for world domination - is much less engaging. Director Chris McKay seems to know it, and opts to cover his dramatic sins with gloopy, graphic (but still comic) action-movie violence. But

where action movies often leave the

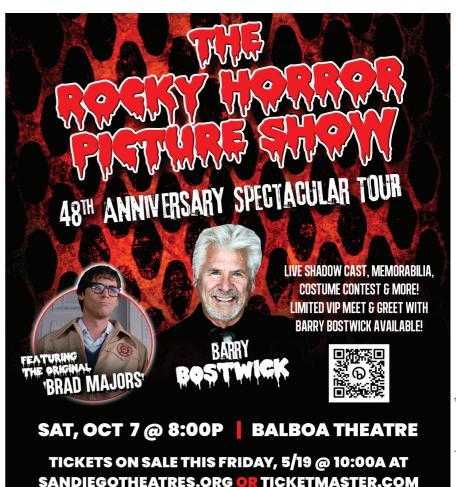
viewer waiting through the dialogue for the next dustup, *Renfield* is just the opposite. (2023) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Suzume — Japan was nuked and is surrounded by water; combine those, and you get the irradiated beast Godzilla rising from the depths to destroy Tokyo. Japan also suffers earthquakes and is surrounded by water; combine those, and you get an orphan girl (guess how Mom died in a post-Fukushima world) who gets dragged into a mission to stop mystical worms from escaping the underworld and causing what the unsuspecting public experiences as earthquakes. Why can teenager Suzume see the worms when no one else can? Because she's been through one of their doorways, doorways that often seem to be situated in abandoned places where children once held sway (a middle school, an amusement park). So many national anxieties in play! Makoto Shinkai's latest has less melancholy and a lot more action than earlier efforts Weathering with You and Your Name, but remains suffused with his signature sadness and romantic longing. Suzume is thrilled to meet a mysterious man who shares her vision, but wouldn't you know it, the mystical cat she accidentally released from its post traps his soul in a threelegged chair - her last memento of Mom. It all makes for a fine adolescent adventure: travel, rebellion, unattainable love, a search, a chase, a deadline, and a little bit of growing up. And happily, the film understands that some problems don't get resolved without real sacrifice (though its handling of that aspect may leave you bemused). Plus, it's gorgeous. (2023) - M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

STREAMING

The Other Two — This show is legitimately laugh-out-loud funny. It's about a couple late-bloomers who are just trying to get their shit together, meanwhile their teen brother rockets to superstardom as a pseudo-Justin Bieber. Their mother also stumbles her way to becoming an Oprah-type figure. Matter of fact, fame and success seem to come effortlessly for pretty much everyone BUT them. It's not too frustrating to watch though - they're redeemable characters; they make mistakes but still grow. And fear not, they do make some headway on their paths to selfdiscovery. The rest is hilarious antics, wry jokes and social commentary. (2019-2023) — A.T. (HBOMax)

Love & Death — For some reason. they made two different shows based on this true crime story of a pious, suburban mother who kills the wife of the man she had an affair with. The other one, called Candy on Hulu, didn't quite grab my attention the way this one does. Gotta say, I think the acting is better too. I think it shows a lot more of the inner workings of her mind, shedding a somewhat empathetic light on bored housewives in the late 70s. They are long episodes with a lot of quiet moments and zooming in on facial reactions. It's true crime, but with dramatic storytelling. (2023) — A.T. (HBOMax)



Problems in Modern Puppetry Performance

When SDSU English department grad and tech geek Michael Buchmiller turned himself into Professor B. Miller of the Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra, he knew he'd face challenges in the songwriting, record-

ing, releasing, and

performing departments. One thing he didn't foresee: the increasing difficulty of keeping his singing robot SPO-20, which uses vocal software particular to Windows XP, operational. (Support for the system ended 2014, to say nothing of the software itself.) "Oh it's a nightmare," confesses the Professor, who grew up in Chicago before heading to sunnier San Diego climes in 1996. "In my mind, the software I started using in 1996 is our robot's voice. Using any other software is unfortunately unthinkable to me. But the company that made it went out of business, probably around the same time we started using it, so it hasn't been supported for decades. I can't install it on a modern computer, so I have to jump through a bunch of hoops to get it to work. I run a virtual version of Windows XP on my modern PC, and then have the text-to-speech software installed on that."

Buchmiller took musical inspiration from Faith No More's The Real Thing, the first album he ever bought. Supplementing that soon after with Nine Inch Nails' Pretty Hate Machine, he cannonballed himself into a pool of tunes. "I loved Kraftwerk, heavy metal, and industrial music. I also loved novelty records and Dr. Demento. Some of the popular acts from the 1980s spoke to me, like Devo, the B-52's, Huey Lewis and the News, and Talka ing Heads. My family headed





A music man and his machine: Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra's SPO-20 and Professor B. Miller

out to San Diego for spring break in the early 1990s. That's when I heard Rocket From the Crypt, and they quickly became my favorite band. I still love everything that John Reis does. Shortly after that, I started getting into punk and ska."

He found he wasn't satisfied with simply listening. "When I moved out to San Diego, I started a music magazine and was going to shows three or four nights a week, interviewing bands, writing reviews. Then when I got to SDSU, I was music director at their student-run radio station, KCR. Listening to hundreds of bands each week in every imaginable genre definitely warped my mind. Over time, I was drawn towards weirder and weirder stuff. The more unusual it was, the more it stood out from the pile of predictable songs. Skeleton Key made an album where their drum kit was made from a bunch of pots and garbage cans. I was obsessed. Xerophonics put out an album entirely comprised of layered recordings of Xerox copy machines. It was amazing. sElf [the band] made a record called Gizmodgery, created exclusively using sounds from toys. So weird, but it's incredibly catchy."

The new Satanic Puppeteer album is called Surf The Web, a jokey swirl of surf music and online life. SPO-20's robot voice presides over such catchy, fresh ditties as "Let Me Guess Your Password," "Gone Phishing," and "Six Reasons Why Clickbait Titles Actually Work." Although local performances are anticipated, gigs don't come easy for this ensemble. "When we perform live, it's quite a production. In addition to the 6-foot 4-inch metal robot and all of my gear, we also bring our own lights and our custom built

> 'Perform-O-Tron' that serves in part as a video projector. We have videos paired with each of the songs, with custom closed captions that may or may not also have other things going on in them." It's a layered multimedia performance.

An additional complication: "I have very little interest in doing the same thing

over and over again, so every show is something new. There was a time where we would play two or three times a year, but when the pandemic hit, we sort of paused that and focused on recording and releasing new albums. At this point, we've put out six or seven albums since our last show. When we start playing again, every show is going to have to be an album release show, just to try and catch up. I don't know exactly when we'll start performing again, but we haven't played our last show just yet. The master plan calls for 20 albums, each with a different theme."

So far, the band is around halfway there. "Currently, we are recording themed album number eleven, Press Start, a videogame-themed album done entirely in chiptune/8-bit sounds from old video games. Once we have the songs done, I'm going to try to figure out how to make a Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra playable video game that features songs from our album as the soundtrack." — Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

Saturday, 7pm — First Friday Music Club.

Alila Marea Beach Resort:

Thursday, 5pm — Kai Kalama.

Friday, 6pm — Mike Myrdal. Saturday, 6pm — Christian

Friday, 7:30pm — Eek-A-Mouse. \$55-\$91.

Bellamy's Restaurant:

Thursday, 6pm — Jake Taylor Smith. Saturday, 7pm — Helena Holleran.

Thursday, 7:30pm — Creature Canyon and Veni Sun. \$18. Friday, 8pm — The Winery Dogs. \$35-\$62. Saturday & Sunday, 7:30pm -Galactic. \$37-\$66.

Brew Coffee Spot:

Friday, 5:30pm — Java Jazz Quartet. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, 7:30pm — Sugar: The Nu-Metal Party. \$15-\$25. Sunday, 7pm - The Birthday Massacre. \$20-\$25. Arch Echo. \$30-\$35.

Thursday, 5pm — Ben

Casbah:

CRASHER

Thu. 5/18 @ Soda

Fri. 5/19 @ Soda

TEMBLAD

Sat. 5/20 @ Soda

ROYALJAG

Mon, 5/22 @ Soda GANSER

Tue, 5/23 @ Soda

SRSQ . O/X

Wed. 5/24 @ Soda

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DANG! - A SOULFUL ELECTRONIC DANCE NIGHT

SHOWS

710 Beach Club:

Friday, 5pm - Nathan Welden.

Barefoot Bar and Grill:

Beach House Grill:

Belly Up Tavern:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — GZA.

Tuesday, 7:30pm - Haken and

Cannonball:

Benavente. Tuesday, 5pm — Jehua Evans.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Big Sandy

Sleepwalker. \$23. Sunday, 6:30pm — Dustin and Moondaddy. \$11. Tuesday, 7:30pm - Fieldrush and Alexsucks. \$13. Wednesday, 7:30pm - Jared Mattson. \$15.

Congregational Church of La Jolla:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Simone Vallerotonda: Meditations - 4

Duck Foot Brewing

Thursday, 6pm — Dead Heads Night. Free. Friday, 7pm — Bounce Pocket. Saturday, 7pm — Dig Nitty. Free.

Tuesday, 7pm — SD Jazz Collective.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and

Thursday, 6pm — Johnny Martin. Tuesday, 6pm — Rachel Jay. Wednesday, 6pm - Farrah

Friday, 6pm — Dave Schulz. Saturday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Thursday, 4:30pm — Blaise Guld. Friday, 4:30pm — Gabriele Dagrezio. Saturday, 11am — Puro Feeling.

Jewels of the Guitar Repertoire.

& His Fly-Rite Boys and the Lothspeich Tribute Concert. \$23. Monday, 7:30pm — Night Swims

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Kekoa. Sunday, 4pm — Kai Kalama. Tuesday, 4pm — Orion Song.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:

Chapel:

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego,



Seasons of the Lute. Free.

Duck Dive:

Wednesday, 6pm - Blaise Guld.

Company:

Friday, 6pm — Helena Holleran.

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, 7pm - Robert Wetzel-





night Show, Late Sh Wyatt Cote



JAMIE KENNEDY

bra Kai, Comedy Centra Leah Bonnema

Jim Pine Fri, 5/19 @6:30pm

& 8:30pm Sat, 5/29 @6:30pn

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Hillcrest: Saturday, 7:30pm — Grossmont College Middle East Ensemble. Free. Fletcher Cove: Saturday, 10:30am, Sunday, 9:30am - Fiesta Del Sol: The

English Beat & More. **Grossmont Center:**

Friday, 1pm — Gregory Page and Peter Bolland. \$35.

Holding Company:

Friday, 7:30pm — Radio Thieves. Saturday, 7:30pm — Kick Stomp Ensemble w/ Big Sky Moon & Pinkeve. Wednesday, 7:30pm —

DeadPhish. Free.

House of Blues:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Maoli. \$25-\$75. Sunday, 7pm — Rav. \$18-\$54. Monday, 7:30pm — Danielle Ponder. \$22. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Little Stranger. \$20.

Joshua Tree Lake RV and Campground.:

Wednesday, 7:30pm - The

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 10am — Joshua Tree Music Festival. \$50-\$450.

Kensington Club:

Exploited. \$20-\$75.

Saturday, 8:30pm — The Broke Bastards and The Calvins. \$10. L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — Jemille Vialet. Friday, 7pm — Marelle. Saturday, 7pm — Brandon Diaz. Sunday, 11am — Michael

LeClerc. La Jolla Community Center: Friday, 12pm — Concerts in the

Courtyard: Fred Benedetti. Free. La Mesa Wine Works:

Sunday, 2pm — Garza Quartet.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 5:30pm — David Shyde.

Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.



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June 9



CRYSTAL GAYLE
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TEMBLAD Album Release at Soda Bar

MAY 19



Temblad (Spanish for "Tremble") was founded as a metal cover band before developing original music. The group will debut their album Hallucignosis at the Soda Bar in City Heights on Friday, May 19, with other acts to include Fermentor, Paroxysmal, and Corpsemaker

BLAISE GULD at Side Yard

MAY 20



Blaise Guld first earned local notice fronting rock-n-reggae group Mad Traffic, later signing with Blindspot Records and releasing a number of solo works as well as collaborating with synth wave artist Night Viber. His album Past Forward was nominated for a San Diego Music Award as Best Pop Album. He'll appear in Barrio Logan at Side Yard on Thursday, May 20.

DUSTIN LOTHSPEICH TRIBUTE at the Casbah

MAY 21

COURTESY LOTHSPEICH FAMILY



The local music community is still dealing with the recent death of Dustin Lothspeich, who died unexpectedly of natural causes in his La Mesa home on March 23. The onetime member of Bunny Gang, Old Tiger, Boy King, and Diamond Lakes was a tireless cheerleader of local music, making a name for himself writing about the San Diego scene as well as playing in it. A tribute concert bill at the Casbah on May 21 includes Dead Feather Moon, Oh Spirit, and The Strawberry Moons.

JARED MATTSON at the Casbah

MAY 24

PHOTOGRAPH BY LUCKYBANKSKENNY



One half of the Mattson 2 alongside his twin brother, Jared Mattson has a new solo album, Peanut, recorded mostly by himself at his own cabin retreat. With tracks featuring a drum machine and stripped down minimalist instrumentation, some tracks are nearly experimental, such as "Please Come Here," which features him singing in Japanese. He plays the **Casbah** on May 21. topping a bill that includes Well Well Well and Aloe Vera.

GUITAR PLUS WORKSHOP at Sheraton Mission Valley JUNE 25-30



This year's Guitar Workshop Plus, happening June 25 through 30 at the Sheraton Mission Valley, will include a Blues Seminar taught by local guitar icon Wayne Riker, who has also returned to teaching weekly lessons at Rock and Roll San Diego. The event also features guitarist Alex Skolnick and bassist Nathan East. Riker's sixteenth CD, Alphabetical Blues Bash (Vol. 2), is due this summer, featuring guest vocalists Lauren Leigh, Shelle Blue, Debora Galan, Josh Taylor, Rebecca Jade, Deanna Haala, Stacy Antonel, Heather Nation, and Nathan Raney.

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: SANTEE DRIVE-IN JAY ALLEN SANFORD KNOW YOU & YOUR HERE IT'S ONE OF THE BEST IF IT'S THE MOVIE THEATERS CHEAPEST, IT'S TH IN THE WHOLE CITY BEST

Saturday, 11am — ZB Savoy. Sunday, 11am — Brandon Diaz.

Lakehouse Hotel & Resort:

Saturday, 4:30pm — Wanted: The Bon Jovi Tribute. \$45.

Landings at Carlsbad:

Friday, 6pm — Gone Blonde.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

Saturday, 7pm — Gabriele Dagrezio.

Madam Bonnie's:

Thursday, 7pm - Andrea Loraine Quintet. Free. Friday, 7pm — Soo Kim Jazz Band. Free.

Mesa College:

Thursday, 7pm — Decades Jazz/ Fusion Concert. Free. Wednesday, 3pm — Applied Music Students Recital. Free.

Mingei International Museum:

Friday, 7:30pm — Strings & Bamboo: The Essence of Chinese Music. \$35-\$50.

Mission Bay Resort:

Monday, 6pm — Jesse Ray Smith. Tuesday, 6pm — Helena Holleran Wednesday, 6pm - Marelle.

Mission Trails Church:

Sunday, 5pm — Mark Montijo & Lenny Bole.

Morgan Run Resort and Club:

Friday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 9pm — Stone Horse.

Friday, 9pm — Shanie Rhodes, Free.

Saturday, 9pm — Give Me Back My Wig. Free.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm - Carry the Stone: All-Star Tribute to Pink Floyd, \$17-\$27. Friday, 7:30pm — Taylor Rave.

\$15-\$20.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Sweet &



KARAOKE EVERY MONDAY! Wed, May 17 RE-BURIED

Conjureth Desecation · Tumulation

Thu, May 18 SLAPPIN' HANDS

w/ Ric Scales Fri. May 19

DESECATION Kushtaka · Parasitic Existence Primortus

Sat, May 20 **RAPTURE** Goth, Industrial, EBM, **Harsh Beats**

Sun, May 21
TURNSTYLED. JUNKPILED riters in the Ro Mon May 22

PSYCHOTIC REACTION (OK)

Bedlam Rebels

Astronaut Fight

Thu, May 25 SMOKEY MIRROR Loom · White Dog

Fri, May 26 @ Corazon del Barrio, 7pm ULTRABOMB + THE BARSTOOL PREACHERS
Beta 7 · Just in Case

Sat, May 27 @ Corazon del Barrio, 7:30pm
THE DELTA BOMBERS Hopeless Jack

v.TilTwoClub.com

Tender Hooligans. \$22-\$82. Wednesday, 8pm — Natiruts.

Nate's Garden Grill:

Saturday, 12pm - Tinkersmith. Free.

New Children's Museum:

Saturday, 6pm — Armed Forces Day Concert: Haley Reinhart. \$100-\$200.

Nick & G's:

Friday, 7pm — Matt Heinecke.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Saturday & Sunday, 7:30pm -The Cure.

Observatory North Park: Thursday & Friday, 7:30pm — Thrice. \$45-\$165. Sunday, 7:30pm - Les Claypool's Fearless Flying Frog and Fishbone. \$100-\$302.

Old Powav Park:

Saturday, 1:15pm — San Diego City Guard Band Concert. Free. Sunday, 2:45pm — North County Winds Band. Free.

Old Town Temecula **Community Theater:**

Friday, 8pm — Jumping Jack Flash Sunday, 7pm — The Olivia Show.

Open Air Theatre: Saturday & Sunday, 7:30pm -

Billy Strings.

Panama 66:

Friday, 6pm — Danny Green. Sunday, 3pm — The Mad Hat Hucksters.

Parq Restaurant:

Friday, 8pm — Crankdat.

Pechanga Resort & Casino: Friday, 7:30pm — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band. \$99-\$715.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Bing Futch. \$15-\$18.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Saturday, 8pm — The Celestial Sirens. \$37-\$99.

Pure Project Vista:

Saturday, 7pm — Saturday Sessions: Dulaney & Company.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:

Friday, 7pm — Sonic Electronic. \$10-\$15.

Rustic Root:

Tuesday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.

San Diego Marriott Del Mar: Friday, 6pm — Jonny Tarr. Free.

SeaWorld:

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 10am — Viva La Musica. Sunday, 6pm — Elvis Crespo.

Side Yard:

Saturday, 6pm — Blaise Guld.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Ignite and Deviates. \$25. Friday, 7:30pm — Temblad Album Release. \$12. Saturday, 9pm — DANG! - A Soulful Electronic Dance Night. Free

Sunday, 7:30pm — Royaljag. \$18. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Frankie Rose and SRSQ. \$18.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — John-Robert and Sam Ritchie. \$12.

Soma:

Thursday, 7pm — Two Friends. \$39.

Friday, 7:30pm — Snow Tha Product.

South Carlsbad State Beach Campground:

Saturday, 6pm — The Ram.

Til-Two Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Slappin' Hands with Ric Scales. Free. Friday, 8pm — Desecation, Doomslayer, Kushtaka. Saturday, 9pm — Rapture. Free. Sunday, 8pm — Turnstyled, Junkpiled. Free. Monday, 8pm — Psychotic Reaction and Moxi & Loon. \$10.

Tower Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Deadwolff.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Thursday, 12pm — Ben Benavente. Friday, 12pm — Farrah Camu. Saturday, 12pm — Tyler F. Simmons.

Wine Pub:

Saturday, 6:30pm — Sara Jade. Free.

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 8pm — Hot Buttered Rum. \$15-\$18. Saturday, 9pm — Drifting Roots and Rebel Shakedown. \$10-\$12.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Alila Marea Beach Resort: Friday, May 26 - Helena

All Saints' Episcopal Church Hillcrest:

Sunday, May 28 - Sound of Music Sing-Along. Free.

Sunday, May 28 — San Diego City Guard Band Concert. **Balboa Park Hall of Nations:**

Friday, May 26 — Gregory Page.

Barefoot Bar and Grill: Saturday, May 27 - Jarred Matthew.



GONZO REPORT

Silence for the sound

Tio Leo's transforms into a proper jazz joint

I'll start out with a confession: I hate crowds. I get pretty stressed out at a sold-out concert, which is why I'll do just about anything to arrive early enough at a general admission show to be able to choose a seat on the end of an aisle. This affords me the comfort of an escape plan — an important consideration when ochlophobia is an issue. But I'd been hearing great things about presenter Holly Hofmann's latest Sunday Jazz events at Tio Leo's in the Bay Park neighborhood, and the pull of hearing some world class jazz — even in a potentially raucous setting — ended up overpowering my neurotic tendencies.

Even though there's a plenitude of free parking on

the venue grounds, by the time we got there, we were lucky to find one of the last remaining spots in the overflow lot of the U.S. Bank next door. The music began at 5 pm, but I'd heard from reliable sources that one needed to arrive substantially earlier in order to secure a table with good sightlines of the bandstand. I didn't arrive until a quarter-til, and the place was already packed to the rafters, it was standing room only. Happily, someone had saved me a prime spot; I could feel stares burning holes in my back as I made my way forward.

The collective din of the gathered masses was oppressive. It was hard to imagine the drone of a 747 being much louder. I started losing hope for any kind of redemptive and pure listening experience. Settling this crowd down just didn't seem like a possibility. However, a substantial investment had been made in the creation of a "listening room" vibe. Bringing in tables, for one. Tio Leo's floor plan usually facilitates dancing, but venue owner Frank Sciuto (a serious pianist in his own right) put in the work to lure Hofmann from her retirement from the Sunday Happy Hour scene — she ran a super-successful series for years at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley until the pandemic.

Still, I had my doubts. At 4:50, I was still pretty sure you could fire off a cannon in the bar without anyone hearing it. Then a true all-star band began to file onto the slightly elevated (and somewhat



Tables on the dance floor, jazz on the stage at Tio Leo's

spaciously appointed) stage. A Yamaha grand piano sat on the north side, about to be powered by former San Diegan Joshua White. Dr. Marshall Hawkins would be manning the bass, and young LA drum phenomenon Tyler Kreutel rounded out the quartet led by trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos, who was making one of his first appearances in public following the third and final dental surgery he had endured over the last year or so.

At the appointed hour, Hofmann grabbed the microphone and began to make some noise to get everyone's attention. After a few minutes and some dirty looks, the collective roar was reduced by about 90 decibels — enough for her to introduce

the band and, boldly, demand total silence. "Don't make me come to your table," said Hofmann, and she wasn't kidding. It turned out that almost everyone was actually there for the music, except for a small contingent of folks from the MeetUp social media app who were still engaged in conversation. Hofmann, undaunted, headed straight for their spot on the floor and said, "We're not going to start until it's quiet." Almost unbelievably, it worked.

Strands of colored lights hung down from the beams of the huge room's low black ceiling. The band was on fire. Castellanos worked his way up the horn until he landed upon a lethal trill. White and Hawkins each made stellar contributions before turning the stage over to Kreutel for an extended solo. And the audience knew their jazz etiquette: the conclusion of each solo elicited thunderous applause — much louder and more intense than you would encounter at a typical jazz listening room.

I looked around the darkened venue interior and recognized a couple dozen familiar faces. Everyone was leaning forward, tapping their toes or swaying in time with the music. The bar and restaurant side appeared to be wildly successful; it seemed like a win-win situation all the way around. After the second set concluded, appreciative fans line formed a line to stuff money into the glass tip jar at the edge of the stage. Color me impressed.

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo







Thursday, May 25 — KoGee Soul Reprise and Sometimes Julie. \$9. Friday, May 26 — Jerry's Middle

Sense.

Sunday, May 28 — Billy Bob Thornton & The Boxmasters..

Bloom Nightclub:

Saturday, May 27 — A-Trak. Tuesday, June 6 — Flux Pavilion.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, May 25 — Currents and Like Moths To Flames. \$18-

Friday, May 26 - Rhapsody of Fire and Wind Rose. \$24-\$28. Saturday, May 27 — IAMX. \$25-\$30.

Sunday, May 28 — Mychildren Mybride and Mugshot. \$20-\$25.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Sunday, May 28 — All You Need Is Love: Music of The Beatles. \$40-\$50.

Cannonball:

Thursday, May 25 — Ben Benavente.

Carruth Cellars Urban Winery:

Saturday, May 27 — She Says So Free

Thursday, May 25 — Bob Log III and Shooda Shook It. \$15. Saturday, May 27 — Zeke. Sunday, May 28 — Jesus Was a Vato

Corazon Del Barrio:

Friday, May 26 — Ultrabomb and The Bartool Preachers. \$20-

Saturday, May 27 — The Delta Bombers and Moxi & Loon. \$20-\$25

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Sunday, May 28 — Bluegrass

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, May 26 - Joanna Gerolaga. Sunday, May 28 — Anthony Kauka Stanley.

Encinitas Elks Lodge:

Friday, May 26 — West of 5. \$10.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and

Spa: Thursday, May 25 - Christian Taylor Saturday, May 27 — Jason Graham

F6ix Niteclub:

Friday, May 26 — Memorial Day Weekend. Saturday, May 27 - Memorial Day Weekend. Sunday, May 28 - Day Series.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:

Friday, May 26 — David Shyde.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Friday, May 26 — Sean McCole. Sunday, May 28 — TJ Moss.

Hello Betty Fish House: Sunday, May 28 — Blame Betty

and All Strung Out.

Holding Company:

Thursday, May 25 - Sponge and Raue, \$14-\$19. Friday, May 26 — Gunner

Musical modern music from the Symphony

The San Diego Symphony concert on Saturday, May 6, started off with a new piece of music entitled Onward by Brian Raphael Nabors. The work took me by surprise. I am always skeptical of new compositions and, more often than not, my skepticism is confirmed by a soulless piece of random sound effects.

Onward has a soul. As is my practice, I avoided reading any explanation of the piece from the composer until after I heard it. The music must stand on its own, free of any notes in the program. As I listened, I was struck by what I would call optimism in the music. I also sensed structure and purpose. What was this? A new piece of music that has a discernible tone is rare.

I went ahead and looked into what Nabors had to

say about his composition. "Onward is an homage to the triumphs and growth we experience along the epic journey of life. The piece is a 10-minute soundscape to celebrate the dreams and aspirations that motivate us to become our best selves. The consistent use of perpetual motion throughout the texture of the orchestra is meant to capture the spirit of constantly traveling onward, either philosophically or quite literally. I aspired to create a musical journey depicting the moments of discovery, innovation, and change that continually push us and our

One idea, in particular, stands out there: "to celebrate the dreams and aspirations that motivate us to become our best selves." That is a worthwhile intention for a

world into the future."

piece of music to have. Well done Mr Nahors

Lutoslawski's Concerto for Orchestra was the next piece. It is a masterpiece of modern classical music, a complex and intricate work that showcases both the composer's mastery of orchestration and his ability to create a rich and dynamic musical landscape. Here, too, there is a feeling of structure and purpose to the music. Make no mistake: it is modern. But it is also recognizable as music.

The headliner for the concert was pianist Garrick Ohlson and Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 There was many an "mmmmhhhh" at my table. To clarify: the sound was an "mmmm" followed by an additional exhalation through the nose. It is usually reserved as a response to something - or, more often,

The optimistic — and gifted — Brian Nabors

someone — that is exceedingly beautiful and sexy.

No one is going to accuse Rachmaninoff of looking sexy, but this piano concerto oozed romance from start to finish. I found myself observing couples who were in my area and wondering if "it" was going to happen for them after the concert.

Garrick Ohlson's performance was a stunning display of technical virtuosity and

emotional depth. The concerto's complex and demanding passages were executed flawlessly, with Ohlson's playing seamlessly blending with the orchestra's accompaniment. He conveyed the full range of Rachmaninoff's emotions.

Conductor Robert Spano was understated in his mannerisms, but the quality of his music-making with the orchestra cannot be overstated. This was a great concert.

Classical Music this week

Aviara Piano Trio Comprised of violinist Robert Schumitzky, cellist Erin Breene, and pianist Ines Irawati, performing a program of romantic chamber music. Sunday, May 21, 2:30pm; free. Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake

Hausmann Quartet: Haydn Voyages - Mementos A quarterly concert series, will be performed aboard the 1898

steam ferryboat Berkeley that

operated for 60 years on San

Francisco Bay. Sunday, May 21, 2:30pm; San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive.

Le Salon De Musiques F. MENDELSSOHN: Piano

Quartet No.2 in F minor Op 2 - G. MAHLER: Piano Ouartet in A minor - R. KAHN: Piano Quartet No.2 in A minor Op 30 "US Premiere." Featuring Yueun Kim, violin, Nao Kubota, viola, Michael Kaufman, cello, Dominic Cheli, piano. Sunday, May 21, 4pm; \$45-\$95. La Jolla Woman's Club, 7791 Draper

Avenue.

North Coast Symphony Celebrates Women Composers The performance includes the Gaelic Symphony by Amy Beach, D'Un Matin du Printemps by Lili Boulanger, Callirhoë by Cécile Chaminade, and features Chaminade's Concertino for Flute and Orchestra with flute soloist Valerie McElroy. Conducted by Daniel Swem. Saturday, May 20, 2:30pm; \$10-\$12. San Dieguito

United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena.

Robert Wetzel-Jewels of the Guitar Repertoire For guitar aficionados and music lovers alike, classical guitarist Robert Wetzel, performs his own transcriptions and original works by J.S. Bach, Mozart, Sor, Beethoven, Chopin, Ponce, Albeniz, Barrios and Villa-Lobos. Sunday, May 21, 7pm; \$40. First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 1740 4th Avenue.

SD Symphony Jacobs Masterworks: Barnatan Plays Brahms Rafael Payare, conductor, Inon Barnatan, piano, Johannes Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 2, in B-flat Major, Op. 83, Gity Razaz: New Commissioned Work WORLD PREMIERE Antonín Dvořák: Symphony No. 7 in D minor, Op. 70. Saturday & Sunday, May 20 & 21, 5pm; \$30-\$114. The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 200 Marina Park Way, San Diego.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Gunner Reunion Show. Saturday, May 27 — Township Rebellion and Supersonic. Sunday, May 28 — Doyle of the Misfits.

House of Blues:

Thursday, May 25 — Transviolet. Friday, May 26 - Sepultura and Kreator. Friday, May 26 — Power of Love, A Throwback 80s Rave. Sunday, May 28 — Siddhartha.

Humphreys by the Bay:

Friday, May 26 — Rodrigo Y Gabriela. Saturday, May 27 — Rodrigo Y Gabriela. Sunday, May 28 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.

Jazz Lounge:

Sunday, May 28 — San Diego Jazz Organ Summit. \$50.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, May 25 - David Shvde. Saturday, May 27 — Christian Taylor. Sunday, May 28 — Jonny Tarr.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, May 26 - Joshua White: The Music of Harold Arlen. \$25-\$35

La Valencia Hotel:

Friday, May 26 — Keni Yarbro. Saturday, May 27 — Helena Sunday, May 28 — Jesse Johnson.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort: Friday, May 26 - Marcela

Mendez.

Madam Bonnie's:

Thursday, May 25 — Mar Picao Latin Jazz Fusion. Free. Friday, May 26 — Amanda Portela Y Los Brujos Atómicos. Free.

Saturday, May 27 - Mad Hat Hucksters, Free.

Mission Bay Resort:

Thursday, May 25 — Johnny Martin. Friday, May 26 — Christian Taylor. Saturday, May 27 — Jemille Vialet Sunday, May 28 - Brandon

Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, May 25 - Carter Winter, \$15-\$20.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, May 25 — Barbwire.

Friday, May 26 — Primo. Free. Saturday, May 27 — Tube Amp'd. Free.

Music Box:

Thursday, May 25 - Natiruts. Friday, May 26 — Cupcakke. Saturday, May 27 — Barbie Rave.

Nova SD:

Saturday, May 27 — Acraze.

Observatory North Park: Thursday, May 25 — The

Damned, \$40. Saturday, May 27 — Anees.

Open Air Theatre: Thursday, May 25 — Quinn XCII

and Arizona. \$25-\$201. Panama 66:

Friday, May 26 — Besos Jazz Trio. Free. Saturday, May 27 — Trio Gadjo.

Parq Restaurant: Saturday, May 27 - Sing Dance Crawl: Too \$hort. Sunday, May 28 — Lil Jon.

Pine Valley House Resort: Sunday, May 28 — Gregory Page.

Pure Project Vista: Saturday, May 27 — Saturday

Sessions: Mitch Bradford, Free.

Sunday, May 28 — Keni Yarbro.

Side Yard:

Saturday, May 27 — Alex Elisabeth.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, May 25 — Bristol To Memory. \$12. Friday, May 26 — Wine Lips and Pancho & the Wizards. Saturday, May 27 — Valuemart, Sparkler, Sunglaciers.

Soma:

Thursday, May 25 — Tove Lo and Slayyyter.

Sound:

Saturday, May 27 — Banda Cuisillos and Banda Machos.

Spin Nightclub:

Friday, May 26 - Ben Klock and Ciara B.

Thornton Winery: Friday, May 26 — SantanaWays.

Tidal: Saturday, May 27 — Johnny

Martin. Til-Two Club:

Thursday, May 25 — Smokey Mirror, Loom, White Dog. Saturday, May 27 — Pieces, Eviscerate, Paroxysmal. Sunday, May 28 - Loudmouth, Andrew & the Cockblockers.

Viejas Arena:

Thursday, May 25 - Lizzo and Latto, \$69-\$675.

Waterhar:

Thursday, May 25 — Jemille Vialet.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Thursday, May 25 - Ben Benavente. Saturday, May 27 — Jesse Johnson. Sunday, May 28 — Blu Gruv.

Asia without rules

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

Favorite foods, magically transformed

Hoxton Manor, 3131 University Avenue, North Park; Hoxton Manor's theme of Southeast Asian inspired food with a California flair might seem a bit heady: the influences lean on Thailand and Vietnam, but there are no rules when it comes to flavor combinations, just creative fusion led by Japanese techniques.

The black color scheme lends the place the dramatic feeling of a film noir set: moody, dim lighting and narrow seating. The simply designed interior and understated decor contrast with the bold and fiery food and enhance the feeling of intimate dining. Food here is meant to be shared, with portions perfect for two.

All the items on Hoxton's menu, which arrive on black plates, enticed me — from the Slow-Grilled Chicken Skewers with Peanut Condiment (\$13) to the Wok-Fried Smoked Tofu with Green Curry (\$24). But in order to best assess the kitchen's craft, I chose to explore my favorite foods and see how they would be magically transformed. So I was sold on the Sri Lankan Coconut Roti with Smoked Eggplant Dip (\$14) even before our server recommended it. (The service here is excellent: knowledgeable, attentive but not overbearing.) Warm, homemade naan accompanied a bowl of fragrant Thai chili-spiked eggplant nestled under a blanket of fluffy coconut cream that was topped with crisp, fried shallots. Smoky undertones balanced the mild coconut, and when smothered on the naan, the dish released an assertive punch of heat. Genius.



Smoked eggplant dip.

In contrast to the spiced eggplant, we tried Hoxton's version of Asian skewers: Oyster Mushroom with Lemongrass and Jaew—a Thai sauce of lime, fish sauce, chili flakes, shallot and cilantro (\$14), and Moo Ping Pork Belly (\$15). The hot, sour, slightly sweet taste of the meaty oyster mushrooms enhanced with lemongrass made this one of my favorites. Cubes of skewered fatty pork

belly, smoked with Japanese charcoal, delivered a soft sweetness that let the pork shine — enough satisfy any bacon lover.

The Prawn Fried Rice with Cashew Curry (\$28) was another tantalizing combination. The stunning visual display of cashew curry, ring-molded fried rice, and succulent, whole grilled prawns was spectacular enough. But the mingling of textures and added chunks of prawns in the rice made this dish a masterpiece for all senses.



Asian skewers

After that, our bowl of saucy noodles peppered with beef brisket (Smoked Beef Brisket Fried Noodles, \$27) and garnished with greens didn't need to dazzle — it provided a welcome dose of comfort food. Sassy, spicy, and salty good.

Dessert is always my favorite part of any meal, and that's why I look at the offerings first, before even ordering! When I spotted Pineapple Upside-Down Cake with Ginger Ice Cream and Cardamom (\$10), I knew I had to try it. A slice of warm, delicate, pineapple-topped cake sat beside a large scoop of ginger-infused creamy bliss. Not overly sweet — this is not your old-fashioned brown sugar drenched cake. I savored every heavenly bite. My only wish is that the presentation of the cake lived up to the same standards as the rest of the food.

Hoxton's serves wine and creative cocktails and invites guests to try their upstairs bar called Dolly's. We chose to sip a light and crisp Sauvignon Blanc (\$13) that worked to cool the spice on our palates.

To be noted: Hoxton Manor adds an 18% service fee for the staff to the bill. Yes, this is stated at the bottom of the menu — but not on the website. This fee, plus an additional 20% for our server, meant that we were tipping at 38%, which is steep. Many restaurants are choosing this option in response to rising costs, but I found it confusing and expensive. Make sure you budget for the service fee; for me, it came as a surprise.

Mary Knight



The spare exterior and interior decor belie a riot of complex combinations in the kitchen.

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

AAPI Heritage Dinner Pop-up dining event in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Executive Chef Paolo Chan brings his Polynesian roots and worldwide travels to the forefront through an eight-course, prix-fixe menu. Friday, May 19, 6pm; \$85. Cottage, 7702 Fay Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Artisan Wine Series Dinner: Palazzo Wines Sip on wines from Palazzo Wine paired with the multi-course communal meal of seasonal bounty by Executive Chef Kelli Crosson. Scott Palazzo, Owner and Winemaker of Palazzo Wine, including discussion about the selected wine varietals. Thursday, May 18, 6pm; \$325. 21 and up. A.R. Valentien, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Cocktails & Couture May is GBS-CIDP Awareness Month. Lizz hosts her 11th Annual fashion show, and a portion of the show's proceeds is donated to the GBS/CIDP Foundation International. Saturday, May 20, 11:30am; 21 and up. Vintana Wine + Dine, 1205 Auto Park Way. (ESCONDIDO)

Gospel Brunch Hosted by Sister Nun-of-the-Above (Tootie) with the Sisters of Sequin. Each entree includes unlimited Mimosas, Champagne, or Bloody Marys. Sundays, 12pm; through Saturday, December 30, Lips Restaurant, 3036 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

San Diego Dim Sum Tour Enjoy a walking tour through the heart of Asia-town and end at a popular Asian supermarket. Trip length 1.5-2 miles. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 31, \$69. Jasmine Seafood Restaurant, 4609 Convoy St., Suite A. (KEARNY MESA)

Street Food Market Lane Field Park Market is a street food market showcasing 20+ food vendors, as well as boutique coffee, with live music from 12:30pm until 2:30pm. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through



Brisket fried noodles

Saturday, December 31, **free**. Lane Field Park, 1009 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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

Vintners Wine Festival San Diego County Vintners Association 2023 Annual Vintners Wine Festival Sunday, May 21, 1pm; \$70-\$80. 21 and up. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

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HAPPY HOUR

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

CARLSBAD

Boar Cross'n: Tuesday, 7pm to close: \$5 beer & a shot Wednesday, Open-close: \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3 well drinks Sunday, Open-7pm: \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3 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 DxT 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 DxT Micheladas

CHULA VISTA

Shake & Muddle: Monday, 4pmclose: \$2.00 off all signature drinks, \$5 Pacifico, \$7 Mondavi Red Blend, \$7 Mondavi Chardonnay. Happy hour menu available all night

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

CORONADO

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

Islander: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 Pacifico, \$6 craft drafts, \$7 select wine by the glass, \$8 mai tais and margaritas. \$4 and \$7 and \$10 tacos, \$8 volcano fries and West Pac eggrolls, \$12 Kalua pork sandwich, \$15 Islander fish sandwich

The beautiful game gets a bold brew

San Diego has no shortage of sports-related beers. Padres fans have Ballast Point's Swingin' Friar Ale and AleSmith's .394 Pale Ale, while Aztecs fans can sip on AleSmith's San Diego State Ale, and even Gulls fans have their Blue Line Blonde from Second Chance. Business is booming for breweries that align with local teams. Recently, NOVA Kombucha found their own collab team, and filled a void among fans of the world's most popular sport.

"We were looking to partner with a local team, and when we saw what Wave FC was building in women's soccer, we were fascinated," explains NOVA Kombucha founder Tiago Carneiro. "They are putting San Diego in the global scenario for women's soccer and pushing the boundaries in a sport that is normally dominated by men, while driving thousands of new fans. Wave FC is bringing families with their daughters together to watch their games. And that's what NOVA is about: community, innovation, and sports. Also, NOVA is a San Diego brand with Brazilian roots, and soccer is in our DNA, so it would make a lot of sense for us to partner with Wave FC.

It was important to NOVA to select the right flavor to represent the club, and so Wave players were involved in the process. Carneiro says that they "tried seven different flavors, including Blueberry Mint, Dragon Fruit, and Paloma. At some point, it was getting hard to choose, so we had to divide the voting process into three parts. The result was very tight, but Dragon Fruit was the big winner."

Wave FC Kombucha is a bright pink colored brew that matches one of the dominant colors of the team's crest (as well as Alex Morgan's iconic headband). But Carneiro adds that the complexion is more significant than just going well with team colors. "The bright and vibrant hue of pink represents characteristics of the team, such as strength, femininity, confidence, and courage."



NOVA and San Diego Wave FC team up

The kombucha has the bold, tangy flavor expected from hard kombucha, but it's still well balanced. The sweetness of dragon fruit and agave works nicely with the addition of tart limes to provide a smooth finish that makes the brew easy to casually sip during a match. The limitededition release is available at Snapdragon Stadium and NOVA tasting rooms — which also serve as watch parties for Wave away games. In June, it will hit the shelves at grocery stores and more

8 than 100 independent liquor stores around the country.

NOVA will soon be adding another massive tasting room to host those watch parties when it opens its Mission Valley location. Carneiro enthuses, "It will be the most central San Diego branch in a space within Westfield Mission Valley shopping center. The new Novo Brazil brewpub will be a 350-seat restaurant with a full bar menu, onsite brewhouse, and 60 taps of beer and kombucha, as well as an extensive menu, includ-

ing tacos, burgers, empanadas, appetizers, and Brazilian-inspired entrees to bring all the fun and support to sports fans."

> For more craft booze news, see sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news

The Goat: Daily, 7-9 pm \$3 beer, \$2 tacos, \$3 off all menu items.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

Grevstone: Monday-Thursday. Sunday, 4-6:30pm: Whole dedicated menu for happy hour

Johnny WAHOO! Golf Bar: Monday, \$5 house drafts, \$6 all other drafts, \$7 well cocktails. \$2 off

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

Tin Roof San Diego: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: Half off all spirits and

Werewolf American Pub: Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, house wines, and wells.

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

EAST VILLAGE

Bay City Brewing Co East Village: Monday-Tuesday, 3-5pm: Half off drinks. Wednesday, 3-5pm: Half off drinks. All night: Half off wings. *Thursday*, 3-5pm: Half off drinks. All night: \$15 pizza and a pint. Friday, 3-5pm: Half tab.

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

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

HILLCREST

Tacaliente: Monday, 4-8pm: \$3 beers. Tuesday, All day \$3 beers, 99 cent tacos until 10pm. Wednesday. All day \$10 marinated wings with beer. 4-8pm: \$3 beers. Thursday, All day \$5 beers, \$8 micheladas. 4-8pm: \$3 beers. Friday, All day \$15 carne asada fries and a beer. 4-8pm: \$3 beers. Saturday, All day \$3 Sangria glass 4-8pm: \$3 beers Sunday, All day \$10 street taco and michelada. 4-8pm: \$3 beers.

LA JOLLA

Sandpiper Wood Fired Grill & Oysters: Wednesday Sunday, 4-5:30pm: Buy a bottle of champagne and get a dozen oysters free. \$4 Baja fish taco, \$8 rosemary parmesan fries, \$8 crispy mozzarella

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.

LAKESIDE

Eastbound Bar & Grill:

Tuesday-Friday, 2-5pm: \$2 off all house cocktails, \$3 domestic bottles \$4 micro drafts

LIBERTY STATION

Bottlecraft Liberty Station:

Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 Original 40 Tell Me Mo Pale Ale can, \$4 Three Sons amber ale can, \$6 Original 40 porter draft, \$7 house white or red, \$8 Boulevardier cocktail.

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.

MIRAMAR

Duck Foot Brewing Com-

pany: Monday, 12pm-8pm: \$4 pints with Grotto membership card Tuesday, All day: \$12 two Fish Tacos and pint of draft beer Thursday, Save 20 percent on Growler and Grumbler fills

MISSION HILLS

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: All draught pints (excluding cask, \$6 Anytime, and Black Velvet) and bottled beer \$1 off. well liquor \$4.50, \$5 house wine, appetizers \$5.95-\$7.95.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Sycamore Den: Daily, 5-6pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$1 off wine, \$2 off specialty cocktails

NORTH PARK

Crushed: Monday-Tuesday, Friday Sunday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites Wednesday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites, all day Wine Wednesday bottle of wine sold for the price of a glass Thursday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites, all day Game & Wing Deal - \$12 beer and wings combo

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

Second Chance Beer Lounge: Monday, 3-8pm: \$6 pints

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

The Joint: Monday, Thursday, 12-6pm: \$5 all local drafts. Tuesday, 12-6pm: \$5 all local IPAs. Wednesday, 12-6pm: Rotating \$4 draft selection. Saturday-Sunday, 12-6pm: \$7 bottles of bubbles and OI with brunch entree

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 BÛD cans & mellow corn whiskey shot. Saturday-Sunday, All day: \$7 12 ounce PBR or BUD cans & mellow corn whiskey shot.

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

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Tuesday, 6pmclose: 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

Bub's Dive Bar: Monday,

Thursday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$5 select drafts and wells. \$1 wings, half off Red Baskets. Tuesday,

Crushed: Monday-Tuesday, Friday-Sunday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites Wednesday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites, all day Wine Wednesday bottle of wine sold for the price of a glass Thursday, 4-7pm: \$2 off beers and bites, all day Game & Wing Deal - \$12 beer and wings combo

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 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 MARCOS

Churchill's Pub and Grill:

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

SOLANA BEACH

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Et Voilà French Bistro:

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









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PERSONALS

ASTOUNDED Actually I've got it made. Remember that enough for years well I got. Thank Mercedes. Gonna be a good life just like I promised. Too bad you scared. U should be haunting my place. Open ur messager. Or just he lange. just be lame

AT FIRST, I was like, who is this Brian B. Now, I'm like, where is Brian B. I miss his shout-outs.

DEAREST KATHERINE the minivan's catalytic converter was stolen last night so I will not meet you at the Driveway Soci-ety's annual luau celebration.

FOUR LETTER WORDS TO CONSIDER hate or yuck and love, your choice madman

STEVE IM missing you, wishing you well. (619) 417-0866 Sorry, I was ill. K (You're my best!) Let's date. Kathi (I'll wait)

THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY HOPES that motorists will not drive on sidewalks to avoid the potholes in the roadway

WHO'S IN CHARGE

ASHTI You were the coolest person I have met in a long long time. Miss ya! Pepsi. P.

DEAR JOE Happy 34th Birthday! You are magnificent, and deserve to be celebrated for all that you and all that you still will be. I hope the year ahead is full of adventure, wonder, heal-ing, growth, and opportunity. With Love

HIT & RUN/WHITE JEEP NEED INFO Dear passenger. on 4/23/23 @3am your friend driving white Jeep, @JIB drive-thru on Pacific Hwy, backed into my car, causing damage to the hood, despite the honking, DID NOT stop to exchange info. Please email the driver info. TY. KARMA is a B%-£,Ç"H martinee1122@vahoo.com nee1122@yahoo.com

STEVE IM; You can always talk to me- you are missed much! I'll take you out! Happy Bday. K (619) 417-0866

BOARDWALK BIKE ACCIDENT 10-year-old Aidens boardwalk bike accident caused an old man's sciatica. Frequent acupuncture and chiropractic is costly and would like help from dad's (Chris) homeowner's insurance. Steve Skinner, #619-587-4872. (619) 587-4972 / skinnerxyz1@gmail.com

COMPANION NEEDED Companion needed twice weekly, for German lady 81. For time paid for conversations and brief but interesting. Trips within SD North County. Email tanga-roa700@gmail.com.

A MAN PASSED AWAY on the corner by the gas station on H&Oaklawn. In Chula. His people, left candles &flowers to honor him. Tonight, some puke of humanity, kicked the altar all over the street!! Broken, shat-tered! So terribly unkind. Ugly! Feel good? Creep! Desecration of a death site!!! Enjoy your

BEULAH, getting ready for sur-

I OVERCAME a super bad case of eczema recently after Docs couldn't cure. I am completely clear without drugs. Now for my payback to mankind I will bring everything to you that will cure you for donation only. Dabiers-fly@hotmail.com

RIP. MD sure do miss you lots

DARLING FRANK I am so happy to hear that you're hav-ing a wonderful time with your new car. But a mini van? Really!

DEAREST KATHERINE, I am happy that you are happy about my minivan. It's Bugatti's latest off the line custom-made. Love,

LIKE WATER LIKE CHOCO-LATE you began to give, but did they? Moderation, control, tolerance.

MEN LATE NIGHT RECRE-ATION fun S. side of Hillside Park El Cajon. Cornhole, one on one half court, horseshoes, nature walk. Come join

THANK YOU DRIVEWAY SOCI-ETY I can't wait to join anticipators anonymous.

WAITING FOR the next Driveway Society post? Join Anticipators anonymous.

BRING BACK MOVIES IN THE PARK Nowhere between here and the Ozarks do communities share movies in public as Californians do. Bring back the social fun. Give us something to do once a week that is family friendly and affordable. Who agrees??

SO GLAD WE ARE REPAVING La Jolla Blvd. just in time for them to secede from San Diego! The Driveway Society.

STEPHANIE YOUNG from Santee, you graduated Santana High in late 80's-early 90's. Family Joe and Angie, birthday 9/16, hope you found happiness. Lester (760) 427-8695

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

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

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.

HOW DO YOU FAKE BEING SEEN by 500 people after being crucified? First Corinthi-ans 15:3-6

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

NOTICES

HOT FUN IN THE SUMMER-TIME iTreasureSanDiego.Com

FOODIES 4 FOSTER KIDS Show you care by dining where it matters in May to benefit 3,000 current and former fos-ter children in San Diego. ,ÄØPromises2Kids,ÄØhas partnered with local restaurants to raise funds for San Diego foster children. promises2kids.org/ foodies2023/

HEALTHY SOIL DRAWING FOR FARMS Enter our monthly drawing for small SD County commercial farms on 20 acres or less to win a free Healthy Soils consultation for your farm, orchard or vineyard with Dr. K and Heritage Farmer, Ernie Klemm. spvsoils.com/specials/#HealthySoilsCheckup (760) 746-4769 / grow@spvsoils.com

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LEARN TO WEAVE! Come learn the meditative craft of weaving! Classes each month. Learn to weave a Silk Wall Hanging, Warp & Weave on a Rigid Heddle Loom, Intuitive Weaving &/or Clasped Weft
Weaving techniques! Save your
space today at sandiegocraft.
org! (619) 273-3235 / make@ sandiegocraft.org

MATH TUTORING Online math sessions for middle school, high school and also college. Contact Pej to schedule: (619) 735-2579.

RIDERS RETREAT Learn to ride or just go on an adventure with our 4 day riders retreat. Only \$1200 text for details (619)

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASS-ES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Join us out-First class is free. Join us out-doors Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings or indoors for Qi Gong 6pm Tuesday and Taiji 6pm Wednesday. Taoist Sanctuary. Sign up on our web-site. 6/1 "Principles and Training Tips for Taijiquan" lecture 7-9. 6/3 & 6/4 workshop on the forms with David Gaffney and Davidine Sim. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. taoistsanctuary.org.

WERE YOU A LEMURIAN? EdwordsHorticulture.com, then call (619) 402-8670

Do you wonder about life's purpose? Discover many littleknown secrets to inner peace. your true place in life, and how to have more success and satisfaction in your relationships and job. Ask for a Free Brochure today! www.lemurianfellowship. org/freebrochure

INTRO TO HAND TOOLS & WOODWORK Want to learn woodworking? In this 2-part class students learn the basics of woodworking with hand tools & construct a wooden plant stand using half-lap, dowels & notched joinery. This Sat/Sun from 9am-1pm. Save your space at sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiego-craft.org craft.org

EXPLORE FIBER ARTS THIS MAY! Come learn a new Fiber Art at San Diego Craft Collective this May & June! Learn to macrame', warp & weave on a rigid heddle loom, sewing fundamentals, sew a hoodie, silk weaving & more! Save your space today at sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

JOIN ADULT & KIDS GARDEN CLUBS Join our monthly Adult Garden Club or weekly Kids Garden Club or weekly Kids Garden Club (6+ yrs) for some hands-on, outdoor community, fun & learning! Located in Lib-erty Station, Craft Collective welcomes you to enjoy the many benefits of the garden with us! sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

KIDS GARDEN SUMMER CAMP! Does your child love being outdoors? This Summer being outdoors? I his Summer is a perfect time to explore the garden, science, eco-crafts & more in a half-day, week-long Gardening Summer Camp, July 31-Aug 4 from 12:30-4:30pm. Garden by the bay! Sign up at sandiegocraft.org. (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

KIDS & TEENS SEWING CAMPS Two fun Summer Sew-ing Camps to choose from this July 17-21! We'll dive into Fashion Design with upcycling denim techniques, & in the afternoons, it's all about Sewing Basics with beach bags & bucket hats! Ages 8-18 years. Visit sandiegocraft. org. (619) 273-3235 / make@ sandiegocraft.org

EXCELLENT ENGLISH TUTOR-ING offers personal instruction. First hour free. Call Sue (858) 740-7264.

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PRIVATE ROOM FOR SINGLE (\$700) This is a simple room for a quiet, cleanly individual. Approx. 103 square feet. Includes ceiling fan/light. Features two large windows at cor-ner of apartment. Shared bath-room and Kitchen as well as access to home gym in living room. Hi-Speed Wifi. Natas_ Enasni2@yahoo.com

MATURE GAL SEEKS ROOM TRADE!!! In need of a place to live soon! I'm free of addictions, drama or crazy X's! I'm trust-worthy, respectful, polite, quiet, neat, clean! I can provide cleaning, cooking, pet care, house sitting etc. for a private room/ space. Contact me with details!!! sandiegolady13@gmail.com

COMIC CON OR NOT room for rent including breakfast, contact Sue (858) 740-7264.

ROOM IN HOUSE, \$530 furnished w/ 50" tv. Cozy, very private 3817 Wilson Ave N Park. (619) 496-4254

ROOMMATES NEEDED IN SAN DIEGO This beautiful single residential 1,900 square foot Ranch Home has 3 bedrooms and 2.0 bathrooms. Remodeled and upgraded from top to bot-tom. This home is perfect for a single person or a family avail-able for rent. (612) 517-2670 / butlersimmonsloveu@gmail.com

WANTED ROOM in exchange for partial rent, and path to work it off. For girl and therapy cat. Contact Michelle, (619) 228-5843

ROOM FOR RENT, EL CAJON Small private room for female 55+. Shared bathroom with 2 other females in 2 bedroom manufactured home. Gated manufactured nome. Gated community with amenities. Rent \$645/mo, \$250 Security Deposit, Utilities average \$70-\$100/mo. No drugs/alcoholics/pets. Call (619) 504-1590.

ROOM FOR RENT (619) 869-5814 / rtgood2016@yahoo.com

ROOMMATE, \$650 420 friendly, clean, safe, living space. Natural female/ male. Hip, artsy Eastern spiritual, musical, maybe audio / video, piano, musical skills? reduced rent exchange. (619)

MATURE ROOMMATE WANTED Male or female. Chula Vista 2br/2ba furnished apartment to share, \$800/month, \$300/ deposit, three month lease, includes all utilities + WIFI, laundry, off street parking. Close to freeways. References required. Call Brian: (619) 709-1743.

INDEPENDENT LIVING Room for rent. Quiet. Nice view home. Shared room \$800, Single occupancy \$1200. Wifi, meals. La Mesa (619) 750-4447. A place to call home.

MUSICIANS WANTED AVAIL-ABLE Composer seeks assis-tant/ copyist/ piano/ sightread-ing. Room / board/ stipend, composition lessons. Busco musico assistante que sepuede leer musica/toca piano. Cuarto, comidas, felia. (619) 457-8516 jebroe5@gmail.com.

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, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad. Dale Hauskins (858)

RENTALS

DOWNTOWN \$1799. 1BD+1BA. Ball Park Square, 1 milla al sur de Petco Park! Harbor Village. NASSCO. Parada de tranv'a. 2850 Main Street. Español. (619) 646-8670.

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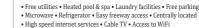


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\$400/MONTH long-term directly in front of the river ocean five minutes away 13 month contract. Ensenada a Rosarito LA mission 30 minutes across the border. (760) 250-7055.

FOUR BEDROOM TWO BATH-ROOM 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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MUSIC

FREE TIX RUSH/ZEP TRIB-UTES Save money on the door charge. Get your free tickets to see Anthem San Diego's Rush tribute at the Music Box 7/8/23. Zep, Bowie, Aerosmith tributes rock the box as well. See video and more event info at facebook.com/AnthemSD



PA SYSTEM FOR SALE Carvin 1200 watt system. Excellent complete with main speakers, wedge stage monitors, stands, snake, all cables. 1200 watt stereo head with effects, stereo equalizer, excellent sound and distortion free power. \$1000 Firm seajay33@sbcglobal.net.

GRADO REFERENCE HEAD-PHONES Reference series model RS2E, mint condition, open back design with larger ear pads provide more comfort, less than 35 hrs use, broken in and incredible sound. Paid \$ 750 plus \$ 80 for the new pads. Asking \$ 400, no low ball offers please. ja311390@gmail.com

NAD MODEL 2200 POWER AMP Used amp, 100 watts per channel, fair shape, missing 2 feet on bottom, previous owners name etched on front panel, some chips on front panel. Not pretty but plays, sold as is. Great for garage or spare room. \$200, no low balls offers please JA311390@gmail.com

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PA SYSTEM Carvin 1200 watt system. Excellent and complete with main speakers, wedge stage monitors, stands, snake and all cables. 1200 watt stereo head with effects, two 9 band stereo equalizers, and excellent sound and distortion free power. \$1000 firm. seajay33@ sbcglobal.net

BAND PRACTICE STUDIO monthly lockout available April 30th. La Jolla, Miramar area 10:00 am-12:00am. Sound-proofed rehearsal studio. Fits 5 to 6 piece band. Central AC. \$600. per month. Universal Sound Inc. (858) 401-2973

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

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BICYCLES

BICYCLE FOR SALE one year old, runs like new, ridden about six times, make offer. Call (562) 846-9299, Steven

TREK LADIES BICYCLE medium size, new condition, multigear, in kinkos box, must bring boxcutter. \$275 cash obo. Email monkandrea2@gmail.com to see

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

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.

BICYCLE PARTS Impresa heavy duty, extra large, 4 pack bike hooks, never used, \$10. Bell telescoping frame pump, used once, \$10. Contact (619) 380-4861.

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MOTORCYCLES



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RESEARCH STUDY, OCEANS-IDE schizophrenia research that is available in Oceanside. Pay \$100-150 a week. Qualified participants will be paid along with free transportation. 18-60 years old. Call Travis (619) 389-0550. Referral number only

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MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following: a couple of brand new clocks folding laundry basket a couple of brand new pants(never worn) a full set skating pads and more selling price is negotiable ask for James @ (619) 450-7914. (619) 394-3294 / j.fifield31@gmail.com

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BK BOOKSHELF (12.5"X11.5"X36") This black small wood bookshelf or stor-age unit has 3 non-adjustable shelves (11.25" between shelves). Top shelf has a back-ing board + 2 open bottom shelves. Overall good condition with some wear & scratches. \$15. Text or email for more info/ pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbc-sd@gmail.com

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TABLE LAMP METAL CYLIN-DER BODY The body of this unique table lamp is 4.5" in diameter and 12" tall. The cream soft deep drum linen shade is 10.75" in top & bottom diameter & 9.25" on the side. Modern and good looking. Very good condi-tion. \$12. Text or email for more info/pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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Bluefin counts dip during the full moon Plus: out of jigs? Break out the silverware!

Dock Totals 4/30- 5/13: 3889 anglers aboard 189 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past two weeks caught 892 bluefin tuna (up to 180 pounds), 35 bocaccio, 334 bonito, 133 calico bass, 4 halibut, 28 lingcod, 2 mako shark, 11,793 rockfish, 44 sand bass, 25 sanddab, 101 sculpin, 33 sheephead, 11 Spanish jack, 543 whitefish,

Saltwater: Bluefin tuna can be picky around full moon phases, and sure enough, leading into and for a few days after May 5th, that great start to the season toward the end of April waned a bit through the first couple weeks of May. Though as of this writing, anglers are finding them more willing to bite, and the trend should continue as weather and overall conditions offshore continue to settle through spring. With the bluefin unwilling, more time was spent on the warming yellowtail bite in the same areas. Rockfish numbers also rose, as the fishing for reds and lingcod on the banks from the lower Nine-Mile Bank down to off Ensenada has been excellent. When the bluefin bite slows down, there is still plenty to look for nearby

Pangas out of Ensenada are already getting into the bluefin action as they are close enough when biting for the craft to reach, and going south, they are within a five-hour run or so from Point Loma. The tuna are still in the up-and-down mode, that is, they are biting on heavy jigs or sinker rigs deeper in the water column and are not so much so on surface fishing, where poppers or kited flyers are used. That will be later in the season, and we've a long way to go before this one is over. Yellowtail are also responding well to yoyo irons and fast-pitch butterfly-stile, or knife jigs.

Speaking of knife jigs... Captain Juan Cook has been working out of Gonzaga Bay the past couple months, as he usually does seasonally. His home port is in San Quintin, where he runs clients in his Parker "Slaptail" out



Run out of heavy jigs? Captain Juan Cook has a solution!

to the banks or San Martin Island for yellowtail, white seabass, rockfish, lingcod, and halibut. While in Gonzaga, they have been getting a lot of yellowtail and beefy-sized groupers, mostly on knife jigs. The issue there is that those yellows and groupers in the Sea of Cortez love to head straight for reef rock like a freight train, and pound-for-pound, the yellows there seem to pull much harder. You tend to lose a lot of fish, even with the drags buttoned on 60-pound braid and 40-pound leaders. You sometimes have to go with 80 and 50, respectively, to even have a chance.

When so many big fish take you into the rocks, your supply of jigs can dwindle fast, and that's what happened to Captain Cook this past month. He dropped me a message that, if I was heading that way, I should bring any heavy jigs I had. Well, I hadn't planned on it, and before I could've even got them to him, he found a remedy: tableware. Butter knives. Just a hole drilled through the tip of the blade of a heavy butter knife and a pair of assist hooks on a ring added, and voila! A true knife jig. This has been done before, and some say the butter knife was the original butterfly/knife jig in the first place.

Though we anglers usually play with making lures more for fun, sometimes it can be a practical solution when the big guys are eating up your hardware. Back when I was living outside of La Paz and toothy sierra were eating up my shiny chrome lures, I made some casting spoons out of fork handles, and I still have a couple in my box today. The butter knives certainly worked well enough for Juan and his clients. "My friends tell me if you try something once and it works, it's a fluke. If it works two times, it may not be a fluke. If it works three times, it's a fact. And if it works four times, you'll be asking your friends to donate butter knives to make

more killer jigs. Yesterday at the Golden Reef, I found, much to my delight, butter knifes with hooks on one end work very well indeed...' They're out there, so go get 'em! (And don't forget the silverware.)

DANIEL POWELL

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. \$18 Text or email for more info/pics. (619)

796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

GRADO REFERENCE HEAD PHONES Reference series model RS2E, mint condition, open back design with larger ear pads provide more comfort, less than 35 hrs use, broken in and incredible sound. Paid \$ 750 plus \$ 80 for the new pads. Asking \$ 400, no low ball offers please. ja311390@gmail.com

MELAMINE DINNERWARE SET FOR 4 These colorful Melamine plates/bowls are very beautiful. Dishwasher safe, not for use in microwave or oven. 11", 9" & 8.75 plates, 8" salad bowls & 7.5" big bowls. All pieces in good condition. \$25 for all 20 pieces. Text or email for more

NAD MODEL 2200 POWER ja311390@gmail.com

wave. Emerson brand, 120 volt.

60 HG HZ, dimensions 17.2W x 14D x 10.2H inches. Excellent condition, clean, \$50. (619) 380-4861

MISC COLLECTIBLES

Antiques, mini houses, very detailed, 160 pieces. Plus plates, Norman Rockwell books, statues, plus sports cards. Make offer. Call Joe (619) 562-1129

NECK MASSAGER \$25, call

NICE VINTAGE SOLID WOOD MIRROR This small mirror (31-3/4"x 16"x 1-7/8") with 3/8" wood frame weighs 18.5 lb. Hanging hardware not included. The glass is 1/2" thick & has some dark spots, scratches & dis-coloration reflecting its vintage nature, \$18. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

PADRES ITEMS hats, posters, clocks, blankets, cards, tickets, bobble head Tony Gwynn, plus more. Make offer. Call Jeff (619) 212-5285

SPORTS CARDS 5,000 cards for \$15. Baseball, football, bas-ketball, hockey, plus miscella-neous. Make an offer. Call Ernie (619) 277-3514.

SQUARED TOE SHOE PROTECTS FOOT This large size ProCare shoe allows dressing to be kept clean & toes dry and provides stable protection

following post-operative procedures & trauma. It fits either the left or right foot in excellent condition. \$12. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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

ENGLISH TEA SET Tea pot, coffee pot, cream, and sugar. From England, silver plated. Very good condition. \$75. eandsbravo@aol.com

MAPLE WOOD THE BODY MASSAGER This massager is MASAGEH Inis massager is an easy solution to those aches & pains on your back, thigh, shoulder, neck & calf caused by muscle fatigue. Simply roll the "balls" vigorously on your body. Excellent condition in original box. \$15. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

XTERRA \$3700 OBO Xterra for sale, clean title, 144,652 miles, \$3700 obo, test drive ready. brand new battery, security system, super charge edition! (209) 305-0214

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

ELEGANT 10-PCS TIC-TAC-TOE SET This classy game set comes with a wooden chest-design storage box, beautiful mirrored game board & frosted crystal game pieces. New, never used, in original box with sealed wrapping and a carrier headle. wrapping and a carrying handle. \$18. Text or email for more info/pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

FERRITE AM ANTENNA Powerful C.Crane AM twin coil ferrite antenna and booster receives distant stations. Brand new condition; still wrapped. All accessories included. \$15. (619) 664-2146

TOUCH SCREEN DIGITAL THERMOSTAT Menu & Program buttons, and Mode & Fan grain bottons, and wode a rail switches with original Install Guide & Operation Guide. Clean and in excellent working condition. \$25. Text or email for more info/pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

WHITE OSCILLATING TOWER FAN This modern 3-speed slim profile space saving portable fan (10.2"x 10.2"x 27" H) has top push button control for power off, low, medium, high & oscillation + a back carrying handle. Clean & in excellent condition \$20. Toxt or omit for more into. \$20. Text or email for more info/ pics. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@ gmail.com

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

info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmáil.com

FIBER GLASS LADDER HUSKI 7' fiber glass ladder. \$30.00 (619) 390-8216 / robt-ville5@gmail.com

BLACK SQUARE MIRROR (24"X 24") This good looking contemporary wall mirror with gold trimming would compliment a nice home or office. Actual mirror size is 17.75"x 17.75"). Heavy duty hanging hardware is included. Clean and in good condition. \$20. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

DART BOARDS Two boards. One official. One target. One set of darts in a case.w/rules. \$25. (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@



DENIM BLUE JEANS assorted jeans 32x34 give or take. 9 pairs. \$10 each. (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR Invacare barely used battery charger accessories and user manuals. \$900 (760) 200-7021 / bginthe619@gmail.com

pieces. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

AMP Used amp, 100 watts per channel, fair shape, missing 2 feet on bottom, previous own-ers name etched on front panel some chips on front panel. Not pretty but plays, sold as is.
Great for garage or spare room.
\$200, no low balls offers please

MICROWAVE 700 Watt micro-

PICNIC TABLE fiber glass, for sale \$20. (619) 756-1027

MAHOGANY WITH CARVED **PEDESTAL** Antique Victorian 40" x 40" x 27" \$480 call or text (619) 200-1254.

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

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

SHOPSMITH MARK V MULTI TOOL Includes table saw, band saw, scroll saw, lathe, belt sander, jointer, dust collector, many extra parts & accessories plus an additional table for mounting tools when not in use, excellent condition, \$975., call (760) 746-7209.

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

BK 3-SPEED TABLE FAN TILT HEAD This compact but power-ful Amazon Basics Air Circulator cooling fan (11"x 6"x 11") can be placed on a table or floor perfect for a small area at home or in an office. Clean, like new & in excellent condition. \$12. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

HANGING PLUG-IN PENDANT LIGHT This beautiful pendant light has bronze trim and glass light has bronze trim and glass shade with 25 ft. plug-in cord & 8 ft. chain. \$35. Another matching light (some discoloration on trim) for \$25 or \$50 for both. The glass shades are excellent. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

7" FIBERGLASS LADDER 7" Husky fiberglass ladder. \$35. Lakeside SD (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com

DE WALT SOCKET SET-NEW! 34 piece DeWalt Socket Set-NEW 1/4 & 3/8" SAE and Metric. New! Never opened. \$30 Cash. Rick (858) 395-5656. (185) 839-5565 / rbobick5.7@gmail.com

JEWELCD/DVD CASES-NEW! 80 New CD/DVD single disk cases. Never used. \$25 cash for all. Call/text Rick (858) 395-5656. / rbobick5.7@gmail.com

LONG BOARD SKATE BOARD Waterski long board skate board. W/board the struts came from. \$30. Lakeside SD (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.

REFRIGERATOR WATER FIL-TERS Sold my refrigerator and have 6 new water/ice filters. Will fit Whirlpool/Kenmore/Maytag. Filters insert into the opening at the bottom of the grill. Filters brand: Pure HO PH21200 and filter logic FL-RF02. \$10 cash each. (858) 395-5656 / rbobick5.7@gmail.com

BASEBALL STYLE CAP Men's new beige cotton cap, baseball style, new, still in wrapping, Triumph motive on front of cap, Triumph car owners this is for you, \$10. (858) 484-4483

MEN'S WHITE COTTON SHIRT XL, new, still in wrapping, \$15. 1-(858) 484-4483.

STEEL BBQ AND FIRE BBQ PITS for sale, 75 year warranty will deliver 10 miles radius. Call Lester (760) 427-8695

VANNA WHITE DOLL Collectors porcelain doll, excellent condition. \$49. Obo. Text or call (619) 395-2272.

SPORTS CARDS Baseball, football, basketball, hockey, and miscellaneous. Bunch of Padres stuff. Call for prices, Joe (619)

PENTEX MX CAMERA with 50mm f/1.7 lense. Never out of the box, original owner, \$250. Text (619) 817-1849.

NEW QUEEN MATTRESS \$300 Sleepy rest firm queen prime. Cash only u pick up Mapaul16@ amail com

STEREO EQUIPMENT Sansui TU-919 and AU-919, original owner, manuals, and original packaging. Visually mint, works great, low hours, \$1200. Text (619) 817-1849.

VANS HIGHTOP mint green, suede, leather, zipper back, \$35. Paid \$165, used once, size 6. (619) 601-3591.

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

WWII GUN RIFLE BOX Excellent condition, \$100. Call (619) 601-3591

TRAVEL ITEMS converters by Franzus, \$5. Travel hair dryer by Philips and Braun, \$3. Mini hair dryer, \$3. Box of plastic travel bottles, 25 cents each. (619) 218-4031

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

DRAPES/CURTAINS two pairs, contemporary design with tie backs, shades of green and brown, 72 inches down x 62 inches across. \$10 each pair. (858) 484-4483

BEDDING-TWIN DUVET COM-FORTER COVER only, with matching pillowcase, shades of blue, ideal for child, good condition, \$12, Rancho Penasquitos (858) 484-4483.

DOOR KNOB HANDLES in brass, 8 2 sided, with center turn button, good condition, no dents or dings, ideal for fixer upper or rental, \$6 each, (858) 484-4483 Rancho Penasquitos.

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

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

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

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Brand new. Sizes small to medium, solid as well as stripes. some with pockets and can be worn as jacket. Please call (858) 693-3409 for more details.

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VANITY LIGHTS for bathroom. wall mounted, 8 bulb bar, bevelled glass background, was custom ordered, good condition, ideal for rental or fixer up. \$15 1-(858) 484-4483 Rancho Penasquitós area.

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DOG SALON NOW OPEN Lee Lee's Ruff Cuts Dog Salon. 4239 Park Blvd, 92103. Groomer has 15 years of experience. Full-service salon with grooming, deshedding, nails, baths, and cuts. rb.gy/z1r6s (858) 256-6766. leeleesruffcutsdogsalon. myonlineappointment.com/ /leeleesruffcuts@gmail.com

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CROSSWORD

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65						66						67		
68						69						70		

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

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

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

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

Across

- **1.** Darth Vader's boyhood nickname
- **4.** " la vista!"
- **9.** Big name in transmission repair
- **14.** Eggy seasonal drink
- **15.** Infotainment program once co-hosted by Ryan Seacrest
- **16.** Spin, as a baton
- **17.** Pair of contacts? (SNOW + SLEET)
- **19.** Thrown for a loop
- **20.** "I've had _____ to here with you!"
- **21.** Try, as a case
- **23.** Scott in an 1857 case
- **24.** Maritime first responder: Abbr.

- 25. "I'm such a ding-dong!"
- 27. Orthodontist's org.
- 28. Sound of a sly chuckle
- **29.** Seed covering
- **33.** "____ away" ("RuPaul's Drag Race" catchphrase)
- **35.** With 43-Across, what a worried game show contestant might do? (SNOW
- + FREEZING RAIN)
- **37.** Makes use (of) **38.** Why a person might choose skim milk over whole
- milk? (RAIN + SLEET) **40.** P.R. liability
- **43.** See 35-Across
- 47. Counsel
- 48. Shutter part
- 49. "Look at THAT!"
- **50**. Drug that's dropped

- **51.** Poli
- **53.** Be insufferably sweet
- **54.** Spencer of "Good Morning America"
- **56.** Arduous journey
- **59.** Fleischer and Onassis
- **60.** Prayer opening
- **62.** January weather forecast, perhaps ... or this puzzle's theme
- **65.** Where Hercules
- completed his first labor
- **66.** "____ these mean streets like a villain": Patti Smith
- **67.** Ristorante suffix
- **68.** Writing contest entry, maybe
- 69. Meshlike
- **70.** ____ Fridays

Down

- 1. Carpenter
- 2. "Ah, makes sense"
- 3. "Ah, makes sense"
- **4.** Dickens villain Uriah
- **5.** ____ Arbor, Michigan **6.** Meeting, informally
- 7. Cute, cutely
- **8.** Syrian strongman Bashar
- 9. Justice Dept. division
- **10.** Make _____ (earn big bucks)
- **11.** Fashion designer and judge on "Project Runway All Stars"
- **12.** Guided by a statement of faith

- 13. "Good" times?
- **18.** Haul

jingle)

- **22.** 1982 Grammy winner for Record of the Year
- **24.** 1989 "Weird Al" Yankovic movie about TV
- **26.** "____ Got Time for the
- Pain" (1974 hit)
- **29.** Montezuma's people
- **30.** 2021 Aretha Franklin biopic **31.** Happening offline, to a
- texter

 32. "Thank you for coming to
 ___! Sit back and relax! Enjoy
 the show!" (old theater chain
- **34.** It's a wrap in Bollywood
- **36.** "Work" singer, to her fans

- **39.** Suffer
- **40.** Start of an intentional walk
- **41.** How Google and
- Facebook make their money
- **42.** Certain optical storage discs
- **44.** Hold 'em variety
- **45.** Prodding into action
- **46.** Short (of)
- **52.** "Crocodile Hunter" Steve
- **53.** Weep

63. Skin pic

- **55.** Calculus calculation
- **57.** Ireland, to the Irish
- 58. Pretzel feature
- **59.** Private employer?
- **61.** It'll dawn on you
- **64.** Midnight, on a grandfather clock

LE	В	R	R	ഗ		Α	ഗ	ഗ	Т		Κ	Α	Ρ	Р	Α
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SUDOKU

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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

Creme de la Weird

 The Mondaiji Con Cafe Daku (loosely translated: Problem Child Concept Cafe) in Sapporo, Japan, was forced to fire one of its waitresses in April after she was discovered to be adding her own blood to cocktails, the Daily Mail reported. The cafe owner called her actions "absolutely not acceptable" and said the establishment would close while every drinking glass was replaced. "We will hire a contractor to clean the store, change glasses and dispose of alcoholic beverages that may have been contaminated," he said. He called her actions "part-time job terrorism." A local doctor said anyone who had patronized the cafe should visit a doctor and have a blood test.

It's a Mystery

- Over the last several months, Don Powell and his wife Nancy have been puzzling over the uninvited inhabitants of their fancy mailbox in Orchard Lake, Michigan. USA Today reported that in August 2022, two small dolls, a miniature couch and a small table appeared in the mailbox, which is custom-built to resemble the Powells' home, with windows and a solar-powered interior light that comes on at night. The dolls were accompanied by a note: "We've decided to live here. Mary and Shelley." Powell thought a neighbor might be spoofing him, but after exhaustive investigatory work, he's no closer to knowing the source of the figures. Over time, the home gained a four-poster bed, a dog, a rug and art for the wall. "The whole thing got rather whimsical," Powell said.

At Halloween, Mary and Shelley were replaced by two skeleton dolls dressed in black, and at Christmas, tiny, wrapped gifts appeared. Now, Powell is thinking of writing a children's book about the mailbox mystery. "I think it creates a novel story," he said.

News That Sounds Like a Joke

- Northern Railway in England has made a specific appeal to its riders: please stop watching porn on the train. The Mirror reported that Northern provides "Friendly Wifi," which meets (apparently the bare) minimum filtering standards. Tricia Williams, chief operating officer, said people should remember that "some content is not suitable for everyone to see or hear - particularly children." While the company understands that the ride may be "the first opportunity to view content," commuters should "wait until you get home."

Awesome!

- A batch of ale originally brewed to celebrate King Edward VIII's coronation in 1937 will hit the auction block, Sky News reported. Edward abdicated the throne before his coronation in order to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson. The Coronation Ale went into storage until it was uncovered in 2011; several crates of the 86-year-old beer will be auctioned off in advance of King Charles III's coronation in May. The brewer, Greene King, says the beer is no longer drinkable but the bottles will be collectors' items. (Keep an eye on News of the Weird for the unlucky collector who can't resist a sip.)

Precocious

- Anthony Guglielmi, chief of communications for the Secret Service, told CNN on April 18 that a toddler was able to breach the fence around the White House, setting off security alarms. The "curious young visitor" crawled through the fence posts on the north side and was quickly apprehended by Secret Service police officers, who reunited him with his parents. Perhaps he's considering a bid for 2052.

Update

- Last week, News of the Weird reported that former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger had taken street maintenance matters into his own hands and filled a pothole in his neighborhood. His good deed turned out to be an "oops" moment, though, according to the Associated Press. The "pothole" was actually a utility trench that had been temporarily filled by Southern California Gas Co. and was set to be fixed permanently later. SoCal Gas said rain had delayed the permanent paving. The Terminator tweeted, "Teamwork. Happy to help speed this up.'

Nyet

- Olga Slegina, 70, was hit with a fine of about \$500 on April 18 in Moscow for a remark she made in December about Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the Daily Mail reported. While speaking with another woman at a care home in Nalchik, Slegina called Zelenskyy, 45, a "handsome

young man" with a "good sense of humor." That's a no-no in Russia; the Code of Administrative Offenses, introduced in March 2022, characterized her comment as "discrediting" the Russian military. Slegina was told that three people reported her over the discussion, and she was taken to a police station and told she had "praised Zelenskyy." She was unable to attend the trial due to health reasons and intends to file an appeal.

Bright Idea

- Drivers along Interstate 5 near Eugene, Oregon, were startled on April 11 to see \$100 bills floating through the air, Fox News reported. In fact, many cars stopped along the highway to grab the loot. When the Oregon State Police tracked down the source, it was Colin Davis McCarthy, who told them he'd been throwing the money out of his car to "bless others." He said he thought he'd dispersed around \$200,000. The OSP later revealed that McCarthy's family had been in touch; he had depleted a shared family bank account for his Robin Hood moment.

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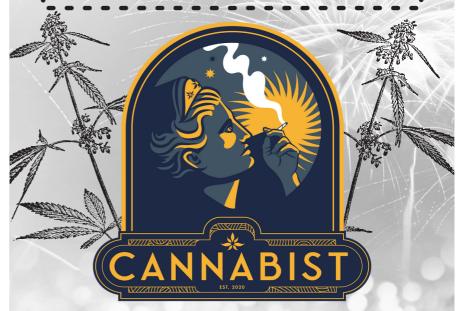
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