

Oceanside man wanted to start family with 11-year-old Last grunions

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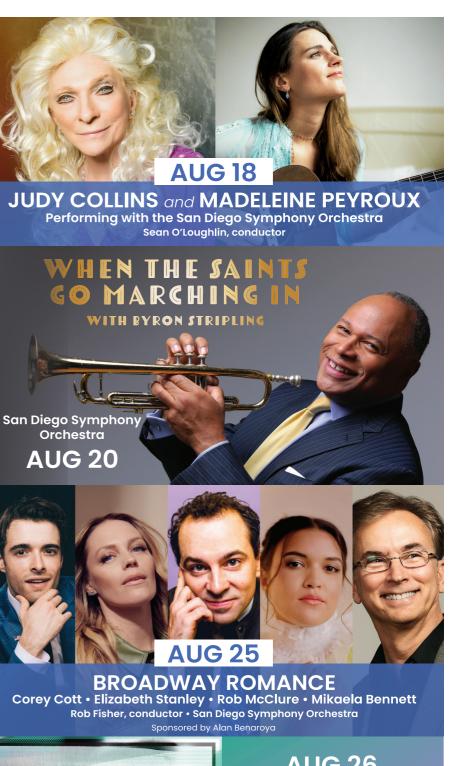


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LETTERS

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

Head to Mission Bay if you can't wait

I agree with "Laven Liberty" whose well worded, lengthy (worth the read) letter ("Doesn't like Spike", Letters, August 9, 2023) totally and completely resonates. "Grossed Out" similarly reflects my own reactions to the premise of this ridiculous, long-winded, demand for public bathroom accommodations at local businesses. The sense of entitlement all over the crude article "No Restroom for the Weary" featured in the 07/27 edition is hard to even quantify.

As adults, we should not be behaving like a toddler who is not completely potty-trained. As for the foolish "Bladder without borders" remark directed at "Grossed Out", an adult should be bowel trained so that the need to go 'number two' should not be occurring at random times during one's day. If that were the case, those of us who work very long shifts with essentially no breaks whatsoever, with constant priority tasks, would not be able to function, especially with maybe one bathroom used by scores of people. And doing that in public, unless you are on a very long road trip, even if you are a 'paying customer' should be avoided as a matter of dignity.

I used to take my German Shepherd with me in my van when I went shopping or running errands. She never once did her 'business' in the back seat. She wasn't deprived of water, never, but I walked her after I fed her. She did what she had to do at about the same time, after a meal, every single day. My little kids weren't ever ready to wet or make a mess in their pants, either, when we went out for the day. And I can't recall a time when I had to find a restroom at the grocery store for one of my cherubs. If this is a problem for certain adults, presumably seniors, perhaps they should be availing themselves of bladder and bowel training techniques successfully used in rehab facilities, or resorting to Depends.

It is NOT the responsibility of the Dollar Store or any other business to provide a toilet to the public on demand. There are, however, open door public toilets, usually without soap, at many public parks (Mission Bay, for one) in San Diego. Head on over if you can't wait until you get home.

> LaurieK East Chula Vista

Comments from

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

Surveillance cameras slide from one San Diego mayor to another News Under the Radar, Aug. 2, 2023

The Cameras aren't there to protect the public, they're there to protect the privileged class from the consequences of their actions. They proposed these cameras years ago and it didn't fly with the public, so they did what they always do, sit on the plan for a few years and wait for "ideal circumstances" to spring it on the public.

The plans to invade Iraq were one good example of this, future examples of this might be to suppress protests of future vaccine mandates and lockdowns, or backlash from vaccine injuries. Either way it's Neocons and Neo-Bolsheviks who are profiting from the misery of unpopular decisions.

-Wise Words

North vs south divide on Carlsbad open space Neighborhood News, Aug. 1, 2023

The plan by City of continued on page 4



August 17, 2023





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NEIGHBORHOOD

By Reader stringers

DEL MAR

Valitar horse show promoter arrested for solicitation of murder

Not quite "model" behavior

The co-producer of a failed \$10 million horse show that left performers high and dry over a decade ago was arrested last week in Solana Beach for solicitation of murder.

Tatyana Remley, 42, was out on bail or "own recognizance" for a July felony – carrying a loaded and prohibited firearm – when she was arrested Wednesday at a Starbucks on Lomas Santa Fe Dr.

The former model and equestrienne stirred controversy in Del Mar in 2012 when she and her husband Mark Remley promoted a dazzling but doomed horse and human acrobatics show. Valitar, known for its special effects and pulsating, rock-style musical score, kicked off a national tour with a promised 50-show run at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Only the \$200 tickets didn't fly. After just four performances, the Remleys cancelled the show, leaving behind a 45,000-squarefoot Big Top tent in the fairgrounds parking lot that would later be auctioned. Vendors went unpaid. Performers from all over the globe were stranded with their horses.

Soon after, Mark Remley's company Equustria Development filed for bankruptcy and was sued for millions by unpaid vendors and former employees. The scandal, however, didn't involve jail time.

And the cast of players wasn't a mystery.

According to the arrest report, Tatyana Remley is now incarcerated at the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility in Santee awaiting a court date. Though she is eligible for release, court approval is required.

In California, soliciting someone to commit a murder is a felony that carries a sentence of 3, 6, or 9 years in a California state prison, and fines up to \$10,000. The crime includes "the intent to have someone else commit a crime and an act committed in furtherance of convincing another person to commit a crime."

The other charge – committing a felony while on bail or O.R. release – adds two more years to the sentence.

Solicitation to commit a crime is normally proven from testimony of at least two



Valitar, seen here in this promotional photo, was to be known for its special effects and pulsating, rock-style musical score.

gets back.")

in some bushes.

offender website.

(Kaylie ran to Chloe's coach, who told

The child pointed out the stranger, and

her, "Stay with me here until your mom

Mom saw him, "He was leaning over on the

light post with something in his hand," she

did not know what he was holding. The

man was perhaps 50 feet away, standing

in July, she identified the man seated at the

and can be found on California's sex

Melissa testified. Then she called Oceans-

defense table as that same man.

When Mom testified three months later,

The man's DNA is already on file

"I immediately called my husband,"

witnesses, or one witness and corroborating evidence, according to a legal website.

"These witnesses are typically the individuals who were solicited to commit the crime."

SHEILA PELL

OCEANSIDE

Man interested in 11-year-old girl at Mance Buchanon Park "He has an abnormal sexual interest in little girls."

Mom Melissa is a curvy woman with long blonde hair. She came into the courtroom with a determined stride and testified at a pre-trial hearing on July 10. Melissa told the judge she has four children, aged 17, 13, 11, and 5 years old.

In April of this year Melissa drove to the Mance Buchanon Park on College Boulevard in Oceanside. There are five soccer fields plus playgrounds and bathroom structures at that park. At least six different soccer teams were holding practice that Thursday afternoon, April 27.

Melissa's 13-year-old daughter Chloe had soccer practice, and her 11-year-old sister Kaylie wanted to watch her sister practice while mom took the car to fill up at a nearby gas station. Mom said she dropped off her daughters at 4:15 and "I went to get gas."

Mom said she was gone eight minutes. She was confident of her daughter Kaylie, "She normally does not go off by herself" and when Mom drove away she was "sitting there making her jewelry."

When Mom returned and pulled into the parking spot, she saw Kaylie, "She came running to me crying, and she was extremely upset." Her daughter said there was a strange man behind her, a couple feet away, and he spoke to her and asked if she played soccer. "He was slurring his words funny,' Kaylie said. The child answered him 'No' and ran away and he said, 'I will talk to you later, see you later." person come talk to you? She said no but he followed her on the walk path for a while."

When soccer practice was over they walked back toward their car, and Kaylie looked back at the man and saw him waving at her. "He smiled and waved goodbye," Mom testified. She believed the man was maybe 20 feet away at that moment.

Police showed up just as the soccer practice was ending.

Oceanside police officer David Unrath testified that he works patrol, and at 5:25 p.m. he arrived at the park, responding to a "non-emergency, suspicious subject following children" call. The officer noted that Cesar Chavez Middle School is directly across the street from that park.

"Kaylie told me that she was waiting by herself while mom went for gas," the cop testified. "While she was by herself a male subject approached her and asked her if she played soccer. She described the male as 'creepy' and she ran away from him, and the male waved at her and said 'I'll see you later' and that disturbed her." The mom and child reported the man was looking at Kaylie and waving at her, and he was hiding behind bushes, and "He seemed fixated on her."

Officer Unrath identified the defendant as the man he arrested.

"I found out that he is on County Probation on a sex offense. He had to register as 290," the cop said the suspect was a mandatory sex offender registrant. "His demeanor was that he didn't do anything wrong and was confused while I detained him. All he



ide police, using their non-emergency line. They waited for police; it took about an hour, and Kaylie stayed close because "She was so freaked." The strange man sometimes took off and went for a walk, and then he would come back, and stand by a tree and he looked around, Melissa testified. There was another, younger girl who kept staring at him, "So I asked her, did that Mance Buchanon Park

said was that he spoke with the child and asked if she played soccer and that was it." The suspect was standing outside one of the restrooms when he was contacted by the cop.

At the pre-trial hearing, after the witnesses finished testifying, prosecutor Nikki Estrada moved a "certified rap sheet" into *continued on page 3*



evidence. The prosecutor said that because the defendant has a prior conviction for the same offense, the new alleged "bother child" is charged as a felony.

"He has been arrested five times in the past, he has two convictions for annoying small girls the same age as this girl," the prosecutor told the judge. "He has an abnormal sexual interest in little girls."

photograph of a minor can be offensive or an irritation. The judge declared that a lewd act is not required, and ordered the defendant to answer a felony charge of "bother child." The defendant pleads not guilty and is held in lieu of \$20,000 bail. His trial date is set for August 28, 2023.

PREVIOUS INCIDENT FROM LATE 2021

"On Friday, November 5, 2021, my wife and I were in the truck when our ring camera went off. My wife answered the ring on speaker, speaking to a man who was at my front door, holding flowers in his hands.

"The child answered him 'No' and ran away and he said, 'I will talk to you later, see you later.'"

The prosecutor said he has a prior felony conviction and has served prison time.

Defense attorney Crystal Salavides protested, "There is nothing abnormal about asking a child if she plays soccer while there are soccer games going on." Defense pointed out, "They stayed there an hour after he spoke to her; if it was so offensive they probably would have left." Salavides suggested it was only friendly, non-criminal activity, there was nothing lewd nor obscene that would offend a normal person. And Salavides asserted that "See you later" can be a colloquial way of saying goodbye, "even if we have no intent to see that person later."

Judge David Brown read from precedent case law, stating that "annoy means to disturb or irritate," and even taking a

He simply stated that he is homeless and needs help. My wife explained she couldn't help him, wished him well, and suggested he leave. About five minutes later, he reappeared and my wife and him had the same conversation and she again asked him to leave. When he appeared a third time at our doorstep, this time he said, 'Ma'am, I'm going to be honest with you. I followed the two girls home. One of them is cute and I want to start a family.' This was obviously concerning, that he had referenced 'starting a family' with our 11-year-old daughter, or her 11-year-old friend.

"While he was still talking to my wife, I called my neighbor, Joe Trujillo, to go over there, to make sure the girls were safe. When Joe arrived, the man was still there continued on page 5

UNDER THE RADAR

Press line True to their word, billionaire Patrick Soon-Shiong and vulture investor fund Alden Global Capital, operating under the name MediaNews Group, appear to be proceeding with their previously announced plans to print Soon-Shiong's Los Angeles Times and Alden's San Diego Union-Tribune, acquired from Soon-Shiong last month, at the former Press-Enterprise printing plant in Riverside. The multi-block complex is now in the hands of a MediaNews Group subsidiary known as

the Southern California News Group, which refers to the property as the SCNG Production Facility.

Postings on MediaNews Group's help-wanted website seek recruits for a newly offered range of jobs there, including Press Operator I, Press Operator II, Reel Tender I, Reel Tender II, and Part Time Inserter (Warehouse Worker). Job descriptions appear to anticipate the training of at least

some recruits from scratch. "This is an entrylevel position with [an] introduction to reel room operations such as Runsheet Comprehension and Roll Identification," says the notice for Reel Tender I; hourly compensation is given as between \$18 and \$23.

A few steps up the ladder is Press Operator I, described as "a development position that formally introduces a Reel Tender 3 to functions necessary to succeed as a Press Operator. Although exposure to ink and water occurs in the Reel Tender stages, this is the level that allows ongoing development." Pay is listed between \$24 and \$27 an hour. At the next level, Press Operator II jobholders will be

required to "operate and troubleshoot press-related equipment such as print couples and Reel Room. You will also need an understanding of ink and water balance well enough to meet expected standards" at hourly wages between \$25 and \$27. Job hopefuls will also need to have the ability to "properly plate and remove plates, remove and install blankets, and purge black and color ink rails," as well as "be willing to work the night shift, weekends and holidays."

Per the website Salary.com: "The average hourly wage for a Press Operator II in Los Angeles, CA is \$28 as of July 25, 2023, but the range typically falls between \$25 and \$31." The U-T was shorn of its own presses in 2015 when the paper was sold by Republican kingpin Doug Manchester to Tribune Publishing of Chicago, later known as Tronc, which moved printing to the Times plant on Olympic Boulevard in LA. The arrangement continued after Soon-Shiong

bought both the *Times* and *U*-*T* from Tronc in July 2018, but was forced into a short-term lease of the LA printing plant, which had been sold to New York developers in a separate deal. Soon-Shiong minions announced in November of last year that the Times lease would lapse in early 2024 and that printing of the Times and U-T would subsequently be handled by "a joint venture with Southern California News Group," suggesting to some that the pharmaceutical mogul might continue to heavily subsi-

dize the operation. Times business chief Chris Argentieri told the paper that, "the company is committed to giving print newspapers 'the longest lives possible and continuing this tradition for our customers and communities." of the U-T by Soon-Shiong to Alden has changed that calculus remains to be seen, as does

Chris Argentieri –giving print newspapers "the longest lives possible"

Steve Whitburn - would champion

changes to the city's towing program

together a functional printing crew in Riverside at the modest wages advertised. Meanwhile, with Alden's U-T takeover settling in, reporters' jobs there may be changing, a revised bio on the paper's website suggests. In early August, Blake Nelson's role switched from "Blake covers East County" to "Blake covers homelessness and other issues affecting Southern California."

Whether last month's sale

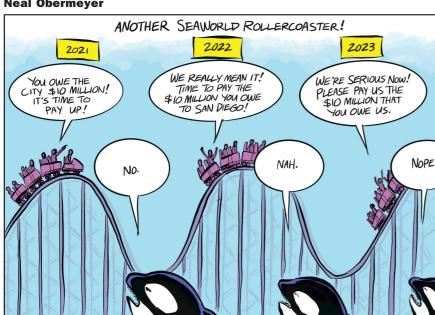
whether MediaNews can put

Whitburn's campaign ace San Diego city council Democrat Steve Whitburn, the focus of an August 8 Inewsource.com report of his decision to pause his once-touted city towing reform drive, has been collecting big campaign cash for his reelection effort, tak-

> ing in \$101,404 during the first half of this year, according to a July 31 city disclosure filing. "I think that he's very flexible in what he wants, depending on what the mayor wants him to do and what the housed people who have money want him to do," homelessness volunteer Janis Wilds told Inewsource. "Whitburn said he would champion changes to the city's towing program after an inter-

nal audit found the most com-

mon reason San Diego police impound cars is for what researchers have called 'poverty tows," per the post. "That includes towing for expired registration, 72-hour parking violations, and unpaid tickets - offenses commonly applied to low-income and unhoused people." But these days, Whitburn "wants to await the outcome of a state bill that focuses on ending tows solely for unpaid parking tickets. Two of the three most common towing reasons by far in San continued on page 5



Neal Obermeyer



San Diego Reader August 17, 2023

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LETTERS

continued from page 1

Carlsbad to move Carlsbad Blvd further East will cost tens of Millions of Dollars and will take many years to accomplish. The citizens that pay for it with their taxes and fees will get a lot of traffic, No park and a glorified sidewalk. We have been asking for a Park for seven years with no result. If it was a cheap hotel it would get approved in no time. We actually use the parks in Encinitas. City of Encinitas should ask City of Carlsbad for some fees to cover their cost of park maintenance. -Suspicious in Carlsbad

What to do when your SDGE bill blows up

Neighborhood News, July 31, 2023 We are one of those families that moved to Texas, for several reasons. Number one on the list is that we knew we'd never keep up with our SDG&E bills. The numbers have borne out that decision. -Loving TX

[^]Wholly crappola. We could have written the above comment. Our utility bills here in Texas do not generate the angst I use to feel every month in California. I had put solar panels on the roof to maintain some future control. But, I could see SDG&E and the PUC people in cahoots would make my efforts non-effective. -TX Bound

^LOL we are going to Texas soon. But we just got a thing from SDG&E saying next month we are looking at a \$600+ electric bill :(

It is what it is... we need AC

-Suffering in SD Sempra is totally corrupt. Period. -Sempra hater

THIS ARTICLE = DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO WHY SDG&E REMOVED THEIR 'Email' Address Contact info via internet access. Add no access to connect to online chat via (nonaccount) internet access.; rather it will only persistently time-out.

Anyone here ever received different results from SDGE via USPS received bill, vs online bill of same month, CON-CERNING THE PAY-MENT TO THE PREVI-OUS MONTH? As online bill showing double the amount, in that the bill was not paid. VS the online bill showing 1/2 the amount, because you paid the bill on time. THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT SDGE WILL PER-SIST ON.

-Sporadic CAPS

SDG&E (i.e.Sempra) is a for-profit corporation beholden only to its shareholders, making billions off our backs and providing poor service in return. State and local oversight have been bought off with a piece of the huge profits that monopolistic Sempra makes. It is a classic case of special interests unfairly exploiting citizens. Sempra is unethical, corrupt and greedy. Let's remove them and establish a community utility instead: https:// wearepowersandiego.com/ -We Are Power San Diego

^Amen. -Climate Black Sheep

Unfortunately, San Diego County = not laid out for the singular. As there now be toooo much populations of too many breeds. -ESL breed

There's no "I" in "Spy"

SD on the QT, July 28, 2023 Is this satirical? Do we really have a council member called "Peeping, Tom" saying everyone opposed to this is doing something naughty because "we all do something naughty."

No sir, I am not doing anything "naughty." I simply do not wish to be tracked and monitored by a database that i have zero control over how that information is used behind closed doors.

Insert insipid defense of "but think of the children" *continued on page 15*

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Not quite the limelight

Pancho Villa's head — the story behind its disappearing

One of Pancho Villa's sons, 21-year-old Pancho Augustin Villa, had just been declared "violently insane" by an L.A. judge and was confined to a psychiatric hospital. Until September of '33, he'd been a student in San Diego. He and his mother, Asuncion Villa, had moved to Los Angeles because Pancho was slated to play a role in *Viva Villa!* But ever since signing the contract, the younger Villa had been "acting strangely," going around naked, and threatening to kill his mother. – *Matthew Alice* **NOV. 24, 1993**

Olivia Newton-John's grandfather Max Born was friend of Albert Einstein

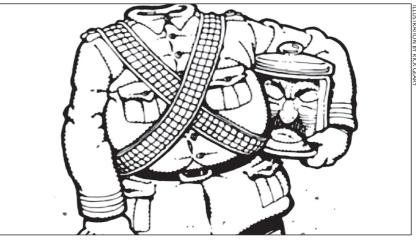
It's not so crazy that Einstein just maybe, somehow, might have met Max's granddaughter Olivia and given her a friendly peck on her little toddler cheek. The president of Hopelessly Devoted, the Olivia Newton-John Fan Club, says poor Olivia only met her Grandpa Max once, even though he didn't die until Olivia was 22. But I'd like to believe she was secretly thinking about Albert when she recorded "Let's Get Physical." Or was that "Let's Get Physicists"? – *Matthew Alice* **SEPT. 28, 1995** rettes by the time he took office. The Museum of Tobacco Art and History in Nashville contends Nixon is still a champion cigar smoker. JFK was also an exsmoker who switched to a pipe and cigars, though, says the Tobacco Institute, wife Jackie was and is still a chain smoker. You'll probably not find photographic evidence, since she requested that the White House camera corps not snap pics of the First Lady sucking on a butt. – *Matthew Alice* **DEC. 23, 1993**

Robert White owns Rose Kennedy bathing suit but not JFK assassination suit

The presidents who smoked

Richard Nixon was an ex-smoker of ciga-

The man driving the 1961 custom X-100



People who believe the story feel that Pancho Villa will not rest in peace until his head and body are reunited.

Lincoln Continental convertible was William Greer. According to a 1983 Associated Press interview, Greer joined the Secret Service in 1946 and was the driver for Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and such visiting dignitaries as Khrushchev, Churchill, Queen Elizabeth, and Heile Selassie. He retired in 1967. President Johnson had the car overhauled, reupholstered, repainted (from dark blue to black), and it was given an armored top. – *Mathew Alice* **FEB. 29, 1996** **The fate of OJ Simpson court evidence** Judge Ito will release back to the D.A. all evidence submitted by that office, and to the defense their evidence. Any personal items (the golf bag, the Bronco, etc.) can be reclaimed by their owners. But of course, no one's going to leap forward to claim the glove and cap. Well, in a sane world, nobody would. But this is L.A.... Anyway, items of clothing from a homicide, particularly contaminated evidence like the glove, could not be put up for sale. – *Matthew Alice* **APR. 14, 1994**

Read full articles from the archives at sandiegoreader.com/news/from-archives

Under the radar

continued from page 3 Diego are expired registration and 72-hour parking violations."

Meanwhile, the frenzy of campaign money-raising has begun, and funds are pouring into the Whitman campaign kitty from a bevy of special interests, including **Megan Jones** and **Keith Jones**, listed as owners of Ace Parking, with contributions of \$750 each on February 9. "ACE ensures that all vehicles are properly permitted/ticketed and parked in the appropriate areas, ensuring every last dollar is collected while protecting your bottom line," says a page on ACE's website headlined "Enforcement."

As described in the *Reader* by Dorian Hargrove in February 2013, Ace had a deal with the city of Chula Vista to hand out parking tickets in the city's downtown area. "According to their agreement, Ace employees are responsible for enforcing the following violations: non-payment of parking meters, parking at an expired meter, improper parking in a parking stall, backing into a stall, and parking over the time limit (for signed parking)." According to the Palm

Springs city website, "The City of Palm Springs currently contracts with Ace Parking to provide parking enforcement services. Ace Parking's responsibility is to enforce the City's downtown, on-street, and parking lot program. This includes the enforcement of parking-related ordinances, statutes, and codes as required and were required by the City Manager."

— 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/.



with small flower pots in each hand. As soon as we saw Joe was there on our camera, my wife hung up and called 911. The police went to the house and he had left by the time clearly familiar with him and found him later in the day and arrested him. After his arrest, we learned

they arrived, but they were

After his arrest, we learned he had told both Joe and the officer 'I wasn't going to rape or hurt them.' Joe also informed us that he has seen him lurking around with the two flower pots prior to the girls getting out of school, which led him to believe he had seen the girls earlier in the day or prior. He is still in custody, facing (bother child counts)....I've since learned he has an extensive criminal record..."

For that November 2021 incident the subject was arrested by deputies in San Marcos and held in lieu of \$60,000 bail.

un

GOLDEN DREAMS



White House tour bud

Last month, secret service agents found a small bag of cocaine in the White House. Specifically, they found it in a cubby where people often leave their cell phones and other electronic devices before embarking on White House tours. Despite the fact that the President of the United States said it was "incredibly important" to find out how the cocaine found its way into his home, the Secret Service closed its investigation a week later without identifying a suspect.

I chuckled when I read the story, and recalled how I myself once "accidentally" carried an ounce of high grade skunk weed through the White House while taking the tour. This was well

before the rise of dispensaries and legalization — though of course, possession is still a Federal offense.

My wife and I were touring the East Coast: visiting my sister in Virginia, then stopping in Connecticut to meet some friends we had made at the New Orleans Jazz Fest, then a few days in Manhattan. Because it's rude to show up to people's homes without some kind of offering, and because we were on vacation, I had procured some marijuana to show my gratitude to our hosts. I don't recall the strain, but it was sticky, smelly and of the highest quality.

My sister — not a smoker and unaware of my parcel — suggested we spend the day touring the museums at the Washington DC Mall. Then, when she parked at a metro station a few miles from her house, she instructed us to "take any valuables with you." My weed definitely counted as a valuable, so I stuffed it in my backpack and headed off for a day of cultural betterment.

We must have arrived earlier than my sister expected, because when we got to D.C., the only open attraction was the White House. Every other museum was closed for another hour or so. I was happy to start at the White House, until I saw that we would have to go through a TSAlike screening process to get inside. This made sense, since it was the White House. It also made sense that a wave of panic washed over me: I've got an ounce of crip in my possession, and I'm about to go through X-ray machines and security. I feared I might be arrested, lose my expensive party favor, and/or basically ruin our vacation. I was not sure which of those three outcomes was the worst.

> excused myself from my family, and stepped away from the screening process. Really, there was only one thing to do. I stuffed the smelly sack into my shorts, and rejoined my family as if nothing was wrong. Miraculously, nothing was wrong; I passed through

security with no issues. The other tourists did not seem to notice pungent smell of my contraband. I walked through unscathed, and even enjoyed the tour. That cubby cokehead may have upped the ante, substance-wise, but I'm the one who didn't ditch my stash just because I was in the White House.

San Diego fight club

The news that Robert Rundo had been extradited from Romania to the United States to face charges of conspiracy and inciting violence at several California political rallies back in 2017 reminded me of a recent trip down one of the internet's infinite number of rabbit holes. It began with a sentence in a July 19 NPR story carried on the KPBS website about right-wing Active Clubs: "Also White Lives Matter groups have reportedly attended 'fight nights' hosted by active clubs in San Diego and in Washington State."

I...had not heard about that. *Let's Google "San Diego fight night white lives matter."* Just two hits, both from activist organizations: the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Anti-Defamation League. *Okay, let's see what the* ADL has on its Active Clubs page. "On August 20, 2022, a variety of Active Clubs traveled from across the United States to participate in a fight night in San Diego, California...One white supremacist media source wrote, 'Every

I guess it made sense to advertise it as being a Huntington Beach thing, since that's Rundo's hometown (and the site of an earlier White Lives Matter rally). But the NPR story had it right: the fight night (well, fight day) happened

"like Charlottesville and the Battle of Berkeley, a man could be proud of being there for years to come."

fighter and attendee understood that they were participating in a historical first and that, like Charlottesville and the Battle of Berkeley, a man could be proud of being there for years to come." But: no link to any kind of news coverage. *Did this thing really happen*?

Well, there was an accompanying photo

here, in Grantville. Media2Rise's documentary on the event, *Birth of a New Frontier*, pretty clearly opens on the beach in Coronado. And at one point, a drone camera rises above the fight venue and gives away its location. Turns out San Diego made sense as well, as one of the first personalities we meet is fighter Luke, who



The Anti-Defamation League reports: "On August 20, 2022, SoCal Active Club held a fight night in San Diego, California, that a variety of white supremacist from across the United States participated in and attended."

allegedly from the event, one that featured a Confederate flag on the wall and a spectator giving a Nazi salute. *Okay, Google images, have at it.* Just six results, and two of them from the ADL site. Then one from the Will2Rise page on Gab Social, where it served as the header image. A number of the posts were hawking the brand's clothing, including a Triumph of

the Will hooded t-shirt, and a Blackshirts Troublemakers Club shirt. Pretty blunt stuff, given the references to Leni Riefenstahl's famous Nazi propaganda film and Mussolini's fascist paramilitary. There was also a post reading: "Coming soon from Media2Rise: an episode documenting the first ever Nationalist combat sports tournament that took place in Huntington Beach, California...the culmination of years of joint efforts to revitalize the warrior spirit in our people. It begins a new chapter in a healthy counter-culture for our youth..."

looks an awful lot like Rundo's associate Grady Mayfield, himself a San Diegan.

So yes, it happened. One participant said that the gathering's ideological component gave him "a purpose, something to fight for — to prove that our ideology is superior." Rundo is being held without bond in Los Angeles. His trial is set for December 12. ■



Still image from *Birth of a New Frontier* with the San Diego skyline in background.

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1930 BALBOA AVENUE | DEL MAR, 92014

CURRENT OWNER: 1930 Balboa Ave LLC | LISTING PRICE: \$10,695,000 | BEDS: 6 | BATHS: 7 | HOUSE SIZE: 4482 sq ft

UNREAL **E**STATE

by Dave Rice

Welcome, friends, to our periodical check-in on Some House We Can't Afford. I normally try to pepper these intros with a bit of background information on the neighborhood we're visiting. But today, we're headed up to Del Mar, and while it's mid-August and this is, remarkably, our first visit this year to the land where the turf meets the surf, the truth is we've been here many, many times before. Beaches, Bing Crosby, horses running in circles, waypoint for Prohibition-



The hillside perch of the property affords a commanding view.

era Hollywood elites on their way to Mexico, we've covered it all.

So, let's dive right into our tour of a "modern estate [that] offers mega views and the very best location" in the "private hills of Olde Del Mar overlooking the beautiful blue Pacific Ocean," according to the Zillow pitch for 1930 Balboa Avenue, a 4482-square-foot mansion built in 2005 and remodeled (less than a decade later) in 2014. Locationwise, Zillow says it's "walking distance to the beach, the area's best restaurants & shops plus the worldfamous Del Mar Racetrack" before noting that "this exceptional property sits on an elevated, fenced 17,000 square foot lot offering plenty of space to relax and play." That all seems inviting enough; let's have a look around.

We begin with a tiled sitting area surrounding a gas firepit overlooking the ocean, which looks to be a little more than a quarter mile due west. The hillside perch of the property affords a commanding view, and an old-growth Torrey pine would surely offer welcome shade during the day. An aerial view that follows shows us that we were just sitting near the top of the lot, outside a newly-constructed twobedroom guest house. The main house, with a pool deck and some outside entertainment spaces of its own, lies just down the hill.

Back on the ground, we're looking at the pool, which is of the disappointingly small lap-swimming variety, but at least there's a spa attached. From my brief pool-owning experience I can say with confidence that the hot tub is going to see far more use than the pool itself, so that's a plus. The glass block windows of the house looking out are a touch I'd expect to see on a house at least 50 years older than this one, but they're not unappealing.

Inside, our first stop is a living room with two stories' worth of windows spanning from floor to ceiling. A door leads out to a deck over a carport, and floating wood block stairs with glass railings lead up to the second level, while we get a glimpse of the kitchen. There, some *continued on page 9*



UNREAL ESTATE continued from page 8

uniquely patterned stone spills down the back side of a counter and matches an adjacent dining table. The next shot shows us that the table is actually built into a center island, and while we see some sleek European-style cabinetry and a fancy appliance package, the listing text skips the trope of rattling off a list of every manufacturer of every product that went into the kitchen's construction. Too bad, for once; I'd really like to know what kind of stone this is.

Next, we're off to the palatial primary suite with nearly 500 square feet of bedroom area alone. The spartan furnishings and "fully retractable glass doors that open to the ocean" really emphasize how much space we're working with here. I can see those glass blocks by the pool from the inside now, but the odd thing is that the corner they occupy seems to be sealed off from the inside by another set of windows. There's no further explanation as to what's going on in this seemingly empty space, but the giant clear window next to them



Nearly 500 square feet of bedroom area alone.

makes me wonder why privacy glass would be used at all.

While I would've liked those blocks to be part of a shower or tub surround, the actual bathroom is considerably more substantial, with a floating dual vanity equipped with vessel sinks, a freestanding tub, and a walk-in shower with at least three heads. It also looks like there's a window looking down on the living room, which makes me realize, upon second look, that most of the rest of the bathroom is completely open to the floor below. I'm not sure I love this, even if the angles would make it hard for someone downstairs to take a look up. There's also a massive closet that seems like it's intended to display clothes as much as store them, and then we're off to see some more bedrooms and baths, each apparently an en-suite and some large enough

for their own private sitting areas.

At some point, we jump to a second kitchen that's well-appointed but not as fancy as the first, and opens to a large empty room. I think we're in the guest house now. We get only a few peeks at this space, but it appears modern, functional, and not really exciting in any way. Then we're back outside, looking at the view from a bunch of angles already covered — albeit this time with some fancy digital editing on the photos.

Public records list a Nevada-based LLC with the same name as the property address as the current owner. It last sold for a reported \$3.8 million in 2012, before the recent remodeling work and addition of the guest house. The Balboa estate was listed for sale in early April with an asking price of \$10,950,000, since reduced to \$10,695,000.



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PIER REVIEW

Oceanside Pier lays claim to being the longest wooden pier on the western U.S. coastline.

The closest you can get to walking on water

All my life I've been infatuated with piers, maybe because it's the closest you can get to walking on water.

One of my fondest early memories is fishing with my dad from the tiny Shelter Island Pier. And after the Ocean Beach Municipal Pier opened on July 2, 1966, shortly after my eighth birthday, my parents and I often strolled all the way out to the very end, my sharp-spoken German mom always complaining about the strange dip in the middle as I looked over the edge at the tidepools my dad and I had visited when I was a toddler. Years later — into and through my teens and early adulthood — I frequently ended my lunches and dinners with a brisk walk on the pier, often accompanied an occasional guests, from girlfriends to musicians and, once, Hunter S. Thompson (who never made it all the way out to the end, because of too many tequila shots at Nati's). By then, however, I was sharing my affection with another man-made promontory, Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach. As a free-lance writer, I was able to work according to my own schedule, and so was free to spend many a summer afternoon on the Mission

Beach boardwalk on my bike, often stopping for a walk on the pier, out beyond the cottages to the public viewing deck. I still remember how refreshing the salt air felt in my nostrils as I took a breath, then another, and another, while the ocean breeze swept over my face and through my hair, kissing me with just a hint of mist.

After I moved to Carlsbad in 1994, I found a new love, the Oceanside Pier, and to this day, I walk the length of it three times — back and forth, which equals two miles — at least once or twice a week. The diagonal wood planks have an almost hypnotic effect on me as I head further and further out to sea, lost in my thoughts.

Night drive and I know where you wanna be O.B. by the pier, on the side of me Baby wanna be free free, you can ride And ya wanna sneak peak, come and get it right Night drive and I know where you wanna be O.B. by the pier, on the side of me

> — "O.B. Pier" Dan Busby

These days, my beloved Ocean Beach Pier has been making headlines because it is dying. The 1971-foot-long structure, with its dip in the middle and two asymmetrical arms at the end, is said to be the longest concrete pier in the world. The pier structure, according to an engineering report, "consists of prestressed and conventionally reinforced concrete components," with the piles made of "precast and prestressed concrete elements that are grouted into holes drilled into the sedimen-



My parents and I often strolled the Ocean Beach Pier all the way out to the very end, my sharp-spoken German mom always complaining about the strange dip in the middle as I looked over the edge at the tidepools my dad and I had visited when I was a toddler.

tary rock" below the pier. It hasn't aged well.

According to the city of San Diego's website, "during the first 25 years of service, the structure received normal ongoing maintenance required by exposure to the harsh marine environment, where it is subjected to wind, waves and the salt-laden marine atmosphere. In 1991, the pier underwent major structural rehabilitation. Since the early 2000s, exposure to large waves and ongoing degradation has required structural repairs with increasing frequency." And from January 6 until July 1, the pier was closed to the public "after being damaged by storms and high surf in January, which has happened several times in recent years. The city's consultant assessed the full extent of the damage after the storm season passed and determined that while the pier had minor damage to its buildings, railing and pump station, it sustained less structural damage this storm season than in past storm seasons. That means that while the pier continues to degrade over time, it is currently structurally safe to support public use. Before the pier can reopen, city staff need to address the minor damage to the pier's buildings, railings and pump station. All of the necessary repair work is expected to be completed in July."

But despite the pier's relatively minor damage and recent reopening, its days are numbered. A study released in December 2018 found a number of structural problems

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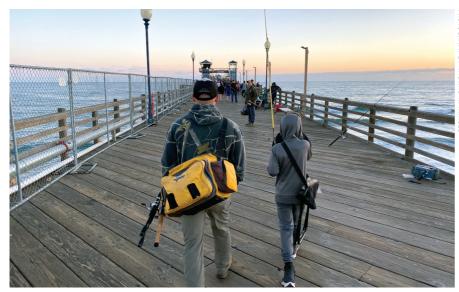


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Go for a walk on Oceanside Pier on any given day, and you're likely to see three things: a pelican or two perched next to the bait shop, waiting to be fed; a middle-age blonde woman with a pinched face, sort of like a hamster, talking to herself as she walks up and down the pier; and at least two or three dogs, even though canines are not allowed on the pier.

and determined the pier is near the end of its life. The study, by consultancy Moffatt & Nichol, noted "significant deterioration of the primary structural elements," including cracks in one out of every four pilings and "significant corrosion in the majority of the pile caps and the soffit of the deck panels." The study found engineering and construction mistakes, including the assumption that "the maximum wave crest elevation" would be just three feet below the deck, which has not proven to be the case. In other words, the entire pier was built too low, which is why it has been continually battered by destructive waves — a problem that will only worsen as sea levels rise.

According to the report, much of the existing damage to the pier "appears to be associated with the cast-in-place portion of the cap. It was reported that during the curing of the cast-inplace joint it was very difficult to hold the two

precast portions of the cap rigid. Relative movement of the two precast portions during the curing of the joint may well have caused cracking that contributed to the permeability of the joint. This would have allowed more rapid penetration of chloride ions, water, and oxygen to the reinforcement, accelerating the corrosion process."

The 364-page report concluded that the best course of action would be for the pier to be torn down and replaced (at

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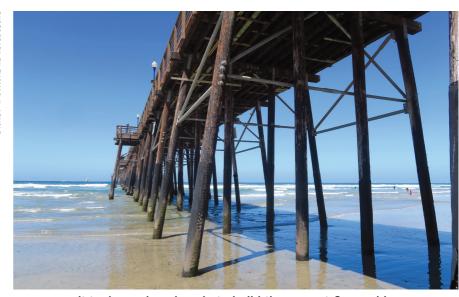
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it took nearly a decade to build the current Oceanside Pier, which according to original estimates at the time of construction has about 14 years of life left.

a cost of \$40 million to \$60 million) rather than repaired (\$8 million) or rehabilitated (\$30 million to \$50 million). The city is now slowly working its way through the process.

"We fell in love down at the pier You were sunbathing, I was around Soon we were sharing a beer We fell in love at the pier"

— "Love at the Pier" Blondie

San Diego's handful of other piers are in much better shape, although quite a bit of time and money are going into efforts to keep them that way. Having a length of 1954 feet, the Oceanside Pier is just 17 feet shorter than the Ocean Beach Municipal Pier and lays claim to being the longest wooden pier on the western U.S. coastline. Go for a walk on it on any given day, and you're likely to see three things: a pelican or two perched next to the bait shop, waiting to be fed; a middle-age blond woman with a pinched face, sort of like a hamster, talking to herself as she walks up and down the pier; and at least two or three dogs, even though canines are not allowed on the pier.

There's a bait shop halfway down, opposite a lifeguard tower, and two restrooms further west. At the very end of the pier is the former Ruby's Diner, which survived the pandemic but closed in 2021. The building remains vacant, although a new restaurant is supposed to open by the end of summer. It will be operated by Davin and Jessica Waite, who run three other Oceanside restaurants: the Wrench & Rodent Seabasstropub, The Plot, and Shootz Fish & Beer. The Waites have already opened a takeout kiosk next to the restaurant called the Brine Box

The present Oceanside Pier was opened on September 27, 1987 with a celebration that included speeches by the mayor and city council and lots of balloons. The pier had cost around \$5 million to build and was given an estimated life span of 50 years. It was the latest of several piers to be built off the Oceanside coast, beginning in 1888, a mile south, at the foot of what is now Wisconsin Avenue. That first pier, actually a

wharf, was supposed to measure 1500 feet, but according to an article on the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce website, the final 160 feet were never completed. "Unused lumber blocked Pacific Street and calls to finish building were numerous," according to the article. It is unclear whether the pier was ever completed to its target length, but no matter: winter storms swept away most of the wharf, and after a protracted cleanup, the city fathers decided to try again — this time in the present pier's location. Oceanside's second pier officially opened in September 1894. It was again built of wood, with 440 feet of iron pipe as reinforcements and a more modest length of 600 feet.

In 1900, voters approved a \$5000 bond to repair and extend the wharf, and in 1903, the new and improved pier was christened: 1400 feet long and supported by steel pilings made from 140 tons of re-purposed steel acquired from the Southern California Railway Company. But again, Mother Nature intervened. Winter storms kept battering the pier,

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and by 1915, it was down to 800 feet in length. Repairs were made until 1925, when plans were drawn up for a replacement pier, this one with a 300-foot concrete approach followed by 1300 feet of wood pilings and planks. The new pier was officially opened over the Fourth of July weekend in 1927, but 20 years later, the pier was falling apart and had to be rebuilt again.

The 1947 pier, at 1900 feet the longest on the West Coast, lasted nearly 30 years and, according to the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce article, "is often talked about wistfully and fondly. The white-railed pier could take fisherman and pedestrians out farther than any of its predecessors. A 28-passenger tram operated by the city could take guests out to the end of the pier and have room enough to turn around. McCullah Sport Fishing took enthusiasts out to fishing barges anchored over the kelp beds a mile out. For years, this pier continued as Oceanside's source of pride and stood longer than any other pier the city had built." Longer, but not forever. In 1975, the pier was closed several times due to storm damage, as city officials warned of a possible collapse. In April of the following year, a 600-square-foot section of the pier behind the Pier Café dropped into the sea; later that year, two fires destroyed the café and damaged a fish market at the pier's halfway point. In 1978, more storms chipped away at the pier, which by now jutted just 1000 feet into the ocean. The pier was closed, and it took nearly a decade to build the current pier, which according to original estimates



The Imperial Beach Pier celebrates its 60th birthday this year amid grand plans for a \$4 million makeover including installing activity placards along the railings, with sayings such as "A reel expert can tackle anything."

pier," he says, "because

at the time of construction has about 14 years of life left.

But given proper maintenance and regular replacement of worn and damaged parts, the pier could last a lot longer — "maybe even long after I die," says Nathan Mertz, public works division manager with the city of Oceanside. "The 1986 pier is far superior, from a design and construction standpoint, than any of the prior piers," Mertz says. "The pier is a lot higher than previous piers - and the Ocean Beach Pier, as well — so we don't get waves breaking over it, which is a major cause of damage. The biggest waves barely touch the bottom pipe brace, and from that you have another 13 to 15 feet before you hit the deck, so we don't have that cresting and breaking of waves anywhere near our deck."

Also working to the Oceanside Pier's advantage, Mertz says, is that it is constructed of wood and steel, with wood pilings supported by hundreds of steel brackets. "A wood pier is more resilient and easier to maintain than a concrete with a concrete pier, as soon as the steel within the concrete starts to rust, the concrete starts to break apart from there. Whereas if we need to replace a piling, we're just dealing with a solid piece of wood, supported by steel straps and brackets." Continual maintenance is key, he says, "particularly if you want to keep the pier in functional condition - and we do, because it is an iconic asset, a legacy asset. So we're taking a phased approach." Between 2010 and 2019, says Mertz, all of the hundreds of steel braces that support the wood pilings were replaced. "We've also been actively replacing the decking and repairing any damage to the guardrails. We also remodeled the bathrooms in 2016." Currently, "we're in the process of swapping out all the utilities, the gas and electrical lines as well as the three sewer lifts. The project also includes replacing the water line that services the restaurants, restrooms, bait shop, and drinking fountains as well as a separate water line for the fire sprinklers

and fire hydrants that are located on the pier."

The current project is budgeted at \$5.5 million, with \$4 million coming from the federal government's American Recovery Act Fund and the balance from the city of Oceanside.

Imperial Beach Pier

On the other end of San Diego County is the Imperial Beach Pier; at 1491 feet, it's the ninth-longest public ocean pier in California. The pier is about three miles north of the border with Mexico, and widens near its end into an arrow shape, from which visitors can see Mexico to the south and the Coronado islands to the north.

The Imperial Beach Pier celebrates its 60th birthday this year amid grand plans for a \$4 million makeover. The Port of San Diego, which owns the pier, has already completed phase one, which includes the installation of 30 stainless-steel fishing rod holders; new paint and murals; and repairs to the pier's three structures: the Tin Fish restaurant, the lifeguard tower, and public restrooms.

Phase two, which began last December and is ex-

pected to be completed this fall, includes:

- Adding an artistic shade canopy in a shark-andwater design over the pier extension at midpier just across from the public restrooms;
- Replacing the existing wood railing around the old boat loading ramp area near the Tin Fish Restaurant with stainless steel cable railing for improved ocean and beach views.
- Installing activity placards along the railings, with sayings such as "Good Things Come to Those Who Bait" and "High Tides and Good Vibes";
- Adding a historical marker near the Tin Fish Restaurant that tells the story of the IB Pier with vintage photographs, words, and graphics;
- Adding distance markers every 250 feet to



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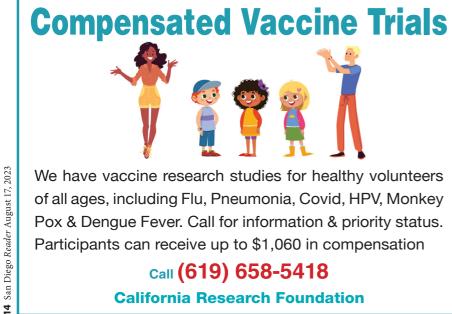


"It's just a magical place. We haven't done any advertising for close to 30 years. It's all word of mouth - people come from all over, and some have been coming for 45 years," says Bill Allen, whose family has been a part owner of Crystal Pier since 1961.

mark the distance to the end of the pier; and

Placing surf destination arrows on the railing at the end of the pier marking the distance and direction to surf spots Mavericks and the Banzai Pipeline. "The goal of these enhancements and improvements is to encourage the general public to explore the pier, experience its many ocean and air amenities, sights, and pleasures, and support the neighboring businesses," says Port District PIO Brianne Mundy Page. "Future phases may include more complex enhancements that require design development, environmental review, permitting and construction. Improvements being considered include additional deck extensions with modern cable railings and a shade canopy with a surfboard design over the sandy beach area."

The original IB Pier was built in 1909. It was damaged by storms in 1941 and left to decay; by 1948, it was gone. The new pier was built in 1963, but was forced to close after sustaining storm damage in 1986. The city of Imperial Beach spent more than \$3 million to rebuild and lengthen the pier, and it was reopened in March 1989. But cost overruns worsened the already fiscally challenged city's finances, and a year later, the Port of San Diego gained control of the pier. The port pays the city of Imperial Beach to provide maintenance services on the pier such as trash collection, sand sweeping, and graffiti removal. etc.



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The Imperial Beach Pier is about three miles north of the border with Mexico and widens near its end into an arrow shape, from which visitors can see Mexico to the south and the Coronado islands to the north.

Major maintenance projects - including pier pile or plank replacement are directly managed and paid for by the port. In 2006, the port of San Diego performed a major upgrade to the pier, and in 2014, the port completed a project that replaced nearly 1500 of the pier's planks.

The current makeover is the result of a December 2019 assessment by a structural engineering firm. "It was deemed to be in good condition and structurally sound," says Gabriella Rodriguez, a spokesperson for the port. "Through that assessment, we were able to identify some areas where we could make some investments and improvements, and we are in the process of doing so right now."

Crystal Pier

Crystal Pier, in Pacific Beach, is four years shy of its 100th birthday this summer. The pier is made of wood and steel and measures 872 feet in length. The pier is jointly owned by the city of San Diego and the Allen and Bostian family, who operate the Crystal Pier Hotel & Cottages, consisting of 32 blue-and-white Cape Cod-style cottages on the eastern half of the pier, up to the median high tide line.

"The fun part is when people come into our office and say, 'You know, I was conceived on your pier," says Bill Allen, whose family has been a part owner of Crystal Pier since 1961. "It's just a magical place. We haven't done any advertising for close to 30 years. It's all word of mouth – people come from all over, and some have been coming for 45 years." Among the famous regulars are actress Diane Keaton. "She mentioned it as one of her top 10 things to do," Allen says, "and when she doesn't come herself, she sends someone else down here, one of her kids."

San Diego's oldest public pier opened on the Fourth of July, 1927. It had been built as a private pier by a real estate developer in the hopes of enticing people to buy property in the adjoining residential tract, known as the Palisades. Originally known as Pickering's Pleasure Pier, the structure was briefly home to a carnival midway and ballroom. After those

attractions were closed due to construction flaws — "they didn't use creosote on the pilings, so wood mites got in," Allen says — the pier was shut down and lengthened. By the time it reopened in 1936, some of the cottages had been built.

Crystal Pier is unique in that it's never been rebuilt or replaced. The secret to the pier's longevity? "One reason is that it's a wood pier, and No. 2 is its location," Allen says. "The general surge is straight in and straight out from the ocean; you don't get side loads. When you have that kind of a force, and it hits you on the side, it knocks the crap out of you. That's what you get in Ocean Beach — the side loads are like a battering ram, and they built it out of concrete so it doesn't move, it doesn't have any flexibility."

That's not to say that Crystal Pier hasn't been on the losing end of its own battles with Mother Nature. In January 1983, the last 150 feet of the pier were washed away by a huge Pacific storm, according to the New York Times. Allen remembers that storm well. "At the

time, the deck on the pier was not secured to the pilings, and when we got the highest tide it lifted the whole platform and rolled it over, so we lost a bunch of length on the city's end of the pier," he recalls. "My family went down there that day — my dad and brother-in-law — and we got a crane and started pulling pilings out of the water." When the pier was repaired, the new portion was raised by five feet and shortened by about 20 feet. "The reason it was shortened was to take it out of the highest energy zone of waves," Allen says. "The most energy is when the wave breaks right in front of the pier, but now, by the time it hits, it's lost a lot of its oomph. So now the pier is supposed to withstand even the biggest tides." Since then, Allen says, he and his team have regularly performed maintenance and repairs on their portion of the pier. "It's a wood pier, so every week, it seems, we replace something," he says.

In 2015, Crystal Pier underwent a \$1.2 million restoration, financed by the city, in which workers repaired or replaced damaged pilings, pile caps, and joists, and installed bracing on the 471-foot city-owned section. At the same time, Allen and his team did a similar restoration on their portion of the pier, spearheaded by general manager and part owner Jim Bostian.

Earlier this year, Crystal Pier was again damaged by harsh winter storms and powerful king tides, prompting Allen to close off the pier past the cottages for nearly two months as a safety precaution. A consultant's report, released in May, found that while the pier did sustain damage, it's safe for public use while repairs are being done. The report, by the same firm that assessed the Ocean Beach Pier, identified 38 defects, including broken or missing braces. The total tab for the damage: \$324,599. According to the report, "timber structures like the Crystal Pier are typically designed with a significant amount of redundancy," which means a few damaged pilings and broken or missing braces don't compromise the overall integrity of the pier.

Repairs will be conducted throughout the year. "The city will take care of the braces on their part, and what's busted on our part, we'll take care of that," Allen says. "And then the city will submit the bill to FEMA. Once we get the new braces, we're good until the next storm. The thing about those braces is they are made to break, because if they don't break, they'd take the pilings out. So every time you get a big winter storm, you're going to have to replace some of the braces."

There is only one other ocean pier in San Diego County, but it's not open to the public: The Ellen Browning Scripps Memorial Pier, built and operated by UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The pier was built in 1988 as a replacement for the original pier, built in 1916, and measures 1084 feet in length. According to its website, its deck is a hefty 33.4 feet above the mean low water mark. The pier is used for research, serving as the home of environmental monitoring stations and also as a base of operations for the institution's various research boats and scientific diving expeditions. About 300 small boat operations take place each year.

According to the UCSD website, "data on ocean conditions and plankton taken from the pier provide an unparalleled source of information on changes in the coastal Pacific Ocean. The pier also provides a supply of filtered seawater, a critical resource for a marine institution, to an array of laboratories and aquaria," including the Birch Aquarium at Scripps, the NOAA Southwest Marine **Fisheries Science Center** (SWFSC), and the Hydraulics Laboratory. No one from Scripps would talk about the condition of the pier, or of any of the other piers in San Diego County. Scripps communications officer Rob Monroe wrote in an email, "None of our coastal oceanographers feel expert enough to talk

about it." As for the Shelter Island Pier I remember from my youth, it and the handful of other San Diego Bay piers are much more sheltered than those that jut out into the ocean. The original Shelter Island Pier was built in 1956 but condemned in 1990. A new pier opened in the summer of 1991, on the same footprint as the original. The pier is for pedestrians and fishermen only; it extends only about 200 feet from shore, but has decks on either side with a total length of about 500 feet. The west wing is a dock for small boats and kayaks. The pier is in pretty decent shape, says port spokeswoman Gabriella Rodriguez, thanks to the relatively calm waters of San Diego Bay. "The only time we saw some concerns was when there was that tsunami surge a few years ago," she says. "But that affected the dock more than anything else." -Thomas K. Arnold

LETTERS

continued from page 4 or "I promise it will reduce crime". The reality is the database will be kept and it will absolutely be misused by anyone who can and the program itself will be used to generate revenue for the city and whatever private for profit corporation gets the contract to install, maintain, and operate the system very much like the CHP partnership program for scanning and logging license plate information.

-Not Naughty

From *Transworld* magazine to Peñasquitos skatepark

Cover Story, July 19, 2023 Paul was instrumental in helping this 60 year old learn to skate at skateparks. He gives of himself so freely, it was impossible to not think of him as a friend. What he's doing in PQ for the skate community is amazing and so appreciated. While teaching his own kids to drop in, he always had time for other kids, too (I include myself as the biggest kid he ever taught). I've been going there since the pandemic started, and I still go there to this day, in large part to Paul's mentoring and openness.

-Pro-Paul

Alden to stem U-T liberal Democrat crusades News Under the Radar, July 19,

News Under the Radar, July 19, 2023

I agree about Toni Atkins corruption and swindling of donors money to advance her narcissistic climb to Lieutenant Governor's position. Vote her out.

-On an Atkins Diet I've heard others acknowledge how corrupt and effective Toni Atkins is at advancing her agenda of lining her pockets with puppeteers money. Best government money can buy...

Átkins Agenda observer Nope. I was just saying today that Senate Pro Ten Toni Atkins is probably one of the most authentic politico's I know. Her humble background growing up in the Appalachian Mountains with no running water, helps her empathize with issues like homelessness, poverty, women's health, children and education on and on. Yes, she "lines her pockets" because she is running for office and in California, it is expensive. -I Care

^Oh my, a tear is in my eye for her humble background. Unfortunate her background and choices brought her to lies, thievery and corruption against the people. Such a disgrace. -*Clear Poli-ticks*

Atkins and her (Wife) are 2 peas in a pot, nepotism abound and no room for ethical seasonings. *-No Mercy*

^So puuurrfectly stated. Thank you for sharing the truth.

-Anti-Atkins Appreciator Alden's Union-Tribune will spare us divisiveness and adversarial politics by not endorsing presidential candidates and by eliminating those combative readers' voices?

I thought this was a brilliant piece assessing the potential political impact of the sale of the San Diego Union-Tribune to this vulture capitalist hedge fund. Everyone is sad and shocked at Patrick Soon-Shiong's abandonment of the U-T and its valiant writers and editor Jeff Light, and we mourn the passing of an era and our traditional daily newspaper. But Matt Potter looks into the future and explains what darkness Alden may hold for this community. Well done. -Monaghan

Every San Diego hitchhiker has a story of his favorite ride Cover Stories, May 11, 1989 Great column and stories. thanks for writing! -Thumbs Up



Calendar

MICHAEL FRANTI Thursday | 17

MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD

Founded by the former frontman for Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy, Michael Franti & Spearhead blends hip-hop with funk, reggae, jazz, and rock. They launched The Big Big Love Tour in May, committing to over 50

scheduled dates. One of the final four concerts taking place at downtown's Jacobs Park. The bill includes Grammy award-winning reggae band Soja, whose most recent album *Beauty In the Silence* dropped in 2021.

WHEN: Thursday, August 17, 7:30 pm

WHERE: The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 200 Marina Park Way, Downtown. *theshell.org*

Friday | 18

AND WIL COME TO IT

BEGINNERS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

The lessons will be led by local photographer and naturalist Hector Valtierra and will be limited to the first ten people to sign up with Nancy Fernandez, email Nancy_Fernandez@ fws.gov. Meet outside the Tijuana Estuary visitor center parking lot and take a walk on the refuge trails to learn how to best use your camera's settings to capture great shots. Camera phones are also welcomed. Feel free to bring monopods or tripods.

WHEN: Friday, August 18, 8 am to 10 am

WHERE: Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach. *trnerr.org*

A LUNCHEON WITH AUTHOR ALICE HOFFMAN

Luncheon with author Alice Hoffman



and signs her new book, *The Invisible Hour*. "One brilliant June day when Mia Jacob can no longer see a way to survive, the power of words saves her. *The Scarlet Letter* was written almost two hundred

as she discusses



years earlier, but it

seems to tell the story of

Mia's mother, Ivy, and their life inside the Community— an oppressive cult in western Massachusetts".

WHEN: Friday, August 18, 12 pm to 1 pm

WHERE: Coronado Community Center, 1845 Strand Way, Coronado. *coronado.librarycalendar.com*

Saturday | 19

TWAINFEST

Free, all-day, outdoor festival celebrating Mark Twain and the literature and culture of 19th century America. Games, performances, and giant puppets. Meet Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, and other literary greats at the Authors' Salon. Paint

a fence with Tom Sawyer and Becky Thatcher, or have tea with the Mad Hatter and Alice. Keep an eye out for Robin Hood – you may be recruited to join the merry band of Sherwood Forest. Free book available at the Book Emporium to all who participate in activities.

WHEN: Saturday, August 19, 11 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Heritage County Park, 2454 Heritage Park Row, Old Town. *writeoutloudsd.com/twainfest*

WILD WEST FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

Food and wine festival fundraising event themed Wild Wild West. Sampling booths from local wineries, breweries, restaurants, dessert shops. Live bands, local artists, line dancing, and a silent auction. Bands include



WILD WEST FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

Whiskey Ridge (main stage) and The Tradesmen.

WHEN: Saturday, August 19, 4 pm WHERE: Mount Helix Park, 4901 Mount Helix Drive, La Mesa. *mthelixpark.org/festival*

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Octopus behind-the-scenes tours For guests looking for an unforgettable animal experience, the aquarium is offering an exclusive behind-the-scenes encounter with a Giant Pacific Octopus. The tour costs \$110 for aquarium members and \$125 for nonmembers. Each tour is limited to four guests allowing for a more intimate experience. From May 28 to September 4, the aquarium will be open most days from 9am to 7pm Thursdays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; through Thursday, August 31, \$110-\$125. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Science Night Happy Hour Quench your thirst for science during Science Night Happy Hours on Wednesday evenings. Sip and snack alongside Scripps scientists as they dive into the details of their research in a fun format, perfect for all ages. From sharks, plankton, penguins, heatwaves, and more, you will get a taste of some of the incredible research taking place at Scripps and talk with the people behind it. Visit website for scientists scheduled. Wednesday, August 23, 5pm; \$19-\$24. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

ART

Artists of the Industry Pop-Up Craft Fair The craft fair will feature local San Diego restaurant and hospitality workers, who are also artists with goods such as candles, paintings, and more. Wednesday, August 23, 4pm; Ginger's, 600 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

C You Saturday Family Celebration Celebrate the work of summer camp artists with live music, open play beach ball volleyball, free face painting, jewelry making, and still-life painting opportunities. There will be free flavorful drinks for kids (aguas frescas) and food available for purchase. RSVP @ icasandiego.org to attend free. Saturday, August 19, 12pm; free. ICA North Institute of Contemporary Art San Diego, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

C-Note Sale Enjoy a collection of original art created by the talented local artists of the San Dieguito Art Guild, with selected items available for purchase for \$100. Saturday, August 19, 10am; **free**. Off Track Gallery, 937 S. Coast Hwy. 101, suite C-103. (ENCINTAS)

Denja Harris Solo Exhibition Opening reception for Denja Harris' solo exhibition of experimental fiber art and soft sculpture. The show will feature several new large scale works made specifically for the space. Work will be off the wall, hung from the rafters, floating through the room at different heights and depths, to be viewed in all of its three dimensions so that its vibrant color, tactile, and multilayered qualities can be experienced up close and personal. The evening will feature live DJs, a curated selection of natural wines from small family vineyards, and a special pop-up in the loft. Saturday, August 19, 7pm; free. Intervals, 998 West Juniper Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Coly Warehouse Sale Arts, crafts and school supply sale, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Kids For Peace. Friday, August 18, 12pm; Saturday, August 19, 8am; **free**. Ooly LLC, 5607 Palmer Way. (CARLSBAD)

AUTOMOTIVE

Cars & Coffee All cars welcome Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, August 24, **free**. Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

BEER

Barre3 & Beer Enjoy a feel-good barre class led by Jenny of Barre3 and Pure beer. Cost includes the 45-minute long barre class and a pint of non-barrel-aged beer. Sunday, August 20, 10am; \$25. 21 and up. Pure Project North Park, 2867 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

Yoga & Beer with Corepower Yoga session led by Madison of Corepower Yoga followed by a pint. Sunday, August 20, 9:30am; \$15. 21 and up. Pure Project Carlsbad, 2825 State St. (CARLSBAD)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Elizabeth L. Silver: The Majority Warwick's will host Elizabeth L. Silver as she discusses and signs her new book, *The Majority*, in conversation with Shilpi Somaya Gowda. This event is free and open to the public; free seating is subject to available space. To ensure seating, pre-order one book per seat @ warwicks.com/event/silver-2023. Wednesday, August 23, 7:30pm; free-\$28. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Rajani LaRocca & Chris Baron: Secret of the Dragon Gems Warwick's, in partnership with La Jolla Riford Library, presents Rajani LaRocca and Chris Baron as they discuss and sign their new book, *The Secret of the Dragon Gems.* Saturday, August 19, 4pm; free-\$18. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Weekends with Locals: Andrew Fitzgerald Weekends with Locals will be hosting Andrew Fitzgerald, author of *How Did I Get* Here?: Traveling The Road To Resilience. Sunday, August 20, 12pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Weekends with Locals: Karna Small Bodman Weekends with Locals will be hosting Karna Small Bodman, author of *Wrigley at the White House*. Sunday, August 20, 2:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Alzheimer's San Diego: Dementia 101 An introduction to mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other dementias. Learn information about risk factors, common symptoms, and resources for help. This class is presented by local nonprofit Alzheimer's San Diego, and pre-registration is recommended. Register online. Wednesday, August 23, 10am; free. 18 and up. Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street. (VALENCIA PARK)

Alzheimer's San Diego: Managing Resistance If you care for someone who refuses help, join us to explore what causes resistance in people living with dementia. Develop new strategies that strengthen relationships, build trust, and preserve dignity. Register online. Monday, August 21, 1pm; free. 18 and up. Grossmont Healthcare Center, 9001 Wakarusa Street. (LA MESA)

Compost Workshop The workshop will include instruction and demonstration in the building and maintenance of a backyard compost pile and worm bin. The workshop is free, and no registration is required. Workshop will be canceled in the event of rain. Saturday, August 19, 8:30am; free. Escondido Community Garden, Centre City Parkway at Decatur Way. (ESCONDIDO)

Cooking Class: Ravioli Learn the secret of creating Ravioli from scratch. Saturday, August 19, 1pm; Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

Decoupage Shells Trinket Dishes Workshop. In this Patchwork workshop, make a set of 3 dishes. The size and shape of each one will vary. There will be a variety of patterns and pressed flowers available to choose from and your creation will be finished with some gold accents. No previous experience required, beginners to experts welcome. Wednesday, August 23, 6:30pm; \$45. Mike Hess Brewing Ocean Beach, 4893 Voltaire Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

Grilled Fish Class This class will focus on locally caught, seasonal fish and seasonal garden inspired recipes. Learn tips on where to source local fish and how to cook it using a grill with recipes for any summer BBQ. Saturday, August 19, 3:30pm; \$50-\$75. 18 and up. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Learn to Make Wood-Fired **Pizzas** Participants will learn from

THE BARRIO LOGAN ASSOCIATION & ALL FOR LOGAN PRESENTS

A SELF-GUIDED FOOD TOUR HIGHLIGHTING CHICANO CULINARY ARTS & CULTURE

APPAA CHURROS • ATHENAEUM ART CENTER AT BREAD & SALT BARRACRUDA • BARRIO DOGG • BOMBOM BAKE HOUSE • BORDER X BREWING CAFE MOTO • CHIKITA'S CAFE • CHURCH OF HERBALISM • CICCIA OSTERIA CRAB CITY • EL CARRITO • FISH GUTS • HAYES BURGER • JAGUAR PAW LA BAMBA ROOM • LA DIVINA COCINA Y CANTINA LIA'S LUMPIA • LIBERTY CALL • MAGGIE'S CAFE • MARISCOS LA CHALUPA MISHMASH • MUJERES BREW HOUSE • NEVERIA LOS MOCHIS • OI ASIAN FUSION PANCHITA'S BAKERY • POR VIDA • PROVECHO AT BREAD & SALT ROLANDO'S TACO SHOP • RYAN BROTHERS [SALUD! • SUSHINGASO SUSHI TRUCK • TACOS DEL BARRIO • THORN BREWING TOCUMBO • XICANITOS TACOS

S U N DAY, AU G 2 7 T H · NOON-4PM

BARRIO LOGAN, SAN DIEGO,CA TICKETS AVAILABLE ALLFORLOGAN.COM an expert chef on the process of making the perfect pizza. Attendees will make their pizzas at 2pm, and come back after class from 5pm till close to enjoy their delicious creations at the restaurant. Includes the pizza class, salad, two glasses of beer, wine or soft drinks. RSVP and pre-pay for the event @ tinyurl. com/2ecb76nk. Saturday, August 19, 2pm; \$45. 21 and up. 7 Mile Kitchen, 5420 Grand Pacific Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Six Ways of Looking at Mem**oir** A Potpourri of Techniques for Memoir Writers Mondays, 6pm; through Monday, August 21, \$36-\$42. Inspirations Gallery, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #204. (LIBERTY STATION)

Spirituality Class Classes on spiritual topics from Tarot, Crystals, Smudging to Shadow Work, Daoist Alchemy & more, Thursday, August 17, 6:30pm; free-\$5. Divine Bubble Metaphysical Boutique and Healing Center, 4639 30th Street. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Youth4Climates Waves of Change Summit The Summit is for high school and college students interested in engaging workshops and guest speakers aimed at envisioning a climate-friendly future, build local movements and combat eco-anxiety in a positive way. Tickets are \$20, but students can volunteer at the event and get in for free. All the proceeds go toward local climate action in San Diego. Saturday, August 19, 1pm; free-\$20. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

COMEDY

Comedy Under the Stars Host Benji GarciaReves, Friday, August 18, 8pm; free-\$10. 21 and up. Bolt Brewing, 8179 Center Street

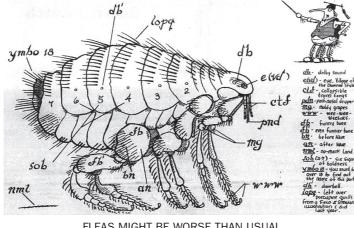
Dan Soder AS SEEN ON: Showtime, HBO, Netflix, Comedy Central & more! Thursday, August 17, 8pm; Friday, August 18, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, August 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$30. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Dr. Ken's Comedy Hypnosis **Show** Dr. Ken is a real physician, using real hypnosis, to create a really safe and fun show for the whole family. The performance features

OUTDOORS

Last chance for grunion, Fleas are everywhere,

It's open grunion season for the last time this year on Wednesday-Saturday, August 16-19. Roughly between the hours of 10pm and 1am, just after the nocturnal highest tide, the small, silvery grunion tend to spawn on wide, gently sloping beaches such as Silver Strand, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Del Mar. California law allows the taking of grunion in summer (except in those areas classified as ecological preserves). A California fishing license is required for persons 16 years and older and south of Point Arguello,



FLEAS MIGHT BE WORSE THAN USUAL BECAUSE OF THE COPIOUS RAIN.

THE DAILY BAG LIMIT FOR GRUNION IS 30 FISH.

an Ocean Enhancement Validation is also required. Grunion may be taken by hand only. No holes may be dug in the beach to entrap them. Since June 2022, the daily bag and possession limit for grunion has been 30 fish. Additional grunion information can be obtained by visiting wildlife.ca.gov/fishing/ocean/grunion.

Fleas, the bane of pets and humans alike, are hopping all over San Diego again as the summer progresses. This year might be worse than usual because of the copious precipitation we received last rainy season. Fleas were even more troublesome in San Diego County's past than they are today. Soldiers on the Portola expedition over two centuries ago named a deserted Indian village in today's North County "Rancheria de las Pulgas"; and the problem of pulgas ("fleas") in the dusty streets and dwelling places of southern California were commonly mentioned in 19th-century journals and diaries. The place-names Las Pulgas Canyon and Las Pulgas Road in Camp Pendleton are reminders of a timeless torment.

audience volunteers who truly want to experience the power of suggestion and the fantastic benefits of hypnosis. Saturday, August 19, 8pm; \$18. Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

Free Comedy Night Amy Silverberg headlines, featuring: Veronica Gordon, Colton Harpie, Brendan Jay, Linda Schwartz, Diego Delgadillo, Michael Freedman and Host Alex Petit. Friday, August 18. 7.30pm: Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

Liz Miele Kimbles 'n Bits Comedy - Liz Miele w/ Maria Shehata Tuesday, August 22, 8pm; \$22. 21

and up. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

DANCE

Arson 101, A Choose Your Own Adventure This two-performer dance and variety show directly involves the audience throughout as the characters seek advice on how to handle the challenges of romantic partnership. Starting from the wildfire of initial interest and moving through the dying embers of complacency into the audience-determined unknown, the actors will use every skill they've

got to take that advice and run with it. With variety acts to choose from including dancing, clowning, singing, acrobatics, and drag, and 7 different ways the show can end, it's a new story every performance. Saturday, August 19, 6pm; free-\$20. Light Box Theater, 2590 Truxtun Rd., Studio 205, Building 176. (LIB-FRTY STATION)

Intro to Square Dancing Free 1st class Tuesday, August 22, 7pm; \$10. St. James Catholic Church, 625 South Nardo Avenue, (SOLANA BEACH)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Free Tuesday Free admission to San Diego County residents with ID. Proof of San Diego County residency is required for all adults (18+) participating. CA Driver's License, State, School or Military ID are accepted. Tuesday, August 22, 10am; 18 and up. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

Taking Dementia On the Road The Hemlock Society of San Diego presents a free screening of Supernova, a right-to-die film starring Stanley Tucci and Colin Firth, a loving gay couple who embark on a road trip before dementia overtakes one of them. Followed by a discussion. Sunday, August 20, 1:30pm;

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

FOR KIDS

Community Music Day: Sing! Sing! Sing! StudioACE will show you how to make and decorate your very own arts and crafts microphone. Grab a quick snack bag and return to the Museum's concert stage for Live Band Karaoke from 12-2pm. Pick a song you would like to sing, then join a professional band on stage as they play along. Saturday, August 19, 10am; free. Museum of Making Music, 5790 Armada Drive, (CARLSBAD)

Gus the Beagle Search & Rescue Storytime Search and Rescue Storytime with Gus the Beagle Thursday, August 17, 10:30am; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Intro to Circuits Using Makey-Makey Using Makey Makey circuit boards, students will create fun circuits that incorporate everyday items like bananas, gummy bears, aluminum foil or bouncy balls. Students will then use their new circuitry skills to make games, music or art. Registration @ tinyurl. com/4w78b4ys. 3rd grade to 5th grade Monday, August 21, 4pm; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Preschool Storybox Storytime Enjoy a Japanese storytelling tradition called kamishibai (kami = paper; shibai = theater). A storyteller stands behind a little wooden theater, also known as a storybox, and reveals a series of illustrations that tell a tale. Recommended for ages 3-5 Thursday, August 17, 10:30am; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Summer Reading: Ralph's World Kids' Concert Kids' rock music with Ralph's World, perfect for preschool and elementary-aged kids. Saturday, August 19, 10:30am; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Thomas Family Day Thomas and his friends from the Isle of Sodor will take over the museum for a day all about Thomas the Tank Engine. Thomas & Friends scavenger hunt around the museum, with Thomas trains running on layouts, Arts & Crafts inspired by Thomas, An Isle of Sodor display, Live music sessions. Thomas Family Day is included in museum admission, and kids 12 and under get in free. Saturday, August 19, 10am; free-\$19. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Twainfest TwainFest is a free allday outdoor festival celebrating Mark Twain and the literature and culture of 19th Century America, with Games, Performances, Giant



LITTLE ITALY MERCATO SATURDAYS 8 am to 2 pm WEDNESDAYS 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Shop safe at open-air farmers' markets Fresh Fruit • Vegetables • Meat • Fish • Eggs Flowers • Yogurt • Baked Goods and more! Limited entry for safe shopping **OPEN YEAR-ROUND, RAIN OR SHINE**

Information and safety protocols: sandiegomarkets.com

Reader ICOTOPIO LAND of TACOS, BEER & TEQUILA

YUI .



SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 . 1-5PM

Golden Hill Park, San Diego

LIVE PERFORMANCES BY: LADY DOTTIE & THE DIAMONDS ROCK OF AGES (80s LIVE TRIBUTE) DJ BOOGIE BUBBA

READERTACOTOPIA.COM















Puppets and Family Fun. Free book available at the Book Emporium to all who participate in activities. Saturday, August 19, 11am; Heritage County Park, 2454 Heritage Park Row. (OLD TOWN)

NATURE

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. Learn how the plants adapt to the heat. Walks start from the Visitor Center, are free and open to the public, with no reservations required. Saturday, August 19, 9:30am, Sunday, August 20, 9:30am, Wednesday, August 23, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Twilight Walk Join MTRP Trail Guides for free special interpretive walks at twilight this summer. Come and enjoy an evening walk in the park and learn about the changes that occur at dusk as the sun goes down. Walks meet at the parking lot at the corner of Bushy Hill Drive and Father Junípero Serra Trail, across from Kumeyaay Lake Campground. Don't forget to bring along a flashlight and an extra layer of clothing - it often cools down after the sun sets. For more information, call (619) 668-3281. Saturday, August 19, 7pm; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Learn to Identify Plants & Animals with iNaturalist A refuge volunteer and park ranger will teach how to photograph your observations, how to use the iNaturalist app or web platform, and how your submissions can contribute to wildlife conservation. Meet in the parking lot. Saturday, August 19, 9am; **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Stars at Mission Trails Join members from the San Diego Astronomy Association at the West Sycamore area of MTRP to view the nighttime sky through telescopes provided or bring your own if you have one. It will be two days past new moon. Beautiful dark night. Rain or cloudy skies cancel event. Meet in the parking lot at the far east end of Stonebridge Parkway 17160 Stonebridge Parkway, San Diego, CA) Sunset 7:32 pm. Friday, August 18, 7:30pm; free. West Sycamore - Mission Trails Regional Park, 17160 Stonebridge Parkway. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Festival of Books Join us in person and virtually for 7th Annual Festival of Books on August 19 presented by the University of San Diego. Saturday, August 19, 10am; free-\$3. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park. (UNDA VISTA)

Floral Fridays for Educators Local teachers are invited to visit the Floral Bar to create custom bouquets, enjoying a moment of relaxation and expressing creativity before the school year begins. School ID is required. Center Court located near Gap Outlet. Friday, August 18, 1pm; free. Carlsbad Premium Outlets, 5620 Paseo Del Norte. (CARLSBAD)

Summer Nights Enjoy live music and special performances, nosh on a selection of treats paired with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and stroll the Garden at sunset. Concerts on the Lawn are free with a general admission ticket but with capacity limited, reservations are strongly recommended. Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, August 17, **free**-\$55. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

The Friendship Foot Festival Enjoy a restorative afternoon with food, live music featuring Fast Heart Mart, shop local artisans, get a foot massage, and soak your feet. Saturday, August 19, 3:04pm; free. 18 and up. Avocado House, 1523 Avocado Way. (ESCONDIDO)

SPOKEN WORD

Rachel Hollis Author, motivational speaker, and podcast host Rachel Hollis performs live on her Happy In The Same Pants Podcast Tour. Friday, August 18, 7pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Family Yoga Series Free 45-minute yoga classes on the lawn behind Harland Brewing led by experienced yoga instructor Jenn Richardson. Bring your mats, no prior yoga experience necessary. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, August 27, free. One Paseo, 3725 Paseo Place. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Gaslamp Skate Sunday Series The Sunset Roller Club is a diverse group of skaters at every level. Sunday, August 20, 5pm; free. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIFGO)

HIIT with F45 East Hillcrest Join F45 East Hillcrest for a HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training) workout class followed by a glass of beer and a raffle. Sunday, August 20, 10am; \$20. 21 and up. Pure Project at the Park, 2865 5th Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

San Diego Wave FC VS. NJ/NY Gotham FC Saturday, August 19, 7pm; Snapdragon Stadium, 2101 Stadium Way. (MISSION VALLEY)

Vino & Vinyasa Enjoy a day of mind, body, and vino on the Lawn with a 45-minute Vinyasa Yoga Class led by YogaSix Bressi Ranch. Then relax with a glass of complimentary vino and a 20% off coupon to take to the resort's pub-style restaurant, The Grill. All attendees will also have access to two sparkling pools and spa tubs with a day pool-pass. Sunday, August 20, 10:30am; \$25-\$45. 21 and up. Lakehouse Hotel & Resort, 1025 La Bonita Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith 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.

42nd Street

MOONLIGHT AMPHITHEATRE IN BRENGLE TERRACE PARK, 1200 VALE TERRACE, VISTA. 760-724-2110. 7PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

A Weekend with Pablo Picasso

In this one-man tour de force based on Picasso's writings, writer/performer Herbert Siguenza takes on the role of the legendary artist, inviting the audience into Picasso's private studio for an intimate and revealing weekend as he prepares to deliver six new works to a



buyer by Monday morning. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY AUG. 23

Arson 101, A Choose Your Own Adventure

This two-performer dance and variety show directly involves the audience throughout as the characters seek advice on how to handle the challenges of romantic partnership. Starting from the wildfire of initial interest and moving through the dving embers of complacency into the audience-determined unknown, the actors will use every skill they've got to take that advice and run with it. With variety acts to choose from including dancing, clowning, singing, acrobatics, and drag, and 7 different ways the show can end, it's a new story every performance. LIGHT BOX THEATER, 2590 TRUXTUN RD., STUDIO 205, BUILDING 176, LIBERTY STA-TION. 619-225-1803. 6PM SATURDAY.

Beetlejuice - The Musical

Directed by Alex Timbers (Moulin Rouge), *Beetlejuice* tells the story of Lydia Deetz, a strange and unusual teenager whose whole life changes when she meets a recently deceased couple and a demon with a thing for stripes. And under its uproarious surface (six feet under, to be exact), it's a remarkably touching show about family, love, and making the most of every Day-O!

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 1PM & 6:30PM SUNDAY.

Cabaret the Musical

Wildsong productions is looking to make this production immersive with adding front row tables and an all around ambience. Set in 1929–1930 Berlin during the twilight of the Jazz Age as the Nazis are ascending to power, the musical focuses on the hedonistic nightlife at the seedy Kit Kat Klub and revolves around American writer Clifford Bradshaw's relations with English cabaret performer Sally Bowles.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 6PM SUNDAYS.

Cotton Patch Gospel

Lamb's Players Theatre's first production of Cotton Patch Gospel began in October of 1981 and ran for 193 performances. It's not hard to see why: the musical sets the story of Jesus in the mid-20th-century rural South, such that the religious authorities who are scandalized by and ultimately plot to destroy Jesus are ostensible Christians. Original Jesus was forever castigating the Jewish Pharisees for their obsession with worldly authority and rules, even as they neglected the love and mercy commanded by the God who gave them their raison detre. But here, Jesus is challenging the very folks who signed up for his spirit-filled alternative to all that institutional rot, only to become the institution themselves. (Here, "Johnny" reminds Mary that he has to be about his Father's business after attending a Sunday school convention.) The message was solid: dear Christians, please don't forget Christ. And the timing was spot on: Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority was an ascendant political entity, celebrity televangelists were amassing enormous fortunes, and here was Jesus, reminding folks that he did not come to found a political party, and was not interested in places of honor or storing up treasures on earth. Now? Well, a bunch of Republican presidential candidates did sit down with conservative commentator Tucker Carlson at a recent meeting of the Family Leadership Conference, but even so, it's hard to see Christianity in the time of the Nones as the kind of dominant cultural force it was 40 years ago. (Though it's as good a time as any to hear a song about turning the other cheek and loving your enemies.) As a result, the play comes off less as a stinging rebuke and more as a friendly rework that makes the old story new - well, newer. "You are the salt on the ham, the light on the porch!" The miracle of loaves and fishes as saltines and sardines, the Last Supper with a moon pie and Grape Ne-Hi. What makes it engaging, and perhaps enduring, is the music: bluegrass and folk, delivered with emotion and expertise by the three-person cast and the fine four-person band. LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600, 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS. 1PM SUNDAYS

Crime & Punishment, A Comedy

With Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show, Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen gave The Old Globe's Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre its version of the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage's How the Grinch Stole Christmas: an annual event that tweaked a holiday classic into something comedic and sweetly feel-good - no mean feat, given the whole ghost story structure, horrible protagonist, and climactic threat of death and infamy. It surely helped that the story is so well known that its more alarming aspects have been blunted by familiarity. Here, the two are considerably more daring, taking a book they themselves claim "you didn't read in high school" — by an author famous for his renderings of tortured moral crises, about a man who commits a murder and resolves to get away with it - and turning it into something wacky, sort of like Young Frankenstein. The result is sort of Dostoevsky defanged, formally a comedy, but relying mostly on gags and references for its laughs. (A wedding planner named Anna Karenina!) There are some good lines: when someone mentions an older man's wandering eve, his would-be wife cries, "He's having that fixed!" But it's not entirely clear why it exists in the way that it does. It feels almost like a dare: take one of the darkest stories in the canon, and make it funny - while still keeping the stuff about murder and morality. The cast is game, the staging is inventive, and the puppets are delightful. But the emotional whiplash is dizzying. OLD GLOBE - SHERYL & HARVEY WHITE

THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Cry It Out

Cry It Out by Molly Smith Metzler, directed by Vanessa Duron. This play explores the friendship between two newly minted moms in a workingclass town. A third mother from a rich enclave in the hills above infiltrates their coffee klatch. Each woman faces some crushing choices when it comes to balancing life and work with new responsibilities as a mother. And there is no happy ending.

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

Dr. Ken's Comedy Hypnosis Show

Dr. Ken is a real physician, using real hypnosis, to create a really safe and fun show for the whole family. The performance features audience volunteers who truly want to experience the power of suggestion and the fantastic benefits of hypnosis. The show is fun for all ages from tweens and teens to adults and seniors. While the on-stage volunteers experience actual hypnosis and become the true stars of the show, the remaining audience witnesses the comedic and often hilarious situations and demonstrations presented by Dr. Ken Kern.

SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 8PM SATURDAY.

Evita

Based on true events, Evita tells the story of Eva Perón's rags-to-riches life as she goes from poor provincial child to First Lady of Argentina. Directed by Sean Murray. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD

TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

The Merry Wives of Windsor

Sudsy Shakespeare, set in the soapbubble cleanliness of the '50s. The rotating set, which takes us from soda shop to happy home to pleasant park (with a door to a motel tellingly added, if never employed) is almost as much fun as the goings-on, which have to do with fat John Falstaff's attempt to bed not one, but two married women in well-behaved Windsor. But women talk, don't you know, and in no time, they're plotting to prank the lumbering lothario. The telling line: "Wives may be merry, and yet honest, too." That helps makes sense of the setting: ten years later, that sort of honesty might have been seen as submission, or denial, while a night with the Knight might have come across as brave, or at least adventurous. And the jealous husband would have been a bad joke, while here he's a good one. The really bold bit comes in the script department, via frequent insertions of era-appropriate lingo. "A soda jerk is a good trade." "Razz my berries." "Tuna casserole? Nummy nummy nummy!" But it's all so frothy and free of consequence that it hardly seems like violence to the Bard's genius even if it only occasionally feels like a genuine addition. (Shoutout to Schlitz.) The actors follow the script's lead and play it big and broad, but this is the good old Globe, so it stops short of over the top. Jenn Harris shows special expertise in this department as Mrs. Quickly - and boy howdy, is she. A regular Benzedrine queen, all tics and quirks and reliably funny. Tom McGowan's bumbling rascal Falstaff practically comes off as straight man by comparison.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Pippin

I'm not going to use the term "Fosse Fossil" here, because it wouldn't be fair — but it's telling that it remains a temptation. Why wouldn't it be fair? For starters, because North Coast Rep's production is too polished and yes, lively for something dug up and dead. Then there's the fact that while Bob Fosse directed and choreographed the original, the music and lyrics that carry the show along are from Stephen Schwartz, and his self-conscious, wordplaying stamp on the show is stronger, despite the cavorting and transporting contortions of Lead Player Robert kicks off with our protagonist's visit to an empty theater, builds along preannounced pathways from which detours are called out as mistakes, and tends throughout toward an orchestrated Grand Finale. Wordplaying: there's a song with the lyric, "And I'm not one to butt in/ But in fact I must say...) Why does it remain a temptation? Well, Director Nick DeGruccio suggests that "Pippin may resonate more today than it did [in 1972]. Young adults today find themselves without a road map. Drifters longing for meaning and connection in a disconnected world." But Pippin isn't just looking for meaning and connection; he's looking for a life that fits his exalted vision of himself. He's an All-American Golden Boy, playing the favorite son of the Emperor Charlemagne, the kid who believes from birth that anything is possible. In the play, he chugs through school, war, politics, sex, art, religion, and even love, looking for the thing that will provide constant fulfillment. That's a sharp character for the 70s' curdling of American exceptionalism. But today, he plays as supremely privileged: the Poor Little Rich Boy who started at the top and wanted more anyway. True, there's a tinge of despair in the Big Finish proposed by the Players, but it lacks the awful desperation that might make it really hit home with Generation Opiod. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAY

Zelaya. (Self-conscious: the action

& FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY. Plays in the Park: 9

to 5 - The Musical

Set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thoughtprovoking and even a little romantic. Book by Patricia Resnick, Music and Lyrics by Dolly Part. KIT CARSON PARK, 3333 BEAR VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 8PM FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY.

MOVIES

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, Ryan Brothers, 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.

Barbie — In the enchanting realm of Barbie Land, every day is the best day. That is, until midway through a dazzling disco-dance when Barbie (Margot Robbie) asks her fellow Mattel-mates, "Do you guys ever think about dying?" What follows is a philosophical voyage that leaves behind a pink-hued Oz as Barbie and her not-boyfriend Ken (Ryan Gosling) embark on a real-world adventure in an attempt to reconcile her identity. It's a fitting twist for a doll that has spent over six decades inspiring young girls (and boys) to look inward and explore their identity, now having to confront her own existential crisis. Yes, Barbie may be a plastic toy, but she also symbolizes the unrealistic standard of feminine beauty and embodies the prescribed roles in a patriarchal society. As Barbie struggles with the problems that women in the real world have to handle daily, director Greta Gerwig uses the opportunity to delve into

some weighty themes uncommon in typical summer blockbusters – most notably the lack of autonomy experienced by women in a male-dominated world. The message of womanhood is not discrete nor does it need to be. There's no peeling back the pink-hues to get to the subtext. Gerwig effortlessly unveils the profound truth of patriarchy's harmful impact on both women and men, as if unboxing a cherished Barbie doll. (2023) – R.B. $\star \star \star$ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Haunted Mansion - It's the middle of summer, and a priest, professor, psychic, astrophysicist, and a mother with her young son walk into a haunted mansion. The ghosts say, "Is this some kind of joke?" Apparently, yes, because Haunted Mansion is hardly as spooky and atmospheric as the Disney attraction it's based on. This two-hour comedy caper has a threadbare story that relies on ghoulish gags and supernatural shenanigans from well-known comedy actors. Audiences who enjoy Tiffany Hadish's sass, Danny DeVito's antics, and Owen Wilson's upbeat charm will likely find a fair bit of fun – and there are even some standout cameos from several famous standup comedians. But for those seeking the same cinematic magic as *Pirates of the Caribbean*, disappointment looms like a lingering ghost. (2023) — R.B. **★** (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Kokomo City — Chronicling the harsh reality of Black trans sex work, Kokomo City is a sexually explicit and meditative portrait of four transwomen trying to survive in NYC and Atlanta - yes, survive. Sadly, one of these women, Koko Da Doll, was fatally shot earlier this year. Their stories are raw and unfiltered, shedding light on the violent realities of their daily existence. Often depicted lying on a bed or preening into the mirror while getting ready, these women talk intimately about their experiences, as if confiding in a close friend. Their stories touch on themes of societal non-acceptance, the complex dynamics they face with straight-seeming men who consort with them, and the challenging decision of whether to pass as their authentic gender. Each

woman's story is her own, but taken together, the film underscores the harsh reality that these women face in a world that is quick to exploit and abuse them. (2023) — R.B. ★★★ (DIGITAL GYM)

Oppenheimer — Small men, big bombs. Not for nothing do the three main movers and shakers in writerdirector Christopher Nolan's very magnum opus refer to themselves as "a humble physicist," "a humble soldier," and "a humble shoemaker." (The first is Robert Oppenheimer, director of the American effort to beat the Nazis to weaponized nuclear reactions; the second is Leslie Groves, Oppenheimer's military overseer; and the third is Lewis Strauss, the former chair of the Atomic Energy Commission, whose confirmation hearings for Secretary of Commerce - long after the bomb's invention and use - provide the occasion and framework for the timehopping narrative.) Naturally, none of them mean it, but it's the truth: here, they're just frail cogs in a mighty historical machine. Robert Oppenheimer may have quoted Shiva when he said,

"Now I am become death, the destroyer of worlds," but the film treats him as more of a brilliant organizer and pitchman than as a god or even a genius - a brainy strategist in the mold of Steve Jobs. He may get the title — and the cover of Time - but he joins the rest of the characters in the scrum of a story of ordinary men and women caught up in extraordinary times. What they created really did, as the movies like to say, "change the world," but no one here rises to the level of hero, or even tragic hero, and even the villainy on display is more vanity than anything else. Oh, the humanity, indeed. As a result, the three-hour runtime involves an awful lot of talk about impersonal science and highly personal relations, punctuated by one truly spectacular, overwhelming happening. Nolan is a past master at cutting up events and fitting them together to dramatize the former, and also at the kind of grandscale visuals that do justice to the latter. But the inevitable affect is somber bordering on sour: a well acted, gorgeously shot downer. (2023) (2023) - M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)



the inside track

City Windows: coming together for Divorce

Ryan Steel lived in San Diego from 2002 through 2005 before he ended up in Chicago, where he played in The Sky We Scrape from 2008 until 2015. It was during this tenure that he got a heavy

Soda Bar, and the Casbah. They had some nice momentum going into 2020, but of course, that was put to an abrupt halt by ye olde global pandemic.

Not that Covid could break City Windows. "I wouldn't even consider it a break," says



City Windows - made video from iPhone footage

dose of the road via multiple U.S. tours and a couple of multi-month excursions overseas. "Those were really long stretches, but I wouldn't trade them for the world," he says. "You get an opportunity to see different parts of Europe and different parts of the world that are off the beaten path, and people bring you into their homes and cook for you, and you kind of just flop on their floor. There was a lot of extensive touring in those days, which was great, but I was really fucking broke." Once he ended up back in San Diego, he found a drummer in Pennsylvania-by-wayof-Las-Vegas castaway Aaron Weislogel. While in Vegas, Weislogel had played in a three-piece called Deadhand that juggled punk and hard rock with occasional Randy Rhoads-style guitar flourishes.

2023 It took them a couple of years, but by the end of 2018, they had all the pieces in place for what would become City Windows, a punk rock outfit that veers heavily into melodic hardcore. They spent 2019 playing around town at venues such as the Kensington Club, 22

bassist Sean Sullivan. "We just got together less. We Zoomed a lot and just planned for the release of the Oxbow EP. We released it during the pandemic, and there was a huge backup with vinyl. I think it took us a little over a year from start to finish."

The band also got cracking on forming the basis of the songs that would make up their debut album, Velvet Divorce. Guitarists Steele and Lyle Pavuk had plenty of time on their hands to noodle around on their instruments and capture random riffs on their phones. These recordings would form the core of the "riff vault" that the members sifted through to eventually piece together the core of Velvet Divorce. "We're very collaborative," Pavuk says, "but we just pull things apart and try different things. It can be challenging at times, because I know I get attached to some of the music that I write. But I always know that, by the time we're done with it, it's gonna be this well-built collaborative effort that has bits and pieces of all of us in it."

The album serves as the band's initial run with this

full-on collaborative process, as the songs on Oxbow were crafted by Steele and Weislogel (and other musicians) before Pavuk and Sullivan arrived on the scene. They both play on the EP, but they weren't cooking up the songs from the start. According to Weislogel, "Since this was written as a four-piece for the first time, with all of us together, I think we were just really excited to get our own ideas out and have it really be something that we constructed as a group. That was the more exciting and driving

part of it - that from day one, we knew that this was the first thing that was really a representation of all of us, and what our collective ideas sound like."

City Windows had just finished shooting a music video when they spoke to the Reader -the second of three planned videos for the album. The first, "The Price to Pay," landed on

YouTube in July and features a mix of performance footage from their practice space, and puppets depicting politicians, corporate leaders, and news anchors on a fictional news network. The puppet footage was shot overseas in front of a green screen by a freelancer named Mike O. "We were able to get all the other assets from free, public domain type websites," Weislogel adds. "So, we were able to do the video for, like, \$100 total. We recorded everything on iPhones, and it was all just done between the four of us, which we are very proud of."

Besides the videos, the band is looking for gigs after spending so much time offstage working on finishing the album. "We're just trying to get on a bunch of shows to try to get this album out into the world so people can hear it," Sullivan says. They'll play the Kensington Club August 25, on a bill that includes Decent Criminal and Ricky. - Dryw Keltz

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

You can submit a listing, download mp3, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Barefoot Bar and Grill: Friday, 6pm — Israel Maldonado. Saturday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Beach House Grill: Saturday, 7:30pm - Sammy Johnson.

Bellamy's Restaurant: Thursday, 6pm - Jake Taylor Smith. Saturday, 6:30pm - Gabriele

Dagrezio. Belly Up Tavern: Thursday & Friday, 8pm — Tab Benoit, \$43. Saturday, 7:30pm — The FABBA Show and High Tide Society. \$18-\$32. Sunday, 7:30pm — Bella Lux: Cabaret Noir. \$26-\$46. Monday, 8pm - Jeff "Skunk"

Baxter, \$35-\$62. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Joshua Taylor and Sweater Weather. \$9. Bernardo Winery: Sunday, 6:30pm - The

Redheaded Strangers. \$25-\$75. Bogey's Pub and Grill: Saturday, 6pm — Groove Therapy. Free.

Brew Coffee Spot: Friday, 5:30pm - Garza Quintet. Free

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: Saturday, 7pm, Sunday, 6pm — The Music of Queen. \$40-\$50.

Cannonball: Thursday, 5pm - Ben Benavente. *Tuesday*, 5pm — Casey Turner.

two KARAOKE EVERY MONDAY! Wed, August 16 **TIGERS ON OPIUM** Pegzilla · Flames of Durga

Fri, August 18, 5pm @ Corazon del Barrio SUMMER SLAM PRE-SHOW The Runts · Mongrel · Barrio Slam Coldview · Inner Vision · Rival Squad Jack Knife · The Rookies

Fri, August 18 THE HI-JIVERS Howlin' Moon

Sat, August 19, 1pm @ Corazon del Barrio SUMMER SLAM Strife · Take Offense · Dead Heat Desmadre · Torena · Skullcrack -16- · Doc Hammer · Berthold City More to Pride · Countime · Legions 97 Minutes · Systematic Abuse Nowhere Safe · Dispersed Cinderblock CA

Sat, August 19 RAPTURE Industrial · Goth · EBM · Noize

Sun, August 20 CHOKECHERRY (SF) Vanouhi · Infinity Eyes

Tue. August 22 OPEN VINYL DJ NIGHT

www.TilTwoClub.com

Casbah:

Friday, 7:30pm - Emo Nite. \$16-\$20. Saturday, 8pm — Joe Wood Change Today and Mistress 77. \$12.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Obed Padilla and Winnebago. \$10. Tuesday, 7:30pm - Ape Machine and Lord Howler. \$12. Wednesday, 7:30pm - Dancing Strangers and Cruelties. \$8.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center: Thursday & Saturday, 7:30pm -Louis Cato.

Crafted Culture: *Friday*, 6pm — Mike Myrdal.

Del Mar Plaza: Thursday, 5pm - Novocaine. Free.

Descanso Junction Restaurant: Friday, 7pm - Halfshot. \$10.

Diamond Palace: Thursday, 6pm - Jaden Guerrero. Free.

Duck Foot Brewing

Company: Thursday, 6pm — Dead Heads Night. Saturday, 7pm - Gypsy Sally. Tuesday, 7pm — SD Jazz Collective.

Duke's La Jolla: Thursday, 4pm - Anthony Kauka Stanley. Friday, 3pm - Joanna Gerolaga. Sunday, 4pm — Kekoa. Monday, 4pm - Casey Turner. Tuesday, 4pm - Orion Song.

Epstein Family Amphitheater: Friday, 8pm — Gregory Porter. \$30-\$80. Sunday, 8pm — Eliades Ochoa. \$35-\$50

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

Thursday, 6pm — Farrah Camu. Tuesday, 6pm - Rachel Jay.



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Fairmont Grand Del Mar: Friday, 4pm — Havana Nights:

Fercho. \$50-\$150.

Farmer & the Seahorse: Thursday, 4:30pm - Alex Elisabeth. Saturday, 11am — Kinnie Dye.

Golden Island: Friday, 6pm — The Garners. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Friday, 7:30pm — Josh Turner.

House of Blues: Friday, 7pm — SEM Twins & Friends. \$43-\$91. Saturday, 8pm — Emo Night Brooklyn, \$15-\$20. Saturday, 7:30pm — Fireworks. \$24 *Tuesday*, 7:30pm — Beyond Frontiers. \$25-\$65. Wednesday, 7pm — Wave to Earth and Slchld. \$42-\$87.

Kensington Club: Thursday, 7:30pm — Zack Keim and Hey Chels.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm, Saturday, 7pm - Johnny Martin. Friday, 7pm — Jarred Matthew.

La Valencia Hotel: Thursday, 5:30pm — Orion Song. Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro. Saturday, 11am — Jesse Johnson. Sunday, 11am — Matt Heinecke.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort: Saturday, 7pm — Kinnie Dye.

Mission Bay Resort: *Thursday*, 6pm — Kai Kalama. Friday, 6pm - Johnny Martin. Sunday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro. Monday, 6pm — Jesse Johnson. Wednesday, 6pm — Christian Tavlor.

Moonlight Beach: Sunday, 1pm — The Silent Comedy. Free.

Moonshine Beach: Thursday, 7pm - David Nail. \$20-\$25

Morgan Run Resort and Club:

Friday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: Friday, 9pm - Bonneville Seven. Saturday, 9pm — LP Classics.

Museum of Making Music: Wednesday, 7pm — BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet. \$35-\$40.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm - Pacific Dub and Bikini Trill. \$25-\$30. Saturday, 8pm — Os Mutantes. \$27-\$32 Sunday, 7:30pm — One Drop Redemption. \$14-\$16. Wednesday, 7:30pm — The Happy Return. \$22-\$27.

Nate's Garden Grill: Saturday, 12pm — Tinkersmith.

Free.

Navajo Live: Saturday, 8:30pm — Aviator Stash and Indré. \$12-\$15.

Nick & G's: Saturday, 7pm — Joanna Gerolaga.

North Island Credit Union

Amphitheatre: Friday, 7:30pm — Dierks Bentley. \$20-\$274. Saturday, 7:30pm — Boy George & Culture Club and Howard Iones, \$20-\$634.



JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Find LIVE FIVE online at sandiegoreader.com/music

AVIATOR STASH at Navajo Live

AUG 19



Founded in 2014 and based in Carlsbad, Aviator Stash released their album *Prescribed* in 2018. It was recorded, mixed, and mastered by James Page at Emerald Age Recording. In August 2021, their full-length *Psiyh* took home a San Diego Music Award for Best Indie/Alternative Album. The San Carlos bill includes northeast Ohio pop rockers Indre.

THE SILENT COMEDY at Moonlight Beach

AUG 20



Founded by brothers Joshua and Jeremiah Zimmerman, The Silent Comedy began as a sort of old timey theatrical troupe before evolving into what Jeremiah describes as a blues and rock folk hybrid, with acoustic instruments plugged into amps. "It's electric blues rock played with folk instruments. Like a tent revival and a hoedown but happening at a whiskey bar." They'll play a free all-ages afternoon concert on the Encinitas sand, along with Carlsbad's Donna Drive.

BEACH PUNX FEST VII at Winstons Beach Club

AUG 20



Performers at OB's 7th Annual Summer Punk Rock Beach Fest include Kitty Plague, founded in 2011 when several members including Mark Haemmerle of Starcrossed met at the Skybox open mic night in Clairemont. The bill includes Brazilian/American band Midnight Track, which plays punk rock music with ska and reggae influences. Also appearing will be Toxins, Abortz, Roachotel, Under Influence, and Substitute Gym Teacher.

LORD HOWLER at the Casbah

AUG 22



Citing influences such as Black Sabbath and Judas Priest, Lord Howler says they're "all about twin guitar attack and hooks you can remember." They won Best Hard Rock at the 2010 San Diego Music Awards, a trophy they took home again in August 2012. Their album Dance of the Ghosts was produced by Ben Moore and recorded at Audio Design and Singing Serpent studios. The bill includes Ape Machine and Erratic Impulse.

JOSHUA TAYLOR at the Belly Up

AUG 23



Joshua Taylor began performing soul, blues, rock, folk, and jazz around town in 2011, eventually taking a gig as a session singer and guitarist on producer Jeff Berkley's Satellite Studio roster. His most recent album *Unscene*, recorded with Berkley and Sven-Erik Seaholm, dropped late last year. The bill includes acoustic duo Folkloric and instrumental quartet Sweater Weather.



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BONGZILLA Kadabra, Forest Lawn 9/11 BENEFIT SHOW Contortion, Cascade Effect, Godhammered, Theosis

FIT BULLDOZER Deceased, Ares Kingdom, Demiser

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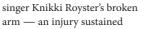


Raucous relations

Family vibe at Bolt's Punk & Brews

"I didn't get to see T.S.O.L. at The Holding Company; I had to leave because one of my kids needed me," says Emily Anne Elliot, referring to the recent OB club show. Today, we're at Bolt Brewery in La Mesa for the inaugural Punk & Brews, with a lineup of Dresden's Burning, Wabash Cannons, The Calvins, and Broke Bastards. It's an all-ages daytime event, and her ten-year-old daughter Alyssa is in front when the show starts. Steve Latham's eight-year-old niece Ashley is also in front, but seems a little unsure of what to do. "It's her first show ever, so we'll see how long she lasts," he tells me.

As it happens, Ashley lasts longer than Alyssa, whose Lady-Liberty spiked hair – thanks to all the heat and movement – starts to flop over instead of standing straight up. Her father, Joshua Hester, applies got2b glued hairspray in a valiant attempt to correct the rebellious tresses. The product has become standard, replacing the clear gelatin (mixed with minimal water) that my friends used when I was first introduced to punk. In true punk fashion, Alyssa isn't interested in chatting with this nerd journalist. Her mind is on Wabash Cannons, whose CD she has been listening to in the days leading up to the show. She's excited to see the band play live. When they hit the stage, she's at the front, dancing madly, her flopping spikes complementing



during a Revolt-Chix set. It's the embodiment of punk: people doing what they want, Royster singing like Grace Slick with an extra dose of fuck-you, and Alyssa busting out actual dance moves with rhythm. It's not until later that the notion of females-supporting-females comes to the forefront of my carnival brain, because right now, it's not what stands out. Everyone is treated equally at this show, in this scene, at this moment

I stand in the beer line with no intention of making a purchase. I just want to gauge how long one has to wait in the heat for a beverage. No one is grumpy or complaining, and the time passes quickly while patrons engage in conversations about music, work, life, books — and at



Wabash Cannons and dancers

Duck Dive:

Company:

Stanley

August 16 — Blaise Guld

August 17 — Dead Heads Night

August 19 — Gypsy Sally August 22 — SD Jazz Collective

August 16 — Casey Turner August 17 — Anthony Kauka

August 18 — Joanna Gerolaga

August 16 - Adrienne Nims and

August 18 — Gregory Porter

August 20 — Eliades Ochoa

August 16 — Keni Yarbro

August 17 — Farrah Camu

August 22 — Rachel Jay

August 17 — Take Over

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:

August 18 — Havana Nights:

Farmer & the Seahorse:

August 17 — Alex Elisabeth

August 19 — Kinnie Dye

August 18 — The Garners

Golden Island:

F6ix Niteclub:

Thursdays

Fercho

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and

August 21 — Casey Turner

August 22 — Orion Song

Duck Foot Brewing

Duke's La Jolla:

August 20 — Kekoa

Encinitas Library:

Mark Danisovszky

Epstein Family

Amphitheater:

Spa:

one point, my Iron Maiden fan club exclusive *Number of the Beast* shirt, which a man offers to buy. It's probably the Blonde Bliss or Surfer Lager talking, and I laugh at the thought of him waking up with a new T-shirt and a hefty wad of cash missing. But however humorous the thought, it's still not enough to get me to part with my clothes. Though I don't sample the beer selections, Bolt's house brews score prime points with the patrons, with the Bolt Sour being the most cited.

I see Ashley hanging in there and Alyssa still dancing away, the latter youth having accepted the inevitability of her melting hair spikes. As adults join them in the dance space, a mini pit breaks out, but no one is in danger. On stage, The Calvins tear through a locomotive set. The sound has been pristine for every band, thanks to Kevin Hewitt's expert manning of the board, and I score a Calvins CD courtesy of drummer Brian Vanella that will go into heavy rotation in the upcoming weeks.

Broke Bastards closes the show out, as Royster guests on a few songs. It's clear that Ashley will not just make it through her first show, she'll be dancing with the same abandon as Alyssa and the older punks. Before they come on, I look to snag some vittles. I step outside the brewery to the spot where Famosito Street Tacos has set up shop. For the sake of journalism, I have one of each type of taco, which turns out to be one too many. I see Harpo Supertramp consulting a woman on a tattoo he gave to a woman weeks ago. Harpo is one of the people I see at almost every show I attend, and as I subject my body to delicious gastrointestinal warfare, I'm pleased to realize that I'm sitting among friends. People with whom I have bonded over music — some through the years, others more recently, all adding up to an almost familial bond. The biological definition of family is often lacking compared to the operational definition, with its emphasis on respect and support and even love. That may sound odd to an outsider looking at a crowd that comprises all ages, professions and histories, but fuck the naysayers. If the San Diego "punk renaissance" is more than a media construct, then this is the reason.

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo

Harrah's Resort Southern California: August 18 — Josh Turner

The Holding Company: *August 24* — Asher Roth

House of Blues: August 18 — SEM Twins & Friends August 19 — Fireworks August 19 — Emo Night Brooklyn August 22 — Beyond Frontiers August 23 — Wave to Earth and Slehld

Humphreys by the Bay: *August 16* — The Australian Pink Floyd Show

The Kensington Club: August 17 — Zack Keim and Hey Chels August 25 — City Windows, Decent Criminal, Ricky

L'Auberge Del Mar: August 17 — Johnny Martin August 18 — Jarred Matthew August 19 — Johnny Martin

La Jolla Community Center: *August 16, August 23* — Opera Wednesdays

La Valencia Hotel:

August 17 — Orion Song August 18 — Keni Yarbro August 19 — Jesse Johnson August 20 — Matt Heinecke

Loews Coronado Bay Resort: *August 19* — Kinnie Dye

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Duran Duran and Bastille. \$30-\$1000. **Observatory North Park:**

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Chlöe Bailey. \$37-\$197. *Wednesday*, 7:30pm — Yahritza and Su Essencia. \$80-\$100.

Open Air Theatre: Sunday, 7:30pm — Young The Giant and Milky Chance. \$30-\$295. Tuesday, 7:30pm — My Morning Jacket. \$30-\$109.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Mt. Joy. \$39-\$260.

Parq Restaurant: Friday, 10pm — Bhaskar. \$24. Saturday, 10pm — DJ Puffy. \$24.

Petco Park: *Monday*, 7:30pm — Dom Dolla, Kyle Watson, Anna Lunoe.

Rady Shell at Jacobs Park: Thursday, 7:30pm — Michael Franti & Spearhead. Friday, 7:30pm — SD Symphony: Judy Collins & Madeleine Peyroux. 2023 Saturday, 7pm — Gladys Knight and Patti LaBelle. \$63-\$88. 17, Sunday, 7:30pm - Byron Stripling: When The Saints Go Marching In. \$22-\$100. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Tash Sultana Reader and CHIIILD. \$44-\$64. Side Yard:

Wednesday, 6pm — Andrew Peña.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Connor

Kelly & The Time Warp. \$15. *Friday*, 7:30pm — Surprise Chef. \$5-\$25. *Saturday*, 8pm — Zach Louis. \$27. *Sunday*, 7:30pm — Spaceface and The Kabbs. \$18.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — True Loves and City Soul Collective DJs. \$18. *Wednesday*, 7pm — Sleepy Pearls and Puerto. \$12.

Soma: Saturday, 7pm — Hail The Sun. \$22.

Stage Room: *Saturday*, 8pm — Voice of Baceprot. \$17.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre: Wednesday, 8pm — Keyshia

Cole. \$99-\$159.

Thornton Winery: Friday, 6:30pm — Mick Adams & the Stones. Saturday, 7pm — George Benson.

Tidal: Saturday, 5pm — Helena Holleran.

Waterbar: *Thursday*, 6pm — Marcela Mendez.

Westfield University Towne

Centre: *Thursday*, 12pm — Ben Benavente. *Saturday*, 12pm — Farrah Camu. *Sunday*, 12pm — Casey Turner. **Free**. Whistle Stop Bar: Thursday, 7:30pm — Death Bells. Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Velvet Rouge. Free. Friday, 9pm — Equal Rights Band and The Tones. \$8. Saturday, 4pm — The Innocent Bystanders. Free. Saturday, 8pm — The Music of The Meters. \$20. Sunday, 2pm — Beach Punx Fest VII. Free.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Aquarius Bar & Grille: August 20 — Mark Fisher's High Noon Dead Set

Barefoot Bar and Grill: August 18 — Israel Maldonado August 19 — Christian Taylor

Beach House Grill: August 19 — Sammy Johnson

Bellamy's Restaurant: August 17 — Jake Taylor Smith August 19 — Gabriele Dagrezio

Belly Up Tavern: August 17, August 18 — Tab Benoit

August 19 — The FABBA Show and High Tide Society August 20 — Bella Lux: Cabaret Noir

August 21 — Jeff "Skunk" Baxter August 23 — Joshua Taylor and Sweater Weather **Bernardo Winery:** August 20 — The Redheaded Strangers

Bogey's Pub and Grill: *August 19* — Groove Therapy **Brew Coffee Spot:**

August 18 — Garza Quintet California Center for the Arts, Escondido: August 19, August 20 — The

Music of Queen

August 17 — Ben Benavente

August 22 — Casey Turner **The Casbah:** August 18 — Emo Nite August 19 — Joe Wood Change Today and Mistress 77 August 20 — Obed Padilla and Winnebago August 22 — Ape Machine and Lord Howler August 23 — Dancing Strangers and Cruelties

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center: *August 17, August 19* — Louis Cato

Crafted Culture: *August 18* — Mike Myrdal

Del Mar Plaza: August 17 — Novocaine

Descanso Junction Restaurant: August 18 — Halfshot August 19 — Manzanita Blues

Diamond Palace: *August 17* — Jaden Guerrero

Mission Bay Resort:

- August 16 Olivia Rohde August 17 — Kai Kalama August 18 — Johnny Martin August 20 — Keni Yarbro August 21 — Jesse Johnson
- August 23 Christian Taylor

Moonlight Beach: August 20 — The Silent Comedy

Moonshine Beach: August 17 — David Nail

Morgan Run Resort and Club:

August 18 — David Shyde

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: August 16 - Wednesday Night Blues Jam August 18 — Bonneville Seven August 19 — LP Classics August 22 — Karaoke August 23 — Wednesday Night Blues Jam

Museum of Making Music: August 23 — BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet

Music Box:

August 16 — Lady Wray August 17 - Pacific Dub and Bikini Trill August 19 - Os Mutantes August 20 — One Drop Redemption August 23 — The Happy Return

Nate's Garden Grill: August 19 — Tinkersmith

Navaio Live: August 19 - Aviator Stash and Indré

Nick & G's: August 19 — Joanna Gerolaga

North Island Credit Union

Amphitheatre: August 18 — Dierks Bentley August 19 — Boy George & Culture Club and Howard Jones August 22 — Duran Duran and Bastille

Observatory North Park: August 22 — Chlöe Bailey August 23 — Yahritza and Su Essencia

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

Katharina Wagner is so wrong

The 2023 Bauyreuth Festival started on Monday, July 24, and runs through Monday, August 28. This annual celebration of composer Richard Wagner used to have a tenyear waiting list for tickets. I registered to buy tickets online on Tuesday, August 8. just to see if any were available. There were limited tickets still available for Das Rheingold, Die Walküre, Siegfried, and Götterdämmerung. In other words, the entire Ring cycle was available individually. The Ring cycle ticket packages were sold out.

How is this possible? I thought Bayreuth wasn't in the cards for me in this life but now, if I save my nickels and dimes, I could go to Bayreuth next year. I could

Open Air Theatre:

August 20 — Young The Giant and Milky Chance August 22 — My Morning Jacket August 23 — Mt. Joy

Panama 66: August 16, August 23 — Castellanos Jam Session

Parq Restaurant: August 18 — Bhaskar August 19 - DJ Puffy

Petco Park: August 21 — Dom Dolla, Kyle Watson, Anna Lunoe

The Rady Shell at Jacobs

Park: August 17 — Michael Franti & Spearhead August 18 — SD Symphony: Judy Collins & Madeleine Pevroux August 19 - Gladys Knight and

make a musical pilgrimage up the green hill to the theater that Wagner himself designed to stage his operas. I could experience the stone orchestra enclosure that creates an acoustic unique and glorious. I could hear the orchestra that I have listened to for hours upon hours on recordings. I could hear some of the greatest opera singers in the world and I could do it all with my eyes closed.

I have no desire to see a Wagner opera at Bayreuth. I have a desire to listen to one in the theater but I'd have to gouge my eyes out if forced to watch one. Should I be offered an all-expenses paid trip to Bayreuth with the stipulation that I watch a production, I would refuse.

Patti LaBelle August 20 — Byron Stripling: When The Saints Go Marching

In August 22 - Tash Sultana and CHIIILD

Roxy Encinitas: August 16 - Rolf Olsen Quartet

San Pasqual Winery & **Production Center:** August 19

Side Yard: August 16 — Jemille Vialet August 23 — Andrew Peña

Soda Bar: August 16 — Balto August 17 - Connor Kelly & The Time Warp August 18 — Surprise Chef August 19 — Zach Louis August 20 — Spaceface and The

This is no exaggeration.

BY GARRETT HARRIS

The productions at Bayreuth have become more than just nihilistic. This year, they've become a gimmick with augmented reality goggles for Parsifal. (See the July 26 New York Times review to see what I mean.) When the character Parsifal shoots a swan with an arrow in the first act. audience members will see a virtual swan flying before gushing blood from a fatal wound to the neck. There will be floating flowers in the Act II "Flower Maidens"scene. That came as a surprise as I thought the creatives at Bayreuth would prefer the shit emoji or maybe the eggplant. Flowers are just too on the nose.



August 19 - Voice of Baceprot Sycuan Live & Up Close

August 18 - Mick Adams & the Stones August 19 — George Benson Tidal:



From augmented reality glasses. Photo by Joshua Higgason accompanying July 26 NY Times review by Zachary Woolfe.

ership, the artistic director of Bayreuth is Wagner's greatgranddaughter Katharina Wagner. She claims that new and different productions are necessary because otherwise. people would just watch DVDs instead of going to the festival. I am stunned by this sentiment. One might argue that no one is interested in going to Europe since they've

Speaking of creative lead-

watched Rick Steves.

Since its inception in 1876, Bayreuth has been about musical pilgrimage. The theater is a temple of sorts. Bayreuth is, from what I've been told, about being there. It's about being in the theater where, in 1876, Anton Bruckner, Edvard Grieg, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, and Franz Liszt, witnessed the first Ring Cvcle.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

The Tower Bar:

September 9 — Roselit Bone Waterbar:

August 17 — Marcela Mendez Waterfront Park:

September 9 — Boots In The Park

Westfield University Towne Centre: August 17 — Ben Benavente

August 19 — Farrah Camu August 20 — Casey Turner

Whistle Stop Bar: August 17 — Death Bells

Winstons Beach Club:

August 17 — Velvet Rouge August 18 - Equal Rights Band and The Tones August 19 — The Innocent Bystanders August 19 — The Music of The Meters August 20 - Beach Punx Fest VII August 20 — OB-Oke Karaoke August 21 — Electric Waste Band August 23 — Club Culture

Wong's Dragon Room: August 19 — Appian Way











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Kabbs August 22 - True Loves and City Soul Collective DJs August 23 — Sleepy Pearls and

Soma: August 19 — Hail The Sun

The Stage Room:

Theatre: August 23 — Keyshia Cole

Thorn Brewing Co.: August 16, August 22, August 23 Thornton Winery:

August 19 — Helena Holleran

Wed, 8/16 @ Sod BALTO MICHAEL MONTANC Wed 8/16 @ Music Box LADY WRAY BRAINSTORY . DIVINA Thu, 8/17 @ Soda CONNOR KELLY & THE TIME WARP RUSS BLVD Fri. 8/18 @ Soda SURPRISE CHER AKUA NARU Sat, 8/19 @ Music Box OS MIITANTES MARCO BENEVENTO Sun, 8/20 @ Soda SPACEFACE THE KABBS LOS PINCHÉ PINCHES SAN DIEGO FREAK OUT DJs + Tue, 8/22 @ Soda

GONZO LIQUID LIGHT SHOW TRUE LOVES CITY SOUL COLLECTIVE DJs Wed, 8/23 @ Soda SLEEPY PEARLS PUERTO Thu 8/24 CITY OF CATERPILLAR THE DISCUSSION NEGATIVE BLAST

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San

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Reader

August 17,

2023

N

August 20 — Latin Jazz Sunday August 22 — Jazz Night

Mikami Revolving Sushi: August 18

A Friendly'r San Diego

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

San Diego neighborhoods have gotten The Friendly-er

The Friendly Convoy; 4681 Convoy St. Suite F, San Diego. The Friendly Pacific Beach; 1344 Garnet Ave., San Diego. "I'm glad you're here now." That's the first thing out of the mouth of a burger fan

The Friendly's

pizza burger, available

at its new Convoy Street location.

who works in Kearny Mesa, when he reaches the counter of the new Convoy Street location of North Park burger phenom, The Friendly. He wasn't above zipping into North Park to grab one of the shop's signature smashburgers, to go. But now he and a colleague have time to sit at the counter, banter with the kitchen crew, even nibble on fries or crispy onion rings.

You can't even get those sides at The Friendly's original, 30th Street location. That one took over the site of a former pizza restaurant, so it's equipped with a pizza oven, but no deep fryer. But The Friendly's been in expansion mode, now up to four locations, and two outside of North Park. And the num-

ber one difference between them can be summed up as this: do they serve pizza or crispy sides?

On 30th Street, they serve pizza. At the second North Park location on University, they serve fries and onion rings. Only at the Pacific Beach location, which opened last year, do they serve both.

That shop, The Friendly's largest, opened in a former Brazilian restaurant that also served pizza. Like all locations, it





From bottom left: pizza burger, French onion dip burger, and two OG dirty flat top burgers.

serves the popular, OG Dirty Flattop Burger: two smashed patties, butter braised onions, American cheese, and garlic aioli (now \$7). And like each location, it claims its own burger specials, notably a smoked gouda and bacon burger (\$8), and the All American, which finally gives fans a chance to try that smashburger with ketchup, mustard, and pickles.

On Convoy, it's all burgers, fries, and onion rings. The suite they've slipped into here — near the back of one of the strip malls that run perpendicular to Convoy Street — never served pizza. Rather, it spent decades being a barber shop.

I can tell it's been remodeled, to some extent, because I can see the willfully working class design elements common to each Friendly location: cheap wood panel wainscoting, checkerboard floor tiles, and a coat of pale green paint so drab, I assume the shade was marked down at a military surplus store.

Looking at the new Convoy location, it all clicks. I would believe if someone told me the place was giving haircuts, like yesterday. Perhaps "midcentury barber shop" has been the inspiration for The Friendly's interior motif all along?

Anyway, there's no pizza. Though, perhaps as a form of apology, this location does offer a pizza burger. It starts with the usual smashburger patties, but tops them with marinara, mozzarella, and pepperoni (\$8). That's the first thing another customer orders. He hasn't been to this location before, but that doesn't prevent the Friendly's cooks from greeting him by name when he walks in.

I try the pizza burger, as well as another menu fixture unique to this location: the French onion dip burger (\$8). Really, this is just the Dirty Flat Top, but with Swiss cheese in place of American, and served with a plastic ramekin of French onion soup.

Both burger variants somehow find a way to make the Dirty Flat Top burger greasier and messier, but the dip proves my favorite of the bunch. It doesn't sound like much, but considering The Friendly maintains a strict "no mods" policy, changing the cheese makes a difference. Besides, you can't lose by adding yet more onion flavor to a burger.

It's reason enough to seek out the new location, if you're a fan. Even if you don't work in the area, and even if you never get sick of exploring Convoy's endless array of Asian restaurants. But easier said than done: this Friendly's got Tajima Ramen on one side, and Steamy Piggy dumplings on the other.

-Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Food & Wine Festival The 16th annual Food and Wine Festival fundraising event is themed Wild Wild West this year. Enjoy a fun night consisting of sampling booths from local wineries, breweries, restaurants, dessert shops, live bands, local artists, line dancing, a silent auction and more. Saturday, August 19, 4pm; \$85-\$250. Mount Helix Park, 4901 Mount Helix Drive. (LA MESA)

Game Night Happy Hour Game Night Happy Hour for Chess/Backgammon & Cards. If you have a board, please bring it. RSVP online. Wednesdays, 5:30pm; through Wednesday, December 20, \$20. Sammy's Woodfired Pizza Del Mar, 12925 El Camino Real. (CARMEL VALLEY)

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)

Live Music & Wine Wednesday Enjoy half off select bottles of wine at Graze by Sam. Wednesdays, 5pm; through Wednesday, December 27, free. Little Italy Food Hall, 550 West Date St., Suite B. (LITTLE ITALY)

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

Summer Sunset Live Music Series Hosted at Layover, the hotel's aviation themed rooftop bar and lounge. Saturdays, 4pm; through Saturday, September 2, **free**. 21 and up. Intercontinental Hotel, 901 Bayfront Court. (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)

Vista Vegan Food Popup Pizza, Burgers, Donuts, Noodles, Tacos, Wings, Dumplings, Nachos and more. Friday, August 18, 5pm; free. Local Roots Kombucha, 1430 Vantage Court Suite 101. (VISTA)

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PERSONALS

DARLINGS, DO YOURSELVES A FAVOR. Read up on various ego driven disorders. Be wise. Have clear sight. You cannot love the wrongness out of someone. Now I'm the broken messed up one. He's happy as a lark

DEAREST KATHERINE, JUST FOUND OUT that the flying wonkeys did catch you and you're recovering after your surgery. I'll try to make my way to Zion to hold your hand. Love, Frank

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESSICA! ... from someone who can write their own material. You are my favorite sticky wicket.

HOW DO YOU throw away a garbage can?

IF YOUR GONNA BE DUMB ... you gotta be tough.

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

JUST BECAUSE SOMETHING IS FREE does not mean you should indulge - cat \$&@# is free! Do you want any?

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

OH POOP it was your day of travel through the birth canal. Congrats on your emerging.

SENIOR OR OLDER for some fun activities, call Mario at (858) 933-4645.

THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY HAS TAKEN all the suggestions sent in to the proper places and things should be taken care of in no time at all. Thank you!

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

YOU'RE NEVER GLADDER til your bladder is fladder

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.

LORDY! The hits just keep going! What did I do?

COMPANIONSHIP IN EL **CAJON** please visit to share life stories - music, faith, travel. 63yr 'young' homebound male (brain injury survivor). Traveled the world, was DJ in Europe 70-80s, played ping-pong. 'Born in the U.S.A.' guy would love to converse in either English or Ger-man. familypaul5@yahoo.com

MISSING NATIVE DRONE FLUTE (A) Accidentally left my native drone flute on an electri-cal box near the corner of 5th & Thorn outside of the Broadstone apartment complex. If found or

if you know who has it please reach out to return-strange dreamlab@gmail.com & I will play you a song

FRANK MEDICI CASTLE it's Katherine. Alice Katr Deville 300-7314. Created quite a wind in me tormulence. What brought you back around? White roses narcis? Paker Tom Rules.

"IT IS BETTER TO ... punish everyone and impugn the inno-cent, than to not and let the guilty go free" - my Mom

HEY FERAL LOVER hey feral lover what if one hundred squirrels came running at you?

JESSICA You are the hottest and funniest gen-x'r I know. Except me. panettajackie@gmail.

NOTICES

FREE SMALL ROCKS natural rocks from my property, great for creative decorating and pathways, etc. Bring your buckets, (619) 466-8663.

TO SURRENDER A BABY IN CALIFORNIA within 72 hours of birth call 211 or 1-(877) 222-9723. Free call, or go to fire station. No questions asked.

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CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL LEFTHANDERS DAY Monday August 14th; free event, small group gathering at San Diego Central Library 9th Floor Court-yard 16:00> 19:00 hrs. BYO snacks. Call/text Patrick Brown (858) 284-7575; Hispanoparlante bienvenido

HERPES AND HPV SUPPORT GROUP 2nd Thursday every month at 7pm. Balboa Park's Casa Del Prado, Room 104, BYOBeverage. We'll provide Bronx Pizza, come get some support, strength and hope.

FINE RIDES & FRIENDS CAR SHOW & MAC Tools Oct. 1, 2023, 12PM-4PM Location; BNS Brewing & Distillery. Santee CA 92071 RSVP (619) 253-0524.

CLASSES / LESSONS

ASTROLOGY, NUMEROLOGY, TAROT runes, past lives etc, master teacher Anya is back!



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

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Recreation resumed: rb.gy/uwtt7.

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a lot of wood carving? Are you looking for a wood carving com-munity to grow with? Every Mon-day evening, 5-7pm our Carving Club meets and we'd love to meet you! Visit sandiegocraft.org for more info today! *Military dis-count. (619) 273-3235 / make@ sandienocraft.org

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egocraft.org & save your space today! (619) 273-3235 / make@

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SHIBORI! Join us Sept. 9, 9am-1pm | Explore Traditional Indigo

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DANCE, MUSIC, & ART

Catalina (561) 345-1363

MAKE A MUSICAL CLAY OCA-**RINA!** This Sunday, August 13, 1-3:30pm, learn to craft your own personalized musical Ocarina from clay. Like a flute. Ocarinas are traditional wind instruments. Beginners welcome, 12+ or 8+ with adult. Military & sibling dis-counts. Visit sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiègoćraft.org

ORGANIC SUGAR SCRUB ORGANIC SUGAR SCRUB MAKING! This Sunday, Aug. 13 from 1-2:30pm, join us at San Diego Craft Collective for an afternoon learning to make your own personalized Organic Sugar Scrub with a certified herbalist & holistic health coach. All ages welcome. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! (61) 273-325./ make@ today! (619) 273-3235 / make@ sandiegocraft.org

INTRODUCTION TO TAROT CLASS. Have you ever wanted to learn about Tarot? What it is or how to do it? Join us this month for a class on Tarot taught by an Amazing reader Lynn. She knows her stuff. Classes Aug 17t, from 6:30 to. 7:45 ish. A \$5 donation. (619) 542-9191 / thedivinebub ble@gmail.com

SPIRITUALITY CLASSES AND MORE Join us at the Divine Bubble Crystal Boutique for our ongoing series of classes on Spiritual topics from Tarot. On Spiritual topics from Tarot, Crystals, Smudging to Shadow Work and More. All classes are on Thursday 6:30 to 7:30 ish. \$5 dollar donation. (619) 542-9191 / thedivinebubble@gmail.com

DANCE CLASSES ENROLL-**ING NOW!** Blossom & Bloom strives to empower dancers and build their self-esteem through the performing arts. We believe that dance lessons are life lessons that can have lasting value beyond the dance room. Sched-ule a discounted trial class today! www.letsblossomandbloom.com/ (619) 363-0685 / info@letsblossomandbloom.com

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MATURE GAL NEEDS SLEEP/ SHOWER! I'm a female in dire need of a decent place to catch some ZZZ's & bathe, if nothing else. I can stay gone all day if need be, don't need to cook, laundry would be an added bonus. Can trade domestic chores for sleep/shower. I'm quiet, mellow, real, sandiegolady13@gmail.com

RENTALS

SOUTH PARK. \$2195. 1BD+1BA 1st floor unit near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. Fasy 5-minute commute to work Secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on Site, street parking only. 2329 C Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

GOLDEN HILL, \$2195.

IBD+IBA 600sqft unit near Balboa Park and Downtown. Updated kitchen and bath. Walkin closet. Easy freeway access. Small pets considered with addi-tional deposit. 1301 28th Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www. allpointsrealestate.com

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

HARBOR VILLAGE \$1799. 1BD+1BA. Ball Park Square, mile south of home plate! Harbor Village. Trolley stop NASSCO. 2850 Main Street. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

BEAUTIFUL SAN CARLOS HOME for rent. One bedroom plus outside storage shed, \$1000/ month. Text (619) 386-2648

LOOKING FOR A CHEAP 2 bedroom apartment for 2 people who are not a couple and have been working longer than 6 months in full time employment. We have been down on our luck a need a 2nd chance. Text only (619) 250-5529.

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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.

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

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SINGERS "Test drive" a cappella singing with ladies chorus. All ages. No experience needed. Mondays 7pm. La Mesa. (619) 464-3727.

BASS PLAYER WANTED Our classic rock band is looking for a bass player. If you're interested, can play well with others, we'd like to hear from you. Singing ability and fondness for the Bea tles is a real plus! (760) 822-5945 / heidibeth1@gmail.com

ANTHEM RUSH TRIBUTE & PROGJECT Anthem opens for ProgJect at the Grand Ritz in Escondido 10/6/23! ProgJect is a super group of musicians from YES, Genesis, Frank Zappa, and Joe Satriani. Use coupon code "ANTHEM" for \$5 off tix at tinyurl. com/43y73fpc

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SALOMAN X PRO 120 SKI BOOTS These 27" Energyzer boots provide superior perfor-mance using Twinframe shell technology delivering smooth, direct energy and its polyamide chassis for advanced skiers. Clean and in very good condi-tion. \$175. Text or email for more info or pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS WANTED Volleyball players wanted for grass games in Buc-caneer Park, Oceanside, CA at 11:00 a.m. Sundays. Long stand-ing group is thinning. B level or above—must have basic skills. Just show up or call Steve: (760) 390-8168. 18 or above.



NEW PICKLEBALL SETS FOR SALE Brand new, assorted color, Pickleball sets for sale. Each Pickleball sets contain: 2 rackets, 4 balls, 1 carrying case. (619) 292-3649 / sstandavid@aol.

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VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

WANTED for grass games in Buccaneer Park, Oceanside, CA at 11:00 a.m. Sundays. Long standing group is thinning. B level or above—must have basic skills. Just show up or call Steve: (760) 300.8168 (760) 390-8168.

LONG BOARD SKATEBOARD Just for fun I took the stuts off my board and put them on my waterski. \$20.00 Lakeside (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmial.com

SALOMAN X PRO 120 SKI BOOTS These 27" Energyzer boots provide superior performance using Twinframe shell technology delivering smooth direct energy and its polyamide chassis for advanced skiers. Clean and in very good condi-tion. \$175. Text or email for more info or pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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

ELECTRIC BIKE red, fat tire, like new, custom seat, mirror rack, lock and cable, \$1500 firm. (760) 753-8152. Leave a message and I will return your call.

MERCIER ROAD BIKE Excel-Lent condition, lightweight, 60 cm, chrome Molly, 18 speed, 700 x 28 C tires, camping molo brakes and derailleur. \$250, (858) 587-0272.

MISC FOR SALE Impreza heavy duty extra large four pack bike hook, \$10. Bell telescoping frame pump, used once, \$10. Contact (619) 380-4861.

BICYCLE 21 SPD Schwinn Crosscut 21 spd bike. Hybrid. Well maintained. Original own for 30 years \$50 John (858) 952-4605. / otismaman@yahoo.com

MOTORCYCLES

2016 HONDA FORZA NSS300 automatic, clean title, January 2024 tags, freeway legal, hard to find, not many around, immacu-late condition, only 2,630 miles. Has room for a rear passenger and two full face helmets under seat. Family emergency forcing sale, asking \$3200 obo (858) 382-4803

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

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

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

REMOTE ACCOUNT PAYABLE CLERK We are looking for an accounts payable clerk who will be responsible for handling our company's bills and managing our accounts payable ledger. You will be tasked with receiving, opening, and logging invoices on the ledger, as well as other duties. han.min.peng@gbwcareer.solutions

VEHICLE TEST AND VALIDA-TION ENGINEER Meritor Elec-tric Vehicles LLC seeks a Vehicle Test and Validation Engineer in Escondido, California. Note, this position requires international and domestic travel up to 50% of the time. Duties include: Design End of Line (EOL) test procedures for production vehicles as well as support more custom vali-dation and calibration activities on advanced and/or experimental Class 6 and Class 8 commer-cial vehicles; Responsible for clai vehicles, responsible for execution of vehicle testing in labs (chassis dyno, climatic wind tunnel), proving grounds and public roads; Work together with component owners, suppliers, HIL and System test groups to define overall unbits test stret define overall vehicle test strat-egy, test requirements; among other duties. Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering, Electri-cal Engineering, or related field and five years of experience in the job offered or related. Salary range: \$126,256.00– \$138,881.00/year. Apply to job reference number 2300007X at: meritor.jobs.net/search

CAREGIVER Hi, I'm a disabled man looking for help in the AM. Duties include: personal/bowel care, showers, light housework, laundry, dishes, errands etc. Please have a cell phone and vehicle. Please have bowel care experience. (619) 582-2367

IHSS CAREGIVER for light housekeeping, medication orga-nizing, meal prep, minor medical equipment maintenance, trans-portation. I have about 29 hours per week and can be flexible. SDSU/college area. (619) 501-1057 or (619) 831-3000.

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HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED Must know computers. I am disabled strong man. Please call (619) 773-6485.

MANAGER, DATA WARE-HOUSE- San Diego, CA-Responsible for implementation,

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SENIOR DEVOPS AUTOMA-TION ENGINEER Lytx, Inc. seeks a Senior DevOps Automation Engineer in San Diego, CA to automate infrastructure projects & processes in a hybrid cloud & on premise environ. Reqs: Bach degree in Elec Eng, Electron Eng, or rel fld & 6 yrs rel exp. Remote work permitted. \$181,125- \$220,000 / Yr. To apply, go to: lytx.wd1.myworkdayjobs. com/Lytx/job/Office—San-Diego CA/Senior-DevOps-Automation-Diego-Engineer_R-2841

SENIOR QUALITY ENGINEER

Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD) seeks a Senior Quality Engineer in San Diego, CA to develop and implement reliability analysis, design, validation and assessdesign, validation and assess-ment methods. Req. MS + 3 yrs exp or BS + 5 yrs exp. Salary range for position: \$122,262.00 • \$159,300.00. To apply, mail resume to: (BD), Attn: Cecilia Sam, 3750 Torrey View Ct., San Diego, CA 92130. Must reference Job Title & Code: 001299. EOE.

SERVICE EXPERIENCE MAN-

AGER, Teradata Operations, Inc., San Diego, CA: Responsible for driving operational excellence by assessing the client's ongoing analytical environment from a product and services perspective and providing recommendations to improve performance and value to the customer. Must have a bach's degree or foreign equiv. in Bus., Tech., Civil engr or rel. field plus 5 yrs of progressive post-baccalaureate rel wrk exp. 100% Telecommuting permitted; employee may reside anywhere in the US. Travel required up to 5%. Salary \$135,824.00 per year. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number- 216700)

SOFTWARE SYSTEMS ENGI-NEER, Teradata US, Inc., San Diego, CA. Responsible to configure, develop and enhance solutions on the Salesforce platform. Must have a bach's degree or foreign equiv. in Info. Syst., Comp. Sci., or rel. field plus 5 yrs of progressive post-baccalau-reate rel. wrk exp. Alternatively the employer will accept a masthe employer will accept a mas-ter's degree or foreign equiv. in Info. Syst., Comp. Sci., or rel. field plus 3 yrs of rel. wrk exp. Employer will accept any suit-able combination of education, maintener a current accept and suittraining or experience. Salary \$164, 349.53 per yr. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to. STAFF. TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number-216875)

TECHNOLOGY ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the following positions in San Diego, CA: Staff Software Engineer (5184-3755778): Design and code components for the iOS client. Telecommuting permit-ted. Annual salary \$180,000-\$210,000. Email resume to servicenowresumesUS@servicenow. com. Or mail resume to Service-Now Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Resume must include job title, job ref. #5184-3755778, full name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

TECHNOLOGY ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the following positions in San Diego, CA: Staff Tech Support Engineer (5824-2218979): Design, develop, and implement database solu-tions for our platform to resolve and troubleshooting difficult technical issues. Telecommut-ing permitted. Annual salary: \$135,389.00 - \$165,389.00. Email resume to servicenow-resumesUS@servicenow.com. Or mail resume to ServiceNow Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Resume must include job title, job ref. #5824-2218979, full name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

TECHNOLOGY ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the

Reader August Diego San



following positions in San Diego, CA: Sr Software QA Engineer. (5183-2218962): Create & execute manual & automated tasks. Telecommuting permitted. Annual salary: \$111,970.\$141,970. Email resume to servicenowresumesUS@servicenow.com. Or mail resume to ServiceNow Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Resume must include job title, job ref. #5183-3802298, fuil name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

TECHNOLOGY ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the following positions in San Diego, CA: Software Engineer– Performance Tools (5142-3078827): Develop test cases to test the UI framework and the Command Line Interface (CLI). Telecommuting permitted. Annual salary \$134,493.00 - \$164,493.00. Email resume to servicenowresumesUS@servicenow.com. Or mail resume to ServiceNow Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Resume must include job title, job ref. #5142-3078827, full name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

TECHNOLOGY ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the following position in San Diego, CA: Senior Software Engineer. (5143-2218994): Develop software solutions to complex problems. Identify and implement automated test cases for developed solutions. Telecommuting permitted. Annual Salary \$146,328 -\$176,328. Email resume to servicenowresumesUS@servicenow. com. Or mail resume to Service-Now Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Lane, Santa Clara, CA 95054. Resume must include job title, job ref. #. 5143-2218094, full name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT II, Teradata Operations, Inc., San Diego, CA. Responsible for implementation, management, and ongoing enhancements to Enterprise MDM solutions covering multiple data domains using the Teradata MDM solution running on the high-performance Teradata Database Platform. Must have a Bach's degree or foreign equiv. in Comp. Sci., Comp. Eng., or rel. field plus 5 years of progressive postbaccalaureate rel. wrk exp. 100% telecommuting permitted; candidate may reside anywhere in the U.S. Salary \$125,008.00 per yr. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number- 216874)

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT III, Teradata Operations, Inc., San Diego, CA. Responsible for ETL/migrations delivery and provides support for pre-and post-sales consulting activities for the Americas region. 100% telecommuting permitted; candidate may reside anywhere in the U.S. Bach's degree or foreign equiv. in Comp Sci, Comp Apps, Info Systms, Bus. Admin or rel field plus 5 yrs of progressive post-baccalaureate exp. Alternatively, the employer will accept a Master's degree or foreign equiv. in Comp Sci, Comp Apps, Info Sysm, Bus. Admin or rel field plus 3 yrs of wrk exp. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. Salary \$125,008.00 per yr. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number - 216873).

TEST ENGINEER: Test mobile devices to ensure configuration, operation, and capabilities work efficiently. San Diego-CA. Mail Resume - JSee Solutions Inc., 9920 Pacific Heights Blvd, Suite 150, San Diego, CA 92121.

PAID RESEARCH- MALE SMOKERS Males who smoke 1+ packs/ day may qualify for our research study. Participation includes donating a sample and a 1hr (max) visit to our campus in La Jolla/ UTC. Participants are given a visa giftcard as a thank you. (858) 246-0547 / smoking. sandiego@gmail.com

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

JOBS WANTED

DOG SITTING/WALKING responsible, caring, and experienced. Reasonable rates, contact (619) 380-4861.

PERSONAL ASST./CARETAK-ER POSITION 7 yrs. exper. Can do it all. Khevin Miller at (619) 927-9948.

SEEKING ENTRY LEVEL POSI-TION Contact Kevin Miller at (619) 927-9948.

CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERA-PIST looking for a chiropractor who may be in need. I'm good! Kevin @ (619) 927-9948. Near Kensington.

I'M LOOKING FOR AN EMPLOYER who needs any type of amateur type work done. Kevin (619) 927-9948.

DOMESTIC GODDESS SEEKS WORK!!! One broke gal here who is in dire need of legit cash paying gigs ASAP!! I can clean, cook, organize, shop, do laundry, walk/sit with your dog & more! I'm mature respectful, reliable, genuine, animal lover, no criminal past & I seriously need \$\$1 Thx! sandiegolady13@gmail.com

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

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20" WOOD CARVED TABLE Small hand carved ornate table with glass top. Features a male figure with sports ball. Height of 20" with glass top diameter of 20". A beautifully crafted piece that will start many conversations. \$250 williepaine@yahoo.com

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

BEACH ITEMS NEW beach towel, \$3. Insulated coolers, \$3-\$5. Beach mat, \$3. Beach umbrella hat, \$2. Wetsuit women's small 3/4 length, light, \$10. (619) 218-4031

BEAUTIFUL LARGE VINTAGE MIRRORS lvory lace framed \$125. Oval gold leaf framed \$75. Huge round wicker hamper, white distressed finish, tassel \$45. Text/ call (760) 692-7741.

BEAUTIFUL SOLID WOOD ARMCHAIR The dark brown solid wood frame is strong and very sturdy. Overall size is 26.5"x 32"x 38.5"H. The red high back fabric seat is 22" wide, 2.25" thick (3.5" thick at the top), 20" deep, and in very good condition. \$45. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.

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DOOR FROM GARAGE INTO HOUSE plain white, hardcore, 32in x 80in, comes with door lock, step plate, \$60. 1-(858) 484-4483, good condition, must sell.

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MISC FOR SALE Drive Walker, brand new, 500 pounds max, 875 obo. Drive shower handle bar in box, brand new \$25. Neck massager, \$15. Hoover wind tunnel vacuum, brand new, very nice \$150. WWII gun rifle box, good condition, \$50 obo. Women's 6.5 vans, green mint, leather high top, zipper back, bought at outlet for \$135, going for \$35. Women's prevail underpads, 48 count, 18 packages, XL, \$40 for all. Ana's black strap sandals, brand-new, never used, in box, size 8, JC Penney \$40. Very nice handmade ceramic vase, 16" tall, \$20 obo, must go. Dirt devil vacuum, \$10. Golf clubs, \$20. Call (619) 601-3591

MISC FOR SALE Nice GE washer, \$95. Too many settings on it to count. Mirror in light oak frame, 4.5' x 3.5', \$35. (760) 749-8266

MISC FOR SALE Drive Walker, brand new, 500 pounds max, \$75 obo. Drive shower handle bar in box, brand new \$25. Neck massager, \$15. Hoover wind tunnel vacuum, brand new, very nice \$150. WWI gun rifle box, good condition, \$50 obo. Women's 6.5 vans, green mint, leather high top, zipper back, bought at outlet for \$135, going for \$35. Women's



prevail underpads, 48 count, 18 packages, XL, \$40 for all. Ana's black strap sandals, brand-new, never used, in box, size 8, JC Penney \$40. Very nice handmade ceramic vase, 16° tall, \$20 obo, must go. Dirt devil vacuum, \$10. Golf clubs, \$20. Call (619) 601-3591

MODERN WALL ART S-\$25,M-\$50,L-\$75! Women's cashmere sweater \$500-\$100. Ladies vintage clothing \$10 -\$15. Pocketbooks \$20! And more items! (619) 534-0280 leave message thanks!

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REFRIGERATOR black/silver 10.1 cubic foot, great for studio, granny flat, rec room, garage, bought for son's studio, new still in box and wrapper. \$399 (619) 466-863.



San

Another 'Dorado Bonanza' coming? Pending world-record opah caught by novice angler

Dock Totals 8/6 - 8/12: 4923 anglers aboard 212 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 167 barracuda, 2447 bluefin tuna (up to 220 pounds), 147 bonito, 1 cabezon. 2904 calico bass, 2314 dorado, 12 halibut, 12 lingcod, 1 opah (pending world record at 188.6 pounds), 1977 rockfish. 2 rock sole. 8 sanddab. 528 sand bass, 1 sargo, 72 sculpin, 207 sheephead. 3 thresher shark. 1 treefish, 45 triggerfish, 123 whitefish. 6 white seabass. 41 yellowfin tuna, and 1016 yellowtail.

Saltwater: Yellowfin tuna waned a bit in the counts while dorado numbers shot up from a few hundred the week previous into the thousands this past week. Bluefin from 40 to well over 200 pounds are still biting well, especially out west from near San Clemente Island to the Cortez and Tanner banks where they tend to settle in for the late-summer/fall over recent years. Though they have been mostly caught so far this year



Beautiful and sustainable, a dorado caught aboard the Sea Adventure 80 this past week.

on sinker rigs and deep drop jigs at around 300 feet in depth, schools are beginning to show more near the surface where preferred methods are flylined live bait, poppers, and kited live baits or 'flyers' (rubber copies of flying fish skipped across the surface while dangling from a kite or balloon). Inshore, calico bass are on the chew for the local runs, while yellowtail bite is picking up at the Coronado Islands and further down the coast.

This time last year, we saw the beginnings of a dorado invasion into U.S. Pacific coast waters as never witnessed before when, between August 7 and September 4, 30,054 of the acrobatic and tasty fish were caught by anglers aboard 1/2-day to 3-day trips out of the four main landings in San Diego. That the majority of those caught were juvenile fish under 12 pounds and about 6 months old or so is partially due to the limits in California water being ten per angler per day, and that when young, dorado run in large schools, whereas as they grow larger, dorado tend to run in smaller packs of up to a couple dozen or so fish, with a couple bulls to every ten or so cows. Dorado are found in all the world's oceans in near-and-offshore tropical, and subtropical waters.

In Mexican waters, the limit is 2 dorado per angler per day, and as they are more normally caught south of the border by the San Diego fleet, the weekly counts usually reflect a few hundred to maybe a thousand. Mexico placed the strict limit on the species to preserve them for recreational anglers and the estimated two-billion-dollar tourism it brings in 2007, as the average fish caught was growing smaller. This year, commercial fishing lobbyists in Mexico attempted to get the government to open them to commercial take, but that attempt was shot down. Unless caught by and prepared for a recreational angler, a common practice at many fishing resorts, dorado cannot be sold at any market or restaurant in Mexico. Also known as mahi mahi in Polynesia and dolphinfish on the East Coast and Gulf states, dorado is a very popular fish on the



Beau Leaman (left) and Horizon crew with the pending all-tackle world record opah at the scale

menus of seafood restaurants in the U.S.

The numbers caught might be jaw-dropping, but dorado are listed as 'Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List for various reasons. As a fastgrowing species that begins spawning at a very young age, the population in our part of the world is healthy and sustainable, as long as they are not wrapped by seiners when in large schools. When older, commercial fishing the smaller groups of larger dorado by net is not a practical catch for the commercial fleets where they are commercially fished. As one of the fastest growing saltwater species of gamefish, dorado can live up to five years and grow to 70-pounds, though the average fish caught is between 15 and 30 pounds and a little over three feet in length.

They mature early and can begin spawning as small as less than a foot in length. Females release up to one million eggs per spawn and will spawn a few times per year and can spawn any time of year, though usually in water above 80 degrees. Slender and fast, dorado can reach speeds near 60 miles per hour. When hooked, their aerial acrobatic fights can be awe-inspiring, flashing gold while leaping high above the surface between strong runs. As they do not have the profound power of other gamefish like bluefin tuna, dorado can be quite a handful after landing them. I have caught a few dozen or so by kayak when living in the La Paz area, and their erratic behavior once at hand is why I tend to remove the forward hooks on trolling jigs - as highly-sought as they are, I can attest that nobody wants to be 'married' or hooked to a dorado when flailing around at the boat or side of the kayak.

The other big news from this past week is the pending IGFA all-tackle world record 188.6pound opah caught by first time angler Beau Leaman on a 1.5-day run aboard the Horizon out of H&M Landing. Using a rent rod, Leaman dropped a jig down 300 feet and soon thought he was snagged on the bottom. It took four gaffs to pull the fish aboard. Opah, also known as moonfish, redfin ocean pan, and (not to be confused with oceanic sunfish, or mola) sunfish, are an oddlooking though beautifully colored disc-shaped species usually found between 150 and 750 feet in depth

Opah flesh is firm and great table fare, and can be found for sale at fresh fish outlets including the Tuna Harbor Dockside Market at the Embarcadero on Saturdays. Loins are usually priced between 11 and 14 dollars per pound, and it is well worth a try if you haven't had opah before. Learnan's catch was weighed back at the dock and has been submitted to the International Game Fish Association for certification.

They're out there, so go get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

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3-SHELF ADJUSTABLE BOOK-SHELVES This good looking

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STUDIO CONDO 4 SALE Selling studio in Bay Ho area by owner.\$350k, 2nd floor, view, has pool & jacuzzi, some upgrades to unit. assigned parking, Call Rob (858) 568-5078 for viewing.

TRICYCLE for adults, red, brand new, pick up in Mission Beach. Cash only \$200. To view text to (858) 733-0770.

VINTAGE TABLE LAMP LINEN SHADE This beautiful table lamp has a beige octagon bell shaped shade (7" top, 15" bottom, 11" side), tan/brown decorative body (16") & base (6"x 6"), 27.5" tall overall (30" w/ finial). \$35 each or \$60 for a matching pair. Text or amail for more infolios. (510) or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

2 GREEN ARMCHAIRS W/ **CUSHIONS** This 2-piece set of comfortable armchairs is a great

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/ cadbcsd@gmail.com BLACK SQUARE MIRROR (24"X 24") This good looking contemporary wall mirror with gold trimming would compliment a nice home or office. Actual mirror size is 17.75"x 17.75"). Heavy duty hanging hardware is included Clean and in good condition. \$20. Text or email for more info/ pics...(619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@ amail com

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HANGING PLUG-IN PENDANT LIGHT This beautiful pendant 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

BLACK 18.5" TALL TABLE LAMP This decorative table lamp

(4" base w/ nice twisting design) with a octagon bell-shaped cream linen shade (4" top, 11.5" bottom, 9" side) is perfect for night stand, end or side table. Clean and in good condition \$15. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 800-8580 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BROWN OVAL MIRROR (22"X 27") This beautiful dark brown oval mirror has a 2.25" decorative frame with gold trim perfect for your home or office. Some discoloration on edge of frame but the mirror is in excellent condi-

tion ready to be hung. \$35. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BEANIE BABIES selling my collection, \$2 each. They are like new, some from the 90s. (619) 418-0165

BEAUTIFUL SOLID WOOD DECOR 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) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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MISC FOR SALE/TRADE Sofa bed, very nice, single wide, \$100. Hospital bed mattress new, \$100. Drive Walker with seat, excellent, \$50. Sugrical boot new, \$50. Trade for photo gear, (760) 757-5445.

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THREE BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE DOONEY BOURKE large. Reduced to \$75 each. Large vintage copper / brass bucket with handle. 2 new RL snakeskin design \$35 each. (760) 692-7741

BEAUTIFUL SOLID WOOD MIRROR This arched solid wood framed mirror (26"x 38") features a rounded top & curved frame perfect for your home or office. 2 metal strips are attached for mounting to a dresser. Wall mounting hardware not included. \$75. Text or email for more info/ pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@ gmail.com

COMIC LOVERS SPECIAL Leather Spiderman swivel desk chair for sale. Good condition.asking 2,000 or best offers (6119)773-3350. Ron.

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COFFEE TABLE Lexington furn. Bob Timberlake table with glass top, 3 drawers \$200 John (858) 952-4605. / otismaman@yahoo. com

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER 3 pc mission style oak ent. center. Fits 40inch tv. 2 bookshelf cabinets with lights. \$500 whole unit. Will also sell separately. John (858) 952-4605. / otismaman@ vahoo.com

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VINTAGE MIRROR (22.5"X 32.75") This nice looking solid wood frame mirror with bottom shelf is perfect in the living room, family room, entryway, bedroom or bathroom to enhance the beauty of your home or office. Clean and in very good condition. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5510 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL WICKER BABY BASSINET This white rattan bassinet (34"x 22" x 11.5") comes with canopy, portable wheels (30.5"x 17.5"), folding legs, Insert, 2" sleeping pad, pretty lace trimming & a pretty bedskirt. Clean and in very good condition. \$75. Text or email for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

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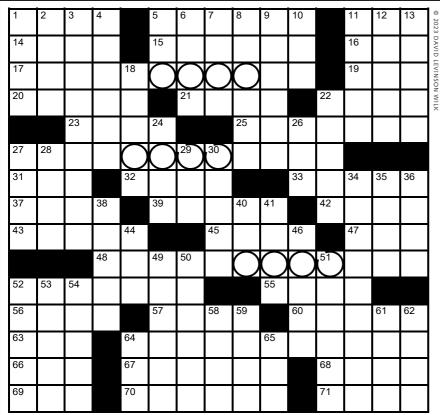
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CROSSWORD



Across

27. Hall-of-Famer who 1. Gain's opposite slugged 630 home runs 5. Opera singer nicknamed **31.** 2003 film in which the "La Divina" title character exclaims "Son **11.** "The Fresh Prince of of a nutcracker!" -Air" **32.** Evervone in Texas? **14.** Quechua speaker **33.** Burn slightly **15.** Mr. Rite? **37.** Sit down ungracefully **16.** Rap's Lil **39.** They're found around Vert 17. "Jeopardy!" creator castles **19.** Mark, as a questionnaire 42. "And begins ..." **43.** Anklebones box 20. "Old MacDonald" vowels **45.** One chased by un perro slang **21.** Filming locations 47. Fast-food chain whose 22. Patella, e.g. official Twitter account follows **23.** Some are loose and some 11 people: 6 men named Herb are tight and each of the Spice Girls **25.** 13, to many 48. He played Matlock on **26.** Nightclub VIPs Down **1.** Guacamole ingredient **27.** Maintained **2.** "That's haven't heard!" **28.** Classic jazz album "___ Queene" and Louis" **3.** Do a preliminary check **4.** Clicking the floppy disk **29.** Longtime Progressive maybe spokeswoman icon, say 5. Cert. for some babysitters **30.** "Fried Green Tomatoes at 6. Fleischer and Onassis the Whistle Stop Cafe" author off my areola" 7. Term length for a U.S. 54. Furious Fannie Supreme Court justice 34. "Are you serious?" 8. Didn't bother **35.** Special talent **McEntire** 9. "To quote myself ... " **36.** Carve into a plaque, say **10.** Train stop: Abbr. **38.** Biblical hvmn **11.** Full-bosomed **40.** Goo for a roofing crew **12.** Online periodical 41. Mix, as batter brief **13.** Tablecloth fabric **44.** Celebrity chef Garten **18.** Run out, as a well **46.** From an earlier time **49.** Subway line with a **22.** Johnson or Yeltsin **24.** "The King and I" kingdom Yankee Stadium stop

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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/

"Matlock" **52.** Ouestion asked while running in the door 55. Way to go 56. Rice pad **57.** Far from plentiful 60. Did an usher's job 63. "Knives Out" star de Armas **64.** What's being exposed by this puzzle's circled letters? **66.** Gentle touch 67. Penalty box, in hockey 68. Research ctr. 69. Summer top **70.** "Master of None" star Aziz **71.** They can be massaged and bruised **50.** Pines (for) **51.** Spenser's "The **52.** Bring to the screen, 53. Janelle whose song

"Yoga" includes the lyric "get

58. CMA Award winner

59. Oatari title

61. "Assuming that's true ... " **62.** Modern digital assets, in

64. Org. that first allowed girls to join in 2019 **65.** Kamoze with the #1 hit "Here Comes the Hotstepper"

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SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

MEDIUM:

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

news of the WeiRD

News That Sounds Like a Joke

- The infamous "Lake Tahoe Foot Fondler' couldn't outrun authorities forever, the New York Post reported. On Aug. 1, Mark Anthony Gonzales, 26, was arrested in Atwater, California, and charged with burglary and battery after two early July incidents at the Club Wyndham South Shore hotel in Nevada. According to police, Gonzales "entered two ... condominiums by opening unlocked screen doors. Once inside, he positioned himself at the foot of the bed and rubbed the feet of two separate adult females" in two different units. Gonzales fled when his victims woke up and confronted him. He is also suspected of trespassing and stealing women's shoes for sexual pleasure. He was being held for extradition back to Nevada.

Unclear on the Concept

 Pinellas County (Florida) deputies are pleading with the public to stop calling them about manatees in canals and shorelines along the Gulf Coast, Fox13-TV reported on Aug. 1. People think the manatees are in distress because they're swimming in herds and thrashing about, but officials stress that the sea cows are only mating. "IF YOU SEE THIS ... DON'T CALL US," the sheriff's office warned via Facebook post. "We can assure you they are more than fine. Manatees actually mate in herds like these and often they are near the shore. ... There's no need to call, they are a-okay!"

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

- In a stunning stroke of genius, the Alpha and Omega Funeral Home in Ahuachapan, El Salvador, started offering Barbie-themed coffins last year, the New York Post reported. With the movie's summer success, undertaker Isaac Villegas said they've been swamped with orders and have sold out of the hot pink caskets. "We wanted to promote the pink coffin as it has become a trend," Villegas said. "Of the 40 people who inquired about it, we have already closed a contract with at least 10 new clients." Similarly, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, funeral home Funeraria Olivares is offering a "Barbie House" coffin, "so you can rest like a Barbie." One manufacturer gushed about their product: "This coffin, with its striking bright pink color, represents the spark and energy of those unforgettable moments they lived." One El Salvadoran commenter conceded, "Eternal rest doesn't look so bad anymore."

Unconventional Weaponry

- A Sonic Drive-In restaurant in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the scene of a gruesome assault on Aug. 1, Fox News reported. Police arriving at the scene found a man with a flagpole --American flag still attached -- through his head. They said it had entered under his jaw and exited near his right temple. Witnesses reported that the suspect, Clinton Collins, allegedly charged the victim and ran the pole through his head, saying, "That's what he gets. He deserved it." Collins was taken into custody

But, Why?

immediately. Emergency responders had to

cut part of the flagpole away in order to fit the

victim in the ambulance. He survived but may

- Peggy Jones, 64, of Silsbee, Texas, got

a little too close to nature for comfort on

July 25 as she and her husband did yard

work on their property. The New York Times reported that out of the blue, a snake

fell from the sky, wrapped itself around

Jones' forearm and started to squeeze. "I

immediately screamed and started swinging

my arm to shake the snake off," she said. "I was screaming, 'Jesus, help me, please, Jesus, help me!'" But the snake hissed and

struck at her face, sometimes hitting her

glasses. Then, as Jones struggled, a hawk

swooped down and tried to grab the snake,

which it had dropped from on high, from

her arm. As it wrestled with the snake, its

talons slashed into Jones' arm. Finally, the

hawk got hold of the snake and flew off. She

said the whole incident probably took only

15 or 20 seconds, but afterward, "I looked

down at my arm and it was totally covered

in blood." Jones' husband, Wendell, saw

his wife screaming and running in a zigzag

pattern: "By the time I got to her, she was

pretty hysterical," he said. Doctors said

most of her wounds were caused by the

hawk rather than the snake. Jones says that

she is healing physically but is still having

nightmares about the incident.

lose an eye, police said.

Nature Gone Wild

- A mysterious man is taking pacifiers out of the mouths of babes in Harlow, England, Sky News reported. The incidents started in February, with the most recent one taking place on Aug. 7. One of the children was also assaulted. The suspect is a young, slim white man with brown eyes and yellow teeth, police said; they are soliciting information from anyone who has any knowledge of the cagey Dummy Bandit (our moniker, not theirs). "As a parent myself, I understand the level of concern," said chief inspector Paul Austin.

Bright Idea

- Pinecrest, Florida, has a peculiar problem: peacocks. The New York Times reported on Aug. 9 that the city has been overrun with the large, loud, destructive birds, which peck at roofs and cars and relieve themselves all over driveways. The solution? Peacock vasectomies. Dr. Don J. Harris, the veterinarian who will snip the feisty birds, said they're "bona fide polygamists. We're going to catch one peacock and probably stop seven females from reproducing. It's going to have an exponential benefit." County commissioners approved the plan, and city officials designated \$7,500 a month to cover trapping and surgery.

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

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