

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 48 | NO. 46 | NOVEMBER 16, 2023

Reader

ATHENA'S TEMPLE

WHEN
THE SPIRIT
SAYS
WOOF

Angel of death visits Imperial Beach ■ Safe, cheap eats at UCSD ■ Once-in-a-lifetime Shell show

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November 16, 2023



PHOTOGRAPH BY SIOBHAN BRAUN

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Cirrus clouds lead to pretty skies — page 17



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

DEPT. OF ENERGY

Power struggle

Non-profit seeks to wrest control from SDG&E

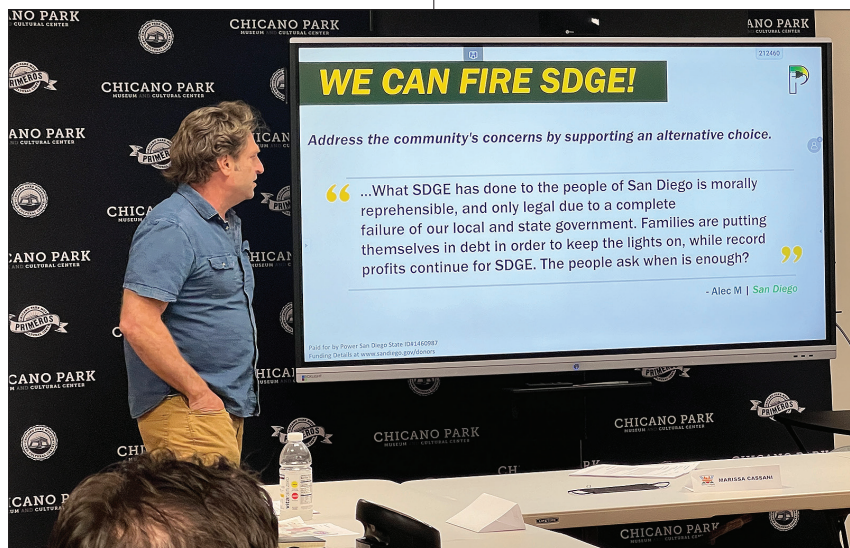
San Diegans pay the highest electricity rates of any metro area in the nation: an average of 47.5 cents per kilowatt hour, compared to the national average of 17 cents. Some 25% of San Diego residents are behind on their energy bills. Meanwhile, SDG&E paid its top executive \$10 million in 2020, and its parent company Semptra Energy paid its CEO \$23 million. And rates are set to rise again in 2024.

“A municipal non-profit would eliminate corporate salaries and dividends for shareholders, so rates would be at least 20% lower.”

Now, the non-profit Power San Diego wants the city to fire SDG&E. “We the people,” said campaign manager Dorrie Bruggemann, “should own the power lines and poles.” It is working on a 2024 ballot measure that would allow residents to vote on whether the city should create a municipal utility that would own and operate city power poles and lines — instead of SDG&E. Its main goal: lower rates by leveraging rooftop solar throughout the city.

“A municipal non-profit would eliminate corporate salaries and dividends for shareholders, so rates would be at least 20% lower,” said Adam Aron, a volunteer for Power San Diego, at a presentation to the Barrio Logan community planning group on October 18. Cities with public utilities, like SMUD in Sacramento or LADWP in Los Angeles, pay much less. In LA, the average is 28 cents per kilowatt hour; in Sacramento, 17 cents. A municipal energy non-profit would also not be subject to California Public Utilities Commission rules, which recently changed to make solar less lucrative for homeowners. “A public power non-profit would be able to build local storage and leverage rooftop solar to generate power,” continued Aron, “making supply cheaper by eliminating the need to transmit energy long distances” — one reason why we pay so much in San Diego.

As Aron made the case to Barrio Logan residents, Power San Diego was also on the agenda at meetings in Kearny Mesa, Otay



Power company to the people?

Mesa, Mission Valley, City Heights, Ocean Beach, and Linda Vista. But that October 18 meeting marked the first time SDG&E showed up to contest Power San Diego — the start of an inevitable showdown. SDG&E representative

cho Bernardo community planners think the “initiative holds immense promise in terms of driving down electricity costs for residents.” And Will has solar panels, so he wants to see expansion of solar energy. “I’ve not talked to anyone who does not think it’s a good idea,” Will said of his fellow RB residents. “As rate payers, we owe it to ourselves to do better.”

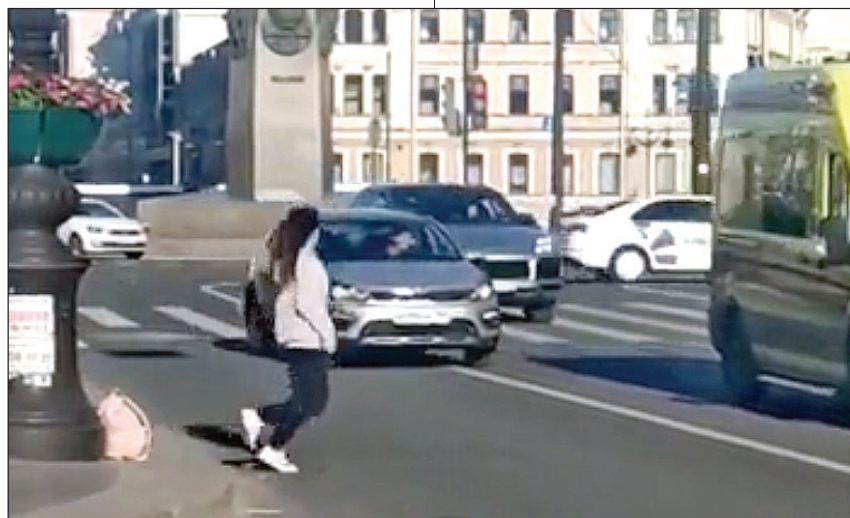
Another concern: buying and operating the power utility will cost the city billions. The feasibility study put a price of about \$2 billion on the poles and lines, which the city would purchase from SDG&E. “But,” said Powers, “it doesn’t touch the city’s general fund.” Just as SDG&E finances investments with income from ratepayers, a public utility would rely on its customer base.

SDG&E made another appearance at Ocean Beach’s planning group meeting on

Cory Illeman said that the City’s public power feasibility study, which was cited by Power San Diego, was only in Phase I, and voters should wait for final results in 2025 before deciding on municipalization. Said Illeman, “The report made it clear that the findings were very premature, and warned of substantial financial and legal risk for the city to take over the energy infrastructure. And the costs and the financial projections in the report remain ‘highly theoretical.’”

Power San Diego founder Bill Powers noted that “in general, there’s more skepticism in neighborhoods where folks are older and better off, especially north of the 8. Most people think we’re stuck with SDG&E—they don’t realize we have a choice.” Rancho Bernardo’s Dennis Will, a community council member who worked in aerospace for 40 years, was skeptical of Power San Diego’s plan at first. After doing his own research, he agreed that a municipal power non-profit would provide better rates and options than SDG&E — but only if the city hires the right people to run it. “I wouldn’t just turn over the power company to the city because I consider it to be a bad businessperson,” Will said. “It will take work, and it will take a lot of risk. They have to get the right people in charge, or the city could really mess it up.”

Despite those concerns, Will backed the Rancho Bernardo community council’s endorsement of Power San Diego’s ballot measure in a letter to the city council. Ran-



Sick transit, glory, uh, TikTok?

November 1. When a Power San Diego presenter took an informal poll of the audience to rate satisfaction with SDG&E, only one person raised her hand for five out of five satisfaction.

“You must work for SDG&E,” the presenter joked.

“Well yes, I do,” said the attendee, who read a prepared statement during the Q&A. Most

others at the meeting rated SDG&E at one or two out of five. (SDG&E did not respond to request for comment.) But despite San Diegans’ dislike of SDG&E — it recently ranked lowest in customer satisfaction among private power companies in the West — Power San Diego has a long way to go. Bruggemann said volunteers must collect more than 80,000 signatures by May to get the proposal on the November 2024 ballot.

LEORAH GAVIDOR

DOWN THESE MEAN STREETS
Tick, tock, your time is up?
Angel of Death challenge sends kids running into traffic

An Imperial Beach kid who some say deliberately ran into a moving car was the topic of recent discussions on the beachfront city’s streets and online forums. On September 30, locals posted and shared a nine-second Facebook video in which the kid suddenly runs into a moving SUV traveling over 15 miles per hour. After the kid rams into the passenger side doors, he falls to the pavement, and the SUV moves out of the frame. Some thought the collision looked accidental, but IB resident Mark Williams didn’t think so. He reposted the video clip on NextDoor, and commented, “The kid was taken by ambulance. I am sure his parents will see huge bills for this. The guy who recorded this is a hero, at least to the car driver and his insurance.”

Williams further explained, “Street talk with his friends, said it was deliberate. I am sharing this hopeful that parents will be proactive and talk to their children about the dangers of doing this. Keep an eye on TikTok for the next insane thing.”

Cris Adams is one of the parents who lives near where the video was filmed. In a recent interview, she said, “I just read the history. It’s like a TikTok challenge or something like this? It’s almost like committing suicide. Kids are so stupid.” TikTok challenges, popular among young people, involve the filming of daring

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

feats, jokes, or callouts in a bid for online likes and shares. The more shocking the videos, the better your chances for blowing up. This particular challenge is known as the Angel of Death; already, multiple videos depicting people deliberately running or walking into moving cars have been pulled down for being classified as “dangerous acts and challenges.” But some slip through the cracks and go viral before they’re yanked. That’s why Adams is proactive about what her son watches on devices. “First, I will limit the access to TikTok to my son, and won’t allow him to use it.” But beyond that, “I’d talk to my son, watch the video together, and talk about the fatal consequences that this could bring. If your kid is smart enough, he will understand the message.”

One videos was pulled down from TikTok but made it onto Reddit: a 29-second clip titled, “Buzz-starved brainless girl doin’ Tik-Tok puts her life in danger for a few views by running down the road to get in front of cars and nearly getting run over.” Raymond Henry from Chula Vista commented, “There’s idiots online posting videos of themselves stand-

ing on the sidewalk, then darting towards an oncoming vehicle.” The hope is to make the drivers stop and skid.

Adriana from Bonita recently witnessed a different type of challenge being undertaken by local teens. “There are videos of them riding [bikes] along a street, then veering into an oncoming car. According to the uncle of one of the kids who was filmed doing this a few weeks ago, this is a thing, and they’re trying to get paid out by insurance companies by claiming they were hit by a car... So, who knows if it’s a TikTok trend, but it’s happening, and those kids’ parents aren’t doing much about it.”

Redditor Henry suggests drivers “buy an onboard dash cam. They are cheap and will protect you from things like this.” Dashboard cameras sell on Amazon for about \$60, are simple to install and record constantly. According to *Grandviewresearch.com*, the U.S. dashboard camera market increased from \$562.9 million to \$587.1 million during and after the height of the pandemic. “A crucial factor driving product demand is a rise in the number of fraudulent insurance claims and medical compensation by means of fake car accidents. It has also been observed that insurance companies are encouraging the use of dashboard cameras in vehicles to resolve insurance claims more accurately and quickly.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

UNDER THE RADAR

Public windfall for Castellanos? San Diego Unified Port District commissioners, fresh from a mysterious July scandal that led Chief Executive Officer **Joe Stuyvesant** to take an indefinite leave of absence, aren’t necessarily barred by state law from picking one of their own to replace him in the position, which as of 2020 paid a hefty \$363,590. So say lawyers with the California Fair Political Practices Commission in a September 25 letter to **Gary Winuk** of Sacramento’s Kaufman Legal Group. Winuk asked if current Port Chairman, lawyer **Rafael Castellanos**, can avoid prohibition “from being hired by the San Diego Unified Port District as its Chief Executive Officer, or for any other position.”

The answer is yes, but only if Castellanos “resigns from office before the commencement of the Board’s hiring process” and “does not participate or attempt to influence any decisions regarding a vacancy.” The response, penned by FPPC Legal Division Chief Counsel **L. Karen Harrison**, goes on to say that even if Castellanos does quit the commission, “he may only enter into [a] contract for employment with the Board to the extent that the Board has not considered the employment contract during his Board membership, and he has not taken action to influence the making of the contract to promote his personal interest during his Board membership.”

Citing “the limited facts disclosed” in the port’s query, the FPPC lawyer concludes that Castellanos hasn’t had “the level of participation in the making of a future CEO employment contract” that would bar him from becoming CEO. In addition, “it does not appear that Chair Castellanos has otherwise acted to influence the making of a future CEO contract to promote his personal financial interest in the position.”

Still, Castellanos isn’t entirely out of the woods. The FPPC letter concludes that if it turns out “Board members did engage in preliminary discussions regarding filling the CEO position, or if the Board does so while Chair Castellanos is a board member, [Government Code] Section 1090 will prohibit the contract. We note that his recusal from Board meetings or actions will not affect the presumption of his participation.”

The port’s decision is still hanging fire. On July 14, the commission went into a closed-to-the-public session to pick ex-CEO **Randa Coniglio** to be acting CEO in Stuyvesant’s

absence. A one-time hopeful for the Board of Supervisors, Democrat Castellanos has been on the port commission as a San Diego City Council appointee since 2013. As of this week, he remained on the board, per the port’s website. Commissioners don’t get paid.

Borderline hedge fund **Heath Freeman**, the vulture capitalist who has acquired and gutted a bevy of newspapers including the *San Diego Union-Tribune*

through his Alden Global Capital, has lately gravitated to another controversial line of business, this one backed by taxpayer money. Freeman owns a team in the PBR, otherwise known as Professional Bull Riders, which has long had a lucrative promotional deal with the U.S. Border Patrol; a deal that has drawn scrutiny from national media outlets. These include newspapers owned by Gannett, the

chain against which Freeman waged a failed takeover battle in 2019.

“Imagine the NFL and NBA sending Tom Brady and LeBron James to accompany the U.S. Border Patrol on a search for undocumented immigrants,” says an expose by Gannett’s *USA Today*. “Or how about Mike Trout and Serena Williams watching as a group of immigrants are apprehended trying to cross the border? Several members of the Professional Bull Riders did just that on a scorching day in July, riding horseback along the U.S.-Mexico border.”

Per *USA Today*’s January 2020 account, “Patrol boats and a helicopter swooped in to offer support and protection not only for the agents but also for the Border Patrol’s special guests. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection supports the PBR in another way: with a \$2 million sponsorship deal this year that the Border Patrol says is used to bolster recruiting.”

According to the website *usaspending.gov*, the latest incarnation of the contract between the Border Patrol and the PBR — billed as a ‘professional sports league marketing sponsorship,’ beginning January 15, 2021, and ending this coming December 31 — is worth a potential \$17 million, with \$9.9 million already obligated. “The partnership actually began in 2008 and ended in 2011. It was renewed in part because of President Trump,” per *USA Today*. According to the Border Patrol’s “Statement of Work” that was obtained by *USA Today Sports*, the most

continued on page 4



Rafael Castellanos faces a tricky road from chairman to CEO.



Randa Coniglio: from ex-CEO to acting CEO.

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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.

The gory McGrory details

(“Alden Global’s bull riders and other investments besides the *U-T*”, Under the Radar, Nov. 8, 2023) Mister McGrory is also part owner of the former Copley compound at Casa del Zorro in Borrego Springs where I have trained for endurance. There is a fascinating small museum in the back lobby area depicting the history of President Nixon and his relationship with Mister Copley. Also, as side trivia, Mr. McGrory was a devoted tennis partner with Bill Winston the proprietor of Winstons in Ocean Beach and candidate for Congress in 1992.

Daniel Smiechowski
Bay Ho

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

TikTok, Reddit show kids running into cars

Neighborhood News, Nov. 6, 2023
TikTok is obviously a CCP operation against the United States, as is the CCP’s shipment of fentanyl precursors to Mexico. How-

ever, the Bolshevik rats in AIPAC and Soros-funded organizations exerting influence on America’s government will not stop it because they have investments in the Chinese industry and secondary profits from drug and human trafficking.

These are the same people who opened a port in Haifa for the Chinese Navy to use, also expanding military R&D cooperation with the CCP, while telling Americans that it is our patriotic duty to go broke and die for Israel and Ukraine. Now watch this comment get deleted after 5 minutes.

-Long Live Saint Rittenhouse

Sempre – California politicians’ piggy bank

News Under the Radar,
Nov. 1, 2023

We consistently hear that Toni Atkins is dirty and corrupt. Sempre/SDGE follows the same path raising rates to make up for lost business to solar and buying corrupt politicians along the way. Total disgrace.

-Anti-Atkins

Working out in San Diego brings surprising danger

Neighborhood News, Oct. 31, 2023

“The city of San Diego and park rangers allegedly threatening to bust and fine the large group of trekkers” - seriously? How about busting, fining and getting rid of all the blight and transients in Balboa Park instead? I am tired of the transients having more

rights than we do.

The perfectly fine restroom in Balboa Park at 6th between Olive & Nutmeg is always closed to the public because the transients take up residence in them so we are stuck using the disgusting porto-potties put there instead which are always trashed & unsanitary. This situation is ridiculous. The good law-abiding tax-paying citizens should not pay the price of those that chose not to engage and contribute to society.

-Xrsizkaren

Yeah, to heck with having living wages and affordable housing, let’s give all our money to Israel and Ukraine instead!

-Truth teller

Notice to any bicyclist or pedestrian on the public roads: “dmv.ca” as additional license plate i.d. on California license plate, SUCH CAR (drivers) don’t want to share 3-foot space to any bicyclists and pedestrian “be the DMV driver jealous of the body profile of the cyclist and/or pedestrian. As the cyclist has the additional concern of the DMV driver being jealous of the cyclist’s bicycle/components/wheels, etc. Anyone ever notice how high a majority of all motor vehicles driven on San Diego County public roads are “dmv.ca” identified? Definitely over 25% This proves the Department of Motor Vehicles has control of the roads, added with the fees paid

for state license renewal & registration This further deepens the sickness of of SDCounty addiction to non-living without cars/motor vehicles.

-Cyclists rule

Depends whether you’re a native here; your ancestry, where you may have moved here from (why apply to the majority of families here). I remember those older times, when blonde females where the highest females in demand; nowadays – hair color is not the talk anymore.

-Yeah but still...

DeAnza Springs sheds the naked life

Cover Stories, Oct. 25, 2023

I think that the new owners will go broke and that Dave and Helen, who I think hold the mortgage on DeAnza, will wind up foreclosing and having to take ownership of DeAnza back. The guys that bought it seem like nice guys, but they have no concept of how to make DeAnza work as any kind of business.

-Nude and Negative

Gonzo Report: Hunting for Hunter S. Thompson at La Jolla Playhouse

Gonzo Report, Oct. 12, 2023

Acting like HST (or acting how most people assume he acted all the time) does not make you a Gonzo journalist. It makes you a Gonzo impressionist at best, and likely a felon with multiple drug-related charges eventually.

Just get into the story and write it from the inside out... but do it in your own voice. Everyone acting like Hunter is not how this style survives! We need many unique voices to participate in the technique, that’s how Gonzo journalism lives on.

That said, this review did leave me wanting to see the show... and re-typing F&L is a feat reserved only for true fans. The author is clearly talented, and I will be actively looking for more of his work, hopefully written in his own voice. Mahalo!

-Dr. L Thompson

Under the radar

continued from page 3

recent deal between the Border Patrol and PBR started in the wake of Trump’s executive order in January 2017 that authorized the hiring of 5000 additional Border Patrol agents. The challenge the Border Patrol faced, according to the document, was a “shrinking pool of candidates” and “difficulty with recruiting” because of negative news media coverage, public perception, and reduced budgets.

PBR’s **Sean Gleason** told the paper he was unfazed by critics. “It’s not politically driven. Others may see it as being ‘politically incorrect.’ Everyone’s entitled to an opinion. We are just going to go about our business.” Ex-Border Patrol agent **Jenn Budd** offered another opinion. “It’s propaganda. Law enforcement should just say it has openings. All this other stuff is an attempt to get at kids at young ages. Plus, the vast majority of agents do not ride horses. They sit in a filthy truck for 12 hours staring at a fence or sit in processing.”

PBR bullfighter **Seth “Shorty” Gorham** posted a video of himself accompanying the agents along the border, according to the story. “I had one right here,” Gorham said on the video, referring to an undocumented immigrant. “Had him close. Had one. Found him under a tree. Tried to get him to stop. He ran off. I don’t have a radio, so I can’t talk to these guys [Border Patrol agents]. But I did manage to take my shirt off and flag the helicopter. I let them know that there was one in the area.” Concerning the experience, Gorham later told *USA Today Sports*, “It was a lot of fun. I’ll tell you, I always thought that fighting bulls would get your adrenaline going, but nothing like that experience there.”

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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

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The doctor is in (the Reader)

Appetite Everywhere

Every week I work on her self-esteem. The fact that I, a man who she knows is busy, agree to see her every week helps. She has said to me many times that she expects me to give up on her, usually during visits where she has gained weight from the previous week. I can't imagine giving up, but I do get frustrated, despite having learned not to depend on patients' improvements for my own happiness and satisfaction. — *Jim Eichel* MAY 13, 1999

Travel Bug

The worker, a short Dominican fellow who looked to be about 45, came back with me from the gift shop into the room. He had an older relative with diabetes and believed this gave him the right to be our medical expert. "You should rub her feet," he instructed in Spanish and began to demonstrate. Knowing that my mother-in-law was still alert enough to fear this level of courtesy, I repositioned myself between him and her toes. — *Jim Eichel* FEB. 10, 2000

Show Me Your Saphenous Vein, James!

I had wanted to be a doctor since graduating from elementary school; I never seriously considered anything else. I did not have any doctor role models in my immediate family,

but my chain-smoking, wisecracking, New York-bred pediatrician impressed me, as my mother trusted her more than anyone. — *Jim Eichel* MARCH 20, 1997

Environment of Mistrust

Most people in the United States believe that specialists are smarter than primary-care doctors, even though objective measurements such as standardized tests (e.g., SATs and grade point averages) suggest the opposite. Most do not know that board-certified family physicians do a three-year residency to become specialists in common problems. When something appears serious, treatment from a family practitioner does not seem to be enough. I was prepared to go through this again over the phone with Veronica. — *Jim Eichel* APRIL 12, 2001



CREDIT: SARITA VENDETTA

"I've decided I don't want to keep losing weight," she told me.

You Will Not Believe This Guy's X-Ray

In most cases, symptoms start at about age 18, a time when society expects us to become independent. Performance in school and/or work declines as unrelenting thoughts ruin the schizophrenic's ability to concentrate and distract him from his basic needs, particularly self-care. One of the reasons most of us do not have many schizophrenic friends is because when they are ill, they do not conform to our grooming standards. They do not bathe. — *Jim Eichel* SEPT. 10, 1998

I'm Not God

Exhausted, I turned my attention to Greta, who I remembered had much more right to be tired than I did. I pointed out to her what a remarkable effort she had just put forth to get a vaginal delivery, and she thanked me. I had nothing to do now but go home, so I said good night. Laurel intercepted me on the way out and gave me the warmest professional-to-professional hug I've ever had. — *Jim Eichel* AUG. 30, 2001

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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Mal Amal?

Biden bumps up building on wall in wake of puppet's border visit

"Little Amal" is a 12-foot puppet of a Syrian girl who has been traveling the world in an effort to raise awareness of the plight of refugees all over the world. And her arrival at the border fence between San Diego County and Tijuana was supposed to pro-

vide a powerful photo op for President Biden, who planned to welcome her into the United States as a sign of his administration's commitment to welcoming immigrants. "Unfortunately," says spokesman Reggie Spindock, "the President hasn't been

sleeping well of late, and has taken to watching movies in the wee hours. You will recall that he got fired up about AI after seeing *Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning: Part 1*, and seeing the damage that a rogue AI might inflict. Suddenly, we were seeing Executive Orders designed to guide AI creators in both development and implementation. A tricky business. And then, right before the meeting with Little Amal, he somehow started in watching *Attack on Titan*, in which murderous, man-eating



A terrified President Biden struggled to contain his panic as he greeted "Little Amal" through the border fence outside Tijuana. "What do you mean, 'little'?" he asked. "She's huge! If we don't destroy her before he reaches adulthood, our defenses will be useless!"

giants attack humanity and are kept at bay by enormous walls. It...wasn't helpful." Spindock

went on to stress that the President's staff would be keeping a close eye on his late-night view-



Biden: "We must learn from the Eldians. We must build the wall better, higher, stronger. America must not fall to the Titan threat."

ing habits going forward, lest he misunderstand the satiric nature of *Starship Troopers*.



Council member Lee: "When you think about it, books are a pretty clear example of racist white supremacy. Just look at the damage they wrought on the oral traditions of so many cultures. We're better off as a society without them."

At Long Last, Equity City Council approves new master plan for libraries

Last week, the city council adopted a new master plan for San Diego's libraries, one that promised modernization, expansion, and perhaps most importantly, equity. As council member Kent Lee put it, "I hope this plan helps to guide how we move forward to serve each of our communities equitably. And a big part of that is getting past the supposed connection between libraries and books. The average high school kid's smart phone already has access to more information than was con-

tained in the famed Library of Alexandria. And studies show that literacy is simply not an equitable value, with Asians and white kids at 82% and 76%, respectively, and Latinos and Blacks at 54% and 47%. It's therefore clear that literacy cannot be the measure of our kids' educational well being, and so libraries need to change to reflect that new understanding. Whatever we wind up putting on all those shelves going forward, I can promise you this: it won't be books."

The Florida Friar?

Padres begin interviewing process for new location

Statement from The Swinging Friar: "It's true that we're interviewing for a new manager. But that, in itself, isn't going to solve our problems, and everybody knows it. Look, it's clear that San Diego is cursed. It's not just us. The Chargers never won a Super Bowl while they were here. The Loyal lasted four seasons. The Wave keeps losing in the playoffs. San Diego State made it to the Final Four, sure, but did they win it all? This just isn't a city where champions play. Not like Los Angeles. But here's the funny thing:

the Dodgers used to be in New York. Moving didn't hurt them any; in fact, they've won more in LA than they ever did in Brooklyn.

And here's another thing: there are five MLB teams in California, and only two in Florida. The state's biggest city, Jacksonville, doesn't have a team. The Marlins down in Miami already have a couple of championships, and

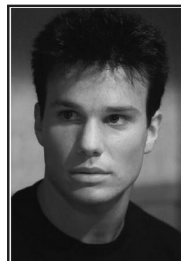


The Swinging Friar, pleased to learn that Florida has beaches, too!

they're Johnny-come-latelys. So yes, we're having a conversation. It helps that the Spanish priests arrived in Florida before the English Protestants: we wouldn't even have to change the name!"



SEXUAL SEEDINESS EDITION



On *Twin Peaks*, **James Hurley** plays James, a young man who gets sexually involved with Laura Palmer, a drug-using victim of sexual abuse, and then gets in trouble with the law.



Former La Mesa resident **Brian Jeffrey Raymond** pleaded guilty to sexually abusing at least two dozen women, whom he usually drugged.



On *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, **Clark Gregg** plays Agent Coulson, a sometime leader of the organization who is forever battling corrupting elements that threaten to destroy it from within.



Bill McGillis abruptly stepped down as the University of San Diego's athletic director, as the school reckons with a sexually charged hazing scandal within its football program.



In *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, **Tim Blake Nelson** plays Delmar, a man who is devastated after his friend is seduced by sirens and then turned into a horny toad.



University City High School teacher **Sean Stevenson** is accused of soliciting an underage girl for sex.

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ATHENA'S TEMPLE

WHEN THE SPIRIT SAYS WOOF



I discovered WWoofing back in 2012 when I spent a day picking kale at the Morning Star Ranch in Valley Center for a story on Farmers Markets. The ranch belonged to the Twelve Tribes, which some people suggested was some kind of cult. Adorable barefoot children ran around the property. There were yurts, and women in peasant skirts picking grapefruits. No one had cell phones. It felt like an old-timey movie, idyllic and wholesome (though the culty rumors did make me a bit wary).

"Today we'll treat you like one of our Wwoofers," said Rekah, the birdlike woman tasked with overseeing my visit that day. Noting my puzzlement, she explained, "Wwoofers are volunteers that stay here as sort of like a working vacation for room and board. Many come here and never leave." Rumors or no, I was intrigued. Rumors or no, I almost didn't leave. They invited me to a family style meal the following Sunday, with music and merriment and a bizarro worship service. I declined, worried that I'd be sucked in if I went.

"I encourage all my Wwoofers to spend time with the pigs every day. They are very grounding."

My friend Laurie had warned me, only half-joking, "Don't go up there alone. If anyone were to join a cult, it'd be you. You'd be lured in by that free-spirited hippie shit."

Now, over a decade later, I am sitting cross-legged in a pig pen on a Friday

continued on page 10

San Diego scribes
your chance has arrived

What's it like on the street where you live?



The *Reader* has been covering life in San Diego for over 50 years, and we like to think we know the place pretty well. But even Homer nods, and we're bound to have missed a thing or two about your corner of the city, whether it's the beach, the backcountry, South Bay, North County, or anywhere in between.

Here's your chance to tell a tale from your hood and get paid for your trouble. Give us a detailed portrait of a local character, or a compelling and emblematic narrative. Set the scene. Map the territory. Tell us what you love about it or what you hate, what's happening or what happened that one time. Most of all, give us a sense of place.

Please limit entries to non-fiction — we want to know how it is, not how it might be — and 4000 words maximum.

First prize: \$2000. Second prize: \$1000. Five honorable mentions of \$500 each.

Email entries to writingcontest@sandiegoreader.com by January 31, 2024

Winners will appear in the *Reader* beginning at the end of February 2024

morning in Fallbrook. A Kunekune swine named Krishna nudges my leg with its slobbery snout. I give his wiry back a pet. Another, much larger pig lounges at my feet, anticipating a belly rub. My host Athena laughs. “I encourage all my Wwoofers to spend time with the pigs every day. They are very grounding,” she says, giving a hog named Vishnu a loving scratch on his head.

Wwoof?

Wwoof stands for World-wide Opportunities on Organic farms; it is a grassroots organization that pairs volunteers with host farms. Wwoofers dedicate four to six hours per day, up to six days a week, in exchange for room and board. A \$40 membership with Wwoof opens unique opportunities to users, everything from living and working on a coconut farm, to building homesteads, to learning sustainable farming techniques. The possibilities are as endless as the locales: Peru, New Zealand, Hawaii, and good old San Diego.

My first approach was to Jared, the owner of an avocado orchard up north

who described himself as an open-minded, laid-back Dead Head. Apparently, nighttime jam sessions were the norm there. The farm work appeared manageable and the sleeping arrangements looked comfortable, but honestly, he had me at Dead Head. Sadly, I lost him at “journalist.” Jared politely explained that he did not want or need the publicity. “As it is, we turn down 25 applicants for every one we admit. Additionally, we are constantly battling city hall over regulations, because they are business killers — unless, of course, you are a corporation! Also, we are kind of, sort of, preppers. We would rather not divulge to the rest of San Diego how desirable our place is, and where they can find food and fresh spring water, etc.” Fair enough.

Athena described her farm as a sacred ceremony space and animal sanctuary. I reached out, and Athena asked to have a conversation, to see if we vibed. She wanted to hear my thoughts on energy. We chatted for nearly an hour on a Monday afternoon, and I liked her immediately. She was



Athena tells us that the roosters are rapey. It's true; last night when we put the chickens back in the coop for the night, the roosters charged at them, and the poor chickens made a terrified run for it.

warm with a tendency to overshare, both qualities I love in a person. By the end of the conversation, she agreed to host me. I was delighted, because already, I felt like I had known Athena for years.

Arrival

Upon my arrival at Athena's farm, I am overcome by the same thrill I felt over a decade ago at Morning Star Ranch. The same primal feeling of *I never want to leave.*

Athena, standing in the doorway and flanked by a two huge Great Pyrenees dogs, looks like Mother Nature herself. The setting sun shines through her long, wild, wiry, grey hair, giving her an iridescent aura. Her home is warm and bohemian. It smells delicious. A young woman with dreadlocks pulled into a loose knot at the nape of her neck is making dinner: chicken tacos and a pineapple upside cake. Her name is Jocelyn. She dries her hands and shakes mine hesitantly. Her tiny brown dog Gideon jumps up, pawing my legs. The dog likes me; it is evident his owner is unsure. When Athena leads me outside for a tour, she tells me, “For privacy's sake, I told the Wwoofers that you are a writer.” Ah. I would have told the Wwoofers if Athena hadn't, but I still register the pang of the outsider. Because being an insider looks great.

“I should mention the rules,” Athena says, scrunching her nose up at the word “rule.” “Most

things here are flexible and easy. Things happen; it is all okay. But there are a couple of things that are critical. I am going to give those to you first. I have six dogs; five of them are Great Pyrenees, and they look very similar. Two of them would fight to the death if they got together. One of them would kill chickens if he got out. The other one would pick on the pigs. And none of them are the same dogs. The immutable rule is, do not move a dog until you really know them and their idiosyncrasies.” She takes a breath and continues: “And then there are my cats: Sparrow and Finch. They are strictly indoor cats. They cannot go outside. Just don't move animals is what I am saying. It boils down to this: be mindful of doors and gates.”

With the rules out of the way, Athena leads me outside. A young man and woman are cutting pieces of wood with a power saw to repair the chicken coop. They look young enough to be teenagers. Hayden is reserved. His hair is cropped into a slight mullet. He wears a long sleeve shirt, jeans, and work boots. He gives off an angsty teen vibe. Caroline is girl-next-door pretty, with shiny brown hair and a warm smile.

Athena leads me past two cages housing fluffy white dogs. The larger one, Memphis, leaps up against the chain link of his cage to greet me. I pat his head affectionately. He wags his tail in delight. A flock of chickens and a few roosters strut past as we walk to the far end of the yard. I am introduced to Peter, a twenty-something German who is building a stairway on the hillside. Athena stops to inspect his work, nodding and proclaiming,

“It's wonderful!”

“Are you sure?” Peter asks, eager to please. “Because I could change it if you want. I can make the steps a little wider or closer together?”

She nods pondering the idea. “Maybe? My knees are old!”

We leave him to his work, walking past some goats and pigs in an enclosure and through a gate to the front of the house where a welcome sign hangs. A tiny gecko peeks out from behind it. Athena tells me that in Sanskrit, it reads, “In all possible dimensions, all consciousness free of suffering, I give my word.” “It is the Bodhisattva — or rather, one of the Bodhisattva vows.” I pretend to know what that means. Later I google “Bodhisattva” and learn that “a Bodhisattva vow implies a commitment to personal growth, driven by concern for others' welfare, leading to enlightenment.”

Athena shows me the trailer where I will sleep. It is simple and cozy, but the door is broken and will not shut. Athena sighs, fetching a screwdriver from the garage to fix it. While finagling the door, she points up at the hilltop above us and says, “That's San Pedro cactus. It is in the mescaline family. But we don't use that cactus. I source my medicine from Peru. There is some white sage behind it, and probably some illegal poppies over there.” As she finishes with the door, dusk is beginning to fade to dark, and it's time to take care of the animals for the night. Jocelyn, Hayden, Caroline, Peter and I all lend a hand. We usher the chickens back into their coop before heading in for dinner.

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Dinner

We gather in the dining room passing around heaping bowls of shredded chicken, taco toppings, and warm tortillas. When our bellies are mostly full, I ask the table what led them to Wwoofing. I am surprised to learn that besides Athena, we are all virgin Wwoofers. Jocelyn tells me, "I wanted my first experience to be something that was healing and ceremonial. This was literally the first place that popped up on [Wwoof]. I feel like it was meant to be. I flew out here from Ohio. I have a homestead back there." Jocelyn divulges her age: 32. I am shocked, mostly due to her wrinkle-free skin and her youthful demeanor. When she tells me she has been at Athena's for only eight days I am shocked again. She seems so completely at home. "I think I

am going to stay a couple of months more. There's a good influx of people coming in and out, and I like it here."

"Who will take care of your homestead back in Ohio?"

"I don't have that homestead anymore. It's my ex's. Technically, I am kind of homeless." She looks at me and laughs hard, as if coming to terms with this reality for the first time. "Like, I don't have a place to go back to, except moving in with my parents."

"Is that what you are going to do?"

She looks down at her plate and shrugs, her voice hardening, "Probably not. I'll travel. I'll find a place."

"Is that stressful?"

Her voice is clipped when she responds, "Not really. It will work out."

Peter breaks the tension by saying, "This is

my first experience too. I had a friend who stayed on a farm in Australia for a full year. I didn't even know I could do something like this!" Peter is spending 90 days traveling around the country. At 26, he is beginning to reevaluate his life choices. He is wondering if being a computer scientist is his true calling. He is afraid it isn't. But he is not sure if wants to spend the time starting over. He thinks he should be doing something worthwhile. He wants to make a difference in the world. "I decided to [Wwoof] to meet people and to try to see how Americans live — like, actually live. Their daily routines and their thoughts. Instead of just staying in a big city being one of a million people, I wanted most of the time I spent in the United States to be part of a family environment."

Peter started in New York, ventured west to San Francisco, visited Yosemite, and then came here. He's leaving in ten days. Caroline, 21, is leaving on Sunday. "I'll have been here or two weeks. I actually found Wwoof from a TikTok that went viral. I did some research, and it was the perfect outlet. I have always loved animals and I want a farm when I am older. I probably looked at 50 different places before choosing this one. I think I will probably go down a similar path as Athena. I wanted to do something different than the people I was hanging around with. I wanted a more spiritual, holistic path." She tugs on her sleeve, and I notice that one arm is covered in what look like scars.

Originally from around D.C., Caroline attended LSU and lived in Baton Rouge for a bit. "But I de-

cided to do online school, so I moved back in with my parents."

"How do your parents feel about you Wwoofing?"

"They were proud of me for doing a solo trip. The plan is to live with my parents and work for maybe a year and save up as much as I can. I might look into the van life and just Wwoof around."

Hayden has been silent most of dinner. Athena has told me that Hayden is not a traditional Wwoofer; he is a high school student, just 16, doing online school from Athena's. His mom is a friend, and asked if he could stay temporarily. He's been here almost five months.

"Do you feel that being here has changed you as person?"

He nods but avoids eye contact. "Yes. I am little more disciplined. I eat

better. I do more, and I appreciate animals a little more. I grew up on a farm. We always had horses, birds and a bunch of pigs, goats and sheep. I am from southern California, the high desert area near Joshua Tree."

"Has it been fun getting to know all these people that come here?"

A sly smile forms on his lips and he lets out a little laugh before answering, "Yes and no. Fun when they're nice."

"They are not always nice?" I ask.

"There have been some entitled rude people."

Athena explains, "Sometimes, we ask people to leave. I have gotten better at doing that. I have learned that if you tell people, 'It's not working out,' without expressing any sort of emotion, they tend to take it better." She once had a meth addict come to Wwoof;

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he got a lot done but it wasn't a healthy situation, so she had to tell him to leave. Another time, a Wwoofer was too rough with one of her dogs and dislocated its leg. The vet had to put the dog down. I can see tears in her eyes as she shares this story.

I notice that Athena keeps saying "we," even though she lives alone. Does "we" include the Wwoofers? "No; when I say 'we,' I mean me and Spirit" says Athena. "I have always been a bit of mystic. I have had non-ordinary experiences my whole life. For many years, professionally, I found ways to talk about that without using the word 'spirit.' I used words like 'intuition' or 'hunch.' If I was going to describe it directly, it is that I hear things. Now that I am old and retired, I can just say Spirit."

She says it was Spirit's idea to open the farm to Wwoofers. "Right in the middle of the first month of Covid, Spirit came through so strong. Spirit said, 'Prepare for community.' It has been crazy! I thought it would be a piece of cake to have community. But there is no hiding here. There is no



I ask Athena if many Wwoofers come solely to heal. Her voice when she responds is soft but precise; each sentence feels meaty with meaning. "There is a kind of healing called *platica*, where I talk to somebody from their heart to see where their troubles are. As a result, I might suggest that they say certain prayers or maybe they consume a certain kind of plant."

Zen I can pretend when someone takes a very expensive knife and jams it into a coconut. The first six months, I swear I walked around like Napoleon Dynamite, thinking, "These people are *idiots!*" She smiles and continues, "I cannot train people to be less egregious. I have learned what really matters. Things happen. But remembering how to be patient and kind can be difficult. I could've gone to a monastery with the

lessons I have learned."

Athena explains that she continues hosting Wwoofers because she feels *called*. She likes to see young people interacting and forming lifelong friendships. She likes to see Wwoofers who come to her broken begin to heal. Caroline smiles adoringly at Athena, adding, "There is a real healing process here. We have a lot of time to meditate and work through the stuff that we came here

to work through."

I ask Athena if many Wwoofers come solely to heal. Her voice when she responds is soft but precise; each sentence feels meaty with meaning. "There is a kind of healing called *platica*, where I talk to somebody from their heart to see where their troubles are. As a result, I might suggest that they say certain prayers or maybe they consume a certain kind of plant. I do a lot of *platica* with [Wwoofers] and I get to watch the effect. That can mean that people cry during the day while they are working here, because stuff comes up. I watch people turn around and really transform.

"If we have a mission here, it is to realize that we are all connected. We are at a critical junction. It feels hopeless sometimes, with the forces of division and the forces of greed, but I know that kindness is contagious. We are connected to the world, and the diameter of the self is huge. Selfishness is good, it's just that most people's diam-

eters are too small. They think it is themselves they are selfish for; them and their family; them and their tribe, them and their nation. But this is *all the self*," Athena makes a sweeping motion with her arm indicating everything: the room, the sky, the earth, all of us.

I immediately look at the German, gauging his reaction. Does he think we are a bunch of crazy Americans? Undeterred, Athena continues, "I do feel that things have become really, really, divisive — propaganda, social media. it just feels like our species is at the place where we have the technology to, maybe begin to be interstellar travelers. We can split the atom and power spaceships. But with the same technology, we can blow up the planet. There are beings here trying to blow up the planet and beings here pushing hard for connection. I pitch for connection. For me, I think we are here to try to infect each other with enough cooperation and love that we decide not to blow up the planet. I feel like Spirit sends key players to me, people who are going to have influence. People who are going to have to make choices."

I look around the table and everyone is dead silent. It is hard to decipher what they are thinking and how they are feeling. The German is grinning; he can't help himself. He laughs and breaks the silence with an indifferent shrug, before blurting, "Well then I guess I am going to try to make the best out of this?"

Athena laughs too, smiling broadly at him, adding in a self-deprecating way, "Don't mind me, I'm just sitting up here on the mountain trying to help people

who are trying to save the world!" We all laugh, and Jocelyn passes around her pineapple upside cake. Athena talks over our chatter, saying, "This is a beautiful planet. If we blow ourselves up, we blow up everything and everybody." No one is listening because there is cake and homemade whipped cream, and they are all exhausted after a full day on the farm.

Morning

Wwoofers are expected to rise at 7 am for morning chores. I am in the kitchen at 6:58, making coffee. Two sips in, Athena ushers Peter and me outside because we are the newbies and need to learn the ropes. We feed the pigs and scoop up their poop. We distract the goats with hay so we can scrape poop off their enclosure. We refill water troughs for the pigs and goats. We clean up more poop — this time, the dogs'. When we are done, Athena asks, "Which tree gets an offering?" I point to the olive tree. We fertilize it with the goat poop. The tree opposite gets the pig poop. The dog poop goes in the trash.

Peter and I take apart the Koi pond filter. It is covered in slime. We clean it and put it back together. We check the coop and bring fresh eggs inside to the kitchen. Athena tells us that the roosters are rapey. It's true; last night when we put the chickens back in the coop for the night, the roosters charged at them, and the poor chickens made a terrified run for it.

"That's it for now," Athena tells us. "Help yourself to breakfast, and then I would like to have you sit with the pigs." I see a smirk begin to form on Peter's lips. I

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pour myself more coffee and drink it slowly before Peter and I dutifully follow Athena into the pen. Noting our presence, the pigs and goats approach, letting out a cacophony of snorts and bleats. Athena takes a seat in the dirt. We follow suit, making a semicircle on the ground. Within seconds we are surrounded by pigs. They lean against my back. One rests its enormous head on my leg. Peter reaches out and hesitantly runs his hand across the side of Shakti, one of the biggest pigs in the pen. In return, Shakti rubs her face into Peter's hands and sprawls out in front of him.

"They are therapeutic animals. Sit with the pigs, and you'll see a difference afterward," Athena proclaims. And we do that for a full hour while I ask Athena about her life. She answers me with stunning, heart-breaking honesty. She left home at 13. "During my childhood, my parents went through a nasty divorce. I was sent to live with relatives in Montana. It was a very bad and dark experience. It would have been traumatic for anyone, but I was extremely robust

as a child. Things that happened that would've shattered a different person, only bent me. By the time I came home from that experience at 11, I was completely feral and unafraid of adults. I had believed, for many reasons, that I was going to be killed. So, by the time I was like 12 and 13, I was fearless. If I didn't think someone was going to hurt me, I would not listen. I had no interest in adults, so I moved out at 13. I went to Santa Ana. My mom was relieved. My dad was falling in love with a woman who did not like kids. He was living in Missouri. He was out of the picture."

Athena tells me how she managed, at age 13, to finagle a California State driver's license that listed her as ten years older than she was, and how she skipped middle school and high school and went straight to community college thanks to that con. I learn about her first two husbands, her time as a healer in Hawaii, how her best friend gifted her the land we are sitting on to look after. She tells about being a web developer for Johnson and Johnson, and a

private masseuse. She tells how she squirrelled money away, and about the properties she owns.

"I own five properties in Washington. I rent them all out."

"Are those paid off?" I ask.

"Yes; most of them were bought with cash." She lowers her voice and explains, "I have a really incredible relationship with money. I made an agreement with Spirit that I would always have five cents more than I wanted to spend. When I was in one of those dark night of the soul places, when I was not sure what I was going to do, I was asked by Spirit, 'How much money do you need?' I told Spirit, 'I like to spend money. I love money. I love throwing money around. Spirit, I want five cents more than what I want, not need, what I want, to spend.' And, I have always had five cents more than I needed ever since. I work with people for free for a long time and then they will come into money and give it to me. I have worked with people who are quite affluent, and people who are quite famous. Some of my houses were

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bought for me. I don't like to say that a lot. It makes people feel funny, but spending money is a blessing. When we spend money freely, we are being blessed. Many times, when someone gives me money, I am really excited for them because I feel they are interacting in the spiritual world." She looks at me for a second, shrugs and with a little laugh says, "See, I am not your typical Wwoofer." And with that, she gets up from the pen because Wwoofer number six needs to be picked up at the bus stop in Fallbrook. "You can relax or find a project on the white board to do. It's up to you," she tells us before heading out. I opt to help

Caroline and Jocelyn with the compost pile. Hayden is doing online school-work. Peter works on his stairs. When we are done, I go inside for some water. Caroline comes in to put ointment on her arm.

"I think it might be poison ivy," she tells me, revealing a rash that sweeps across it like a spider web.

"I noticed that on your arm last night," I say. "I thought you were a cutter." Caroline makes a face before bursting into laughter and saying, "No!" She grabs *Zen and Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* off the coffee table before heading outside to read.

"That's my son's favorite book," I say.

"It's good! I don't use

my phone as much here. I deleted all my social media. I got antsy at first, so I have been reading a lot and meditating."

I nod and consider going to the trailer to get my book too, but then I hear Athena's car in the driveway.

Departure

Wwoofer Sophie is 23 and from Chicago. Her accent is thick and nasally. The other Wwoofers are not around to greet her. Athena tells Sophie the same rules she gave me last night. She heats up cups of soup for the three of us. We sit at the living room table to talk as we eat our lunch. Sophie tells me, "I work as a recruiter. I am here for



Sophie and Caroline out on a hike with two of Athena's dogs.


just three days. This is my first time Wwoofing. I follow a few people who Wwoof as a lifestyle. A lot of people who try it, end up doing it long term, months on end, or semi-permanently. That does not yet seem accessible for me. I am not ready to make that move. I think at some point I will. I would like to take some time off, maybe a year, and just move around. I feel like this is such a perfect way to do that." She takes a gulp of soup. When she is done, Athena gives her the tour. So-

phie will take my trailer as I am leaving tonight. I wish I had more time, but there is not enough room. The others booked Athena's farm months ago. I am lucky to have gotten 24 hours.

When Athena and Sophie come back inside, Athena says, "The Wwoofers are going for a hike around the backroads." I join them, and am glad I do. Everything is beautiful. Upon our return, an hour later, a delicious scent spills from the kitchen. I am tempted to stay for din-

ner. But I know I should head back. Soon it will be dark, and the road out of Athena's is tricky to navigate by moonlight. I say my goodbyes, feeling a pang of envy that other Wwoofers get to stay. I type "home" into Google maps, hoping that rush hour traffic has cleared. My ETA is 1 hour and 18 minutes. I hope I can shave off a few minutes but just then, I take a wrong turn. My mistake adds an additional six minutes to the drive. I let out a lengthy sigh, thoroughly annoyed, before noticing my surroundings. Knotted fairy-tale trees swoosh past my window. Oaks line either side of the road, their limbs entwining overhead. I am enchanted by the beauty of it. I find myself dismissing those extra minutes and accepting my serendipitous mistake. Life is bigger and sweeter than all the senseless worries that clutter my brain. I take those six extra minutes to marvel at the beauty of all of it: the trees the sky, the dark brown earth underneath it all. Maybe those pigs did ground me.

— Siobhan Braun



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Calendar

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



STEVE HACKETT

Thursday | 16

STEVE HACKETT: GENESIS REVISITED

Former Genesis guitarist Steve Hackett has released several acclaimed solo albums since leaving the group in 1977, but now he's offering fans a production he calls Genesis Revisited. The *Foxtrot at Fifty & Hackett Highlights* tour marks the 50th anniversary of the Genesis album *Foxtrot* which, in 1972, was pivotal in establishing the band as a major force in British rock. He'll perform the entire album, as well as solo tracks.

WHEN: Thursday, November 16, 8 pm

WHERE: Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, Downtown.
sandiegotheatres.org

Friday | 17

CAMP CHRISTMAS

Enjoy everything from a dancing water show to holiday photo ops, winter hayrides, and train rides, plus "Sappy," The Talking Christmas Tree, archery, bounce houses, a game room, and a seven-minute presentation of "The Christmas Guest," performed twice a night. Laser tag, a treetop climbing wall, and face painting available.

WHEN: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 5:30 pm to

9 pm. Through Saturday, December 23.

WHERE: Camp Christmas, 8668 Pine Creek Road, Pine Valley.
pinevalleycampchristmas.com

Saturday | 18

DOGGIE STREET FESTIVAL & ADOPT-A-THON

Admission is free for this animal adopt-a-thon featuring pet products and services, eats for pets and humans, vet tips, music, and auction prizes. Participate in contests, win auction prizes, and enjoy the kids' art area. You can even bring your friendly dog to listen to speakers.

WHEN: Saturday, November 18, 9 am to 3 pm

WHERE: Liberty Station NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road, Liberty Station.
doggiestreetfestival.org/san-diego

Sunday | 19

SAN DIEGO MADE MARKET

Visit a marketing featuring products from 120+ local curated makers, plus holiday photo opportunities, a floral bar, an interactive art installation, a creative workshop, and a Tarot card reader. Live music both days, along with three holiday cocktail bars by Snake Oil Cocktails. Two coffee options: The Space Coffee and Bird Rock Coffee Roasters. Food truck lot will host Dang Brothers Pizza,



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17: CAMP CHRISTMAS

Tuesday | 21

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Come see the grand Santa arrival and the lighting of a Christmas tree with over 17,000 lights — the centerpiece of an evening filled with holiday-themed activities (and a snowfall). In addition to the weekly market's farm stands, street foods, and handcrafted items, shoppers can enjoy holiday crafts for kids, free cookies and hot chocolate, roaming carolers, holiday-themed merchants, local entertainment, and music.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 21, 4 pm to 7 pm

WHERE: Otay Ranch Town Center, 2015 Birch Road, Chula Vista.
otayranchtowncenter.com



ZsBuddies Sushi & Ramen, and Funkie Frenchi. For kids, there will be mini golf, toys, and games.

WHEN: Saturday, November 18 and Sunday, November 19, 11 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Julep Cafe, 1735 Hancock Street, Suite C, Mission Hills.
sandiegomade.org/holiday-market-2023



DOGGIE STREET FESTIVAL & ADOPT-A-THON



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 sreader.com/events/submit.

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Frosted Faces Foundation: Sit. Stay. Stand Up 6th annual comedy fundraiser, Sit. Stay. Stand Up!, to benefit the Molly & Me Project dogs of Frosted Faces Foundation. This year Joe Sib is headlining. Tuesday, November 21, 6:30pm; \$25. 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

ART

Art-titude: Bridging Cultures Through Art and Music Afro-panda Entertainment presents a vibrant fusion of interactive art and dance & rhythms featuring two floors of music, and 20+ immersive and interactive art exhibits. Sunday, November 19, 5pm; \$50. 21 and up. WNDR Museum, 422 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Bonita Country Crafters Fall Craft Faire Handcrafted gifts, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Fall, and Winter items, wood products, tole painting, jewelry, jams and jellies, baked goods, ornaments, home decor, vintage, soaps, pillows, yard decorations and more. Thursday, November 16, 9am; Friday, November 17, 9am; Saturday, November 18, 9am; **free**. First United Methodist Church of Chula Vista, 1200 East H Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Ceres Madoo Open Studio: Ceres Madoo Longenecker-Roth Artist in Residence Ceres Madoo is a Los Angeles based mixed media artist, who describes herself and her art as a mix of a mix. West Indian, American, Black, Indian, Jewish and Mormon. Friday, November 17, 12pm; **free**. Visual Arts Facility Performance Space, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Home Decor Gift & Craft Boutique Handcrafted gifts, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Fall, and Winter items, wood products, tole painting, jewelry, jams and jellies, baked goods, ornaments, home decor, vintage, soaps, pillows, yard decorations and more. All created by local artisans. Wednesday, November 22, 9am; **free**. La Mesa Community Center, 4975 Memorial Drive. (LA MESA)

Japanese Brush Painting Exhibition 48th brush painting exhibit in room 101. Saturday, November 18, 11am; Sunday, November 19, 11am; **free**. Casa del Prado, 1650 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

AUTOMOTIVE

Cars & Coffee Discounted admission price or partake in the completely free event outside with coffee and donuts (while supplies last) for guests to enjoy while browsing the wide array of vehicles. The public is also invited to bring their own cars to display in the parking lot. Sunday, November 19, 7:30am; **free**. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

BEER

Bob Ross & Brews Bob Ross-inspired paint class led by artist Emily Solis. Cost includes the two-hour paint class, a pint of non-BA beer, and all the materials to create your masterpiece. Reserve your spot online. Thursday, November 16, 6pm; \$40. 21 and up. Pure Project Vista, 1305 Hot Spring Way. (VISTA)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Brooke Barbier: King Hancock Warwick's will host Brooke Barbier as she discusses and signs her new book, *King Hancock: The Radical Influence of a Moderate Founding Father*. Thursday, November 16, 7:30pm; **free**-\$29. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Vicente Wolf: Design Presentation & Luncheon Meet Vicente Wolf, interior designer, world traveler and author. Saturday, November 18, 11:30am; \$75. 21 and up. Cal-a-Vie Health Spa, 29402 Spa Havens Way. (VISTA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

A Mindful MOMent: Meditation & Breathing To reduce anxiety and soothe the soul. Monday, November 20, 10am; \$40. Lullabar, 7750 El Camino Real, Suite #5145-5150. (CARLSBAD)

Conversational Yiddish for Beginners This 6-session class will be focused on conversational Yiddish. You will learn everyday greetings and basics of Yiddish conversation, as well as a few simple Yiddish songs. Thursday, November 16, 6pm; \$25-\$145. Yiddishland California, 1128 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Fall/Holiday Air Plant Wreaths Craft Workshop Create your own wreath with a fall or holiday twist. All the supplies ready to make your personalized wreath including the 18" wreath, fall or holiday accents, moss, large air plants and other embellishments. Thursday, November 16, 6:30pm; \$50. Culture Brewing Company Solana Beach, 111 S. Cedros Avenue #200. (SOLANA BEACH)

Hand Rolled Sushi Class Learn to make Hand Rolled Sushi. Saturday, November 18, 1pm; \$59. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

Junior Jive with Parent Jive along with your lil one to experience the joy of connection through dance. Sunday, November 19, 9am; \$29. Lullabar, 7750 El Camino Real, Suite #5145-5150. (CARLSBAD)

Meditation Expanding Consciousness with Sound: Meditation hosted by Teresa Thursday, November 16, 7pm; **free**-\$20. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Miso Making Workshop Learn all about miso, a magical fermented bean paste that originated in Japan many centuries ago. Sunday, November 19, 11am; \$64-\$69. Maya Moon Collective, 3349 Adams Ave. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Mommy & Me Crafts & Journaling Guided arts and crafts session led by the creators of A&J Books. The theme of this session is "Build a Fish." This class is designed for children aged 4 to 8. Wednesday, November 22, 4pm; \$20. Lullabar, 7750 El Camino Real, Suite #5145-5150. (CARLSBAD)

Thanksgiving Technology Camp Hands-on STEM education for students in 2nd-8th grade for academic enrichment. Students will learn about engineering, 3D-concepts, robotics, drones, and more. Monday, November 20, 9am; Tuesday, November 21, 9am; Wednesday, November 22, 9am; \$185-\$200. Elementary Institute of Science, 608 51st Street. (ENCANTO)

Urban Homesteading Workshop Learn how to grow food and create resilience in your own backyard. Saturday, November 18, 10am; \$32-\$36. Living Joy Homestead, 2045 69th Street. (LEMON GROVE)

COMEDY

An Evening with Al Franken Whether discussing his career in comedy or in public service, Franken delivers a singular experience—leaving audiences thoroughly entertained, more knowledgeable, and either optimistic or extremely depressed about our nation's future—depending on how he feels that day. Thursday, November 16, 7pm; \$60-\$150. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Comedy for a Cause Benefiting Alzheimer's San Diego Enjoy a good laugh while helping Alzheimer's San Diego. Saturday, November 18, 7:30pm; \$25. 18 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Friday Night Comedy Hey Girls Hey comedy show. Friday, November 17, 7:30pm; **free**-\$10. 21 and up. Record Family Wines, 1035 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Gaslamp Comedy Open Mic & Happy Hour No cover. No drink minimum. \$5 Happy hour. Sign-up between 7:30-7:50 for stage time. Tuesday, November 21, 7:30pm; **free**. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

James "MURR" Murray James Murray is a writer, executive producer, and comedian, best known as "Murr" on the hit TV show *Impractical Jokers* on truTV and *The Misery Index* on TBS. Hang-out with Murr as he tells funny stories, shows off his own personal never-before-seen videos from *Impractical Jokers*, and plays *Impractical Jokers LIVE* with the audience! Sunday, November 19, 7:30pm; \$39-\$90. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Jessica Kirson Seen on Comedy Central, *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, *The View*, and HBO's *Crashing*. Thursday, November 16, 8pm; Friday,

November 17, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, November 18, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$32. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Ocean Beach Comedy: The Bucket List The Bucket List is where comedians incorporate crowd ideas into their sets. Features comics Kylie Troop, Jesse Egan, Blaze Tricoli, Caroline Paxton & Alan Henderson. Friday, November 17, 7:30pm; \$10-\$20. 21 and up. Winstons Beach Club, 1921 Bacon Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

The Shindig Show Sandy Guerrero, Rick Martinelli, Carol Johnson, Tara Daly, Andrew Dean Pearson, Pamela Wardrip, Mike Hughes, Joel Ingram, Savannah K and headliner Jimmy Shin Wednesday, November 22, 8pm; \$20. 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

The Top Comic Show Live Filming The Top Comic Show #4 contest live filming with 6 comics. Thursday, November 16, 9pm; **free**. 21 and up. BLK Box Gallery, 102 East Park Avenue. (SAN YSIDRO)

This Is Important Live Adam Devine, Anders Holm, Blake Anderson, and Kyle Newacheck (co-creators and stars of *Workaholics*) dive deep into serious discussions about some of the most important topics facing our society today such as grown men fighting children, diarrhea, boners, naked grandmas, and so much more. Saturday, November 18, 8pm; \$39-\$108. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tim Dillon AS SEEN ON: Comedy Central, Netflix, Joe Rogan Experience & more! Wednesday, November 22, 7pm; \$38. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tony Hinchcliffe Tony Hinchcliffe is a touring stand-up comedian, writer, and podcast host based out of Austin, Texas. Friday, November 17, 7pm and 9:30pm; \$16-\$36. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Breaking Boundaries 2023 Grossmont College will present its annual student choreographed dance concert featuring the work of ten student choreographers in genres such as modern, hip hop, jazz, contemporary and reggaeton. Performing and Visual Arts Center Thursday, November 16, 7:30pm; \$10. Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (EL CAJON)

LITVAKdance Fall Concert: 5 Women Choreographers Three generations of women choreographers including guest dancemaker and performer, Rebecca Margolick, the artistic director's mother, Betzi Roe, award winning choreographer Dolly Sfeir, and Mexican choreographer Zuleima Burruel. Saturday, November 18, 4pm and 7pm; Sunday, November 19, 2pm and 5pm;

San Dieguito Academy, 800 Santa Fe Drive. (ENCINITAS)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Everybody Dies by the End A documentary crew follows cult classic horror director Alfred Costella as he makes his final film, an all-practical masterpiece with a dark twist. Local San Diego filmmakers Ian Tripp and Ryan Schafer created the dark mockumentary, which premiered in 2022 at FrightFest in London. Filmmakers in attendance for Q&A following the film screening. Saturday, November 18, 4pm; \$17-\$125. Digital Gym Cinema, 1100 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Future Facilities Planning: Community Listening Session Residents, businesses, non-profit organizations, alumni, students, faculty, and staff are invited to give input and feedback to develop a long-term plan for future facilities. This listening session will be held at the Community Learning Center, Community Room. Friday, November 17, 4pm; **free**. MiraCosta College Community Learning Center, 1831 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

Future Facilities Planning: Community Listening Session Residents, businesses, non-profit organizations, alumni, students, faculty, and staff are invited to give input and feedback to develop a long-term plan for future facilities. Tuesday, November 21, 4pm; **free**. William D. Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Hemet, or the Landlady Don't Drink Tea Local Feature Film Premiere: Equal parts horror movie, fairy tale, and satiric political allegory, this darkly comic crime thriller follows a tyrannical landlady in Hemet, California who lords it over her tenants during an epidemic, pitting them against each other in a web of paranoia spun for deadly results. Saturday, November 18, 2pm; \$17-\$125. Digital Gym Cinema, 1100 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

JFK's Peace Speech Screening & Discussion JFK's inspiring Commencement speech at American University, titled "A Strategy of Peace" and delivered on June 10, 1963 is rated by some as the most important speech ever spoken by an American president. Friday, November 17, 7pm; **free**. First Church of the Brethren, 3850 Westgate Place. (OAK PARK)

FARMERS' MARKETS

Little Italy Wednesday Mercato The market occupies three blocks on West. Date Street between Kettner Boulevard and State Street including the Piazza della Famiglia. Wednesdays, 9:30am; **free**. Piazza della Famiglia, 523 West Date Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

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FOOD & DRINK

Friendly Feast AAPI Chefs

Bake Sale Six of San Diego's most talented AAPI chefs (Asian Americans and Pacific Islander) will create signature baked goods for the Friendly Feast AAPI. Guests can purchase a curated pastry box with six items, including turon tiramisu, mango sticky rice butter mochi, spiced persimmon cake, and more Sunday, November 19, 10am; \$45-\$60. Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop, 640 Tenth Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Thanksgiving Feast Menu

Gelson's Unveils an Irresistible Thanksgiving Feast Menu for Stress-Free Celebrations Sunday, November 19, 7am; Monday, November 20, 7am; Tuesday, November 21, 7am; Wednesday, November 22, 7am; \$7-\$250. Gelson's Market, 2707 Via De La Valle. (DEL MAR)

Vista Vegan Food Pop-up

Over 30 vendors including pizza, burgers, donuts, noodles, tacos, sushi, wings, dumplings, nachos and more. Friday, November 17, 5pm; **free**. Local Roots Kombucha, 1430 Vantage Court Suite 101. (VISTA)

Wine Pairing Dinner: Constellation Wines

Four-course dining experience paired with select wine from Constellation Wines. Executive Chef Roy Hendrickson's crafted menu will pair menu offerings with high-end wines from Constellation Wines. Friday, November 17, 6pm; \$110. 21 and up. Mission Bay Resort, 1775 East Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

FOR KIDS

Camp for Kids Fall Break: Art Experience

Camps include Musical Theatre, Mad Science, Anime, Magic, Media & Film, Photography and more for kids ages 7 to 15, plus Minnow camps for 4-6 year olds. Monday, November 20, 9am; Tuesday, November 21, 9am; Wednesday, November 22, 9am; \$75-\$225. Encore Event Center, 8253 Ronson Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Farm Tour Adventures

Activity Package includes Farm Animal Visit, Educational & Interactive Reptile Show, Archery, Tomahawk Throwing, 20 paint balls at the Ghost Town Slingshot Range. Saturdays, 1pm; Sundays, 1pm; through Monday, November 20, \$22-\$25. Fort Cross Old Timey Adventures, 4425 Highway 78. (SANTA YSABEL)

Harvest Festival

Create harvest-inspired crafts, paint ceramics, and make caramel-dipped apples at The Shelter Club. You can also build your own stuffed animal and dress it in a fun pumpkin spice outfit. Saturday, November 18, 12pm; **free**. Seabird, 101 Ocean Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

Preschool Storybox Storytime

Japanese storytelling tradition kamishibai (kami = paper; shibai = theater): A storyteller stands behind a little wooden theater, also known

OUTDOORS

Colorful winter sunsets, temperatures decline rapidly

November And December's Vividly Colorful Sunsets And Sunrises

Are No Accident. This is the time of year when high cirrus clouds, often the precursors of storms, sweep through our area with some regularity. When cirrus or other lofty clouds are present, low-angle sunlight bathes their undersides in a crimson luminescence. This effect is most noticeable a half hour to a few minutes before the sun rises and a few minutes to a half hour after the sun sets.



THE SPIKEY TRUNK OF THE SILK FLOSS TREE



A COLORFUL WINTER SUNSET IN MISSION BAY

Local Temperatures Should Be Declining Most Rapidly during this time of year, according to more than a century of local meteorological records. With every successive week, daily maximum temperatures are declining by about $\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit, and daily minimum temperatures are plummeting by about 1° Fahrenheit. (This gradual onset of fall/winter chill is probably all but unnoticed by most newcomers from harsher climates.) By January, our mean temperature will have fallen to about 55° Fahrenheit, from an average temperature of about 70° Fahrenheit in August.

The Floss Silk Tree, A Conspicuous "Autumn Bloomer" here and there around San Diego, has been showing off its pinkish or purplish hibiscus-like flowers for at least a month now. The broad, heavy trunk of this South American import, which is studded with fat, cone-shaped spines, makes it easy to identify.

as a storybox, and reveals a series of illustrations that tell a tale. Audience: Recommended for ages 3-5 Thursday, November 16, 10:30am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Thanksgiving Week Day-Camp

If your kids have Thanksgiving Week off but you still need to work then this day-camp will have dance, music, & art classes for kids age 6-12 with early drop off & late pickup available for families. Optional lunch add-on available. Pricing can be per class, per day, or full the full 3-day camp. Monday, November 20, 9am; Tuesday, November 21, 9am; Wednesday, November 22, 9am; \$45-\$249. Blossom & Bloom, 7400 El Cajon Boulevard Suite 101. (LA MESA)

The Importance of Being Earnest

Oscar Wilde comedy starring Kai Bunyak, Tommy Caringella, Jemi Cisneros, Tirzah Cisneros, Mia Danieli, Charlotte Larson, Cordelia Rice, Ezri Rohatgi, and Audrey Wilkins. Thursday, November 16, 10am; \$25. Theatre School at North Coast Rep, 985 Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Rady Children's Ice Rink

Now in its 27th season, the ice rink is the perfect way to kick off holiday festivities and give back to San Diego families struggling with childhood cancer. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays,

10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; Mondays, 10am; Tuesdays, 10am; Wednesdays, 10am; through Sunday, January 7, \$15-\$20. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Warwick's Holiday Open House

Come share the warmth and magic of the season with neighborhood merchants. For over 30 years La Jolla has kicked off the holiday season with a free afternoon filled with special happenings including live music, demonstrations, prizes, incredible sales, tasty treats, and children's activities. Sunday, November 19, 11am; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

LECTURES

Climate Solutions for a Sustainable Future

Global warming is one of the most urgent threats facing humanity; however, real progress toward stopping climate change has been slow. Join an informative and inspiring evening dedicated to addressing this complex problem. Great Hall on UCSD Campus Thursday, November 16, 5:30pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

How America Brought Cream Cheese to the Jews

Culinary Historians of San Diego will present *The Hole Shmear—How America Brought Cream Cheese to the Jews*, with Jeff Marx. Saturday,

November 18, 10:30am; **free**. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

In the Midst of Civilized Europe

The Pogroms of 1918-1921 and the Onset of the Holocaust Thursday, November 16, 5pm; **free**. UC San Diego Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

NATURE

Family Discovery Walk: Trees & Shrubs

Join MTRP Trail Guides for a family-oriented adventure learning the fascinating stories of the trees and shrubs in Mission Trails. Have fun completing a nature journal while on the walk. Meet in the Kumeyaay Lake Campground day-use parking lot. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, and bring along water. A hat and sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, November 18, 1pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTÉE)

Guided Bird Walk

Join MTRP birders Millie Basden and Cindy Cornelius for a guided bird walk on the Oak Grove Loop Trail. A variety of habitats gives us the opportunity to see resident and migratory birds. Stay alert for hawks that like to frequent this area. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Bring binoculars if you have them. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, and bring along water. A hat and sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are

canceled if raining. Friday, November 17, 8:30am; Saturday, November 18, 8:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Nature Walk

Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. See the Broom Baccharis flowers and migrating birds. Walks start from the Visitor Center, are free and open to the public, with no reservations required. The trails used are easy, but have uneven surfaces and some involve steps, so be sure to wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes and bring along water. A hat and sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, November 18, 9:30am; Sunday, November 19, 9:30am; & Wednesday, November 22, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Lightscape

This holiday experience combines art, nature, and technology through a one-mile walking trail with international artistic installations and returning favorites, all coming to life after dark with color, imagination, and sound. Friday, November 17, 5pm; **free**-\$26. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Native Plant Sale

Enjoy a morning hike along the interpretive loop of the Sweetwater section of the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge. Observe native plants during this

hike and ID them using iNaturalist & Seek. Please be sure to wear closed-toed shoes, a hat, sunscreen, and bring water. This event is free, sign up online. Saturday, November 18, 9am; **free**. Sweetwater Bridge Trailhead, 12155 Campo Road. (EL CAJON)

Stars at West Sycamore

Join members from the San Diego Astronomy Association at the West Sycamore Staging Area to view the nighttime sky through telescopes. Viewing Begins at Dusk. Rain or cloudy skies cancel event End of Stonebridge Parkway, Scripps Ranch (map) From I-15, go east on Pomerado Road and turn right on Stonebridge Parkway. The entrance to West Sycamore is at the very east end of Stonebridge Parkway. Starts at dusk. Park on the paved street and walk past the gate into the park where telescopes are set up. 32 55' 59.6"N 117 00' 01.5"W Sunset 4:48 Friday, November 17, 4:50pm; **free**. Goodan Ranch/Sycamore Canyon Preserve, 16281 Sycamore Canyon Road. (POWAY)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Fall Food Drive

To benefit local families, drive through and drop off your donation at the Clubhouse. South Bay Community Services will provide the turkeys, and the community is asked to donate nonperishable trimmings for a Thanksgiving meal. Saturday, November 18, 9am; Sweetwater

Women’s Club, 3855 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

Annual Turkey Calling Show
Learn more about that beloved bird through turkey calling techniques. Special guests this year: Story Lady Melanie Peters and DJ Camille Cannon. Also, Karen Fisher visits as Turkey Hotline Operator. Wednesday, November 22, 12pm; **free**. UC San Diego Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Encinitas Holiday Street Fair
The 34th annual Encinitas Holiday Street Fair features over 450 vendors, three live music stages, a beer garden, kid-friendly attractions, and more. Sunday, November 19, 12pm; Downtown Encinitas Mainstreet Association, 818 S. Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling Tellabration
Tellabration is a celebration of stories and music with the theme of sand, sea and sky. Join members of Storytellers of San Diego with Irish guest Madeline McCully’s vocals and autoharp, OJ Mozon Jr., JT Moring with guitar, Carol Jaksa, Catherine Bonin, Lissette Ryan with harp, Marilyn McPhie and Aunt Li-Anne. Saturday, November 18, 2pm; **free**. 18 and up. Bethany Lutheran Church/Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 2051 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Box Lacrosse Pick-Up Games
Open to players 18+. Teams are formed before each game. Complete gear required. Helmets, Elbow Pads, and Gloves mandatory. Goalies on a first come, or reservation. Pro Goalie Gear and Stick Provided. Friday, November 17, 6pm; \$10. 18 and up. Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Garden Pilates & Mimosas
Pilates session with local instructor Vanessa Mayer on the grounds followed by mimosa and juice from Suja Juice. Sunday, November 19, 9am; \$25. Orli La Jolla, 7753 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Pacific Rim Park Friendship Walk
This year’s event takes on added significance as the foundation prepares for their participation in the World Design Capital 2024, focusing on the vibrant San Diego-Tijuana region as a cultural crossroads. Attendees can enjoy mariachi music, Mexican folklorico dance, local food trucks, a pop-up gift shop, and a chance to win prizes for registered walkers. Sunday, November 19, 12pm; **free**. Shoreline Park, Along Shoreline Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Pro Padel League All-Star Game
Inaugural All-Star Game. Saturday, November 18, 4:30pm; \$40-\$80. Barnes Tennis Center, 4490 W. Point Loma Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)



The 39 Steps: A wildly jokey entertainment based on the classic Hitchcock film.

San Diego Gulls Home Game
The San Diego Gulls will host 14 different Western Conference opponents at Pechanga Arena as part of their 2023-24 schedule. Friday, November 17, 7pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Matthew Lickona unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

The 39 Steps
Combine a film masterpiece by Alfred Hitchcock with a juicy spy novel and add a large splash of Monty Python humor. The result? A fast paced whodunit with four versatile actors portraying more than 50 roles! London, 1935. The rather dull Richard Hannay encounters a woman who claims to be a spy. When she is suddenly murdered, Richard finds himself the focus of a nationwide manhunt led by a mysterious organization. Director, Phil Johnson. The cast includes Marley Bauer as Richard Hannay, Melanie Mino as Annabela /Margaret & Pamela, Chris Braden as Clown #1 and Katelyn Slater as Clown #2. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Backyard Renaissance: Proof
On the eve of her twenty-fifth birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Now, following his death, she must deal with her own volatile emotions, the arrival of her estranged sister, Claire, and the attentions of Hal, a former student of her father’s, who hopes to find valuable work in the 103 notebooks that her father left behind. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father’s

madness- or genius- will she inherited? By David Auburn, directed by Anthony Methvin, starring Francis Gercke, William Huffaker, Wendy Maples, and Liliana Talwatte Magic and Mathematics. TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS.

The Little Fellow, or, The Queen of Tarts Tells All
A more apt alternative might have been *The Queen of Tarts Threatens to Tell All* — it doesn’t flow as trippingly off the tongue, but it does have the advantage of describing the play’s actual drama: will she or won’t she? The “all” in question has to do with the paid dalliances between the Iron Duke of Wellington and one Harriet Wilson, aka *The Little Fellow*, aka, the Queen of Tarts, aka *The Top of the Bottom*. It’s that last title that gets her in trouble; at one point, Wilson has the chutzpah to declare, “I am not like other women,” and the conflict here really does stem from the wounded pride of a whore who feels she’s been wronged. (Who also feels the passage of time: brought into the trade at 13, she’s already had a good long run, and sagely notes that “there are no old whores.”) That her gentleman clients think it impossible to wrong a whore is made deliciously clear from the outset, when one of them advises against publishing, saying, “To make money off a man’s private little pleasures would be rather low,” as if that isn’t what she’s been doing all her life. That’s in the early going, when everyone is already enjoying the frank honesty that’s possible when all social niceties about morality have been cast aside like so many satin undergarments — “all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil,” as the poet puts it — but before things get desperate enough for all concerned that the conversation (and action) turns nasty. (One of my favorite things about Kate Hamill’s very smart — and very blue — script is the way everyone keeps punching, scoring palpable hits without ever quite managing a final KO.) Keiko Green has the thankless task of starring, while the show’s other three actors take on the sundry other roles. It’s not that she’s not a commanding enough presence to hold the center; she is. (It’s no small thing to plead your dignity in your underwear.) It’s just that everyone else is left free to rack, rue, and rage about her with abandon, particularly MJ Sieber, who

ranges from the ridiculous to the sublime to the downright sinister with astonishing aplomb. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Man & Moon By Siena Marilyn Ledger
Aaron is a transitioning man and Luna is a 12-year-old girl with a deep passion for outer space. Together in the lobby of an Oncology Unit, they learn how to wait as they navigate their changing bodies and circumstances within the expanse; this is a story of friendship. Produced in partnership with Help Texts. By Siena Marilyn Ledger, directed by Desirée Clarke Miller. MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Tuesdays With Morrie
Tuesdays with Morrie is the autobiographical story of Mitch Albom, an accomplished journalist driven solely by his career, and Morrie Schwartz, his former college professor. Sixteen years after graduation, Mitch happens to catch Morrie’s appearance on a television news program and learns that his old professor is battling Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Mitch is reunited with Morrie, and what starts as a simple visit turns into a weekly pilgrimage and a last class in the meaning of life. TRINITY THEATRE COMPANY, 1640 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH SUITE 129, MISSION VALLEY. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Two Sisters from San Diego
Step back in time to the turn of the century for a festive concert at the Davis-Horton House in downtown San Diego! Cinballera Entertainment and the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation are collaborating to present “Two Sisters from San Diego: Parlor Songs, Ballet, and Nostalgia at San Diego’s Oldest House,” an intimate parlor concert in downtown San Diego’s oldest building. The first half of the program includes songs from operas, operettas, song cycles, and classic movies, in the style of a Victorian parlor concert. Then, guests will have a chance to explore the house before heading to the downstairs gallery for the program’s second half, a few original ballet dances. GASLAMP MUSEUM AT THE DAVIS-HORTON HOUSE, 410 ISLAND AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. +16192334692. 7PM SATURDAY.

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.

The Creator — A thought-provoking vision of a future where Los Angeles lies in ruins, devastated by a nuclear catastrophe triggered by artificial intelligence, *The Creator* thrusts the United States into a war against sentient machines known as “simulants.” At its heart, the story unfolds through the eyes of a former special forces operative (John David Washington) who’s been tasked with a perilous mission deep within the Republic of New Asia, where he must locate and terminate the first AI child. Set against a backdrop of breathtaking visuals, *The Creator* stands tall as a science fiction classic. Yet, amidst its sci-fi grandeur, the film powerfully conveys a more profound message: the horrors of warfare. With the US Army in relentless pursuit, the mesmerizing visual effects gradually yield to the stark reality of war’s brutality. “They’re not people, it’s just programming,” says our hero while killing a simulant. But once the bombs start falling like rain, we have to wonder who’s really been programmed. (2023) — R.B. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Holdovers — It’s tempting to call director Alexander Payne’s latest a kind of *Dead Poets Society* for grownups. Not that Peter Weir’s film was childish. But Payne’s is definitely adult. There’s the obvious similarity of setting: a private school for boys in New England, filmed with aching loveliness and care. But here, it’s the ‘70s. The American innocence of *DPS*’s ‘50s has been seen to by the war in Vietnam, which has claimed the life of Curtis, the ambitious son of school cook Mary Lamb. And there is the similarity of dynamic: the story concerns the relationship between a teacher who loves the classical tradition (Robin Williams’ John Keating had Horace and his aspirational cry of *Carpe diem*, Paul Giamatti’s Paul Hunham has Marcus Aurelius and his stoic love of virtue despite the circumstances) and a student with a strained familial situation. But Dominic Sessa’s Angus doesn’t want to chase his dreams and act, he just wants to go home for Christmas — and maybe avoid getting booted into military school. Both teacher and student are sour, sullen, surly, sarcastic, and smart In a way that wins them few admirers — and with reason. The two wind up trapped together for the holidays, and it’s a testament to both actors that the thaw between them happens so gradually that it’s hard to notice until it’s obvious. (Giamatti has a ball here as a glass-eyed grump, but he’s a known quantity. The lupine Sessa is the revelation; it’s a gutsy move putting him in a theater watching Dustin Hoffman, but it’s no accident.) And while *DPS*’ Keating had to learn the price of his principles, Hunham’s work has more to do with finding the limits of their value. Payne is happy to amble; there are points where you may feel the 2 hour, 13 minute runtime. But he’s always going somewhere, and the destination is worthwhile. (2023) — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Marvels — Freud asked, “What does a woman want?” And Marvel seemed to have found an answer with *Captain Marvel*, which made a billion dollars telling the story of a gaslit supergal who rose up and triumphed over all the dudes who ever told her she wasn’t strong enough to play with the big boys, needed to smile more, shouldn’t be so emotional, etc. And who also wound up being able to, you know, fly into and blow up intergalactic spacecraft like a leather-clad blonde bombshell. But it seems she got a bit carried away a la Tony Stark, who accidentally created the monster Ultron in the second *Avengers* when he tried to build a world peace machine. Now, the Kree colonizers she once defeated call her the Annihilator, and they’re setting out to restore their ravaged homeland with one half of a magical pair of bracelets. The other half is in the keeping of one Kamala Khan, aka Ms. Marvel, aka Captain Marvel’s super-powered super-fangirl. (The brief animation of her sketchbook art depicting a meetup between Captain and Ms. is easily the most charming and attractive part of this otherwise grating and ugly film.) Oh, and there’s a third Marvel-woman, not because of character development, or story arc, but maybe because of Three Stooges-style hijinks involving space/time switch-outs, and definitely because of multiverse/sequels. It’s probably a good thing: star Brie Larson seems pretty checked out here — almost as checked out as the jokers who came up with the idea of once again tapping the Beastie Boys for the soundtrack. “Hey, they’re on a spaceship! Let’s use ‘Intergalactic!’” (It’s illustrative of a laziness that permeates the film, which seems more interested in cutesy diversions like playing “Memories” over images of space cats than it does about making the viewer care about anything.) Or maybe Larson’s just annoyed to be playing the most powerful woman in the universe who is also somehow trapped in a marriage of convenience to the prince of a multi-culti Bollywood planet where everyone communicates in song. “I’m feeling so many feelings right now,” swoons Khan at the sight. I was feeling just one: curiosity. *Is this what a woman wants?* (2023) — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Priscilla — Few tales resonate as profoundly as the tumultuous love story between Elvis and Priscilla Presley. At one end of the spectrum, we have Baz Luhrmann’s delirious biopic, *Elvis* – a frenetic blur where music and fame collide. At the other end, standing with delicate poise, is Sofia Coppola’s *Priscilla*, a slow-burning portrait of the duo’s flawed union. Coppola opens with a 14-year-old Priscilla falling under the spell of a musical deity through a chance encounter. But instead of a relationship that blossoms into love, Coppola shows a series of stark snapshots, each infused with a potent cocktail of drugs, eroticism, and abuse. As an expert of dreamy introspection, especially when showing women in waiting, Coppola depicts an uncertain girl, plucked from the vine by famous hands before she was ripe – left to languish in the harsh glare of the public eye and suffocate in solitude within Graceland. But instead of rotting away, Priscilla endures a slow, painful maturation that unfolds in isolation as she continues to yearn for a broken man, whose true self is masked by fame, rendering him blind to the needs of others. — R.B. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

the inside track blur

Doing more with Blackmore *Matelotage* (French for “seamanship”) was, according to Wikipedia, “an agreement amongst pairs of European sailors, in particular buccaneers, in the 17th and early 18th century. As part of this economic partnership, *matelots* would

but it’s a huge influence on *Matelotage*.”

An additional project currently on Blackmore’s plate is Sisters, a duo made up of himself and former Black Box Studio owner (and Spotlights member) Mario Quintero. The pair recorded a collection of instrumental tracks over a



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHAO KELCO

Jason Blackmore: pulling from ZZ Top, Zeppelin, and...Barkmarket?

agree to share their incomes, and inherit their partner’s property in the case of their death...a few historians believe that *matelotage* would be more accurately comparable to same-sex marriage or domestic partnership.” *Matelotage* is also the name of the newest band from Jason Blackmore (Rats Eyes, Death Eyes, Molly McGuire), though it may be more accurate to say that *Matelotage* is the reason Jason Blackmore has a new band.

During Covid, Blackmore and his wife stumbled upon an online “ten things you probably didn’t know about pirates” video that mentioned *matelotage*, at which point he looked it up on Bandcamp and Discogs. He then informed his wife, “I’m gonna have to start a new band. Nobody is using this name.” He explains further, “*Matelotage* is really borrowing from a lot of stuff I grew up on as a kid, such as classic rock. If you really listen to it, you might hear some ZZ Top [and] Led Zeppelin influence. To me, it’s a perfect mixture of ‘70s rock and ‘90s post-punk stuff. Jesus Lizard, Barkmarket. Barkmarket isn’t really a household name,

decade ago, which ended up getting shelved. During the pandemic, Quintero found the files on his computer and contacted Blackmore to see if he was interested in adding vocals and finishing up the songs. They split singing duties and released the *Make It Hurt* EP in August 2020. “Once we did that, we decided we should do an album,” Blackmore says. “I actually wrote 14 songs for what would be an album, and then a few months after I did that, I listened to them and was like, ‘Screw this shit, it sucks.’” He laughs. “Then I wrote a bunch of new songs. Then, long story short, I flew out to Munhall [Pennsylvania] where Mario lives, and we recorded a handful of stuff that would become the *Leecheater* album.”

Leecheater was released on Seattle’s Spartan Records, while the second *Matelotage* album (*Seasick*) was released via Blackmore’s own Records Collecting Dust label last month. Blackmore also used the Records Collecting Dust moniker for two documentary films released over the past ten years, both centered on the albums that changed the lives of a variety of notable under-

ground musicians. He came up with the name around 1983 with the intention of using it for his own record label; now, around 40 years later, he’s getting his chance.

“I am looking into maybe doing a vinyl pressing of the Sisters *Make It Hurt* EP. It was just a digital release. That is just my project, but I do want to expand, hopefully to do other things. I think the best thing as far as that goes, reaching out beyond just my stuff, would be doing a compilation of San Diego or southern California bands. I think that would be a good way to gain some traction and get some attention to the label. Doing a comp just gets people aware of the name. I’ve also got a couple of other ideas. Maybe a split seven-inch, a couple things that, if I had the money, I would be doing it right now. But I’m just gonna have to play it one release at a time and see how it goes.”

Blackmore says he would love to make at least one more Records Collecting Dust film. The first installment focused on west coast musicians, the second on the east coast. His vision for the third is to target the Midwest. “I’ve got a list of people already. I made up that list back when I was doing those films. We will go from Milwaukee to Chicago to Texas and Oklahoma and all these punk rock and hardcore folks. It’s weird, because as time goes by, we’re unfortunately losing people. People are passing away, and that’s another thing that makes me very grateful that I was able to make those two films. None of us live forever. I’m glad I got to interview those people when I did. Tomorrow, so-and-so might be gone, and I’m glad I got to document that. I told my friends and family that I look at it like, 50 years from now, maybe some kids will watch this and learn something. I feel it’s kind of important. Showing people what happened in music, and why these people are important.”

— Dryw Keltz

Find Blur online at SDReader.com/blur

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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SAFETY ORANGE at the Holding Company

NOV 18



Safety Orange was founded in 1996 by singer-bassist Sol Turpin, of Sublime tribute band 40 OZ to Freedom. Their last single "Get Outta My Way" came with a sleeve illustrated by Dead & Company gig poster artist Mark Sgarbossa. They're playing on an Ocean Beach bill that includes the single release party for a locally produced tribute to Coolio's "Gangsta's Paradise, as well as a set from Quel Bordel.

MIDNIGHT TRACK at Winstons Beach Club

NOV 19



"We are a Brazilian/American band," says Henrique Scapini Tubino, aka Ricky Scapini of Midnight Track. "We play punk rock music with influences from ska and reggae." Midnight Track will celebrate their tenth anniversary by recording a live album in OB. The bill includes JB Leary, Making Incredible Time, and Late For Life.

DANNY GREEN TRIO at Dizzy's/Musicians Hall

NOV 19



The Danny Green Trio will play the Brasil Jazz Festa 15th annual celebration of Brazilian Jazz & Culture, this year headlined by Bay Area duo Natalie Cressman (trombone, vocals) and Ian Faquini (guitar, vocals). The Trio will feature Green on piano, Justin Grinnell on bass, and Julien Cantelm playing drums). Also appearing at the Bay Park event will be Festa producer Allison Adams Tucker.

IRATION at Belly Up Tavern

NOV 19 AND 20



"We have all been friends since we were kids on the Big Island," says Iration, whose members currently live in Santa Barbara and northern San Diego. Since their single "Fly With Me" debuted at number one on the iTunes Reggae Songs chart, they've been a regular presence there, along with fellow local Pepper and Slightly Stoopid, with all of the groups touring together at various times. Iration headlines a two-night stand in Solana Beach, sharing a bill with Cydeways.

BAND OF GRINGOS at Music Box

NOV 22



The members of guitar-based Band of Gringos were all born and raised in Ocean Beach, although they're quick to point out "We're not a reggae band like 95 percent of the bands that come out of OB...transcending generations is our goal." The Little Italy bill includes surf rock trio Dolphins on Acid and Mighty Oak actor-turned-musician Tommy Ragen.

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: CHEERS

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



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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

BLK Box Gallery:

Saturday, 8pm — Temple of Roots Reggae Dance. \$5-\$7.

Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, 8pm — Steve Hackett: Genesis Revisited. \$46-\$275.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Edith Márquez. \$49-\$299.
Wednesday, 8pm — María José. \$45-\$270.

Beach House Grill:

Friday, 7:30pm — AC Slater.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Rosedale and Blinded Scribe. \$10-\$16.
Friday, 5:30pm — Atomic Groove. \$10.
Friday, 8:30pm — Built To Spill.
Saturday, 8pm — ZZ Ward. \$35-\$62.
Sunday & Monday, 7:30pm — Iration and Cydeways.
Tuesday, 8pm — Leonid & Friends. \$42-\$74.
Wednesday, 8pm — Queen Nation. \$25-\$44.

Bogey's Pub and Grill:

Saturday, 7pm — The Gravities. Free.

Books & Records:

Friday, 7pm — Jenny & The Tramps. Free.
Saturday, 7pm — Cobby Brzeski. Free.

Brew Coffee Spot:

Friday, 5:30pm — Garza Sextet. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, 7:30pm — Mac Sabbath and The Cybertronic Spree. \$28-\$34.
Saturday, 8pm — Acid King and Mondo Drag. \$20-\$25.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Devil Master and Fuming Mouth. \$18-\$23.
Monday, 7:30pm — U.D.O. \$30-\$35.

Cannonball:

Tuesday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Casbah:

Thursday, 7:30pm — The Ocean Blue.
Friday, 9pm — Emo Nite. \$16-\$20.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Dan Deacon. \$25.
Sunday, 7:30pm — GA-20 and Duane Betts & Palmetto Motel. \$20-\$25.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — No Interest, Steve, Moon Talk. \$8.
Wednesday, 9pm — Boogie Wonderland. \$10.

Central Library:

Sunday, 2:30pm — Duo AYA. Free.

City Heights Music School:

Thursday, 4pm — The Garners. Free.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Sunday, 6pm — 15th Annual Brasil Jazz Festa. \$25-\$30.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, 6pm — Dead Head's Night. Free.
Friday, 7pm — The Travel Agents. Free.
Tuesday, 6:30pm — Blues & Jazz Organ Jam. Free.

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Russell Paihinui.
Sunday, 4pm — Keni Yarbrow.
Tuesday, 4pm — Orion Song.

Encinitas Elks Lodge:

Friday, 7pm — West of 5. \$10.

Encinitas Library:

Wednesday, 12pm — Duo AYA. Free.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

Friday, 6pm — David Shyde.
Saturday, 6pm — Tyler F. Simmons.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Friday, 4:30pm — Andrew Pena.
Saturday, 11am — Sean McCole.
Sunday, 11am — Freddie Walton.

Golden Island:

Friday, 6pm — La Boogie Buena. Free.

Grand-Ritz Theater:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Billy Nation and Fleetwood Max. \$25-\$45.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, 7:30pm — John Fogerty. \$74-\$313.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Lindsey Stirling. \$55-\$350.

Holding Company:

Thursday, 7pm — Xzibit. \$50-\$150.
Friday, 7:30pm — BetaMaxx. Free.
Saturday, 8pm — Quel Bordel and Safety Orange. Free.

Hotel Republic San Diego:

Friday, 6pm — DJ Dominick Wintner. Free.
Sunday, 6pm — Jenny & The Tramps. Free.
Wednesday, 6pm — Amanda Portela. Free.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Corey Feldman. \$20-\$125.
Thursday, 7:30pm — David Morris. \$15.
Friday, 7:30pm — Addison Grace and Madilyn Mei. \$25.
Friday, 9pm — Gimme Gimme Disco. \$16-\$31.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Matthew Phillips. \$19.
Sunday, 7:30pm — AQUA World Tour. \$50-\$150.
Sunday, 6pm — Chickenbone Slim & the Biscuits. Free.
Monday, 7:30pm — Princess Chelsea. \$18.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Brakence. \$25-\$117.

Kensington-Normal Heights Library:

Saturday, 3pm — Dastgah Jam. Free.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde.
Friday, 7pm — Marelle.

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THE GONZO REPORT

Middle-fingered attitude

Destroy Boys go undercover at Lemon Grove Freak Show

It started with three of us. I was driving, while Matt and Francisco held down the passenger duties of radio selection and wry commentary, respectively. With a Spotify Destroy Boys playlist spilling through the speakers, we cruised east to Burning Beard Brewing in El Cajon for pregame activities, before the Freak Show kicked off at Lions Den Tattoo in Lemon Grove. Currently under Grammy consideration for Best Rock Performance for their song “Shadow,” Destroy Boys would be appearing undercover at this late-October Halloween event, temporarily renamed for the evening as “Create Girls.”

Suddenly, Matt yelled out “Siouxsie Sioux!” What? “Yeah, she sounds like Siouxsie Sioux from Siouxsie and the Banshees,” he said, referring to Destroy Boys singer Alexia Roditis.

Matt is one of those friends with vast musical knowledge and an equally extensive record

collection, so I had to take his word for it — at least for the moment. Later, I put on some Siouxsie Sioux to compare. He wasn’t wrong: they both sound justly robust. However, Roditis’ lungs and lyrics billow with a more middle-fingered attitude.

“We went to Burning Beard before the last show at Lions Den, too,” Francisco reminded us before pouring some kind of hazy IPA down his throat. I didn’t really remember, but I believed him, too. That show must have been at least six years ago. Francisco used to be the wizard behind the curtain of The Industry, a short-lived but loud music venue during a not-so-distant local punk rock era. Everyone remembers him as the minister of punk, always rocking Vans, a scally cap, and a clerical collar when he used his ministry in the Methodist church as a means to open a venue. This divine move helped keep his connection with the punk community tight long after the venue closed.

Once in Lemon Grove, I pulled into the parking lot of an auto body shop that was closed for the day. A murder of crows flew overhead in the late afternoon sky, cawing away to the west. “We parked in this exact same spot last time too,” Francisco noted. It seemed we were living on some kind of weird recursive timeline, packed with episodes of déjà vu, that



Everyone likes to pretend to be someone else for Halloween!

quickly twisted into an even more Bizarro World scene.

As we made our way to the show, Matt said, “Jeff is going to meet us outside. New Jeff.” Wait, New Jeff? What happened to Old Jeff? Old Jeff used to be Matt’s neighbor. Old Jeff had long wavy hair and red-red-wine stained teeth. So who was this new Jeff we were waiting for at the gate? Well of course: he was Matt’s new neighbor, whose name was also Jeff. A few minutes later, we saw New Jeff strolling our way, his short hair hiding under a hat, his over-the-top friendly demeanor cheerfully exposed. “Jeff offered to drive,” Matt said. “He doesn’t drink.”

We entered the event space, jammed into the gap between Lions Den and one of about two-hundred Lemon Grove auto repair shops. A small stage held the band No Bueno. Many

punks had been salivating over this show for quite some time, and much of the crowd was wearing Halloween costumes. The stacked bill featured bands like Oatmeal, Project Sell Out (PSO), and Destroy Boys/Create Girls. Local musician David Orozco was playing in each of the aforementioned bands, so it was a busy night for the drummer/bassist.

Hardcore outfit PSO took the stage dressed in country western *accoutrements*, creating another offbeat sight for my coconut to try to comprehend. Eventually, I settled in, flowering up to a brick wall next to Matt and New Jeff. We watched a mosh pit spinning with costumed killer clowns, a couple of priests, an orange traffic cone, a spotted cow, an angel, jesters, and a green alien, all while an actual magician tried to bum smokes from the crowd for a trick. The Freak Show was officially set into motion.

As the night wore on and bodies intertwined in a packed space, Destroy Boys/Create Girls jumped into the lights with a fittingly feedback-filled, broken strings/busted amps headline set. “Somebody get me a tequila shot,” singer Roditis called out. Nothing seemed to be going right, yet the band was able to pull it together and deliver, with the struggling amps eventually crunching out all the crowd-requested songs. “These are all covers of Destroy Boys, because we hate them,” guitarist Violet Mayugba joked. Between the two broken guitars and the broken amp, I’d say “Create Girls” blew their cover, what with all the destruction that went down. The jig was up. I knew those fuckers liked to destroy shit. Especially boys. ■

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo

Saturday, 7pm — Johnny Martin.
Sunday, 11am — Jesse Johnson.

La Mesa Wine Works:
Sunday, 1pm — Garza Sextet.
Free.

La Valencia Hotel:
Thursday, 5:30pm — Johnny Martin.
Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Saturday, 6pm — Helena Holleran.
Saturday, 11am — Tyler F. Simmons.
Sunday, 11am — Rachel Jay.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
Friday, 7:30pm — The Mavericks. \$182-\$450.
Monday, 7:30pm — Los Angeles Negros. \$29-\$115.

MiraCosta College:
Sunday, 3pm — Imagine & Re-Imagined. \$8-\$10.

Mission Bay Resort:
Thursday, 8pm — Mike Myrdal.
Saturday, 6pm — Puro Feeling.
Monday, 6pm — Whitney Shay.
Wednesday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Moonshine Beach:
Thursday, 7pm — Drake White.
\$15-\$20.

Morgan Run Resort and Club:
Friday, 5pm — Johnny Martin.

Mr. Peabody’s Bar & Grill:
Friday, 9pm — Sweet N’ Juicy.

Museum of Making Music:
Saturday, 7pm — Daneen Wilburn & Friends: Together & Thankful. \$25-\$30.

Music Box:
Thursday, 8pm — Durand Jones. \$29.
Friday, 8pm — Rising Appalachia and Derek Richard Thomas.
Saturday, 10pm — Maddy O’Neal and Kaipora. \$20.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Jenny & The Mexicats. \$22-\$140.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Dolphins on Acid and Band of Gringos.

Nick & G’s:
Saturday, 7pm — Farrah Camu.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Fuerza Regida. \$67-\$1079.

Nova SD:
Friday, 9:30pm — Ray Volpe. \$35.
Saturday, 9:30pm — Kyle Walker. \$10.
Wednesday, 9:30pm — Virtual Riot. \$20.

Observatory North Park:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Atmosphere. \$55.

Friday, 7:30pm — The Japanese House. \$53.
Saturday, 6pm — Pigeons Playing Ping Pong. \$29-\$104.
Sunday, 7:30pm — The Linda Lindas. \$22-\$42.
Monday, 7:30pm — Echo & The Bunnymen. \$125.
Wednesday, 7pm — Black Midi. \$32-\$52.

Quartyard:
Friday, 7:30pm — Wild Nothing and Zzzahara. \$25.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Thursday, 7pm — JiveChops Ensemble. Free.

Roxy Encinitas:
Saturday, 8:30pm — Blame Betty. Free.

San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery:
Saturday, 7pm — Barrel Room Sessions: SO*CAL Vibes.

SeaFire:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Adrienne Nims. Free.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 7:30pm — SadGirl and Sleepy Pearls. \$24.
Friday, 7:30pm — Mating Ritual and Loviet. \$19.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Nick Pagan & Nicky Egan. \$24.

Tuesday, 7pm — Hazel English. \$24.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Rosegarden Funeral Party. \$15.

Soma:
Friday, 7pm — Flatbush Zombies and Shawn K. \$29.
Saturday, 7pm — The Ghost Inside. \$35.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Meshuggah. \$47.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Bravo The Bagchaser.

Sound:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Yachtley Crew. \$35-\$55.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:
Sunday, 7pm — Ruben & Clay: Twenty Years, One Night. \$59-\$89.

Templar’s Hall at Old Poway Park:
Friday, 7:30pm — Piper Jones. \$15-\$18.

Viejias Arena:
Wednesday, 7pm — MANÁ: México Lindo y Querido.

Waterbar:
Thursday, 6pm — Jemille Violet.
Westfield University Towne Centre:
Thursday, 12pm — Ben Benavente.

Winstons Beach Club:
Thursday, 8pm — Ryan Barber & the Riches Record Release. \$10.
Friday, 9:30pm — Zeptune. \$10.
Saturday, 4pm — Limited Jurisdiction. Free.
Saturday, 9pm — Rafa Pondé & The Brazilian Reggae Experience. \$15-\$20.
Sunday, 2pm — Midnight Track Live Album Taping. Free.
Wednesday, 8pm — SoCal Vibes Reggae. Free.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Alejandra’s Fine Mexican Food & Cantina:
November 24 — Gabriele Dagrezio

All Souls’ Episcopal Church:
December 10 — Messiah vis á vis El Mesías G.F. Handel Messiah (Spanish)

Aquarius Bar & Grille:
November 26, December 3, December 10 — Mark Fisher’s High Noon Dead Set

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:
November 27 — Duo AYA

Baba Coffee:
November 24 — The Soto Six

Balboa Theatre:
November 25 — Deon Cole
November 29 — Matteo Bocelli
December 1, December 2 — Matteo Lane
December 3 — World Ballet Series: The Nutcracker
December 11, December 12 — Million Dollar Quartet Christmas

Barefoot Bar and Grill:
December 2 — Christian Taylor
December 8 — Jarred Matthew
December 9 — Gabriele Dagrezio

Bellamy’s Restaurant:
December 2 — Helena Holleran
December 7 — Shea Givens
December 9 — Orion Song

Belly Up Tavern:
November 24 — Fear and The Lower Class Brats
November 25 — Wayward Sons
November 26 — Chest Fever Presents The Last Waltz
November 30 — Luna
December 1 — Southall
December 3 — Coco Montoya
December 5 — Jimi Hendrix Celebration
December 6 — Brawley and Buzz Campbell & the Heartaches
December 7 — Dustbowl Revival
December 9 — Common Sense

December 10 — Never Die
Young: James Taylor Tribute

Bogey's Pub and Grill:
November 25 — Mercedes Moore
Band
December 2 — Johnny Deadly
Trio
December 9 — Jenny & The
Tramps

Books & Records:
November 24 — Amanda Portela
November 25 — The Garners
Trio
December 1 — Mikan Zlatkovich

Brick by Brick:
November 25 — Suffocation and
Incantation
November 26 — Left To Die and
Mortuous
November 29 — Exmortus
November 30 — Madball and
Dare
December 1 — Fermentor Album
Release
December 2 — Shred For Dime
Tribute Show
December 3 — Fadrait and
Cranial Detriment
December 7 — Wild the Coyote
and Devora
December 8 — Bell Witch and
Otay:Onii
December 9 — Gravesend,
Kommand, Greenwitch,
Apparition
December 10 — Diesel Boy and
Versus the World
December 11 — Mutoid Man
December 12 — Jarhead Fertilizer
and Phobophilic
December 13 — Possessed and
Nunslaughter

Cannonball:
November 30 — Jemille Vialto
December 7 — Kai Kalama

The Casbah:
November 24 — Pleasure Pill and
Sands
November 26 — We Are
Scientists

November 27 — Saving Abel and
King Falcon
November 29 — Spectre Jones
November 30 — Oh He Dead
December 1 — Mondo Cozmo
and Blair Gun
December 2 — Poison Hearts
A.C. and Millionaires,
December 4 — Hardly Human
and Just In Case
December 8 — Depeche Mode
Memento Mori After Party
December 9 — The Woggles and
Alvino & the Dwells
December 13 — Jeffrey Martin
and Anna Tivel

Crafted Culture:
November 24 — Mike Myrdal

**Duck Foot Brewing
Company:**
November 25 — The B Sections
November 28 — SD Jazz
Collective

Duke's La Jolla:
November 24 — Kekoa
November 26 — Farrah Camu
November 28 — Jehua Evans

Encinitas Elks Lodge:
November 26 — Marty Conley's
Big Band Express

**Epstein Family
Amphitheater:**
December 2 — Nochebuena: A
Christmas Spectacular
December 9 — The Klezmatiks:
Happy Joyous Hanukkah
December 13 — Manhattan
Transfer

**Estancia La Jolla Hotel and
Spa:**
December 1 — Helena Holleran
December 2 — Jesse Johnson
December 9 — Johnny Martin

Farmer & the Seahorse:
November 26 — Andrew Pena
November 30 — David Shyde

Golden Island:
November 26 — The Whitney
Shay Quartet

The Holding Company:
November 25 — Anesthesia and
Motley 2
November 28 — Karaoke
November 29 — Onyx

Hotel Republic San Diego:
November 24 — DJ Dominick
Wintner
November 26 — Josie LaValle
November 29 — The B Sections

House of Blues:
November 24 — Rockero Night
November 25 — Taylor's Version
November 26 — The Meteors
November 29 — Ashes To Amber
November 30 — La Goony
Chonga
November 30 — Jeremy Zucker

**Humphreys Backstage Music
Club:**
December 8 — Blame Betty

JAI at the Conrad:
November 30, November 30 —
Flor de Toloache

Josie's Hideout:
November 25, November 26 —
Backcountry Music

L'Auberge Del Mar:
November 23 — David Shyde
November 25 — Helena Holleran

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Thu, November 16
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Fri, November 17
TEDDY BEAR ORCHESTRA
Science In Nature · GTG

Fri, November 17
CHRISTIAN DEATH
New Skeletal Faces
Mood Of A Sinner · DJ Javi Nunez

Sat, November 18
RAPTURE
Goth · Industrial · Ebm

Sun, November 19
SIGNAL FOR PILOT
Social Creatures · Aloe Vera
The B Sections

Thur, November 23
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FRI. NOV. 17

MAC SABBATH

The Cybertronic Spree,
Playboy Manbaby

SAT. NOV. 18

ACID KING

Mondo Drag,
Nebula Drag

SUN. NOV. 19

DEVIL MASTER

Fuming Mouth,
Final Gasp,
New Skeletal Faces

SAT. NOV. 25

SUFFOCATION

Incantation,
Skeletal Remains,
Stabbing

SUN. NOV. 26

LEFT TO DIE

Mortuous, Mortal Wound,
Street Tombs

WED. NOV. 29

EXMORTUS

Generation Kill,
Hatriot,
Claustrofobia

THU. NOV. 30

MADBALL

Twist of Cain

FRI. DEC. 1

FERMENTOR

Pire, Conjureth,
Cerulean

SAT. DEC. 2

**SHRED FOR
DIME TRIBUTE
SHOW**

Celebrating the
Music & Legacy of
Dimebag Darrell

SUN. DEC. 3

FADRAIT

Monarch, Corpsemaker,
Cranial Detriment,
Kushtaka

THU. DEC. 7

**WILD THE
COYOTE &
DEVORA**

with special guests

FRI. DEC. 8

BELL WITCH

Otay:Onii,
Abyssal

SAT. DEC. 9

GRAVESEND

Kommand, Greenwitch,
Apparition

SUN. DEC. 10

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Versus the World,
Strike Twelve

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November 29 — Christian Taylor
November 30 — Marelle

La Jolla Community Center:
November 29 — Opera
Wednesdays

La Jolla Woman's Club:
December 10 — Le Salon De
Musiques

La Valencia Hotel:
November 23 — Jemille Viale
November 24 — Keni Yarbrow
November 25 — Dalton Gazette
November 26 — David Shyde
November 30 — Christian Taylor

Madison:
November 26 — Latin Jazz
Sunday
November 28 — Jazz Night

Madison High School:
December 13 — Sparkle Jolly
Twinkle Jingle Holiday Show

**The Magnolia Performing
Arts Center:**
November 24 — Wild Child
December 1 — Tower of Power
December 2 — WAR
December 3 — Zoso
December 8 — Tommy
Emmanuel and Jerry Douglas

**Mandeville Auditorium at
UCSD:**
December 3 — La Jolla
Symphony & Chorus: By the
Hearth Community Sing
December 9, December 10 — La
Jolla Symphony & Chorus: New
Beginnings

Mission Bay Resort:
November 25 — Jeff Brinkman
November 27 — Matt Heinecke
November 28 — Jemille Viale
November 30 — Orion Song

**Morgan Run Resort and
Club:**
November 24 — David Shyde

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
November 27 — Monday Night
Open Mic
November 28 — Karaoke
November 29 — Wednesday
Night Blues Jam



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DEVON THOMPSON

Thu. 11/16 @ Soda

SADGIRL
SLEEPY PEARLS

Fri. 11/17 @ Soda

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LOVIET • LEAD PONY

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NICKY EGAN
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Tue. 11/21 @ Soda

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IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Heroic music, heroic story, heroic concert

I have been preparing all week for the upcoming San Diego Symphony concerts on Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11. The concerts will held at The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park and will begin at 7:30 pm. I have been preparing because these are once-in-a-lifetime concerts. Before you accuse me of hyperbole, consider the featured piece, which is *The Ring Without Words*, arranged by Lorin Maazel. This is Richard Wagner's titanic 15-hour *Ring Cycle* boiled down to just over an hour.

Even though I'm something of a Wagnerian, I've seen only one of the *Ring* operas live. That would be *Götterdämmerung* at LA Opera. There just isn't a lot of *Ring* activity in SoCal. A chance to kind of hear the entire thing is once in a San

Diego lifetime. (As a true Wagnerian, I will, at some point, travel to a *Ring*. I'm looking at the concert version being produced by The Dallas Symphony in October 2024.) So, in preparation for this monumental concert, I have been re-listening to *The Ring*, except for *Das Rheingold*. No disrespect, but I don't need to hear that one again unless it's live.

As I listened to Act III of *Die Walküre*, the final scene between Brünnhilde and her father Wotan struck me. In Act II, Brünnhilde tries to shield the hero Siegmund from his fate as decreed by Wotan. As punishment for this betrayal, Wotan declares he will strip Brünnhilde of her godhead and she will become a mortal woman. He will place her in a defenseless sleep, and

any man who finds her will be her master. Brünnhilde pleads with her father to shelter her sleep with horrors, so only a hero can awaken her. Brünnhilde is a Valkyrie, a woman who thunders down from Valhalla on her steed Grane to gather the souls of slain warriors. She doesn't want some basic-bitch of a man to be her mortal companion. She wants and deserves a hero. Wotan grants Brünnhilde's request and summons Loge to surround the sleeping Valkyrie in unquenchable fire. To win her, a man must be heroic enough to climb the mountain and walk through the flames. There are a couple of things going on here. This scene, taken from ancient Nordic legends, is a testa-



AI rendition of a Valkyrie

ment to our longing for a heroic partner. Brünnhilde would rather sleep for all eternity than be subservient to Brian from HR. However — and this is very important — Brünnhilde is worth it. She is worth climbing the mountain and braving the flames. This is why we are often counseled, by relationship gurus, to become the kind of person we want to attract. The hero isn't going to climb that mountain and walk through fire for Karen

of Starbucks fame. Another aspect at play here is “the heroic.” I'm not aware of any opportunities to climb a mountain and pass through unquenchable fire to find a soul mate. But heroism is not dependent on epic scale. Heroism is a matter of context. If we look for it, we can find the heroic choice in almost any situation. Personally, I think anyone who goes to *The Ring Without Words* concert might just be worthy of the title.

Classical Music this week

Alisa Weilerstein: Fragments 2 New works are woven together with Bach's second cello suite, responsive lighting and scenic architecture, inviting audiences into an immersive, multisensory experience. Thursday, November 16, 7:30pm; \$58-\$98. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

CA Festival of New Music: Chamber Works by Laure Hiendl Eclectic influences pull from contemporary electronic dance music, taking digital sampling processes and recreating them with acoustic means. Additionally, two works for voices and electronics will explore themes of gender, violence, and racial prejudice. Saturday, November 18, 7:30pm; Sunday, November 19, 3pm; \$15-\$25. Bread & Salt, 1955 Julian Avenue.

Duo AYA A collaboration between Rachel Woolf, flute, and Makana Jimbu, marimba, bringing together two distinct musical voices across the globe to redefine the boundaries of chamber music. Sunday, November 19, 2:30pm; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard.

Hausmann Quartet: Haydn Voyages - Patterns of Americana A quarterly concert series, will be performed aboard the 1898 steam ferryboat Berkeley that operated for 60 years on San Francisco Bay. Sunday, November 19, 2:30pm; San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive.

Hutchins Consort: A Light in a Dark Place Stories and music to restore your faith in humanity. Each piece in this concert brings to life different stories of relationships, betrayal-

als, revelations and the power of kindness — all inspired by true events. Friday, November 17, 7pm; \$20-\$40. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas, 890 Balour Drive.

Mainly Mozart Genius Week: Clarice Assad Composer Clarice Assad presents Tapestry, an amalgamation of the ideas of 50 female musicians and composers from across the globe. Performed with pianist Anne-Marie McDermott and more. The program also includes “Piano Trio” by the prolific American composer Ellen Zwillich. The concert will conclude with “Piano Quintet in F Sharp Minor” written in 1909 by Amy Beach. Saturday, November 18, 6pm; \$60-\$120. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Poway Symphony Orchestra 20th Anniversary The Poway Symphony Orchestra's 20th season-opening concert will feature Eugene Drucker, violinist and founding member of the world-famous Emerson String Quartet. He will perform the sublime Concerto in G minor, No. 1 by Bruch, as well as Beethoven's Romance in F Major, No. 2. The Orchestra will also perform the Overture to “Hansel and Gretel” by Humperdinck and Symphonic Dances, Opus 64 by Grieg. Sunday, November 19, 4pm; \$15-\$45. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road.

Redwood Piano Trio The Pleasure of Your Company concert series presents violinist Lauren Basney, cellist Peter Ko, and pianist Dr. Byron Chow. The trio will perform

works by Bach, Tchaikovsky, and Shostakovich. Sunday, November 19, 2:30pm; free. Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive.

SD Symphony Jacobs Masterworks: Stravinsky's Rite of Spring The work that shocked the world with depictions of ritual dances in pagan Russia—a perfect pairing for the world premiere of Vladimir Tarnopolsky's *Danse Macabre*. Rafael Payare sets the tone for the performance with Béla Bartók's dark and mysterious *Miraculous Mandarin Suite*, and Heitor Villa-Lobos' influences of Bach melded with Brazilian folk elements on display in his *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 7*. Friday, November 17, 8pm; Saturday, November 18, 8pm; \$2-\$108. Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 222 Marina Park Way.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Music Box:
November 24 — Cypac
November 25 — Yo! East Coast vs West Coast
November 27 — No Party For Cao Dong
November 30 — Rebel Star

Nick & G's:
November 25 — Whitney Shay

Nova SD:
November 24 — Matroda
November 25 — DJ Dombresky

Observatory North Park:
November 24 — Sammy Johnson

Ocean Beach Brewery:
November 29 — The High Road
Open Mic Night

Old Town Blues Club:
November 29 — Daring Greatly

Panama 66:
November 29 — Castellanos Jam Session
November 30 — Uptown Rhythm Makers

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
December 4 — Rod Wave
December 6, December 8 — Depeche Mode

Pine Valley House:
November 23 — Karaoke With Jeff
November 25 — Blame Betty
November 30s, December 7 — Karaoke With Jeff

The Pour House:
December 8 — Blindfold Monks
Pure Project Vista:
November 25 — Saturday Sessions: Lambert Fooks Trio

The Quartyard:
November 26 — Nina Kraviz

The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park:
December 8 — SD Symphony & The Airborne Toxic Event

San Diego Marriott Del Mar:
November 24 — Christian Taylor

Seabird:
November 26 — Keni Yarbrow

Side Yard:
November 25 — Christian Taylor
November 29 — Alex Elisabeth

Soda Bar:
November 24 — Renaiddance: Beyoncé Celebration
November 25 — Delta Bombers and The Sleepwalkers
November 26 — Surf Trash
November 27 — The Ivy and

Swim Fan
November 28 — Dante Elephant and Rudy De Anda
November 29 — The Palms

Soma:
November 25 — LP
November 30 — CloZee

The Sound:
November 25 — Karl Denson's Tiny Universe: Beastie Boys Tribute
November 27 — Royal Blood and Hot Wax

Tidal:
November 25 — Johnny Martin

Tio Leo's:
November 26 — Holly Hofmann Presents Sunday Jazz

Viejas Arena:
November 29 — Stevie Nicks

Waterbar:
November 30 — Mockery

Whistle Stop Bar:
November 24 — Crush of Souls

Winstons Beach Club:
November 24 — Kyle Merrill Band
November 25 — Paging the 90s
November 26 — Punk Riffs & Mosh Pits 2
November 26 — OB-Oke Karaoke
November 27 — Electric Waste Band
November 28 — Retro-x and Maverick
November 30 — Anthony Cullins and Son Of Kane

Chasing the scoop

“That’s the thing about food: it is a great force for bringing people together.”

Sorry, we have none left.”
 Whu? It’s 1 pm and they’ve run out of lunch already? Maybe they’re out to lunch. And here I had been so looking forward to this Indian curry — for just \$2.50, here at UCSD’s Food Co-op, on the edge of the eucalyptus forest, maybe 15 minutes’ walk from the campus’s main trolley station. That price tag matters, because I am on the edge of broke just now. Not panicking, yet, but watching every outlay. So 24 hours later, I’m back again. This time, I make sure I’m there at 11 am, right when they open for lunch. I’ve passed Graffiti Park, with its hand-painted signs (“Refugees Need Our Help @ the Border,” “Free Gaza”), a cluster of student service buildings like The HUB, Basic Needs Center, and a General Store with a Palestinian flag draped over part of its wall. What I’m looking for is another sort of sign: chalk on a blackboard, reading, “Food Cooperative. Vegan Food. Non-Hierarchy. Student-Run! Interested? STOP BY.”

Beside the door, today’s lunch menu. “Pasta Primavera. \$2.50/scoop.”
 Uh, that’s the menu?
 “That’s it,” says the girl inside, behind the counter. “One dish per day. Except, we usually have sambusas as well, \$1.30 each, but we didn’t get them today.”

“Ho-Kay. Let’s go with pasta,” I say. Fact is, walking up from the Central Campus trolley station has put a hunger on me. I’m ready to gobble down whatever. Most customers are eating outside. Others sit in the comfy interior’s gloom, chewing, sipping, chatting quietly, or heads-down in their laptops and phones.

I grab a Bakelite plate and, using the big spoon provided, scoop up a pile of twirly pasta laced with chunks of veggies like zucchini, tomatoes, string beans, and kale. Looks like garlic and olive oil for the sauce. Then, before I realize what I’m doing, I’ve taken another scoop.

“How many scoops?” asks the cash register gal, Lana.

“Uh, two, I guess,” I confess.

“Five dollars,” she says. “Two-fifty per.”

Oh man, if I’d realized that, I would have supersized the first scoop. Still, can’t complain. I get a glass of water and take it all out to the dappled

sunlight of the patio. The others at my table don’t talk. They’re clacking away at their keyboards. Maybe essays they have to hand in after lunch. I

remind myself: these students are under pressure. And they have to be the cream of the crop. Saw somewhere that UCSD is the second-most applied-for University in the nation, right behind UCLA. My main question, though, is: will

this fill me up? And the answer is, surprisingly, yes. It’s not the most exciting taste experience I’ve ever had; in fact, it’s a little bland. On the other hand, there’s a genuine garlic taste to the pasta and plenty of sautéed veggies, so no complaints. And hey, five buckeroos.

“A lot of students don’t have much money,”

says Lana. She’s a member of the co-operative, a fourth-year student who moved from statistics to urban studies. Volunteers here. “Some also have allergies, or religious restrictions, so the meal planning committee focuses on vegan food, because it’s the most accessible for the most people. And you don’t have to deal with raw meat or things like that, which make it way more complicated to run a business. Plus, we get lots of produce donated, and then we use our own funds to purchase things like rice, lentils, noodles. And we have volunteers in the morning who make the food, who scale up home-cook recipes, to serve around 50 people per day. Except I

think we want to increase that, because we’re kinda running out very quickly these days.”

Yeah, like yesterday. But Lana says it’s a daily miracle that they get the food out at all. “We’re completely student-run. The main purpose has been to fight against food insecurity. Food is very expensive, especially if you’re here studying on campus all day, trying to pay for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. That could be easily \$20-30 per day. So this hopefully alleviates some of the burden from the students we’re able to feed.”

The menu this week, she says, is typical.

“Tuesday we had South Indian tomato curry with dahl (lentils); yesterday, Thai green curry; today, Thursday, your pasta primavera, with zucchini, tomatoes, string beans, kale, garlic, olive oil for the sauce. And then tomorrow, Friday, is Mexican beans and rice.”



Zucchini and other good veggies fuel this Pasta Primavera.



Poster for the weekly giveaway of food every Friday lunchtime.

How do they keep the prices so low? She says using volunteers and having a really low rent helps. “But we are going to have to deal with lease negotiations next year, so it is a little scary for food cooperatives like us.” She says that most of all, they want this to be a safe place for people. “Because yes, there are increased tensions on-campus with the conflicts going on.” (Israel-Hamas, Ukraine/Russia.) “There are protests, and people don’t feel really safe. I hope that women wearing the hijab feel safe in here, and have people to talk to. Unfortunately, there aren’t a lot of community spaces on-campus where you can make friends. A lot of isolation happens. We feel we can help. Because that’s the thing about food: it is a great force for bringing people together. Vegan food can be boring, but we do try to make it interesting, with spices and natural flavors. But yeah, we use



Lana Murray trumpets the dish du jour, Thai Green Curry. At \$2.50, a deal.

a lot of garbanzo beans, rice, pasta, and veggies like kale, radishes, eggplant, zucchini, tomatoes. Sometimes the food could be better, but we’re doing our best, and it’s still edible. That’s what counts.”

I’m about to go, when Lana calls out: “Oh! And on Fridays, the food is free. Yeah! I forgot. Food’s free on Fridays. Tomorrow. It’s Mexican rice and beans. Come back tomorrow!” ■

The Place: UCSD Food Co-op, 9500 Gilman Drive, Unit 0323, La Jolla, tel: 760 886-0232
Hours: 10am-4pm Monday to Friday (lunch, 11am till run out), closed Saturdays, Sundays
Prices: one dish per day, \$2.50 per scoop; weekly choices include Indian tomato curry with dahl (lentils); Thai green curry; pasta Primavera with zucchini, tomatoes, string beans, kale; Mexican beans and rice
Trolley: Blue Line
Nearest Trolley Stop: UCSD Central Campus Station
Bus: 30
Nearest Bus Stop: Gilman Drive and Myers Drive

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per person

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- Sweet Potatoes
- Green Bean Almondine
- Turkey Gravy
- Whole Pumpkin Pie
- Cranberry Sauce
- Dinner Rolls

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HAPPY HOUR

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

BANKERS HILL

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

BAY PARK

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

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Tower 13: *Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$3 Tower Blonde, Tower IPA, Calidad Mexican Lager, \$5 house margaritas and house wines, \$7 La Marca Prosecco Splits and food specials.

CARLSBAD

7 Mile Kitchen: *Wednesday, 5-10pm:* \$2 off glasses of wine, half off select wine bottles.

Alejandra's Fine Mexican Food & Cantina: *Daily, 3-6pm:* \$10 margaritas, \$7 draft beers, \$7 wine by the glass. \$8 shrimp ceviche, \$9 half dozen oysters, \$9 two street tacos.

Giaola Italian Kitchen: *Daily, 3-6pm:* \$2 off craft cocktails, \$6 draft beers, \$7 select wines, \$10 spritzes. \$5 eggplant caponata crostini, \$7 house-made focaccia, \$7 parmesan-truffle potato chips.

CARMEL VALLEY

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

BOOZE NEWS

BY MATTHEW FLYNN

Craft brewery's creative collabs

"Our production capacity is extremely small compared to the average," says Remy Zurita, founder of **Hopnonymous**. "But we turned our small size from being an inconvenience to an actual real advantage. In fact, being able to come up with a new beer [at least] every Friday keeps the whole team happy. By team, I mean on one side, the customers that love to discover new flavor profiles consistently, and on the other side, it keeps our beertenders on their toes, as it is always a different week at Hop. And finally, the energy of the brewing team that loves

experimenting and creating."

The self-imposed challenge has led to a tap list that runs the gamut of beer styles. Zurita continues, "We want to have at least one beer on tap that will for sure please every single palate that comes in, from European lagers, to dark ales like Irish reds or English brown, to crisp Belgian ales, to every style of IPA you could think of, to fruited kettle sours, and even hard seltzers. We also have various gluten-reduced options. We really mean to change the minds of people who say, 'I don't really like beer.'"

All that change and variety doesn't mean there aren't returning favorites to be found at Hopnonymous. There's the popular Slammin' San Diego, a hazy IPA brewed with Strata and Enigma hops, or the upcoming second edition of Rad Santa, a 10% ABV bourbon-barrel-aged winter ale. Oh, and Hopnonymous still brews the house beer for **Buono Forchetta**, "On top of being our friends, they were the very first to believe in the company," says Zurita, "so it is an honor to still be brewing Buona Forchetta beer. They are an inspiration to us; they are a family owned and operated company that really is getting big, and we are very proud to be a part of that"



Don't like beer? They're here to change that.

Hopnonymous's dedication to creativity extends beyond its tap list. Zurita notes that "we always have our wall filled up with artwork by local artists — for decor and also for sale. Twice a year, we do an event called Hop Con that is dedicated to promoting all the talents in

the community — local artists and athletes. For example, for the skateboarding lifestyle, we were honored to have Steve Caballero in the house displaying his artwork."

On November 19, Hopnonymous will host the **ZANDER6COMIX** Tour, a community-based event featuring comic book artists, writers, and creators, as well as voice actors from Disney/Pixar including Mary Gibbs, the voice of Boo from *Monsters, Inc.* Zander Martinez of ZANDER6COMIX explains, "We're taking the best parts of San Diego, which are Comic-Con and street fairs, and trying to bring those two things into one."

Hopnonymous will host a similar artists' market at its fourth anniversary party on December 16, which will also feature special beer releases, music, food trucks, and "special guests." Zurita expects that the brewery's currently-under-construction front patio, which will make the brewery more welcoming and comfortable, will be ready in time for the annual event.

For more craft booze news, see sandiagoreader.com/news/booze-news

CHULA VISTA

Vogue Tavern: *Monday-Friday, 3-5pm:* \$5 all draft beer pints, well cocktails, Patron shots, micheladas, Jameson shots, burgers, kielbasa sandwiches. *Sunday, 9-11pm:* \$5 all draft beer pints, well cocktails, Patron shots, micheladas, Jameson shots, burgers, kielbasa sandwiches.

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CLAIREMONT

Vinya: vino + vinyasa: *Daily, 4-6pm:* \$6 pints, \$8 house wines, \$10 food items

CORONADO

Little Frenchie: *Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm:* \$20 off all Champagne and sparkling bottles, \$7 Apple Cinnamon Spritz, Kronenbourg 1664 Lager, glass of Louis Perdrier Brut or Rose France NV, Sauvignon Blanc, Famille Dubard "Coeur du Mont", Vin de France, Rosé of Carignan/ Syrah, Moulin de Gassac, Languedoc, Grenache/Syrah, Mattes-Sabran, Corbieres, \$20 glass of champagne of the month. \$8 Arpège Egg, \$12 Pommes Maxim, \$5 Pommes Frites, \$8 bone marrow roti, \$12 half Frenchie dip, \$15 3 cheese board, \$15 le burger, \$15 French onion soup.

DEL MAR

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Carnitas' Snack Shack — Embarcadero: *Tuesday, 3pm-5pm:* \$8 well drinks, \$10 craft cocktails, \$2 off all draft beers. Three tacos for \$13 all day.

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

The Smoking Gun: *Monday-Thursday, \$6 select draft beers and Japanese Highball, \$8 Peach Pit and Mai Tais, \$10 Espresso Martinis, \$30 Punch Bowls, served in a disco ball, for four people. Food specials include the Wagyu Double Cheeseburger, Frito Pie, Pretzel Balls, Charred Brussel Sprouts, and more.*

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

The Tipsy Crow: *Monday-Thursday, 3-8pm:* Drink exchange (prices vary). *Friday-Saturday, Noon-8pm:* Drink exchange (prices vary).

Werewolf American Pub: *Monday-Friday, 3-5pm:* Crappie Hour: Guests roll the dice and if they roll a "5" and a "3" they get 35% off their entire bill. Lowest number first. A guest can roll up to 66% off their entire bill.

EAST VILLAGE

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

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

ENCINITAS

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 2-6pm:* \$3 well cocktails, house wine, domestic draft.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine Escondido: *Daily, 3-6pm:* \$1 off drafts, well drinks, featured wine, \$5.75 house margarita.

Vintana Wine + Dine: *Daily, 3-5pm:* \$8 martinis and appetizers.

HILLCREST

Tacaliente: *Daily, 4-8pm:* \$3 beers, \$5 elotes. \$1.79 fish tacos, \$1 off combination plates.

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

KENSINGTON

Kensington Brewing Company: *Wednesday-Friday, 4-6pm:* \$1 off pints

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: *Tuesday, 4-10pm:* Half off tequila and taco specials. *Saturday-Sunday, 10am-3pm:* Bottomless mimosas.

George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace: *Monday-Friday, 2-6pm:* \$10 feature cocktails, \$10 house wines.

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

Spiro's Mediterranean Cuisine: *Daily, 3-6pm:* \$2 off wine and beer.

LA MESA

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

LAKESIDE

Eastbound Bar & Grill: *Tuesday-Friday, 2-5pm:* \$2 off all house cocktails, \$3 domestic bottles, \$4 micro drafts.

LEMON GROVE

Dirk's Niteclub: *Daily, 4pm-7pm:* \$3 shot of select liquor with your first drink. 4-7pm: \$1 off domestic beer, 50 cents off cocktails.

LIBERTY STATION

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

Cloak & Petal: *Monday-Friday, 4-6pm:* \$5 sake, \$7 glasses of wine, \$10 specialty cocktails. \$3-\$6 appetizers, \$10 specialty rolls.

MISSION BEACH

Coaster Saloon: *Monday, 3pm-6pm:* \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, \$5 well drinks. *Tuesday, 3pm-6pm:* \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft and El Jimador shots, \$5 well drinks, house margarita. *Wednesday, 3pm-6pm:* \$1 off all IPA, \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft and Fireball shots, \$5 well drinks. *Thursday, 3pm-6pm:* \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, Mission Blonde draft, Polish Pie shots, \$5 well drinks. *Friday, 3pm-6pm:* \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, \$5 well drinks, Captain Morgan, Jack Daniels, Jager shots. *Saturday, All day:* \$15 Champagne bottles. *Sunday, All day:* \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$12 Champagne bottles.

MISSION HILLS

Cardellino: *Tuesday-Sunday, 5-6pm:* \$5 dirty martinis, Aperol spritzes and Negroni, \$5 wines by the glass, \$5 draft beers.

MISSION VALLEY

Tommy Bahama Marlin Bar: *Daily, 3-6pm:* \$5 select draft beer, \$7 well drinks, \$7 wines, \$9-\$11 cocktails, \$10 Grapefruit Basil Martini and Mai Tai

NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

NORTH PARK

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

Redwing Bar & Grill: *Wednesday-Friday, 3pm-6pm:* \$4.50 24 oz. Tall Boys.

OCEAN BEACH

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

OLD TOWN

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

PACIFIC BEACH

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

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

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PERSONALS

DEAREST FUN-SIZE might I say that your new name is wonderful! It fits you perfectly. I hope you enjoy each day and have very much fun. Love Frank

SOMETIMES STUFF HAPPENS for no reason. Flabbergasting

TEA-LEAF Hope ur 60th bday on Monday was special. God bless you & yours. Give 'em hell ms. tl Love you girl, Don.

THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY is happy to announce that we had a very special get together and exchanged our thoughts about everything.

VINCE BELDEN CUL DE SAC So what's your last name?? Do you have any idea how much I think about you?? From your future wife

LOCKED EYES IN THE CAP'N KENOS I was wearing plaid. You were in the anime board shorts. Meet me in the bathroom and let's make out (760) / robert.the.wren@gmail.com

MATURED MAN NEEDED BY 28Y GIRL contact me if you fit into my description

DEAR KEVIN, Can't wait to rodeo with you! I love you so much!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my BFF Michelle! Love you!

JUST WHEN everything gets better, it's too late.

LIFETIME SUPPLY of stupid or none at all is my motto.

DEAR MOLLY My loins yearn for your sweet touch, to feel your rough hands on my neck, your warm breath on the bottom of my feet. Til we meet again. Xoxo

PEOPLE ARE VERY MUCH LIKE THE MOON they all have a dark side and you rarely get to see it

YOU'VE HEARD: When life gives you lemons, make lemonade! But the converse is also true: When life gives you S—, make S— sandwiches!

GUESS WHAT not every hotel room in Paris has a view of the Eiffel tower

TOO BAD we couldn't start with the Christmas celebrations until AFTER Thanksgiving!

SENIOR LADY SEEKING GENTLEMEN FRIEND Mission Valley senior lady. Young at heart seeking senior gentleman friend to get together from time to time to enjoy San Diego holiday festivities. Maybe a casual movie or concert. Please leave a voice message for Carmen (619) 488-0822.

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

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

LOOKING FOR RECORD Does anyone have a copy of record made in San Diego 1979 called To the Core. Call Jeff on (619) 322-6599

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

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

NOTICES

NAME CHANGE Lucille Debra May will be changing her name to Debra Giannini

AUDITIONS - AT CAT Auditions by Appointment, or on Sat., Nov. 18, 2023 between 11am & 2pm for 2 African American Male Actors. Lead: Langston Hughes-Mixed Race, age 18-33. The father, age over 40. Send photo & resume to: (619) 807-7059 or jlou2@cox.net 2957 54th St. SD

HANDICAPPED PARKING PLACARD Chiropractor can evaluate/certify DMV form for patients with chronic pain/disability to low back/hips/knees/ankles OR feet after exam if warranted. (619) 813-0538 / georgereesedc@gmail.com

BARNES BOYS NAME CHANGE Dwayne Anthony to Anthony B Andriotakis. Charles To Mathew Charles B Hoskinson

HEALTHY AGING STUDY Healthy volunteers ages 50-83 needed for paid UCSD research study of memory and brain function in healthy aging. Call (619) 471-9455 / AlzheimerStudy@health.ucsd.edu

OPEN AUDITIONS Wed., Nov. 8, 2023 At Community Actors Theatre (2957 54th Street - San CA 92105) from 4:30pm - 6:00pm. Needed: 2 African American Male Actors (James Hughes - Langston's father age 40-66 & Langston Hughes age 18-33 (Mixed Race, light-complexion)) (619) 807-7059 / jlou2@cox.net

HOST FAMILY OPPORTUNITY! Host an international student at your home! Learn from them while they learn about life in America from you! Range from 2 weeks to 8 months- we meet your preferences for length of stay, gender, nationality, etc. Interested call (619) 501-3011. (858) 276-0917 / tanja.schroeder@ef.com

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group near Del Mar. text Mark (858) 353-4464

AFTERSCHOOL KIDS CRAFT CLASSES Is your child interested in learning ceramics, wood-working or organic gardening? At San Diego Craft Collective, we offer a fun, safe, professional space for kids to develop skills & create. Sibling & military discounts. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

FALL CRAFT CAMP FOR KIDS! Fall Craft Camp for Littles & Kids. November 20-22 (Mon-Wed). We offer small classes with fun, high-quality craft projects! Littles 3-6yr, from 9am-12pm. Kids 7-12yr, from 1-4pm. Sibling & military discount. Save your kids space at sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

KIDS ORGANIC GARDENING CLASS! Does your child love nature, plants & outdoors? Sign up for the Kids Organic Gardening Club, a unique weekly class at San Diego Craft Collective on Tuesdays from 4-5pm. Perfect for kids ages 6-12yrs who want to learn more. Visit sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO CARVE A WOODEN SPOON! Have you always wanted to learn to carve a wooden spoon? In this 2-day class, you'll learn to all the skills to begin your carving journey and you'll create a decorative spoon with extra details. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! *Military discount (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO WEAVE THIS SEASON! Learn to weave & express yourself through fiber! Classes include: Warp + Weave on a Rigid Heddle Loom, Clasp Weft Weaving, Intuitive Weaving & Weaving with Silk. It's the perfect gift for the Fiber Lover in your life! Visit sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

MACRAME YOUR OWN PILLOW! Learn to Macrame your own gorgeous pillow at this one-of-a-kind workshop on Saturday, November 18 from 10am-12pm with Jordan Masters of The Knottery. Ages 11+yrs, or 9-10yrs with adult. Save your space at sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

PRESCHOOL ARTS & CRAFT CLASS! Is your child (3-6yrs) ready to explore craft in a safe, fun, welcoming environment? At San Diego Craft Collective, we offer Craft Studio for Littles,

where kids begin the journey of creating with their hands & imaginations! Visit sandiegocraft.org. (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

TRADITIONAL CRAFT FOR TEENS! Is your teen interested in learning ceramic handbuilding, wheel &/or woodworking? At San Diego Craft Collective, we offer a fun, safe, professional space for teens to develop skills & create. Sibling & military discount. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

WOMEN & NON-BINARY WOODWORKING Woodworking classes designed to empower women & non-binary persons in a supportive & educational workshop. Each class teaches important skills, use of machinery +more. Makes a great gift for the creative in your life. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

YOU'RE INVITED! FREE KID CRAFT Craft Collective, #1 arts educator in San Diego, is celebrating its 5-yr Anniversary! Join us Sat., Nov. 25, 10am-1pm & celebrate craft! Live artist demos! Free Kids Craft! Make & Take Craft! Craft Sale! DJ, Food Truck + more! RSVP sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

THE ART OF MINDFUL JOURNALING A one-of-a-kind class designed for anyone feeling stuck, stressed, or in need of a creative escape! Mindfulness and Self-Reflection: Tap into journaling as a powerful self-discovery and stress-relief tool. 11/09/23 6:30pm. The Divine Bubble Crystal (619) 542-9191 / thedivinebubble@gmail.com

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

TAOIST HEALING/ MEDICAL QI GONG: October 7, 28, and November 18 from 2-4pm we will resume offering classes in Taoist Healing/Medical Qi Gong with Bill Helm. Sign up on our website. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. taoistsanctuary.org.

HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPE DESIGN, redesign, trouble-shooting, diagnostics on the spot. Solve your problems, improve your design, improve your main-

tenance today - no guessing! Educated, trained and experienced, 6th generation native, 6th generation horticulturalist in San Diego County. No sales, no installation, no maintenance. Check me out at EdwardsHorticulture.com, then call (619) 402-8670.

ROOMMATES

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT BY CITY COLLEGE Room for rent 5 mile radius of City College. Work full-time. LGBT/Disabled/over 60+/deaf friendly. Avid workout guy. No verbal agreement; paper agreement only. Allergic to cats. Rent negotiable. Txt/call if interested - Jose (619) 734-5395 / jcamposgram@outlook.com

ROOMMATES Male only, steps to UTC, UCSD, Freeways 52, 805, 15 or 163. \$800 deposit, \$800 monthly, Utilities included. For more information text Tim (858) 314-0415 (cell)

ROOM FOR RENT Guy looking for a roommate-male, female or a couple to share a 2 bedroom apartment in the Lincoln park area. Bathroom and kitchen will be shared. On site laundry. Street parking, utilities and wifi included. (619) 451-0169

RENTAL WANTED Single Female Over 50 Seeking Housing in Central San Diego. I work in Hillcrest & I am financially stable. Prefer Studio. ADU or Private room North of 94 & West of the 15. No smoke, no drama. (868) 337-5965

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT 35 year old female teacher looking for a room to rent or condo to share in Ramona. Reasonably priced. Call Ronnie (619) 647-0009.

INDEPENDENT LIVING Room for rent. Quiet view home. Shared room. \$850. Wifi, Meals. A place to call home. La Mesa (619) 750-4447.

PEACEFUL, FUN, FIT 420 friendly young senior lady looking 4 a safe space 2 rent. Clean, great cook, will barter/share/coexist happily, peacefully. Call/text Therese (619) 552-6123.

DOWNTOWN \$590-\$900



In the heart of San Diego Gaslamp Quarter! Newly renovated and furnished rooms for rent. Utilities included and controlled building entry. Conveniently located near public transportation, grocery stores, restaurants, shopping and more.

720 4th Ave., San Diego, 92101 (619) 233-7594

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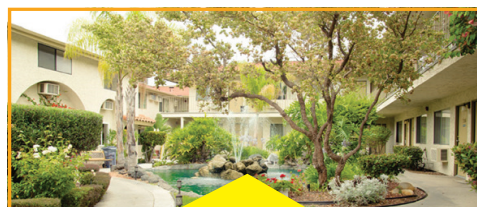
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Sorry we do not accept pets.

Subject to availability.
*Some hotel amenities included. Please call for details.



Weekly starts @ \$575.00 plus tax
Call directly for more details.

- Free utilities • Heated pool & spa • Laundry facilities • Free parking
- Microwave • Refrigerator • Easy freeway access • Centrally located
- High speed internet services • Cable TV • Access to WiFi

5415 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
(just west of the 805) San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 799-0219



LEGAL NOTICES

We are a full adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND
Leo Murphy, III,
Plaintiff,
-vs-
Stella Enyinnaya, Michael
Murphy, and
James Delvon Thomas,
Defendants.

IN THE FAMILY COURT
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
Docket Number: 2022-DR-40- 3385

AMENDED SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS, STELLA ENYINNAYA,
MICHAEL MURPHY AND JAMES DEL VON THOMAS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Amended Complaint this action of which a copy is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Amended Complaint on the subscriber at their offices, 1803 Hampton Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29201, within thirty (30) days after the service thereof exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Amended Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint and for a default judgment.

LAW OFFICE OF KELLY A. SEABROOK, LLC

Christina M. Perry
Attorney for Plaintiff;
1803 Hampton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803) 251-2288

Columbia, South Carolina
October 30, 2023

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND
Leo Murphy, III,
Plaintiff,
-vs-
Stella Enyinnaya, Michael
Murphy, and James Delvon
Thomas,
Defendants,
In Re: N.A.T.,
A minor under the age of fourteen (14).

IN THE FAMILY COURT
IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Docket Number: 2022-DR-40- 3385

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
PROCEEDINGS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS STELLA ENYINNAYA
AND HER
ATTORNEY, JAMES SHADD, III, ESQUIRE, MICHAEL MURPHY
& JAMES DELVON
THOMAS:

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN THE FOLLOWING NOTICE:

- That an adoption proceeding was filed in the Family Court of Richland County in the State of South Carolina on October 6, 2022, and in the Complaint you are alleged to be the parents of an African American female child born in San Diego, California, on February 11, 2016.
- That if Notice to Contest, Intervene or otherwise Respond is filed by you with the Court within thirty (30) days of the receipt of this Notice of Adoption Proceedings, you will be given an opportunity to appear and be heard on the merits of the adoption. To file notice to Contest, Intervene or otherwise Respond in this action, you must notify the above-named Court at the Richland County Courthouse, 1701 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, in writing of your intention to Contest, Intervene or otherwise Respond. The above named Court must be informed of your current address and any changes of address during the adoption proceedings.
- That your failure to respond within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notice of Adoption Proceedings constitutes your consent to the adoption and forfeiture of all of your rights and obligations to the above-named child. It is further alleged that your consent to this adoption is not required under S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-9-310 and that your parental rights should be terminated pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-7-2570(7).

This notice is given pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 63-9-730(E).

LAW OFFICE OF KELLY A. SEABROOK, LLC

Christina M. Perry
Attorney for Plaintiff;
1803 Hampton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803) 251-2288

Columbia, South Carolina
October 30, 2023

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
VILLA CHARDONNAY - HORSES WITH WINGS, a California corporation; MONIKA KERBER, an individual; and DOES 1 THROUGH 25, inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
CELINE MYERS, an individual, and THE ARK WATCH FOUNDATION, a California corporation,

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: **SAN DIEGO
SUPERIOR COURT**
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
Hall of Justice
330 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):
37-2023-00017739- CU- D F -CTL

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, Kevin P. Dwight, SBN 239476;
Erin Cazares M. Sanzo, SBN 348404
One Embarcadero Center, 30th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111
04/28/2023



RELAXING HOME- ROOM FOR RENT Available Now to view ! private Room for Rent 990.00 +1000 deposit. Single Occupant. Share common Areas. Backyard. Washer/Dryer. Credit Check 50.00. No Pets. Text Scott (619) 547-2059 / scottjensen2024@gmail.com

PARADISE HILLS ROOM FOR RENT Room for rent in Paradise Hills. Utilities included. Non smoker, no pets. Close to freeways and shopping. \$850 @ month. For more information, contact Ted @ (619) 300-2358 or tedsells4u@aol.com.

LA MESA \$1600 Share a great condo, downtown La Mesa \$1600. Includes your own bedroom, bath, utilities, beautiful view, spacious, parking, quiet, secure, clean, and fun. Text Brad (858) 775-3477.

ROOM FOR RENT I'm looking for a room to rent, phone (858) 397-3687. / rtgood2016@yahoo.com

RENTALS

OFFICE SPACE 900 plus square feet zoned M2. Call Scott (760) 855-3551 / exumrecord-ing@gmail.com

IMPERIAL BEACH 2 BD 1 BA Duplex Available Now. 2 blocks from the Beach. 2 bd 1 ba Living room and Kitchen. Gated. Remodeled. Laundry Room. Storage. 3 Parking space. ///No pets///// Rent \$2,750.00. Dep \$2,750.00. Call or Text to: (619) 861-5990 / irenecmedina@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR A 2 BEDROOM Hi I am a single mother with a 6yr and a baby on the way. I'll be honest I don't have the greatest of credit but I am looking hopefully for someone who is kind enough to help us out. I am looking for a 2 bed. I have a decent budget and full time job theresabrianna23@icloud.com

LOOKING FOR CONDO IN MEXICO Ex Flight attendant interested in a condo in Playas de Tijuana or Rosarito beach area. Highrise. Call Judy at (619) 433-7311.

FURNISHED BEDROOM FOR RENT Furnished bedroom in Imperial Beach near ocean; includes small fridge & use of laundry machines & kitchen; male only; \$1,200/month. (619) 424-6133 / donnamackersie@att.net

2 BD RM DUPLEX IN THE COUNTRY Be clear on where Barrett Junction is, look up the map. 2-bdrm house with back yard, Pets with renters' insurance. Laundry hookups, off street parking. Quiet neighborhood. Text is best. (619) 936-3529 / patiheladee@officewife.biz

LA JOLLA PARK EAST APARTMENTS La Jolla Park East Apartment Homes I Angelucci Development I (858) 458-0411 5229 Genesee Cv, San Diego, CA La Jolla Park East features a quiet and beautiful setting for its spacious 1- and 2-bedroom apartment homes with a lus-

cious garden atmosphere! / ljparkeast@sdtag.com

HARBOR VILLAGE \$1799-2799 1 bedrooms \$1799. 2 bedrooms \$2299. 3 bedrooms \$2799. Ball Park Square, 1 mile south of home plate Harbor Village. Trolley stop NASSCO. 2850 Main Street. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT Peaceful, fun, fit 420 friendly, young senior lady looking for a safe space to rent. Clean, great cook, will barter/ share/coexist happily, peacefully. Call/text Therese (619) 552-6123

COLLEGE AREA, \$1875 1BD+1BA apartment. Central heat and air. New stainless steel appliances, fireplace, balcony, plank flooring. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. 4828 Art Street. Move in special: 1/2 of first month with 1-year lease. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

LA MESA, \$4100 4BD+2.5BA 2-story house on hill with views. Balconies, laundry hookups, 3-car garage, large yard. Pets OK with additional deposit. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month with 1-year lease. 4267 Helix Del Sur. Agent, (619) 298-7724. allpointsrealestate.com

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1475 Cozy studio near Adams, upstairs unit, vinyl plank flooring, water, trash and gas included. Great location near shopping and restaurants with easy freeway access. No pets. 3351 Madison Avenue. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

TALMADGE, \$1895 1BD+1BA newly remodeled, new cabinets, quartz countertops, new stainless appliances, balcony, wood-like flooring throughout. Upstairs unit. Fireplace. Private balcony. gated parking for 1 car. Water and trash included. No pets. 4416 47th St. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month with 1-year lease. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

VIRTUAL OFFICE IN CA, USA Sabemos lo mucho que vale tu tiempo y con nuestra ayuda podrás tener mas! Nosotros estamos en San Ysidro, CA todos los días de Lunes a Viernes listos para atender a tus clientes. ¡Contactamos para saber comenzar! (619) 690-5920 / info@executiveofficesforlease.com

ROOM FOR RENT in National City, CA. \$750 monthly/\$350 deposit. Share bathroom, kitchen, living room and dining room. Call Quintin (619) 993-1671

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, \$2545 2BD+2BA apartment in small complex. Clean, all appliances, assigned parking for one vehicle, on-site laundry. Pets with additional deposit on approval. 4460 Cleveland Ave. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

DOWNTOWN \$1799-2799. 1BD \$1799. 2BD \$2299. 3BD \$2799. Ball Park Square, 1 milla al sur de Petco Park Harbor Village. NASSCO. Parada de tranv'a. 2850 Main Street. Español. (619) 646-8670.

NEED A PLACE TO STAY SHORT TERM? Make your reservations now. Studio+1BA available. Call for Monthly, Weekly and daily specials, up to 15% OFF. \$25 off Daily rate. Includes: weekly cleaning service, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858) 799-0219. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

\$400/MONTH long-term directly in front of the river ocean five minutes away 13 month contract.

Ensenada a Rosarito LA mission 30 minutes across the border. (760) 250-7055.

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

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

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

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

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

NORTH PARK, \$2350. Spacious remodeled 1BR+1BA near Morley Field. New kitchen cabinets with quartz countertops. New stainless steel appliances. New wood floors throughout. Off-street parking for 2 cars, laundry on-site. Located in small apartment community. Walking distance to restaurants, easy freeway access. 3711 Arnold Ave. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

SHORTTERM - HOME RENTAL VISTA Rent - Only Available From November 18 - February 29, 2024. Possible extension through March 31, 2024. In Shadowridge (No. County), minutes from Carlsbad in Vista. Furnished 3 bdrm/bth Community pool. December, January, February : \$4,895/month (818) 515-4378 / fineadventure@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE

BORREGO SPRINGS CONDO 2 Bedroom 2 Bath condo located in the gated community of Rams Hill in Borrego Springs. Listed for \$185,000. For more information, please call text or email Text for more information. tedsells4u@aol.com (619) 300-2358

TINY HOME ON WHEELS New tiny home ready to live in. We can deliver it to your desired location. 8' wide x 17' length x 13' tall. 1 queen bed, 1 twin bed, large bathroom, kitchen, storage area, accent wall with 40" TV. Place it on your lot or rent it out. \$31,500 (619) 541-2863

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

MUSIC

REHEARSAL SPACE 24 hour access monthly lockouts. Air conditioned. Call Scott (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

TWO SISTERS FROM SAN DIEGO Step back in time to the

turn of the century for a festive concert at the Davis-Horton House in San Diego! Cinballera and the Gaslamp Quarter Museum are collaborating to present an intimate program of opera scenes, parlor songs, and ballet dances. (760) 859-5260 / admin@cinballera.org

GUNS N' ROSES Appetite for Destruction lithograph signed and numbered, Robert Williams, \$800. Chris (619) 854-9027.

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

REGGAE POP PROGROCK FUSION professional lead/ rhythm guitarist available for recordings, gigs, tours. CD/Tour credits. Passport. Vaccinated. Dale Hauskins www.bandmix.com/dalehauskins/ (858) 401-2973

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

PROFESSIONAL VOCALIST All styles: classic rock, country (619) 606-5299 send text only no calls.

PETS



HUSKY PUPPIES Two adorable husky puppies, one female, all white with blue eyes and one male multicolored. Both have great dispositions. Six weeks. Texting works best. (619) 394-7025

PUPPIES Rare mix husky chihuahua lab ridgeback (619) 206-4840 / tsmith4life@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR CHIHUAHUA TO ADOPT I want to adopt or buy small dog or puppy. Text only (442) 238-7382



FREE TO GOOD HOME - CAT/ KITTEN We found a cat/kitten in the Scripps Ranch area and nobody has claimed her. She needs a home. She is a beautiful, sweet and playful cat/kitten, appears to be about 8mo-1 year. (858) 382-4110 / mssd2131@gmail.com

SPORTS

SALOMON X PRO 120 SKI BOOTS These size 27/27.5 Energzyer boots provide superior performance using Twinframe shell technology delivering smooth, direct energy and its polyamide chassis for beginning or advanced skiers. Clean in very good condition. \$125. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS WANTED Volleyball players wanted for grass games in Oceanside, CA at 11:00 a.m. Sundays. Long standing group is thinning. B level or above—must have basic skills. Call Steve for details. (760) 390-8168. 18 or above.

FREE WINDSURFER Free Windsurfer board and sail. In decent, usable condition. You must pick it up. Call (858) 964-3369.

BICYCLES

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

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

TWO STREET BIKES both for \$40. 1 man and 1 woman bike. Text only (442) 238-7382

BMC BIKE Gorgeous blue and white carbon fiber BMC professional road racing frame. Never used, in storage. 47 CM. Must

see to believe. Phone (619) 237-8043

MOTORCYCLES

2015 HONDA RUCKUS SCOOTER 4,000 miles, 100 miles per gallon, like new! \$800. 619379-2743.

1999 HONDA SUPER HAWK in excellent condition, low mileage. Must see to appreciate. Firm Blue Book value \$3750, Call (619) 201-4520

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

AUTOMOTIVE

2 FORDS FOR SALE Two 1930 custom Ford Coupe projects. Pix available (760) 717-1334

TOYOTA COROLLA XLE 2009. Call for more information (760) 891-6583

2009 CHAMPAGNE MERCEDES Miles on car approx. 111002. Beautiful car, was well taken care of. Registration is paid but needs smog. B3 is over 120 days, auxiliary battery malfunction is on the dash other than that no lights on. Got regular work before death of owner. mslafaire@gmail.com

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

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“Sorry I’m late,” I said, stepping over the gate separating the dusty trail from the road.

“Not a problem,” replied my friend Dean. “I was just walking over to see if you were parking.”

I gave him a big bear hug, then broke away. Dean paused, as if considering what to say next, then said, “I was actually telling Kara how punctual you usually are.”

“Used to be,” I said, glancing ahead of me to where Dean’s girlfriend was standing, partially obscured by the shadow of the trail kiosk. Not knowing her, I wondered if she was the type of person who scorned people who were late, and whether she therefore disliked me already. “But then I read that punctuality is the thief of time and now I’m late on principle. And it’s Kara?” I asked Dean in a hushed tone.

“Yep, Kara,” he confirmed.

With a warm smile I walked up to Kara and held out my hand. “Hi, Kara. I’m Ryan.”

“Hi. Nice to meet you,” she said, shaking my hand and returning my smile.

“You two ready to climb San Diego’s most popular mountain?” I asked, bending over to give my hamstrings a stretch.

Dean and Kara glanced at one another. Neither seemed overly enthusiastic. Well, Dean looked slightly eager. Kara, not so much. She had an uncertain look on her face, as if she had expected a flat hike on a brisk day.

“Yep. Let’s do it,” said Dean.

We chatted idly as we headed toward the mountain until the trail forked ahead of us. Turning to Dean and Kara, I said, “Alright, we have two choices. We can either go up the switchbacks,” I paused to point at the half-dozen hikers snaking along the switchbacks to my left. “Or,” I continued, pointing to the steep trail on the right, “we can take the fire road, which is steep, level, and then steep again.”

Dean and Kara glanced at one another with



Looking west from the summit

a look that seemed to say, “It’s too early to make a decision like this.” Not wanting to influence them, I let the question hang in the air. Taking non-hikers up the backside of Cowles is a longstanding tradition for me, and I enjoy seeing which path my companions choose. I have found that the decision revealed a certain quality of character.

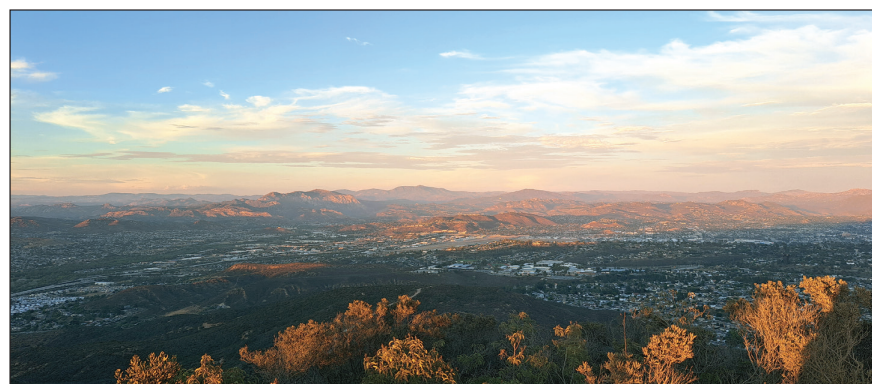
Dean looked at the switchbacks. Kara looked at the fire road. Then they looked at each other.

“Let’s do the switchbacks,” said Kara.

“Agreed,” said Dean.

“Sounds good,” I replied, mentally tallying their choice alongside the other hikers who had made the same decision in years past.

Dean led the way up the trail, setting the pace. He was a high school friend; I hadn’t seen him in six months, which was about how long he and Kara had been dating. We chatted and traded stories for the first few switchbacks, but being mindful of how self-absorbed two old friends can be when they catch up, I tried to keep the conversation interesting for



Sunset on Cowles while looking east

Kara. As she told me about her life, I noticed her gasps for air took longer and longer, until I got the distinct impression that I was torturing her with a barrage of personal questions; which was probably not the most enjoyable thing to do while making hairpin turns up the side of a mountain. I took the lead from Dean and adjusted my pace, taking deliberate half-steps up the trail to slow us down.

As we completed the first set of switchbacks, I noticed that Dean was also taking longer to respond to my conversation, so I took the initiative to share some amusing stories. In truth, it had been some time since I hiked with others, and even I found it somewhat challenging to chat and climb. Of course, I have a hiking reputation to uphold, so naturally I pretended not to be winded at all – although I doubt anyone fell for my act.

The morning sun was climbing higher, bringing with it a dry heat. A distant brush fire to the north scented the air with a pleasant, campfire aroma, though my weary lungs strongly disagreed and burned like smoldering embers. The scene was bustling as we merged onto the frontside of the trail. Despite the crowd, there were only a few “good mornings” or other pleasantries from passersby.

The more switchbacks we climbed, the less conversation we made. Though she persevered without complaint, Kara was starting to burn out. Having seen this situation unfold many times before, I knew this was typically the moment in which a less experienced hiker would say something encouraging like, “We’re almost there,” or “The top is just behind that point.” I, however, bit my tongue and said nothing. Dean was not so wise. And in an

attempt to reassure his girlfriend, he turned to her and said, “We’re almost there, it’s just beyond that peak, babe.”

I stepped aside to avoid what I knew was coming. Kara brusquely replied, “Well, I’ve been staring at that point and it’s not getting closer – babe.” The sizzle in her voice could have fried an egg. Nothing like a steep hike on a hot day to test a new relationship.

Before Dean could finish digging his grave, I stepped in. “You’re both right. That’s a false peak. But the real one is close behind it, just a few more switchbacks.”

Soon after, we reached the peak and Kara sought refuge in the shade of a nearby boulder. As the couple’s flushed faces drained to their natural hue, I took a photo of them on the summit. After a few good shots, Dean and Kara turned around to glance at the distant mountains in the east.

“Since everyone’s moved away, these have become my new friends,” I said, affectionately extending my arms toward their hazy silhouettes. Dean and Kara looked at the mountains with mild interest, as if they were vultures eyeing a clean skeleton. Their attention seemed to wane. I felt a bit disheartened.

Rather than retracing our steps, we cautiously descended via the fire road, with only a couple of minor slips on the loose gravel. Dean and Kara became much livelier on the way down. As I bid farewell to the two of them at the trailhead, I felt grateful for their willingness to cross into my world. Hiking, like so many other endeavors in life, may first appear as a daunting task, but it gradually transforms into a welcoming companion through familiarity and experience.

—Ryan Brothers

COWLES FROM BARKER WAY

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Hike length: 3 miles • **Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate • **Season:** Year-round



Profile of Cowles from Pyles peak.

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Bluefin going off out west – yellowtail and yellowfin heading south

Dock Totals 11/5 – 11/11:

1425 anglers aboard 74 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 1359 bluefin tuna (up to 207 pounds), 32 calico bass, 22 dorado, 1 lingcod, 17 lobster (14 released), 32 perch, 108 rock crab, 3404 rockfish, 82 sand bass, 29 sanddab, 401 sculpin, 82 sheephead, 652 whitefish, 81 yellowfin tuna, and 5 yellowtail.

Saltwater: While the long-range boats are beginning their winter schedule of further trips down the Baja coast for excellent yellowfin, wahoo, yellowtail and grouper fishing, the 3-day and shorter fleet has been doing very well on bluefin tuna and deep-drop rockfish. This past week, the fleet concentrated on the areas near the Corner, some 40 to 50 miles due west of Point Loma and in line with the southeast-pointing finger of San Clemente Island. Limits of bluefin were caught by most who ventured outside, with crews finding fish from foaming school-sized tunas in the 20-30-pound range to deeper marks of fish to well over 200 pounds.

Yellowfin, dorado, and yellowtail, all species well-represented by the 1- to 3-day fleet the week previous, dropped in the counts to almost nil due to the great bluefin bite well north of where the warmer-water species are biting. So, the call was to either go west or go south, and with all that bluefin action, most boats went west. Everything from fly-lined live bait to yoyo irons and sinker rigs have been working on the bluefin, with the larger models coming around gray light in the am or pm for anglers fishing heavier gear deeper, and the smaller fish coming through the day more on the surface gear. If heading out on one of these bluefin trips, be sure to bring a range of tackle, from 25- to 30-pound fly-line setups to 100-pound heavy gear for the larger fish holding deeper in the water column.

Given the area and time remaining for the scheduled outing, many of the 1.5-day to 3-day boats have been turning to rockfish once they are full up on tuna. So, bringing a rockfish rig that is able to get down to the required 50-fathoms (300-feet) plus depths in U.S. waters is also recommended. For boats able to fish in Mexican waters, you can still fish shallower for rockfish, but the limit is reduced. Either way, whether going south or west, the 1.5-day to 3-day trips are rewarding anglers with a good mix of bluefin tuna and rockfish.

Outside of the bluefin that seem to be within range all year these past few years, our seasonal pelagics — yellowtail, yellowfin, and dorado — have been sliding further down the coast of Baja, retreating as the water cools toward the southern half of the peninsula. Still,



A couple happy anglers with yellowtail caught on the yoyo iron while fishing with Cristian Catian of K&M Sportfishing out of San Quintin.



Western Outdoor News' Pat Mcdonell with a big wahoo caught while fishing with Captain Juan Cook out of Lopez Mateos.

from Ensenada south, anglers are finding flurries of yellowtail with a few yellowfin tuna mixed in, and that action only gets better the further south one goes. In the northern half of Baja's Pacific side, San Quintin is producing well off the banks within 15 miles of the coast for the operations working out of the bay, like Garcia's, Pedro's, Jaime's and K&M, for yellowtail on the yoyo iron and some occasional yellowfin. That's pretty much the story heading down the coast from there: lots of yellowtail and rockfish and a few tuna. But once you get past Cedros Island off the Vizcaino Peninsula, the coastal towns from Bahia Tortugas and Bahia Asuncion and points south are pumping out great numbers of both tuna and jacks, with a few wahoo and dorado in the mix.

A little further south, in the La Bocana to Bahia Magdalena region, the more-tropical dorado and wahoo have been the main targets offshore, while fishing for both broomtail and gulf grouper inside has been excellent. Captain Juan Cook, working this month out of Lopez Mateos in Bahia Magdalena, has been consistently reporting great fishing on wahoo to 70 pounds just outside the bay, with most of the speedy fish coming on fast-trolled Madmacs at 12 knots or so. And when you're not outside the bay chasing wahoo, dorado, and tuna, the inner bay holds some excellent grouper and snook

fishing. It might seem like such a closed biosphere as Bahai Magdalena and other estuaries to the north would easily be fished out, but quite the opposite is true, as the co-ops in the area encourage catch-and-release fishing, especially on the gulf and broomtail grouper. And if it's windy outside or you just want a short day of good fishing, the inner bays and lagoons of Baja Sur can be epic.

The bite just off the southern third of Baja has also been very productive for San Diego boats like the *Intrepid*, the *Excel*, and the *Red Rooster III* running 8-days or longer trips to fish the area. Whether driving down, flying down, or riding a long-range boat, the southern half of Baja on the Pacific side is where the action is if you're looking for yellowfin tuna, wahoo, or dorado. Yellowtail fishing is best along the middle third of the peninsula, with a bit of tuna mixed in, while bluefin tuna are predominantly in US waters west of San Diego. This time of year, as angler numbers drop but the fishing is still going off, is a great time to book a trip, as there are more light loads giving anglers more elbow room on the deck. This can be especially true for those who are new to the Southern California brand of sportfishing and would like to learn, as crews can spend more one-on-one time with novices and help shorten the learning curve. They're out there, so go get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

MISCELLANEOUS Christmas tree boxed 6ft. \$19. New car cover. Med. \$18. Sony CFD-F350. Perfect \$25. New gorgeous beaded purses. High end. Sacrificing prices. Starting \$10. (760) 692-7741

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BK ALUMINUM CANE OFFSET HANDLE This walking cane with comfortable foam handle & wrist strap is rated for up to 300 lb. It has push-button height adjustment (29"-38") & a locking ring for security. New, never used with original tags+stickers. \$15. Text for more info/pics (619) 800-5568 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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SOLID WOOD BARSTOOL (23.5" H) This unique corner counter height bar stool has a strong and sturdy solid wood base. Some wear on wood but still structurally sound. Black Cushion is worn on sides & covered with tape. Clean & in good working condition. \$15. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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DARK BROWN STORAGE OTTOMAN This ottoman bench (38"x 18.5"x 18" high) has lots of storage space (36"x 16"x

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WHITE ELONGATED TOILET SEAT This toilet seat (14"x 18.5, cover not soft close) has a small scratch on the cover and missing 1 seat stopper & 1 bolt cover but is still functional. Includes 2 bolts & 2 nuts. Clean & in good working condition. \$12. Text or email for more info/pic (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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KNEE Knee Walker, brand new, \$90 (858) 220-6338

FISHER-PRICE LOVELY BABY SWING This baby swing has two swinging motions (side-to-side and head-to-toe), 6 swing speeds, 16 songs & sounds, adjustable seat recline with power plug & batteries. Legs fold for storage. Clean and in excellent condition. \$75. Text for

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COMPUTER STUFF HP Officejet Pro 8740 Printer- Excellent Condition. \$150.00 or Best Offer. HP Envy 17.3 Touch Screen Laptop- Intel Core i7- 16 GB Memort- 1 TB Hard Drive - \$250.00. If Interested Call (619) 302-0090

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

4 BEAUTIFUL NEW INTERIOR DOORS Premium knotty alder, solid wood, mfg. by Craftsmen In Wood in Arizona, 1-3/4" x 3" x 8", no hinges or handles, they are extra doors from my remodel, I paid \$1,500. each, selling for \$750. each, (760) 746-7209.

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/pic-

tures (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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

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

SHOPSMITH MARK V MULTI-TOOL I am looking for an electric Smith Corona typewriter. If you have one for a reasonable price let me know what you have. I would prefer a working typewriter but I can use a non-working typewriter for parts to repair mine. (760) 746-7209

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This walker allows user to close the walker without removing their hands from the handle. It has adjustable height, contoured hand grips, 5" front wheels & rear glide caps and supports up to 350 lbs. Very good condition. \$30. Text for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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GE washer, \$55. Mirror in white oak frame, 4.5' x 3.5', \$35. 2 extra large mirrors, \$20 each. Interior doors, \$5. Other building stuff. Very cheap windows, etc. (760) 749-8266

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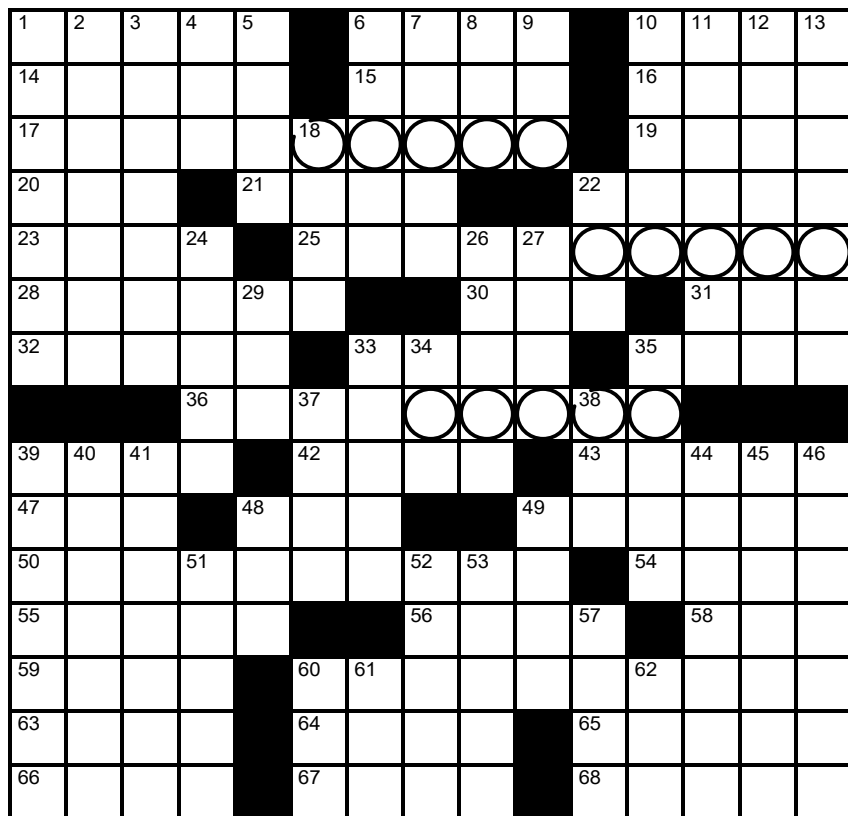
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The solving of the puzzles will no longer put you in contention for a Reader T-shirt and hat.

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

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

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

Across

1. Free-for-all
6. ATM codes
10. "Reading Lolita in Tehran" setting
14. Thyroid, e.g.
15. Onesie closer
16. Nephew of Caligula
17. Fruity chip dip
19. Catcher of counterfeiters, in old lingo
20. New driver's acquisition: Abbr.
21. Apt name for a karaoke devotee
22. Newborn horses
23. Long, single take, in filmmaking
25. How some drinks are

Down

13. 24/7
18. Dancer/YouTube star JoJo
22. "Victory!" in internet shorthand
24. Maguire's "Spider-Man" director
26. Howard and Morehouse, for two: Abbr.
27. Short gamut
29. Read Across America org.
33. Japanese breed
34. "31 Days of Oscar" network
35. Color-changing lizard
37. "Kills bugs dead" brand
38. In the style of
39. Southern city with an onion museum
40. Plastered?

Across

28. Pass with flying colors
30. "Meant 2 tell u ..."
31. Opposite of paleo-
32. Davis who delivers the line "Always do the right thing" in "Do the Right Thing"
33. "I Got You Babe" label
35. "Hop to it!"
36. "Shark Tank" shark
39. Henry ____
42. Goals
43. Premium-seating areas
47. Calligraphy supply
48. Proactiv target
49. Andromeda, e.g.
50. With 60-Across, popular arcade game with a floor pad (and a hint to solving this
54. "College GameDay" network
55. Flip ____ (decide by chance)
56. "Are you ____ out?"
58. Progressive agent played by Stephanie Courtney
59. Congress passes them
60. See 50-Across
63. Egyptian fertility goddess
64. Opposite of da
65. Like someone who reads the dictionary for fun, say
66. Justice Dept. figure
67. Belgian surrealist Magritte
68. "Coming to America" prince

Down

1. It features a lion seen before some features
2. Manhattan eatery featured in the opening scene of "Manhattan"
3. Surgeons' blades
4. H.S. class with book reports
5. Biblical kingdom near Moab
6. Former Biden White House press secretary Jen
7. Fjord, e.g.
8. "Hip Hop Is Dead" rapper
9. Place to be pampered
10. Following
11. What's left
12. Shrunken body of water at the edge of Kazakhstan
13. 24/7
18. Dancer/YouTube star JoJo
22. "Victory!" in internet shorthand
24. Maguire's "Spider-Man" director
26. Howard and Morehouse, for two: Abbr.
27. Short gamut
29. Read Across America org.
33. Japanese breed
34. "31 Days of Oscar" network
35. Color-changing lizard
37. "Kills bugs dead" brand
38. In the style of
39. Southern city with an onion museum
40. Plastered?
41. "You don't have to remind me"
44. Certain stovetop hazard
45. Go "Boom!"
46. Instance, for example
48. Aim of some meditation
49. Rocky subj.?
51. Grammy-winning gospel singer Houston
52. David of "The Pink Panther"
53. Benjamin
57. Words before tab or temperature
60. Time off, in military shorthand
61. Place for a pirate's patch
62. Drug in William Shatner books

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

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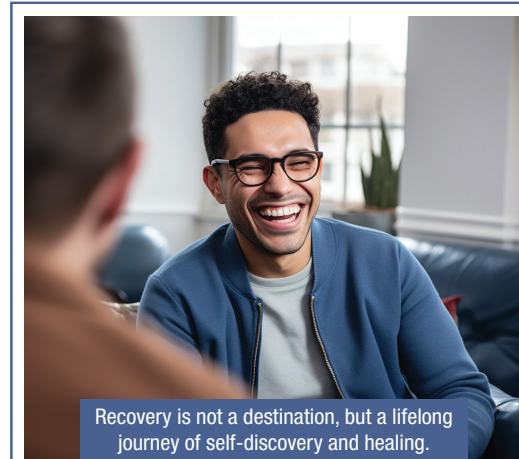
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Police Report

— Milwaukee Police Chief Jeffrey Norman accompanied the mayor on Nov. 6 at a news conference where they presented a resolution to help curb reckless driving in the city. *The Washington Post* reported, saying the city needs to "change the daily behavior" of dangerous drivers. But after the event, as soon as Norman hit the road in his SUV, a dump truck rear-ended him, injuring both Norman and another officer. "We did not need this type of reminder that all drivers need to slow down and increase caution on our roadways," Mayor Cavalier Johnson said.

Surprise, Surprise!

— When antique dealer Beth Meyer bought the contents of a storage unit in September 2022, she was disappointed that there were no rocks inside; rocks are her specialty. However, *The Washington Post* reported, she did find a human skull among the items. This October, she put a \$4000 price tag on the skull and used it in a Halloween display in the store she helps run in North Fort Myers, Florida -- until an anthropologist walked through and saw it. While Meyer already knew the skull was real, the scientist thought it was very old and possibly from a Native American person, making it subject to certain federal laws. So they contacted the Lee County Sheriff's Office. Deputies deposited the skull with the medical examiner's office, and while Florida law prohibits selling human remains, they don't believe Meyer did anything wrong. She said she was "unaware of the skull

being a Native American. I put such a high price on it that I figured no one would buy it."

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

— In the Chinese province of Hunan, the Shiniuzhai Scenic Area offers stunning landscapes of sheer cliffs -- perfect for climbers. And who doesn't get a little thirsty on the way up a grueling vertical mountain face? CNN reported that perched at 394 feet above the ground, a 2-square-meter "convenience store" offers free water bottles and other sustenance to hungry and parched climbers. The general manager of Shiniuzhai, Song Huizhou, said staff members are tasked with hauling goods up to the store every day in their backpacks. And you thought your commute was brutal.

The Tech Revolution

— The BBC reported on Nov. 8 that a man in his forties in South Korea lost his life after a robot he was working on in a factory grabbed him and crushed his face and chest onto a conveyor belt. The employee of the robotics company was working late on the robotic arm when it mistook him for a box of vegetables, which it was supposed to lift and transfer onto a pallet. The man was taken to the hospital but later died of his injuries.

Meanwhile, at the Mall...

— A man who had been living in a Shanghai shopping center stairwell for about six months was finally evicted on Oct. 30, the *Daily Star* reported. One security guard

discovered his cozy setup, which included a tent, an ergonomic chair, a desk, and a computer, but allowed him to stay while he studied for exams -- until a second guard found the makeshift home. The unnamed man used the mall's electrical outlets to charge his devices.

It Doesn't Work That Way

— On Nov. 1, at Canberra Airport in Australia, a woman who had seemingly missed her flight ran past security and onto the tarmac, trying to attract the attention of the pilot, 9News reported. The QantasLink flight was headed to Adelaide. Witness Dennis Bilic said it was "weird" that no one stopped her: "People were a bit flat-footed ... that was the weird part." Another witness said the pilot was "warned or spotted her and killed the engine." Flights were delayed for about 10 minutes after the incident.

Wait, What?

— Fashion icon Dior has launched a new scent made for babies, the *Mirror* reported. Bonne Etoile, priced at 230 British pounds (about \$281), will provide a "gentle reminder of sweet memories of early childhood," the brand gushed, with its "light notes of fruit, pillowy cotton and velvety petals." (Do I detect a hint of spit-up?) It contains 98% natural-original ingredients. Parents can also indulge in hydrating body milks and bath cleansing foams. But everybody knows that babies smell amazing without the pricey perfumes!

Inexplicable

— Two unsuspecting visitors to Wortham Park in Houston, Texas, on Oct. 26 were the victims of a teenager's scream for attention, KHOU-TV reported. Alford Lasean Lewis, 19, and 18-year-old Kingston Miker cooked up a scheme wherein Lewis first tried to rob a man, and then sucker-punched another man in the back of the head, as Miker filmed the actions. "They did this for fun and posted it on social media, which is simply unacceptable," said Ashlea Sheridan, a prosecutor in the Harris County District Attorney's office. Lewis was contrite: "You know, I just made a mistake, and everybody makes mistakes," he told KHOU. "What people don't see is that I shook his hand after and gave the man a hug." Oh well, then. Case closed.

Bright Idea

— Workers at Arlington Auto Wrecking in Akron, Ohio, had had enough of 26-year-old Alexander Funk, who had broken into the facility three times, Fox News reported on Nov. 5. In the most recent incident in October, Funk broke into an SUV on the lot, but before he could drive away, a forklift driver hoisted the car about 20 feet off the ground with Funk inside. When they explained the situation to the 911 operator, they said, "Wonderful, that is the greatest thing I've ever heard." Officers arrived and Funk was lowered to the ground and handcuffed. He was charged with criminal trespassing and possessing criminal tools.

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

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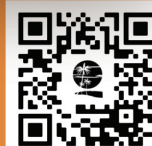


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