

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 48 | NO. 47 | NOVEMBER 23, 2023

Reader

Why Do
I Do This?

A conversation
with the
Rational Voice
in Thunder
Canyon Cave



Objections to “inebriates” ■ What \$43 million buys you in Coronado ■ Beaver Moon rising



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*SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY

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.

Fish story vs. surf tale

Yes, I enjoyed the story ("Big Fish Small Boat," Cover Story, Nov. 9). It reminded me of my younger brother Scott Cherry, who got his picture in *Surfer* magazine when he caught a 16-foot Thresher shark while fishing off of his 10-foot surfboard outside of Windansea Beach. It was an impressive feat but I had to tell him that I would rather be in *Field and Stream* magazine for my surfing ability then in *Surfer* magazine for my fishing ability.

Frank Cherry
Chula Vista

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

Athena's organic farm in Fallbrook draws in the Wwoofers

Cover Story, Nov. 15, 2023
Great story!

-Wwhat?

Hello Siobhan! I was attracted to your story by the first photo showing you wearing a Cal Poly Sweater.

First of all, I want to say I enjoyed your story.

Second: I too am a Cal Poly graduate. I recently turned 80 years old.

My grandfather, who immigrated from Russia before 1900, married in Sioux City, Iowa, and took his wife with him to live near Ismay, Montana. My grandfather Ted and his wife Sarah had 3 boys. The oldest was my father Edwin. They left Montana at some point, moved first to Chicago, then Dallas. From Dallas they migrated to Los Angeles, California by 1928. On the way from Dallas to Los Angeles, my Grand-

father noted that the car most frequently broken down on the highway was the Model T Ford with brake problems.

On arrival in Los Angeles, my grandfather had a machine shop produce a tool for him.

Model T Fords had a planetary gearbox with the brakebands inside the gearbox.

There were no brakes located at any of the four wheels. To change the brakes, It had been necessary to drop the transmission from the car, then remove a plate from the top of the transmission, then remove the brake bands, install new brake bands, then re-raise the transmission and bolt it in place within the car. My grandfather invented a tool that allowed him to go under the car, raise his arm above the trans, with tool in hand, and remove the top cover. He then could lift the brakebands out, install new brakebands and reinstall the cover.

It was now possible to do in about 15 minutes what had previously taken several hours - So my grandfather was able to charge a lot less than anyone else for a brake job.

At first, he rented space from a service station and put up a sign. Later, he purchased the lot across the street - and with his own hands he built the service garage across the street. The location is 4th and Soto Streets in East Los Angeles. The building which dates to the 1920s, still stands there today.

-Mike Savin

City ready to help Linda Vista with cannabis

Neighborhood News, Oct. 30, 2023
Imagine minors seeing people buy a legal product in 2023. What's this world coming to?
-Progressive parent

Thrilling thermals lead to drinks in the desert

Golden Dreams, Oct. 25, 2023
Great Tale of Flying.
Thank you.
-Hang gliding enthusiast

San Diego

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November 23, 2023

SAN DIEGO

Reader

Why Do I Do This?

A conversation with the Rational Voice in Thunder Canyon Cave

Objections to "inebriates" • What \$43 million buys you in Coronado • Beaver Moon rising

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No bunnies were harmed — page 23

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

DOWNTOWN Name shame

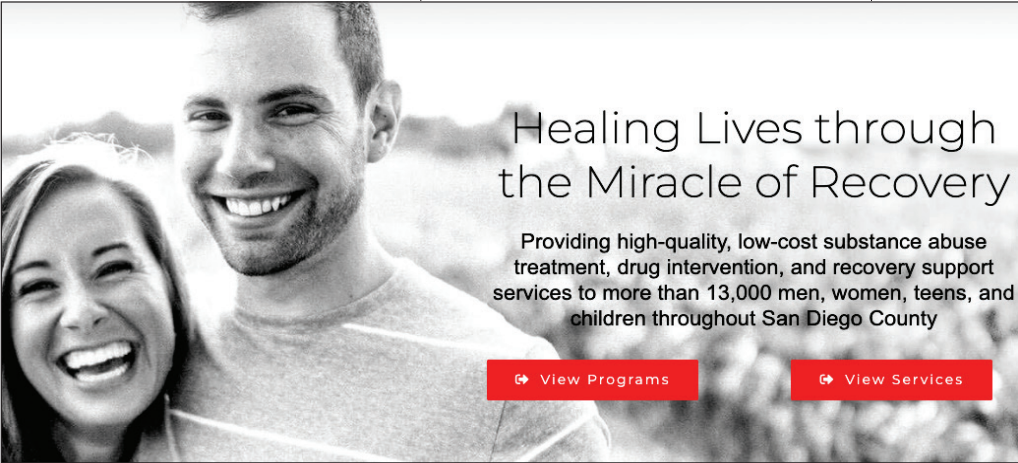
The Serial Inebriate Program works, but what about the nomenclature?
San Diego's Serial Inebriate Program was considered cutting edge when it was initiated in 2000, and it remains in place to this day. But while the program may be beneficial, some people think its name is less so.
The program serves people, mainly unhoused, whose alcohol-related issues land them repeatedly in either emergency rooms or jail, and offers treatment as an alternative to incarceration.
As the city describes the process, a person

"When SIP first came to fruition, it was designed for people that had high occurrences of Drunk in Publics, who at the time were known as serial inebriates."

is "found down" and 911 is called. The person is then transported to the "Inebriate Reception Center" at the McAlister Institute on India Street, which a receptionist says is the city's only sobering-up location. Typically, people are brought there directly by health or law enforcement agencies, but since the center isn't a medical detox facility, some clients require a trip to the hospital first. The minimum stay at the institute's Recovery and Bridge Center is four hours, based on peoples' needs. Once sober, they receive counseling and are connected to other services, including help finding transitional housing and substance use treatment.
But after five trips to the center within 30 days, a person, now deemed a "chronic inebriate," is rejected by the sobering-up center and taken to jail instead, where the Serial Inebriate Program is offered in lieu of time behind



A person is "found down" and 911 is called.



Healing Lives through the Miracle of Recovery

Providing high-quality, low-cost substance abuse treatment, drug intervention, and recovery support services to more than 13,000 men, women, teens, and children throughout San Diego County

View Programs

View Services

After four visits, the miracles become mandatory if you want to stay out of jail.

bars. If people agree to participate, they can access city-sponsored housing and six months of treatment.
The program has been lauded as a successful collaboration between city, county, hospitals, law enforcement, and the courts. It has an annual budget of \$2 million. In 2008, it won a state award for "reducing the use of public resources by chronic alcoholics," and it has been adopted by other cities and states.

CRIMELAND Who's targeting who? Gang injunctions down, gang violence up?

"It's time for the city to take a hard look at and update its police practices for modern times," said Mayor Todd Gloria on April 9, 2021, declaring his intention to make "common sense changes" to "do away with antiquated police practices." Gloria's wish list included eliminating civil gang injunctions and removing the Office of Homeland Security from the San Diego Police Department.
Just two weeks later, the mayor announced that he had succeeded in the first endeavor.


a necessary step on the long road to reimagining public safety and equity in law enforcement," she argued in April 2021. "There are no similar injunctions for white supremacists or hate groups. Therefore, we can clearly see how gang injunctions unfairly target, harm, and potentially ruin the lives of innocent members of our Black and brown communities."
But in March 2022, police released crime stats showing that crime had increased by 13 percent during 2021.
Some categories that went up: murder, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, and vehicle theft. In October of 2022, the FBI released crime statistics for San Diego, dating from mid-year 2021 to mid-year 2022. Total violent crimes went up, from 6073 in 2021 to 6182 in 2022. Robberies went up from 1176 to 1355.
In late September 2022, it was announced that San Diego had received \$3.65 million to prevent gang violence from the State of California through CalVIP, the California Violence Intervention Program. The grant was described as a 30-month program intended to serve 300 youths and young adults, together

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Celebration for Dayday "DayShan Thomas"



\$3,425 raised of \$15,000 goal

31 donations

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Miles Livingston

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Top donation

Anonymous person

\$30 (2 weeks)

First donation

Thomas Alder is organizing this fundraiser.

Gone too soon.

"Gang injunctions are outdated and do not serve their alleged purpose of protecting public safety," he declared, adding that he had worked with the local district attorney and city attorney to "finally remove" all gang injunctions.
At the time, there were 20 different gang injunctions in place, with 349 individuals named. Gloria said that he had been working since 2019 to remove names from that list, that they were "individuals who no longer posed a public safety threat."
San Diego city councilwoman Monica Montgomery-Steppe stated her approval at that time: "Eliminating gang injunctions is

with their families and friends. Named The Peacemaker Project, the \$3.65 million award to San Diego was supposed to go mostly to six organizations that already had a relationship with the city's gang commission: Union of Pan Asian Communities, Community Wrap-around, Open Heart Leaders, Paving Great Futures, Mothers with a Message, and San Ysidro Health Center.
Pastor Jesus Sandoval is executive director of the Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention, and through his programs, he seeks to "deploy de-escalation tactics in the aftermath of violence," in an effort to pre-

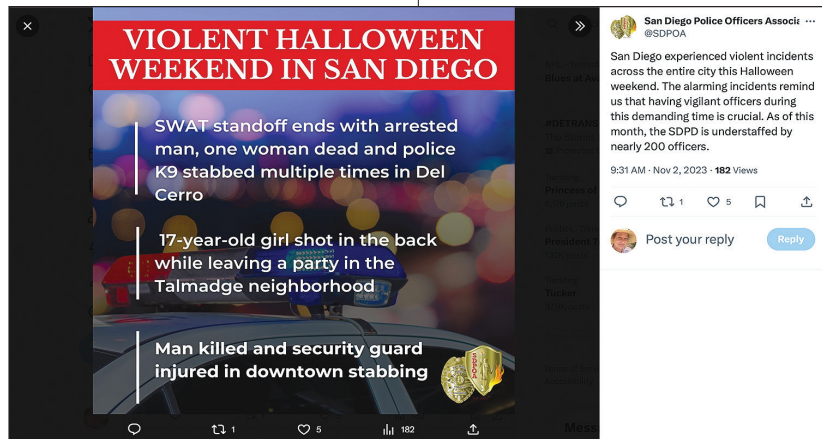
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

vent retaliatory violence. Sandoval said he intended to use the resources for behavioral health screenings, employment assistance, and parenting classes, declaring, “Finally, the stars have aligned for us to receive

police said a confrontation started outside of Novo Brazil Brewing restaurant, that it was a “targeted attack,” and that one gunman had allegedly fired all the shots. The shooter might have been accompanied by two companions (seen in surveillance video from inside the brewery/restaurant); that group of three chased two other people who had fled into the brewery. When the shooting started, customers inside the res-



From SDPOA

this funding!”

Fast forward to the weekend before Halloween, Saturday night, October 28, 2023 — a night that saw at least three separate shootings. Four people suffered leg wounds from a shooting that took place a little after 7 pm at the Otay Ranch Town Center in Chula Vista. The victims were described as a 16-year-old boy, a 21-year-old woman, a 58-year-old man, and a 60-year-old woman. First, Chula Vista

restaurant/brewery scattered. Police speculated that the 16-year-old boy was the one who was “targeted.” The founder of Novo Brazil Brewing, Tiago Carneiro, said one of his customers was an innocent bystander who was struck by one bullet, and that “participants of the incident were not our customers.” All four victims are expected to survive their injuries.

Just before midnight, two teenagers were

continued on page 4

UNDER THE RADAR

Fungible exchange A political action committee tied to Republican ex-San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer**, largely funded by a Sacramento-based business lobbying group, has closed up shop, distributing its remaining cash to the county GOP. Officially known as the San Diego Safe Shelters and Clean Streets Act Sponsored by the California Business Roundtable Issues PAC, the committee was set up to stage a now-shelved initiative to push Faulconer’s anti-homelessness agenda.

“A broad coalition of San Diegans including former Mayor Faulconer and respected community leaders are collaborating on a citizens initiative that will require the City to provide adequate shelter for homeless individuals so we can make our streets healthier and safer,” said the group’s honcho, longtime Faulconer political intimate **Aimee Faucett** in a statement to the *Voice of San Diego* July 9. The PAC had been registered with the city clerk Mach 10. “Up until a couple of years ago, San Diego had become one of the only major regions in California where homelessness was decreasing. In fact, the people of Sacramento were encouraged by San Diego’s progress, and have gained the support of their community and Democratic mayor to place a measure inspired by some of San Diego’s actions on their local ballot. It’s time to do the same in San Diego by taking solutions proven to reduce homelessness and making them into law. We look forward to sharing more updates in the future.”

Despite Faucett’s boasts of solid San Diego backing for the proposed ballot measure, most of the money behind the effort came from the California Business Roundtable, the statewide business lobbying group that kicked in a total of \$75,000 during May and June, per disclosure filings with the city clerk’s office. Faulconer, who once hoped to challenge incumbent San Diego mayoral Democrat **Todd Gloria**, has now set his eyes on the county supervisorial seat of Democrat **Terra Lawson-Remer**. The

Safe Streets initiative committee went quiet until November 6, when the group filed a termination statement, reporting that its remaining cash hoard of \$25,500 was turned over to the San Diego County Republican Party.

Meanwhile, on July 12, unnamed Faulconer backers formed The Homelessness Crisis Response Committee Supporting Kevin Faulconer for Supervisor, 2024, listing his ex-city council ally, fellow Republican **Chris Cate**, as principal officer. In addition to his

other political activities, Cate is on the board of the non-profit *Voice of San Diego*, per the group’s website. “Chris Cate is the founder of 3MC Strategies, a San Diego firm specializing in public policy, public affairs, and business development. Chris founded the firm following his 8 years of service on the San Diego City Council representing District 6,” according to the *Voice*. The registered agent for 3MC, according to state records, is **Guillermo Cabrera**, chair of the San Diego County



Faulconer’s next target: Terra Lawson-Remer’s Supervisor seat.

Regional Airport Authority, whose New San Diego political committee was warned by the California Political Fair Practices Commission in January not to repeat “advertisement disclosure provisions’ failures to the group made in its successful hit piece battle against 2022 city council hopeful **Lori Saldana**, pitted against Democratic San Diego city councilwoman **Jan Campbell**.

In addition to the Cate-run pro-Faulconer group, on July 24, the GOP-supported San Diego Lincoln Club, known for sending hit-piece barrages against its opponents, registered a pro-Faulconer campaign committee, the Neighborhood Action Council Supporting Kevin Faulconer for Supervisor 2024, sponsored by The Lincoln Club Business League. That group, according to its website, “advocates for San Diego’s taxpayers, businesses, and residents who believe in lower taxes, less regulation, and a better quality of life.” League board members include its PAC co-chair, **David Malcolm**, an ex-member of the San Diego Unified Port District Board of Commissioners who was sentenced to 80 days

of work furlough after coping a plea to felony conflict-of-interest charges in 2003. The board also includes Faulconer himself, as well as ex-GOP Assemblyman **Martin Garrick**, famous for his late-night Sacramento encounter with the California Highway Patrol that led to his arrest for drunk driving in 2011.



David Malcolm, on board with fellow board member Faulconer.

Capitalist plot Special interest fundraising continues to chug along for state Senate Democrat **Toni Atkins** in the 2026 race for California

Lieutenant Governor. On November 15, consumer lender Encore Capital came up with \$9100. Encore has been a repeated target of state and federal regulators over its aggressive debt collection tactics. “Encore buys pools of written-off consumer debt at steep discounts. It then tries to collect from borrowers,” reported the *Union-Tribune* in September

continued on page 4

Neal Obermeyer



HAVE YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW HAD A NEGATIVE EXPERIENCE RELATED TO CALIFORNIA'S ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW, THE SO-CALLED, "END OF LIFE OPTIONS ACT?"

TELL YOUR STORY HERE:



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 3

shot and killed at a house party in El Cajon. Police said the 16- and 18-year-old victims were targeted, and that the two had been confronted outside an Airbnb rented house in the 700 block of Mahogany Drive. There is said to be cell phone video showing the scene immediately following the shooting, in which multiple suspects wearing face masks are running away toward a vehicle parked nearby. Then one gunman returns to the scene and shoots the 18-year-old again. The suspects escaped. The 16-year-old was reportedly found dead in the yard of a home, and his family identified him as DayShan Thomas. They protested that their teen was not a gang member, and set up a GoFundMe page to pay for his funeral costs. "It is suspected the attack was gang-related" according to El Cajon police, who were seen photographing bullet holes in neighboring homes. There have been no arrests yet.

Then, just before 1 am, a teenage girl identified as Brianna walked away from a "sweet sixteen party" in the Talmadge area of San Diego, and was struck by a single bullet from a "gang-related fight," according to published reports. San Diego police said Brianna had just left a party in the 4400 block of Winona Avenue, near El Cajon Boulevard, and that there had been "some sort of altercation between two groups" at 4950 El Cajon Boulevard. The girl was struck by the bullet in her upper back and was reportedly paralyzed as a result. Witnesses said the shooter wore a grey hoodie and dark pants. The street gang unit of the San Diego Police Department responded and is investigating. No suspects have been arrested yet.

The injured teen was identified as the niece of local political activist Shane Harris, who posted on TwitterX that he and his family want the criminals responsible to be arrested and put behind bars, writing, "We will not stop pushing for jus-

tice." Harris also stated: "Those who are pushing for 'criminal justice reforms' need to understand that you can do that and seek prison for violent criminals who need to be taken off of our streets. This is not a one or the other situation. Those who are violent need to be put behind bars and there should be no debate on that." On Harris' website for his organization PAJA — People's Association of Justice Advocates — it states that Harris himself has struggled with gangs and drugs.

EVA KNOTT

Under the radar

continued from page 3

2020. "The company had more than \$1 billion in revenue last year and net income of \$75 million." A lawsuit filed that month by the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau alleged, "Encore tried to collect debts after the statute of limitations had expired, including sending letters that didn't spell out to consumers that because of the age of their debt, they could not be sued." The agency also charged that Encore "sued more than 100 consumers after the statute of limitations had expired for collecting their debt. It sent 425,000 collection letters to old accounts without including language informing consumers that they faced no threat of legal action." A month later, Encore settled the case, agreeing to pay \$79,308.81 in "consumer redress" and a \$15 million civil money penalty. "For a very small percentage of transactions, our execution was not immediately perfect," Greg Call, Encore's general counsel and chief administrative officer, said in a statement cited by the U-T. "We have long since refined our processes, making the necessary changes to improve our operations, and provided appropriate relief for impacted accounts over three years ago."

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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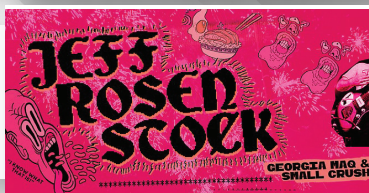
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3 THE POINT | CORONADO, 92118

CURRENT OWNER: Call Trust | LISTING PRICE: \$43,000,000 | BEDS: 7 | BATHS: 11 | HOUSE SIZE: 11,700 sq ft

UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

Good real estate buyer's agents spend a lot of time on the internet searching on behalf of their clients. Sure, it might sound simple enough to meet a client's needs — plug in preferred bed/bath counts, square footage, price range, a handful of ZIP codes, and set up an automatic alert for matching properties. Heck, you can do the same thing for yourself on Zillow.

However, this is only a partial strategy. Try as we might for precision and care, sometimes agents will



People who live in glass houses sometimes have a great deal of money.

mis-enter a key statistic that results in the perfect house flying under the radar, just because it doesn't make it into the auto-generated roundup emails that go out

to prospective buyers. The only way to avoid this is to do a manual search once a week or so, leaving off one parameter or tweaking another to check for unex-

pected results.

Something similar happened when I was trying to find a property to write about this week. We haven't toured any condos here

lately, so I set off in search of the priciest attached units in the county. Normally, this would net a penthouse downtown, near Balboa Park, or maybe somewhere in La Jolla. And while we've got plenty of eight-figure single family homes in San Diego, luxury condos in town start around the \$2 million mark and rarely eclipse \$10 million.

So when I saw that there was an active attached listing for \$43 million, I figured it was a typo — surely some new agent meant to list a starter unit for \$430,000 and didn't know that the local MLS asks you to input your asking price in thousands rather than dollars. This isn't uncommon, and I once got a young couple into a unit in El Cajon that no one else saw due to a similar blunder.

Wait, this is for a listing in Coronado, notorious

playground of the wealthy? Maybe this is the actual list price, and I've found a condo here in our own backyard commanding a price that rivals the choicest units in Manhattan?

Yes and no. The price for this home is correct, but I can't figure out why it's listed under the "all other attached homes" classification. There is a homeowners' association with authority over the Coronado Cays (just south of the main village on the Silver Strand heading south to Imperial Beach), but public records say this is a single-family home on a third-acre lot zoned for only one unit. In any case, I'm putting off the condo search for a couple of weeks, because right now I want to introduce you to 3 The Point.

"Newly constructed in 2021, this singularly im-

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Jeff Smith & Co., historians

Union Blue and Dixie Grey

In August 1890, there was a Civil War Encampment (reunion) on Coronado. Civil War veterans had arrived from Illinois (20), Iowa (19), Ohio (17), New York (14), Michigan (13), and Pennsylvania (12). "Many things take place in camp life which do not find their way into print. There is scarcely a night after the ball is over without something going on till nearly daylight that keeps the people more or less astir." — *Jeff Smith* **APRIL 26, 2001**

New Town Hits the Skids

Some new San Diegans dug wells. Davis drilled one that gave Broadway its first name, Spring Street. Drillers found "good water" up to 26 feet but kept going to produce an "artesian" effect — water rising to the surface. "They never brought in the artesian flow they hoped for, and the project was dropped. There was good water under New Town after all, if the first drillers had not insisted that the well be artesian." — *Jeff Smith* **SEPT. 12, 2002**

No Clock in the Forest

We went to see the glockenspiel at Point Loma Nazarene University. It's in the Ryan Library, to the right of the entrance. Get there before noon on any day to see the show yourself. Twenty-five animated figures, hand-carved out of wood, revolve on two

turntables — knights in striped costumes, jesters in belled hats, dancers in long white stockings, and a king and queen in the balcony surveying it all — while a computer-programmed carillon plays German folk tunes. — *Jeanne Schinto* **MAY 6, 1999**

SD's Barbary Coast

The Stingaree District became San Diego's den of unrepressed iniquity. In 1912, the San Diego Sun wrote: "The Stingaree is as old as San Diego.... Ever since the early settlement... there has been a restricted district.... several times it has been raided and closed." Some of the bars and brothels had a "world-wide reputation. The worst of these is the Pacific Squadron.... In the old days it was the Tub of Blood, which flourished for many years." — *Jeff Smith* **JUNE 22, 2000**



Surviving members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Oceanside, 1912.

Love Shacks in the Stingaree

"The structures were mazes of rooms. At Fourth and J, from the Pacific Squadron to Third and J, the Yankee Doodle Hall, narrow passages ran to a big inner court [with] one-story shacks cut up by devious alleyways so that each room had a window and a door. On many of the doors were name plates bearing names of their former inhabitants: Sadie, Gertie, Virgie, Gwendolen, and Ethel-ryda. Not less than 50 rooms were found in the building." — *Jeff Smith* **JULY 6, 2000**

Battle of San Diego Bay

Rodriguez four soldiers rowed to the Alexander and conducted a search. In a storeroom next to the main mast, a soldier found stacks of furs, piled to the ceiling. "Contraband!" Rodriguez declared. He ordered his soldiers to toss them onto the deck. By the official count, 491 otter pelts flew out the storeroom door. The commandant took them to the presidio and locked them in the warehouse. He also demanded that the Alexander leave at once. — *Jeff Smith* **SEPT. 16, 2004**

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Michael Memmel. "I trust Mike with my life. Literally."

Why Do I Do This?

A conversation with the Rational Voice in Thunder Canyon Cave

On October 22, the *San Diego Union-Tribune* published a story with the headline, "Woman rescued after being stuck in cave in East County for 16 hours." The story related that the woman, 29, was "in an area known as Thunder Canyon Cave — made up of openings formed between piled-up boulders — off McCain Valley Road north of the rural community of Boulevard. The woman was 'traversing a narrow opening' in the cave with friends... when she got stuck" in what the story called a 12-inch gap. Her friends couldn't budge her, so there she stayed for the next 16 hours, until a gaggle of agencies teamed up to extricate her. The article concluded with a list of reminders from Sheriff's Lt. Jeffrey Ford for those who go caving. But there was one reminder he left off the list, one I am happy to provide: Maybe don't enter Thunder Canyon Cave.

My Rational Voice says calmly, *You could die here. Don't mess up.* Thanks, Rational Voice.

Frankly, I was surprised that the article was as precise as it was about the cave's location. There are multiple ways in and out of the cave, but those who know them consider it rude to ask precisely where they are. You have to be invited. It's not that cavers are territorial, the way some surfers are said to be, jealously protecting their secret spots from outsiders. It's more that we want to protect our access. It's why

we regularly pack out any trash we find in the caves, and why any mention of the place must come with a strongly worded warning. Thunder Canyon Cave is a technical cave; it is not meant for hikers or tourists. Entering the cave comes to extreme risk in the best of conditions. There are sections where you must rappel down a rope, where mistakes not only endanger your own life, but also risk the safety of your team.

Searching online for information about the cave yields little about where exactly it is, and lots about near death experiences, related by people who have gotten stuck and then gotten rescued. But rescue is by no means certain. There is the very real possibility that getting stuck or even slightly injured will mean death — hypothermia taking you down before help can arrive. And despite cavers' attempts at secrecy, I would say that the vast majority of people entering Thunder Canyon Cave are unqualified to be there — meaning, they would be unable to reverse course should they find themselves unable or unwilling to go forward. To reverse your path through the cave means you must have the equipment and experience to climb a rope up vertical shafts. In short: this publication and the author disavow any mishaps you



The epic rains of 2022/2023 inspired my caving buddies and me to pay Thunder Canyon Cave a visit; we knew that all that water would make the cave live up to its name.

may bring upon yourselves or your friends should you decide to ignore your better judgment and go spelunking. You know, the way I did.

Now that you've read my disclaimer, I can tell you that about an hour east of downtown San Diego lies one of Southern California's greatest adventures, if your idea of adventure involves risking your life underground. It's funny: I don't think of myself an "adrenaline junkie," but my sport of choice does have an obituary-type section in many online groups. Late-

ly, I have been thinking about that. I've realized that as you get deeply immersed in something, it is usually inevitable that you lose most of your perspective about the value of, or even the motivations behind, the thing in which you are immersed. Especially inherently risky things like rock climbing or caving. *Why do I do this?* But sometimes, life finds ways to restore that perspective. And that's how you end up writing a story like this one.

The epic rains of 2022/2023 inspired my

caving buddies and me to pay Thunder Canyon Cave a visit; we knew that all that water would make the cave live up to its name. The homestead or ranch that is near the elusive cave stands on the edge of a slope that drops down to the open desert that leads out to the Salton Sea. I used to imagine that the discovery and naming of the cave was done by children playing near the ranch, but we now know that it got its name because when it is in "peak flow," the sound of water underground thunders up the canyon. We wanted to get close to the thunder.

Descent

As I wait for my turn to enter the cave, I find myself thinking about taking my son through. *Oh, hell no*, the Rational Voice says internally. I look into the hungry black hole that is the cave's mouth, and it feels something like the entrance to a tomb. It is obviously way too dangerous to allow my children to enter. And as I wait, the Rational Voice asks me, *You're their father; if it's too dangerous for them, what are you doing here?* It's a fair question.

You don't take a first

step into Thunder Canyon Cave. You make a first descent, hanging onto a rope. As I lower myself down, I can hear the water roaring below. Mud and grit and water from the rope, which is being wrung out like a dirty dishrag by my death grip on it, splashes all over my chest. Then my rain jacket gets caught in the rope. Or rather, it gets caught in the belay device attached to the rope. (The device provides friction, and so regulates my rate of descent.) The device has sucked my jacket into itself, and I am temporarily stuck hanging over a pool of water about fifty feet below. I have no idea how deep the pool is. It occurs to me that my hands are getting cold. Just then, the Rational Voice says calmly, *You could die here. Don't mess up*. Thanks, Rational Voice.

Luckily, I am just over the lip of the first drop, within reach of Bobby, my buddy who is the last going through the cave mouth.

"Bobby. I got a situation here." Even as I say it, I am in self-analysis mode, noting the lack of emotion in my voice. I sound like an airline pilot, informing the passengers that one of the engines seems to be on

fire, but not to worry, just a little heads up. It's curious.

He peers down, quickly assesses said situation, grabs my hand, and pulls me up just enough to unstick my jacket from the belay device.

The Rational Voice asks earnestly, *What would have happened if Bobby had not been there?* My imagination instantly spins out the most likely scenario: I would have used one hand to try to unstick my jacket from the belay device. As I did this, my other hand would have slipped, and I would have fallen down, down, down into the dark abyss, bouncing off the bumpy walls until my broken body splashed into the pool below and sank unceremoniously to the unfathomed bottom. Thanks to Bobby, I am able to unstick my jacket without dying, but now there is a large hole in it.

What a grave is like

When I reach the end of my descent, I find that the usually flat, dry room — I've been here before, a number of times — is flooded with three feet of water. Further, a six-inch fountain of water is shooting out of the wall and then free-fall-

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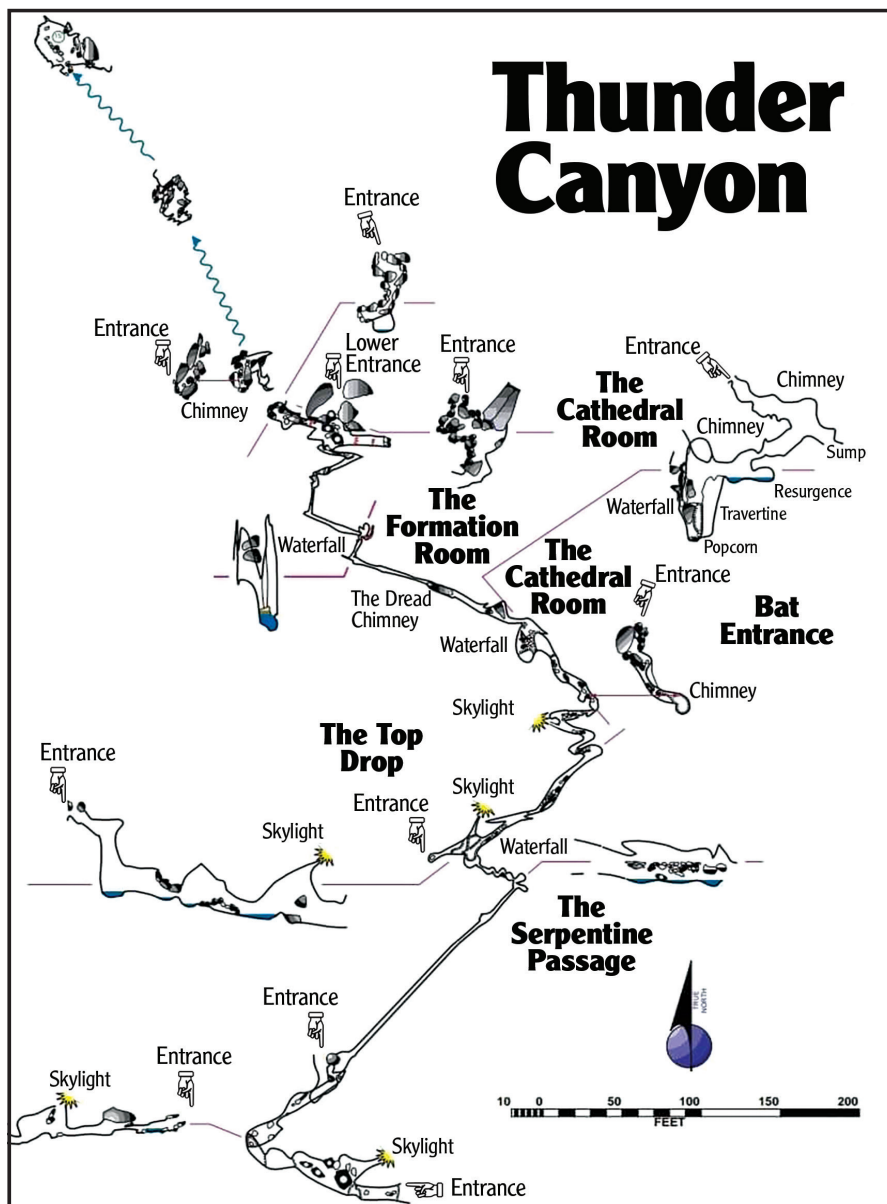
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Kelly, who is the least experienced of the team, has a moment of panic when Bobby and I consult our maps. We are not lost, just trying to see on the map where the waterfall is marked. But she mistakes our curiosity for confusion about which way to go, and becomes visibly distressed.

ing twenty feet. My friend Mike has already plunged through the waterfall and I can hearing him shouting for me to follow, so I plunge after him and begin the crazy scramble through the cave; it goes up, down, and around dozens of twists and turns. In some places, I am doing moderate rock climbing without a rope. In others, I am squeezing through fissures so narrow I have to remove my backpack and bring it through behind me. The surprisingly warm rainwater ups the intensity of the journey in terms of unknowns and their attendant risks, but I press on behind Mike. I trust Mike with my life, literally.

The waterfall left me instantly soaked, and therefore cold. Time has just become a factor; there's no need to panic just yet, but we do need to reach the exit before the cold starts to interfere with our functionality. We could always reverse our path — really, we could; we have the equipment and we have the experience — but the Rational Voice would surely raise sound objections to an attempt to ascend 60 feet up a wet rope with water spraying on us. Besides,

the cave is passable so far, and so we move forward as quickly as we can through the wild, wet labyrinth.

We pause when we reach The Cathedral Room, at the end of another rope drop. It is by far the largest open space in the cave; perhaps 80 feet from the floor to the wedged-boulder roof above. Someone brings up the way that aquarium filters can clog and then suddenly unclog, releasing a wave of debris. We all visualize a flash flood. *You could drown.*

I am third in line in our four-person team. The two people ahead of me, Mike and his girlfriend Kelly, are moving fast down the winding path, and after about 50 feet, they make a sharp right, leaving me alone to wait for Bobby to finish his descent. There is no sound, save for the water roaring under my feet, and when I turn off my headlight, I am surrounded by utter darkness. I wait in the cave, marveling at my unseen surroundings. Sensing an opening, the Rational Voice instantly strikes up a conversation: *You know, this must be what the grave is like. In fact, this probably will be your grave.*

Well, it certainly could be, if I mess up. But I'm not gonna mess up.

The Rational Voice goes quiet, not even bothering to say anything about famous last words. Then Bobby catches up.

The slow brain bleed theory of motivation

As I was thinking about how to tell the story of me and Thunder Canyon Cave, I found it hard to explain my motivation. Why go repeatedly to a place that is well known to be extraordinarily dangerous? Yet surely, that must be part of the story. Why? Was I dropped on my head as a child?

As it turns out, yes I was — sort of.

As I wrote this account, I kept thinking about those of us who take part in dangerous sports for fun. I did some reading, and it turns out that there are a few common traits among us risk takers. The primary pattern I noticed was that many of the people who do (and write about doing) the most outrageous things — things like climbing giant cliffs without ropes — have also written about suffering depression and concussions. There seems to be a part

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of the brain that can get shut off when you suffer brain injury. The medical term is “slow brain bleed,” and the short description is that if you get dropped on your head, you can wind up with a slow seepage of blood and fluid in the skull that does things like cause depression, kill normal fear reactions, and make you suffer mild bipolar-like symptoms.

My buddies and I are all bold. We have shared many adventures. All of us have been knocked unconscious at least once. But I’m not going to speculate as to their motivations. All I know is that in 5th grade, I cracked my head open in a snow sledding accident, and that I’ve always been a little edgy and have what some say is an unusually calm demeanor in high-stress situations. So maybe I’m down here because my bleeding brain has killed my normal fear reactions. It’s not that I’m seeking the thrill of courting death; it’s that I don’t know enough to be scared — Rational Voice or no Rational Voice.

As I continued reading about other adventure athletes, people who climb without ropes, I learned that many of them eventually take one risk too



You don’t take a first step into Thunder Canyon Cave. You make a first descent, hanging onto a rope. As I lower myself down, I can hear the water roaring below.

many. Some fail to solve their problems by taking the risks they do, and wind up taking their own lives. Most don’t seem to have read about brain injuries, or about how they can “re-wire” the brain. They don’t seem to know that it may be these brain injuries that make our minds so full of dark mental chatter that sometimes, we obsess about the grave, or take

risks that some reckless to other “normal” people. The Irrational Voice drowning out the Rational. As for me, I learned that first and foremost, I do these things that are really hard and dangerous because they make everyday problems seem tame and simple — not because I want to get hurt. (After you’ve watched a rock the size of an elevator plummet

met past you as you cling to the face of El Capitan and explode on the spot where you camped last night, road rage over stalled traffic just seems idiotic.) But because the mental chatter is still there, it has to be tamed. The adrenaline that comes with risk is a strange reminder that we are alive, and the near-death experiences that come with things like Thunder Canyon Cave or rock climbing can remind people with this problem that we really do want to live.

The book in the bottle

Another part of the motivation is the whole *Star Trek* thing: to boldly go where no one — or very, very few — has gone before. People have inhabited the area around McCain Valley in the In-Ko Pah mountains for approximately 10,000 years. But there is no way any of those ancient Americans would have been through these passages, because Thunder Canyon is a climbers’ cave. Deep in its bowels, there is the caver’s equivalent of a summit register — a book wherein mountaineers leave their names and date of ascent. Thunder

Canyon Cave’s version is a book in a bottle, hanging from a string. A bottle? The first time I saw it, I found it hard to imagine enough water coursing through the cave enough to dampen that suspended book. Now I know better; now I know that in rainy years, no corner of this cave is safe from the water that literally thunders through its underground passages. On my first trip through, I came across formations I mistook for petrified wood, so closely did they resemble thick, twisting tree roots. I was baffled: how could tree roots get this far down, through this much rock? But they were not wood; they were stone, their crazy curves carved by centuries of rushing water.

Inside the register are names and dates left by people who have passed through. My name is in there at least six times, and each time I go through, I feel the sense of an enormous passage of time. How long does it take rain to shape stone? I also sense doom. At the bottom of the cave, it is common to find the remains of snakes and tarantulas that have gotten trapped in there, perhaps

lured by the smell of water in the desert into this patch of deadly eternal darkness. So Thunder Canyon Cave is a tomb — but this time through, the cave has been flushed clean of all its corpses.

During summer trips to the cave, we usually go at night. The approach hike in is along a sandy trail, downhill going in and a long uphill slog going out. At night, the desert is teeming with insect and animal activity, and Thunder Canyon Cave is no exception; at night, there are bats and spiders aplenty. We always go through in a group of at least three, and if one of our party has never been through, we usually ask that person to lead the way. This is because it is both exciting for them to explore and fun for us to watch the fear that often registers on their faces as they try to find the right way. It’s a bit easier than it used to be, as there are now some directional arrows painted on the walls, the work of rescue teams that have had to hoist out hapless parties stuck deep inside. But even with the arrows, there is a plethora of dead ends and risky drop-offs; and even after you’ve led the way a half



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dozen times or more, you have to be careful about not going the wrong way.

Going the wrong way doesn't mean doom, of course; it just means retracing your steps to find the correct path. *Unless you fall, or make a mistake at the wrong time*, the Rational Voice points out, and I imagine my headlight dying, and the voices of my friends getting farther away. The Voice has a point: in some passages, if you were to botch the job of making your way through, and slip and fall, you might get stuck in such a way that your body would not be retrievable. So, you don't fall. It's a little like free-climber Alex Honnold in the movie *Free Solo*, gripping the sheer rock face of El Capitan and facing certain death if just one thing should go wrong. There are places as you pass through the cave where you simply *cannot* make a mistake. But of course, mistakes happen: in *Free Solo*, Honnold gets injured twice in the run-up to his death-defying climb. The Rational Voice presents, in great detail, a mind movie about the variety of ways I could die inside Thunder Canyon Cave — the most obvious

being a slip resulting in a compound fracture.

The cold grip of fear

As I mentioned, we are moving fast. Normally, we would spend two hours or more exploring the cave, but now we are just racing. We are cold, and speed is safety, as they say in the mountains. But haste also makes waste. I caution the team to keep their bodies away from the rock walls whenever possible, because the rock leeches the warmth out of your body quickly. We encounter another waterfall, and realize we must either run through a drenching shower or turn back. Kelly, who is the least experienced of the team, has a moment of panic when Bobby and I consult our maps. We are not lost, just trying to see on the map where the waterfall is marked. But she mistakes our curiosity for confusion about which way to go, and becomes visibly distressed.

This increases the sense of urgency and we increase our pace. The Rational Voice says, *You know, we don't know if she can climb back up that rope, through a mist of water,*

and if she loses her cool and starts to freak we are going to be stuck in here... forever. This time, I have to grant the Voice's point. That means making our way back to the entrance is no longer an option; we are now committed to going forward. And we do.

But now, instead of the Rational Voice yammering in my skull, I find my imagination briefly playing out the scene of the four of us in there, forever. Perhaps our remains would be found, many years later. Perhaps not. I realize what this is. This imagination is irrational fear. Rational fear keeps you alive: it is wise to be afraid of falling from great heights. It is not wise to imagine your equipment breaking or being stuck for ten thousand years. Irrational fear is also what causes panic. My ability to separate rational fears from irrational is a byproduct of many years spent rock climbing. The rational fear is that if we are too slow or get stuck, we could all die of hypothermia. The irrational fear is that we are lost inside the cave.

Here's the thing about panic: it's contagious. So I seek to quell it. As we move toward the final and most



The Cathedral Room is by far the largest open space in the cave; perhaps 80 feet from the floor to the wedged-boulder roof above.

dangerous passage, I start speaking calm words of encouragement — to myself and anyone in earshot. “We are almost out. This is the last bit. All easy from here.” Kelly does not panic. She does remarkably well.

Exit

But of course, it's not really “all easy from here.” The final section is called “The Dread Chimney.” It's been the scene of a number of near-fatal mishaps that have required full-on rescue operations. The Chimney is a twenty-five foot section that starts at about 18” wide and quickly pinches down to a slot so narrow that you cannot turn your

head. My climbing helmet makes it a tight fit. You start in, and then you must invert sideways and slither across a wobbly wood plank. Twisting or getting your feet tangled will quickly have you stuck, exhausted, and rapidly dying of hypothermia. It can be 110 degrees outside Thunder Canyon Cave, but down here, the rock walls are about 73 degrees. Getting stuck against them brings death. Remember Jack in *Titanic*, freezing to death as he hung onto that door? This sets the same sort of clock ticking, just with a few extra hours added.

Mike goes through. Kelly

goes through. Bobby goes through. I am last. Before I start in, I pass through the small back packs we carry, the ones that contain extra lights, food, and vital equipment. (If you are in a cave with one belay device and you drop it, you will put yourself and your entire team in grave danger. So we observe the rule of redundancy: if you cannot survive without it, bring two or three.) Then I pause and look back. The team is waiting for me, but I want to enjoy the mad profundity of the moment. I turn my headlight off and do the first half of The Dread Chimney in a darkness as deep as the grave. This has the desired effect: my heart races. The darkness makes me feel something like fear, something like what I think it is other people must feel. Then I turn the light back on and execute the crux section without dying. *This time*, the Rational Voice says. *You get to live, this time. But if you sit at this table long enough and get dealt enough hands, sooner or later, The Dealer wins.* Well, sooner or later, the Dealer always wins. The trick is to make it as later as possible — while still living life.

Now we really are nearing the end; now everything really is easier. We can feel warmer air, and the thundering sound of the water is more distant. We point these things out to Kelly, and she leaves her fears in the darkness behind us.

I haven't been back to Thunder Mountain Cave since that trip. I have a sense that I will never top that experience, not by climbing or caving. But when I do think about going back, it's because I want to further explore another sort of labyrinth, one that is entirely interior.

— Albert Barlow

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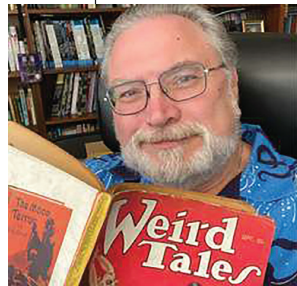
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THANKSGIVING DAY LUNCH CRUISE

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WHEN: Thursday, November 23, 1 pm to 3 pm

WHERE: Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive, Downtown. flagshipsd.com/cruises/thanksgiving



Saturday | 25

WEIRD TALES: 100 YEARS OF WEIRD

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first issues of *Weird Tales Magazine* by taking in a compendium of new and classic stories, flash fiction, essays, and poems from noted authors of speculative fiction: R. L. Stine, Laurell K. Hamilton, Ray Bradbury, H.

P. Lovecraft, Tennessee Williams, and Isaac Asimov. Categories include Cosmic Horror, Sword and Sorcery, Space Opera, and The Truly Weird. Landmark stories such as "The Call of Cthulhu," "Worms of the Earth," and "Legal Rites" stand beside original stories.

WHEN: Saturday, November 25, 3 pm to 5 pm

WHERE: Artifact Books, 603 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. artifacrarebooks.com

Friday | 24

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SAMMY JOHNSON

roots, blending island reggae, soul, and jazz vibes with his lyrics. He recently released a new single, "Already Beautiful," and he's touring to promote the tenth anniversary of his breakthrough reggae album, *Prelude*.

WHEN: Friday, November 24, 7 pm

WHERE: Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue, North Park. observatorysd.com

SURFIN' SANTA PARADE & PHOTOS

Snag a spot on the boardwalk for Santa's holiday homecoming as he cruises in from the bay via water-



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23: THANKSGIVING DAY LUNCH CRUISE

craft. Visitors can pose and have a free downloadable picture taken with Surfin' Santa on his giant surfboard, riding a six-foot wave. Afterwards, Santa will lead guests along the boardwalk to witness the first snowfall of the season at Malibu Farm, a farm-to-table restaurant.

WHEN: Saturday, November 25, 1 pm to 5 pm

WHERE: Seaport Village, 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown. seaportvillage.com

Wednesday | 29

ANN PATCHETT: TOM LAKE

Warwick's and the University of San

Diego's College of Arts and Sciences and Humanities Center will host Ann Patchett as she discusses her new book, *Tom Lake*. The story: in the spring of



ANN PATCHETT

2020, Lara's three daughters return to the family's orchard in Northern Michigan. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor with whom she shared a romance years before at a theater company.

WHEN: Wednesday, November 29, 7 pm

WHERE: Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park, Linda Vista. warwicks.com

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

ART

5-Year Anniversary Celebration: Free Kids Craft The community is invited to celebrate with live artist demonstrations, a free kids craft, a make-and-take craft (for a small donation), an art and craft sale, face painting, DJ music, and a food truck. RSVP online @ sandiegocraft.org/product/five-yr-anniversary/. Saturday, November 25, 10am; **free**-\$5. San Diego Craft Collective, 2590 Truxtun Rd., Studio 106. (LIBERTY STATION)

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. Friday, November 24, 9am; Saturday, November 25, 9am; **free**. La Mesa Community Center, 4975 Memorial Drive. (LA MESA)

Little Fish Comic Savvy Thanksgiving Edition with a large library of comic books and graphic novels that has just about a little of everything for everyone, so please feel free to peruse the stacks. A large amount of free comic books and graphic novels will be available for attendees to go through and take home. Saturday, November 25, 7pm; **free**. Little Fish Comic Book Studio, 6822-B El Cajon Boulevard. (ROLANDO)

Ocean Beach Makers Market Shop local makers and artists with handmade goods such as jewelry, knit goods, home decor, metal working, prints, soap, paintings, candles, etc. Saturday, November 25, 11am; **free**. OB Surf Lodge, 5083 Santa Monica Ave Suite 1F. (OCEAN BEACH)

SDAG 12th Annual Holiday Bazaar The San Dieguito Art Guild presents its 12th annual Holiday Bazaar, including a Silent Auction of artworks donated by the participating artists. Saturday, November 25, 10am; **free**. 18 and up. Encinitas Community and Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive. (ENCINITAS)

SWANS: Slow War Against the Nuclear State The legacy of over 2,000 nuclear weapon tests and the two atomic bombs dropped on Japan has had profound global effects. The group explores the past and future of nuclear proliferation, with explosive visuals that interrogate the legacy of the bomb, nuclear power and uranium mining. Wednesday, November 29, 12pm; **free**-\$10. Kellogg Library at CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Rhyme & Verse

Thanksgiving

A poem for Thanksgiving by Joseph O'Brien

...et nihil mihi deerit.

The living room is over-heated, like a gaping kitchen oven-door,
Long past the payoff in savory odors resulting from bowls of color.
The back parlor launches its many campaigns of hushed conversation.
Sunlight glistens farewells through liquor decanters on the piano top,
A gamut of ambers standing at attention, surrounding one deep purple port.

The house slows down to siphon from the levels of these,
Registering like primitive thermometers, exhibited like an exquisite Array of laboratory devices experimenting with alien elements,
Measuring fevers and hungers, reducing all of November
To a memory the moment all time stops: 4 p.m., Thanksgiving Day.

Then, the clocks charge on, the last plate begins to shine again
And teacups and saucers collect like seashells in children's arms.
We give thanks the fading sun is freezing the air on the front porch
Where the crisp twinge of nicotine allows us to ignore
The somnolent effect of tryptophane in our veins—give thanks

For the play of alcohol in our brains, for lack of want—and loss of wit
On our various lusts. We move inside, through a relative crowd,
to her:
And remind ourselves that, safe and long ago, her pearled neckline

And those mermaid eyes, almond-shaped,
swimming rich with emerald,
Were once the subject of grave adolescent scrutiny;

That when brother brought her home from college one November,
She would someday be his wife. Now, from behind curtains of smoke
Rising from ashtrays, old men recall their small scenes of industry—
As if their knuckled cigars would become the mercurial actions
Of history. Soon enough, aunts, cousins, in-laws,
all tramp to the front door

And march themselves into coats and hats. Yes,
we give thanks,
Clean to the bone, for remnant drops in brandy snifters,
For joking with sister-in-law about her pregnant belly,
And for that same brother on the phone, long-distance, telling us
About his eating a turkey in the Middle East with the President.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

AUTOMOTIVE

Motorcycles in the Park Sponsored by Café Moto and the San Diego Antique Motorcycle Club with coffee, prizes, discount museum entry. Bring your motorcycle, prizes considered for motorcycles 35 years and older. Sunday, November 26, 7:30am; **free**. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Ann Patchett: Tom Lake Warwick's and the University of San Diego's College of Arts and Sciences and Humanities Center will host Ann Patchett as she discusses her new book, *Tom Lake*. Wednesday, November 29, 7pm; \$15-\$40. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Lauren Graham HAVE I TOLD YOU THIS ALREADY? Book Tour Tuesday, November 28, 7:30pm; \$30. 18 and up. Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Plant Forward Cookbook Launch Join Fox's *Next Level Chef* co-star and Bravo's "Top Chef All-Stars" winner Richard Blais and his wife, Jazmin for a one-night meet and greet event to celebrate the launch of the couple's first collaborative cookbook *Plant Forward: 100 Bold Recipes for a Mostly Healthy Lifestyle*. Wednesday, November 29, 5:30pm; \$49. California English, 9276 Scranton Road. (MIRA MESA)

Weird Tales: 100 Years of Weird Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first issues of *Weird Tales* Magazine with a compendium of new and classic stories, flash fiction, essays, and poems

from the giants of speculative fiction. Saturday, November 25, 3pm; **free**. Artifact Books, 603 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (ENCINITAS)

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Drop & Shop Drop your kids off for a few hours while you do holiday shopping. Your kids will spend all day playing games, relays, zipline rides, bubblestorms, tumbling and sports skills, and climbing. This is a drop-off program and all participants must be fully potty-trained. Friday, November 24, 9am; \$50. My Gym Children's Fitness Center Poway, 12222 Poway Road Suite 18-19. (POWAY)

Family Workshop: Ceramic Holiday Ornaments You and a child can usher in the winter holidays by making fun and festive ornaments. You'll each receive a slab of clay to shape, cut and decorate about 10-12 pieces. You'll be instructed on how to begin, then let your creativity take over. Price is for two people, all ages. Friday, November 24, 2:30pm; \$100. Mud Lily, 2888 Adams Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Macrame & Sea Glass Ornament Making Workshop Guests will have 2 hours to create a variety of macrame and sea glass ornaments. Mix and Match as you like. Tickets include a flight of wine and \$10 off a bottle of your choice. Sunday, November 26, 1pm; \$55. La Mesa Wine Works, 8167 Center Street. (LA MESA)

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)

Surfin' Santa Parade & Photos Visitors can pose and have a free downloadable picture taken with Surfin' Santa on his giant surfboard, riding a six-foot wave. After Surfin' Santa has ridden his last wave he will lead guests along the boardwalk to witness the first snowfall of the season at Malibu Farm. Saturday, November 25, 1pm; **free**. Seaport Village, 849 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Alzheimer's SD: Coping with Personality & Behavior Changes People with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias can experience behavior and personality changes. Learn what those changes mean, and new ways to respond. This class is presented by local non-profit Alzheimer's San Diego and is designed for care partners. Online pre-registration is recommended @ alzsd.org/services/education/. Wednesday, November 29, 10am; **free**. 18 and up. One Safe PL, 1050 Los Vallecitos Boulevard. (SAN MARCOS)

Body Dynamics Students learn breathing techniques for self-care, mental resilience, and physical relaxation as they age. Please wear flat supportive shoes and loose, comfortable clothing. Audience: Adult. Monday, November 27, 1pm; **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Divine Light Healing on the Full Moon Experience a Direct Divine Light healing, performed in a supportive group setting, on the Full Moon. Monday, November 27, 6pm; \$20. 18 and up. Spiritual Arts

Institute, 527 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Higher Self Meditation Experience the transformative power of receiving Divine Light from your Higher Self to bless uplift your auric field and life. Mondays, 9am; through Saturday, December 30, **free**. Spiritual Arts Institute, 527 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Meditation Meditation, Awareness & Awakening hosted by Turf'ya Dhara Saturday, November 25, 11am; **free**-\$20. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Meditation for a Happy Life Learn and practice meditation, improve harmony at home and at work, and build your wisdom and inner peace. Audience: Adults. Monday, November 27, 5:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Middle-Eastern Drumming Classes Middle-Eastern Drumming with Frank Lazzaro, all levels welcome. Extra drums available. Mondays, 6pm; through Monday, December 18, \$15. 18 and up. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Poetry II Sundays Free Verse, Lyric Poetry & Narrative Poetry With Ron Salisbury Sundays, 1pm; through Sunday, December 3, \$270-\$315. Inspirations Gallery, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #204. (LIBERTY STATION)

COMEDY

A John Waters Christmas Belly Up & Casbah present A John Waters Christmas. Wednesday, November 29, 7:30pm; \$65-\$114. 21 and up. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

Black Friday Comedy Night Performers TBA. Friday, November 24, 7:30pm; **free**-\$10. Five Suits Brewing, 2575 Pioneer Avenue STE 104. (VISTA)

Comedy Under the Stars Hosted by Benji Garcia Reyes. Saturday, November 25, 7:30pm; **free**-\$10. 21 and up. Bolt Brewing, 8179 Center Street. (LA MESA)

Daniel Tosh Best known from the Comedy Central show Tosh.O, Daniel Tosh will perform an evening of stand up comedy. Friday, November 24, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$49-\$69. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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 28, 7:30pm; **free**. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tim Dillon AS SEEN ON: Comedy Central, Netflix, Joe Rogan Experience & more! Friday, November 24, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, November 25, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, November 26, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$38. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Fantastical Fiction Forum Discuss the best of classic and modern fantasy, horror, and science fiction in a friendly, inclusive group. This month's discussion: *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet* by Becky Chambers. This hybrid program allows for virtual and in-person attendance. Tuesday, November 28, 6:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Free Tuesday Free admission to San Diego County residents with ID. Proof of San Diego County residency is required for all adults (18+) participating. CA Driver's License, State, School or Military ID are accepted. Tuesday, November 28, 10am; 18 and up. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

Tantra Speed Date Join the speed dating revolution with a 94% match rate. Meet singles & ignite connections through fun, chemistry-building games. Friday, November 24, 7pm; \$55-\$125. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas BL., Suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

FOOD & DRINK

Glass Box Tequila Dinner Glass Box presents a Tequila Pairing Dinner featuring a curated selection of various types of José Cuervo tequila, paired with a five-course menu by Chef Ethan Yang. Wednesday, November 29, 6pm; \$85. 21 and up. Sky Deck, 12841 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

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

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

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

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

FOR KIDS

Baby Play & Learn Baby Play & Learn is designed to support the development of children ages 0-24 months. This program includes stories, rhymes, songs, and movement activities followed by an open play time. All ages are welcome to attend. Tuesdays, 12pm; through Tuesday, December 19, **free**. Ocean Beach Library, 4801 Santa Monica Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Baby Storytime Enjoy songs, fingerplays, books, and more with your baby. All children are welcome. Geared toward pre-walkers. Mondays, 11am; through Tuesday, December 19, **free**. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Color In A New Light Step into a world where you can unveil the secrets of light and color, captivating your senses and sparking your curiosity. Dive deep into the fascinating realms of darkness, visible and invisible light, and color. Each area offers a unique and interactive experience that will illuminate and enlighten. Through Dec. 31, 10am-5pm; \$19-\$24. 3 and up. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Rhythm & Movement In this highly interactive, music-based storytime program, children have the opportunity to play musical instruments, learn beats with rhythm sticks, and dance and move to the sounds. All ages are welcome to attend. Wednesdays, 10am; through Wednesday, December 27, **free**. Ocean Beach Library, 4801 Santa Monica Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

LECTURES

What Is It about "Latinx"? The use of the word "Latinx" is controversial within and without American Latino/a communities. Enjoy a community discussion on Latinidad and identity featuring Isidro Ortiz of SDSU Chicano & Chicana Studies, Cris Sotomayor of San Diego Pride, Jade Power-Sotomayor of UCSD Theatre & Dance, Francesca de Vera of San Diego Public Library. Monday, November 27, 6:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

NATURE

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. Walks start from the Visitor Center, are free and open to the public, with no reservations required. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, November 25, Sunday, November 26, & Wednesday, November 29, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

OUTDOORS

Rainbow season, extreme low tides for birdwatching, full moon

"Rainbow Season" Arrives With The First Rains Of Late Fall. Scattered showers are best for rainbow spotting: sunlight refracting and reflecting through the raindrops causes two bows to appear — an intense circular arc at 42° and a bigger but weaker arc at 51° from the antisolar point (the point in the sky diametrically opposed to the sun's position). From November through mid-February, the sun never gets higher than 42° above the horizon as seen from San Diego, so (rain and sunlight permitting) the brighter of the two arcs may appear above the horizon at any time of day. In spring and summer, rainbows are never seen in the sky around midday because the sun is too high — and the antisolar point is too low.

Extreme High And Low Tides Are Set To Occur over several



MOONLIGHT BEACH AT LOW TIDE

Guided Nature Walk Learn about the history & ecology of the lake and enjoy the many birds that make this habitat home. Walks are free and open to the public, with no reservations required. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, November 25, 8:30am; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Mindful Walk The Torrey Pines Docent Society offers a free guided walk. Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, December 31, **free**. 18 and up. Torrey Pines State Beach and Reserve, 12600 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Networking Glow Night Hike Enjoy engaging conversations, guided by headlamps and the glow of the moon, as you network with like-minded professionals. Wednesday, November 29, 6pm; \$15. 18 and up. Cowles Mountain, Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Wheelchair-Accessible Botanical Tour Join Park Ranger Herrera for a journey through a lesser-known botanical treasure. This easy, 1/4 mile trail is wheelchair and stroller accessible. Bring water and sun protection. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome. Meet near the playground. Saturday, November

25, 11am; **free**. Charles Lewis III Memorial Park, 4639 Home Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friendship Pop Up Shop Market Vendors with candles, crystals, soaps, pet attire, handmade items, home decor and more. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, December 31, **free**. Chula Vista Friendship Park, Fourth Avenue & F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Green Friday Sustainable Market Sustainability is Sexy in the Biergarten, featuring local, earth-friendly artisans and vendors, food and brews. Friday, November 24, 11am; **free**. Pure Project at the Park, 2865 5th Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Shop Local 2023 Shop Local invites the community to support small businesses, reduce their holiday shopping carbon footprint, and connect with the people who make North Park what it is. Saturday, November 25, 11am; **free**. Mila North Park, 2879 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

SPOKEN WORD

Downtown Escondido Toastmasters Toastmasters is an international organization that helps people improve their public speaking, practice effective communication, and build leadership skills. Thursdays, 12:05pm; through Thursday, June 27, 2024. **free**-\$53. 18 and up. Escondido City Hall, 201 North Broadway. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Gulls Home Game The San Diego Gulls will host 14 different Western Conference opponents. Friday, November 24, 7pm; Saturday, November 25, 6pm; Wednesday, November 29, 7pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Sound Bath Gratitude Meditation Thanksgiving Ceremony with Jeny of Zen Soul Balance. Friday, November 24, 4pm; \$45. Buddhi Yoga, 7843 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Yoga for Adults & Kids Enjoy holistic, playful, and mentally stimulating yoga that's suited for every body. Mondays, 10am; through Friday, December 15, \$15-\$40. Blossom & Bloom, 7400 El Cajon Boulevard Suite 101. (LA MESA)



SHELTER ISLAND GETS A FINE DOUBLE RAINBOW

days in late November. On Sunday, November 25, the tide reaches a high of 7.22 feet at 7:50 am and then falls to -1.31 feet at 2:54 pm. On Monday, the tide peaks at 7.19 feet at 8:24 am and a low of -1.35 feet at 3:36 pm. Either of these low tide occasions are perfect for exploring marine life in the tidepool areas along San Diego County's coastline. But if any strong winter storm happens to arrive from the west during these peak tides, some flooding of low-lying coastal areas around San Diego is likely. On the brighter side, birdwatchers have an opportunity to spot species of rare shorebirds that get pushed to the edges of local bays and coastal marshes by the high water.

The November Full Moon Will Reach Its Peak on the morning of November 27, at 4:16 am. Often called the Beaver Moon, because this is the time of year when beavers retreat to their lodges with food stocked up for the winter. Other November Moon names also reference animals readying for winter. Digging (or Scratching) Moon, a Tlingit name, refers to animals foraging for fallen nuts and bears digging their winter dens. The Dakota and Lakota term, Deer Rutting Moon, refers to the time when deer seek mates, and the Algonquin Whitefish Moon describes the spawning time of the whitefish.



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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.

Babbitt

La Jolla Playhouse got famous actor Matthew Broderick to come and star in an adaptation of a famous-but-forgotten American novel from the days when novels were big, so of course the show is sold out through its entire run, but here's what you're missing: a brutally sad and tragic story about a man who tries and fails to become something more than he is, something more like he thought he might be when he was young, pitched like a comedy — and not a black sort of comedy, either. Something far more amiable; something that, by show's end, might feel more like a dramedy, or even a feel-good triumph, as long as you understand that what you're supposed to feel good about is a man learning to let go of his own hopes and dreams and just let other folks — the young, the women, and, weirdly, the rat bastards who run the rotten world — have their way. His early line "My whole life has amounted to nothing!" sparks a note of anxiety. But by the time he's winding things down and describing his situation as "a kind of living death," the audience is chuckling right along. This fascinating effect is a testament to the Playhouse's production, Broderick's performance, and maybe the fact that Babbitt is a man utterly without character. He's happy to cheat his customers unless he likes them, happy to lie on the witness stand as long as it's for his friend, happy to abandon one cause for another to get what he wants, etc. Maybe we're laughing because he has no idea how despicable he is, and besides, since it's Broderick, he's so gosh-darn likeable despite it all! About that production: it's polished to a high shine — much like the library-themed set — with the rest of the cast serving as both narrators and those who people Babbitt's world: his wife, his children, his best

friend, his new neighbors, the exciting new dance instructor in town who looks remarkably like the siren who haunts his dreams, etc. So you have to figure the odd bits — casting a black man as Babbitt's downwardly-mobile son, or an Asian man as an old-style Republican establishment man worried about the threat posed by immigrants — are intentional efforts to provoke thought. In the end, it's well done, but exactly what is done and why is maybe obscured a bit by the shine. It's folly to review the show you wish you'd seen, but I kept wondering how a modern Babbitt would play: a conventional liberal who one day decides to blow up his life by going MAGA. The horror! LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, LA JOLLA, 858-550-1010, CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

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 inherit? By David Auburn, directed by Anthony Methvin, starring Francis Gercke, William Huffaker, Wendy Maples, and Lili-ana Talwate Magic and Mathematics. TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS.

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.



Babbitt: "Honey, have you seen my wasted life?"

The Marvelous Wonderettes

Four friends - Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy, and Suzy - step onto the stage to entertain their classmates with their renditions of beloved songs. Celebrate the female voices of the era, featuring classic songs such as "Lollipop," "Dream Lover," "It's My Party," and "Respect," among others. Written and Created by Roger Bean. POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS.

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 unviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDRReader.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 mar-

riage 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)

Napoleon — Director Ridley Scott cuts the world's most famous short person down to size. But it's not clear why. Is it because, as the endnote informs us, his campaigns of glorious conquest killed millions of his own people? Then why isn't that a theme throughout the film, instead of being mentioned via subtitles once and once in dialogue? Is it because while history counts him among the great military leaders of all time, but really, he was actually a bit of a blunderer who will be best remembered for his failures in Russia and at Waterloo? Then maybe we should have seen more of the greatness, so that the blunders would feel like a corrective. (The victory at Austerlitz is, admittedly, the highlight of the film: the gradually unfolding attack is thrilling, and the sequence of the standard bearer being shelled as he dashes across the ice on his horse is wondrous to behold — and one of the few places where color actually registers in this relentlessly dim and dun movie.) Or is it, as seems most likely from the presentation, that the two-time Emperor — so beloved that all he had to do was ask the people to return him to power and *voilà* — was an insecure mama's boy who was buoyed more than he rose, clumsy and callow while others were clever and calculating, and who transferred his childish devotion to his rather mercenary wife. (She is never more earnest when she begs him, "just please don't leave me," because of course, it's good to be Empress.) Joaquin Phoenix seems miscast in the lead, or maybe just misdirected. He came across as smaller in *The Master*; here, we need a visual gag with a mummified Pharaoh to establish his *shorta fides*. And while he gives good sullen scowl, he never manages to cut a figure of sufficient stature to be worth caring about one way or the other. And if *that's* Scott's point...well okay, but again, why make the movie? 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)



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Whiskey & Burlap on the porch Ethan van Thillo was a longtime violinist who basically abandoned the instrument after he had finished college. At that point, he devoted all his time to being a father and running the Media Arts Center of San

ing live,” says van Thillo. “I think it was Camille that really pushed playing shows. Craig and I would have been happy to stay in our living room and play together as a group, but Camille said, ‘Let’s have a goal. Let’s play.’ Deft Brewing was the first place in September



Whiskey and Burlap: Pandemic porch pickin’ led to bigger things.

Diego — and oh yes, the San Diego Latino Film Festival. But over the years, he slowly got back into playing music by occasionally picking up a violin at family get-togethers with his musician buddy Craig McIntosh. Eventually, he was gifted a mandolin (basically a violin with frets) and dove headfirst into “playing and playing,” as he puts it. And one day on a whim, van Thillo decided to invite his South Park neighbor, Camille Sallave, to a little jam he was having with McIntosh at his house.

During Sallave’s youth, her mother, aunts, and grandmother would get together and harmonize during family events. The practice set her on a path to becoming a singer herself. But her background was with rock, blues, and jazz, while van Thillo’s was with cumbia, zydeco and classical. It was McIntosh who served as the guide for the bluegrass and folk sounds of their new band, Whiskey & Burlap.

“We just all reconnected to music and the idea of playing together, and the idea of play-

of 2018. That gave us maybe two months to learn all these covers. We were just starting, so we were playing covers. It probably wasn’t until about a year later when I introduced an original song, and then Craig introduced an original. Then Camille started writing. She would just share all these wonderful lyrics, and I would put music to most of them.”

When the pandemic hit in 2020, Whiskey & Burlap used the shutdown to gain momentum. “I used to play on my porch, and all of the sudden, we started doing porch concerts,” van Thillo explains. “We would close off 29th Street in South Park near The Station. We would illegally close it in front of Camille’s house and have porch concerts once a month, and we would live stream it. I felt, during the pandemic, that Whiskey & Burlap made a really strong connection to more people in terms of our neighborhood. We still get some neighbors who walk by Camille’s house and go, ‘When’s the next one?’ We even found a neighbor who became like a donor and

supported our first album.”

The band completed that album, *Around the Bend*, in December; the effort earned them a Best Folk or Acoustic Album nod at the 2022 San Diego Music Awards. This led to further exposure for the band, and more gig requests during a somewhat tricky year for performing them. McIntosh was on sabbatical, so van Thillo and Sallave were thrust into the work of performing primarily as a duo. They had different musicians helping them at times throughout the year, but at their most minimal, it was van Thillo utilizing an octave mandolin to give the songs a bit more bass, and Sallave playing the banjolele (a banjo/ukelele hybrid) to fill out some of the missing guitar parts. “It was a trial by fire for both of us,” van Thillo says. “We went from having an incredible guitarist who was the structure of the band, to no structure and us playing as a duo and with other musicians, in a really quick time.”

McIntosh is back in the fold now, and all three play on their new album *Questioning Why*, which features Sallave’s banjolele playing. “Lyrically speaking, I think I was just trying to get through the year,” Sallave says. “I think it’s a good compilation of what we were going through while Craig was away, and me trying to learn these instruments, and growth. It’s not always comfortable.”

Sallave concludes, “We’ve also talked about doing a mini-tour next year. It’s gonna take some work to do that, to try to hustle those venues and get that in line. But we also still want to continue to do these albums. We have these other songs that we’ve already been working on, so hopefully we get back into the studio a couple more times next year. Whether it’s an EP or another full album, that would be great.”

— Dryw Keltz

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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PLEASURE PILL at the Casbah

NOV 24



Influenced by Britpop music and mod fashion, Pleasure Pill features frontman Jonah Paz (JINX!) and his brother Ethan Paz (rhythm guitar), whose father Oscar Paz played with Kill Holiday in the 1990s and Hingada in the early 2020s. The brothers recently released a single for “Not Giving Up,” followed by “Wonder How.” The Little Italy bill includes Sands, 12 Gauge Trixie, and Doll Riot.

KARL DENSON’S TINY UNIVERSE at The Sound

NOV 25



Rolling Stones touring saxophonist Karl Denson will convene his band Tiny Universe in order to pay tribute to hip-hop heroes the Beastie Boys. The outdoor Del Mar set will feature guest performances from members of local reggae rock stars Slightly Stoopid, along with a custom DJ set by Z-Trip.

MERCEDES MOORE at Bogey’s Pub & Grill

NOV 25



The Mercedes Moore Band first earned local notice when it was nominated Best Blues at the 2012 San Diego Music Awards. They’re among the most frequently seen acts on local stages, including Queen Bee’s new weekly Tuesday night swing dance, where Moore also teaches swing classes. Moore will bring her soul, R&B, funk band to Miramar to perform a free set at Bogey’s.

CHEST FEVER at the Belly Up

NOV 26



Chest Fever, the *aka* for locals Mrs. Henry, will perform their version of The Band’s iconic album and film *The Last Waltz* in Solana Beach. The evening includes guest performances from Benjamin Dakota Rogers, Albert Lee, Scarlet Rivera, Cindy Cashdollar, Jerry Leger, Devin Cuddy, Nicole Cerninara, and Sugarmill Slim.

PUNK RIFFS & MOSH PITS at Winstons Beach Club

NOV 26



Taking place in OB, Punk Riffs & Mosh Pits 2 kicks off at 3 in the afternoon with four bands for eight bucks. The 21+ event features performances by Atomic Jellyfish (Los Angeles), The Hemogoblins (San Diego), Blue Elephant & the Seven Snakes (San Diego), and Vitto & The Trees (San Diego).

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

Alejandra’s Fine Mexican Food & Cantina:

Friday, 7pm — Gabriele Dagrezio.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Monday, 12pm — Duo AYA. Free.

Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Deon Cole. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Matteo Bocelli. \$56-\$119.

Belly Up Tavern:

Friday, 8pm — Fear and The Lower Class Brats. \$40-\$70. Friday, 5pm — Full Strength Happy Hour. \$8. Saturday, 8pm — Wayward Sons. \$20-\$35. Sunday, 7pm — Chest Fever Presents The Last Waltz. \$35-\$62.

Bogey’s Pub and Grill:

Saturday, 7pm — Mercedes Moore Band. Free.

Books & Records:

Friday, 7pm — Amanda Portela. Free. Saturday, 7pm — The Garners Trio. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Saturday, 6:55pm — Suffocation and Incantation. \$30-\$35. Sunday, 8pm — Left To Die and Mortuous. \$25. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Exmortus. \$18-\$22.

Carruth Cellars Liberty Station:

Tuesday, 5pm — Adrienne Nims. Free.

Casbah:

Friday, 9pm — Pleasure Pill and Sands. \$12. Sunday, 7:30pm — We Are Scientists. \$20. Monday, 7:30pm — Saving Abel and King Falcon. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Spectre Jones. \$15.

Crafted Culture:

Friday, 6pm — Mike Myrdal.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Saturday, 7pm — The B Sections. Free. Tuesday, 7pm — SD Jazz Collective. Free.

Duke’s La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Keko.

Sunday, 4pm — Farrah Camu. Tuesday, 4pm — Jehua Evans.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Sunday, 11am — Andrew Pena.

Golden Island:

Sunday, 6pm — The Whitney Shay Quartet. Free.

Holding Company:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Anesthesia and Motley 2. Free. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Onyx. Free.

Hotel Republic San Diego:

Friday, 6pm — DJ Dominick Wintner. Free. Sunday, 6pm — Josie LaValle. Free. Wednesday, 6pm — The B Sections. Free.

House of Blues:

Friday, 7:30pm — Rockero Night. \$19-\$97. Saturday, 9pm — Taylor’s Version. \$24. Sunday, 7:30pm — The Meteors. \$18. Wednesday, 7pm — Ashes To Amber. \$15.

Humble Heart:

Sunday, 6pm — Into The Void and Grand Nova. \$10.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Wednesday, 6pm — Side Street Ft. Gregory Page. \$5.

L’Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde. Saturday, 7pm — Helena Holleran. Sunday, 11am — Marelle. Wednesday, 5pm — Christian Taylor.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 12pm — Jemille Violet. Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbrow. Saturday, 11am — Dalton Gazette. Sunday, 11am — David Shyde.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Friday, 7:30pm — Wild Child. \$12-\$85.

Mission Bay Resort:

Saturday, 6pm — Jeff Brinkman. Monday, 6pm — Matt Heinecke. Tuesday, 6pm — Jemille Violet.

Morgan Run Resort and Club:

Friday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Music Box:

Friday, 7:30pm — Cappyac. \$17-\$19. Saturday, 7:30pm — Yo! East Coast vs West Coast. Monday, 7pm — No Party For Cao Dong.

Nick & G’s:

Saturday, 7pm — Whitney Shay.

Nova SD:

Friday, 9:30pm — Matroda. \$30. Saturday, 9:30pm — DJ Dombresky. \$25.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, 7pm — Sammy Johnson. \$32-\$52.

Old Town Blues Club:

Wednesday, 7pm — Daring Greatly.

Pine Valley House:

Saturday, 7pm — Blame Betty. Free. Sunday, 6:30pm — Graham Nancarrow Dinner Show. \$17-\$22.

Pure Project Vista:

Saturday, 7pm — Saturday Sessions: Lambert Fooks Trio. Free.

Quartyard:

Sunday, 8pm — Nina Kraviz.

San Diego Marriott Del Mar:

Friday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Seabird:

Sunday, 5pm — Keni Yarbrow.

Side Yard:

Saturday, 6pm — Christian Taylor. Wednesday, 6pm — Alex Elisabeth.

Soda Bar:

Friday, 9pm — Renaissance: Beyoncé Celebration. \$19. Saturday, 7:30pm — Delta Bombers and The Sleepwalkers. \$24. Sunday, 7:30pm — Surf Trash. \$15-\$15. Monday, 7:30pm — The Ivy and Swim Fan. \$19. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Dante Elephante and Rudy De Anda. \$24. Wednesday, 7:30pm — The Palms.

Soma:

Saturday, 7:30pm — LP. \$35-\$160.

Sound:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe: Beastie Boys Tribute. \$39-\$208. Monday, 7:30pm — Royal Blood and Hot Wax. \$37.

Sycuan Casino:

Sunday, 7pm — Engelbert Humperdinck: A Winter World of Love. \$69-\$99.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:

Friday, 8pm — Paperback Writer. \$19-\$29. Saturday, 8pm — Catch A Wave. \$19-\$29.

Tidal:

Saturday, 5pm — Johnny Martin.

Tio Leo’s:

Monday, 6pm — Rick Ross Monday Cabaret. Free.

Viejas Arena:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Stevie Nicks.

Whistle Stop Bar:

Friday, 7:30pm — Crush of Souls.

Winstons Beach Club:

Friday, 9pm — Kyle Merrill Band. \$10. Saturday, 9pm — Paging the 90s. \$10. Sunday, 3pm — Punk Riffs & Mosh Pits 2. \$8-\$10. Tuesday, 9pm — Retro-x and Maverick. \$7.

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THE GONZO REPORT

Citizen, no arrest

Bobby busts out but is not busted at Observatory North Park

I thought I bought tickets to see Citizen Cope. Instead, my scattered head bought tickets to see a band called Citizen. A blunder of this magnitude told me I needed to meditate and turn away from the suck of my phone for a dopamine detox. I coped with my folly by going to the show anyway. I hadn't been to the North Park Observatory since Henry Rollins passed through on his spoken word tour last October, so I figured it was time to step back into the venue.

A few hours before showtime, I was still grinding at the day job. My boss told me there was probably going to be overtime that night. "I'm working undertime tonight, actually," I said. "A halfy." She snickered at the word "halfy" and walked away, accepting that I would be leaving work early instead of late. When seven o'clock rolled around, I punched the clock, already clad in my concert gear — simple gray denim pants, basic black T-shirt, and a pair of old black Chucks. This

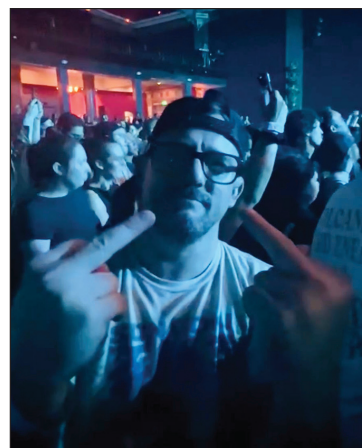
is my everyday uniform. It's a universal look that will gain you access to most any casual-to-moderate soiree.

I missed out on the over-time potluck at work, and arrived at the Observatory with a hankering for Mexican food. Lucha Libre was winking at me from across the street on University Avenue, but I was already a little tardy for the show. The venue's restaurant/bar would have to do. I made the deal with the bearded barkeep for a 16-ounce honey blonde ale and plate of chicken nachos for thirty-five bones, after tip. A couple of fellows around my age posted up next to me at the bar, providing some company on a night I had decided to stay stag. They called themselves Bobby and James from Vista. They had made the trip down to see some middle-of-the-week live music because, as Bobby quipped, "Why the fuck not?"

"I think we're the oldest people in here," James said to the bartender. It was an all-ages show, but he was right. When I took a look around, I saw galaxies of pimples and nervous-but-excited young faces. "The bar is usually empty on these kinds of nights," said the bartender. This fact boded well for the Vista guys and me., drinkwise at least. We kept our spines curved on stools and our mugs wet until Citizen took to the stage. (We couldn't see the



How to cope after missing Citizen Cope.



Happy birthday, James from Vista!

opening acts, but we could hear them just fine.)

Before going out to join the rest of the crowd, I exchanged Instagram info with Bobby and James. "I have to give you my new account name," James told me. "I got doxed by a famous multi-million-follower Instagrammer." According to James, the famous Instagrammer who tried to dox him disagreed with a comment he made online in regards to the Covid vaccine. "So he tried to cancel culture you?" I asked. "Yeah, he found out where I work, got my boss's email address, and tried to get me fired. Fuckin' douchebag." The conversation then turned to an upcoming sumo wrestling tournament and James' one-eyed cat. Finally, we left the bar to watch the actual show.

I'd heard of the band Citizen from my brother-in-law; he had told me it was a shoe-

gaze act that "isn't bad." Bobby, James, and I made our way near the upper-front-stage-right, getting swallowed up in a sea of emo as we did so. James and I stood back with beers gripped in our mitts. But Bobby, who was standing in front of us, started cutting loose like a July lawnmower. I didn't know music like this could evoke such dancing, but hell yeah, get it Bobby. The man must have been caged up for months to unleash that kind of pert movement. I was surprised nobody notified the authorities. Bobby was on fire, and could be

stopped only by the water spraying from the bottle Citizen singer Mat Kerekes sent spiraling into the crowd.

After a short, crowd-requested encore, James said he wanted to try to meet the band. "I could tell those security guards I'm doing an accidental story on the show, and try to finagle something," I said. But when we walked to the back of the building, Citizen singer Kerekes was already out taking pictures with fans. There was no real need for me to try to pull the press card at this point. James and Bobby stood beside Kerekes and posed for a post-concert picture. Then I heard James tell Bobby it was one of the better birthdays he's had in recent years. *What? This was a birthday celebration too?* They should have told me. I might have danced. ■

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo

UPCOMING SHOWS

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

Aquarius Bar & Grille:
December 3, December 10,
December 17 — Mark Fisher's
High Noon Dead Set

Balboa Theatre:

December 1, December 2,
December 2 — Matteo Lane
December 3, December 3
— World Ballet Series: The
Nutcracker
December 5 — Believe!
December 9, December 10 —
Jingle: The Super Gay Sing-along
December 11, December 12 —
Million Dollar Quartet Christmas
December 17 — Mariachi Sol de
Mexico: A Merry-Achi Christmas

Barefoot Bar and Grill:

December 2 — Christian Taylor
December 8 — Jarred Matthew
December 9 — Gabriele Dagherio

Bellamy's Restaurant:

December 2 — Helena Holleran
December 7 — Shea Givens
December 9 — Orion Song
December 14 — Jake Taylor
Smith

Belly Up Tavern:

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
December 13 — The Venice
Christmas Show
December 15 — Highwayman
Show Featuring Makayla Phillips
December 16 — BETAMAXX
Very 80s Christmas
December 17 — Anuheia

Bogey's Pub and Grill:

December 2 — Johnny Deadly
Trio
December 9 — Jenny & The
Tramps
December 16 — Amanda Portela

Books & Records:

December 1 — Mikan Zlatkovich

Brick by Brick:

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, Greenwich,
Apparition
December 10 — Diesel Boy and
Versus the World
December 11 — Mutoid Man
December 12 — Jarhead Fertilizer
and Phobophilic
December 13 — Possessed and
Nunslaughter
December 14 — Evilthx and
Meidai
December 15 — Theosis and
Nightshadow
December 17 — Impending
Doom and Ov Sulfur

Cannonball:

November 30 — Jemille Vialat
December 7 — Kai Kalama
December 14 — Ben Benavente

The Casbah:

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

Community Actors Theatre:

December 2 — San Diego Film &
Music Festival

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

December 2 — San Diego
Academy of Ballet Winter Gala
December 3 — Soeng-Jin Cho
December 7 — Holiday Open
House
December 9 — Voices of Our
City Choir
December 15, December 16 —
Charlie Brown Jingles & Jazz

Corazon Del Barrio:

December 14 — Xibalba and
Conservative Military Image

Crafted Culture:

December 8 — Johnny Martin

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

December 2 — The Gravities
December 7 — Dead Head's
Night
December 9 — Anthony Cullins
December 11 — Bluegrass
Mondays
December 12 — SD Jazz
Collective
December 16 — The B Sections

Duke's La Jolla:

December 1 — Russell Paihinui
December 3 — Keni Yarbrow
December 5 — Jehua Evans
December 8 — Anthony Kauka
Stanley
December 10 — Joanna Gerolaga
December 12 — Jehua Evans
December 15 — Orion Song
December 17 — Keni Yarbrow

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Encinitas Community and Senior Center:

December 9 — North Coast Symphony Holiday Lights Concert

Encinitas Elks Lodge:

December 3, December 10, December 17 — Marty Conley's Big Band Express

Epstein Family Amphitheater:

December 2 — Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular
December 9 — The Klezmatics: Happy Joyous Hanukkah
December 13 — Manhattan Transfer

Espancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

December 1 — Helena Holleran
December 2 — Jesse Johnson
December 9 — Johnny Martin
December 15 — Christian Taylor

F6ix Niteclub:

November 30, December 7, December 14 — TakeOver Thursdays

Farmer & the Seahorse:

November 30 — David Hyde
December 1, December 3 — Danielle Angeloni
December 7 — David Hyde
December 8 — Gabriele Dagrezio
December 9 — Andrew Pena
December 14 — Jonny Tarr
December 15 — Alex Elisabeth
December 16 — Sean McCole
December 17 — Danielle Angeloni

Fast Times:

December 1 — West of 5
December 2 — Blame Betty
December 9 — Tequila Mockingbirdz

Fishtank:

December 5, December 12 — T is 4 Techno

Golden Island:

December 1 — Lady Dottie & The Diamonds
December 8 — Cobby Brzeski
December 15 — Mercedes Moore

Grossmont College:

December 8 — Viva España

Hillel of San Diego at SDSU:

December 1 — Christmas Concert

Hilton Del Mar:

December 1 — Orion Song

Hotel Republic San Diego:

December 5 — Cobby Brzeski

House of Blues:

November 30 — La Goony Chonga
November 30 — Jeremy Zucker
December 1 — Highly Suspect
December 1 — Beauty School Dropout
December 2 — Haste The Day and Emery & The Almost
December 3 — Hot Mulligan and Heart Attack Man
December 5 — Skid Row and Buckcherry
December 6 — Blu Eyes
December 6 — Enanitos Verdes
December 7 — Mammoth WVH
December 8 — The Struts and Mac Saturn
December 9 — Father and Ethereal
December 9 — Emo Night Brooklyn
December 10 — The Slackers
December 10 — Butcher Brown and Cartrons
December 13 — milk.
December 14 — Meg McRee and Francis Blume
December 15 — Mexican Slum Rats and Buddha Trixie
December 15 — Feels So Close Party
December 17 — Gospel Brunch
December 17 — Andrew Michael Wells and Sani Bronco

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

December 8 — Blame Betty

JAI at the Conrad:

November 30, November 30 — Flor de Toloache
December 6, December 6 — Davina & the Vagabonds
December 10, December 10 — Matthew Whitaker Quartet

Kensington Community Church:

December 16 — Stellarum's Festival of Christmas

L'Auberge Del Mar:

November 30 — Marelle
December 1 — Jemille Violet
December 2 — Jonny Tarr
December 3 — Rachel Jay
December 6 — Keni Yarbro
December 7 — Marelle
December 8 — Orion Song
December 9 — Jarred Matthew
December 10 — Helena Holleran
December 13 — Brandon Diaz
December 14 — OttoPilot
December 15 — David Shyde
December 16 — Jesse Johnson
December 17 — Farrah Camu

La Jolla Community Center:

December 6, December 13 — Opera Wednesdays

La Jolla United Methodist Church:

December 10 — The Colors of Christmas Concert

La Jolla Woman's Club:

December 10 — Le Salon De Musiques

La Mesa Wine Works:

December 3 — Garza Sextet
December 16 — Blame Betty

La Valencia Hotel:

November 30 — Christian Taylor
December 1 — Keni Yarbro
December 7 — Jemille Violet
December 8 — Keni Yarbro
December 9 — Whitney Shay
December 9 — Jesse Johnson
December 10 — Orion Song
December 14 — David Shyde
December 15 — Keni Yarbro
December 16 — Johnny Martin
December 17 — Dalton Gazette

Madison:

December 3 — Latin Jazz Sunday
December 5 — Jazz Night
December 10 — Latin Jazz Sunday
December 12 — Jazz Night
December 17 — Latin Jazz Sunday

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SUN. NOV. 26 LEFT TO DIE Mortuous, Mortal Wound, Street Tombs	SAT. DEC. 2 SHRED FOR DIME TRIBUTE SHOW Celebrating the Music & Legacy of Dimebag Darrell	MON. DEC. 11 MUTOID MAN with special guests
WED. NOV. 29 EXMORTUS Generation Kill, Hatriot, Claustrofobia	SUN. DEC. 3 FADRAIT Monarch, Corpsemaker, Cranial Detriment, Kushtaka	TUE. DEC. 12 JARHEAD FERTILIZER Phobophilic, Crownovhornz, Scourge
THU. NOV. 30 MADBALL Twist of Cain	THU. DEC. 7 WILD THE COYOTE & DEVORA with special guests	WED. DEC. 13 POSSESSED Nunslaughter, The Black Moriah, Helsott
FRI. DEC. 1 FERMENTOR Pire, Conjureth, Cerulean	FRI. DEC. 8 BELL WITCH Otay:Onii, Abyssal	FRI. DEC. 15 THEOSIS Nightshadow, Godhammered, Defy the Tyrants

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Sat, December 2
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Thurs, December 7
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Madison High School:
December 13 — Sparkle Jolly
Twinkle Jingle Holiday Show

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
December 1 — Tower of Power
December 2 — WAR
December 3 — Zoso
December 8 — Tommy
Emmanuel and Jerry Douglas
December 16, December 16 —
The Nutcracker: Imagine The Magic
December 17 — Gilberto Santa Rosa

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

MiraCosta College:
December 6 — MiraCosta
Symphony Orchestra: Celebrate
the Season
December 7 — MOJO in Concert
December 11 — PopRox Live
December 12 — Frequency Jazz
Ensemble Winter Concert

Mission Bay Resort:
November 30 — Orion Song
December 1 — Farrah Camu
December 2 — Johnny Martin
December 4 — Marelle
December 5 — Christian Taylor
December 9 — Helena Holleran
December 11 — Andrew Peña
December 12 — Ben Powell
December 13 — Keni Yarbro
December 16 — Jeff Brinkman
December 17 — Brandon Diaz

Moonshine Beach:
December 6 — Joshua Taylor &
the Unscene
December 8 — Pat Green

Morgan Run Resort and Club:
December 1 — Jesse Johnson
December 8 — Rachel Jay

Music Box:
November 30 — Rebel Star
December 1 — KES and
Teddyson John
December 2 — GoldFish and
Miramar
December 3 — Carry the Stone:
All-Star Tribute to Pink Floyd
December 4 — Aterciopelados
December 8 — Take On Me
December 9 — Simp City
December 10 — The Eagles
Ronstadt Experience
December 13 — Western
Standard Time Ska Orchestra
Holiday Show
December 15 — The FABBA
Show and High Tide Society

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Drinking from a firehose at The Shell

The Ring Without Words, as performed by The San Diego Symphony on Saturday, November 11, was all I hoped it would be.

The pacing and structure of Lorin Maazel's adaptation of Wagner's *Ring Cycle* are masterful, creating a seamless flow that mirrors the dramatic arc of the original epic. The transitions between themes and leitmotifs are handled with precision, maintaining a sense of cohesion while highlighting the emotional peaks and valleys of the storyline. On this orchestral journey, Maazel guides the listener through the mythical realms and human dilemmas that define *The Ring of the Nibelung*.

That being said, I was surprised by a few omissions, such as the arrival of the giants in *Das Rheingold*,

along with the gods proceeding into Valhalla at the conclusion. I thought "Winterstürme" from the first act of *Die Walküre* would be included, along with the "Magic Fire" music from the final scene. I thought *Siegfried* got the short end of the stick — but, to be fair, it is the least popular of the *Ring* operas. Still, notable in their absence were the forging song, the prelude to Act III, and the music of Brünnhilde's awakening. *Götterdämmerung*, however, included everything I thought it would.

In case it's not obvious, I had never listened to *The Ring Without Words* prior to the concert. I have often listened to the *Ring* operas, and used to have a few *Ring* highlights CDs back in the day. But outside of a concert, I don't think I would

feel compelled to listen to this version.

In concert, however, it is fantastic. The Shell was flexing all of its multi-media muscles, with projections of the action illuminating the ring around the stage. Maazel moves chronologically through *The Ring*, and each opera was announced via projections as the action tumbled forward.

It occurred to me that taking about 75 minutes out of a 15-hour musical epic such as *The Ring* means the entire thing could have been constructed out of *fortissimo* sections. I mean, the whole concert could have been performed at a volume of 11. Of course, that was not the case.

Music Director Rafael Payare had the San Diego Symphony in peak perfor-



The Shell was flexing all of its multi-media muscles.

mance mode. There was an appropriate thickness in the sound that only Wagner can create. The orchestra sounded mature and fully developed, ready to take on anything *The Ring* threw at them.

The prelude to Act II of *Die Walküre* was a blistering blast of Wagnerian energy. As the music grew and developed, I thought my brain might melt. It is no easy task to listen to

this condensed version of *The Ring*. The orchestra sounded thick because the score is thick. Listening to it reminded me of drinking from a firehose.

As the concert concluded, I had the distinct impression that I had witnessed an important chapter in the evolution of The San Diego Symphony. As of now, *The Ring Without Words* is scheduled to be reprised on February 24 and 25, 2024.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

December 16 — Equanimous,
Activation, Cam Steen
December 17 — The Music of
Steely Dan

My Yard Live:
December 1 — Dueling Piano
Night

Nate's Garden Grill:
December 16 — Tinkersmith

New Village Arts Theatre:
December 3, December 12 —
Opera à la Carte San Diego
Holiday Extravaganza

Nick & G's:
December 1 — Nathan Welden
December 2 — David Shyde
December 8 — Matt Heinecke

North Coast Repertory Theatre:
December 15 — 2 Pianos 4 Hands

Nova 5D:
December 1 — PhaseOne

Observatory North Park:

December 1 — Enjambre
December 2 — The Menzingers
December 3 — Me First and The
Gimme Gimmes
December 5 — Sonja Morgan
December 6 — Devendra Banhart
December 9 — The Dresden
Dolls
December 15 — Grateful Shred
December 16 — Cattle
Decapitation

Pal Joey's:
December 1 — Blame Betty

Panama 66:
November 30 — Uptown Rhythm
Makers
December 6, December 13 —
Castellanos Jam Session
December 14 — Uptown Rhythm
Makers

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

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:

December 2 — Hiroya
Tsukamoto Concert

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church:
December 3, December 3 —
Christmas Concert: Festival of
Carols

Point Loma Library:
December 18 — Holiday at the
Library: Left Coast Quintet
Concert

The Pour House:
December 8 — Blindfold Monks

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:
December 2 — Jake Shimabukuro

The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park:
December 8 — SD Symphony &
The Airborne Toxic Event
December 15, December 16,
December 17 — Noel Noel

Roxy Encinitas:
December 17 — Strange Brew
Band

Rustic Root:
December 5 — Johnny Martin

Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church:
December 9 — Messiah vis á vis
El Mesias G.F. Handel Messiah
(English)
December 15 — A Light in the
Darkness

San Diego Civic Theatre:
December 1, December 3 — San
Diego Opera: El Milagro del
Recuerdo

San Diego Maritime Museum:
December 16 — Star of India:
Tim Flannery & The Lunatic
Fringe

San Diego Marriott Del Mar:

December 8 — Jonny Tarr

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library:
December 17 — Zzymzzy Quartet

Seabird:
December 10 — Keni Yarbro

Side Yard:
December 9 — Andrew Peña
December 16 — Alex Elisabeth

Soda Bar:
December 1 — Dang: A Soulful
Electronic Dance Night
December 2 — Harry Styles vs
One Direction
December 4 — The Veldt and
Tremours
December 5 — Ishi
December 6 — Cathedral Bells
and Haunt Me
December 7 — Your Neighbors
December 8 — Healy
December 9 — Codeine
December 15 — Birth-Tay: 100%
Swiftie Dance Night
December 16 — Harbour and
Arms Akimbo

Soma:
November 30 — CloZee
December 1 — Mora
December 2 — Eem Triplin
December 8 — Jette and Juniper
Honey
December 15 — Jamm and The
Reckless
December 16 — TV Girl

St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church:
December 3 — Lillian Gordis
plays Bach

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:
December 1, December 2 —
Purple Xperience
December 16 — Jessy J

Tidal:

December 9 — Jonny Tarr

Tio Leo's:
December 3, December 10,
December 17 — Holly Hofmann
Presents Sunday Jazz

UC San Diego Park & Market:
December 7 — Intersections
Concert: The Slavic Soul Party

Viejas Arena:
December 8 — Pierce The Veil
and L.S. Dunes
December 15 — Queens of the
Stone Age

Waterbar:
November 30 — Mockery
December 7 — Jemille Vialot

Whistle Stop Bar:
December 3 — Eddie Spaghetti
and Metal Marty
December 4 — Maria BC
December 10 — CD Ghost,
Primer, Trit 95

Winstons Beach Club:
November 30 — Anthony Cullins
and Son Of Kane
December 3 — OB-Oke Karaoke
December 4 — Electric Waste
Band
December 7 — Source Band and
Mind Cell
December 9 — Grateful to the
Core
December 9 — Half Hour Late
December 10 — Krampus Day
December 10 — OB-Oke Karaoke
December 11 — Electric Waste
Band
December 14 — Kareeta
December 15 — Shakedown
December 16 — The Sure Fire
Soul Ensemble and Nubella
Honey
December 17 — Kim Wilson's
Blues Review
December 17 — OB-Oke Karaoke

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Bunny Chow brings South African tastes to Miramar and North Park

Bunny Chow South African Shebeen; 7128 Miramar Rd., San Diego. As diners in North Park are just beginning to learn: bunny chow is not something to feed your pet rabbit. In fact, it doesn't have anything to do with bunnies at all. According to a 2017 story from NPR, the dish is a product of Durban, South Africa, where it was created by Indian merchants (in Sanskrit, *bania*). The NPR piece detailed its fascinating evolution from Apartheid-era street food to arrogated symbol of South Africa's diversity. Suffice to say, *bania* became bunny, and what's now known as bunny chow is basically a modified Indian curry served in a bread bowl made by scooping the center out of a half-loaf.

I've had to look into all this because Bunny Chow South African Food — the restaurant — now brings made-from-scratch South African fare to two San Diego locations, and I'm playing catch-up. Andrew Georgitsis and Gary Wolfson, a pair of South African emigres, opened a full service eatery in Miramar last summer after operating out of a La Jolla Village church, and they launched a second full-time location earlier this month on North Park's El Cajon Boulevard.

Made with a choice of chicken, lamb, seafood, or vegetables for \$25-27, bunny chow is clearly a signature dish here, and worth trying to experience for the way the curry soaks into the bread like the spicy stew that it is. But it's also overshadowed by a long menu featuring other curry dishes, lamb chops, short ribs, hot sandwiches, and arguably the best-known food out of South Africa: *peri peri* chicken (\$25 half, \$32 whole).

Another better-known South African food would be the sugar-free beef jerky *biltong*, which Bunny Chow makes and sells in 4-ounce packages for about \$12. You can also buy bottles of the restaurant/caterer's signature hot sauces (including *peri peri*); Preston's ginger beer (made locally by a fellow South African expat); and frozen, take-home packages of the housemade *boerewors* sausage.

I wish I could put my finger on why Bunny Chow's beef and pork sausage is so outstanding — credit a balanced spice blend — but these things are the definition of savory. I got a pair of *boerewors*, served over rice, by ordering the kebab plate (\$22), though you can also get one on a French roll with sides for \$25. I don't think you can go wrong.

Meanwhile, there are yet more distinctive South African tastes to explore here; far too many to keep this Feaster under budget. If you're dining with a group, Bunny Chow offers several different sampler platters, so that you may tour through a few of its rich proteins. But I had to keep my aim

on the so-called national dish of South Africa: *bobotie* (accent on the last syllable, I was told).

This one's for fans of shepherd's pie, meatloaf, and pot pie. The \$25 *bobotie* plate features ground beef seasoned with bay leaf and curry, enveloped in an eggy crust (I opted for ground lamb for \$2 more). There was a little sweetness to its savor, accentuated by what appeared to be homemade golden raisins.

The restaurant vets behind this concept seem to know what they're doing, which makes Bunny Chow makes a terrific introduction to the things they eat in that faraway part of the world.

—Ian Anderson



House-made boerewors sausage, made by Bunny Chow South African Food.

THANKSGIVING DINING

Bountiful Thanksgiving Brunch Buffet Thanksgiving brunch buffet at the Vineyard Rose Restaurant, reservations are required. Thursday, November 23, 10am; \$39-\$79. South Coast Winery Resort & Spa, 34843 Rancho California Road. (TEMECULA)

Thanksgiving Day Dining on the Bay Make this holiday one to remember with an expertly crafted brunch or dinner at Dockside 1953. Reserve your table for the Thanksgiving Champagne Brunch and be treated to stunning Mission Bay vistas along with an extensive buffet with options to satisfy all preferences. All brunch guests can also enjoy a complimentary cruise featuring live entertainment, a hot cocoa station, and a cash bar. Thursday, November 23, 10am; \$50-\$110. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanksgiving Dining on Mission Bay Enjoy a champagne brunch complete with a complimentary bay cruise featuring live entertainment, a hot cocoa station, and a cash bar. For an evening gathering, opt for a three-course dinner. Thursday, November 23, 10am; \$55-\$110. Oceana Coastal Kitchen, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanksgiving Dinner at Bronze Bird Gather at Bronze Bird to celebrate Thanksgiving with our 3-course holiday dinner for \$45++ featuring our So-Cal twist on traditional Thanksgiving fare. Start with your choice of Harvest Soup or Baby Kale Salad. For your entree, enjoy Roasted Turkey Breast with brown butter sage stuffing, gravy, maple-cranberry compote, brussels sprouts and yukon gold potatoes, or Grilled Hanger Steak with roasted potatoes and charred asparagus. Finish your Thanksgiving meal with a Purple Sweet Potato Tartlet. Reservations recommended. Thursday, November 23, 5pm; Westin Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



Bunny chow, a signature Indian-influenced street food from Durban, South Africa.

Thanksgiving Feast Menu Gelson's Unveils an Irresistible Thanksgiving Feast Menu for Stress-Free Celebrations Thursday, November 23, 7am; Friday, November 24, 7am; \$7-\$250. Gelson's Market, 2707 Via De La Valle. (DEL MAR)

Thanksgiving Harvest Buffet Enjoy seasonal dishes served buffet style, with a curated selection of red and white blends to complement their dining experience. The buffet will include items such as a chilled seafood display, including crab legs, shrimp and oysters, farm-fresh salads, buttery mashed potatoes, baked sourdough bread stuffing, carve to order stations of turkey, prime rib and salmon, and a dessert display hosted in The Grand

Coastal Ballroom. Thursday, November 23, 12pm; Seabird, 101 Ocean Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

Thanksgiving at The Desmond This Thanksgiving, enjoy a holiday meal featuring an upscale spin on your classic favorites, or place an early order for a fully prepared dinner to-go. For To-Go: Pick up Thanksgiving Day 10am-2pm. Email info@thedesmondsandiego.com. Orders must be submitted by 5pm Monday, November 20. Minimum order qty is 4. Thursday, November 23, 2pm; \$85. Desmond, 1047 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Thanksgiving at the Cove Prix Fixe 3-Course Holiday Dinner in our Ocean View Room and Turkey special along with regular menu at Ocean Terrace and Level2. Thursday, November 23, 11am; George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

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TO THE LOVES OF MY LIFE Gina & Christina. Thank you for loving me unconditionally. You light my life. I love you, Athena.

ULY DAY: happiest of solar returns to our most incredible Uly! Purée and Sofa and friends had a very special get-together, we camped in the desert to celebrate.

WAL-MART: What is the purpose of having cashier-less checkouts if there is a cashier standing there to scan your items anyway?

ANT CONNIE Dos Dot is lookN 4 HIS:ANT CONNIE ANGEL&The Funny Farm NEEDS your HELP ANT CONNIE from Dr. HACK-ETTS VET Tex only (619) 368-7923 Box 105 lakeside ca 92040 MISS U So Much.SAD 2 say that 'TWITCH' Passed away in Aug 28 23.SO SAD THE GANGSTER is GONE :*(~A~ / angelswallowsALLUGOT@hotmail.com

BEULAH thinking about getting rid of my hutch.

SOON ISN'T SOON ENOUGH I miss you so much. I want to see you. 10843 jamestranx2x2@gmail.com

TO FLABBERGASTING for some unknown reason, I think you are talking to me. But that can't make any sense. Can it?

MICHELLE MY CONFIDENCE enlightens me to know that good is ahead without you but I mourn the deficit that comes with darkness while crying. McCartney

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

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!

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

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LOOKING FOR NEAL, JOHN OR JACKIE Looking for artist Neal and John, Pacific Beach, house on alley, between Thomas

and Reed, 1977. Also, Jackie Feitler. (619) 917-6975

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\$50 REWARD FOR MISSING CAT Tiger Wood was missing since 11-14 b4 the rain in the vicinity of Otay Mesa. She's a domestic short hair w/ orange brown nose mask and a white neck and chest patch. She is like my best friend. Please call if you see her! (619) 755-1390

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

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BARNES BOYS NAME CHANGE Dwayne Anthony to Anthony B Andriotakis. Charles To Matthew 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 or AlzheimerStudy@health.ucsd.edu

SAN DIEGO SHERIFF'S AUCTION Unclaimed property from the San Diego Sheriff's Dept. for sale online only through Ken Porter Auctions at www.jjkane.com Dec. 7th - Dec. 14th. Power tools, sports equipment, collectibles, electronics, cameras, TVs, home goods, jewelry, clothing and more.

CLASSES / LESSONS

SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP All levels of screenwriting are welcome to this workshop, if you have an idea for a movie, or if you have been writing for a while and need feedback or just a partner to write with shoot me an email @ davidtk350@yahoo.com

CELEBRATE CRAFT WITH SDCC! 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

JUNIOR GOLF LESSONS I'll teach your 3-10 year old basic fundamentals of rules, irons and putting with easy-to-use and safe equipment. \$50 per hour for single, \$80 for 2 students and \$100 for 3 kids. Text (801) 918-0907

5-WEEK SURFACE DESIGN IN CLAY! Join in this 5-class series for a fun intro to surface design in clay. You'll learn to apply handmade stencils, layering techniques & sgraffito to create multiple unique & quality projects. Ages 15+ys. Sibling & military discount. *Sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

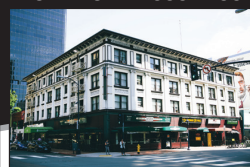
A COURSE IN MIRACLES AND LOVE ACIM & ACOL study group near Del Mar. text Mark (858) 353-4464

AFTERSCHOOL KIDS CRAFT CLASSES Is your child interested in learning ceramics, woodworking 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

DOWNTOWN \$650-\$750



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

Southern Hotel

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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, Clasped 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+ys, 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

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

ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE WANTED in Mira Mesa. Rent a room with bathroom \$800/month. (858) 471-6082

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



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 / scottjenson2024@gmail.com

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

BEDROOM IN RAMONA Room for rent, private bathroom, Country club living, quiet and secluded area in Ramona. \$1800 a month is negotiable for cooking and cleaning duties. (619) 823-3498.

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.

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.

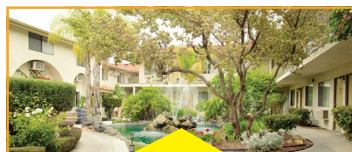
TINY ROOM TO LIVE PLEASE 64 year healthy single, no family, never married non-smoker. Clean SoCal native low income full time job, male high school/college graduate. Seeking somber room in Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

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Weekly starts @ \$575.00 plus tax
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*Some hotel amenities included. Please call for details.

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- High speed internet services • Cable TV • Access to WiFi

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(858) 799-0219



RENTALS



2 BEDROOM IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS newly updated 2 bed home,Tons of Natural Light Throughout Kitchen with Plenty of Storage Space & New Stainless Steel Appliances Large Living Room New Paint,contact for more informations mikegroove330 at gmail.com mikegroove330@gmail.com



COMMERCIAL RENTAL IN IB 700 seacoast dr. Shopkeepers unit #107 - Retail space for rent. \$3200 OBO monthly. Available Dec 1st. Located next door to Katy's Cafe and Across the street from Luigi's pizzeria. iboffice@runbox.com

FURNISHED BEDROOM FOR RENT IN IMPERIAL BEACH Furnished room for rent close to the ocean, male only, includes fridge & use of laundry machines & kitchen; \$1,200/month; Donna, donnamackersie@att.net or (619) 424-6133

PB APARTMENT FOR RENT www.apartments.com/2146-felspar-st-san-diego-ca/v3wgrje/. zillow.com/r/583umxu57mnw

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

RENTAL WANTED Single Female Seeking Housing: Central San Diego and Beach areas. I am a kind and considerate, non-smoker, rarely drink, no drama, no pets. Text or call (858) 337-5965.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

REAL ESTATE

OFICINA VIRTUAL SY CA (SEARCH) ¡Expande tu negocio al mercado más grande de Estados Unidos en San Diego, California! Desde solo \$125.00 dólares al mes, renta un domicilio fiscal y comercial a minutos de la

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 desear 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

Legals@SanDiegoReader.com ■ 619-235-3000

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

frontera. (619) 690-5920 / info@executiveofficesforlease.com

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

ALBUM OUT NOW! Local SD Rock band "Stealing Automatics" first album streaming now on all platforms. Check us out, follow us on IG for show updates. Cheers

PUNK ROCK BAND LOOKING-4DRUMMER Melodic, Pop Punk Rock band looking for a drummer to play in a original band with some covers. Mostly influenced by Green Day, NOFX, Weezer, Offspring, Rancid, etc.with Metal elements. \$130 Room rent share. Check out www.reverbnation.com/Strifex Auronfx@yahoo.com

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

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

MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, (858) 522-95

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

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

SHOHEI OHTANI 2013 DBM GENESIS ROOKIE CARD from Japan. Psa9. Best offer call for more info (619) 753-8473

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.

SALOMON X PRO 120 SKI BOOTS These size 27/27.5 Energyzer 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 / cadbcbsd@gmail.com

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. (619) 379-2743

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

AUTOMOTIVE

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.

JAGUAR X-TYPE ALUMINUM WHEELS: Three Original 16" wheels, I only have three, the fourth wheel was damaged by hitting a curb, I am selling all three for only \$225. Call (760) 746-7209, in Escondido



HYUNDAI GENESIS I'm selling my 2013 Hyundai Genesis. Please contact me with any questions. Or to take a look. No mechanical problems clean interior and exterior smog registered running good clean little good value. (619) 530-2017 / Blazingconcepts@gmail.com

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



2017 MERCEDES B250E All Electric, J1778 charger 100 mile

distance 37K miles 2nd owner clean title and interior \$22,000 brand new tesla motor warrantied limited production minimal maintenance tires housed in dwtn garage everything fully functional Registration Sep 2024 (619) 292-6484 / usambf@gmail.com

2009 TOYOTA COROLLA XLE Automatic, blue, two sunroof, 118K miles. Call for more information (760) 891-6583

TOYOTA TACOMA PICKUP Access cab. 4cyl. rebuilt engine, new tires and brakes. All this year. \$11,500. (619) 928-8220 text best.

MISC FOR SALE Air compressor 3 horse power Craftsman. 8 spray guns. tools for body work. Selling everything for \$450. Leo (619) 799-5503

LOOKING FOR 1990 OR OLDER Ford cargo van, fgross0421@gmail.com.

CHEVY 1966 3/4 ton long bed, 350 in runs, 4 speed, needs restoring. \$3,000 or best offer. Call (619) 478-9402 Campo.

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Few anglers, lots of bluefin, and departing yellows – a long first south-to-north run for the Baja 1000

Dock Totals 11/12 – 11/18: 696 anglers aboard 37 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 977 bluefin tuna (up to 150 pounds), 21 calico bass, 1 lingcod, 6 lobster (4 released), 19 perch, 80 rock crab, 1611 rockfish, 52 sand bass, 88 sculpin, 48 sheephead, 1 swordfish (155 pounds), 306 whitefish, 150 yellowfin tuna, and 43 yellowtail.

Saltwater: Seems like a lot of folks followed the race and put fishing off for a couple days this past week, or maybe it was the rain that kept them off the water while it also muddied the northern half of Baja for the racers in the “Baja Mil.” Either way, angler numbers and trips basically halved from the week before, falling to under a thousand for the week for the first time since last winter. It’s been an epic year for fishing, though it did seem to fly by like Luke McMillan in a seven-figure trophy truck.

When Baja gets brought up in conversation in the Southwestern U.S., two things tend to come to everybody’s mind: fishing and offroad racing. Many people who spend much time in Baja doing either one eventually wind up doing the other. But not me: I was never much of a racing fan, preferring the quiet solitude of fishing by kayak from launches throughout the peninsula in both the Pacific and Sea of Cortez over the *braaap braaap* of an offroad toy.

Still, over the years, I have met and fished with a few race drivers and crew members from the race teams that compete in the world’s toughest offroad race. Over the past couple decades, I have also had a few occasions to watch the race, as I was either living or happened to be on the course come mid-November. That wasn’t the case this year, as the first ever south-to-north Baja 1000 course took the racers along the opposite side of the peninsula from mine, though I did follow on the SCORE live feed. It was quite a race: over 1300 miles of a winding track from La Paz to Ensenada.

The main attraction for the fans is the Trophy Truck division, and Bryce Menzies of Las Vegas beat Luke McMillan of El Cajon by just one minute and eighteen seconds, with a total time from start to finish at just over twenty-two and a half hours. That’s pretty amazing, considering that’s a good time to make it from Ensenada to La Paz if you’re driving the peninsular highway the 870 miles or so with a couple stops for tacos along the way. It is also amazing that they finished still running so close to each other.



Happy angler with a nice grade yellowfin tuna while aboard the *Spirit of Adventure* multi-day run. The only yellowfin and yellowtail in this week’s counts came from that trip.



Stephen Sotelo with his 155-pound swordfish caught while fishing with *Bight Sportfishing* out of Fisherman’s Landing.

Just finishing the race at all is quite a feat; it’s run on a grueling course that can reduce the average stock sport utility vehicle to a pile of parts in short order. Another reason for this non-raceaholic to follow the action was that my good friend here in San Quintin, Jose Raymundo Aguirre, or “Bebo,” was on Roldolfo Romo’s crew in the stock truck division; they barely made it under the 50-hour limit at 49:04, and took 8th in their group. Seems like every year, I have some connection to the race, even though the last time I personally drove anything that went *braap braap* was in the 1980s.

While the racers were chewing up the course, fish were chewing on bait and lures everywhere the weather allowed folks the opportunity to wet a line. Though our pelagic yellowtail, yellowfin, and dorado have retreated south, anglers aboard boats running out to the bluefin grounds were not disappointed at all, as the tuna cooperated well in the areas between San Clemente Island and the Corner, mostly about 50 to 60 miles west of Point Loma. Limits of tuna are coming in fairly early for some, so 1.5-day and longer trips are getting a shot at some deep rockfish along with their tuna, as was the case on the *Old Glory* with their ten anglers catching limits of 200 rockfish and 40 bluefin during a 2-day run toward the end of the week. With the rest of the pelagics far south of where the bluefin are biting, being able to target rockfish is a bonus, as the daily limit on bluefin tuna is two fish per angler.

Speaking of those other pelagics, yellowfin and yellowtail, they were only in the counts due to one multi-day run south by the *Spirit of Adventure* with 19 anglers aboard. They returned to the dock with those 150 yellowfin tuna and 43 yellowtail. And though the long-range boats are catching plenty of dorado and wahoo along with yellowfin south of the Vizcaino Peninsula, the water seems to be turning along the northern half of Baja, with yellowtail slowing and no dorado at all, while rockfish, whitefish, sheephead, sculpin and bass are picking up the slack and filling gunnysacks.

The other notable catch was a 155-pound swordfish caught on a full day trip by angler Stephen Sotelo while fishing aboard the *Bight*, a 28-foot Parker that runs out of Fisherman’s Landing. The *Bight* is smaller yet much faster than most sportfishing vessels in the fleet and can cover a lot of ground on its 12-hour runs. Their platform is more specialized for small groups of 4 or 5 anglers with the goal of offshore hunting for larger tuna and swordfish, and they do so with great success. As is the case for most of the mid-range boats, their season is coming to a close this month as they run mostly May through November.

Outside of the half-day bass or evening lobster trips, it looks like we are down to winter ‘wanderlust’ long-range trips to southern Baja, heading west while the bluefin are still around, or fishing deep for rockfish for the rest of 2023. They’re out there, so go get ‘em!

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NEW QUEEN MATTRESS Still in plastic. \$300. Sleepy rest firm Queen prime. Cash only u pick up. MAPAUL16@gmail.com

SHOES Mint Green Vans Brand New Women's hi-tops. Size 6. \$35 from outlet. Classy

The Firearm Obsession

— Dr. Jason Gladwell, an orthodontist in Raleigh, North Carolina, has a catchy new promotion going, WRAL-TV reported: "Grins and Glocks." Yep — patients who sign up for Invisalign braces can choose between a free Glock 19 (\$500-plus retail) or a membership to Youngsville Gun Club & Range. The deal is open only to those 21 and older, and the club will conduct a background check on recipients. Dr. Gladwell has received mixed reactions to the come-on; notably, Align Technology, which makes Invisalign, isn't happy: "This promotion does not reflect our brand purpose."

Animal Antics

— A cargo flight on its way from New York to Liege, Belgium, was forced to turn around on Nov. 9 after a horse escaped its stall, CNN reported. The pilot alerted Boston Air Traffic Control that while the flight was not impeded, "we cannot get the horse back secured." They also requested a veterinarian meet the plane at JFK Airport, as the horse was having "difficulty." Later, the plane resumed its journey and arrived in Belgium the next morning.

Florida

— Rudy Wilcox, 45, of Clearwater, Florida, was "observed defecating on a deceased opossum" on Nov. 15, according to *The Smoking Gun*. Officers with the Clearwater Police Department said he was in "full view of the motoring public during busy traffic times." While Wilcox denied the accusation,

officers found "physical evidence" to support the charges. Just one question: What would have happened if the opossum were only playing possum?! Wilcox was jailed.

Police Report

— When a game warden pulled over a pickup truck near Lubbock, Texas, on Nov. 8, the driver and passenger obligingly waited with a deputy while the Texas Parks and Wildlife officer searched the vehicle, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* reported. At one point, the driver asked for permission to retrieve a burrito and 44-ounce drink from the cab, telling the officer that he "did not have any drugs or anything in the vehicle." Ah, but how about that big drink? When the officer removed the lid from the cup, he found an orange bag inside with 5 grams of methamphetamine. The driver was taken into custody.

Weird Science

— Charlie Curtis of Toronto, Canada, developed Crohn's disease in 2014, *Yahoo! News* reported. Although he took medicine, Curtis was hospitalized with his symptoms and had to visit the bathroom multiple times a day. Then he tried a new therapy: do-it-yourself poop transplants, using his mother's fecal matter. Fecal microbiota transplants, or FMTs, are typically performed by a doctor and involve collecting feces from a healthy donor, mixing it with a saline solution and inserting it in the patient's gastrointestinal tract through an enema. But Curtis' DIY transplants had an unexpected side effect: Over

the four years they did the procedure, Curtis experienced sweating, hot flashes and mood swings — his mom's menopause symptoms. Doctors believe hormones in his mom's fecal matter most likely were to blame. "When I was actually doing the procedure," Curtis said, "I'd feel tingling inside of me. It felt healthy, it felt like it was working."

High on Christmas

— Henry Meade, 40, was busy spreading the Christmas spirit on Nov. 11 in Tazewell, Tennessee, Fox59-TV reported. Meade was operating "Santa's Train," a riding lawn mower pulling a cart with children and families, at the town's Christmas Tractor Parade. But visitors thought Meade was acting erratically and reported him to police. He subsequently failed a sobriety test, and officers found a syringe, meth and other narcotics in his possession. He was charged with possession and driving under the influence.

Awesome!

— Kathy Magruder, who operates the Pageturners Bookstore in Indianola, Iowa, was rummaging through the never-checked-out books at the Calvin Community Retirement Home when she stumbled upon a treasure, KCCI-TV reported. There among the other titles was a leatherbound Bible, printed in 1705 in Selkirkshire, Scotland. Interestingly, it was printed illegally, without the oversight of the church. "This one, just something about it, when I open it up, the pages make a noise when you turn them that's a little different than a new book. They feel a

little different, and the book smells a little different than any other book," Magruder said about the Bible.

Citizen's Arrest

— In Glendale, Wisconsin, on Nov. 15, police identified a stolen Dodge Durango being driven erratically, TMJ4-TV reported. Officers deployed stop sticks, and the Durango crashed into two other cars before all four occupants jumped out and ran away, with one ducking into a portable toilet to hide. As they crossed a golf course, one golfer stepped in to help: "When we realized they were being chased and that kid was in the porta potty ... I just made a rash decision to go push the porta potty down," said golfer Adam Westermayer. The suspect was trapped inside, and police were able to arrest him and one other suspect.

More Florida

— In West Palm Beach, Florida, on Nov. 9, Kelly Jacobson was heartbroken after officers led away her pet pig, Pork Chop, during an eviction. WPTV reported that animal care and control officers actually had to drag the pig, as he weighed 400 pounds and couldn't really walk. They plan to gain custody of Pork Chop and get him the dietary care he needs. Jacobson has been cited twice before for neglecting his needs, but she said she would "do whatever I have to do to make him better. I need him."

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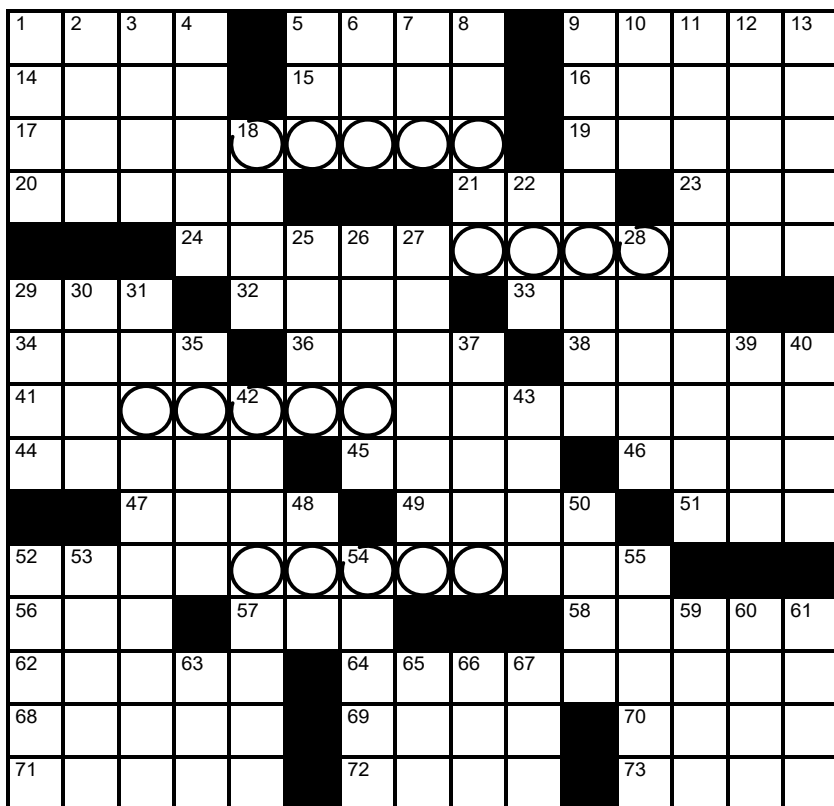
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CROSSWORD



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Across

- 1.** Vacation goal, for some
5. Irish Spring, e.g.
9. Segments
14. Ilhan in the House since 2019
15. Hawke in "Stranger Things"
16. "It's the end of ____!"
17. Elvis had big ones
19. Acknowledged in the footnotes
20. Sports complex
21. "Yikes! A mouse!"
23. Stephen of "The Crying Game"
24. Person who has their ups and downs?
29. CPR pro

- 32.** Smoothie fruit
33. Ophthalmologists call it a hordeolum
34. Bread unit
36. Hot drink dispensers
38. "If ____ catch you ...!"
41. Overcomes shyness during a conversation, perhaps
44. "Liar Liar" actress Cheri
45. Mil. plane for small runways
46. Pivot around
47. Quantities: Abbr.
49. Auto with a four-ring logo
51. Carrier based in Stockholm
52. Refuse to go quietly during a protest, say

- 56.** Cut with an ax
57. "The Book of Boba Fett" actress Ming-Na
58. Parks at a pier
62. "Thumbs up from me!"
64. Popular song from the 2023 movie "Barbie" (and this puzzle's theme)
68. Mount Everest is on its border
69. TV alien played by Robin Williams
70. "On the Waterfront" director Kazan
71. Wide receiver ____ Beckham Jr.
72. Otherwise
73. Competed on "The Voice"

Down

- 1.** Parks on a bus
2. Dubai dignitary
3. "The Sweetest Taboo" singer
4. Reznor of Nine Inch Nails
5. Univ. in Dallas
6. Vehicle whose letters appear in "rowboat"
7. Author Rand
8. Mexico City's ____ de la Reforma
9. Finish for the day
10. "Both Hands" singer DiFranco
11. Hoped for events with stolen goods and lost computer data
12. Canopy makeup
13. Egyptian president from

- 1970 to 1981
18. Silent movie femme fatale Theda
22. Overhead trains
25. Missed ____ (blew one's entrance)
26. Beth Hurt and Kay Place
27. Sticky application on a baseball bat
28. Vladimir's vetoes
29. Muppet who once testified before Congress
30. Castle defense
31. Direct criticism (at)
35. Physicist Enrico after whom element #100 is named
37. Use a Brillo pad, say
39. Quito's land: Abbr.
40. Google Maps

- suggestions: Abbr.
42. Agrees (with)
43. Ye ____ Shoppe
48. Office address abbr.
50. Ideologies
52. Music label named for a pachyderm
53. Fished for congers, e.g.
54. "Sailor Moon" genre
55. Reusable shopping bags
59. Neighbor of Tex.
60. Bridle strap
61. Hiccup
63. Penn of the Harold & Kumar films
65. Gretchen of "Boardwalk Empire"
66. PSAT takers, often
67. Luau instrument, briefly

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

MEDIUM:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 5

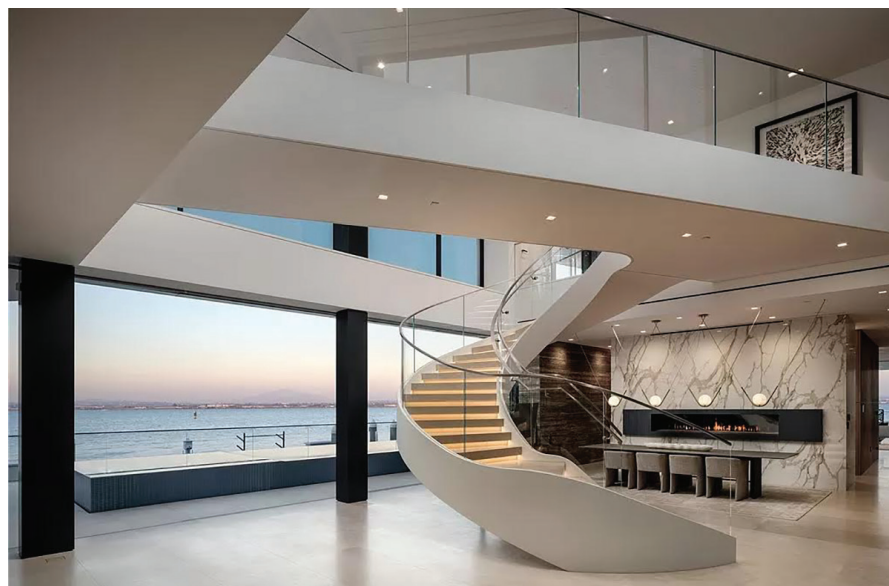
pressive residence spans over 11,700 square feet encompassing seven bedrooms (each with a private balcony), 11 luxurious baths, and a stunningly appointed, technically sophisticated theater,” the Zillow remarks begin. That’s a lot of space to take in, so let’s get to the tour.

Our first photo is an aerial view showcasing the “over 320 feet of private bayfront” that gives us room for not one but two boat docks (95 and 60 feet in length, respectively). I’m not sure from this vantage point, but it almost looks like the house is floating above a giant outdoor covered patio on the ground level. And is that a mini golf course on the roof?

A couple shots later we get to a view from directly overhead, and yes, it looks like not only is there a pitch-and-putt golf area, there’s also a swimming pool on the roof, directly behind a second pool on the ground level.

From the glass entry doors, we can see straight through the lower level, past a spiraling staircase and out to the bay beyond — apparently, at least part of the first floor is enclosed; they’re just using glass walls to get the job done.

There’s a pleasant outdoor seating area in back with a



The stairs, because coming down for dinner should be an event, darn it.

fireplace, and from here, we can catch a glimpse of the *al fresco* kitchen in the back-ground. We get some more shots of the ground-level pool and a second firepit before heading inside.

There’s that staircase again, standing alone in what I assume is an oversized entry foyer and a third fireplace next to an eight-seat dining table. Wait, another angle shows us there’s a grand piano hiding behind the stairs. The fact that something the size of a grand piano could be completely obscured from a couple steps away should convey just how commanding these stairs are.

The space is a little sterile for my taste, though I do appreciate the stonework on both the interior and exterior walls. And the amount of glass we’re seeing, from

the giant windows to the balconies to the stair railings, seems like it would require a full-employment guarantee for a small army of window washers, plus at least one production line at the Windex factory.

Next we’re up on the roof, looking past a hot tub to the secondary pool, which doesn’t seem quite deep enough for swimming. It does, however, boast a handful of semi-submerged concrete lounges that are either incredibly luxurious or obnoxiously uncomfortable. “This expansive rooftop deck provides ample room for both entertaining and indulgent relaxation in a setting that creates an extraordinary sense of tranquility,” the listing promises. That’s a lot of word wrangling to say “It’s fancy,” but I won’t begrudge

the point.

Back inside, we see your typical home theater (typical, at least, if you’ve seen half as many of these homes as I’ve written about) before moving on to a kitchen that, while elegant, isn’t nearly as overdone as some others I’ve observed.

We then get a bedroom

with a sitting area and its own private deck. Wait, I just remembered that every single bedroom has its own private deck, so this one might not even be the primary suite. Perhaps it is, though, as there’s a bathroom with a shower enclosure so large that a freestanding tub sits off to one side and doesn’t even occupy a third of the space. There’s also a walk-in closet/dressing room with its own loveseat and what seems to me to be a shelves-to-drawers ratio that’s ridiculously lopsided.

We also see a small office, a bar with a backlit wall of wine bottles, a billiards room, and what I’m assuming is a gym, though it features only a rowing machine and a handful of yoga mats. Then it’s a speed run through some other bedrooms and baths; the latter are serviceable, save for the oddly curved walls, and nowhere near as opulent as the first one we saw.

A quick peek at the outdoor kitchen and the four-car garage (with glass garage doors, no less), and our tour comes to an abrupt end. “Striking contemporary design, connection to its coastal environs, technical sophistication and meticulously crafted construction. This is one of a kind. This is ‘3 The Point,’” the listing concludes.

Public records list a Thad Call of Utah as the estate’s current owner. The last recorded sale was in 2014 at a price just under \$8.6 million; since then, the 7500-square-foot mansion (that itself was just built in 1988!) that occupied the site has been torn down to make way for the manse that we just toured.

3 The Point was listed just a couple of weeks ago in mid-November. If you’ve got \$43 million and this sounds like a good way to spend it, please let me know how those pool lounge chairs actually feel. ■



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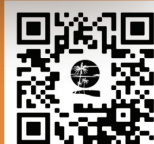
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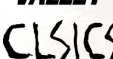
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