

# SAN DIEGO Reader

VOL. 48 | NO. 51 | DECEMBER 21, 2023

SAN DIEGO'S  
ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS  
AND MISFIRES

THEY HAD  
FACADES THEN

Third time's the harm for Tower Bar ■ Say cheers with these holiday beers ■ \$40 million views in La Jolla



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LETTERS

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

Dan: a man with a plan

Dan has a vision predicated on many trips around the world. He knows first-hand what world-class cities have for infrastructure and transportation.

Dan is going to reform the political corruption that is responsible for the staggering debt and failed real estate deals that have cost the City billions of dollars.

During the first year of his administration, he will: change the City Charter to insure all new City employees and elected officials are enrolled in social security. This will allow the City to get out of the pension business which has enriched city employees at the expense of the taxpayer.

Change the City charter to prohibit the City of San Diego from selling its real estate. Using the Port District as a model, leasing the land will keep the land for future San Diegians while providing stable income instead of taxes. All future rezones will require the applicant to sell the property to the City valued under the old zoning and the city will lease the land back to the applicant. This will eventually result in the City becoming self-sufficient like the Port District.

He will work with the City Council to take back Horton Plaza from the developers who are currently in violation of their covenant with the City. His vision is to build an emblematic “15 minute City” high rise on Horton Plaza with retail, business, housing, government and everything you need in a city that will eliminate the need for cars.

Dan being politically independent will end favor-

itism, special interests and political corruption. His administration will include all political parties.

Rich Riel  
San Diego

Sarcasm detected

Homelessness? (“East Village sidewalk tents not dwindling”, Cover Story, Dec. 13 2023) The answer is simple: Keep Voting Democrat. Like Bidenomics, open borders, and cashless bail, it’ll solve everything.

David Ross  
North Park

Happy story, happy reader

Your article covers all bases; a good story, colorful characters and a first class journalist (“San Diego Prowlers Hot Rod Club members push 80”, Golden Dreams, Dec. 13, 2023). A happy story is a treat in this day and age. It is as much fun reading your coverage of the “Jamul Garage Tour 2023” as attending the event. Thank you David Kohanyi, “YOU’RE THE MAN!”

Bruce Hamilton  
Spring Valley

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

San Diego Prowlers Hot Rod Club members push 80

Golden Dreams, Dec. 13, 2023  
Thanks for the great article and thanks to Bruce and Pat Armitage and the Prowlers for putting it all together.

-Not Hot Rod

Eli Lilly, squeezed by Bonta, gives \$5000 to Toni Atkins

News Under the Radar, Dec. 13, 2023

Puppeteers and their puppets playing their disgraceful corruption games.

-Not Marie Hitchcock

How is sponsoring a parade for the benefit of the people a bad thing? Doesn't matter who asked especially if there was no personal benefit. And how are industrial accidents relevant to a parade?

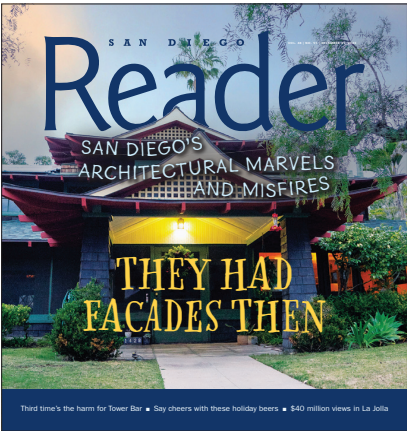
-Pro Parade

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San Diego Reader

SanDiegoReader.com  
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December 21, 2023



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

caption — page 8



Rudolph won't be needed this year — page 15



The craziness is spreading — page 23

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

CITY HEIGHTS

## Car vs. bar

### Police-pursued Prius plows into punk venue

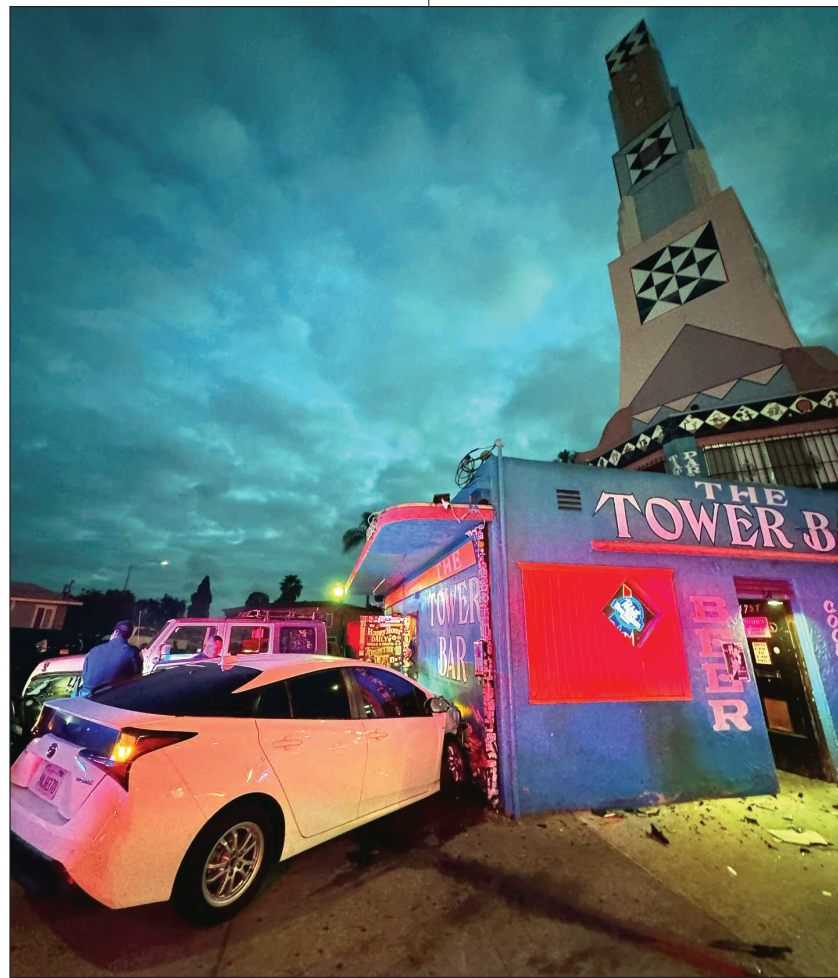
On November 29, a person driving a white Toyota Prius crashed into the Tower Bar on University Avenue. The 90-plus-year-old punk rock concert venue — which has also done time as a diner, a beauty shop, and a tattoo parlor — was struck so hard that the bar inside moved a couple of inches, but nobody was injured. San Diego Police reportedly said that 19-year-old driver Ahmed Shire initially ran a stop sign and then fled when a traffic stop was initiated. He was later arrested.

Bar owner Mick Rossler said that the Prius driver was evading police and running red lights westbound on University, then lost control and hit a Honda that was heading the other way just east of Euclid. “Westbound, there’s poor visibility coming up that hill,” he noted. “A lady was hit by there as well.”

This was the third time someone had crashed into the circa-1932 Art-Deco building, which Rossler purchased in 2002. “The night that it happened,” he said, “the fire department sent out an inspector, and the car missed the corner of the building by half a foot, which would’ve been bad.” The second time the bar was hit, back in 2017, “that was a lot more damage. From what I understand, the second time, someone [collided] into the back of a police SUV, and then the police SUV crashed through the front of our building. I was about three blocks away, and was able to run over.” The first time, in 1964, a car smashed into the entrance, killing a patron sitting in the cocktail lounge.

Black and white images of that first crash, scanned from the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, are posted on the Tower Bar website. For the 2023 edition, a video was posted on the dive bar’s Instagram page and captioned, “Third time’s a charm.” In the video, the Prius has already smashed into the building, and police sirens are blaring in the background while a police officer assesses the car. Looky-loos and additional police are on the scene. One commenter noted that someone had recently crashed into a nearby nail business. Another wrote that in 2017, a truck crashed into the Lotus Garden, a now-defunct Chinese restaurant across the street and just west of the bar.

“It’s a crazy intersection configuration,” longtime area resident Jim Peters said in a recent interview. “That part where Reno comes



The Prius did less damage than the previous two cars — they really are easier on the environment!

into University, and by Euclid and University. Drivers have too little time to turn when the lights turn red, so people speed up a lot, trying to beat the lights.” Peters noted that the intersection lacks left-turn arrows, and further, “there are lots of blind spots, plus very poor lighting. Why hasn’t the city improved this area, even with the increased taxes for street/traffic improvements?”

Owner Rossler agrees with Peters’ assessment — mostly. “University Avenue, [particularly] to our east, was the number one street for pedestrian fatalities. They decided to put roundabouts, and it looks like it’s finally getting close to being finished — with additional crosswalk lights. A lady by the bus stop, too, was killed, then to the left of us, two cars went into that [building]. Driving west on University, there’s bad visibility on the hill.”

Tiffany, a local motorcyclist, said the Tower Bar is a “prominent-looking building and is a distraction.” But other locals say the problem is that the city doesn’t tend to City Heights’ streets and lighting as quickly as other parts of town. Said Peters, “Bro, with GetItDone, take a look; they take forever to assess our broken street lights and potholes. If this [same] shit is happening in North Park to the west or Kensington, they are quick to fix the problems.”

Rossler was pleased to report that as

of press time, the Tower Bar had re-opened for business, and the punk shows will go on.

MIKE MADRIAGA

## THE ROAD

### Car wars

#### Will exemptions defeat Complete Streets?

Last Monday, the city council voted unani-

mously to pass the Complete Streets policy, a plan for revamping streets to make them safer for all modes of travel. The plan emphasizes features such as the buffered bike lanes on Park Boulevard north of University Avenue and speed reduction elements like the roundabout in Florida Canyon. All around, the thinking encourages what it calls “street connectivity.”

The policy can be used in the context of city projects, new construction, private development, and mobility projects between jurisdictions. It will be part of community plan updates, adding linear parks, landscaping, and bike improvements. In the mid-city, it will mean circulators, direct shuttles, smoother transit through key areas, and hopefully, greater safety. “A Complete Street project can be the difference between life and death,” said Manny Rodriguez, a volunteer with BikeSD. (In 2015, the city pledged to reach zero traffic fatalities by 2025. Since then, 428 people have been killed — including a pedestrian struck today by multiple cars on Interstate 805.)

But bike advocates argued that the proposal still puts developers in the driver’s seat. “The latest language rips the teeth out of the policy,” one caller said. The city has now heard the plan twice. Critics of the draft policy had insisted on an overhaul based on exemptions they said would allow private developers to steer around its street design plans. Additional outreach between the first and second hearing wasn’t enough to satisfy those critics, who asked for a checklist from projects explaining how they matched the city’s climate action goals, as well as the ability to appeal publicly. And at the most recent meeting, they complained that the exemptions remain, arguing, “Basically, anything can qualify for an exemption.”

City transportation planners downplayed

continued on page 3



This road is my road, this road your road...



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

the possibility of exemptions to the pro-bike priorities, saying they would be “few and far between.” They argued that fiscal

the bike lane for the entire segment of the corridor because accessible parking for the handicapped was needed near the Parker Memorial Rose Garden.

The city doesn’t want to see projects come online that don’t have any mobility features whatsoever, staff said, so the policy is about “incentivizing” designs that do have



Bicyclist using sharrows outside of a pedestrian walkway on Encinitas Coast Highway.

considerations aren’t expected to be a reason for making exceptions, but rather, things like emergency repairs to water mains and

them. A sea change, however, will be needed. One caller described the massive mismatch in road uses. At the corner of East Mission

In 2015, the city pledged to reach zero traffic fatalities by 2025. Since then, 428 people have been killed.

streets. Other exceptions could be made for things like benches, trees, and other green street features. One example: along Park Boulevard, the city was unable to continue

Bay Drive and Garnet, “50 years ago, the traffic backed up maybe one block; today it’s one mile.”

SHEILA PELL

## UNDER THE RADAR

**Back to the border?** More than 13 months after *Union-Tribune* border reporter **Wendy Fry** departed for a new gig at non-profit *CalMatters*, the paper, these days operated by MediaNews Group — a chain owned by vulture investing outfit Alden Global Capital — is advertising for a replacement. “The *San Diego Union-Tribune* is looking for a Reporter to cover border life and immigration issues affecting the San Diego-Tijuana region,” says a job notice posted by *MediaNews* December 7. “We are looking for a versatile journalist who can take an enterprise approach to the beat, focusing on deeply reported, high-impact journalism. At the same time, the successful candidate must be able to juggle aggressive beat work and breaking news.”

Adds the announcement: “This is an incredibly dynamic region to cover, and this reporter must be able to identify stories that resonate with a cross-border/U.S. readership. The beat is broad and covers both sides of the border.” The wording is nearly identical to an online job notice for the position posted by the *U-T* — then owned by Los Angeles biotech billionaire **Patrick Soon-Shiong** — after Fry left in the fall of 2022. But there are two telling differences. The Soon-Shiong-era job notice says the new hire “should be able to tackle stories that make a difference and hold accountable institutions and people in power.”

Not so Alden Capital’s version, which instead relates “this reporter should be able to cut through the rhetoric on border and immigration issues, and bring context and nuance to the beat, all while carefully navigating a complex reporting environment.” Regarding compensation, the Soon-Shiong ad said pay would range from \$65,000 to \$75,000 a year. Alden Capital is offering a more modest \$27.64 to \$32.45 an hour, which converts in annual terms to between roughly \$57,000 and \$67,000, significantly below the current average San Diego salary of \$69,495, per *ZipRecruiter.com*.

Meanwhile, unionized reporters at Alden’s Southern California Newsgroup have conducted a one-day protest, says a December 14 message on X, the site once known as Twitter, by **Emily Holshouser**, a scribe at the *Los Angeles Daily News*. “Tomorrow, my colleagues and I at @SCNGguild are walking out of work to advocate for a fair contract. I make ~\$40k a year after taxes. That is insane considering the amount of stress, danger, and expectations reporters are under to do our job.

And some make less!”

Added her colleague **Brian Rokos**: “If there is any big crime news in the Inland Empire on Thursday, you won’t hear it from me. SCNG reporters are on strike today because of low pay and unfair labor practices by hedge fund Alden Global Capital. AGC has been dragging its feet in negotiations for two years.” The *Union-Tribune* isn’t part of Southern California Newsgroup, it’s been reported, but instead reports directly to MediaNews Group, another Alden-controlled chain, keeping it union-free.



Patrick Soon-Shiong enjoyed a little Truth to Power. Will Alden?

**Bry redux** Ex-San Diego City councilwoman **Barbra Bry**, who lost a race for San Diego mayor and later another for county assessor, has been low-profile of late. But she has been cleared by California’s Political Fair Practices Commission of suspicions that she illegally used her city council

seat to benefit her wealthy husband **Neil Senturia’s** investment in Deckard Technologies, Inc.

Deckard offered its services to city governments, promising to root out miscreant short-term rentals, one of Bry’s favorite targets during her council tenure. Questions arose when Bry’s leaving office statement of economic interests, filed on January 4, 2021, disclosed she had been a consultant to Deckard, for which she got \$10,000 to \$100,000 a year from 2018 through 2020, per the filing. Reached by phone at his office that February and queried about the matter, Senturia declined comment and abruptly terminated the call.



Barbara Bry left the consulting to her guy.

Two months later, Bry quietly amended her original disclosure, labeling the Deckard consulting as being done by her husband Senturia and his Blackbird companies. Bry’s updated disclosure identified money gleaned from Deckard as “spouse or registered domestic partner’s income.”

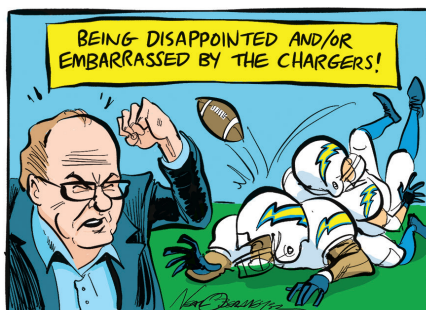
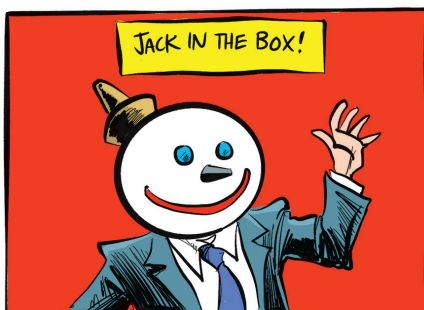
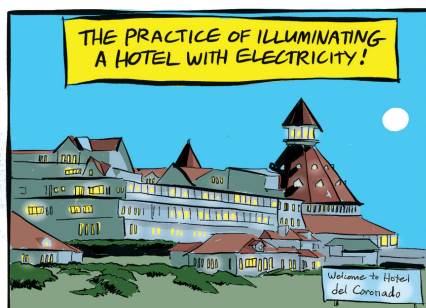
Now, in a September 25 letter to Sacramento lawyer **Richard Rios**, recently posted online by the FPPC, the agen-

cy’s senior counsel **Artin Berjiky** declares that Bry’s city council actions did not violate state law. “The Enforcement Division found that Bry did not have a material financial interest in Deckard Technologies, Blackbird Ventures, and Blackbird Special Projects because they are the separate property of Bry’s spouse, and Bry did not derive any financial benefit from the business entities,” the missive says. “Additionally, Bry’s participation in governmental decisions did not have a material financial

continued on page 4

### Neal Obermeyer

LET’S CELEBRATE THESE THINGS THAT ORIGINATED IN SAN DIEGO BEFORE MAKING THEIR WAY TO LOS ANGELES!





## LETTERS

continued from page 1

Atkins up to her campaign contributions again Lilly just gave Atkins \$5000.00 for what I dare ask. She has to give something in exchange for the contribution therefore what could that be? We the voters will never know cause this is the secrets candidates keep so as to appear honest and forthright for the betterment of their career politi-

cian status. So sad, so bad so unforgiving.  
-Looking for more

### East Village sidewalk tents not dwindling

Cover Story, Dec. 13, 2023

Too much tip-toeing around the San Diego homeless. From what I've witnessed and dealt with during my time in San Diego is that they want "freedom". It seems many don't want to punch a clock, pay rent (even as low as \$200 a month) or live

in an area where jobs are easier to come by. It's been going on for decades. For example, I've seen a guy out on the streets of downtown bumming money for 12 years. When he was younger he used to cuss people out high on drugs. Now, he is quieter, balder and heavier bumming money. The weather is the best in San Diego and I'd love to sit and have a cup of coffee outdoors, but that's not going to happen with all the homeless circling.

I had to quit carrying my cell phone, purse and wear denim so I blend in and get along.  
-Tip-Toe somewhere else

Whole article doesn't mention the amount of money the city gets from federal and state grants.  
-Tip-Toe somewhere else

### No eggs, no dairy, no gluten. What's left are Chani's Donuts

Feast, Dec. 5, 2023

My grand-daughter and daughter-in-law both have celiac and have to eat gluten free, so I was excited to hear about Chani's Donuts! Not only are they gluten free, but they also taste AMAZING! If you haven't tried them you should. They are crispy on the outside and soft on the inside. Absolutely delicious! And you can't even tell they are gluten free! Go in and try one - free! You will love them!  
-Satisfied customer

### La Jolla drowning corpses pile up

Neighborhood News, Dec. 4, 2023

Died suddenly, brought to you by Phizer  
-Unjabbed and proud

### Power San Diego hopes to wrest utility control away from SDG&E

Neighborhood News, Nov. 7, 2023

I moved from San Diego to a place where we have a municipal utility. SDG&E rates via a crooked PUC was a primary motivator for us. Even though I owned the solar panels we put on our house, SDG&E rates were killing us and it was never going to get better.  
-Ex-local

Hope you got lower rates!  
-Looking to leave

SDG&E still controls distribution  
-Looking to leave

### Sloop in distress heading for San Diego

Cover Story, Sept. 13, 2023

Caveat Emptor. Why would anyone trust these guys?  
-Latin beware

^Right

-Concedo

### Pet pitbull released at Oceanside library by 'animal activist'

Neighborhood News, June 12, 2023

I know Miss Connelly Oetsknally, and i agree with you 100%, probation will do no good.  
-No good coming

## Under the radar

continued from page 3

effect on the spouse's business interest in these entities.

Therefore, when Bry voted in July and October of 2018 while a council member for the City of San Diego, regarding the short-term rental ordinance, there was no material financial interest which would have led to a conflict-of-interest on either Bry or Bry's spouse."

Adds the letter: "Additionally, the relevant Statements of Economic Interest filed by Bry were amended to reflect the business interests as belonging solely to Bry's husband."

Meanwhile, Deckard continues to clean up with local governments across the country. In a July 7 dispatch from Texas, CBS News reported, "The more short-term rentals a city has, the

more they pay. For context, Fort Worth initially signed a \$35,000 one-year contract with Deckard, while Grapevine's contract was \$3000 for a year.

The city of Plano told CBS News Texas they've paid Deckard \$46,000 to date: the original one-year contract was for \$24,500, but the city recently paid for more features and services." Deckard's success has drawn pushback from some property owners, per the story. "The Fort Worth Short Term Rental Alliance accused Fort Worth of spending tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars to have Deckard Technologies surveil citizens."

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

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WIN TICKETS



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# UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

Can you believe it's been almost four months since we've taken *Unreal Estate* for a tour in La Jolla? That's a long time to stay away from one of the most established enclaves dedicated to housing San Diego's wealthiest denizens. Let's check in on the priciest pad currently up for grabs in the seaside village.

"Introducing The Experience@Vista d'Oro, Americas premier contemporary 180 ocean view estate," opens the *realtor.com* pitch for 2585 Calle



Warm wood, artful terraces, an infinity pool — and oh yes, ocean views galore.

Del Oro, a 7800-square-foot mansion constructed in 2020 on a half-acre lot overlooking the Pacific. We've got a lot of ground to cover here, so let's

jump right into the tour.

We start off with an *al fresco* dining area looking out over the ocean. Even though we're a half mile inland, the hillside loca-

tion still affords a pretty darn pleasing whitewater view. From there, we get a couple of aerial shots before moving to the backyard. I like all of

the exterior woodwork, which seems so much warmer and more inviting than the typical stucco and "any color you want, so long as it's gray" aesthetic that has plagued modern design for the last decade-plus.

The cactus and succulent garden out front is also a quirky departure from the palm-heavy tropical landscapes we usually see near the beach. I'm also a fan of the terraced gardens out back next to the infinity pool — I did something similar in my own yard, but not nearly as opulent, and minus the pool, infinity or otherwise.

Staying outside for a bit, we get some sunset shots of a firepit lounge area that melds with the living room, thanks to "multiple motorized Fleetwood doors seam-

lessly blending 90 of indoor/outdoor living." I know we've seen these disappearing walls of glass before, and while I might mock them sometimes, I've got to admit I'd love to have a set facing my back deck — if money was very much not an object. The motorized part is new to me, though — are all of these setups electrified on remote control and I never noticed, or is this a particularly fancy set of disappearing doors? Either way, I'm going to assume that the "90" in the quote refers to 90 horizontal feet of disappearing door in all, absent any meaningful explanation in the listing.

The living room itself isn't bad, either — shades of gray form the base colors, but there's natural

*continued on page 32*

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To find out if you could take part, please contact

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# SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news



"From the freeway to the sea, all La Jolla must be free!"

## The Al-Alloj Intifada

UCSD students lead charge against colonization

"For much of its history, there were no Jews in La Jolla," notes Amir Asham, spokesman for UCSD's Students for Palestinian Promotion. "This is a well documented fact. Realtors who were approached by Jewish settlers would call the Real Estate Broker's Association, which would see to it that the settlers were told that no properties were available. Real estate agents would place green cards in their cars' front windows when driving Jewish colonists through La Jolla, in order to alert the locals, and 'For Sale' signs were forbidden for the sake of neighborhood purity. But then Roger Revelle convinced the Brokers to break their gentleman's agreement for the sake of getting a branch of the UC system. 'You can't have a university without having Jewish professors,' he told them. And they yielded. But now we know better. Thanks to the principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, we

know that it is not only possible to have a university without Zionist oppressors — it is necessary. Look at any map of Occupied Palestine, and then look at a map of La Jolla. The similarities are both obvious and ominous. Then look at the lies that UCSD's Jewish students tell: that the police were called to escort them from a meeting, a meeting held in a tower high above the pro-Palestine protestors gathered below. Yes, security escorted them from the building, but no police were ever called. Ask yourself: who drew those poop swastikas in campus bathrooms last May? Who vandalized the 'positive Jewish messages' on campus when Hamas supporter Taher Herzallah spoke here? Who famously claims victim status even as they hold a community hostage, telling them they cannot have a university unless they accept colonization? The answer is clear, as is the solution."

## Witless for the Prosecution

*Bumbling lawyers Christmas & Dunne threaten to sink government's corruption case against Fat Leonard's Navy co-conspirators*

Statement from U.S. Attorney Lloyd Christmas on the government's recent missteps in the Fat Leonard corruption trial: "It's true that we asked one of our witnesses to commit perjury, that is, to cut certain parts out of his testimony, like when a doctor removes your appendix. But sometimes perjury is necessary to save the life of the patient, or in this case, our case. It's also true that we prepared lengthy responses to

four defendants' motion for dismissal. But those responses went dismissing, so we had to drop their convictions. But we made them pay \$100 each, so really, we still won. And yes, it looks like we'll be doing the same for four or five more of the defendants, because if we do it for some, we have to do it for all. That's called justice. But I would like to add that it's not our fault that Fat Leonard himself was able to flee from his house



"Now remember, if we're gonna secure this conviction, we need to share our findings with the def - oh man, look at that counselor's bounce to the ounce!"

arrest. He asked us to take him to Five Guys for a burger, and then pointed out that since he was no longer in his house, he

couldn't be under house arrest. So we had to let him go. The law is a cruel mistress, but we have to obey her."

## Justice Interruptus?

*Local attorney pulls out of sex suits*

San Diego attorney Dan Guiltyon is no stranger to salacious cases. He represented Cheetah's strippers in their harassment lawsuit against the San Diego Police Department. And he represented the women assaulted by San Diego Police Officer Christopher Hays. He takes pride in his legal body count, often boasting that he "always nails them in the end." But last week saw a rare failure to perform from Guiltyon — actually, two



Dan Guiltyon: "I swear, this has never happened to me before!"

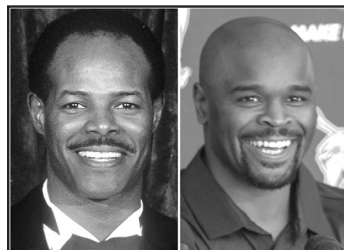
failures. First, he withdrew his client's rape lawsuit against former SDSU punter Matt Araiza,

option on that one, once he's had a chance to regroup and reassess.

a suit which seemed to wilt under the pressure of intense public scrutiny. Then he withdrew MTS Chief Information Officer Emily Outlaw's claim that MTS knew about the sexual harassment allegations against Nathan Fletcher well before they said they did. However, he says, re-filing may still be an

## WHO PLAYS WHO

## NEW COACHES EDITION



In *I'm Gonna Git You, Sucka*, **Keenan Ivory-Wayans** plays a man who arrives on the scene and vows to root out the degradation and filth he finds there.

**Brandon Moore** was named the new head football coach at USD just months before two players accused their teammates of sexual hazing including porn and forced nudity.



On *That '70s Show*, **Kurtwood Smith** played the grumpy host to a group of underachieving goofballs, and often threatened to put his foot up his son's ass.

**Mike Shildt** was named the new manager of the San Diego Padres following their epically disappointing 2023 season.



On *Ted Lasso*, **Brendan Hunt** played Coach Beard, who had the strange idea that it was actually important to win games.

SDSU hired **Sean Lewis** as its new head football coach after the team went 4-8 and finished in last place in its conference.



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# THEY HAD FACADES THEN

## SAN DIEGO'S ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS AND MISFIRES

There's a hilltop house in Cardiff, at 959 Cornish Drive, that is not like the others in the tony seaside neighborhood. The house itself resembles a giant box, light yellow in color, with the front door flanked by a pair of painted columns. Near the top of columns are murals that look like pieces of ancient Egyptian art, complete with profiles of Pharaohs. The walls next to the columns feature ornate, bas-relief columns. Winged suns hover over each of the two front windows.

The house was built in 1923 by a developer named O.L. Steel, who had apparently taken a fancy to the Egyptian Revival school of architecture that briefly flourished after the 1921 hit movie *The Sheik* and the discovery, just a year later, of the tomb of Tutankhamen, which sent

Americans clamoring for all things Egyptian. Architecture was not immune, and among the famous buildings constructed in the Egyptian Revival style are the recently restored and reopened Egyptian Theater in Hollywood, and the Pythian Temple in New York City, which is now a high-end condo complex.

Developer Steel built the house on Cornish Drive as something of a prototype of what he hoped would become a tract of Egyptian-style homes surrounded by avocado groves. He built a second, smaller home down

The Egyptian Revival school of architecture briefly flourished after the 1921 hit movie *The Sheik* and the discovery, just a year later, of the tomb of Tutankhamen.







The Kalama Kai Apartments at 4444 West Point Loma Boulevard is an example of a residential Polynesian structure.

the hill in the 1200 block of San Dieguito Drive, but his ambitious plans for a whole community of similar homes never materialized.

\*\*\*

Historically, residential construction in San Diego has come in waves, often following a distinct architectural style and generally centered around the single-family home. First, in the early 1800s, came the adobes, the best known example of which is La Casa de Estudillo in Old Town State Historic Park. These were built by the Spanish and Mexican settlers who displaced the native Kumeyaay. Then came the Victorians, some grand and ornate, others more toned down — a style known as Folk Victorian. A handful of both Victorian styles still stand and may be seen in Old Town, on Golden Hill, and as far north as Highland Street

in Carlsbad.

Next, in the early 1900s, came the quaint Craftsman bungalows, with their thick wooden casings around the doors and windows and wide front porches flanked by stately columns supporting the protruding roof. Craftsman-style homes still dominate such old San Diego neighborhoods as Mission Hills, University Heights, Bankers Hill, and Hillcrest.

A little later, from the 1920s up until World War II, came the Spanish Colonial Revival-style homes, generally white, with textured stucco walls and red terracotta tile roofs. These were inspired by the Balboa Park buildings of the Panama-California Exposition of 1915-1917, which in turn had been inspired by the designers' travels through Mexico and their romanticized ideas of the Hispanic heritage of the Canal Zone. The homes sprang up in communities

such as North Park, Kensington, Talmadge, Mission Hills, Point Loma, and Burlingame. Years later, they influenced the building style in large, master-planned communities such as Rancho Bernardo. The Spanish Colonial Revival style was so popular, says preservation architect Ione R. Stiegler, "that one of our leading architects at the time felt the style was so appropriate to our local climate that he simply called it 'Southern California Architecture.'" (At the same time that the Spanish Colonial Revival style flourished, some builders drifted toward the Mediterranean Revival style, a mixture of Spanish and Italian architecture characterized by a rectangular floor plan with massive, symmetrical primary façades, windows shaped like arches or circles, and wrought iron balconies.)

The post-World War II housing boom saw the first vast housing tracts as San Diego crept outward into suburbia: Clairemont and Allied Gardens being among the first suburbs. Some tracts, such as those in the oldest parts of Clairemont, featured boxy, cookie-cutter cottages and duplexes of the kind derided by folksinger Pete Seeger in the song, "Little Boxes." *Little boxes on the hillside/ Little boxes made of ticky-tacky/ Little boxes, little boxes/ Little boxes all the same...* Others consisted of single-story ranch-style homes.

Wealthier homeowners in communities such as Point Loma, Del Cerro and La Jolla built custom ranch homes that often stretched the width of the property. Builders also went with the Mid-Century Modern style, the architectural manifestation of the design movement that was popular in the United States as


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well as Europe from the end of the Second World War through the 1960s. It is characterized by clean, simple designs; as *Architectural Digest* noted in a January 2023 story, it was both funky and functional, “influenced by the optimism of the post-World War II boom and by the exploration of a range of materials, including steel, concrete, and newly available insulated glass.”

The 1970s saw the ramping up of master-planned communities, where the common thread was not so much style as it was color: vast seas of beige, white, and even pink stretching out over acres of private homes. This continued through the 1980s all the way into the early 2000s, with prime examples in what was originally called North City West (now Carmel Valley and Del Mar Heights). “My brother, who is nine years older than me, grew up in San Diego, left town for Northern California, and then came back in the 1980s,” says Bruce Coons, executive director of the Save Our Heritage Organisation, a non-profit organization founded in 1969 that is devoted to

the preservation of the historic architecture and landmarks around the San Diego. “He told me one time, ‘I wish I could get the contract for paint in San Diego, because nearly everything I see I what I call San Diego beige.’ It wasn’t like that when he left in the 1960s.”

With the Great Recession, residential construction all but ground to a halt, and recovery was slow. But in recent years, the housing shortage created by years of little to no construction has led to a boom in residential development, this time growing out and up into multi-family dwellings, primarily apartments. You see them everywhere, all over downtown and as “in-fill” projects in older residential communities from Chula Vista to Vista. And, once again, there’s a prevalent look: boxy buildings that overpower the parcel of land on which they sit, sometimes resembling an oversize Amazon package, other times looking like something a toddler might have built with a set of building blocks, and almost always painted in varying pastel hues. Examples include the massive new 840-unit

Town and Country project in Mission Valley, the 442-unit Vive Lux apartment complex in Kearny Mesa, and much smaller complexes of the kind that over the last couple of years have been popping up in Pacific Beach, North Park, Rancho Penasquitos, Poway, Rancho Bernardo, Carlsbad’s barrio and village, south Oceanside and Vista.

Roger Showley, the former *San Diego Union-Tribune* architecture critic who is still considered the city’s chief arbiter of good taste, isn’t a fan. “I’d say it’s ‘No-Style Style,’” he says. “There’s no reference to place or context. They could be built anywhere, which is the guiding principle of Modernism. Most of these are high-rise apartments and the common element is balconies. That’s a nice amenity for residents, who often use them for storage. But it makes for a monotonous appearance from the street or distance. The downtown high-rises built by Bosa are basically transplants from their Vancouver high-rises. In dense cities like that, these blocks of 20-60-story towers can resemble a field of aspara-



The grande dame of Polynesian-style homes just might be a gorgeous single-family home on the southeast corner of Cornish Drive and Monaco Street in Sunset Cliffs.

gus.” Showley maintains that architecture “lost its way in the 1970s with the advent of Post-Modernism, which mashed up historic styles and painted them in pastels.”

\*\*\*

Despite the power of prevailing currents, over the years, the architectural styles of San Diego’s waves of residential construction have been augmented by several outliers — styles that embraced exoticism, such as Polynesian, Oriental and, of course, the aforementioned Egyptian. “People notice them as they drive around,” says Coons, “but they don’t give much thought to the style, because they don’t see a lot of them. It brightens their journey to work or the store, to see these whimsical styles. But if you study them, they can be of great interest.”

Architect Stiegler, whose firm, IS Architecture, has been doing busi-

ness in San Diego for 35 years, agrees. “I’d say the mild climate, through every design era, has allowed for experimentation,” she says. “And, thus, our city is graced with some wonderful, one-off gems — gems that if you keep an eye out for them, you are rewarded by seeing someone’s idyllic dream once upon a time.”

The two Cardiff Egyptian houses are not the only local surviving examples of Egyptian Revival architecture in San Diego County, but there aren’t many others. Two apartment complexes at 3772 and 3783 Park Boulevard, near the zoo, also look much as they did when they were built in the 1920s; the latter building was recently repainted to highlight its Egyptian elements. The building itself is white with red trim; the bas-relief columns on either side of the main entryway have been painted black, and the Pharaoh heads that sit atop each

column are now a bright mustard. When the sun hits them just right, they look like gold.

There’s no telling how many more homes and apartments built in the Egyptian Revival style have been lost to time. As a 1992 *Journal of San Diego History* article noted, “the Egyptian craze especially flourished in Southern California. Fantastic architectural designs were accepted more readily there because of the specific influence of movie-making in Southern California, a lack of ‘old money’ blue-blood families, a general 1920s atmosphere of ‘anything goes,’ and an upsurge in the construction of ‘period revival’ homes and buildings.” San Diego’s climate also was a factor, the article maintains: “Sunny days and snow-free winters actually made this style a sensible choice for San Diego. Egypt’s hot, dry climate had allowed her temples, stores, and homes to be built with flat roofs and open courtyard gardens.”

“The Egyptian Revival style is a personal favorite of mine,” says Coons. “I have a great affection for it, as it harkens back to the Egyptian love of life, with elements from nature embodied in their stone architecture. Carved stone architecture is a discipline that they invented. I’d love to own one.”

Another architectural style that flourished briefly here in San Diego is Polynesian. Triggered by World War II soldiers returning from the Pacific Theater and sweetened by Thor Heyerdahl’s 1950 best-seller *Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific in a Raft*, tiki culture was all the rage in the 1950s into the ‘60s, and has recently experienced a resurgence — spurred, in part,

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

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by the craft cocktail trend. The Tiki Oasis, launched in 2001, is an annual festival that each year draws thousands of attendees to Mission Valley for four days and five nights of exotic tropical cocktails, live entertainment, educational seminars, and a marketplace of more than 150 artists and makers. There's also been a flurry of homeowners building their own backyard tiki bars, some of them profiled in a June 2023 *San Diego Magazine* feature.

But the Polynesian style of architecture, like Egyptian Revival, was popular only for a brief period in the 1950s and '60s. It's an offshoot of Mid-Century Modern, with A-frame roofs, post-and-beam construction, and floor-to-ceiling plate-glass windows. Shelter Island is ground zero for this architectural outlier, largely because of a "special overlay zone," created when the former sandbar was developed in the 1950s, that required all buildings to have a Polynesian theme. This played right into tourism marketing campaigns that touted San Diego as "a little bit of Hawaii," according to a brochure published by the



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Two apartment complexes at 3772 and 3783 Park Boulevard, near the zoo, also look much as they did when they were built in the 1920s; the latter building was recently repainted to highlight its Egyptian elements.

Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO).

The SOHO brochure paints a quite compelling word picture: "These... buildings' outward appearances were supposed to evoke the architectural traditions gleaned from various Pacific Islander cultures: truncated-roofed *jonglos*, circular huts, or soaring A-framed *halau loa* (big meeting house) and *halau wa'a* (canoe sheds). The latter were often featured on sway-back roofs, projecting out over *porte-cocheres*, with plain or highly decorative corbelled wood pole

or squared ridge beams or rafters. Sometimes the latter ended in decorative canoe-bow finials or extended like outriggers all the way to the ground, down into brick or rock planters. Close up features included exterior wood plank siding, natural stone (especially lava rock), and earth-colored concrete bricks. Located on or near large bodies of water, their landscape details were meant to accentuate a South Sea Island's land-water interface. Lush, semi-tropical plants, including palms, hibiscus, plumeria, and impatiens,

were located on little man-made islands surrounded by flowing streams, waterfalls, pools, and/or lagoons set amid real or faux-lava rock boulders. Shade-loving philodendrons, bromeliads, ferns, and orchids completed the effect. Strategically located throughout the gardens were the style's eponymous Polynesian-inspired wood, stone, or cast concrete Tiki totem poles or *moai* statues...."

Prominent Polynesian structures on Shelter Island that are still standing include the Bali Hai Restaurant and the Half

Moon Inn, home of the popular Humphreys by the Bay concert series; the Catamaran Resort Hotel in Pacific Beach; and much of Vacation Village — now known as Paradise Point — in the heart of Mission Bay. Another landmark, the Hanalei Hotel in Mission Valley, known for its gigantic A-frame entryway, lost its look during an extensive remodel in 2006.

As with the Egyptian Revival style, homes built with the Polynesian theme are hard to find, although Coons estimates up to 200 residential examples remain, "less, if they're full-on tiki." Several Polynesian-style homes built in the late 1950s and early '60s can be found in the older part of Clairemont, near the intersection of Barnhurst Drive and Charger Boulevard, Coons says. More homes can be found on Point Loma and in Del Cerro. The grande dame just might be a gorgeous single-family home on the southeast corner of Cornish Drive and Monaco Street in Sunset Cliffs. "Another major one is the Kalama Kai Apartments at 4444 West Point Loma Boulevard," Coons says.

"The popularity of the Polynesian style in San Diego represents our final realization that it is indeed an integral part of the Pacific Rim."

Closely related to the Polynesian Revival style is Oriental: homes with pagoda-like elements such as upturned corners of roofs. Stiegler says this style dates back to the post-Victorian, pre-World War I days, with Coons noting that it was popularized in San Diego by returning servicemen, including some who fought in China before World War II when that country was under siege by Japan. These "second-generation" homes often feature Chinese decorative motifs on door entry handles and *soji*-like screens in the interiors. Homes with Oriental elements are scattered around the county, with one on Skyline Drive in Carlsbad and several in La Jolla, near where the Green Dragon Colony — 12 artists' cottages built in the late 1800s in the heart of the village by Anna Held, a former governess for the family of Ulysses S. Grant Jr., the 18th president's son — once stood.

"In fact, there's one for

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sale right now in La Jolla that's pretty terrific," Coons says. "There are very few of them left, but this one's pretty pure." Located at 1428 Soledad Avenue, what's known as the "House of Dreams" was built in the early 1900s and was profiled last May in the *La Jolla Light* newspaper. According to the article, the home was built by a "world traveler" named Florence Howard, who had a keen interest in Asiatic art and style. The house is currently listed for sale at \$6,245,000. The Zillow listing calls it a "1911 Asian Arts & Crafts style 4BD/2.5BA ocean view home topped w/ crow's nest bonus room plus a matching studio over garage."

"I was just in this one the other day," Stiegler adds. "It was just one woman's vision with a great carpenter to execute."

The Art Deco style that flourished in places like Miami in the 1930s and 1940s also touched down in San Diego, although it was modified to reflect the area's ties to the aircraft industry. "We call it Streamline Art Moderne," Coons says. "We were known as the aircraft capital of the

world, and the aircraft industry was centered around Pacific Highway, with plants like Rohr and Convair. Streamline Art Moderne was a pretty major substyle for San Diego during the early 1940s. Streamline buildings were prominent along today's Pacific Highway, and then it spread into the nearby neighborhoods, especially Loma Portal, which is where many of the aircraft industry executives lived. They saw the style and it was the modern thing, the trend. It denoted the future."

Streamline Art Moderne homes were characterized by flat roofs and steamship railings along the parapet, Coons says, "and what they call speed lines – horizontal lines in the stucco. While San Diego is no longer thought of for its Art Deco architecture, it once had a significant inventory, with literally dozens of great Streamline Art Moderne homes and commercial buildings lost to the dozers over the years." Coons says the community of Loma Portal, in the northeast part of the Point Loma peninsula, has several remaining Streamline Modern homes, with



Located at 1428 Soledad Avenue in La Jolla, what's known as the "House of Dreams" was built in the early 1900s by a "world traveler" named Florence Howard, who had a keen interest in Asiatic art and style.

a particularly strong example on the southwest corner of Kingsley and Locust.

One final odd outlier in San Diego architectural styles is the Tile Neo-Mansard, a twist on — some would say bastardization of — the Spanish style, with flat roofs and tiles that hang below the roof line like bangs. It's a look that flourished in the 1970s, the same era as bad fashion, bad cars and bad presidents. The Tile Neo-Mansard style was popular with both apartments and commercial buildings throughout

Southern California, and in San Diego, it is strongly identified with the myriad apartment buildings — most with six to nine units and no front yards, just concrete parking spaces — nicknamed the "Huffman Six-Pack" after the developer who put them up. "I hate those things," Coons says. "They look like boxes with tile fringes tacked on."

According to the Huffman Properties Inc. website, builder Ray Huffman began focusing on apartments in the 1960s when most of his fellow developers were concen-

trating on single-family homes. "After he got the building process down to a science, Ray was able to construct a property in approximately 110 days," the website says. "Ray had created a 'Ford Assembly Line' for San Diego apartment construction. There was a period where Ray would have as many as 70 apartment buildings under construction at one time, all at different locations spread throughout San Diego County."

A 1982 *Reader* article noted that "North Park contains so many of his apartments that the en-

tire area is occasionally referred to as "a monument to Ray Huffman." The Tile Neo-Mansard isn't the dominant architectural style Huffman employed for his apartments, which often are a mish-mash of styles. But it's the one that stands out, Coons says, because it was so distinct — distinct enough that other developers took note, and by the early 1970s, the Huffman Six-Pack became the model for other apartment builders. "So not only do we have those lousy Huffman Six-Packs, but we also have knock-offs that went up all over the place: Ocean Beach, City Heights, University Heights. They stuck them in all sorts of neighborhoods as in-fill. Eventually people rose up and fought those and ultimately forced the [San Diego] City Council to issue a moratorium."

While the Tile Neo-Mansard style here in San Diego was used mostly for apartments, "there are also some private homes, unfortunately," Coons says. "I've seen them in Pacific Beach and some in Point Loma. They're exceedingly ugly."

— Thomas K. Arnold

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**WHERE:** Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach.

[bahiahotel.com/jingle-belle-cruise](http://bahiahotel.com/jingle-belle-cruise)



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23: LIGHTSCAPE

### Thursday | 21

#### GASLAMP MARKET HOLIDAYS

Explore artisans' booths, purchase hand-crafted gifts, take photos with art installations, listen to live music from mariachi and jazz bands, and oh yes, meet Santa. There will be holiday yacht rock, a menorah lighting at the Pendry San Diego, and a mini-golf competition. Sip hot chocolate and taste homemade baked goods and pies from Cali Ice Cream, plus crepes from Oh La La La Crepes.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 21, 4 pm to 9 pm

**WHERE:** Fifth Avenue between Broadway and Harbor Drive, Downtown. [gaslamp.org](http://gaslamp.org)

#### JINGLE BELLE FAMILY CRUISES

Enjoy a cruise departing from the Bahia Resort Hotel and the Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa. Kids will enjoy the cookie decorating station, balloon artist, and face painter, while everyone can

### Friday | 22



#### LIVING NATIVITY

Watch as potters turn clay on their wheel and bakers knead dough and bake their bread. Hear the angels sing and see the shepherds and wise men worship the baby Jesus. Check out the Mediterranean cuisine, walk-through marketplace, pony rides, snow hill for sledding, petting zoo, games and crafts, hot chocolate, apple cider, and food trucks.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 21 through Saturday, December 23, 6 pm

**WHERE:** Horizon Christian Fellowship - North County. 6365 El Apajo Road, Rancho Santa Fe. [horizon.org](http://horizon.org)

### Sunday | 27

#### THE SILENT COMEDY

Founded by brothers Joshua and Jeremiah Zimmerman, The Silent Comedy began as an old timey theatrical troupe. Among their San Diego Music Awards are trophies for Best Pop and Song of the Year. They were recently the subject of a documentary film, *I Am Alright: Music, Madness, and the Fall of The Silent Comedy*, an exploration of the challenges facing independent artists.

### Saturday | 23

#### LIGHTSCAPE

This light experience combines art, nature, and technology in an exhibit covering a one-mile walking trail in a cocoon of color and sound. Concessions will offer quesadillas, chicken pot pies, Bavarian pretzels, peppermint brownies, donuts, and drinks.

**WHEN:** Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 7:30 pm. Through January 1.

**WHERE:** San Diego Botanic Garden. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. [sdbg.org](http://sdbg.org)



THE SILENT COMEDY

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 27, 7:30 pm

**WHERE:** The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy. [casbahmusic.com](http://casbahmusic.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](http://sdreader.com/events/submit).*

ART

**Keone Young** Meet the voice and live-action actor Keone Young. Snap a selfie or grab an autograph. Keone will have toy figures, posters, limited edition art prints, smaller keepsakes, and memorabilia like GI Joe pins and Baseball cards of Buck Bokai from *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. Saturday, December 23, 11am; **free**. Southern California Comics, 8280 Clairemont Mesa Bl., ste. 124. (KEARNY MESA)

**Little Fish Comic Savvy: Holiday Edition** Enjoy comics, good conversation, and donuts. A large amount of free comic books and graphic novels are available for attendees to go through and take home. Friday, December 22, 7pm; **free**. Little Fish Comic Book Studio, 6822-B El Cajon Boulevard. (ROLANDO)

**Summation** Summation celebrates the artist's vision, journey, and process in 2023. Consistently, this exhibition features some of the finest works of art produced by local San Diego and Southern Cali-

fornia regional artists. Poet's INC will produce its annual Summation publication with poetry inspired by the works of art. Tuesdays, 11am; through Friday, January 5, **free**. Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Christmas Eve Sound Healing & Gratitude Meditation** Join Jeny of Zen Soul Balance on Christmas Eve for a 60 minute sound healing, to rest, rejuvenate and recalibrate. Sunday, December 24, 4pm; \$45. Buddhi Yoga, 7843 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Elf & Cookies with Santa at Rooftop Cinema Club** Cookies with Santa event featuring Will Ferrell in the holiday classic, *Elf*. When guests arrive, they'll be greeted by Santa Claus, who's planning to take a break from the toy shop. Tickets are general admission and include the movie, plus a photo with Santa and a DIY holiday cookie decorating kit. Friday, December 22, 1pm; \$35. Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Little Seabirds Holiday Festivities** Gather your family to decorate an apple with caramel dip and toppings. All supplies will be provided with the purchase of each apple. Also enjoy Ornament Decorating,

Santa Plate Decorating, Build A Snowman, and more. Saturdays, 12pm; through Saturday, December 23, **free**. Seabird, 101 Ocean Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

**Santa's Story Time Tea** Create magical holiday memories in the festive ambiance of the Le Fontainebleau Room at the Westgate Hotel. Festivities include story time and photo opportunities with Santa Claus himself. Also, each child will leave with their very own keepsake teddy bear from the North Pole. We'll serve delicious hot chocolate, premium teas, fresh house-made pastries, and desserts with a holiday twist accompanied by live holiday music from a pianist. Price includes a glass of Champagne for the adults. Saturday, December 23, 12:30pm; Sunday, December 24, 12:30pm; \$98. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Whimsical Christmas** The restaurant has transformed into mystic Christmas Wonderland. Indulge in the new Winter Cocktail Menu trying out the holiday inspired drinks. Fridays, 4pm; through Monday, December 25, \$10-\$12. 21 and up. Seventh House, 2835 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

CHRISTMAS DINING

**A Night of Holiday Festivities** The Holiday Night event will feature an array of festive activities to get everyone in the merry spirit, including arts and crafts, professional photos with Santa, a "Letters to Santa" station, and holiday food and drink specials. Thursday, December 21, 5pm; **free**. Cassara Carlsbad, 5805 Armada Dr., #Building B. (CARLSBAD)

**Christmas & Christmas Eve Dinner** Enjoy a full dinner menu plus Chef's Holiday. Sunday, December 24, 5:30pm; Monday, December 25, 4pm; Huntress, 376 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas Day Dining** Enjoy a brunch buffet with made-to-order breakfast items, specialty holiday dishes, and free-flowing champagne. Brunch attendees can also enjoy a complimentary cruise featuring spirited carolers, photos with Santa, and cozy hot cocoa. For dinner celebrations, reserve your table for a three-course meal. Monday, December 25, 10am; \$55-\$110. Dockside 1953, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

**Christmas Day Dining on Mission Bay** Savor a champagne brunch with buffet selections. Brunch guests are invited to enjoy a complimentary holiday cruise featuring Santa, carolers, cookie decorating, hot cocoa, and more. For dinner, enjoy a three-course Christmas menu with holiday favorites. Monday, December 25, 10am; \$55-\$110. Oceana Coastal Kitchen, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

**Christmas Day: Savor The Season Buffet** Seaside-inspired Christmas Brunch that marries the festive spirit of the season with the refreshing vibes of the coast.

Rhyme & Verse

*Two poems for Christmas by e.e. cummings*

little tree

little silent Christmas tree  
you are so little  
you are more like a flower

who found you in the green forest  
and were you very sorry to come away?  
see i will comfort you  
because you smell so sweetly

i will kiss your cool bark  
and hug you safe and tight  
just as your mother would,  
only don't be afraid

look the spangles  
that sleep all the year in a dark box  
dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine,  
the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads,

put up your little arms  
and i'll give them all to you to hold  
every finger shall have its ring  
and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy

then when you're quite dressed  
you'll stand in the window for everyone to see  
and how they'll stare!  
oh but you'll be very proud

and my little sister and i will take hands  
and looking up at our beautiful tree  
we'll dance and sing  
"Noel Noel"

Christmas Poem

from spiralling ecstatically this

proud nowhere of earth's most prodigious night  
blossoms a newborn babe:around him,eyes  
— gifted with ever keener appetite  
than mere unmiracle can quite appease —  
humbly in their imagined bodies kneel  
(over time space doom dream while floats the whole

perhapsless mystery of paradise)

mind without soul may blast some universe  
to might have been, and stop ten thousand stars  
but not one heartbeat of this child;nor shall  
even prevail a million questionings  
against the silence of his mother's smile  
— whose only secret all creation sings



e. e. Cummings (1894-1962) was an American poet and, like Robert Frost, one of the most-read American poets of the 20th century. He also worked as a painter, essayist and playwright (his most popular play is *Santa Claus: A Morality*). Cummings' poems are also perhaps some of the most immediately recognizable to readers; except for some early material, most of his work is defined by idiosyncratic syntax and lower-case spellings for even proper nouns. An early proponent of modernist poetry, Cummings wrote in traditional forms (such as the sonnet "Christmas Poem") and in free verse ("little tree"), but always with the typographical eccentricities that in part defined his style as wholly unique.

Find more poetry online at [SDreader.com/poetry](http://SDreader.com/poetry)

Monday, December 25, 2pm; \$45-\$99. Seabird, 101 Ocean Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

**Christmas Dinner at Bronze Bird** Celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day at Bronze Bird with a festive setting and 3-course Holiday Dinner. Reservations are recommended. Sunday, December 24, 5pm; Monday, December 25, 5pm; Westin Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Dinner** To-Go Family Meal (feeds 4). Available for pick-up on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Pre-order by Wednesday, December 20. Sunday, December 24, 4pm; Monday, December 25, 2pm; \$80. Rustic Root, 535 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas Eve Dinner** Join Chef Roberto Alcocer and the Valle Family for a special Christmas Eve holiday dinner. Guests will enjoy a special four or eight course tasting menu with a celebratory champagne toast. Guests can also enhance their experience with an optional curated wine pairing. Sunday, December 24, 5pm; \$185-\$550. Valle Oceanside, 222 North Pacific Street. (OCEANSIDE)

**Christmas Eve Dinner** Full menu and seasonal specials and cocktails. Sunday, December 24, 5pm; Lumi, 366 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas Eve Special** Sunday, December 24, 5pm; \$48. Desmond, 1047 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas Special at The Cafe** Sunday, December 24, 5pm; Monday, December 25, 5pm; \$54. Kimp-ton Alma Hotel, 1047 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Christmas at the Casa** Enjoy the festively decorated cultural center, take in the dazzling lights that

decorate the historic property and enjoy a night out under the stars. Crafts for kids will be available, and complete the night out with a delicious s'more. Thursday, December 21, 5pm; \$5-\$10. Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens, 415 Avenida Granada.

**Holiday Italian Brunch** Enjoy a brunch menu featuring traditional brunch dishes with an Italian twist and a Christmas Spritz for \$14. Mondays, 9am; through Monday, December 25, La Pastaia Italian Restaurant, 3055 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

COMEDY

**4th Friday Comedy** San Diego comedians in a free show. Friday, December 22, 7:30pm; **free**. Spacebar Cafe, 7454 University Ave., Suite A. (LA MESA)

**Chris Estrada** Seen on HBO, Hulu, and Comedy Central. Thursday, December 21, 8pm; Friday, December 22, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 23, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Jackie Beat** Jackie Beat in "It's The Most Miserable Time of the Year!" Saturday, December 23, 7pm; \$20. 21 and up. Urban Mo's Bar and Grill, 308 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

**Paula Poundstone** - Friday, December 22, 6:30pm; \$24-\$173. Magnolia Performing Arts Center, 210 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

**Simply Barbra** Steven Brinberg is a Barbra Streisand impressionist and comedian. Monday, December 25, 6pm; \$52-\$65. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

DANCE

**City Ballet's The Nutcracker** The Nutcracker is the classic Victorian-era story of the adventures of the Nutcracker Prince, Herr Drosselmeyer, and the Sugar Plum Fairy told through a magical theatrical experience to Pyotr Tchaikovsky's score, Elizabeth Wis-trich's choreography, costumes, and grand sets. Thursday, December 21, 7:30pm; Friday, December 22, 2pm and 7:30pm; Saturday, December 23, 2pm and 7:30pm; \$31-\$119. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

**Golden State Ballet's Nutcracker** The beloved holiday tale of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince, all danced to live music from musicians of the San Diego Symphony, playing Tchaikovsky's classic score. Children must be at least 4 years old to attend evening performances. Children as young as 3 years old may attend the matinee performances. Choreographed by Artistic Director Raul Salamanca. Thursday, December 21, 7:30pm; Friday, December 22, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 23, 2:30pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 24, 2pm; \$25-\$129. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

**Free Tuesday** Free admission to San Diego County residents with ID. Proof of San Diego County residency is required for all adults (18+) participating. CA Driver's License, State, School or Military ID are accepted. Tuesday, December

Christmas  
Eve SERVICES

ALL ARE WELCOME!



FAMILY 4 PM

Kids of all ages are invited to play  
a part in our impromptu pageant.  
No practice necessary.  
Fantastic photo ops guaranteed!

CANDLELIGHT 8 PM

A traditional Christmas service with  
carols and communion that ends in a  
candlelit singing of silent night.



4761 CASS ST. SAN DIEGO 92109  
[WWW.CHRISTPB.ORG/ADVENT](http://WWW.CHRISTPB.ORG/ADVENT)



# OUTDOORS

## Poinsettias are triggered, Winter Solstice, and a Christmas moon

**Poinsettias, A Favorite Of Backyard Gardeners**, are now exhibiting their scarlet, petal-like bracts, just in time for the holidays. The onset of 14-hour-long nights triggers their scarlet behavior: In San Diego this condition is met just before the date of winter solstice — Thursday, December 21.

**Winter Solstice, When The Sun Reaches Its Southernmost Point** on the celestial sphere, occurs this year at 4:04 am, Sunday,



A BLOOMING POINSETTIA IN A POINT LOMA FRONT YARD.



A VINTAGE CHRISTMAS CARD SHOWS SANTA DELIVERING GIFTS UNDER A FULL MOON.

26, 10am; 18 and up. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

**Singles Night: Die Hard at Rooftop Cinema Club** Featuring the Bruce Willis Christmas action classic, *Die Hard*, Singles Night is a perfect night to cozy up to someone cute on the rooftop. During this special event, guests will have plenty of time to grab a drink or two, mix and mingle, and play some fun games. Thursday, December 21, 6pm; \$35. 21 and up. Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

### FOR KIDS

**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. Thursday, December 21, 10am; Friday, December 22, 10am; Saturday, December 23, 10am; Sunday, December 24, 10am; Tuesday, December 26, 10am; Wednesday, December 27, 10am; \$19-\$24. 3 and up. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

### NATURE

**Guided Nature Walk** Join MTRP birders Millie Basden and Cindy Cornelius for a guided bird walk along the scenic shore of Lake Murray. Bring binoculars if you have them. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, and bring along water. Walks are canceled if raining. Meet on the north side of the lake. After entering at Murray Park Dr. and Belle Glade Ave. proceed along the driveway past a set of ballfields on your right and turn into the paved parking lot on your right. Sunday, December 24, 9:30am & Wednesday, December 27, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**American Red Cross Blood Drive** The need for blood is constant and your contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply. Appointments are needed. Schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Thursday, December 21, 10am; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

### SPORTS & FITNESS

**2023 Holiday Bowl** The ACC vs. Pac-12 matchup includes the 101.5 KGB Sky Show postgame which will light up the San Diego skyline. Wednesday, December 27, 5pm; Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**San Diego Gulls Home Game** The San Diego Gulls will host 14 different Western Conference opponents at Pechanga Arena as part of their 2023-24 schedule. Friday, December 22, 7pm; Saturday, December 23, 6pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

### THEATER LISTINGS

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

#### 1222 Oceanfront: A Black Family Christmas

Dorothy Black invites you to join her and her family for Christmas Eve at 1222 Oceanfront. The festive evening features all of the Black family's traditions including an abundance of delicious food, dancing, skits, and the singing of new, original holiday songs mixed with re-imagined carols. Written by Dea Hurston. Original Music by Milena (Sellers) Phillips. Created by Dea Hurston, Milena (Sellers) Phillips, Frankie Alicea, and Kevin "Blax" Burroughs. Directed by Kandace Crystal. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 2PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS.

#### Amahl & the Night Visitors Holiday Opera (English)

Enjoy a one-act Christmas opera penned by Gian Carlo Menotti, performed entirely in English and directed by Cynthia Leigh. At the heart of the narrative is Amahl, a young disabled boy living in modest circumstances with his widowed mother near Bethlehem. STAR REPERTORY THEATRE, 329 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 760-751-3035. 7PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY.

#### Christmas Thriller: Passage Into Fear

This Christmas, take a mysterious train journey across Europe from Venice, Italy to Zurich, Switzerland during the waning days of World War I (1916).

December 21. This event signals the beginning of winter in the Northern Hemisphere and the beginning of summer in the Southern Hemisphere. With only about ten hours of daylight, San Diego must endure its darkest and gloomiest nights this week and next. During the day, the sun takes its lowest arc in the sky, struggling to an altitude of only 34 degrees (as seen from San Diego), then quickly sinks toward the horizon. Conversely, it's the longest night, and the Moon takes its highest path along the sky and is above the horizon longer than any moon.

**Not Only Is The December 26th Full Moon The First Full Moon** of the Winter Solstice, it is also a Christmas Moon. It will rise around sunset and appear full to the naked eye on December 25, 26, and 27. A Christmas Full Moon happens on average every 19 years. It happened in 2015, and will happen next in 2034. The image of Santa's sleigh and reindeer flying across the night sky, backlit by a full moon, is common on Christmas cards and holiday advertisements.

Based on historical events, an English dowager, Mrs. Lillian Merriweather, boards the train insisting she knows of a sinister plot with vast international repercussions. And is then promptly done in. An American socialite, Kate Hedley, on a final fling before returning home to be unhappily married and Ida, a pugnacious 9-year-old Ukrainian war orphan, join forces with others to uncover the truth behind Mrs. Merriweather's disappearance, which has its roots in the causes and history of the Great War itself.

CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ESCONDIDO, 340 N. ESCONDIDO BL., ESCONDIDO. 760-839-4138. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY.

#### Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show

Enjoy a fast, funny, and highly theatrical reimagining of one of the most beloved holiday stories ever told. All the traditional elements of Dickens's A Christmas Carol are intact, including the iconic ghosts of Christmases Past, Present, and Future, but with a comic local twist. Audiences of all ages will cheer Ebenezer Scrooge's rediscovery of the Christmas spirit in this riotous Dickens mash-up filled with music and laughter, all set in "wintery" San Diego. OLD GLOBE - SHERYL & HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

#### Every Day Vanilla

The year is 2006. Seventeen-year-old Filipina American writer Frankie Robles dreams of escaping San Diego for somewhere less "vanilla." Over the course of 10 years, she begins to reexamine her relationship with her hometown through the eyes of her family, friends, and lovers. The debut play by San Diego-based writer-actor Lani Gobaleza, directed by Earl Paus, contains some mild language, LGTBQIA+ stories, and intergenerational conflict. Note: This production is presented separately from Moxie Theatre's programming. MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY.

#### The Glass Menagerie

Man, when this first opened, it must have hit like a thunderclap. Tennessee Williams, our reigning kind of hothouse family drama, just sending himself up onstage as the narrator of a memory play and opening wide the spigot of self-loathing over...well, there's a reason he wrote family dramas about people trapped in desperate circumstances and their even more desperate efforts to escape them. But that was a long time ago. Nowadays,

# NOW OPEN

## LITTLE ITALY MERCATO

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when we run into a young man who doesn't like his job and would rather spend all his time staring at a screen and dreaming of adventures he doesn't get to have, we're less likely to be moved to pity for the eternally frustrated artist. Get in line, pal. Did I say self-loathing? Yes, but there's a healthy dollop of self-pity there, too, one that drags the spotlight off the story's alleged victim and back onto its author — even as he absents himself from great swaths of the second act. Perhaps as a result, it's Mom who commands the stage, our attention, and even our sympathies here, thanks in no small part to a command performance from Shana Wride — and this despite her tendency to let her ravenous regret and overwhelming fear drive her to awful efforts at control and coercion when it comes to her sorry son and disabled daughter. Oh, for a gentleman caller! The caller, when he comes, is played with huge decency and tenderness by Kirk Brown; it's not his fault that he is, as Williams tells us a the outset, a symbol and not a

character. And symbols...well, what can they do but signify? Diversionary's production plays it straight, and lets faded hopes and bygone eras do their sad work.  
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 7PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY.

**Plaid Tidings**

The legendary Plaids come back to Earth to spread yuletide joy with the greatest holiday hits of the ages. Filled with Christmas standards that have all been "Plaid-erized," our boys are back to do their Christmas Special. At first, Francis, Jinx, Smudge and Sparky aren't sure why they've returned to Earth for another posthumous performance, but a phone call from the heavenly Rosemary Clooney lets them know that they're needed to put a little harmony into a discordant world. Rated: PG-13  
SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE, 4652 MERCURY ST., CLAIREMONT. 858-560-5740. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

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**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 unrated. Thousands of past reviews are available online at [SDReader.com/movies](http://SDReader.com/movies).

**The Iron Claw** — Writer-director Sean Durkin broke through in 2011 with Martha Marcy May Marlene, the story of a young woman who has escaped from a cult and must now find a way to reconnect with her family. But here, the cult is the family, and the only hope lies in escape, which proves all but impossible. (There are frequent mentions of a curse in this based-on-real-life story, and the seemingly endless parade of disasters, some random, others less so, serve to give the claim some weight. They certainly don't square with Mom's blunt reassurance of God's love.) The four Von Erich brothers are caught in the crushing grip of their father Fritz, a pro wrestler turned venue-owner who never got his shot at the championship. (His signature finishing move was called the Iron Claw — how terribly fitting.) Fritz doesn't have to punish his sons to get them to follow in his footsteps and succeed where he failed. He doesn't have to threaten them, or fight with them, or do anything but ask and instruct. They are his, and content to be so. And they have each other for support and consolation. (A big part of the film's appeal is the brotherly love on display between Zac Efron's big brother Kevin, Jeremy Allen White's brooding Kerry,

Harris Dickinson's good guy David, and Stanley Simon's tender Mike.) The women may have thoughts on the matter, but they keep them to themselves. Only Kevin manages a hesitant bleat here and there, and even then, he's not about to defy Dad. So they march on, their ranks thinning, their bodies breaking alongside their hearts, under Durkin's watchful (and frequently very close-up) eye. The only thing we get by way of relief is regular doses of the brightly colored phantasmagoria that was '80s pro wrestling. And that's not nothing — even if it does get indulgent in places. (Gosh, but we get a lot of talk from Ric Flair.) Until. But that's where things get weird: at the end, where the real-life drama ought to take over from the scripted contests in the ring and pin us to the emotional mat, Durkin wriggles free of his own story and brings on not one but three happy endings — one in real-time, one in eternity, and one in posterity. If it feels like a bit of a slippery move, well, this is wrestling we're talking about. (2023) — M.L. ★★ (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)

**Wonka** — The flaws in Paul King's prequel are obvious, starting with the fact that he's taken the anarchic and unsettling confectionary overlord given to us by author Roald Dahl (and famously embodied onscreen by Gene Wilder) and turned him into a human version of his previous star, the wonderfully polite and sweet young bear named Paddington. (The human in question is Timothée Chalamet, who at least manages to convey some of the character's uncommon character.)

You remember Paddington: the sort of fellow who genuinely believes he can win through pure decency. When an orphaned waif tells young Wonka that the greedy beat the needy and that's just the way of the world, he responds with unutterable sincerity that they'll simply have to change the world. Of course, it helps that despite his utter destitution — a plot point that puts him in his primary predicament here — he still carries a portable version of his chocolate factory, one capable of conjuring vast quantities of enchanted edibles from something very close to thin air. He sings that all he's got are a hatful of dreams, but his sales sheet says otherwise. Oh yes, there are songs. The good news is that they mostly fit seamlessly and harmlessly into the narrative, and when they don't, as in the big production seduction number "Have You Got a Sweet Tooth," the show-stopping makes sense. The less good news is that Chalamet sounds weirdly tamped down when he sings, almost as if they did something to his voice in post. The virtues are obvious as well: King's love for his characters and their world is palpable, his story mechanics tick away as precisely as Wonka's marvelous candy contraption, and his trademark whimsy is in plentiful supply. Hm, well — perhaps too plentiful, sort of like an action director who finally gets the budget to do a 20-minute car chase. Oh drat, I seem to be back to flaws. But here's the truth of it: for the most part, they didn't come to me until after I'd left the theater. Because the great virtue here is charm — which has a way of covering a multitude of sins in the magic of the moment — followed by, yes, sweetness. 2023. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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

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

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

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Email entries to [writingcontest@sandiegoreader.com](mailto:writingcontest@sandiegoreader.com) by January 31, 2024

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



# the inside track blurt

**Physical healing, spiritual music** “I hit the pavement, wrists and knees first,” says Eric Nielsen, recalling the wreck of his Harley-Davidson Dyna Wide Glide in Pacific Beach. “And as I slid across the road, I twisted and skidded towards

Of course, Nielsen had to learn to play all over again. “My wrist was the difficult part with the guitar. It was just angled differently. I worked with physical therapy for months to try to be able to play an F barre chord. I still can’t, but I can do everything else. I



Sen K put their heads together and came up with Allele.

a parked car tire, back first, wrapping my torso around rubber and steel. I wandered in and out of black diamond coal shock and pain while on the ground, my leg and hip mangled. I moved my fingers and toes and thought, *I’m not paralyzed*. I didn’t notice my left wrist for a minute or two. Then, upon seeing my whole hand not where God had intended, I realized my wrist was broken. I remember remembering, *I am or was a guitar player*.”

That was September 2016, shortly after Nielsen turned 50. The multi-instrumentalist, whose bands include Maquildora, High Mountain Tempel, and Buzz or Howl, recalls, “I used a walker, then a cane to get my leg moving again. Wore a back brace for months, and had four surgeries over the next two years. I was left with an inch missing from one leg, until the final procedure inserted a rod that allowed me to walk again without a lift in my boot. Last year, I walked 500 miles on the Camino Santiago, so I’d say that’s all good now.”

can do some things better with the new angle. I can reach with my pinky and have a wider spread with my hands. I’m at about 95 percent of where I was before.”

Nielsen has a new EP called *Allele*. It’s credited to Sen K — that’s the last three letters in “Nielsen” and the first letter of his wife Krista’s first name. She plays bass alongside Morgan Doctor on drums. “We started dating following a show [that Krista’s band] Chinchilla played at St. Cecilia’s in downtown San Diego. My friends were performing a shadow show behind the scrim, full of props and nudity. I was filming onstage behind Krista’s bass amp, and we struck up a conversation during the show. Yes, *during* the show.”

Nielsen and his wife workshoped all of the songs together. The album’s six-song run begins with “4:33 Infinity.” Nielsen says the song’s message is that it’s not about what happens; it’s the space in which it happens that is important. “All sounds can bring harmony, joy or

whatever you’re looking for when listening to music. Let it all surround you.”

“Arunachala” is one of the five famous holy mountains in the Hindu faith. Explains Nielsen, “Ramana Maharshi was a guru who lived at the foot of the mountain, and people would make pilgrimages to learn from him and be with the holy mountain. However, Maharshi didn’t speak. The only thing he encouraged devotees to do was to meditate on the phrase ‘Who am I?’ over and over. Trying this method, I found myself coming up with all sorts of answers.”

“Call to Prayer” draws inspiration from the traditional *adhan*, which calls Muslims to worship. “How wonderful it must be to hear a sound that reminds you of your etherealness multiple times a day. I wanted to remind myself to ring the bell as Thich Nhat Hanh did at Deer Park Monastery in Escondido, to breathe, to chant, to walk in a way that left my mind undench’d.”

“[The song] ‘San Joaquin’ has been brewing for a long time. It’s my homage to what I consider California’s holiest of high holies. The repeating chorus, floating down the Merced River to the San Joaquin, is often what I imagine myself doing as I drift into dreams.”

The big finish, “Black Jaguar Nayeli,” is based on a Nielsen novella-in-progress. “It’s a sci-fi spiritual dystopian piece about an underground cult that has perfected the ability to remove souls from the human form. They’ve also invented a process to ingest souls into bodies.”

Don’t look for *Allele* in a record store bin — it’s only available online. “Having released twenty or twenty-five albums, it’s a relief and a shame that we may not feel the need to make a product that you can hold. One of the greatest parts about making music is that, unlike other forms of art, you create a wave, and when the sound finally dissipates and disappears, it’s gone. There is nothing to hold!”

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at [SDReader.com/blurt](http://SDReader.com/blurt)

#### CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

#### Avenue:

Saturday, 9pm — It’s Just Noize Records Takeover. \$5-\$25.

#### Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, 7:30pm — A Peter White Christmas.

#### Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Living Legends & Brother Ali. \$45-\$79.  
Friday & Saturday, 8pm — Los Lobos 50th Anniversary Tour.  
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Jimmy’s Buffet.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Ginger Roots & the Protectors.

#### Black Cat Bar:

Friday, 7:30pm — Nicey Nice World.

#### Bogey’s Pub and Grill:

Saturday, 7pm — Lady Dottie & The Diamonds. Free.

#### Books & Records:

Friday, 7pm — Kaylee Daugherty. Free.

#### Cannonball:

Thursday, 5pm — Kai Kalama.  
Tuesday, 5pm — Andrew Peña.

#### Casbah:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Well Well Well.  
Friday, 9pm — The Cure Christmas Dance Party. \$10.  
Saturday, 7:30pm — El Vez Mexican Show.  
Wednesday, 7:30pm — The Silent Comedy.

#### Coomber Craft Wines:

Friday, 7:30pm — Croome Bros.

#### Cordova Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — DJ Francesco & DJ Mark Quark.

#### Crafted Culture at Monsaraz:

Friday, 11am — Jemille Violette.

#### Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, 6pm — Dead Heads Night. Free.

#### Duke’s La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm, Tuesday, 4pm — Russell Paihinui.

#### Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

Friday, 6pm — David Shyde.  
Saturday, 6pm — Farrah Camu.

#### Farmer & the Seahorse:

Thursday, 4:30pm — Freddie

Walton.  
Friday, 4:30pm — Jason Graham.

#### Fast Times:

Wednesday, 6pm — Jon Kanis.

#### First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Winter Schminter: A Celebration of the Winter Solstice. Free.

#### Galley at the Marina:

Friday, 6pm — West of 5. Free.

#### Golden Island:

Friday, 6pm — The Garners. Free.

#### House of Blues:

Friday, 9pm — Shrek Rave. \$31-\$87.  
Saturday, 7:30pm — Strangelove.

#### Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Wednesday, 6pm — Side Street Ft. Thea the Band. \$5.

#### L’Auberge Del Mar:

Friday, 7pm — Jarred Matthew.  
Wednesday, 5pm — Christian Taylor.

#### La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 5:30pm, Monday, 12pm — Helena Holleran.  
Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbrow.  
Saturday, 11am — Matt Heinecke.  
Sunday, 12pm — David Shyde.  
Sunday, 3:30pm — Shea Givens.  
Monday, 3:30pm — Andrew Peña.

#### Mission Bay Resort:

Thursday, 5pm — Jehua Evans.  
Saturday, 5pm — Gabriele Dagrezio.

#### Mr. Peabody’s Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 9pm — Black Opium.  
Friday, 8:30pm — Bonneville 7. Free.  
Saturday, 9pm — The Jagerbombs.

#### Music Box:

Friday, 8pm — Infected Mushroom. \$36-\$140.  
Saturday, 8pm — Stayin Alive Disco Dance Party. \$17.



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Fri, December 22  
**TIM CAPEPELLO**  
(The Lost Boys, Gunship, Tina Turner)

Sat, December 23  
**FESTIVUS**

Thurs, December 28  
**CITY SOUL COLLECTIVE**

Fri, December 29  
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## WELL WELL WELL at the Casbah

DEC 21



Psychedelic-folk-synthpop band Well Well Well was founded by guitarist Seton Edgerton and drummer Dan Nichols, both from the group Barbarian, which had opened for Arctic Monkeys and toured with Bat for Lashes. With a new single and video out for their track "12/25," Well Well Well will host their 2023 Christmas Spectacular in Little Italy on December 21.

## NICEY NICE WORLD at Black Cat Bar

DEC 22



Among Nicey Nice World's unusual instruments is a hurdy gurdy, made famous by sixties folk icon Donovan in "Hurdy Gurdy Man," and a Theremin, popular in science fiction film soundtracks. The band will perform a rare concert set in City Heights on December 22. "It has been a while since we've gathered to make noise together, so we are looking forward to it," says bandleader Marcelo Radulovich.

## SUE PALMER & HER MOTEL SWING ORCHESTRA at Golden Island

DEC 29



Sue Palmer, known as The Queen of Boogie Woogie, played with Tobacco Road for around a dozen years, earning seven San Diego Music Awards with the band from 1986 through 1994. She first earned widespread attention while backing up blues belter Candye Kane. Now fronting her own group, she'll be joined in Mira Mesa by her Motel Swing Orchestra to play a vinyl single and video release party.

## MOANS at Soda Bar

DEC 22



Moans is a recording project turned live act founded by Moses Constable (talk box), who kicked off the project with a series of comedic homemade videos that earned him a San Diego Music Video Extravaganza Award in 2017. Their debut album *Luxury*, recorded in Vista at producer James Page's home studio, was released in 2020. The bill includes Lead Pony (whose new album *Vultures* dropped in July) and Shrubravo.

## EL VEX MEX-MAS SHOW at the Casbah

DEC 23



El Vex, aka Robert Lopez, first appeared in the early San Diego/L.A. punk band the Zeros and then played in Catholic Discipline (which also spawned lesbian folk singer Phranc). For his annual Little Italy Mex-Mas Show, expect twisted versions of holiday classics such as "Brown Christmas": "I'm dreaming of a Brown Christmas/ Just like my ones in San Diego/ Where cousins and familia are tight/ And thank God our Christmases ain't white."

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<p>THU. JAN. 18</p> <p><b>FEAR FACTORY</b> Orbit Culture, Thrown Into Exile, Fraxures</p>		<p>WED. JAN. 24</p> <p><b>ESCUELA GRIND</b> Take Offense, Bonginator, Slow Pulse</p>
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# THE GONZO REPORT

## Drumming up a date

### Dinner and a show at Madison

I booked 6:30 reservations for two at Madison on Park Boulevard. I had decided to ask a date out for the evening, and to my amazement, she had accepted. Our Lyft dropped us off under the big red & white neon University Heights sign that hangs above the Park Boulevard Business District. Madison was just across the street, and we approached what appeared to be the entrance — you know, the door at the front of the building. There was a vintage vibe about the place; four lights lit up the restaurant's marquee: steel letters mounted on a pastel blue building. Walking in was an experience unto itself — that front door wasn't the whole story. We proceeded down a long dark hallway; halfway down, we started hearing the music that was playing within. We walked toward the light and passed through a lounge music portal before getting spat out into the restaurant — a space they call their indoor patio. It reminded me of an old gym, or maybe an airplane hangar, because of the high arched wooden ceiling.

The entertainment for the evening was Irving Flores and Joe. This was only half-expected. Per the website, I was anticipating Irving Flores on keyboards with Kaylee Daugherty on vocals. Instead, I got Irving Flores on

keyboards with Joe on percussion. The website also promised that the musical portion of the evening would run from 5:45 to 8 pm, but the nice girl who took my reservation said the music started at 6:45. So I got there at 6:30, expecting a few minutes for chit-chat before the show. But when I arrived, the duo was already playing.

After being seated, we were immediately greeted by our server, one Tony Isaac, who took our order for the first drink of the evening: the Mr. Nice Guy. The cheerfully named cocktail was made from Humboldt hemp-infused vodka, Illegal Mezcal, matcha, pineapple, coconut milk, and lime, with CBD oil dotted around a hemp leaf floating in the middle. For \$19, it provided an explosion of alcohol, sweet, and sour, with a medicinal aftertaste from the CBD. The hemp leaf tasted sweet, as if candy-coated. I enjoyed the beverage and the conversation with my date, all the while waiting for the performers to go on a set break so I could talk to them. But the conversation proved so engaging that I didn't even notice when the music stopped. When I finally did pick up on the pause, I saw that the performers were eating their dinners, and thought better of disturbing them. Instead, we followed their lead and ordered dinner for ourselves — plus another cocktail.

I went with the sliced skirt steak in jalapeno-mint tzatziki chimichurri sauce with guacamole for \$19, and the warm tomato and burrata — cherry heirloom tomatoes, kalamata olives, garlic, white balsamic, basil, and olive oil, served with grilled sourdough



Irving Flores and Joe, standing in front of Irving Flores and Kaylee Daugherty.



Yes, more Mr. Nice Guy at Madison.

bread. Another \$19 added to my tab. Our next drink choice was the Motor Bike: Pueblo Viejo Blanco Tequila, watermelon, Aperol, ginger and lime. This drink was a little cheaper at \$16. When I got up to go the restroom, my date looked at me and said, "Uh oh you're going to break the seal." Fair enough. I walked past the performers finishing their meals, under an archway covered in vines and...into the kitchen, which is where you end up if you overshoot the restroom doors. Once I found my desired destination, I was treated to a framed black and white photo of the pool at City Heights Skatepark to contemplate as I relieved myself.

As I was walking back to my table, I noticed that Irving Flores and Joe had finished their meal and were shooting the breeze. I stopped by and introduced myself before inquiring innocently, "I read on the website that there's supposed to be a female singer, Kaylee Daugherty, on the bill?" Irving Flores gave me a look that hinted at details he didn't want to get into before replying, "We got Joe instead tonight!"

Both men wore fedoras; both exuded the suave elegance of jazz.

When they returned to their instruments, Irving Flores's fiery passion on the keys and Joe's well-timed percussions filled the whole space of the restaurant, and almost made it sound as if we were listening to a full jazz ensemble.

My food and beverage were awaiting upon my return to my table and my date; I let her know that "I love it when my food is waiting for me when I get back from the restroom." Then I made an Italian Tostada by putting the skirt steak on top of the Tomato & Burrata. At least, that was the term

my date and I came up with. It was delicious. After we had finished eating, our server Tony came and sat down to join us. My date asked Tony questions, as if she were the reporter.

"Has this place always been here or was it something else?" Tony said it was a restaurant called Archisects. But I think maybe that was the name of the contractor who built Madison.

My date looked at her menu and asked, "Do you guys make a regular margarita? I don't see that on the menu."

Tony rose and said, "I'll be right back." He came back with two margaritas. "I'm comping you two these." I'd like to extend gratitude for that kindness here: thank you, Tony.

Madison also has a Tuesday Night Jazz Series with trumpeter Dr. John Reynolds. As for the rest of my evening: the mother of my grandson's water broke and she went into labor a month prematurely. Let's welcome Ashton John Garcia, born Monday, December 4, 2023. Nothing more ever developed with my date other than a good night, and that's alright. ■

Find The Gonzo Report online at [sandiegoreader.com/gonzo](http://sandiegoreader.com/gonzo)

#### Navajo Live:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dive Bar Saints and The Suede Grenades. Free.

#### Nick & G's:

Friday, 7pm — Matt Heinecke.

#### Parc Bistro Brasserie:

Friday, 6pm — Live Holiday & French Music.

#### Pour House:

Saturday, 5pm — Bonneville 7 and Rip Carson. Free.

#### Rady Shell at Jacobs Park:

Saturday, 7pm — Disney Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas In Concert. \$42-\$100.

#### Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Thursday, 7pm — JiveChops Ensemble. Free.

#### Soda Bar:

Thursday, 7:30pm — SEGA Genecide. \$12.

Friday, 7:30pm — Moans and Lead Pony. \$15.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Crasher and The Havnauts.

Wednesday, 7pm — Missy Alcazar and Jaden G. \$19.

#### Tidal:

Saturday, 5pm — Helena Holleran.

### UPCOMING SHOWS

#### Alejandra's Fine Mexican Food & Cantina:

January 4 — Andrew Peña

#### Aquarius Bar & Grille:

December 31 — Mark Fisher's High Noon Dead Set  
January 1 — Santana Soul

#### Baba Coffee:

December 29 — The Soto Six

#### Barefoot Bar and Grill:

December 29 — Puro Feeling  
January 6 — Christian Taylor

#### Beach House Grill:

December 30 — Camelphat

#### Bellamy's Restaurant:

January 4 — Jake Taylor Smith

#### Belly Up Tavern:

December 28 — Donovan Frankenreiter  
December 29 — Transfer and Miniaturized  
December 31 — Thievery Corporation  
January 4 — Joe Wood's Change Today and Dark Alley Dogs  
January 5 — The PettyBreakers  
January 6 — Don Carlos  
January 10 — Back to the Garden

#### Bogey's Pub and Grill:

December 30 — Anthony Cullins

#### Books & Records:

December 29 — The Garners Trio  
December 30 — Jenny & The Tramps

#### Brick by Brick:

January 7 — Terror, Dead Heat, Momentum

#### Cannonball:

December 28 — Jemille Viallet  
January 4 — David Hyde  
January 9 — Puro Feeling

#### The Casbah:

December 28 — Black Lips  
December 29 — Schizophonics  
Soul Revue and Creepxotica  
December 30 — The Creepy Creeps and The Schizophonics  
December 31 — NYE Gothic Ball  
January 4 — El Ten Eleven and Optiganally Yours  
January 5, January 6 — Starcrawler  
January 7 — Kid Congo & The Pink Monkey Birds  
January 8 — Bowie Birthday Bash  
January 10 — Sutton James and Finest City Band

#### The Cordova Bar:

December 31 — NYE with DJ Hendo Froth

#### Duck Foot Brewing Company:

December 30 — Johnny Deadly Trio  
January 4 — Dead Heads Night

January 6 — Anthony Cullins

January 8 — Bluegrass Monday

January 9 — SD Jazz Collective

#### Duke's La Jolla:

January 2 — Orion Song  
January 5 — Farrah Camu  
January 7 — Keni Yarbrow  
January 9 — Orion Song

#### Encinitas Elks Lodge:

December 31 — Marty Conley's Big Band Express

#### Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

December 29 — Whitney Shay  
December 30 — Keni Yarbrow  
January 2 — Johnny Martin  
January 5 — Blaise Guld  
January 6 — Helena Holleran  
January 9 — David Hyde  
January 10 — Keni Yarbrow

#### F6ix Niteclub:

December 28 — TakeOver Thursdays  
December 29 — 310babii  
December 31 — A Black & White Affair New Years Event



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# HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at [SDReader.com/drinks](http://SDReader.com/drinks)

## ALLIED GARDENS

**McGregor's Grill and Ale House:** *Monday, Thursday-Friday,* 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers. *Tuesday,* 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers, \$5 Pacifico pints and Margaritas. *Wednesday,* 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers, \$5 whiskey cocktails and shots, half price bottles of wine.

## BANKERS HILL

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

## BAY PARK

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

## CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

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

## CARLSBAD

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

## CARMEL VALLEY

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

## BOOZE NEWS

BY MATTHEW FLYNN

### Fowler snares seasonal suds

"Seasonal beers are a staple for craft breweries to allow consistent creativity and the ability to change what you brew for shifting weather," explains Erik Fowler, the new Executive Director of the **San Diego Brewers Guild**. "A lot of breweries will use seasonal or one-off beers as a way to brew beers that may be expensive or difficult to brew all year, but make sense during the right time. And while San Diego is beautiful all year, its residents still enjoy the changes of the seasons."

Fowler, who was previously Head of Education & Craft

Hospitality at **White Labs Brewing Co.** and its sister company **White Labs**, is also a Certified Cicerone® — a certification for skilled beer professionals that is often referred to as the equivalent of a sommelier certificate for wine. As such, he is uniquely qualified to recommend a few of the best San Diego beers to enjoy over the holidays, and to suggest seasonal treats that would go well with each brew.

First up on Fowler's Christmas list is **Fall Brewing's** 2am Bike Ride, a 5.0% ABV stout brewed with vanilla and Dark Horse Coffee. The low ABV makes it drinkable any time of day without leading to a nap — or, as Fowler puts it, "Picture drinking this beer from a thermos standing on the driveway Christmas morning as the kids ride their new bikes. If I'm your neighbor, I'm not judging." Although, 2am Bike Ride is a year-round offering, it suits cooler weather and baked goods — Fowler suggests it would "be pretty phenomenal" with cinnamon buns.

**Culver's** Meltdown Brown is a one-off, rotating seasonal brew — a toasty ale with notes of toffee. Fowler says that "this is a balanced malt-forward beer perfect for SD winters. Culver has released big barrel-aged beers in place of this seasonal in



COURTESY FALL BREWING COMPANY

A Fall beer perfect for winter weather

past years, but I was excited to see something a bit more drinkable — something I could share around the table with a nice meal." However, Fowler sug-

gests that Meltdown Brown might be best saved for after the main course, "Pair it with decadent desserts like pecan pie or tiramisu."

Of course, in San Diego, there's no wrong time to drink the style that arguably put the brewing scene on the map. Or, as Fowler puts it, "You didn't think you would get through this without seeing an IPA listed, did you?" His final suggestion is **Pizza Port's** Finding Paradise, a 7.0% ABV West Coast IPA. He continues, "This dry and balanced bitter IPA with notes of citrus-like hoppy aromas is all that's good in the world of San Diego beer. Often called 'cheater hops' for how good they make IPAs, this beer showcases Citra and Nelson perfectly." Fowler believes this beer pairs best with roasted poultry, "Try it with a thyme- and rosemary-forward roasted chicken."

In conclusion: Fowler believes that San Diego's beer scene is unique because of the experience and relationship between brewers and imbibers, "The beer drinker tends to be more educated in San Diego than in other cities, and it requires breweries to be at the top of their game."

For more craft booze news, see [sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news](http://sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news)

## DEL MAR

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

## DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

**Madam Bonnie's:** *Tuesday,* 4:30- 6:30pm: \$5 Madam Bonnie's Blonde Ale and 13th Step Shot, \$6 house wine, \$12 signature cocktails. \$10 two rotisserie tacos and a beer. *Wednesday, All Day:* One third off all wine bottles, \$20 flight of three wine barrel finished whiskeys, \$10 whiskey barrel aged wine by the glass. \$15 chef's cheese plate. *Thursday-Saturday,* 4:30- 6:30pm: \$5 Madam Bonnie's Blonde Ale and 13th Step Shot, \$6 house wine, \$12 signature cocktails. *Sunday, Surf and Turf Special:* \$75 three course dinner for two with a bottle of house wine.

**Santa Gula:** *Monday-Thursday, Sunday,* 4-7pm: \$9-12 cocktails, tap beers & wine. Discounted happy hour menu.

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

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

**The Whiskey House:** *Wednes-*

*day-Sunday,* 4-7pm: \$4 French pale lager, \$5 Moscow mule, whiskey sour, Daiquiri, house wines (red, white, sparkling), \$9 Carsberg Danish pilsner (1 liter can). Add a shot of house whiskey to any beer for \$1.

## EAST VILLAGE

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

## EASTLAKE

**The Cheesecake Factory Eastlake:** *Monday-Friday,* 4-6pm: \$3.95 select beer bottles, \$4.95 select beer drafts, \$7.95 Mojito, Long Island ice tea, Margarita, JW's Pink Lemonade, Cosmopolitan, select well drinks and wines by the glass.

## ESCONDIDO

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

## HILLCREST

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

## KENSINGTON

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

## LA JOLLA

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

## LA MESA

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

## LAKESIDE

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

## LEMON GROVE

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

## LIBERTY STATION

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

## LITTLE ITALY

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

## MIRAMAR

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

## MISSION BEACH

**Miss B's Coconut Club:** *Friday,* 3-6pm: \$7 daiquiris and mojitos.

## MISSION HILLS

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

## MISSION VALLEY

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

## NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

## NORTH PARK

**Original 40 Brewing Company:** *Monday-Friday,* 4-6pm: \$5 draft beers, \$6 glasses of wine.

## OCEAN BEACH

**Nova Easy Kombucha:** *Monday,* Noon-3pm: \$2 off all pints. 5-9pm: 25 percent off all kombucha pints. *Tuesday-Saturday,* Noon-3pm: \$2 off all pints.

## OCEANSIDE

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

## OLD TOWN

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

## PACIFIC BEACH

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

## POINT LOMA

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

## RANCHO SAN DIEGO

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

## SAN CARLOS

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

## SAN MARCOS

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

## SOLANA BEACH

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

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

**Rare Society:** *Wednesday-Sunday,* 5-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$8 select wines and select cocktails. \$16 half-dozen oysters, \$32 one dozen oysters, other food specials.

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# OMG, EPG x 3

For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit [SDReader.com/feast](http://SDReader.com/feast)

## With each location, El Pollo Grill has gotten more colorful

*El Pollo Grill; 7836 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 3041 Bonita Rd., Ste. 105, Bonita, 2015 Birch Rd., Ste 2003, Chula Vista.* Chargrilled chicken with warm flour tortillas, rice, and pinto beans. A simple, sustaining meal that efficiently feeds a family, best when made after an old family recipe. And for those who haven't got such a recipe, the Lopez family can give us a taste.

Per its web site, El Pollo Grill (sometimes called EPG for short) has a backstory that starts sometime prior to 1987. But that was the year Rafael and Constanza Lopez bought an existing "hole in the wall" Mexican grill in Lemon Grove, which they would refashion with their own familial recipes, behind the prowess of "Queen of the Kitchen" Constanza. The decades since have seen the family restaurant and catering enterprise expand incrementally as additional family members have joined the fold.

First came a larger restaurant in busier downtown Lemon Grove about 20 years back, then a second location in Bonita 7 years ago, and Otay Ranch just before the pandemic.

I only recently happened upon the Lemon Grove location, and quickly became a repeat customer for that grilled chicken. Though it offers a pleasant little dining patio and cafeteria-like booth seating, the place strikes me as an operation streamlined for people taking one of EPG's several combo meal options home to their families (ranging from \$33 to \$165 for chicken and sides). Once I realized the concept had branched out, I decided to drive south to pay each newer location a visit.

In Bonita, I found another small counter restaurant, part of a freeway adjacent shopping strip. Though its tiny dining room is livened up by a vibrant mural of a mariachi serenading an amorous couple on a boat weaving through mangrove trees, it's likewise well-situated for grab and go.

It's also where I spotted a sign advertising the 619 Cali Quake Burrito: a 6.19 pound behemoth made with your choice of meat or meats for \$59.99. That one is not so much grab and go as it is grab and haul away. I take it the burrito has been subject to one of those eat in 30 minutes or less challenges. I can't hang.

Big burritos do feature heavily at all three locations. While plenty of San Diego taco shops are happy to add ingredients to your burrito, EPG may be the first I've seen to promote a Build Your Own Burrito option, allowing you to mix and match proteins and add beans, rice, French fries, guacamole, salsa, and sour cream (\$12.99 Lemon Grove), \$13.99 Bonita and Otay Ranch). For another \$3, you may even add a couple of rolled tacos.

You can go nuts, but you probably won't come up with anything crazier than you'll find on EPG menus. As Ed Bedford found when he visited a

couple years ago, their specialty burritos include a Philly Cheesesteak inspired burrito (\$12.99). There's also the overloaded San Diego Burrito (\$16.19) which doesn't come anywhere close to six pounds, but does get stuffed with carne asada, shrimp, bacon, fries, rice, guacamole, cheese, and tartar sauce.

The Otay Ranch location takes the idea a bit further, offering a mysterious burrito listing called the SY Mikey (\$16.19). According to the server I asked about it, this thing gets packed with carne, chicken, chorizo, shrimp, rice, beans, fries, guacamole, and two types of cheese. And I may be leaving a few things out.



A half chicken "Special C" from El Pollo Grill, with rice, beans, and warm flour tortillas for \$15.99.

Though the Otay location is also set up for brisk takeout service, it's more colorful still, loaded with murals and décor celebrating Mexican culture, homegrown chefs, musicians, and sports figures, including the San Diego Padres. It also boasts a shaded patio with plenty of seating. I'd definitely call it the best of the three locations for hanging out.

But whichever location I visit, I'm more than content to stick to the crazy-enough-for-me California burrito (\$12.99 Lemon Grove/\$13.99 Bonita and Otay). Sticking to the conventional combination of carne asade, fries, guacamole, sour cream, and salsa, EPG makes one of the best California burritos in greater San Diego.

-Ian Anderson

## FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

**Feast of The Seven Fishes** Guests will enjoy a seafood buffet featuring seven sustainably sourced seafood dishes alongside classic antipasto and salads. Sunday, December 24, 4pm; Garibaldi, 901 Bayfront Court Suite 1. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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

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



Downtown Lemon Grove: the oldest of three El Pollo Grill locations.

**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 Convo 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 & Sundays, 10am; through December 31, free. Lane Field Park, 1009 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**The Nature of Water: Elements of Nature Series** Chef Claudette Zepeda explores the four elements - earth, fire, water, air - in both their physical and spiritual form during her new dinner series. Thursday, December 21, 6:30pm; \$150. VAGA Restaurant & Bar, 2100 North Coast Hwy 101. (ENCINITAS)

**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. wildfoodtours.com. Saturdays, 12pm; through December 31, \$69. San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

**Tipsy & Toasty Holiday Lunches** Not normally open during lunch, the restaurant will be serving up favorites, alongside new dishes from Chef Brad Wise. Thursdays, 11am; Fridays, 11am; Saturdays, 11am; through Thursday, December 21, Fort Oak Restaurant, 1011 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION HILLS)

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## PERSONALS

**DEAREST FUN SIZE** It's a hectic holiday season out there, but through it all, I want to say I love you more each year. Enjoy the new year ahead. Frank

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANN** I know I'm green and nasty this time of year but I take a pause to wish my friend Ann a happy birthday on Wednesday. Now presents you made get who else but me would take the time to put you in the Reader you see. Now let's get back to business; Christmas is near and I can't wait. Ho, ho, ho The Grinch you fear.

**HO, HO, HO CITY OF SAN DIEGO** I got my eyes on you the Grinch

**LIFE IS SHORT** and lemons and instant breakfast is what you have.

**THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY** wants to wish everybody a happy holiday season and remind folks to dim their vehicle high beams when approaching on-coming traffic.

**MELISSA MY LOVE** I miss you, I can't wait to see you again .I. My heart hurts when we are apart, your my little mama - Lover

**DEAR KEVIN,** Thank you for watching stupid RomComs with

me. You are so sweet! I love you so much!

**IN SOME PLACES** How much people know about me the better. It is for me because we had to earn all that.

**MY DARLING FRANK** I love you and your cats. Happy Holidays honey!

**WHY DIG A 300 FT. DEEP HOLE** When a 150 ft. deep hole would do just fine? I do like the Grass and bon bon components though.

**WORDS SAID IN PERSON** are received by a person. Words texted are received by what can't live inside a head.

**CHRISTMAS IS MINE SAY NO MORE** Trees and pencils and presents galore. All mine for the taking; even the road should be from Alan next door. Special shot out to you and ho, ho, ho. The Grant

**MERRY CHRISTMAS** Melissa K., Merry Christmas to You. Nancy and I really enjoy our new neighbor. We are like your "Grandparents". Love ya. Gary and Nancy.

**SHAWSHANK** Merry Christmas Nancy Jo. I love you Angel Cakes. Happy 4th Anniversary coming soon. They said it wouldn't last. HA Hugs and Kisses Baby. GMAN

**NICE LOOKING GUY** I am 71, fit, well-established, good-natured, love the outdoors. Would love to meet a fit and attractive lady for fun travel. Life is so much better when you have someone special to share and do things with. Larry. tuna422@aol.com

**YOU SOUNDS GOOD** Look Bad? What's that Smell? Can you even tell? Forked tongue still suits you well Before reentry to Unwell Motel.

**BONNIE AND BLAIR** I behaved the very best I could given the circumstances. I'm upset that it took two weeks to find me instead of 12 years.

**DEAREST FUN SIZE** Great news! The world as we know it is accepting your new nick name. I've received thumbs up from your friends and neighbors around the globe. Frank

**MY DARLING** You really ought to relax. Frank, you work too hard darling. Forever yours, Katherine. I love you dear.

**SANTA CLAUS WILL BE IN THE AIR** The driveway Society would like to alert everybody that Santa Claus will be in the air over San Diego bringing Love and joy to all the children everywhere!

**THE UP-COMING HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES WILL COMMENCE** The Driveway Society is happy to announce that the up-coming holiday festivities will commence at the usual times and locations. If you're in the know, you will know where to be to enjoy the fun.

**DEAR KEVIN,** It's nice that you think I'm a good cook. Thank you for being so sweet to me. I love you so much!

**DECEMBER IS HERE** Ho, Ho, Ho. I shall start early this year. The green grinch.

**TO US A CHILD IS BORN,** A son is given. His name will be called mighty God, Everlasting father. Isaiah 9:6. Happy Birthday Lord Jesus.

**VINCENT WHAT'S YOUR LAST NAME** you will be the beauty. I will be the monster. tinmann940@gmail.com

**ASTOUNDED** It's too late. Loneliness is deadly; so is kindness. I wish I could have been a good thing to you, but I guess I was a threat to you somehow. Being ugly is the worst, but I do speak in sign now. I guess I did something wrong from day one.

**I'D RATHER LOVE SOME-BODY** I've tried to hate before and just couldn't; then stay around as friends and knowing you ain't gonna blow her car up or dig a 300 ft. deep hole and put grass over it with a bon bon for bait. Errr!

**IF YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES** contact (619) 228-5843. Feeling very generous? If not don't call; don't bother and start believing.

**IF YOU WANT TO REMAIN DUMB** then be like the non blondes and not outlaw things. You know damn well I feel a lot. What not to do is present. It's how we learn and actually know. It's a good thing when you see nothing happening and you look at them and think yep it could be. So it's a grace then an IOU. The ability to feel the many things that makes it good now. Peace, quiet and good evil plots to get you one up. Yank and run.

**REAL EYES WHY BOTHER** If you have to look and see lies, it's also called projecting.

**THIS IS NOT WORDS** and silence in this form is torture and abuse. It's very common. and mass shootings are created like this. It's easy to see; if you must, google it.

**AMY'S CRITICAL SPINAL SURGERY** Urgent Funds Needed: Amy's Critical Spinal Surgery. Amy has led a life of giving to others by bringing life-changing TV programming to millions of prisoners in jails and prisons. [www.gofundme.com/f/urgent-funds-needed-amys-care-medical-travel](http://www.gofundme.com/f/urgent-funds-needed-amys-care-medical-travel)

**ANY SOCIETY THAT WILL GIVE UP** a little liberty to gain a little security deserves neither and will loose both

**REAL EYES** Realize....Real Lies

**THE WORDS YOU SPEAK** become the house you live in.

**LOOKING FOR FEMALE PEN-PAL** Kurtis M.Williams N53299—2600 N. Brinton ave. Dixon, Illinois 61021. Published Author on Amazon.com seeks female over 50 penpal For inspiration for 2nd edition book

**READILY AND GLADLY GIVE** and graciously accept, Nothing less than anyone should naturally expect;. Merely common courtesy and only due respect. DEJ

**STAND** for something or fall for anything.

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

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

**75 YEAR OLD CHRISTIAN MALE** seeks Christian lady between 55-80 years old for karaoke singing, laughter, dancing, beach trips, sense of humor a plus for friendship. San Marcos, Oceanside, Carlsbad. Tony (760) 916-6107.

## NOTICES

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

**RESEARCH STUDY IS AVAILABLE** in Oceanside California. Looking for people with diabetes order only. 18 to 55 years old. Must be drug free. (619) 389-0550.

**HOME START TOY DRIVE** Home Start, a local nonprofit committed to helping San Diego's most underserved and vulnerable, is bringing cheer to local families in need during the holiday season by partnering with One Paseo for its annual holiday toy drive through Dec 13th.

**CHRISTMAS EVE LIVING NATIVITY!** Christmas Eve Celebration, and Living Nativity Sunday, December 24, 2023. Join us at First Congregational Church of Ramona for an epic Christmas Eve celebration! Worship Services are at 5, 6, and 7pm. 404 8th Street (corner of 8th and D). (760) 789-3348 / [office@fccramona.org](mailto:office@fccramona.org)

**FOUND PROPERTY** Found Cash in U.S. Currency in Rancho San Diego Area on 1/23/23. If you believe it may belong to you, contact Detective Walker from the Rancho San Diego Sheriff's Station at (619) 660-7041. / [James.walker3@sdsheriff.org](mailto:James.walker3@sdsheriff.org)

**LOST SET OF KEYS** On 11/13 around Howard and Illinois in North Park. If found call or text Mike (760) 472-9127. Reward offered.

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

## CLASSES / LESSONS

**PERSONAL TRAINER SAN DIEGO** Accomplish your fitness and nutrition goals long term! I offer a very easy going approach to fitness training. I work online, at the gym, and in home! Visit my website for more information!! [www.healthylwildjenna.com](http://www.healthylwildjenna.com) (607) 227-5091 / [healthylwildjenna@icloud.com](mailto:healthylwildjenna@icloud.com)

**INDIVIDUALIZED WRITING HELP** Together we will find the words to say what you've been meaning to. Affordable and heartfelt guidance. [george@splitbound.com](mailto:george@splitbound.com)

**LEARN TO WEAVE THIS WINTER!** Join us and learn to weave this season! Makes a great gift for the fiber lover! Classes include: Intuitive Weaving, Silk Weaving, Warp & Weave on a Rigid Heddle & Claspd Weft on Rigid Heddle. Save your space at sandiegocraft.org. Military discount (619) 273-3235 / [make@sandiegocraft.org](mailto:make@sandiegocraft.org)

**WOODWORKING FOR WOMEN! CREATE!** Woodworking classes designed to empower women & non-binary in the woodshop! Each class teaches important skills, use of machinery & more. Try Bandsaw Box, Wooden Brush & Shaping Wood! Great gift for the creative in your life. Visit [sandiegocraft.org](http://sandiegocraft.org)! (619) 273-3235 / [make@sandiegocraft.org](mailto: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. Tao-

ist Sanctuary. Sign up on our website. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. [taoistsanctuary.org](http://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](http://EdwardsHorticulture.com), then call (619) 402-8670.

## ROOMMATES

**RENTAL WANTED** Independent Female seeking a room for rent. I am drama -free & a non-smoker. Prefer west of the 15 and north of the 94. (858) 337-5965

**SEEKING SMALL LIVING QUARTERS** Active, female senior, court certified, holistic healing nurse, chiropodist looking for small living quarters in or around La Mesa area. Please call (619) 622-3399.

**HOMELESS PREGNANT WOMAN** I am a homeless pregnant woman that has a job and my boyfriend helps need a roommate will help pay rent (714) 576-9274

**\$797 FURN BDRM-IN HOUSE 92113** One male adult ONLY. Includes utilities+WiFi. Parking space. Close2Bus. No smoke/vape/pets. Share House: Bathroom + kitchen + washer & dryer. Required: Current job w/income+rental history. Sec dep. North of National City (92113). Text ONLY: (858) 367-9736 [AcaciaStHouseSD@pm.me](mailto:AcaciaStHouseSD@pm.me)

**BEDROOM IN RAMONA** One spacious bedroom with private bathroom, make up counter, large mirrored closets. In Ramona at Country Estates. \$1800/month. (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.

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

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

**ROOMMATE, \$650** 420 friendly, clean, safe, living space. Natural female/ male. Hip, artsy Eastern spiritual, musical, maybe audio / video, piano, musical skills? Reduced rent exchange. (619) 457-8516

**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

## RENTALS

**SENIOR SEEKS STUDIO** Quiet senior seeks studio with private entrance, off-street parking. Budget is \$2,000/month and would like to rent in April. Kitchen and furniture is unnecessary. Email only, monkan-drea2@gmail.com.

## 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**  
1159 Sixth Ave. and B St. • 619-239-3808





**NORTH PARK UPSTAIRS 1 BDRM APT** In the heart of North Park. A quiet courtyard setting. Close to everything. Available Now. 1bedroom - 1bath Apartment. \$1895 600sq ft 4076 Ohio St. 92104 No Pets, No smoking, Good Credit. Call for details and an appointment for viewing. (619) 281-7784



**1 BEDROOM FOR RENT** 1 Bedroom \$1965 Chula Vista. Call (619) 426-8060 Move-In Special \$200 credit towards first month rent. / rubi.murphy@coxbusiness.net

**OFFICE SPACE M2** Office Space Zoned M2. @950 Square Feet (760) 855-3760 / exumrecording@gmail.com

**SPRING VALLEY, \$1750** 2BD+1BA. Newly remodeled kitchen and bath, laundry on site, off-street parking for 1 car, large living space and dining room. No pets. 3635 S. Barcelona. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com/

**LITTLE ITALY LOFT FOR RENT** One bedroom, 1.5 bath with washer and dryer, split-level loft in LITTLE ITALY. GYM access included. Parking included. \$2970/mo. (619) 534-1602. www.zillow.com/homedetails/1805-Columbia-St-APT-204-San-Diego-CA-92101/2095078425\_zpid/

**ROOM FOR RENT CHULA VISTA** We have a spacious home with an extra room to rent. Near all. Community pool included. \$1,000.00 monthly rent (619) 565-7990 / berniearnas1958@gmail.com

**FURNISHED BEDROOM FOR RENT** Furnished room in Imperial Beach, close to ocean; MALE ONLY; use of laundry machines, kitchen, & barbecue; \$1,200/month; Donna, donnamackesie@att.net; (619) 424-6133

**NORTH PB, \$1450-\$2050** Immediate occupancy. Furnished

1BD+1BR (for 1 person). Block to ocean. Utilities, Internet, cable included. Remodeled kitchen/bath, dishwasher, garden/dual pane windows, ceiling fan, two yards. Sorry, no dogs. Incentives for immediate move-in. 8xy DIAMOND @ Craig-slist. Call Lars: (760) 829-8878.

**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. Espagnol. (619) 646-8670.

**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 tran'va. 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 BATH-ROOM** with a Jacuzzi 1 acre of property \$1200 month 13 month contract we also do daily and weekly rentals \$100 a night \$500 a week Rosarito and Ensenada La mission (760) 250-7055.

**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 motorcycle 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

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT** California Property Group. Personally managed by Owner/Broker. 30+ years of Real Estate experience for the benefit of our clients. In-person meeting at your convenience. www.californiapg.com (619) 908-1122



**K38 SURF PAD** 1 bed 1 bath, sleeps 6, 700ft2, steps from stairs down cliff to multiple waves, "Surf

Ranch," \$10k + \$100monthly for 1/4 share ownership (760) 975-2598 / paulleoehoward@gmail.com

**HOME FOR SALE - HIDDEN MEADOWS** This gorgeous home features high ceilings, spacious rooms and many upgrades (new flooring, solar panels, back-up battery, EV charging station, fresh paint and much more). Call Simona @ (619) 370-4257, REALTOR-@E, DRE#01951026 Berkshire Hathaway HCP / Simona@GyldanGroup.com

**SFR FOR SALE IN SHADOW-RIDGE** Nestled in the community of Shadowridge, this residence blends the convenience of single-story living with breathtaking views, unparalleled privacy, and serene tranquility. Call Simona @619.370.4257. REALTOR-@E, DRE#01951026, Berkshire Hathaway HCP (619) 370-4257 / Simona@GyldanGroup.com

**JULIAN HOUSE FOR SALE** \$425,000 FIRM. New custom 1-bedroom house in secluded area above two streams near town, lake, hiking, star gazing. Workshop, laundry room and large attic for added living space. Wood burning stove for snowy nights, large decks and patio a plus. (760) 587-1399 / mike-smith16777@gmail.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

**BEATLES RECORDS** (808) 931-0524

**REHEARSAL FOR WOMEN SINGERS** Singers. Ladies, start

the new year singing four part harmony. Come Monday, January 8 rehearsal. No experience. 7pm in La Mesa. www.californianotecatchers.com

**SINGER DESPERATELY SEEKS BAND** Anthony (619) 273-7577. Joel, Beatles, Simon, Aerosmith, Tull, anything!

**REHEARSAL SPACE 24 HOUR** Rehearsal space 24 hour access, 24 hour lockout, secure and air conditioned. Monthly rates from \$425 located in Escondido. Parking. In business for over 25 years. Call Scott (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

**TAKAMINE ACOUSTIC GUITAR** Mahogany back, sides, neck with rosewood fret board. Sitka top. Includes hard shell case. \$375 or best offer. (619) 625-9601

**TAKAMINE GUITAR** 1992 LTD. Acoustic/Electric with EQ and fishman pickup. KOA wood back, sides, neck, sitka top. Rosewood fret board. Original case. \$950 or best offer. (619) 625-9601

**BAND PRACTICE STUDIO** monthly lockout available. La Jolla, Miramar area 10:00 am-12:00 am #35. Sound-proof rehearsal studio 20Ft. x 13Ft. Fits 5 to 8 piece band. Central AC. \$650. per month. Universal Sound Inc. (858) 401-2973.

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

**MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO** Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All

rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, (858) 522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

**FENDER BXR 410 BASS CABINET** 90's model, excellent condition, \$200, (424) 731-2084.

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

## PETS

**HUSKY/SHEPARD MIX PUPPY FOR SALE** 3 month old pup looking for new home. \$80. Luzkmm@gmail.com or (760) 441-5425 text



**BLONDE TERRIER PUPPY DOGS** Blonde Terrier Puppy Dogs in need of forever homes. Less than a year old. (619) 470-0733 (Call only, no texting) / lesliesinbox76@yahoo.com

**DOBERMAN PUPS AVAILABLE** 5 Pups 2males/3females ready for pickup - If anyone is interested in this true steal of these DNA verified 100% Doberman pups send text to (619) 302-9929

# DOWNTOWN \$590-\$900



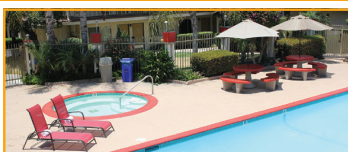
## Golden West Apartments, in the heart of the Gaslamp Quarter!

Newly renovated and furnished rooms for rent. Utilities included and controlled building entry. Conveniently located near public transportation, grocery stores, restaurants, shopping and more.

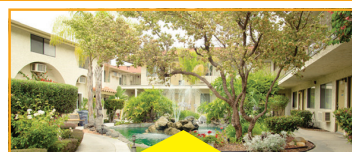
**720 4th Ave., San Diego, 92101**  
**619-233-7594**

## Need a place to stay Short Term?

CALL NOW FOR THE BEST AVAILABLE RATES



Up to 15% Off Daily Rates Call Now!



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

  
**California Suites Hotel**  
www.californiasuiteshotel.com

Sorry we do not accept pets.

Subject to availability.

\*Some hotel amenities included. Please call for details.

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

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





**WHITE, POODLE TERRIER PUPPIES** Born October 31st, 4 Male, 3 Female White Poodle Terrier Mix Puppies. \$200. Perfect Christmas Gift (619) 917-9455

**PET SITTER NEEDED- \$20/HR** Looking for a pet sitter for my dogs while I am at work. Ideally they need to be supervised the entire time. Email me on arincobb023@gmail.com for more details.



**CUTE RAGDOLL KITTENS** We have sweet and loving Ragdoll babies for adoption to qualify homes only. They are all TICA registered, Health guarantee, Vaccinated and weaned. Pickup at our home in Crescent City California. Will ship if needed. Text for more info if interest

**RAGDOLL KITTENS FOR ADOPTION** Cute Home Raised Ragdoll Kittens for Adoption to good homes only. Located in Crescent City CA. Will ship if needed. Text (562) 459-2126

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

## SPORTS

**TWO SKATEBOARDS** I made this long board skate board water ski with struts from a board I still have. I have an original YELLOW BANANA BOARD. \$20.00. for both. Lakeside. (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com

**CHRISTMAS PICKLEBALL SETS** Assorted colored Pickleball sets for sale. PickleBall sets include 2 paddles, 4 yellow balls and 1 carrying case. \$39.00 each. Great Christmas gifts. (619) 931-8900/ sstandavid@aol.com

**SHOHEI OHTANI 2018 ROOKIE CARD** from Japan. Psa9. Best offer call for more info (619) 753-8473

**SPORTS CARDS** Selling my collection. All major players: football, basketball, baseball, hockey and other miscellaneous sports stuff. Low prices. Ruth, Matthews, Mandel, Glen, McGuire, Nolan, Giffney, Brady, LaDamien, Allen, Bo, lebron, Jordan, Russell and Shaq. Call Joe (619) 562-1129.

## 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.



**CANNONDALE QUICK: SIZE SMALL** 27 speed, lightweight.. great condition, lightly used, clean. brand new break pads/cables, two stems. For someone 5'3" or less. \$325 (619) 430-5557

**TREK 6500 SLR MOUNTAIN BIKE** Axel "manitou" front shock, handle bar ends, new maxxis tires and tubes, 24 speed, toe clips, water bottle, new helmet. Looks and rides new. \$400 or best offer. (619) 625-9601

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

**BMC BIKE** Gorgeous blue and white BMC Carbon fiber. Road frame 47 CM. Never used; in storage. Must see! (619) 237-8043

**BICYCLE FOR SALE** one year old, runs like new, ridden about six times. Make offer. (562) 846-9299 and ask for Steven.

## MOTORCYCLES

**CUSHMAN SCOOTER 1946 "ROADKING"** 50 series with 3 speed transmission. Low, standard and very rare reverse. Clear title, runs. \$6200 or best offer. (619) 625-9601

**CUSHMAN SCOOTER 1954 60 SERIES "PACESETTER"** Rebuilt motor, new tires, tubes, seat, floor mat, handle bar grips, etc.Ground up restoration. Clean Title, runs good. Safety orange paint. \$4,000 or best offer. (619) 625-9601

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

## AUTOMOTIVE

**1992 BUICK LESABRE MANU-ALS:** 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

**STOLEN RED 65 SHELBY AC COBRA** Located in Newhall, California about five days ago. Very identifiable. It has some racing team stripe on the front fenders. Reward. Call Jessie (619) 875-4918

**1999 HONDA SUPER HAWK** Low mileage, excellent condition. Firm Blue Book Value \$3,750.00. (619) 201-4520

**2004 HYUNDAI** 10,000 miles on it. Good engine; still runs. Clean title. Needs new shocks, ties and upholstery. No accidents. \$2,800 or best offer. (858) 525-2339

**2017 PORSCHE 911** Manual transmission. 1,000 miles left on the warranty. \$75K (619) 756-1027

**2021 TRAVEL TRAILER \$22,500.00** 2021 Prime Time Avenger 26BK. Front bedroom with door. Two rear bunks. 3 burner stove with oven and microwave, refrigerator with freezer. Outdoor Kitchen with refrigerator, sink and 2 burner stove. Outdoor shower. Rear bath with shower. Couch. njdev-ils3@hotmail.com

**1969 FORD PICK UP** Half ton. Runs \$4900. (619) 655-1830

**1976 CHEVY BLAZER** Runs and drives. \$7900. (619) 655-1830

**1995 HONDA** Asking price \$5,000. (760) 847-1162

**1996 BMW 750IL** 126K original miles. Must see to appreciate. \$25,000 or best offer. Please call (619) 390-2222

**CLASSIC TRUCK MOVING SALE** 1940 GMC Stern. \$4,900. Runs (619) 655-1830.

**2003 FORD EXPLORER** \$4100, new tires, strong engine, minor cosmetic, low miles. Pass smog (213) 561-7892

**2003 HONDA ACCORD** Top line leather interior and sunroof \$5,100. Pass smog (213) 561-7892

**1930 FORD** Modified 1930 Ford Coupe project. 350/350, disc brakes, Chevy 4 bar rear. Title. \$6550 (760) 717-1334 for details and pictures.

**LOOKING FOR 1990 OR OLDER FORD CARS** Please contact FGROSS0421@gmail.com

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

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

**RENTAL CAR** starting from \$17.95 per day \$99 a week 350 a month 3006 Barnett Ave. Point Loma open seven days a week trucks for rent \$300 a week Toyota four runner also minivans \$400 a week 15 passenger vans \$500 a week. (619) 233-8300

**RENTAL CAR AVAILABLE** also rent to own programs thousand dollars down \$500 a week in-house financing rent to own (619) 233-8300.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**2005 TOYOTA TUNDRA TRUCK** Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$8900. (619) 233-8300.

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

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

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

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

## HELP WANTED

**ENGINEERING/TECHNOLOGY** Samsung Semiconductor, Inc., a semiconductor design and development company, has openings San Diego, CA for Senior Engineer (E99): Research and develop novel cutting-edge technologies for deep learning, computational photography, and computer vision (e.g., disparity estimation, image fusion, 3D reconstruction and photography,

super resolution, semantic segmentation, human pose estimation and gesture recognition, denoising, demosaicking, sharpening, AR/VR, SLAM, etc.). \$160,000 to \$167,560 is the annual salary range for this position & salary will depend on knowledge, skills, experience, education and training; and Senior Engineer (E100): Lead junior engineers to maintain existing mmWave RF features and develop new mmWave RF features. Position requires up to 25% of domestic/international travel. Telecommuting permitted. \$139,725 to \$167,560 is the annual salary range for this position & salary will depend on knowledge, skills, experience, education and training. For all positions listed, information regarding benefits/ total reward package can be found at <https://www.samsung.com/us/careers/benefits/>. Please ref. job code and email resumes to [hrmobility@ssi.samsung.com](mailto:hrmobility@ssi.samsung.com).

**TECHNOLOGY** HP Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of Data Analyst IV in San Diego, CA (Ref. #7165504). Applies advanced subject matter knowledge to solve complex business issues and is regarded as a subject matter expert. Frequently contributes to the development of new ideas and methods. Telecommuting permitted. Annual Salary: \$154,125.00/year to \$184,125.00/year. Email resume to [HP\\_USA\\_Jobs\\_jobshpusa@hp.com](mailto:HP_USA_Jobs_jobshpusa@hp.com). Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

**TECHNOLOGY** HP Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of Cloud Engineer in San Diego, CA (Ref. #7263468). Use agile methodologies combined with paired programming and work with the most cutting edge and web technologies such as React, Ruby on Rails, Node.js, Splunk, New Relic, Jenkins, AWS and others. Telecommuting permitted. Annual Salary: \$172,893.00/year to \$202,893.00/year. Email resume to [HP\\_USA\\_Jobs\\_jobshpusa@hp.com](mailto:HP_USA_Jobs_jobshpusa@hp.com). Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

**AI AUTONOMY SOFTWARE ENGINEER.** Job location Poway, CA. Telecommuting is available. Send resume w/this ad to Job Code 2388-AIS, E. Ryu, EpiSys Science, Inc., dba EpiSci, 13025 Danielson Street, Suite 106, Poway, CA 92064

**PET SITTER/ WALKER NEEDED** Looking for a pet sitter for my dogs while I am at work. Ideally they need to be supervised the entire time. Email me on arincobb023@gmail.com for more details.

**CAREGIVERS NEEDED** for disabled man. Morning & evening shifts available. Personal hygiene, range of motion, dressing, hoier lift, positioning in wheelchair & bed, meal prep, light housekeeping. Caregiver needs to be reliable and trustworthy, have a passion for serving others, good references & a car. Good pay. Clairemont area. Contact rayzambo@gmail.com.

**SEEKING FOR A DRIVER** We are seeking for a driver for my old grand father on a part-time basis (Mondays & Fridays only)\$410 weekly must Have a valid state-issued driver's license Must be professional, safe, patient email: [simonpet1147@att.net](mailto:simonpet1147@att.net)

**ADVANCED SOFTWARE (SW) ENG.** Ming life-cycle of SW devel. Req'd: BS in Elec Eng, Mech Eng, or Comp Sci pls cert in Python prgm language. Home worksite in U.S. Salary: \$172K-177K. Contact M Pellinat, VisionTree Inc., 8885 Rio San Diego Dr., Ste. 220, San Diego, CA 92108.

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER** for a household equipment distributor in San Diego. Salary: \$41,766-\$75,000 per year. Mail resume to Inhome Dynamics, Inc. 9715 Carrol Centre Rd #100 San Diego CA 92126.

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT** My Lineage Inc. seeks Research Assistant in San Diego, CA to research family histories, assist clients, & manage production of store products. Salary: \$54,974/year. Resume: 980 Buenos Ave. Ste. A1 San Diego, CA 92210.

**SALES** Win Time, LLC seeks Sales, Pacific Region in San Diego, CA to assist owners in accruing & maintaining hotel customers from the Pacific Region. Bach or for. equiv in Tourism Management or related plus 1 year of experience in Customer Service req'd. Must be fluent in Chinese (Mandarin & Taiwanese). Salary: \$85,000-\$95,000/year. Email resume to: [m.neverida@marriott.com](mailto:m.neverida@marriott.com).

**SERVICE ATTENDANT** to assist customers with BBQ, patio heaters, forklift cylinders, and RVs. Seeking position to fill propane cylinders at two locations: 3650 Kettner Blvd. and 5596 Kearny Mesa Rd. Will Train. Part-time. Fun job! Great customers. Benefits. Apply within or call Steve, (949) 326-3400.

**IHSS CAREGIVER WANTED** IHSS Caregiver Needed for senior lady. 29 hours per week. SDSU College area. Flexible schedule. Transportation, miscellaneous household chores, laundry, meal prep, medication organizing, light medical care and equipment assistance. (619) 501-1057; Cell: (619) 831-3000

**TRUCK DRIVERS** Local transport companies are looking for truck drivers with two or more years of experience. Requirements: Binational Federal License or CDL, Mexican Passport (mexican drivers), Visa B1/B2 or Residence card, ID or INE, Birth certificate, CV/ Resume. Omega Compliance Solutions LLC. (619) 312-1545.

**AVAILABLE IHSS CAREGIVER WANTED** Offering a full or part time job. Person must have an IHSS care giving certificate and a vehicle for a sweet 55 year old woman. Please call Miss Carmen, (619) 269-3434.

**CAREGIVER COMPANION NEEDED** Educated female individual wanted in Oceanside for kind consideration and support of 83 year German lady. Care giver companion should be younger and MUST speak German. In-house chores and some light assistance with keeping order of items and clothes. No cooking, washing or cleaning required. My wife would like some simple but stimulated conversations. She uses a walker and would like to be driven to small events, lunches and to areas such as the beach or back country. Two to three days a week, no fixed schedule necessary. 3-4 hours per day. Payment offered \$20/hour and \$0.70 per mile driven. Please email tangarao700@gmail.com

## JOBS WANTED

**CLASS B DRIVER SEEKING TEMP WORK** Can perform commercial deliveries. Possesses CDL and can operate lift gate. Manual or automatic. Semi-retired. Call John (858) 277-4908

**SR. STAFF ENGR-PROCESS DEVELOPMENT** (Req# IIC1459) ID, dvp & manage continuous improvement projs within Flow Cell manuf process. Local telecommuting permitted. Req BS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. \$124,300-\$186,500/yr Mail resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina

# CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE

**FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE**

With any Service or Repair

**EXHAUST SYSTEM REPAIR AVAILABLE**

**ENGINE STEAM CLEAN AVAILABLE**

Most Vehicles

**NEW CV AXLE** from **\$159<sup>95</sup>**

Parts & Labor

**SMOG CHECK SPECIAL**

**STAR Certified**

Smog Test or All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through January 4, 2024

**\$3175\***

+**\$8.25 cert**

**STAR Certified**

**SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$5175**

+\$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.

**30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL**

from **\$279<sup>95</sup>** 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis • Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension

**TIMING BELT SPECIAL**

**\$50 off quoted price**

Recommended at 60k miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

**San Diego Smog's new home is at Cliff Brown Automotive!**

Cliff Brown Automotive • 4491 Park Blvd, SD, CA 92116 • 619-297-4204

Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm

Coupons must be Presented Prior to Service • Senior Discounts Available • Offers Expire January 4, 2024

26 San Diego Reader December 21, 2023



Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must  
ref title & Req#.

**GOT ELVES? NEED HOLIDAY  
HELP?** two females available  
anytime to wrap gifts, serve, clean,  
host/entertain in costume. Please  
call Santa's Helpers Bee or Tee  
(619) 552-6123

**DOMESTIC/BABYSITTING/  
ELDERCARE** Housecleaning;  
Cooking; Babysitting; Eldercare;  
Experienced. I come to you. Mainly  
in El Cajon and Lakeside, may be  
willing to expand. All day, every day.  
Hardly any job too big or small. Call  
or text for reference and a quote.  
Cynthia, (619) 773-4784. / welch-  
cynthia777@gmail.com

**COOK OR DISHWASHER PRE-  
FERRED** Seeking Temp. or p/t  
employment. 15 yrs. exp. Prefer  
Mid-City location. Kevin Miller (858)  
424-0037

**PERSONAL ASST./ CARE-  
GIVER FOR HIRE** 7 years exp.  
Live-in preferred. Expected salary  
min. wage per hour. Kevin Miller  
(858) 424-0037

**FULL TIME JOB WANTED** by  
High school/College graduate  
healthy 64 male southern Califor-  
nian. Reliable transportation. Seek-  
ing steady full-time employment in  
Miramar, La Jolla, Solana Beach,  
Carlsbad, north county. Dale Haus-  
kins (858) 401-2973.

**GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER**  
will drive to doctors & hospital  
appointments, will grocery shop,  
prepare meals, do light housekeep-  
ing, provide companionship, and  
much more. Please call Carol at  
(858) 731-6996.

**WANTED / TRADE**

**NEW & USED SOLAR PANELS  
WANTED** I'm looking for solar  
panels that are reasonably priced or  
if they are old I will haul them away  
for free. I'm setting up an off grid  
system connected to the electric  
grid. Let me know what you have.  
I am looking for a large quantity.  
(760) 746-7209

**SMITH CORONA TYPEWRITER  
WANTED** I am looking for an elec-  
tric Smith Corona typewriter. If you  
have one for a reasonable price -  
let me know what you have. I would  
prefer a working typewriter but I can  
use a non-working typewriter for  
parts to repair mine. (760) 746-7209

**SEARCHING FOR OLD TUBE  
STEREOS** I am an Electronics  
Hobbyist, and I am looking for  
1960's vintage, Tube Type Stereo  
Components to refurbish, such as  
Fisher, Scott, McIntosh, Dynaco &  
More. Maybe it is stored away in  
the garage or attic. I pay Ca\$h, so  
please call Jack (619) 296-3100 /  
jack22@cox.net

**BUYING GARBAGE PAIL KIDS  
CARDS** Cash for 1st and 2nd  
series Garbage Pail Kids (1-83 a &  
b) and full sets, unopened boxes.  
San Deigo local.Cash for 1st and  
2nd series Garbage Pail Kids (1-83  
a & b) and full sets, unopened  
boxes. San Diego local. (832) 651-  
8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

**BUYING OLD BASEBALL  
CARDS** Buying old baseball and  
other sports/non-sports cards. Pre-  
1980 preferred but buying more  
modern stars and rookies. Cash  
paid. San Diego local. Comics,  
autographs, memorabilia too. (832)  
651-8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

**SWIM NOODLES WANTED** Out  
of Season, wanting at least 4 for  
project, the long ones, 52". Can  
Pick Up locally. Please call Cecilia.  
And, Thanks in advance. (619)  
309-8992

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES**  
Rock & Roll I buy 1950's-1980's  
Concert Posters, Flyers, Handbills,  
Used-Unused Tickets, Programs.  
Pls Call/Txt (619) 313-1580 Pri-  
vate Party

**SEEKING EXPERIENCED  
AGGRESSIVE CIVIL ATTOR-  
NEY** Regarding TRO slash defa-  
mation. Jim Smith (760) 789-8774

**LOOKING FOR OLD TUBE STE-  
REO'S** I am looking for that old  
Tube Stereo System that your Dad  
used to play. These Stereo Com-  
ponents were made in America,  
in the early 1960's, by such Com-  
panies as Fisher, Scott, McIntosh,  
Dynaco & More. I pay Ca\$h, so  
please call Jack (619) 296-3100 /  
jack22@cox.net

**TREADMILL WANTED** I am  
looking for a used treadmill to buy/  
trade. I have a Gazelle exercise  
machine-a fun way to exercise.  
You can Google it for info and pics.  
(858) 272-9525 / sharina.moore@  
outlook.com

**THREE WHEEL MOTORCYCLE  
TRIKE** For \$450 reward for your  
three wheel motorcycle trike must  
be excellent condition with cur-  
rent title and clear registration.  
New tires, send pictures and price  
first. (760) 420-3641. Hurry hurry  
cash buyer

**I BUY OLD BAND INSTRU-  
MENTS** I buy saxophones, trum-  
pets, Trombone, tuba, flute, clarinet  
Or any old band instruments. Call  
(619) 279-7833

**INDIAN ARROWHEAD/ARTS**  
Artifacts for my personal collec-  
tion. Must be authentic and legally  
collected. No interest in modern  
reproductions. Call Steve at (619)  
985-8562.

**OB SPACEMAN PAINTINGS  
WANTED** Private collector seek-  
ing any and all of his art. Contact  
me at clintcarycosmicart@gmail.  
com or call or text (619) 684-0127

**VINTAGE DRUMS** I'm looking to  
buy vintage drums (619) 806-6703

**WANTED:** Cash for vintage Dis-  
ney and Disneyland items, anima-  
tion art, autographs of famous dead  
people. Call (619) 890-1390.

**I BUY VINYL RECORDS** all  
types, great prices paid. We don't  
just buy 2-3 records, we buy  
your whole collection. Call (619)  
250-3088.

**SEWING MACHINES** I buy  
Singer 221 Featherweight sewing  
machines. Call (619) 279-7833.

**WILL PAY CASH....** For records,  
CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Profes-  
sional Singing Lessons available.  
Musicians Wanted. Call Jeff Clark,  
(858) 382-7396.

**I BUY HAMMOND ORGANS  
AND LESLIE SPEAKERS** (619)  
279-7833.

**I BUY BIG FISHING REELS**  
Text me pictures or call (619)  
279-7833.

**I BUY MILITARY PILOT HEL-  
METS** (619) 806-6703

**I BUY VINTAGE SLOT CARS** I  
buy vintage slot cars (619) 806-  
6703 Scott

**I BUY CAMERAS** Cash offers.  
(619) 279-7833

**CASH FOR COMIC BOOKS**  
Want to put some money in your  
pocket? I pay cash for old comic

books and I will come to you. Mark  
(619) 933-6275

**WANTED:** Speakers, amps and  
other old stereo gear! The most  
cash paid always! Brands like JBL,  
Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more!  
Call 1(619)-303-8031; e-mail JBL@  
cox.net.

**OLD GUITARS AND AMPLI-  
FIERS WANTED** Call (619)  
279-7833.

**ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS**  
is my two front teeth. Sponsorship/  
help needed for dental implants.  
Please contact Keith, (619) 551-  
6368, williamkeith848@gmail.com.

**GARAGE SALES**

**ART & GARAGE SALE** Large  
family home purging lots of good-  
ies! Plants, Clothing, Jewelry,  
Books, Movies, Music, V/W Baja  
Bug Front End, ART, and Misc  
Household Items. 4550 Mira Monte  
St. La Mesa, CA

**ESTATE SALE** Estate Sale 1  
day only. 4696 GREENE STREET,  
OCEAN BEACH 92107. artwork,  
furniture, household items, clothes  
& lots of misc, new & used items  
(619) 719-7788 / kathy@battenac-  
countancy.com

**MISSION VALLEY FAMILY IS  
MOVING** Gigantic selection of  
woman's clothing, small household  
items; too much to mention. Items  
are going from \$2-\$3 dollars each.  
Please call for viewing appoint-  
ment (619) 269-3434. Everything  
must go!

**OCEANSIDE ESTATE SALE**  
We have a darling cottage in  
Oceanside ! Lots of great things to  
shop for Christmas. We also have  
two SIGNED books by Julia Child  
! We open 12/8-12/9 9 am 4358  
Dowitcher way, Oceanside DO  
NOT APPROACH home before the  
date of the sale. bfstatesales@  
gmail.com

**GARAGE SALE SATURDAY  
12/16/23** Garage Sale in Tier-  
rasanta on Saturday 12/16 from 8  
am to 12 pm. Will be selling house-  
wares, electronics, CD/DVD's, small  
furniture, misc. holiday items, etc.  
Address is 5786 Guincho Rd.

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

**FOR SALE**

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

**AFX SLOT CARS** Call for info  
and price (619) 753-8473

**BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE BLONDE  
MINK STOLE** Bullocks. Pockets.  
Stored. S-M. Perfect. \$375. Taking  
offers. Birmingham, Cardiff. Leave  
message or text. (760) 692-7741

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

**CHRISTMAS ITEMS** Chip and  
dip reindeer platter 15 inches by  
12 inches, \$10. New artificial tree  
for coffee table,\$10. Santa musical

mobile by Fitc and Floyd, \$20. (619)  
218-4031.

**CLAW TURNER, TONG, GRILL  
FORKS** 15" claw turner tong has  
a turner on one side and a pronged  
fork on the other (\$8), 15" trian-  
gular tong w/ wood handles (\$5),  
4 deluxe BBQ grill forks w/ wood  
handles & hanging straps (\$5 ea).  
Very good condition. \$25 / all 6.  
Text for more info/pics (619) 796-  
5680 / cadbcسد@gmail.com



**FROZEN FRUIT SOFT SERVER  
MAKER** This Yonanas stainless  
steel silver maker creates "ice-  
cream" or "sorbet" like treats that  
are healthy, vegan, Kato & dairy-  
free without additional fat, sugar or  
preservatives. 200 watts. Clean in  
good working condition. \$15. Text  
for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 /  
cadbcسد@gmail.com

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

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

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

**TROY-BILT ROTOTILLER,  
COLT FT:** 208CC, Model:  
21B34M871, purchased new, never  
used, \$575. Call (760) 746-7209.

<b>OIL CHANGE</b> Additional 25 cartridge fee. Plus tax, has waste. 8 engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. Special only for 4cyl vehicle. 6-8cyl vehicle does not apply.	<b>\$29<sup>95</sup></b> most cars
<b>AC SERVICE</b> Diagnostic \$95	<b>\$49</b> Recharge from
<b>BRAKES</b> Front or rear *Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.	From <b>\$49</b> most cars
<b>30K 60K 90K</b> Scheduled Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	<b>\$65</b> most cars
<b>RADIATOR</b> or Transmission Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	<b>\$45</b> most cars 4 cyl.
<b>TIMING BELT</b> Parts & Labor *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	<b>\$75</b> most cars 4 cyl.
<b>STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS</b> Plus labor.	<b>\$95</b> most cars 4 cyl.
<b>FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT</b> 96 and up.	
We'll beat any written estimate! Dents, dings, scratches? Now offering bodywork. B.T. Auto Wrench Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary! <b>8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&amp;C</b> <b>858-533-8120</b>	

**WEED-EATER, STRING-TRIM-  
MER:** Bolens BL110 Handheld  
Gas String Trimmer, 2 cycle 25cc  
gas engine, 16" curved shaft, has  
bump head release for 0.095 dual  
string line. New in original box, \$95.  
Call (760) 746-7209.

**SOLID WOOD ARCHED TOP  
MIRROR** This beautiful mirror  
(37"x 48") has round top & bottom  
moldings and 10 silver decorative  
metal bars on top perfect for wall  
hanging or as a dresser mirror  
using the 2 provided wood strips.  
Clean in very good condition. \$60.  
Text for more info/pics. (619) 796-  
5680 / cadbcسد@gmail.com

**VINYL RECORDS CDS DVD  
FOR SALE** Saturdays and Sun-  
days. 8am to 4... 3939 Iowa St.  
Suite 2. SD CA 92104.... THOU-  
SANDS OF VINYL RECORDS  
DVDS CDS for SALE.... 2\$ Dol-  
lars Each!

**70'S CARTOON GLASSES** I  
have 10 cartoon glasses, 1 coca  
cola, 3 stines. Make offer (619) 390-  
8216 / robtville5@gmail.com



**ARTHRITIS GLOVES RELIEVE  
PAIN** These gray slip-on compres-  
sion support gloves have open fin-  
gertips which allow for greater dex-  
terity and help relieve pain & stiff-  
ness & enhance blood flow. Breath-  
able cotton/spandex. New in origi-  
nal package. Size M or L. \$10. Text

for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 /  
cadbcسد@gmail.com

**NEW BLACK FOLDING WALK-  
ING CANE** This cane has con-  
toured T-handle, push-button height  
adjustment (32"-36") & locking  
collar for safety.. It fits easily in a  
bag for travel, weighs only 1 lb. but  
supports 250 lbs. New, never used  
in original carrying bag. \$12. Text  
for more info/pics (619) 796-5510 /  
cadbcسد@gmail.com



**HO LOCOMOTIVE** HO Locomo-  
tive and coal car w/cabus. Make  
offer (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@  
gmail.com

**CAMPING CHAIR** Folding chair  
with carrier bag. \$10.00 Lakeside  
(619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.  
com

**DYMO LABEL UNIT** DYMO  
RINO label Unit for patch pan-  
els, one 10 blocks. ETC. MAKE  
OFFER. Lakeside (619) 390-8216 /  
robtville5@gmail.com

**IPOD NANO & IBASE** 1st gen-  
eration IPOD NANO 4G and IPHONE  
HOMEBASE. Used for an alarm  
clock for a little while. \$40.00 Lake-  
side (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@  
gmail.com

**VINTAGE ITEMS** Pre War  
Remington Typewriter - \$350 w/  
case. Wooden Chest from the  
1800's ; very vintage - \$1,000. Two  
Las Vegas slot machines \$750/

<b>BEST PRICE IN TOWN!</b>	
<b>SMOG CHECK</b> Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up.	<b>from \$26<sup>75</sup></b> + \$8.25 Cert. <b>FREE Shuttle Service</b> w/ repair <b>\$50</b> from + Labor
<b>OIL CHANGE &amp; FILTER</b> Up to 5 qts., new filter, 10 point checkout.	<b>\$25</b> +\$1.00 Waste Fee. <b>\$195</b> Starting price, Labor + Parts.
<b>COMPUTER DIAGNOSIS</b> Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...	<b>\$30</b> <b>AXLE SPECIAL</b> Includes Parts & Labor <b>\$99</b>
<b>MUFFLER</b>	from <b>\$95</b> + Labor from <b>PREMIUM SHOCKS</b> Monroe or KYB+ Labor <b>\$150</b> per pair
<b>PREMIUM STRUTS</b> Monroe or KYB + Labor	from <b>\$250</b> per pair <b>STARTERS OR ALTERNATOR</b> from <b>\$150</b> + Labor
*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition *Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing	
<b>Brandon Auto</b> 6670 Miramar Rd. # C, San Diego, CA 92121-2559 <b>858-452-9999</b> ASE	



# Spotted Bay Bass – it's what's for dinner!

## Maintenance season for much of the fleet

**Dock Totals 12/3 – 12/9:** 364 anglers aboard 21 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 8 barracuda (released), 4 black seabass (released), 158 bluefin tuna, 1 cabezon (released), 14 calico bass, 2 halfmoon, 10 lobster (31 released), 6 rock crab, 1965 rockfish, 38 sand bass, 12 sculpin, 36 sheephead, and 42 whitefish.

**Saltwater:** Along the beaches, surf perch have been biting well on plastics, bait, and spoons while halibut and corbina action has slowed substantially. In the bays, however, halibut have been biting very well on plastics, crank baits, and live bait. Most fish caught have been shorts — under the required 22-inch minimum length — but there have been a few nice legals to maybe 30 inches reported. Working the outside or deeper edge of eelgrass and along channels has been the ticket for those targeting the halibut. Along the bay riprap rocks (where accessible), anglers have been getting mixed results on shortfin corvina and spotted bay bass. Most of that shortfin action is on heavier, more castable stick baits like Lucky Craft's 110 Flash Minnow, but I have also found success on shortfin with many lures more traditionally fished in fresh water, such as smaller Rapalas and even Rat'l Traps. A slow steady retrieve over the top of the eelgrass on the high tides of five feet or higher (and especially during gray light hours) is optimal, though fishing the channel side of the eelgrass on the low tide will also get results.

As for spotted bay bass, this is the time of year when finding a structure and presenting a lure along the structure in a vertical drop will get results on the bigger fish. It can be great fun to sidle in (where allowed) on a kayak or even in a float tube on our warmer winter days. I have plucked quite a few, again, on freshwater lures most commonly fished for largemouth bass. For spotties, my go-to when fishing pilings in the winter is a ½- to ¾-ounce skirted bait with a spinner or flasher, as they just seem to draw those big ones out from under the docks and along the pilings where they seem to prefer to hang, while smaller spotted bay bass can be found in good numbers in the eelgrass holes, depressions, and especially clam beds like the ones just outside the anchorage at Glorietta Bay along the Coronado Bridge. So, it can be a choice of hunting the pilings for hogs or the clam beds for big numbers, but in my experience, I haven't found many hog spotted bay bass hanging out with the little ones, nor many little ones hanging out with the hogs.

Of the three bass caught in our area — barred sand bass, calico bass, and spotted bay bass — spotties are my favorite table fare. Though they are fairly closely related, each bass has a different texture while their natural flavor is similar. Calico is the most delicate, with a clarity to the filets, and if you like your meat moist, it cooks up well for tacos and also makes a great ceviche. Sand bass has a firmer but drier consistency, and while it's good in ceviche (isn't everything?), I prefer that drier meat in my tacos. It's just my opinion here, as taste is subjective, but spotted bay bass not only fight harder, but have a firmer, more grouper-like texture to their meat.



**Avid Temecula salt and freshwater angler Tracy Hartman with a nice spotted bay bass caught while float-tube fishing a bay structure.**

Since they live in bays for the most part, spotties can be a little more prone to pollution or heavy metals, so the best eating size is from the minimum limit of 14 inches to 16 inches or so. That said, as they usually inhabit the mid-water column, heavy metal build-up is not as much of a concern as it is with the bottom-dwelling rays and such. Also, our bays are deep and flush well with the tides, and most fish tested from either bay are fine to eat. Heavy metals tend to sink into the benthic mud, and that is why it is more often found in the species that live mostly in the bottom foot of water. Halibut can be an exception to that, since even though they spend most of their time on the bottom, their prey is mainly finfish swimming higher in the water column — as opposed to rays, which blow ghost shrimp and clams out of the muck to munch.

Half day boats the *New Seaforth* and the *Dolphin* have been fishing deep and limiting on rockfish nearly every outing, while the *Polaris Supreme*, one of the few boats still chasing tuna, has had good success on bluefin outside on their 2-day runs. Most of these fish have been in the 20-40-pound range with a few larger tuna in the mix. At this time of year, every year, many of the normal mid-range 1.5-day to 3-day boats are in the dock or drydock for annual maintenance and Coast Guard certifications. Thus, angler counts are low, though the fish counts reflect very good fish for those getting out there.

Long-range boats are working far south off southern Baja in the normal zones for wintertime yellowfin, wahoo, and grouper, while most reports from the mid-peninsula are coming in from the local Mexican operations from Erendria to La Bocana. Working north to south, rockfish, bonito, whitefish and a few yellowtail are being caught in the Ensenada area south to around San Quintin, where more yellowtail are showing in the mix. The further south from there one goes, the better the yellowtail bite, until once past Bahia Asuncion or so, where yellowfin tuna and wahoo begin to show more on the high spots from the Polaris Bank, Alijos Rocks, and the Ridge outside of Bahia Magdalena. In the Cabo San Lucas area and around to La Paz, dorado has been the main catch, along with yellowfin tuna and striped marlin offshore, while inshore fishing for roosterfish and sierra has been very good. Wherever you are and however you like your tacos (everybody likes tacos, right?), they're out there, so go get 'em!



**The Tribute and San Diego are finishing up annual maintenance at the docks in LA Harbor, and will be back online in 2024.**

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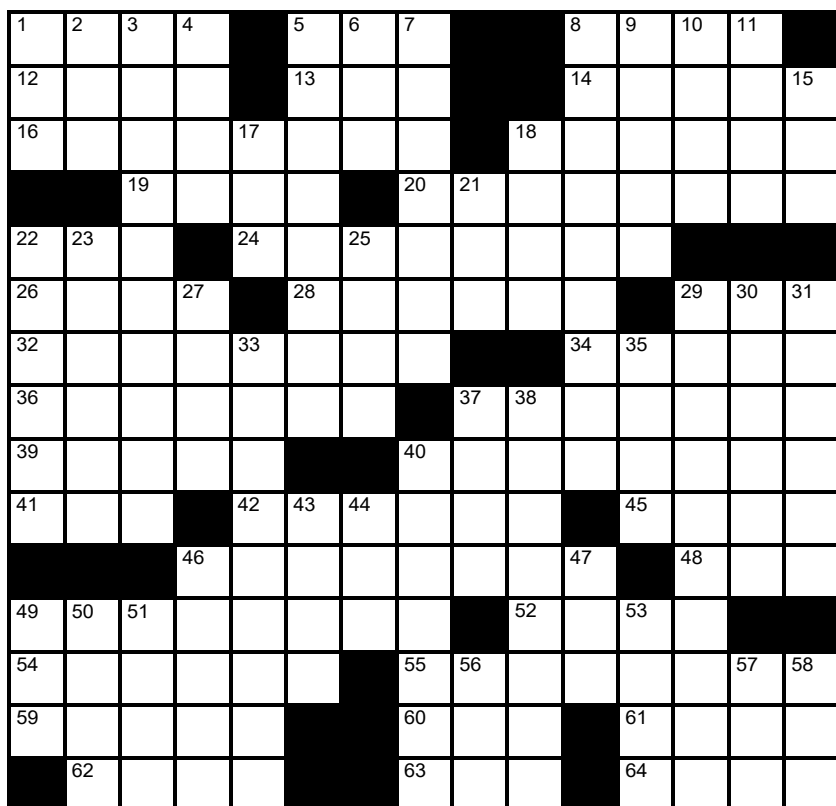
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# CROSSWORD



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

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

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

Reader T-shirts and hats are available at [sandiegoreaderstore.com/](http://sandiegoreaderstore.com/)

## Across

- 1.** Morning News city, informally  
**5.** Physicist's name often heard in yoga class?  
**8.** Dies down  
**12.** Wheelhouse  
**13.** Hailey Bieber \_\_\_\_ Baldwin  
**14.** Annual event at Pebble Beach  
**16.** "I spy with my little eye ... a late-night host!"  
**18.** "I spy with my little eye ... a state capital!"  
**19.** The "A" in Thomas A. Edison  
**20.** A person might react to it  
**22.** London's \_\_\_\_ Gardens  
**24.** Some insurance payments  
**26.** Lead-in to much

- 28.** "THAT makes sense to me now"  
**29.** Egyptian \_\_\_\_ (cat)  
**32.** Materials sold by National Gypsum and USG SheekRock  
**34.** Sluggers' dirty secrets, for short  
**36.** "Sorry ... I'm busy"  
**37.** Crème \_\_\_\_  
**39.** Addis \_\_\_\_, Ethiopia  
**40.** Place to see saws  
**41.** Apiece  
**42.** They're voracious eaters (and an anagram of "gastro")  
**45.** Architect Saarinen  
**46.** "Sex and the City" character who says "I don't believe in the Republican party or the Democratic party; I just believe

- in parties"  
**48.** Berman in the New York State Broadcasters Hall of Fame  
**49.** Work together  
**52.** "C'mon, be \_\_\_\_!"  
**54.** Garden varieties?  
**55.** "I spy with my little eye ... a fish!"  
**59.** "I spy with my little eye ... a tree!"  
**60.** "Thou \_\_\_\_ Aloft Full-Dazzling" (1881 Walt Whitman poem)  
**61.** Riverside, \_\_\_\_ (the "future birthplace" of James T. Kirk)  
**62.** Wild hog  
**63.** GM's Mary Barra, e.g.  
**64.** "Pardon ..."

## Down

- 1.** Humanities degs.  
**2.** Fury  
**3.** Lift following a lift?  
**4.** Children's author whose stories were acquired by Netflix in 2021  
**5.** "I spy with my little eye ... a toddler!"  
**6.** Gender pronoun in an email signature  
**7.** Mis amigos : Spanish :: \_\_\_\_ : French  
**8.** Short-lived  
**9.** "I spy with my little eye ... an ice cream brand!"  
**10.** Sound that aptly rhymes with gong  
**11.** All there  
**15.** Fellows

- 17.** Honor awarded to Lisa Leslie in 2001, 2004 and 2006  
**18.** Board game with 324 different murder scenario combinations  
**21.** Fleur-de-\_\_\_\_  
**22.** Take badly?  
**23.** Dress after bathing, perhaps  
**25.** Craig who was guarding Michael Jordan during "The Shot" in the 1989 NBA playoffs  
**27.** Q-tip, e.g.  
**29.** "I spy with my little eye ... a foreign film actress!"  
**30.** Stick (to)  
**31.** Applied to  
**33.** "I spy with my little eye ... a former 'SNL' cast member!"  
**35.** "View of Auvers-sur-\_\_\_\_" (Cézanne painting)  
**37.** Kid's creation using sofa cushions  
**38.** Rock, Paper, Scissors, to some  
**40.** "Funky Cold Medina" rapper  
**43.** "Cornflake Girl" singer Tori  
**44.** Light brown  
**46.** Brand whose name is a contraction of the French words for "without caffeine"  
**47.** TikTok, for one  
**49.** P.D. alert  
**50.** Kind of soda or sandwich  
**51.** Snack found in the middle of a catacomb?  
**53.** Bizet's "Toreador Song," for one  
**56.** Exist  
**57.** "I herd that \_\_\_\_ like sheep puns ..."  
**58.** Hasty escape

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

# SUDOKU

## EVIL:

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

## SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

## MEDIUM:

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



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## UNREAL ESTATE

*continued from page 5*

wood to be found in the staircase, and the furniture — including a big retro-futuristic couch near the wet bar that looks more “amusingly designed” than “actually comfortable” — adds enough color to keep my gripes at bay. Otherwise, we’re going to stay in this room for quite a while before heading back outside to look at the pool deck and ocean view some more. But eventually, we will make it back inside to look at the “gourmet chefs kitchen, a masterpiece of culinary excellence” that “seamlessly connects with a rear kitchen for exclusive chef events.” The first kitchen is nice enough on its own, with its waterfall island, enormous built-in refrigerator, and separate wine cooler, but I suppose you can never have enough kitchens, just in case there’s a chef event.

There’s another living area off the open kitchen/dining area, and beyond it, we see the second outdoor dining space, the one we saw in the first photo on our tour. What’s interesting about this spot is that the walls disappear in two different directions; when open, they leave just a solitary corner post to remind us that part of this space is a house and the rest backyard.

Would you like to see more pictures of the patio and view? You’re going to get more. Many more. These are indeed selling points and everything we’re seeing looks great, but we’re running out of time, and we’ve



Where we’re living, we won’t need walls.

barely spent any of it inside!

Okay, time for a quick peek at the “unrivaled home office” that I suppose is fine — while also, despite the adjective, being no rival to some of the wood-paneled, Gilded Age-esque studies we’ve seen in the past. There’s a bathroom with a vanity that seems to be carved, sink included, from a solid piece of stone, which I like.

Then we get a couple of peeks at secondary bedrooms and some more baths before getting to what I believe is the “resort-style primary suite with awe-inspiring vistas and a spa-inspired bathroom.” There’s so much inspiration here that we get three bathing options: a free-standing tub, an indoor shower the size of a full suburban bathroom, and another outdoor shower of similar size that also sidles up to a hot tub on the deck just beyond. The closet has its own dressing area and makeup desk, and is larger than any bedroom has a right to be, even though it’s a closet.

Next we’re on to what I think the listing describes as a “teen lounge,” with its coupe of computer desks and a guitar-pick-shaped game table. There’s another bedroom that I want to mention because

it appears to be mostly occupied by a large platform housing two beds — one that would be appropriate height were it not for the platform that makes it look like a mattress thrown on the floor, and another that’s sunken into the platform and sits at ground level. This setup makes no sense to me, but I can’t say that I hate it, either. (My wife has informed me that the smaller one may be a dog bed.)

More bathrooms (nice), more bedrooms (unremarkable), more views (we get it already). On the way out, we briefly pass a home gym that’s better-equipped than most, and a miniature soccer field on a terrace below the main backyard space. We’re told there’s a yoga room and a “meditation sanctuary,” but I don’t think we’ve seen either of those spaces. Never mind, let’s go back outside for one last reminder that you can see the ocean from here.

Public records list a Klein family trust as the current owner of Vista d’Oro; it last sold for a reported \$3.9 million in 2010, a decade before the current estate was built. It was listed for sale in mid-December with a tenfold asking price of \$39,977,000 that remains unchanged to date. ■



## Creme de la Weird

— The Kyiv Post reported on Dec. 13 that Russia's security service, the FSB, has released its 2024 propaganda fundraising calendar, and it's a doozy! The front cover features "art" of an improbably ripped Vladimir Putin giving his best sultry stare while leaning on a big, black compensator vehicle. Meanwhile, the apocalyptic November image depicts an FSB special forces soldier standing before the U.S. Capitol while drones and helicopters attack it. Is this a popular holiday gift in Russia? Who knows? The bigger question: why does the FSB need to fundraise?

## Weird Science

— Gatorland in Orlando, Florida, can boast a fascinating new resident: a leucistic white alligator, born on Dec. 7, CNN reported. The female gator is believed to be one of only eight in the world and the only one born in human care. She was hatched along with a normal-colored brother of the same size (about 19 inches long). "Leucistic alligators are the rarest genetic variation in the American alligator," the park said. They have bright blue eyes, as opposed to albino gators, which have pink eyes. The public is invited to vote on a name on the park's social media sites.

## Crime Report

— In Louisville, Kentucky, a bronze statue of President Abraham Lincoln has been seated on a rock overlooking the Ohio River, since 2009, the *Louisville Courier Journal*

reported. But Lincoln's top hat, which rested at his side on the rock, disappeared sometime at the beginning of December. The sculptor, Ed Hamilton, suspects the hat was stolen: "It was anchored down into that monolith rock," he said. "I don't know what they could have used, maybe some more manpower or some crowbars. Bring the hat back, because you can't wear it," he warned potential thieves. Police and park officials are investigating.

## Bright Idea

— An unnamed 22-year-old man from Taiwan was detained on Dec. 5 at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok after he was found to be transporting two Asian small-clawed otters and a prairie dog, *Metro News* reported. The man had the animals stuffed into three separate socks and taped into his boxer shorts; security officers became suspicious about the large bulge below the man's waistband. They believe he purchased them at a market in the city. The animals were taken to the Wildlife Conservation Office; the smuggler was arrested. "We will catch anyone who tries to take animals on planes," a Thai customs department spokesperson said.

## Suspicious Confirmed

— Cops in Genoa, Italy, were stumped by a drug-trafficking case in their city, BNN reported on Dec. 1 — that is, until they noticed a large number of bald and beardless men visiting a local barbershop. Investigators initiated surveillance and searched the shop,

where they found 100 grams of cocaine, precision scales and packaging materials. They also found hashish at the barber's home and evidence of ongoing communication with inmates in a Genoa prison. The 55-year-old barber is awaiting sentencing at the Marassi prison.

## Awesome!

— The Burnside Shelter in Portland, Oregon, hit the jackpot earlier in the year when workers discovered a pair of gold sneakers at the bottom of a donation bin, United Press International reported. Turns out, the Air Jordan 3 kicks were commissioned by Spike Lee to wear at the 2019 Academy Awards -- and they're valued at more than \$10,000, according to Sotheby's. The auction house will donate 100% of the proceeds, expected to be as much as \$20,000, to the Portland Rescue Mission, which operates the shelter. Bidding continues through Dec. 18.

## Wait, What?

— Sergey Vladimirovich Ochigava was arraigned on Dec. 5 in Los Angeles federal court after a bizarrely uninterrupted trip from Denmark to L.A., the Associated Press reported. The Russian flew in November without a ticket, passport, visa, or seat assignment. Flight crew members told investigators that he wandered around the plane and switched seats while talking with other passengers. When U.S. Customs and Border Patrol searched his belongings, they found "Russian identification cards and an Israeli identification card," court documents

outlined. Ochigava gave a variety of explanations, including that he hadn't slept in three days and wasn't sure how he got through security in Copenhagen. A trial is scheduled for Dec. 26.

## Least Competent Criminal

— Leonard Thuo Mwithiga, 52, a Kenyan executive, followed his wife of 22 years to the United States, hoping to convince her to return home to him, *Oddity Central* reported. But when she refused, Mwithiga allegedly decided she must die. During an Uber ride, Mwithiga told the driver he was "very, very mad" and needed a hitman. The Uber driver got in touch with Connecticut State Police, who enlisted him as an informant. Between September and December, the two engaged in multiple conversations about the plot, all of which were shared with authorities. Mwithiga wanted his wife "injected with something to make her very sick, 'like a cancer,'" and he wanted her to die a slow death. Finally, on Dec. 4, the informant introduced Mwithiga to a "hitman," i.e., undercover cop, who was paid an advance on the job. Mwithiga asked that she be killed while he was away in Kenya, so he would have an alibi. Instead, he was arrested and held on \$5 million bond.

Send your weird news items to [WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com](mailto:WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com).

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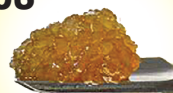
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EXP 12.31.23  
\*ONE TIME USE ONLY,  
DISCOUNTS NOT STACKABLE

**40% OFF**  
**FIRST TIME CUSTOMER**  
EXP 12.31.23  
\*ONE TIME USE ONLY,  
DISCOUNTS NOT STACKABLE

**40% OFF**  
**ACCESSORIES**  
EXP 02.15.24  
\*ONE TIME USE ONLY, DISCOUNTS  
NOT STACKABLE

**20% OFF**  
**CODE:STIIIZY20**  
EXP 2.15.24  
\*ONLY VALID WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY  
ONE TIME USE ONLY, DISCOUNTS  
NOT STACKABLE

**\$10 OFF**  
**WHEN YOU SPEND \$50**  
EXP 02.15.24  
\*ONE TIME USE ONLY,  
DISCOUNTS NOT STACKABLE

**\$20 OFF**  
**WHEN YOU SPEND \$100**  
EXP 02.15.24  
\*ONE TIME USE ONLY,  
DISCOUNTS NOT STACKABLE