

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 53 | NO. 4 | JANUARY 25, 2024

Reader

A Little Different Every Day

The aftermath
of Ashli Babbitt

Cliff splits and suspect seawalls ■ Concertos, considered ■ Who wants to buy the *U-T*?



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SAN DIEGO
Reader

LETTERS

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

Wistful for Wilk

I want to say thank you to David Levinson Wilk, whose final crossword appeared in an early January edition of the Reader (Crossword, January 4, 2024). For years, Wilk's puzzles were much more fun than the average crossword I'd find in syndicated daily newspapers. The clever themes for each one were amusing and gave an extra key to unlock the trickier words. I always found Wilk's puzzles calibrated at just the level to make them challenging but not unfinishable.

I didn't know Wilk by name until the Reader announced they were printing his final puzzle; I'd taken for granted that the enjoyable crosswords would always be there. I'm very sorry to say that the replacement crosswords, which seem to be from a syndicated service, are flat and almost seem as though they're made from a crossword-generating computer program.

Thanks again, Mr. Wilk, for the many hours of interactive and diverting wordplay.

Zachary Woodruff
Point Loma

Right-wing Reader?

In the piece ("Pee Wee Redux", Neighborhood News, January 18) the founder of BikeIndex.org claims that Offer Up and FB Marketplace contain a "massive sea of stolen goods" and "junkies, thieves, and addicts.... (are) fencing stolen goods right and left" on these sites.

I am a bike guy who buys and sells on these sites. I look for good deals, the kind one might expect someone trying to sell a stolen bike would offer. I've checked out over

150 bikes in the past 3 years and maybe 1 or 2 seemed suspicious. Hardly a massive sea of stolen bikes.

If so many stolen bikes were listed on these sites, wouldn't the recovery rate be much higher than the 19/331 (5.7%) reported in the article? Yah, I thought so.

I'm not sure if the guy quoted is woefully misinformed or if he has an agenda, but in any case he's way off base. There's enough fear mongering in the media without this garbage. The Reader has veered into the right wing conspiracy BS since the ownership change and lemme tell you, it blows.

Anthony H
San Diego

The Reader has not undergone an ownership change.

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

Ramona Potato Chip
Rock populist protests

Letters, January 10, 2024

Oy Vey, Bolsheviks high on their own gassers kvetching about that pesky First Amendment again (kudos to the Reader for having some huevos on that satire).

I don't know what La Jolla Bolsheviks are so afraid of, they can simply find the nearest Chabad (The Scientology of orthodox Judaism, a criminal organization masquerading as a religious one) tax-shelter and hide in its underground human sacrifice/organ trafficking tunnels. Or they could blackmail more congressmen like they always do. They sure are a whiny bunch, those Bolsheviks.

-Stinky McMatresstain

FPCC warns Faulconer not to use lists from previous campaigns

News Under the Radar,
January 10, 2024

The "list" is public record and can be compiled from the 460 forms of the various committees that have supported Falconer in

continued on page 4

San Diego
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January 25, 2024



Lakeside native, Ocean Beach local — page 8



Rain isn't good for San Diego cliffs — page 2



Pistachio and rose water pastries — page 21

ADVERTISING

Display Ads

Automotive	25
Cannabis	28
Classifieds	22
Health and Beauty	13
Legal Notices	22
Legal Solutions	7
Music	17
Rentals	23
Research Studies	9

NEWS & FEATURES

Neighborhood News

Scary shears at Sunset Cliffs, precarious condos in Del Mar.....2

Letters.....4

From the Archives

The writing life is tough, as is baseball.....5

SD on the QT

Almost factual news about oysters6

A little different every day

The aftermath of Ashli Babbitt, by Eva Knott8

Puzzles.....26

News of the Weird.....29

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance,
Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Movies, Outdoors,
Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness, Theater14

Outdoors

Are pretty pear petals a problem?.....15

Music

Blurt: Robert Cowan, RIP17
Live Five: San Diego acts you ought to check out.....19
The Gonzo Report: Lucky encounters at The Black Cat19
Immortal Beauty: A collection of concertos.....20

Restaurants

Tin Fork: Ed turns to Turkish delights21

Fish Report

Bass best bet for now24

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

THE COAST

Shear terror

UCSD laser study and Instagram video help to highlight cliff crisis

Shortly before Christmas Eve, 619news-media shared an Instagram video taken at Sunset Cliffs of a cliff that had just split. The footage was terrifying to at least some of its 62,000 viewers: the person filming approached the sheared cliff, taking a POV shot of their sneakers at the cliff's edge — with the rocks, sand, and crashing waves some 40-50 feet below. Commenter Rozzee_ob added this underneath the sheared cliff footage: "From the results of the last rain storm, cliffs will start to fall." That made sense: just days before, San Diego had expe-



How many signs will it take?

(The cliffs are dangerous enough when they're not shearing. In a 2019 article, the *OB Rag* reported that the cliffs saw an average of five deaths or severe injuries a year from 2005-2019. One such fatality took place in January 2014, when a 25-year-old woman visiting from Chicago who was said to be taking sunset photos fell from the cliffs. And on Christmas day of 2015, a

public access." Grant continued, "I realize people love to go to the ocean and watch the awesome sunsets; I am one of them." But the trouble is, "people go to the cliffs in droves, literally hundreds of cars a night... and people trample down very dangerous, sensitive bluffs."

In August 2022, UCSD released a high-resolution study on California coastal erosion, including the above-mentioned spots and other areas along San Diego County's coastline. "It's probably the largest high-resolution cliff erosion study ever conducted, and provides the first detailed erosion rates for several parts of the state," said Adam Young of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in a statement. Young, a coastal geomorphologist who has been surveying San

Diego County cliffs for several years, used Light Detection and Ranging, a system that scans the cliffs with a laser, creating high-resolution 3D spatial maps of the San Diego County coastline up to northern California. He explained that the research aims to understand coastal change, such as "the multiple interwoven cliff erosion processes that create cliff instability and trigger gravity-driven failures." Young explained, "Each [laser] survey provides a snapshot in time that we compare to previous surveys to measure and track erosion over time. We use these surveys and other sensors to quantify the erosion

processes, identify erosion patterns, and examine stability conditions."

MIKE MADRIAGA

DEL MAR

Permanently fixing, not a permanent fix Seawall crumbling from the day it was built

The Solana Beach city council has approved emergency repairs to a large section of a failing seawall below the Del Mar Beach Club condominium complex. The 63 "stacked units" at 825 South Sierra Avenue, situated at the edge of a bluff above the ever-shrinking beach, are said to be in danger of falling into the ocean.

Some level of concern seems like plain common sense: in 2019m several bluff collapses occurred at Fletcher Cove, while a catastrophic slide took lives in Encinitas. But geotechnical consultant Bob Trettin says that phase one of a planned three-stage repair is definitely an emergency,



Details of repairs

because "portions of that wall could kick out next week."

Thanks to ongoing erosion, the tie-backs that serve to stabilize the 540-foot long, 15-foot high lower bluff seawall are "severely compromised," according to a geotechnical review conducted last spring by Soil Engineering and Construction, Inc. Two locations in need of immediate repair are the southern 170 feet of the lower bluff seawall, and an upper bluff, drilled pier wall at the southern property line. Repairs to the lower wall will include installing new tieback anchors for lateral support, replacing

continued on page 3

"It's probably the largest high-resolution cliff erosion study ever conducted, and provides the first detailed erosion rates for several parts of the state."

rienced heavy rains and a storm.

It was the third sheared cliff reported in the county last year. Last February, NBC San Diego reported on a collapsed cliff at Black's Beach in La Jolla. Images showed massive amounts of debris on the beach. And just a couple of weeks before the La Jolla incident, another cliff, estimated to be 25 feet tall and 250 feet wide, reportedly collapsed hundreds of feet south of the Torrey Pines Glider Port.

33-year-old Indiana man was said to have been "distracted by an electronic device," which caused him to fall "60 feet to his death at the cliffs.")

Local beach and surf photographer Jim Grant says that "there have been a series of sections of cliffs collapsing the past year. Causes of collapsing cliffs: entropy, natural decay, and rain." Grant recently snapped photos of city-posted signs that read, "Danger: unstable cliffs; stay back; no



The recent sighting was the third sheared cliff reported in the county in 2023.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

concrete, installing weep holes, and fixing the underside of the lower landing of a staircase. Now that the project has been approved by the city, it will go to the California Coastal Commission for final review. After these initial repairs, applicant, The Del Mar Beach Club Homeowners Association will be back to seek more repairs along

Surfrider Foundation's Kristin Brenner described the situation as an endless series of fixes to a seawall that was built in 1984, and which is likely to have its permit extended another 20 years. "We're talking about a permit that will have been in existence for 65 years by the time we reach the end of it. We're calling this 'repair and maintenance.' So when does this stop being maintenance and become replacement in kind?"

One of the coastal plans for the city mentions phasing out private staircases in favor

"One of the coastal plans for the city mentions phasing out private staircases in favor of public ones."

the entire wall, which Trettin said "may be an emergency."

As rain and rising sea levels hammer away at the coastline, seawalls are becoming increasingly controversial, because they prevent sand from reaching the beach, causing it to shrink continuously. Opponents of private armoring argue that the beach also belongs to the public.

The condos in question were built

of public ones, Brenner said. "And there is a public easement that runs right from the border all the way to the beach along the south side of that condo complex." She suggested that, as a condition of the permit, it become a "joint public-private staircase, where if you could just extend from that beach access to a shared landing point, they could still have their private gated beach access and we could also gain a public beach



PHOTOGRAPH BY STAMMAN

A coastal condo, if you can keep it.

prior to the 1976 Coastal Act. The lower bluff seawall was approved by the Coastal Commission in 1980, when few conditions applied other than maintenance — which was soon required. Only four years after initial construction, sand loss had undermined the wall, necessitating deeper foundation footings and backfill. After that, the mid-bluff was found to be in need. In 1989, a 40-foot long, 15-foot high mid-bluff retaining wall was built "to underpin the southwest corner condominium structure." Then in 2001, at the same site, the city and coastal commission approved the installation of five drilled piers ranging from 28-70 feet deep.

access for the city."

City officials said the staircase repairs amount to less than 50 percent of the structure, so it won't have to be rebuilt. And a public stairway 300 feet away from the project is actually in another city, Trettin acknowledged. "The access way down the side of that easement is in the city of Del Mar, so it would make it kind of difficult."

He pointed to the mitigation fees the applicant will pay — \$205,700 for public recreation and \$47,458 for sand mitigation — which he said could go for whatever public access or other projects the city wanted.

SHEILA PELL

UNDER THE RADAR

Non-Sunny scenario Could the *San Diego Union-Tribune* be in play — and headed back into local hands? That's the wishful thinking of those on both sides of the political aisle, brought on by last week's sale by Alden Global Capital of the *Baltimore Sun* to Sinclair Broadcasting's executive chairman **David D. Smith**. The hope is that the move might portend a wider divestment of Alden's sprawling newspaper holdings, which include the *U-T*, acquired in July of last year from Los Angeles billionaire

Patrick Soon-Shiong.

After Soon-Shiong took over the *LA Times* and *U-T* in a 2018 deal valued at \$600 million or so, the San Diego paper shifted leftward, cheering on the early retirement of GOP Sheriff **Bill Gore** and the takeover by Democrats of city hall and the county board of supervisors. But the long-troubled paper still failed to thrive.

Then last July, Soon-Shiong abruptly jettisoned the *U-T* to Alden for undisclosed terms, and a raft of staffers were cast off via ostensibly voluntary buy-outs. The paper has since settled into mushy, middle-of-the-road politics, while continuing to lose circulation, pages, and advertisers. With Alden's remote operating style portending an agonizingly slow death for the *U-T*, a Baltimore scenario, in which a rich local buys the town's daily from Alden, might seem like an improvement.

But San Diego Republican sugar daddies both wealthy and willing enough to front the expenses of a *U-T* turnover are in short supply, with ex-owners **Helen Copley** and son **David** in their graves, and aging "**Papa Doug**" **Manchester**, another ex-*U-T* proprietor, likely done with the business. On the left, billionaire Qualcomm co-founder **Irwin Jacobs**, once a local Democratic stalwart, shows few signs of political life beyond backing his granddaughter's low-energy House career. That could leave the *U-T*'s post-Alden bones to be picked over by so-called non-partisan

news operations, including San Diego State University's KPBS, the *Voice of San Diego*, and SDSU-based *iNewsSource*, which of late has been hiring ex-*U-T* staffers, including cartoonist **Steve Breen** and reporter **Greg Moran**.

But money for all kinds of San Diego media has been hard to come by. *iNewsSource*'s annual report for the 2023 fiscal year ending in June shows a plunge in "financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year," from \$1,270,207 in 2022 to

\$391,306 a year later. KPBS has yet to post its public accounting report for 2023, which usually appears online every December.

Meanwhile, *Union-Tribune* acting letters editor **Laura Castañeda**, who has been the paper's deputy editor of editorial & opinion since the Soon-Shiong days, used her X account on January 15 to bemoan the kind of reader feedback the paper has been getting of late. "Very little diversity, folks. Scares me. Where are the GenZ's, communities of color, students? Really? No one else has opinions on issues that matter to them in this community?"



Patrick Soon-Shiong, just one of many recent owners of the *U-T*.

Phone dropping A controversial prisoner phone and electronics contractor sued for "sharing privileged conversations," according to an account by the *Albany Times-Union*, gave \$10,000 on January 11 to the 2026 Lt. Governor campaign of San

Diego state Senate Democrat **Toni Atkins**. (Last week, Atkins switched to the race for governor, for which she can use all the campaign funds collected for her Lt. Governor bid.)

Carrollton, Texas-based Securus Technologies, "provides telephone services to thousands of inmates in New York's prison system — and also at more than a dozen county jails across the state," says the Nov 9, 2023 *Times-Union* dispatch. Securus, which "has a \$70 million contract with New York's Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to provide telephone and texting services to thousands of inmates in state prisons," per the

story, "has defended its monitoring practices and the telephone technology that state prison officials said is providing inmates and their families with some of the lowest caller rates in the country."

The company's software records phone conversations and uses artificial intelligence to monitor and transcribe them. Suspicious words and phrases within conversations are flagged by the technology,

further analyzed, and then forwarded to jail and prison administrators for review, according to law enforcement officials."

The story adds that Securus "settled a case in Kansas after 500 people were identified as having their privileged calls recorded in a private prison. The technology company and CoreCivic, the private operator of the prison, agreed to pay a \$3.7 million settlement in 2020, after paying \$1.6 million to

continued on page 4



Toni Atkins' donor conducted a different kind of listening session.

LETTERS

continued from page 1

the past. For the current controlled committee to distribute them may be “cooperation” but there are other ways to obtain the list through public records. And BTW the Lincoln Club is not a GOP organization and has endorsed Democrats in the past though not that often.

-Anonymous2024

Six-week prep school at Miramar for therapy dogs

Cover Story, January 10, 2024

It is wonderful how our animal companions can inspire us and lift our mood, especially if ill or depressed. Do we give

them enough attention or rescue from a shelter?

-Questioning adoption

San Diego stolen bikes fenced on Offer Up and Facebook

Neighborhood News, January 8, 2024

“When he came out of the store, he saw a fat man stealing his bike (bright orange colored with yellow and black flames) off his bike rack in broad daylight. He yelled and whistled, but no one did anything to stop the thief. My husband ran but could not catch up with the guy.”

Did you think a perfect stranger would have ran and tackled a random bicycle rider on your husband's pleas? Maybe he should have followed him with his

car instead of running? Not trying to be mean but...

-Just sayin'

San Diego Rodeo, Never Ending Fall

Your Week, January 7, 2024

Shame on Petco and the San Diego Padres and the Sheriff's Dept. for their support of the upcoming rodeo. Be aware that rodeos are condemned by nearly every animal welfare organization on Planet Earth due to its inherent cruelty. Rodeos were banned in the United Kingdom back in 1934, followed by Germany and the Netherlands. Can the U.S. be far behind? Rodeo is not a “sport” -- it's a mostly bogus, macho exercise in domination. It needs to end. Legislation

is in order: local, count, state, federal. Let you reps hear from you!

-City Folk

San Ysidro – forgotten corner of San Diego

From the Archives, November 13, 2023

San Ysidro's original name was Tia Juana. Not clear why they changed it.

-Meg Burns (of that ilk)

San Diego college student catches local sex predators

Cover Stories, Apr. 22, 2020

Throw all of these pedolesters in the Woodchipper feet first while set to SLOW mode, then feed 'em to the fish in the Pacific Ocean. And anyone sympathizing with child predators are a huge part of the problem and scummy as Fk too

-Fargo adjacent

Under the radar

continued from page 3

the same affected incarcerated individuals in 2019.” In addition, “Securus Technologies also promoted a product that tracked the locations of cell-phones at the beginning and end of calls made to prisons and jails, according to company documents from 2018. The geolocating of non-incarcerated people with the Location Based Services product faced scrutiny from prison reform advocates, who believe that the technology violated civil liberties. Securus Technologies stopped offering the product five years ago and ‘will never offer it again under any circumstance,’ the company said.”

A June 2020 account by *Vice.com* highlighted the company's move into the burgeoning field of immigration detention services during the Trump administration. “Docu-

ments obtained from federal agencies and through public records requests show that Securus has been operating in facilities where immigrants are held since at least 2008, and has provided telecom and surveillance services to no fewer than 13 facilities that hold ICE detainees in 11 states, most of which are county jails where immigrants make up a minority portion of the overall incarcerated population. As of January 2020, Securus had active contracts with at least nine county jails where immigrants were being held.”

In recent years, the Atkins donor has promoted the use of tablet computers by inmates. “The two biggest players in the industry, Securus and Viapath, have recently attempted to re-brand themselves as education providers, pointing to educational content on their devices,” recounts a September 28, 2023 *Slate.com* piece. “Securus, for example, said it has partnered with seven state corrections departments to offer classes through a dozen colleges. Since 2015, more than 1600 incarcerated students have earned degrees using Lantern, Securus' learning management system. The vast majority of users, however, say that they use tablets primarily for entertainment and communication. And even for those who have access to more comprehensive content, buggy apps, tech glitches, and unresponsive customer service often get in the way.”

— 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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Writing open their veins

Hard-boiled local

Brizzolara recalled an evening when, together with three other suspense writers, he was invited to Grounds for Murder, a San Diego mystery bookstore, to discuss his work. "There was some controversy about *Wirecutter*. Phyllis Brown, the store's owner, seemed concerned about the violence in the book. I took issue with her, suggesting if you open a bookstore which specializes in mysteries, you have to admit to at least a passing fascination with violence." – *Judith Moore* **AUG. 31, 1989**

The Smaller the Ball

When after Gwynn's sensational 1987 season he finished only eighth in the National League MVP voting, he succumbed to bitter thoughts. He began to think that in order to get the respect that any artist worth his salt craves, he would have to truckle to contemporary prejudices — he would have to start hitting home runs.... (But) during the winter of 1987-88, Gwynn decided to leave superb alone. He would settle for being the best Tony Gwynn in baseball. – *Linda Nevin* **APR. 26, 1990**

Buried Treasure: Four Local poets

As a poetry fellow at Stanford after World War II, Gerlach found his mentor in Yvor

Winters, the controversial critic and poet, who insisted good poetry possess a moral and rational dimension. At Stanford, Gerlach explains, he was "Winterized." After Stanford, Gerlach spent time with other notables like the Black Mountain poet Paul Blackburn, Allen Tate, John Crowe Ransom, and Cleanth Brooks from the Fugitive Group. Gerlach was awarded the prestigious Hopwood Prize for his poetry. – *David Zielinski* **OCT. 18, 1990**

Go to Julian, Open a Vein

Stoke up the fire. Try to read Hemingway. Letters to Pound, Maxwell Perkins, Archibald MacLeish, Fitzgerald. So much borrowing and lending of money to other writers, asking Perkins for advances. I won-

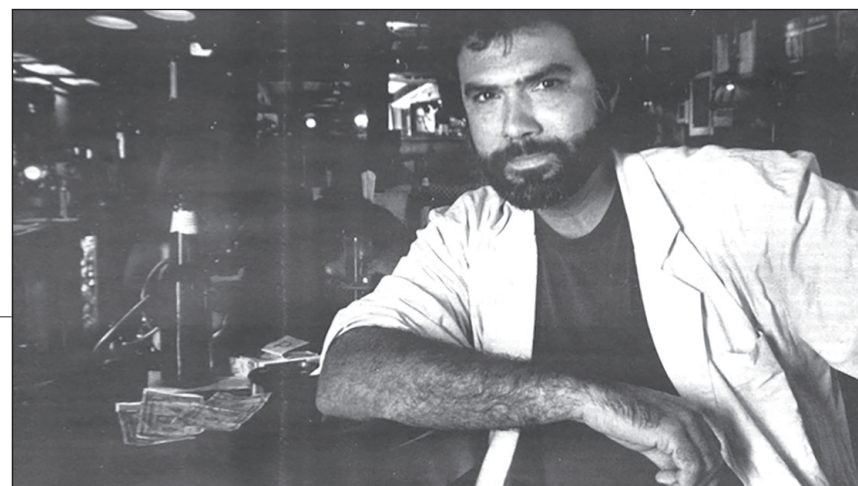


PHOTO CREDIT: PAUL STACHELER

Someone had told me, about Brizzolara, that he'd run through the money he got for *Wirecutter* and the subsequent books. They didn't tell me, however, about the Hodgkin's disease.

der why it is writers are broke half the time; maybe it has something to do with the fact that if a writer is doing his job well, the work seems effortless, and publishers are reluctant to pay for what appears to be so facilely done. – *John Brizzolara* **DEC. 6, 1990**

The Debris of What You Really Do

When I was in high school, the Summer of Love hit, and grudgingly I became a hippie,

tried to pull off laid-back when in my heart of hearts I yearned to be an intense truth-seeker with existential angst. I went to college, moved to San Francisco, and became a writer of experimental narrative. Other than occasionally bumping into Gregory Corso, Bob Kaufman, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and once Allen Ginsberg in North Beach coffeehouses, my beatnik dreams lay dormant. – *Dodie Bellamy* **NOV. 10, 1994**

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San Diego Reader

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Walter Mencken's

SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Stopping Self(ish)-Slaughter

Transit Authority authorizes new suicide prevention signage at County train stations in wake of deaths

Earlier this month, four people were killed on the county's coastal train tracks over a period of just five days. While motives and circumstances are not clear in every case, authorities have not been able to rule out the possibility of suicide. And

while stepping in front of a speeding train is a reliable way to end your life, those same authorities are quick to point out that such a decision is not without other consequences. Because while you will be permanently free of earthly cares following the collision, someone else will have to clean up the mess and file a report. And that's just for starters. As Transit spokeswoman Ina Rush put it in a recent statement, "As San Diego looks strives to fight climate change and protect the environment by moving toward a carbon-free future, it's important that we reduce our reliance on automobiles and increase the appeal of mass transit. The massive delays that hundreds of pas-

sengers must suffer when there is a fatality on the tracks have the exact opposite effect. So really, when you step out in front of that train to end it all, you're not just making life harder for the people on the train, you're making life harder for *everyone on the planet*. Do you see how incredibly selfish that is? Could you just, for once in your life, stop thinking about your petty personal problems and do something right for other people? For a change? God, you really are worthless. Why don't you just do us all



Your death is not all about you, you know.

a favor and...well, anyway, we're putting up signs to help remind people that life is worth living. Hopefully, that will help."



jEh, eso es racista.

Sickening

Outrage expressed over Mexican oyster order

Over the past week, dozens of people in San Diego and other parts of Southern California have been sickened with norovirus. Following an investigation, San Diego County health officials have responded by calling on consumers and restaurants to dispose of all oysters imported from Mexico until further notice. Not everyone is happy with the move. "Frankly, I'm shocked that the County would make such a statement," said City Equity Enforcement Officer Natasha Trigger-Warning. "Did we learn nothing from Trump's racist rhetoric when he called Covid-19 the

Wuhan flu and the China virus? I mean, that's where it was from, but still — racist, much? Was it any surprise that we saw an increase in attacks on Asian-Americans in the wake of his statements? And now, at a time when brave immigrants crossing our southern border are facing unprecedented levels of hostility, we have this place-based blame-placing, and a call to deal with the problem by just *getting rid of* all oysters from a certain country. To blame this norovirus outbreak on oysters is one thing, but singling out Mexican oysters smacks of the worst kind of racial profiling. We have to do better. Now if you'll excuse me, my stomach is a bit jumpy. Must be something I ate."

Unhappy New Year

2024 named as suspect in string of dumpster fires

Last week, the San Diego Metro Arson Strike Team was called to investigate more than 20 fires set in 10 separate locations — including numerous dumpsters — over a one-hour period in the middle of the night. At first, they were baffled. Then they looked at a newspaper. "I remember thinking, 'Oh yeah — it's an election year,'" says Team

Captain Mel Ancholy. "And it's already looking like a Trump-Biden redux. Should be awful. Plus, we're looking at further hikes to water and electricity rates, more homelessness, increased worldwide instability, and an absolute torrent of crappy sequels out of Hollywood. Oh, and the rise of Artificial Intelligence, which will probably mean the end

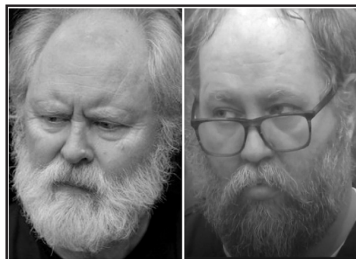


It's not subtle, but then, neither is much else these days.

of humanity. So yeah, when it came to dumpster fires, 2024 should have been our prime suspect from the get-go."



PERVS WITH POWER EDITION



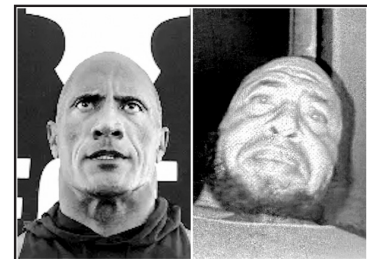
In *Bombshell*, **John Lithgow** played Roger Ailes, the Fox News chief who sexually harassed numerous young women under his authority.

Driving instructor **"Joseph" Banks** has been arrested for allegedly molesting and recording numerous young women in his car.



In *The Hunger Games*, **Stanley Tucci** plays Caesar Flickerman, a man who participates in the exploitation of children for the pleasure of others.

Former Sheriff's Deputy **Luis Rios** was recently sentenced after he attempted to solicit sex from a 15-year-old boy.



In *Pain & Gain*, **Dwayne Johnson** plays Paul Doyle, a man whose schemes backfire in darkly hilarious fashion.

This unidentified, muscular man was caught on camera attempting to watch SDSU students shower.

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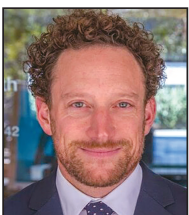
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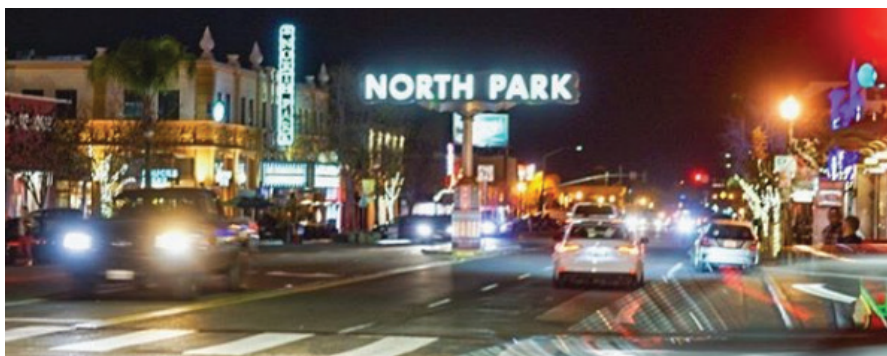
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A Little Different Every Day



Three years after Ashli was shot and killed, thousands of miles from her California home, widower Aaron Babbitt has filed a \$30 million lawsuit against the U.S. government.

The aftermath of Ashli Babbitt

“It’s never gonna get easier, losing her. It just gets a little different, every day.”

— Aaron Babbitt, widower of Ashli Babbitt

On January 6 of 2023, Ashli Babbitt’s mother Mickie Witthoeft was arrested in Washington, D.C. for jaywalking. The 58-year-old had been in the city since the previous August, publicly supporting the protestors who had been arrested on various charges following their participation in a political protest exactly two years earlier. That protest has since been labeled an insurrection — an attempt to interrupt the workings of American democracy by interfering with the certification of the 2020 Presidential election results. Ms. Witthoeft told interviewers that she was there on behalf of the prisoners “who are wasting away in jail,” and also to memorialize the death of another one of the protestors: her daughter.

On January 6 of 2021, 35-year-old Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt was shot while inside the U.S. Capitol building as she attempted to climb through a sidelight frame at the east entrance to the Speaker’s Lobby. She died shortly after being shot. Her husband Aaron, at home in Ocean Beach, learned of the shooting “through the news, through live television.” On January 5 of 2024, the conservative nonprofit Judicial Watch filed a \$30 million lawsuit against the U.S. Government on behalf of Ashli’s estate and her widower Aaron, claiming assault, negligence, and wrongful death.

According to the lawsuit, Ashli Babbitt “did not go to Washington as part of a group or for any unlawful or nefarious purpose. Ashli loved her country and wanted to show her support for President Trump’s America First policies.” According to Aaron Babbitt in a television interview with FOX5, “I asked her not to go, but she wanted to see President Trump speak. She had never seen him speak live. She knew this was the last time she was gonna get a chance to. So.”

On January 6, Ashli attended the Save America rally just south of the White House to hear Trump speak. He told the crowd, “All of us here today do not want to see our election victory stolen by emboldened radical-left Democrats, which is what they’re doing... We will never give up, we will never concede. You don’t concede when there’s theft involved... We will stop the steal.” Later in the speech, he said, “Now it is up to Congress to confront this egregious assault on our democracy... We’re going to walk down to the Capitol... We have come to demand that Congress do the right thing and



Ashli Babbitt with her mom and dad and younger brothers.

only count the electors who have been lawfully slated... I know that everyone here will soon be marching over to the Capitol building to peacefully and patriotically make your voices heard.”

After Trump finished speaking a little after 1 pm, Ashli joined the crowd marching down to the Capitol, about a mile and a half away. She can be seen in numerous videos, draping a red, white, and blue TRUMP flag like a cape over her diminutive frame as she walks. According to the

lawsuit, “two undercover Metropolitan Police Department officers followed close behind Ashli as she climbed the stairs to the West Terrace.” She entered the Capitol on the Senate side of the building, encountering no resistance as she did so. Once inside, “Ashli encountered a female Capitol Police officer, who directed her to walk south toward the House side. Ashli complied.” At one point, she can be seen on video walking between velvet ropes along with other protestors — though their slow



The first attorney involved in the case, Terrell Roberts III.

movements and calm demeanor makes them look more like bored tourists.

That changed when she reached the set of doors marked Speaker’s Lobby. There were three uniformed Capitol policemen standing in front of the doors. According to independent journalist Tayler Hansen, Ashli joked with the officers. But then a crowd formed in the hallway behind her. As the crowd became unruly and began to push

toward the doors, the officers stepped aside and stood with their backs to the adjoining wall. Several people began beating on the doors and sidelights; the lawsuit names two of them as Chad Jones and Zachary Alam. Allegedly, Jones removed the glass from the right sidelight and placed it on the floor. Seemingly distressed by the escalating scene, Ashli can be heard on video yelling to an officer, “Call fucking help!”

According to the lawsuit, three minutes before Ashli got shot, there was a police radio call: “522. The crowd at the House main door is heading around to the glass doors on the rear now of the chambers. You need all units to go there and hold the glass.” Video from that day shows a Containment and Emergency Response Team hurrying up a staircase toward the scene.

But they did not arrive before the three officers stepped aside and allowed the crowd to reach the doors. The team’s leader later told investigators, “I was thinking, ‘Why, why the fuck did they leave?’”

Tayler Hansen had been covering Antifa riots in Portland for the past year, and had decided to go to Washington on January 6, because he thought he would see more Antifa riots there. Instead, he found himself taking video of the chaos building in front of the Speaker’s Lobby doors. He says that Ashli was trying to calm the people beating on the doors, and even to prevent them from doing so. He says that his video shows Ashli taking hold of a man’s backpack with her right hand to pull him back from the doors, then punching the man with her left hand, knocking his glasses off his face.

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After seeing the video, Aaron Babbitt said, "I see a punch. A lot of people see a punch. I've gotten a lot of blowback, people saying, 'There's no way.' But I know my wife's a lefty. She's a southpaw, and you can see his glasses pop off his face. So I see what everybody else sees." In a 2022 interview with KUSI, Hansen said that he tried for more than a year to get the January 6 investigation committee to look at the video, but "it seems like they just don't want to see it."

But whatever else she did or did not do, at 2:44 pm, Ashli Babbitt definitely started to climb through the open side-light into the Speaker's Lobby. And as Hansen puts it, that's when a man on the other side of the doors suddenly appeared and fired a shot at her. Three minutes after the shooting, at 2:47 p.m. the following radio call was recorded; the speaker is an unknown male: "Don't know if this went out over the radio. We've got one civilian down with a GSW to the chest. They're on the east side of the House lobby area. If we can have responding medical units respond from the west

side of the House lobby we need it ASAP"

According to the lawsuit, "The bullet pierced Ashli in her left anterior shoulder, perforated her left brachial plexus, trachea, upper lobe of the right lung and second anterior rib, and landed in her right anterior shoulder. Ashli fell backwards and landed flat on her back on the marble floor. Video recordings show her alive and conscious, writhing uncontrollably immediately after the shooting." They also captured someone shouting, "You just murdered her!" But the autopsy report noted blood in her lungs, which indicated that she was alive and breathing after being shot, and concluded that she remained alive for at least several minutes. She was declared dead at Washington Hospital Center at 3:15 pm. The lawsuit states that the medical examiner determined that the manner of death was homicide.

Ashli Babbitt was born in Lakeside in 1985; she became the eldest of five children. She joined the Air Force in 2004, and made tours in Afghan-



Ashli Babbitt served in the military for 12 years, and did tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. "She was an All-American girl," said her widower Aaron.

istan and Iraq. According to the lawsuit, she was a military police officer who guarded high-value military assets and dignitaries in the Middle East. One of Aaron's favorite photos of her shows her standing beside a four-star general he identifies as the CENT COM commander for Iraq at the

time. "It was a pretty big deal," he said. She became a reservist in 2008, and began serving in the Air National Guard in 2010. She was honorably discharged in 2016, with at least five medals, according to published reports.

In 2018, Ashli moved back to San Diego with Aaron. The two got married and bought a pool service business based in Spring Valley, but they lived in Ocean Beach. "She loved waking up every day and tackling the day," recalled Aaron. "She just loved a chal-

lenge. Loved our life at the beach. Loved our dogs." She self-identified as a libertarian, and voted at least once for Barack Obama. "She was an All-American girl," said Aaron. "She loved serving her country. She loved moving back to California. She loved sports. She was my best friend, you know, and every day that goes by, there's not a day

that goes by that I don't miss her." (There are, of course, other things to know about Ashli Babbitt: the judicial orders forbidding her contact with Aaron's former girlfriend, the interest in conspiracy-minded groups like QAnon, the famous January 5 tweet proclaiming, "Nothing can stop us... the storm is here and it is descending upon DC in less than 24 hours." They are mentioned here lest this account be seen as ignoring them.)

Three months after the shooting, on April 14, 2021, the U.S. Justice Department declared that they had investigated and found "no evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that the officer" who shot Ashli "willfully committed a violation." The announcement stated that Ashli was part of a "mob" that forced the three officers in front of the doors

to "evacuate." The DOJ declared they would not pursue any charges against the officer who shot Ashli. About this time, then-Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy was seen on-camera answering a reporter's question: "Do you think Ashli Babbitt was murdered, or do you think the police officer who shot her was doing his job?" McCarthy replied, "I think the police officer did his job." The DOJ did not name the officer.

Ashli's family, including her mother Micki Witthoeft and widower Aaron Babbitt, made public declarations of their disappointment, and said they would pursue legal action. Two weeks later, Ashli's family retained Maryland lawyer Terrell Roberts. On April 29, attorney Roberts gave an interview to CNBC in which he said, "This is a clear case of excessive force," and said the family would seek \$10 million in damages from the U.S. Capitol Police and the unnamed officer who fatally shot Ashli. He also filed a FOIA request regarding the officer's identity. When this failed to produce results, Roberts filed a lawsuit asking Washington D.C. police to disclose details and files regarding the officer who had shot Ashli.

Then, in August, just days after the U.S. Capitol Police's Office of Professional Responsibility issued a public statement declaring the officer's actions "consistent with the officer's training," the officer publicly revealed himself in an interview with NBC host Lester Holt. His name was Michael Leroy Byrd. He was a 53-year-old Lieutenant who had worked for the U.S. House of Representatives since 1998. He was also the U.S. Capitol Po-

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lice incident commander for the House on January 6. He told Holt, “I believe I showed the utmost courage on January 6.”

The wrongful death lawsuit filed by Judicial Watch this month contains numerous quotations from Byrd’s interview with Holt, and takes issue with many of them. It notes that Byrd said he first heard the announcement that the Capitol had been breached at 2:12 p.m., and that “my rules of engagement never changed.” It notes that he said there were reports of “shots fired” and that he therefore took “a defensive stand and posture to protect myself.” It notes that he assessed that all persons inside the Capitol were an “imminent danger” to House members. It notes he described himself as “the last line of defense,” and said he was thinking, “If they get through that door, they’re into the House chamber and upon the members of Congress...

I know that day I saved countless lives.” It notes that he claimed that there were 60 to 80 people in the House chamber (and that was just “members and their staff”), and



Aaron was proud of his wife. In one interview, he described a favorite photo of Ashli, in which she was standing next to a four star-general, Aaron said that man was the CENT COM commander for Iraq at that time, “It was a pretty big deal.”

that there were disabled persons with him in the lobby at the time of the shooting. And it notes that he claimed he was “trapped,” with no other way “to get out”

The lawsuit, on the other hand, claims that the doors on the west end of the chamber were still open and had been used to evacuate House members; that no members, disabled or otherwise, were in the lobby; that only six members were present in the chamber, and that those members were guarded by other armed officers. It argues that Ashli “posed no threat to the safety of anyone,” that the report of shots fired was false and immediately corrected by

the original source — it was actually the sound of breaking glass.

The lawsuit notes Byrd’s alleged radio call within one minute after shooting Ashli, at 2:45 pm: “405B. We got shots fired in the lobby. We got shots fired in the lobby of the House chamber. Shots are being fired at us and we’re sh, uhh, prepared to fire back at them. We have guns drawn. Please don’t leave that end. Don’t leave that end.” And then, approximately 35 seconds later, Byrd made another radio call: “405B. We got an injured person. I believe that person was shot.” It also notes that Byrd granted that he shot Ashli before he saw

her hands or assessed her intentions. He said he did give a warning, but he was wearing a facemask, and granted that “it is possible” that the people on the other side of the door did not hear him. It notes that he was not in uniform, and did not identify himself as a police officer.

The lawsuit argues that “The United States is liable for its employees’ acts or omissions,” and that “a police officer’s lack of due care can give rise to negligence liability.” It specifically alleges that Byrd’s training in shoot-don’t-shoot decisions was plainly deficient, and that he did not act as a reasonably prudent police officer, but used excessive force. The

lawsuit claims that Byrd unholstered his weapon while he was still in a different room, and that he repeatedly tapped his finger on the pistol’s trigger for at least 14 seconds before he could even see Ashli. It claims that Byrd pointed his pistol in the direction of multiple persons, including uniformed police officers who were standing very near Ashli in the crowded area near the door. Then it goes on to argue that “in fact, Lt. Byrd had a reputation among peers for not being a good shot.”

It asserts that Byrd failed to meet or complete semiannual firearms qualifications, and had his police powers revoked

on more than one occasion. In one incident, Byrd fired his weapon at juveniles who were driving off in his own car, which had been stolen; Byrd’s stray bullets hit nearby homes in the suburban area. That investigation found that Byrd’s use of force was not justified. (Further, Byrd had another, prior use-of-force matter that he appealed, and the Disciplinary Review Board found him “not guilty.”) The lawsuit alleges there are even more incidents in Byrd’s history — Judicial Watch hopes to learn more through discovery — which means the U.S. Capitol Police should have known that Byrd “would behave in a

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dangerous and/or incompetent manner.”

The suit goes on to argue that the government was negligent in retaining such an employee, noting that less than two years before Ashli was killed, on February 25, 2019, officer Byrd left his loaded Glock 22, the exact same pistol he used to kill Ashli, in a bathroom of the Capitol Visitor’s Center. Someone else found his pistol “during a routine security sweep later the same day.” (In his interview with Holt, Byrd called this “a terrible mistake.”) It concludes that the negligent supervision, discipline and retention of Byrd resulted in the predictable, foreseeable, and avoidable shooting of Ashli Babbitt.

After Byrd’s interview with Holt, Aaron Babbitt and attorney Ter-

rell Roberts appeared on Tucker Carlson’s FOX television show. Aaron said that he was “pissed off” when he heard Byrd claim that he was a victim — wiping a tear from his eye and saying that he had received death threats. “I been getting

death threats since January 7,” Aaron said. “Two, three, five, ten a day. You know, and all I did was become a widower.” He also announced the creation of a GiveSendGo page to fund the family’s legal action, saying, “We need all the help we can

get. It is the Goliath, you know, the David versus Goliath fight we got going on here.” He asked sup-

porters to visit the family’s TwitterX page to keep up with developments, “because we are gonna have the weight of the U.S. government coming down, raining down on us.”

It was later reported that the GiveSendGo page Justice For Ashli Babbitt Legal Fund had collected \$462,735. But in April of 2022, Terrell Roberts declared that he had withdrawn from the lawsuit. He also said that he intended to return the crowd-funded money. In May of 2022, California attorneys Rachel King and Dylan Gunzel filed papers in San Diego Superior Court to preserve the Ashli Babbitt family lawsuits and try to gain con-

trol of the GiveSendGo funds. The 2022 paperwork referred to the previous Complaint for assault and battery, negligence, and wrongful death, and stated that after Ashli’s death, widower Aaron was already given authorization by a local San Diego judge to administer Ashli’s estate. Most recently, the crowd-funded money has been described as “in limbo,” and still held by Roberts’ law firm.

Judicial Watch’s announcement of the lawsuit notes that it is “extensively investigating the events of January 6.” Michael Byrd is still with the Capitol Police. He was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain in August of 2023.

— Eva Knott

5 25. Under District of Columbia law, it is well-established that a police
6 officer’s lack of due care can give rise to negligence liability for the intentional
7 shooting death of a subject. *District of Columbia v. Chinn*, 839 A.2d 701 (D.C.
8 2003); *District of Columbia v. White*, 442 A.2d 159 (D.C. 1982); *Moore v. District of*
9 *Columbia*, 79 F. Supp. 3d 121 (D.D.C. 2015).

24 were, uh, directly in the lobby with me at the time of the incident,” he said. A
25 reasonably prudent officer in Lt. Byrd’s position would have been aware that, in fact,
26 no members, disabled or otherwise, were present in the lobby at the time of the
27 shooting.

23 Capitol Police. The bullet pierced Ashli in her left anterior shoulder, perforated her
24 left brachial plexus, trachea, upper lobe of the right lung and second anterior rib, and
25 landed in her right anterior shoulder. Ashli fell backwards and landed flat on her
26 back on the marble floor. Video recordings show her alive and conscious, writhing

Clippings from January’s lawsuit.



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Calendar

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POOLSIDE

Thursday | 25

POOLSIDE

Los Angeles chillwave group Poolside originally formed as a duo circa 2010, specializing in what they call “daytime disco.” After earning attention for their debut single “Do You Believe,” the duo has scored with tracks such as “Slow Down” and a popular remix of Neil Young’s “Harvest Moon.” They’re touring in support of their fifth album *Blame It All On Love*, released last October.

WHEN: Thursday, January 25, 7:30 pm

WHERE: The Sound, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. thesoundsd.com.

Friday | 26

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drive the narrative. Throughout, Van Gogh’s art appears and disappears, flowing across multiple surfaces.

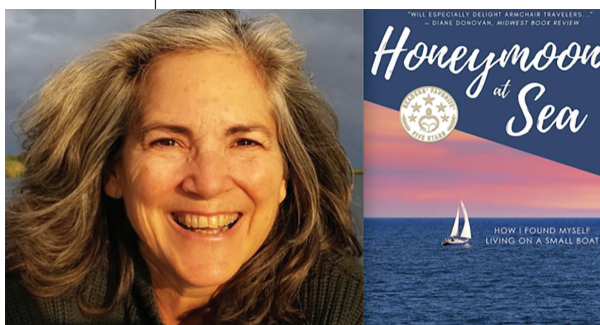
WHEN: Friday, January 26 through Sunday, March 31, 10 am to 8 pm

WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. beyondvangogh.com/san-diego

Saturday | 27

HONEYMOON AT SEA WITH JENNIFER SILVA REDMOND

Join local author Jennifer Silva Redmond as she discusses her new memoir, *Honeymoon at Sea: How I Found Myself Living on a Small Boat* at a book launch event hosted by La Playa Books. The book details the author’s first voyage from San Diego to Baja’s Sea of Cortez as part of a year-long honeymoon with her new husband Russel. At the time



she knew very little about sailing. Eventually, the couple traversed the Panama Canal and sailed to Florida before returning to Baja. They have

continued to sail and live aboard sailboats for over 34 years.

WHEN: Saturday, January 27, 2 pm to 4 pm

WHERE: The Wine Pub, 2907 Shelter Island Drive #108, Point Loma. thewinepubsd.com

CIRCUS VARGAS

At this two-hour family friendly show, you will see contortionists, aerialists, the “globe of death,” flying trapeze artists, jugglers, the “wheel of death,” comedians, teeterboard tricks, hoop artists, foot juggling,



and aerial acrobats, all led by a ringmaster. Food and drinks available.

WHEN: Through February 12

WHERE: North County Mall, 272 E Via Rancho Pkwy, Escondido. circusvargas.com

Sunday | 28

SAN DIEGO CAT SHOW

Check out the largest cat show in the Western United States! With more than 350 kittens and cats of 43 different breeds in competition — at an event featuring an agility course, on-site

adoptions and more — the San Diego Cat Show is the Super Bowl of cat competitions! The judges judge all the cats over the two days, but in different order.

Kittens will be some rings, while adults or Household Pets will occupy other rings. Tickets on sale at the door or pre-pay for tickets online.

WHEN: Saturday & Sunday, January 27 & 28, 10 am to 5 pm & 9 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall. sandiegocat.org



SATURDAY, JANUARY 27: CIRCUS VARGAS

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

ART

Wood: A Furniture Show XIV
Wood workers from the California region submitted contemporary furniture, art furniture, traditional furniture, veneering, wood carving, marquetry furniture, wood sculpture and wood turning into the exhibition. A special exhibition featuring wood works by the late First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Saturdays, 4pm; through Friday, February 23, **free**. Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

AUTOMOTIVE

Motorcycles in the Park Sponsored by Café Moto and the San Diego Antique Motorcycle Club with coffee, prizes, discount museum entry. Bring your motorcycle, prizes considered for motorcycles 35 years and older. Sunday, January 28, 7:30am; **free**. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

BEER

San Diego Nerd Nite Returns
Nerd Nite is an informal gathering where nerds get together for fun science presentations while drinking and mingling. Doors open at 6 pm! The show starts promptly at 7 pm. 21+ only. Cash at the bar only, ATM available. Please arrive early to grab seats, drinks, and food in nearby restaurants. Outside food is permitted. Parking: Street parking may be limited and we strongly encourage you to use ride-share to be safe. Thursday, January 25, 7pm; \$10. 21 and up. Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Distinguished Author Series: Muppets in Moscow Author Natasha Lance Rogoff as details her real-life experiences on the set of *Sesame Street* in Russia, where she and a team of artists attempted to bring the Muppets to children across the former Soviet Empire. Thursday, January 25, 7pm; \$20-\$25. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Jennifer Silva Redmond: Honey-moon at Sea Join local author Jennifer Silva Redmond as she discusses her new memoir, *Honey-*

OUTDOORS

Callery pear blooms early, full moon, California brown pelican

Ornamental Pear Trees, one of the earliest-to-bloom trees in San Diego, are about to bear their white flowers. The thousands of blossoms appear in sheets and clusters, looking rather like snow when viewed from a distance. Nice specimens can be seen along Lake Murray Boulevard, along Clairemont Mesa Boulevard between Highway 163 and Interstate 15, and in parts of downtown San Diego.

The California Brown Pelican displays its most colorful plum-



A BROWN PELICAN TAKES FLIGHT.

CREDIT: PAMELA MARIE



CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/MATTHEW FIELD

THE CALLERY PEAR (*PYRUS CALLERYANA*) IS NATIVE TO CHINA AND VIETNAM AND IS INCREASINGLY BEING CONSIDERED AN INVASIVE SPECIES IN SAN DIEGO.

age on its head and neck from late December through February in anticipation of the March-April breeding season. Brown pelicans typically stay in flocks, and can often be seen flying in “V” formation along the coast. The brown pelican can spot a fish from a height of 70 feet and dives headfirst into the water to grab its prey. No other known pelican uses this technique to catch fish.

The Full Moon rises regally from the east horizon at around 5:19 pm on Thursday, January 25, just five minutes after the sunset. The moon will remain in the sky for nearly 14 hours thereafter, finally setting near the time of sunrise. Some folk names for the January full moon include “chaste moon,” “cold moon,” “quiet moon,” “snow moon,” and “wolf moon.”

moon at Sea: How I Found Myself Living on a Small Boat at a book launch event hosted by La Playa Books. Saturday, January 27, 2pm; **free**. Wine Pub, 2907 Shelter Island Drive #108. (POINT LOMA)

Weekends with Locals: Fatima Pimienta Weekends with Locals will be hosting Fatima Pimienta, author of *Little Curiosity/Curiosita*. Sunday, January 28, 1pm; **free**. Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

January Green Living Tour Eco Team docents walk you through our worm bins, grey water systems, innovative compost projects, tool lending library, water-wise garden, and more. Please pre-register @ solanacenter.org/events/. Saturday, January 27, 10am; \$5. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation, 137 North El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Theater Jazz Workshop Dive deeper into your jazz technique training and learn jazz choreography that will challenge your jazz technique, choreography pick up skills, performance abilities. Monday, January 29, 7pm; \$25-\$35. 18 and up. Carlsbad Performing Arts Academy, 6106 Avenida Encinas, Suite F. (CARLSBAD)

COMEDY

Ben Schwartz Ben can be seen starring in the recent Universal Pictures’ horror comedy *RENFIELD*, released in April of this year. You can also catch him starring opposite Kevin Hart and John Cena in *DIE HART 2: DIE HARTER*, the second season of Roku’s hit action comedy. Thursday, January 25, 7:30pm; \$31-\$145. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Telenovela Improv Join improv team, LIRRER for an hour of over-the-top dramatic passion paired with laughs. Performed en ingles (in English) Friday, January 26, 8:30pm; \$7-\$15. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

DANCE

Bastien und Bastienne: A Chamber Ballopera A faithless shepherd, a lovelorn shepherdess, and a charlatan magician meet in a pastoral tale of jealousy, romance, and magic - enjoy Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s first opera, paired with an original ballet of the same story. Saturday, January 27, 7pm; Sunday, January 28, 2pm; \$25-\$30. Light Box Theater, 2590 Truxtun Rd., Studio 205, Building 176. (LIBERTY STATION)

FOOD & DRINK

99¢ Taco Day Celebrate National Fish Taco Day with Baja-inspired, Original Fish Tacos for 99¢ (limit four per order, one offer per person.) Thursday, January 25, 10am; Rubio’s, 3555 Rosecrans Street #101B. (POINT LOMA)

FOR KIDS

Circus Vargas Something amazing is in the works! Another epic adventure under the big top for 2024! More laughs, more thrills, and more priceless memories at Circus Vargas! Get your tickets NOW! Friday, January 26, 7:30pm; Saturday, January 27, 1pm, 4pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, January 28, 12:30pm, 4:30pm and 7pm; Monday, January 29, 6:30pm; Wednesday, January 31, 7pm; North County Mall, 272 E. Via Rancho Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

LECTURES

Rediscovering the Lost Nathan Harrison Shotgun Lunch and Learn: The History Center has hosted the exhibition Nathan Harrison: Born Enslaved, Died a San Diego Legend. Ticket price includes lunch. Tuesday, January 30, 11:30am; \$25-\$30. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, Suite 3. (BALBOA PARK)

NATURE

Birding Basics Class Increase your enjoyment of Nature by learning 5 simple techniques to identify birds at a glance. You will also learn how to use a field guide, so bring one along if you have it. Classes meet at the Visitor Center in Classroom A. The class is free and open to the public. However, seating is limited to the first ten people. Saturday, January 27, 1pm; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history,



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and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, January 27, 9:30am, Sunday, January 28, 9:30am, Wednesday, January 31, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk. Walks are free and open to the public, with no camping or reservations required. Learn about the lush riparian habitat of the Kumeyaay Lake shoreline, home to many birds, animals, and unique plants. Walks start from the Kumeyaay Lake Campground Entry Station. Saturday, January 27, 8:30am; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Oceans at Night Birch Aquarium is launching Oceans at Night, an event that invites a 21+ audience to experience an immersive blend of art, science and technology after hours. Each event is designed to connect guests with the aquarium's current exhibits and the scientists who study these ocean phenomena. Thursday, January 25, 6:30pm; 21 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Santee Discovery Day Interact with nature-themed booths and take in the scenery as the San Diego River spans the entire length of the trail. Attendees are encouraged to either park along Magnolia Avenue or Chubb Lane and walk to the west end of Walker Preserve to access the event. Saturday, January

27, 10am; **free**. Walker Preserve Trail, 9500 North Magnolia Avenue. (SANTEE)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling Dragon Tales Leap into Year of the Dragon with ancient Chinese tales contemporized by membes of Storytellers of San Diego, Jim Dieckmann, Aunt Li-Anne, and Mindy Donner. In Chinese dragon lore, the dragon symbolizes wisdom and growth through rain. Saturday, January 27, 2pm; **free**-\$8. San Diego Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Monster Jam Enjoy world champion athletes and their 12,000-pound monster trucks as they tear up the dirt in wide-open competitions of speed and skill. Saturday, January 27, 7pm; Sunday, January 28, 3pm; \$25-\$154. Snapdragon Stadium, 2101 Stadium Way. (MISSION VALLEY)

San Diego Sockers The 16-time champion San Diego Sockers will host a rival at Pechanga Arena. Saturday, January 27, 7:05pm; 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.

All Bark, No Bite

Charlotte and Eugene live a quiet, non-nonsense lifestyle surrounded by sudoku and argyle. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Bastien und Bastienne: A Chamber Ballopera

A faithless shepherd, a loveorn shepherdess, and a charlatan magician meet in a pastoral tale of jealousy, romance, and magic - enjoy Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's first opera, paired with an original ballet of the same story. LIGHT BOX THEATER, 2590 TRUXTUN RD., STUDIO 205, BUILDING 176, LIBERTY STATION. 619-225-1803. 7PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

English

Winner of the 2023 Pulitzer Prize, the Obie Award, and the Lucille Lortel Award. In a classroom near Tehran, four adult students prepare for an English proficiency exam. They each have a reason for being there: a chance at opportunity, access, or a new calling. But as they bond over this new way to express themselves, they also grapple with the lives they must leave behind. OLD GLOBE - SHERYL & HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Fun Home

Storytelling takes center stage to explore the importance of queer narratives, gender identity, and self-discovery. *Fun Home* follows a woman, Alison, as she delves into her past and seeks to come to terms with the life and legacy of her father (who is exactly the same as her and still so different). This Tony-award-winning musical invites us as the audience to come to a fuller understanding of the journey of coming out and stepping into yourself. In a harmonious blend of humor and poignancy, FUN HOME serves as a testament to the power of diverse voices and the universal quest for authenticity. Join us for a theatrical experience that celebrates the richness of queer stories and resonates with the profound significance of embracing one's true self. Music by Jeanine Tesori, book and lyrics by Lisa Kron. Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel, directed by Kym Pappas. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Intimate Apparel

What's the harm in dreaming? Funny you should ask. Playwright Lynn Nottage's story, written after she discovered a photo of her own great-grandmother and started wondering about the person in the picture, gives us a woman who has had a bellyful of reality, to the point where just being able to



American Fiction: What's a Black man to do?

support herself as a seamstress feels like a miracle. Even so, she has managed to keep a grander dream alive: to someday save enough to open a beauty parlor for her fellow black women in turn-of-the-century New York, a place where they can have some comfort in this life. But hearts are hungry things, with a hearty appetite for any number of fond fantasies, even late-in-life love. And when the letters start to pour in from a lonely canal-digger in Panama, well, hope is a powerful drug. (Plus, he writes like a gentleman.) But while there is an air of culmination to their eventual meeting, it is by no means a conclusion, and reality has a way of setting in. It's a tough tale, carefully engineered to break nearly every heart on display, some more than once. Still, as director Jasmine Bracey notes, it's not a tragedy — a broken heart is not the same as a broken person. And now we come to the inevitable clothing metaphor, one that touches on the fact that of course, a play is itself a fantasy, blunt reality gussied up the way lingerie fancifies a prostitute. Nottage's expertly rendered dialogue serves as the shapely corset that lets the actors cut the required figure, but it's still up to them to perform, and that's the real wonder here. Lead Nedra Snipes, in particular, manages the daunting task of playing someone simple but deep, terrified but determined, and perhaps most daunting of all, human but good. It is a grace to watch her.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS.

The Jewish Dog

Filtering the darkest period of modern Jewish history, *The Jewish Dog* offers a view of the Holocaust through the eyes of a canine fascinated by human affairs. Directed by Yonatan Esterkin, based on the novel by Asher Kravitz, and featuring Roy Abramsohn as the beloved dog, this performance explores loyalty, identity, and the fine line that separates humanity from animals. DAVID AND DOROTHEA GARFIELD THEATRE, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 858-362-1348. 7PM SATURDAY.

Outside Mullingar

Pulitzer Prize winner John Patrick Shanley's rustic comedy about Anthony and Rosemary, loveorn farmers in rural Ireland. LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

MOVIES

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, Ryan Brothers, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unrereviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

American Fiction — Director Cord Jefferson's adaptation of writer Percival Everett's novel *Erasure* is not so much a comedy as it is an elaborate joke on the viewer. The marketing, which must be considered here, makes the film look like a savage satire of the publishing industry: the story of a frustrated upper-middle-class Black writer who cranks out a pseudonymous thug life novel as a gag, only to see the industry ignore the joke and embrace it in earnest. Oh ho ho! The poor boobies can't even bring themselves to object when he insists on titling it *Fuck* — and who could blame them? Do you want to be the white person who tells the Black person that he's not allowed to keep it real? How delicious. But in truth, all that is a subplot, and a carelessly handled one at that; the real story is something much more conventional, much more delicate, and much more emotionally engaging: a mid-life crisis movie about a man dealing with the potent legacy of his dead father, the sad reality of his fading mother, and the affecting complexity of his sibling relationships. All set about as far from the hood as you could imagine — the love interest lives just across from his family's beach house. It's a sign of star Jeffrey Wright's presence and talent that he's able to keep the viewer from noticing the bait-and-switch until the ending, which is likely to feel like a bad Player rip-off to fans of the satire, an emotional middle-finger to fans of the family drama, and maybe, just maybe, a clever tell to those in on the joke. *What did you come here looking for, people?* (2023) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Freud's Last Session — A note at the end informs us that near the end of his life — and near the onset of World War II — pioneering psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud was visited by a young Oxford don in his London home. Well, home away from home: he still pines for his beloved Austria, but it's not so good there for Jews at the moment — even, perhaps especially, famous Jews, and especially especially Jews who are famous for rejecting religion and

other traditional bases for morality. But back to the matter at hand: what Matthew Brown's adaptation of Mark St. Germain's play (which is based on Armand Nicholi's book *The Question of God*) supposes is that the young don was none other than C.S. Lewis, a fairly recent convert to Christianity who lampooned Freud in his update on John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Narnia is still a long way off, but the book's allegorical character hints at Lewis' sympathy toward myth, which puts him on common ground with Freud, while its Christian perspective sets him in testy opposition to the cancer-ridden, morphine-sipping, emotionally tyrannical atheist. And yet, despite his frailty and failings, Freud largely gets the better of their various sparring matches, mostly because he seems like more of a person, and has stories to go along with his ideas. (His embittered "Great plan, God," after recounting the death of his wife and child elicits only silence from Lewis, which seems right.) Brown does what he can to keep things from feeling like a filmed play, but he can't do much, and what he does do — flashbacks, dream sequences, a war scene, and a trip to an air raid shelter — isn't always helpful. Anthony Hopkins enjoys himself as the old man, while Matthew Goode seems a bit tentative for a zealot convert. (2024) — 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 handful 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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Boy-o and The Professor: Dave Good (l) Robert Cowan (r)

Humble hero on the harp

“Robert had an unusual habit like no other,” says saxophonist Dave Good of Robert Cowan, a bandmate in every band Good formed after their 2015 jam session at Java Joe’s, including the Bossa Nova Project. “With his non-harmonica hand, he would reach out to other musicians on any given bandstand and make a gesture as if he were inviting them to come closer. What he was actually doing was trying to bring them into whatever musical web he was spinning with his own solo and get them to trade lines with him. He always said that music is a conversation.”

Cowan passed away in early January following a late-December heart attack. The accomplished harmonica player played with everyone from Strawberry Alarm Clock and Trombone Shorty to Taj Mahal and Antonio Carlos Jobim, as well as running rhythm-and-blues jams at area venues such as the Kraken. He founded an acoustic swing, blues, rock, and R&B band called Little Monsters and recruited guitarists Phil Diiorio (Honey Lickers) and John January (Frank the Baptist), sax player Chuck Arcilla, bassist Jodie Hill (Sluka), and drummer Ric Lee (Bayou Brothers, Uptown Rhythm Makers), along with vocalists Annette Magee and Kekey Buche. The band released its debut EP in 2011, recorded at Studio 350 and engineered by William Driscoll.

Before learning to play harp,

Cowan was immersed in the music world via his work as set designer for the Grateful Dead and Aerosmith (in addition to working in film and for plays at the Old Globe Theater). Little Feat guitarist Paul Barrere gave Cowan a harmonica and insisted, despite Cowan’s protests, that the budding theatrical aspirant could and should play it.

Cowan’s artistic worlds continued to meld and morph while he was designing a home for Bluesbreakers founder John Mayall in 1979. As reported locally in the *San Diego Troubadour*, Mayall gave Cowan valuable advice regarding readiness and equipment. Recording sessions and live performances with a host of eclectic artists seemed to happen spontaneously, as Cowan sat in or recorded with numerous renowned musicians.

“Robert Cowan — and I say this with all kindness — had a habit of name-dropping,” says Good. “Into our talks about music, he would weave stories about his days as production designer for Hollywood films, the Grateful Dead, Aerosmith, MTV, gigs with Trombone Shorty, Taj Mahal, Antonio Carlos Jobim, and on and on. I had no idea whether any of this was true, but I didn’t care. I liked the guy, and I truly enjoyed what he brought to a gig, so I just listened and took all of his stories in stride. Then one day, nearing evening, we were sitting on the tailgate of his immaculately restored ‘39

flat-bed Chevrolet truck, eating very bad barbecue. We were backstage at a music festival, maybe Adams Avenue, and somehow Cowan had managed to park back there, even though he wasn’t a performer. Some guys in funny clothes stepped out of a motor home and walked past us, headed for the main stage with their guitars and whatnot. One of them looked over and saw us, then did a double take. ‘Hey Robert,’ he called out, ‘did you bring your harmonica? Do you want to sit in with us?’ It was the band Strawberry Alarm Clock. And after that encounter, I never doubted any of Robert’s stories.”

Good’s experiences and relationship with Cowan were echoed on social media — friends and loved ones painting a picture of a man who put people at ease and was a natural storyteller. Despite his professional accomplishments and the demand for his playing, he remained the embodiment of humility. “What Cowan brought to the table, aside from his originality on the tin sandwich, was grace,” says Good. “The man had no ego. He would sit out in my garage and jam with the guys, even though he’d performed with heavy hitters such as the Neville Brothers.”

Cowan’s personality gently inspired Good’s own approach. “We shared teaching in common. I teach saxophone privately, and have for years. Robert, on the other hand, shared his musical thoughts and wisdom with a multitude of my own students of all ages, and any and all band members. He taught me to stop thinking and play from my heart. I nicknamed him The Professor. He called me Boy-o.”

Robert Cowan’s Celebration of Life will be held at the Belly Up in Solana Beach on January 30. Slated to appear are Rob Lamonica & Benito Meschoulam, Frankie Dee, John January, Cadillac Fringe, Linda Berry, Doug Allen & Danny DiCarlo, Don Clark, Harmonica John, and others TBA.

— Spike Steffenhagen

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

BEN SCHWARTZ & FRIENDS

Jan 25 Civic Theatre

LIVE NATION



WED. JAN. 24
ESCUELA GRIND
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**BRICK
BY
BRICK**

SUN. FEB. 25
VADER
Origin,
Inhuman Condition,
Mythraeum

SUN. JAN. 28
**JARED JAMES
NICHOLS**
The Bites

MON. FEB. 19
**CALIGULA'S
HORSE**
Earthside

FRI. MAR. 1
THE OCEAN
The World Is A Beautiful
Place & I Am No Longer
Afraid To Die, Shy, Low

SAT. FEB. 3
ATHEIST
Fadrait, Corpsemaker

THU. FEB. 22
KOFFIN KATS
Hans Gruber and
the Die Hards

FRI. MAR. 8
**WACKEN
METAL BATTLE**
Blackcast,
The Provoked, Brutalion,
Defy The Tyrants,
Gravity Grave, Old Gods

SAT. FEB. 10
DEMENCY
Lucemortis, Imperialist

FRI. FEB. 23
CRYPTA
Contortion

SAT. MAR. 9
**WACKEN
METAL BATTLE**
California Villain,
Cascade Effect,
Faerie Queene,
Maskeratt, Woods Witch,
Cranial Detriment

THU. FEB. 15
FUGITIVE
Diztort,
Doomsday

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ROCKET FROM THE CRYPT at the Casbah

JAN 25



The Casbah's month-long 35th anniversary celebration presents a reunion of one of San Diego's best known groups from the city's 1990s national explosion. Fronted by John Reis, Rocket From the Crypt was the band many journalists pointed to as evidence that our city's music scene would be "the next Seattle." The Little Italy bill includes Owl Be Damned.

AMERIKAN BEAR at the Pour House

JAN 25



Based in Vista, psychedelic soul band Amerikan Bear plays 1960s-inspired underground garage rock. Their newest release is a trippy six-song album perfect for the paisley underground called *Dreams*. Amerikan Bear will share the Oceanside stage with Hi-Five Ghost, on a bill that also features Alex Rasmussen, on tour from Seattle.

STEAM POWERED GIRAFFE at California Center For the Arts

JAN 26



The costumed band known as Steam Powered Giraffe was created by identical twins David Michael Bennett (The Spine) and Isabella "Bunny" Bennett (as Rabbit), who, like her character, has transitioned from male to female over the course of the band's career. Their stage show has been a staple of local theme parks, and they were even mentioned in the rebooted *Animaniacs* cartoon, with Pinky pondering what a Steam Powered Giraffe would eat.

THREE MILE PILOT at the Casbah

JAN 26



The next Casbah 35th-anniversary reunion concert features Three Mile Pilot, a storied collaboration between Pall Jenkins (Black Heart Procession) and Armistead Burwell Smith IV, aka Zach Smith (Pinback). The bill includes Smith's band Systems Officer, and Pall Jenkins will also perform solo.

MANGANISTA at the Kensington Club

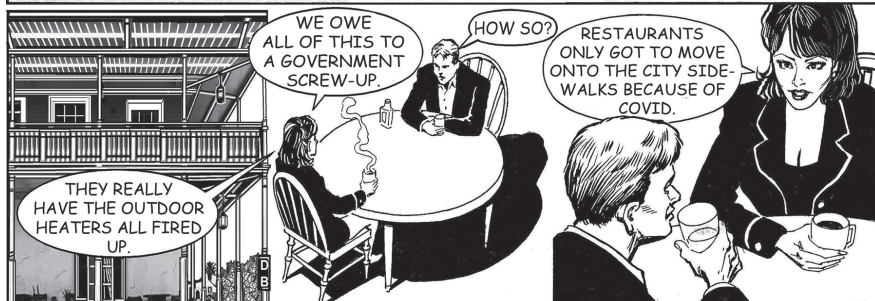
JAN 27



"Manganista just released a new song from our new 7-inch," says band singer-percussionist Matt Rhea. "John Roy's label Escape Hatch Records is releasing it, and will be doing some follow up digital and vinyl releases of the songs transformed into ska, reggae and dub styles." Released this month, the 7-inch will be on sale in Kensington, where Refuz and the Hemogoblins will also perform.

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Alejandra's Fine Mexican Food & Cantina:
Thursday, 6pm — Farrah Camu.

American Legion Post 416:
Saturday, 7pm — 8 East Band. Free.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:
Sunday, 7:30pm — Jazz at the Athenaeum. \$40-\$172.

Balboa Theatre:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Benise. \$29-\$65.
Sunday, 7pm — The Life & Music of George Michael. \$20-\$81.

Barefoot Bar and Grill:
Saturday, 6pm — Freddie Walton.

Bellamy's Restaurant:
Thursday, 6pm — Jake Taylor Smith.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Moontricks.

\$18-\$32.
Friday, 8pm — ALO and Sway Wild. \$25-\$44.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Cowboy Mouth. \$25-\$44.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — The Third Mind Ft. Dave Alvin. \$27-\$48.

Books & Records:
Friday, 7pm — Cobby Brzeski. Free.
Saturday, 7pm — Zo Shah. Free.
Sunday, 11am — Jon Garner & His Mumbo Gumbo Trio. Free.
Sunday, 7pm — Jon Garner & His Mumbo Gumbo Trio. Free.

Brick by Brick:
Friday, 10pm — Daft Punk's Discovery: The Dance Party. \$20.
Saturday, 10pm — Dancing Queen: ABBA Glitter Disco. \$25.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Jared James Nichols and The Bites. \$20.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:
Friday, 7pm — Steam Powered Giraffe.

Cannonball:
Thursday, 5pm — Jemille Vialat. Tuesday, 5pm — Andrew Peña.

Casbah:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Rocket From the Crypt and Owl Be Damned.
Friday, 7:30pm — Three Mile Pilot and System Officer.



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Gone • Fancy Faces

Thurs • February 1
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Bradly Palermo • Dead Ven

Fri • February 2
MEET ME IN THE BATHROOM
Mike Delgado

Sat • February 3
GLOBELAMP
Downsider • Sugarpill

Tues • February 6
LOWPOINTS
Runway Nine • Plants • DJ Bobatty

Thurs • February 8
THE BOOZE BOMBS (Germany)
Javi Vivas

Fri • February 9
RAMBLIN' OUTLAWS
Jonny Wagon • Johnny Giles
Clint (Dying Species)

Sat • February 10
BRUTALION
Devour • Battlecruiser • Underbust

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Fri. 1/26 @ Soda
THE LAGOONS

Sat. 1/27 @ Soda
DEATH CAB FOR KARAOKE PRESENTS: THE 90'S ERA

Sun. 1/28 @ Soda
GREG KOCH

Mon. 1/29 @ Soda
AUZ FONTAINE
LEXINGTON FIELD • COWBOY TV
JUSTIN JOHN RODRIGUEZ

Wed. 1/31 @ Soda
TANLINES
MARCH

Thu. 2/1 @ Soda
THE PARANOYDS
LOSE

Fri. 2/2 @ Soda
CREATURE CANYON
LEAD PONY
ANDREW BARRACK

Sat. 2/3 @ Soda
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Saturday, 8pm — Lucy's Fur Coat.
Sunday, 7:30pm — The Bronx and Negative Blast.
Monday, 7:30pm — The Bronx. \$25.
Tuesday & Wednesday, 7:30pm — Earthless. \$35.

Crafted Culture:
Friday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:
Friday, 6pm — Bring Your Own Vinyl Night. Free.
Sunday, 1pm — Bluegrass Jam. Free.

Duke's La Jolla:
Friday, 3pm — Orion Song.
Sunday, 4pm — Keni Yarbrow.
Tuesday, 4pm — Kai Kalama.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:
Friday, 6pm — Jarred Matthew.
Saturday, 6pm — David Shyde.
Wednesday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Farmer & the Seahorse:
Friday, 4:30pm — Jason Graham.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, Hillcrest:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Jud Caswell. Free.

Golden Island:
Friday, 6pm — Jenny & The Tramps. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:
Sunday, 8pm — Aaron Lewis.

Holding Company:
Thursday, 7pm — Pink Talking Fish: Day 2. \$20-\$27.

House of Blues:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Wolves of Glendale. \$25.
Friday, 7pm — And Then Came Humans.
Saturday, 9pm — Emo Night Brooklyn. \$19.
Monday, 7pm — PLVTINUM. \$19-\$92.

JAI at the Conrad:
Sunday, 5pm & 7:30pm — Lakecia Benjamin and Phoenix. \$68-\$83.

Kensington Club:
Saturday, 9:30pm — Manganista, Refuz, The Hemogoblins. Free.

L'Auberge Del Mar:
Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde.
Friday, 7pm — Jesse Johnson.
Saturday, 7pm — Jarred Matthew.
Sunday, 11am — Kai Kalama.
Wednesday, 5pm — Jemille Vialat.

La Valencia Hotel:
Thursday, 5:30pm — Helena Holleran.
Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbrow.
Saturday, 6pm — Shea Givens.

Mission Bay Resort:
Thursday, 5pm — Keni Yarbrow.
Friday, 5pm — Michael LeClerc.
Monday, 5pm — Farrah Camu.

Morgan Run Resort and Club:
Friday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 9pm — Brenda McGonagle.
Friday, 9pm — Yarp Yacht Rock.
Saturday, 9pm — Halo Effect.

Music Box:
Thursday, 7:30pm — ericdoa and Bixby. \$25-\$27.
Friday & Saturday, 8pm — La

THE GONZO REPORT

The Superb Seven

That Beatles Cover Band rocks the Black Cat

The last Friday night of 2023 saw a fab event at Black Cat Bar, because That Beatles Cover Band provided the entertainment. Black Cat Bar is located at 4246 University Avenue. It was established in 2011. Being alert is advisable when walking around, because it can be a rough neighborhood. You know you've arrived when you find yourself facing both the name of the bar and a pussycat in red neon lights on the front window.

The cover was \$10 for the show. I didn't have any cash, so I had to go up to the bar to pay with my debit card. The doorman made it seem like it would be an easy task: "Just go up to the bar and tell the bartender you need to pay the cover with your card." But the swath of attendees gathered at the bar made it more daunting. The max capacity is 100, and it felt like all 100 of them were standing at the bar. "Excuse me" didn't seem to have an effect. I had to push my way through to get to the bartender. As my pleas to be excused had gone ignored, I returned the

favor and ignored the "How dare you" looks I received.

I stood at the bar for ten minutes before getting any attention from the bartenders. I ordered a tall Tito's & soda with a lime on the rocks and paid my toll. Black Cat houses two pool tables in the middle, a jukebox near the entrance, a chandelier over the pool tables and a mini mezzanine area. A past write up from a colleague mentioned that the place is loosely modeled on the Haunted Mansion at Disneyland. That explained the chandelier and the old paintings the wall. I missed the movable floor and ceiling, but maybe that would come later.

A pleasant surprise: my friend Richard Guardian showed up. (He was just as surprised by our meeting as I was.) He was there with other members of the San Diego Liverpool Football Club Supporters Group. Oh, right: the Beatles hailed from Liverpool. Richard introduced me to a gentleman named Tracy. He let me know that the drummer was related to someone in the club, and then introduced me to one of the founding members: band leader Erik Berg. As I was marveling at all the guitars and instruments on stage, I asked him who assumed which role. He told me they don't do it like that; they take turns doing the John/Paul/George/Ringo thing, and don't put on mop tops or dress



The red neon black cat arches its back in approval of That Beatles Cover Band.

in Sgt. Pepper uniforms.

"I hope the Fire Marshall doesn't show up," said Richard as the room filled up — and kept on filling up. The place was packed, standing room only. I offered to buy Rich a drink on my tab if he did the ordering. Then I saw him waving at me with two hands from the bar. "They don't have your card."

That was alarming. I made my way to the bar "Please put his drink on my tab."

"Nope, we don't have your card."

He said this without looking at the row of cards they were holding to see if one of them was mine. I could see my card. I pointed it out. He looked at the row of cards. "I don't see it."

Now I was thinking he was fucking with me. I pointed at my card again. "The one with the lion on it." He looked at it. "You told me a differ-

ent name."

He was referencing my first name, because I had given him my proper last name. I've never had that problem before. Still, I was glad they had my card.

Ten o' clock: the band kicked in with "Back in the U.S.S.R.," followed by "Birthday." The Beatles were the Fab Four. That Beatles Cover Band is the Superb Seven. They took an eclectic approach to the set list. "Hey Bulldog," "Lady Madonna," "I Am the Walrus," and "Tomorrow Never Knows." They did not play anything pre-Rubber Soul. No "I Want to Hold Your Hand" or "Love Me Do."

Richard approached to take my picture. "I'm showing Milo proof of life." Milo Rose was a mutual friend. Richard followed up with, "He's on the way." He arrived close to the end of the show. (I wasn't expecting him to show up, either.) The show ended promptly at midnight. I saw a lady wearing a purple velour hat, a sparkling blazer, and pants. I approached her: "You look like the coolest person here, or at least you dress the coolest."

Her name was Julie. "I saw them at Youtopia and saw they were playing here tonight," she said.

Richard and I agreed that the show was great, but also that the bartenders were a little rude. He pointed out that a 16 oz. can of Modelo was six dollars. But after I got home, I put myself in the bartender's shoes. I don't know how I'd be able to be that busy and keep a smile on my face either. I was grateful for a good show, good friends, and the chance to mix business with pleasure. ■

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo

Santa Cecilia. \$32-\$72.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Maybe I'm Amazed. \$15-\$17.
Monday, 7:30pm — Phora. \$27-\$32.
Wednesday, 8pm — Reverend Shawn Amos and Joe Marson. \$20-\$22.

My Yard Live:
Sunday, 4:30pm — Classic Rock. Free.

Navajo Live:
Saturday, 8pm — Into The Void, Bastard Saints, Avadan. \$5-\$8.

Monday, 8pm — Cosmic Strife and Red Roulette. \$5.

Nick & G's:
Friday, 6pm — David Rosales.
Saturday, 6pm — Farrah Camu.

Normal Heights United Methodist Church:
Friday, 6:15pm — Songwriter Sanctuary One Year Anniversary. Free.

Observatory North Park:
Friday, 4pm — Club 90s: Lana Del Rey Night. \$24-\$31.

Panama 66:
Thursday, 6pm — Uptown Rhythm Makers. Free.

Parq Restaurant:
Saturday, 10pm — Dre Sinatra.

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
Friday, 7:30pm — Cody Johnson. \$45-\$150.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:
Saturday, 7:30am — Cindy Lee Berryhill & John Kruth. \$15-\$18.

Pour House:
Thursday, 9pm — Hi-Five Ghost and Amerikan Bear. Free.

Quartyard:
Saturday, 8pm — Twin Tribes and Urban Heat.

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

San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery:
Saturday, 7pm — 90MPH. Free.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 7:30pm —

Christopher. \$26.
Friday, 7:30pm — The Lagoons. \$24.
Saturday, 7pm — Death Cab For Karaoke: The 90s Era. \$19.
Sunday, 7pm — Greg Koch. \$19.
Monday, 7:30pm — Auz Fontaine. Free.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Tanlines. \$24.

Soma:
Friday, 6:30pm — Erratic Impulse and Messy Hera. \$10.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Explosions In The Sky. \$35.

Sound:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Poolside. \$35-\$65.
Friday, 7:30pm — Dark Star Orchestra. \$39.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Herb Alpert & Lani Hall.

St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church:
Thursday, 7pm — NWEAMO Festival: Magic, Melody, Song & Strife. Free.
Saturday, 7:30pm — A French Evening with Takae Ohnishi. \$10-\$25.




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Rachmaninoff looms over every list of favorite concertos.

Five (well, six) favorite concertos

Some big-time concertos, such as Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2*, Felix Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto*, and Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 4* are coming up in the next few months. I wonder, if I had to pick five "desert island" concertos, would any of these three be included? Here are my five all-time favorite concertos. I will not say that these are the greatest concertos of all time, because who can make such a determination? These are just the five concertos I have enjoyed the most over the years. They are in no particular order.

Jean Sibelius's *Violin Concerto* was a late-comer to my five. For years, I didn't get it. I would read that it

was the preeminent concerto in the violin repertoire, but I couldn't hear it. The Sibelius is a sneaky, difficult piece for the soloist. It is not overtly flashy, but requires extreme mastery of tone and emotional intelligence. Without these, a performance of the Sibelius can become rather tedious.

I first experienced Edward Elgar's *Cello Concerto* in the 1998 film *Hilary and Jackie*. The Elgar was a signature piece of cellist Jacqueline Du Pre (Jackie), and the film showcased the music quite well. Since then, I've listened to it as recorded by several cellists, but I keep coming back to the Du Pre version, conducted by her then-husband Daniel Barenboim.

Another film that stirred

my early classical emotions was, of course, *Amadeus*. From that film, I took Mozart's *Piano Concertos Nos. 20 and 21*. Yes, I understand that this already brings my list to four, but I simply can't pick one over the other, so I'm counting those two as a tie. This list of five is now a list of six.

My relationship with Pyotr Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* goes back to the sixth grade, when I received a compilation set of classical music LPs for Christmas. Tchaikovsky was featured heavily, and his piano concerto has been with me longer than any other here.

Before we get to the final concerto, here are a few honorable mentions. Of the five Beethoven piano con-

certos, the fifth gets most of the flowers. However, I find his *Piano Concerto No. 4* to be my favorite. The second movement is an existential masterpiece. Johannes Brahms's *Violin Concerto* might be amongst my five, were we taking about five concertos to hear performed live by a master violinist.

As a recorded experience, I find it to be lacking. Erich Korngold's *Violin Concerto* is underrated. Maurice Ravel's

Piano Concerto in G has the distinction of being my personal soundtrack when I hit my emotional rock bottom.

My final favorite concerto in Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2*. From the ominous brooding of the opening measures, to the agonizing beauty of the second movement, to the energetic optimism of the final movement, this concerto is perfect. I prefer the recording with pianist Earl Wild.

Classical Music this week

A French Evening with Takae Ohnishi The San Diego Early Music Society presents harpsichordist and UC San Diego lecturer Takae Ohnishi. She will present an evening of French harpsichord music with pieces by Louis Couperin, Jacques Duphy, Antoine Forqueray and Pancrace Royer. Saturday, January 27, 7:30pm; \$10-\$25. St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church, 2728 Sixth Avenue.

Bastien und Bastienne: A Chamber Ballopera A faithless shepherd, a lovelorn shepherdess, and a charlatan

magician meet in a pastoral tale of jealousy, romance, and magic - enjoy Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's first opera, paired with an original ballet of the same story. Saturday, January 27, 7pm; Sunday, January 28, 2pm; \$25-\$30. Light Box Theater, 2590 Truxtun Rd., Studio 205, Building 176.

Lucas & Arthur Jussen Dutch brothers Lucas and Arthur Jussen live up the classical music scene with programs showcasing the unbreakable bond of their duets, whether on one piano or two. Thursday, January 25, 7:30pm; \$58-\$98.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

NWEAMO Festival: CompCord Ensemble Making their 3rd collaboration with NWEAMO, NYC-based Composers Concordance has curated the closing evening of NWEAMO 2024, showcasing Ms. Winkler. Joining her onstage will be poet Robert C. Ford and the Comp Cord Ensemble. The selections explore themes of war, solitude, and community through music and poetry. Admission: A \$20 suggested donation at all events.

Saturday, January 27, 7pm; free-\$20. Smith Recital Hall at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive.

NWEAMO Festival: Magic, Melody, Song & Strife Ljiljana Winkler interprets Songs of Joseph Martin Waters, accompanied by the Swarmius ensemble. Thursday, January 25, 7pm; free-\$20. St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church, 2728 Sixth Avenue.

Payare Conducts Mozart Hear the San Diego Symphony perform three Mozart symphonies up close and personal.

Music Director Rafael Payare leads this program of three of the prodigy composer's best loved symphonies written across his lifetime. Symphony No. 29 provides a snapshot of the impeccable compositional prowess of the composer at 18 years old; Symphony No. 35, named the "Haffner" Symphony, is known for its fiery and fleet melodies; Symphony No. 40 is one of the final symphonies Mozart wrote, and is a masterpiece in its own right. Friday, January 26, 8pm; \$75. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

UPCOMING SHOWS

1t Street Bar:

February 6 — Open Mic Night

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

February 4 — Jazz at the Athenaeum

Barefoot Bar and Grill:

February 3 — Christian Taylor

Bellamy's Restaurant:

February 1 — Jake Taylor Smith

Belly Up Tavern:

February 1 — Digable Planets and Kassa Overall
February 2 — Billy Nation: A Tribute to Billy Joel
February 3 — Dead Man's Party
February 5 — Rickie Lee Jones
February 6 — Leo Kottke
February 7 — Blind Boys of Alabama and Bobby Rush

Birch Aquarium at Scripps:

February 5 — Hullabaloo

Books & Records:

February 2 — Aimee Jacobs
February 3 — The Grinnells

Brick by Brick:

February 3 — Atheist

Cannonball:

February 1 — David Shyde

The Casbah:

February 1 — Taylor Ashton
February 2 — Plague Vendor and Mistress 77
February 3 — Sweet & Tender Hooligans
February 4 — AJ Lee and Blue Summit

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

February 4 — Balourdet Quartet

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

February 1 — Dead Heads Night
February 3 — Anthony Cullins

Duke's La Jolla:

February 2 — Farrah Camu
February 4 — Keni Yarbrow
February 6 — Orion Song

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

February 3 — Blaise Guld

Farmer & the Seahorse:

February 4 — Jonny Tarr
February 11 — David Shyde

Golden Island:

February 2 — Giselle Anguizola

The Holding Company:

February 6 — Karaoke

House of Blues:

February 1 — Steel Panther
February 2 — The Game
February 3 — Evan Honer
February 3 — Club 90s Present Justin Bieber Night
February 6 — Trousdale

Kimball Coastal Eatery:

February 2 — One Night On The Town

L'Auberge Del Mar:

February 1 — Aquile
February 2 — Marelle
February 3 — David Shyde
February 4 — Tyler F. Simmons

La Jolla Woman's Club:

February 4 — Le Salon De Musiques

La Valencia Hotel:

February 1 — Christian Taylor
February 2 — Keni Yarbrow
February 3 — Jesse Johnson

Lime In The Coconut:

February 1 — Islander Thursdays

Little Italy Food Hall:
February 7 — Live Music & Wine
Wednesday

Madam Bonnie's:

February 2 — Liquid Bricks

Madison:

February 6 — Jazz Night

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

February 7 — G3 Reunion Tour

Mission Bay Resort:

February 1 — Keni Yarbrow
February 2 — Jesse Ray Smith
February 3 — Jenny Teator
February 4 — Tyler F. Simmons
February 5 — Ben Powell
February 6 — Jemille Violet
February 7 — Helena Holleran

Mission Valley Library:

February 7 — Hullabaloo Kids Concert

Moonshine Beach:

February 7 — Priscilla Block

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

February 1 — Susan McCrea
February 1 — Free Martini Band
February 3 — Tube Amp'd
February 7 — Mariachi Wednesday with Rafael Renteria

Music Box:

February 1 — Fucked Up and Superchunk
February 2 — B Side Players 30th Anniversary Celebration
February 3 — Too Many Zooz and Cloudchord
February 4 — Fleetwood Max
February 7 — Sleepy Pearls and Milli Shaw

My Yard Live:

February 2 — Dueling Pianos

Observatory North Park:

February 2 — The Disco Biscuits
February 7 — Corinne Bailey Rae

Poway's Irish Pub:

February 2 — West of 5

Roxy Encinitas:

February 2 — Blame Betty

San Diego Civic Theatre:

February 2, February 4 — San Diego Opera: Don Giovanni

San Elijo State Beach:

February 3, February 4 — Camp Shred

Soda Bar:

February 1 — The Paranoyds
February 2 — Creature Canyon and Lead Pony
February 3 — True Loves
February 4 — Comfort Club and Blue Hour
February 5 — Yuma Abe
February 6 — Crushed
February 7 — The Bones of J.R. Jones

Soma:

February 3 — Kaivon

The Sound:

February 2 — Portugal. The Man

St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church:

February 6 — Amanda Forsythe & Opera Prima: Tormento Seicento

Topside Terrace Kitchen & Bar:

February 2 — DJ Jenny Pocket
February 4 — Kaylee Daugherty
February 7 — Amanda Portela

Winstons Beach Club:

February 3 — Jazz Is Phish
February 4 — OB-oke Karaoke
February 5 — Electric Waste Band

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Turkish hospitality

“Please, sit. Try our Turkish breakfast.”

It’s morning in El Cajon. But it could almost be morning in Istanbul. I’m here sipping Turkish coffee among Turkish folk in a gold-trimmed maroon room in the oldest building in El Cajon, situated at Magnolia and East Main.

I’ve always wanted to do this: sip Turkish coffee while nibbling Turkish Delight. (I had noticed this place the other evening. It was busy with people meeting for coffee and selecting goodies from glistening displays of filo pastries. I couldn’t wait to try them myself.) This is all happening at Sultan Baklava and Sultan Mediterranean Grill, an eatery that’s divided into a restaurant



Breakfast companion: Mirza with his breakfast

and bakery-cafe. I started off in the bakery side, dazzled by the sophistication of the pastries, and the decor, and the Turkish-style coffee cups (white china inside beaten metal holders). But then I started hankering after brekky. A true Turkish breakfast. *What do they eat?*

So this morning, I’m back. Except now, most of the customers are outside, sunning themselves on the patio next to Prescott Promenade, the urban park near the El Cajon courthouse. A mix, looks like, of Turkish men and women, the latter in pastel-colored robes, talking and laughing with each other.

Of course, Turkish coffee is a Turkish delight in itself. The wafting scent of that strong brew hooks me right in. I see it steaming up from the cups hiding in their hammered metal holders, and I order one from Agust, the barista behind the counter. “If I take too long,” he says, “call me, ‘September.’”

And of course, the making of the coffee takes time. Turkish coffee has ultra fine grounds, intense flavor, and lots of ceremony: the combining of water and grounds, the measuring of the sugar, etc. (*Az sekerli?*

Low sweetness? *Orta sekerli?* Medium sweetness? *Sekerli?* Full-on rich and sweet, frothed to the top?)

‘Course, I go total *sekerli*. Small cup costs me \$3.50 and comes with a plug of cardamom.

Plus, I have chosen one modest piece of what I thought was Turkish Delight but turns out to be baklava (72 cents). What-ever — along with the kinda haunting Turkish music, and the exquisitely-made pastries, this sunny Thursday morning in El Cajon is turning into a surprise treat.

Now Bella, who’s minding the counter at the back, passes me with two steaming dishes. One looks like a ring of sausage discs around a bunch of sautéed eggs, the other is a series of plates loaded with cheeses, olives, cucumbers, a yogurty mess, and, in the middle, four rolled filo dough pastries stuffed with cheese. I think she says it’s called *borek*.

Spinach rolls: too burnished and beautiful to eat

I follow her outside. She heads for a table in the sun where two men sit sipping golden tea from glasses, talking. In Turkish, it turns out. “Please, sit,” says the first, Mirza, when he notices me hovering. “Try our Turkish breakfast.”

I’ve heard of Turkish hospitality, but this is really, well, *nice*. I do. Sit. Start nibbling from a beef sausage, from chunks of goat cheese, all the time watching as the other fellow, Abdulkadir, folds a triangular piece of flatbread and scoop-dips it through the puddle of *kaymak*, a honey-drenched, delish-looking gloop. He hands it to me. “Try this.”

I also keep downing glassfuls of their tea, which, hey, is way more thirst-quenching than coffee. Finally, I get to go back and order my

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Pistachio and rose water, beautiful pastries front the Ottoman Empire

The Place: Sultan Baklava, 165 E. Main Street, El Cajon; 619-499-7426
Hours: 9am - 9pm daily
Prices: Falafel sandwich, \$10; veggie combo plate, \$12; baba ghanouj, \$7; falafel plate, \$12; tabuli salatasi (parsley grain salad), \$8; sucuklu pide (sausage or pastirne with mozzarella cheese), \$12; doner kebab, \$14; kuzu sis (lamb, salad, rice), \$19; tovuk (chicken) sandwich, \$10; musakka (ground beef, eggplant, rice), \$12; kuru fasulye (white beans, veggies, rice), \$12; kuzu incik (lamb shank, eggplant, rice), \$16; most pastries around \$3-4 each, sold by weight
Buses: 815, 888
Nearest Bus Stop: Claydelle at Main

own \$4 pot of tea, plus one of the four Turkish breakfast combos that Bella has on offer (\$23, expensive, but something a group of friends can share). Except that when it comes, Mirza says “That is not Turkish food. That is Arab food. We Turks don’t eat those so much.”

Huh. I look at what he has: a plate loaded with olives, chunks of goat and other cheeses, little tomatoes, slices of cucumber, *kaymak* — which turns out to be a kind of clotted cream-in-honey dessert, Bella says — plus four wraps of deep-fried *borek* (stuffed filo pastry).

Then I check my own plate. Bella called it a mixed *meze* platter. It has sections of hummus (chickpeas), *baba ghanouj* (eggplant), tzatziki (cucumbers and yogurt), falafel (broad beans or chickpeas), and, in the middle, a little plate with *dolma*, rolled vine leaves stuffed with a delicious, lemony, cheesy? Meaty? filling. *Dolma* means “stuffed” in Turkish. So that has to be Turkish or Ottoman originally, right? But maybe the rest of my plate is Arabic? “We Turks have a more Mediterranean diet,” Mirza says. “We eat the Arabic food, but as side dishes. We like our meats, kebabs! We like salt and oil. And we like it spicy if we’re from places near Syria like Urfa, where Abraham was born.



Influential customers - Grossmont College President Denise Whisenhunt has brought her staff to a Turkish feast

They like things hot down there.”
“The Abraham was born there?”
“Sure. We go way back.”
So we chew fat in the sun until ten o’clock. That’s when Mirza and Abdulkadir start collecting their gear. “We drive for Uber Eats,” says Mirza. “Got to start taking food to other people.”
“Do you come back here for dinners?” I ask.
He shakes his head. “Their breakfast is what we like best,” he says.

I think about this food from the Cradle of Civilization, versus my simple All-Brn morning routine. Which is healthier? Many say Middle Eastern cuisine is the healthiest there is, with its lean proteins, healthy fats, tons of veggies and grains. The use of *za-atar* and cumin spices. Yet how can all this stuff which tastes so good be so good for you? Guess I’ll have to consult the lovely Diane, or better still, bring her down here. It’s not cheap, but on this sunny morning, listening to the burble of multilingual conversation coming from inside, as well as from this parkside patio, it sure feels worth every penny. ■



Opulent interior of Sultan’s cafe side makes you want to stay.

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PERSONALS

I DO REMEMBER YOU AS BEAUTIFUL. Oh 15 yrs in a bush. I was gamey. I hope you realize now. The whole time I felt like I was a bad thing. I felt things

I hadn't for years. So many things. It couldn't have been a worse situation to meet in, but I did try to provide a fair unbiased. A chance would be nice.

I'VE NEVER LIED TO YOU I always wondered why you acted like I did something wrong from

Legals@SanDiegoReader.com ■ 619-235-3000

LEGAL NOTICES

We are a full adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9000993

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 01/16/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): **a. Cohelan Khoury & Singer A Partnership Of Professional Law Corporations**

Located at: **605 C Street, Ste 200, San Diego, CA 92101, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 605 C Street, Ste 200, San Diego, CA 92101

Registered Owners Name(s): **a. Isam C Khoury A Professional Corporation**

b. Michael D Singer A Professional Law Corporation
c. Timothy D Cohelan A Professional Law Corporation

This business is conducted by: **A General Partnership. The first day of business was 07/01/1981.**

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/ **Isam Khoury, General Partner**

Corporation/LLC Name **Isam C Khoury A Professional Corporation**
01/25/24, 02/01/24, 02/08/24, 02/15/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9000290

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 01/05/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): **a. Dreamscape Ketamine and Wellness**

Located at: **2878 Camino del Rio S #404, San Diego, CA 92108, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 2878 Camino del Rio S #404, San Diego, CA 92108

Registered Owners Name(s): **Dreamscape Ketamine and Wellness**

This business is conducted by: **a Corporation. The first day of business was 10/01/2023.**

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/ **Lindsey Garrett, CEO**

Corporation/LLC Name **Dreamscape Ketamine and Wellness**
01/25/24, 02/01/24, 02/08/24, 02/15/24

NOTICE OF HEARING-DECEDENT'S ESTATE OR TRUST

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY:

RAQUEL CHAVEZ, 6548 Lemarand Ave, San Diego, CA 92115, (691) 727-1555
ATTORNEY FOR: IN PRO PER

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
CENTRAL COURTHOUSE, 1100 UNION ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

ESTATE OF Guillermo Santillan Alvarez, Decedent

CASE NUMBER: 37-2023-0000823-PR-DS-CTL

This notice is required by law. You are not required to appear in court, but you may attend the hearing and object or respond if you wish. If you do not respond or attend the hearing, the court may act on the filing without you.

1. NOTICE is given that: RAQUEL CHAVEZ:
has filed a petition, application, report, or account: *
For the property with address 433 S. San Jacinto DR, San Diego, CA 92114

Please refer to the filed documents for more information about the case.

2. A HEARING on the matter described in 1 will be held as follows:
Date: 03/27/2024 Time: 9:00AM Dept.: 504

Sweda, Pacific Beach, house on alley, between Thomas and Reed-1977. Jackie Feitler. (619) 917-6975

76 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

SCHIZOPHRENIA RESEARCH STUDY Schizophrenia research study available in Oceanside. Outpatient available. 18 - 63 years old. Transportation may be provided. Must be drug free. Please call Travis (619) 389-0550

OHLA USA REQUESTING SUB-BIDS From Certified SLBE, ELBE, DBE, DVBE, MBE, WBE, OBE, SDB, WoSB, HUBZone, and SDVOSB Subcontractors/Suppliers/ Consultants/ Trucking for the City of San Diego South Mission Beach storm drain and green infrastructure, K-24-2115-DBB-3, project.

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

CLASSES / LESSONS

EASY SENIOR FITNESS - NEW Easy Fitness for seniors, each Weds, start Jan. 24th, 10:00 a.m. Olive Grove Community Park, 5951 Printwood Wy, 92117. \$10 donation. Bring yoga mat or towel, Fitness shoes. Bleachers behind tennis courts. Laura Hathaway, Senior Personal Trainer

SEWING LESSONS learn how to sew on your sewing machine! We teach children & adults; 2-hours on Saturdays; small focused group classes; we provide the fabric too! Send me your email so i can send you our 8-page informative flyer! Almservices@yahoo.com almservices@yahoo.com

SMART GOALS REDUCE STRESS As a certified insight coach, I will show you how to coach yourself using SMART Goals to reduce stress for free! Sign up on eventbrite before it sells out! 2/4/24 10am PDT. Sign up www.insightwithpaisley.com. paisley@insightwithpaisley.com

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

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ROOMMATES

LOOKING TO RENT ROOM IN NORTH PARK Non smoker,

clean, neat, independent and healthy. Brianna. (619) 777-2125

CHULA VISTA ROOMMATE 65+ MALE 65+male. Senior Mobile Home Park. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, parking, kitchen, laundry privileges, utilities, cable, wifi included. Background check. No smoking/pets. \$985.00/month, \$300.00 deposit. (619) 420-0369 / abedwellbutler@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A ROOM 59 year old male looking for a room or studio or 1 bedroom in east county area under 1200\$. Please call if this sounds like a good fit (619) 405-2389 looking for a pet free place.

ROOM FOR RENT IN LEMON GROVE \$800 must be fully employed. Please call no text (619) 581-7190

SEEKING ROOM FOR RENT Professional massage therapist nutritionist trainer and personal assistant seeking room for rent in exchange for massage and other chores in addition to rent contribution. (619) 228-5843

ROOM WANTED San Marcos, Vista, Oceanside. 76 year old male non smoker, non drinker, no pets, no drugs, civil service retired. Can pay \$750 per month. Call Tony (760) 916-6107.

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.

INDEPENDENT LIVING Room for rent. Independent living. Nice quiet view home. Shared room. \$850 plus Wi fi, Meals. A great place to call home. Good people! La Mesa (619) 750-4447.

TINY ROOM TO LIVE PLEASE 65 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

CHOLLAS CREEK, \$3760 3BD+2BA house. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Lots of cabinet space. All stainless steel appliances. Tile flooring in kitchen. Hardwood flooring throughout. Fireplace. Office. Lots of outside patio space. Deposit. \$3760. Pets considered with extra deposit. 3261 El Isle Drive, 92105. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

NORTH PB, \$1980-\$2280. 1BD+1BA + den/office. 1 block to ocean. Utilities, Internet, cable included. Remodeled kitchen/ bath, dishwasher, garden/dual pane windows, ceiling fan, nice yard! Pets considered with deposit. Incentives for immediate move-in. 8xyDIAMOND@Craigslist.org. Call Lars: (760) 829-8878.

POINT LOMA, \$2390 Upgraded 1 bedroom condo. Stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, mirrored closet doors, A/C, view, 1-car parking, lagoon pool, hot tub, tennis, volleyball courts, pool table, ping pong, fitness center, laundry. 3050 Rue D'Orleans, 92110. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

STUDIO NEAR SHARP HOSPITAL CHULA VISTA Private entrance, parking, non-smoking, 1 person. Utilities paid. \$100 deposit. \$1500 rent. Ready Feb 1st 2024

NORTH PARK MOVE IN SPECIAL Move in Special 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

STUDIO FOR RENT! I have a studio which has appliances furnished, a complete bathroom, living/bedroom and galley kitchen. No animals permitted. Water included. You pay rent-\$1100, trash-\$60.57, sewer-\$29.61, and fire fee-\$6.85 and elec. Deposit/ Credit required. (619) 443-5335 / Rancholavista-Terry@bandcmhc.com

1 BD 1 BATH DUPLEX South Park vintage back unit. Close to eateries and shopping. 450 sq ft. water pd Rent \$1,995.00 Deposit \$1500 1 yr lease No Pet No smoking (619) 417-2645 (619) 417-2545

1 BDRM FOR LONG AND SHORT RENT 1 bed 1 bath Furnished, Quiet location, \$1800 Utils., internet included. off-street parking space. jossfarhadian@gmail.com

OFFICE SPACE ZONED M2 Office Space Zoned M2. @950 Square Feet (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

OTAY MESA new studio, no pets or smoking, laundry, desirable neighborhood, transportation close, \$1350. (619) 808-1068.

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, monkandrea2@gmail.com.

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

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

REAL ESTATE

1971 SKYLINE MOBILE HOME In excellent condition with new vinyl windows. 2 bedroom 2 bath. 800 square feet. Ready to be moved to a reservation, a ranch or wherever. Can be seen in Vista. Call John (619) 571-3873. Ser#HC251062U/X

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MUSIC

BASTIEN UND BASTIENNE Cinballera Entertainment presents "Bastien und Bastienne," Mozart's first opera, along with an original ballet of the same story. January 27 at 7 PM & 28 at 2 PM in the Light Box Theater at Liberty Station. Classical music, lovely dancing, and love! (760) 859-5260 / admin@cinballera.org

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

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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.

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PET SITTER NEEDED I am looking for a pet sitter for my dogs while I am at work. Ideally, they would come to your house and would be supervised the entire time or better still at my apartment. Please email me at arincobb023@gmail.com for more details.



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DUTCH CRUISER CITY BIKE Dutch Cruiser Bikewith rear rack. Brand : giant. \$65 burleybikes@hotmail.com

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

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

HELP WANTED

SR. ANALYST Becton, Dickinson and Company seeks a Sr. Analyst, Commercial Business Process Data Quality in San Diego, CA to be a key member of our Commercial Data Strategy & Operations team. Hybrid in-office/remote position. Reqs BS+5 yrs. exp. To apply mail resume to Becton, Dickinson and Company, Attn: /BDHR-DT, 3750 Torrey View Ct, San Diego, CA 92130, OR submit a resume

to https://www.caljobs.ca.gov/vosnet/ Default.aspx, OR submit a resume to https://bdx.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/EXTERNAL_CAREER_SITE_USA. Must reference Job Title & Job Code: R-483024. EOE. Salary offered: between \$151,736.00 and \$173,000.00 per year

SR. BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE DEVELOPER Breg Inc. seeks Sr. Business Intelligence Developer in Carlsbad, CA to design & develop Microsoft BI solutions, work w/ data modeling, & more. Salary: \$140,965 per year. Resume: 2382 Faraday Avenue, Suite 300, Carlsbad, CA 92008

MANAGEMENT ANALYST: Rev forms, reports & confer with mgmt. & users re format, distrib. purpose & identify prob. & improvements. \$64,584/Yr OCEANSIDE, CA Mail Resume: GFrancisco Enterprises, Inc., 4040 Calle Platino, Ste 115, Oceanside, CA 92056

ENGINEERING/TECHNOLOGY Samsung Semiconductor, Inc., a semiconductor design and development company, has openings San Diego, CA for Staff Engineer (E102): Define verification architecture, implement verification environment for block level, SoC subsystems and top level design that use advance verification methodologies and meet established content, performance, quality and scheduling goals. \$178,500 to \$218,300 is the annual salary range for this position & salary will depend on knowledge, skills, experience, education and training; and Senior Engineer (E109): Support carrier certification for AT&T/ DISH/TMO/ VzW. Participate in back office log triage and analysis for 5G and LTE devices. \$159,702 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.

STAFF ENGINEER (MediaTek USA Inc.; San Diego, CA) (mul-

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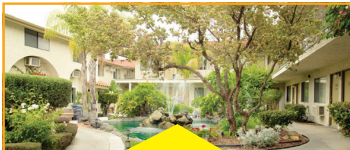
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(just west of the 805) San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 799-0219



It's all about that bass – No, that's not a cod

Dock Totals 1/14 – 1/20:

478 anglers aboard 22 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 40 calico bass, 21 lingcod, 20 lobster (24 released), 54 perch, 89 rock crab, 125 rockfish, 388 sand bass, 403 sculpin, 8 sheephead, and 240 whitefish.

Saltwater: With rockfish closed and iffy offshore conditions, most of the past week's fishing has been closer to home, and much of that centered on sand bass, whitefish, and sculpin. It is not necessarily glamour season, and as fishing is basically catch as catch can, being able to go out on the water and stock up on taco and ceviche meat is a fair trade, considering much of the country is shoveling snow. Sand bass have been biting exceptionally well, as are sculpin. Whitefish are usually associated with rockfish, which is shut down for the first few months each year, though whitefish can be taken and are often found in the same areas as the congregating sand bass.

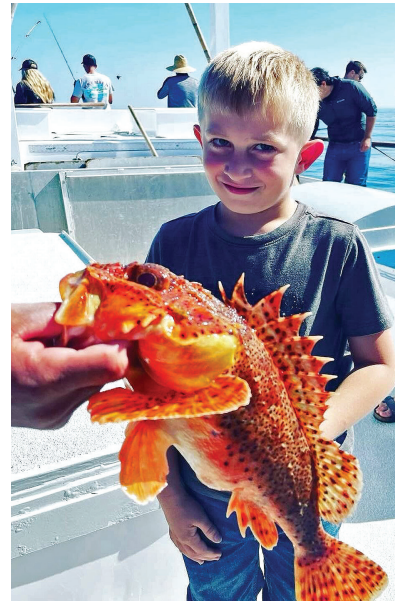
For rockfish, we still need to hop on a boat or take a drive down south of the border and hire a local operator to target them, but whitefish, bass and sculpin will do just fine as a substitute. Sculpin has a texture not unlike vermilion rockfish, and whitefish is the perfect all-around species for table fare, frying up firm yet juicy, and absorbs well into ceviche. Mind those spines on the sculpin though; they aren't called "scorpionfish" for nothing. Not that their poison is deadly, but getting stuck by one sure can wake up the senses. I always handle sculpin by firmly gripping the bottom lip, though it is even better to just use pliers. (It's always a good idea to teach the youngsters how to deal with the pokier species we target, especially when poison is involved. I have been poked quite a few times by many species, and in my experience, sculpin are not stingy with pain. They'll give you all you want.)

With rockfish closed, it is good to stay on top of the regulations of what is available in our local waters. Ocean whitefish are open year-round at all depths, with a daily bag and possession limit of 10 fish within the general daily bag limit of 20 fish. Unlike sculpin and bass, here is no minimum length for whitefish. For sculpin, the daily bag and possession limit is 5 fish with a minimum size limit of 10 inches total length. Sand bass are open year-round, need be 14 inches minimum length, and the daily limit is five fish, which includes any combination of the three species of bass in our area; sand bass, spotted bay bass, and calico bass. For these fish, found in 60- to 120-feet in depth, my go-to lure that works across the board is a tube bait from ¾ ounce to 3 ounces, depending on current and wind. Just enough weight to get it down is best, because the less weight, the better the action. I also found that when whitefish "stack up" higher in the water column, a light 3 to 4-inch tube bait tends to get a lot of action on the larger units.

Boats that are fishing rockfish and lingcod in Mexican waters are doing very well, with



A nice lingcod caught in Mexican water on the return leg of a Royal Polaris long-range tuna trip.



This youngster seems a bit shy, and rightly so, of his sculpin caught while fishing aboard the Premier.

anglers filling up the sacks with limits on most trips. Our rockfish, by the way, are not "cod," nor are lingcod, though that c-word has been banded about for as long as I can remember in the SoCal sportfishing scene. "Rock cod trips" were often advertised, and I remember a couple of captains being referred to as "the cod-father" for their prowess in putting anglers on the fish. But none of our rockfish in the "groundfish" category are a true cod. For Pacific cod, one needs to go much further north, as their range extends from the Bering Sea to about central California, with the better fishing being in the northern half of that stretch.

When I worked the deck of an overnight boat in 1979-1980, we were still using 15-hook ganion rigs, and you could catch the limit in a couple of drops. Now, with three hooks, at least you can spend a little more time fishing, plus you can better target a specific proximity to the benthic layer, where the prized lingcod tend to hang out. Lingcod are actually a greenling, and more closely related to kelp or rock greenlings than they are to cod. A long-lived fish, lingcod can live to about 36 years, grow to nearly five feet long, and weigh as much as 70-pounds. Interestingly, the age of a lingcod can be found by counting the rings in a cross-cut dorsal spine, not unlike counting rings in a tree trunk.

In an article published in 1977 by Dr. Dick Blemish and Doris Ray of the Pacific Biological Station, it was shown that the normal aging methods of using scales or otoliths were found to drastically underestimate the age of lingcods. By cutting a dried fin from between the fourth to eighth fin rays in the second dorsal, they could then count the rings, or annuli, under a microscope and get a near-precise estimate. Typically, lingcod will reach 18 inches or so in two years, and 30 inches by age five. Minimum size for lingcod is 22 inches, and there is a two-fish limit per angler per day. Favorite methods when targeting lingcod include a live mackerel on a reverse dropper-loop, large plastic tube baits, grubs, or swimbaits in the 6-inch to 10-inch lengths, or a knife jig worked within a few feet of the bottom along reef structure.

So, given the options, this is a great time of year to load up on table fare when the weather permits, and depending on amount of time you have to do so, it's either going to be bass, whitefish, and sculpin, or a trip south for rockfish and lingcod. If you're seeking a more glamorous species, an occasional yellowtail might be found locally, but water cooled rapidly along the coast south to past San Quintin, where just last week there was a wide-open bite on yoyo irons. This week was a much different fishery, with all species seemingly stunned by the drop in surface temps from the low 60s to around 56-58-degrees. I expect fishing should soon improve along that stretch of coast as the fish acclimate to cooler conditions. Yellowtail might be hit and miss, but good rockfish and lingcod are almost a given this time of year out of Ensenada or San Quintin. They're out there, so go get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

multiple positions): Design Radio Frequency (RF) transceiver building blocks including Power Amplifier (PA), Low Noise Amplifier (LNA), Mixer, Driver Amplifier, LO Generation, Baseband Filter, or VGA, mmWave phased array, etc. Salary: \$142,000 - \$178,000/year. Email resumes to MTK. USRE-SUME@MEDIATEK.COM ref. job # (00053520) (00046770).

PART TIME HOUSEKEEPER WANTED Part Time Housekeeper wanted to take care of general home. Cleaning, Looking for someone who is professional, takes initiative and is Energetic, weekly salary is \$420. email: kellystan01@att.net

PERSONAL ASSISTANT NEEDED No Experience Required, Work time is up to 8 hours a week, at \$500 Weekly, hours can be split throughout the week. Duties include answering phones, general office duties, working with the computer. Email robfox650@gmail.com for more details

SD IHSS FEMALE CAREGIVER Elderly man with minor mobility.

restriction needs help with daily routine. Position REQUIRES enrollment. here: www.sdihsppa.com. \$20/hr 5/hrs Mon Wed Fri AM. Rancho Bernardo. Not for other unsolicited. Services or offers. (858) 360-0388 Text

AD SPECS SALESMAN NOW HIRING! Advertising specialties salesman needed. Weekly pay. Bonuses. Paid Leads available! 1,200+ promo items available. Please be a experienced closer and know how to sell! In business 19 years. 1099 contractor work when you want! Call (858) 652-8367.

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 Looking to hire an IHSS provider in home service caregivers with a car in Mission Valley, San Diego. One

opening is from 8:00 AM to 12 noon. The other opening is from 12 noon to 4:00 PM seven days per week. Any help would be appreciated for a young active senior lady. Willing to give a gas allowance and treat for lunch. This job is long term. We'll need a job reference from you. Please call as soon as possible for more information and interview (619) 488-0822

MECHANIC Experienced auto mechanic needed. Full time. Call Ismael, (619) 237-1043.

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.

JOBS WANTED

FRONT OFFICE MANAGER We are looking for a friendly, professional, and customer-oriented front office manager to join our team. As the front office manager, you will make sure that customers and visitors feel welcome and are well looked after. fourseasonshotels@consultant.com

CLASS B TRUCK DRIVER Seeking part time and temporary assignments. 6 years recent experience. Can operate stick shift and deliver LTL shipments. John (858) 277-4908

ELDER CARE ASSISTANT Meal prep, grooming, errands, laundry, light house keeping. Call Esther at (619) 309-8335."

SEAFOOD PROCESSOR/DECKHAND. Looking for a job in this field, either in San Diego or Alaska. 5 years experience in Alaska with Trident Seafood. Call or text (858) 424-0037. Mr. Gheir Flecher

COOK OR DISHWASHER PREFERRED Looking for Temp work for myself. Cook or Dishwasher would work. Temp agencies can call as well, no problem. Have references and experience. (858) 424-0037

FULL TIME JOB WANTED by High school/College graduate healthy 64 male southern Californian. Reliable transportation. Seeking steady full-time employment in Miramar, La Jolla, Solana Beach, Carlsbad, north county. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973.

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

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

WANTED / TRADE

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

DISABLED MAN NEEDS CAR I'm an Older Disabled Man that Needs A Car Donated. Car that's Roadworthy. Kelly in East County (619) 895-8375.

CASH FOR OLDER BMX BIKES (619) 279-7833. Text pics please

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

WANTED: CHECKER MARATHON in running condition, please call or text (207) 265-6640.

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

THREE WHEEL MOTORCYCLE TRIKE \$400 reward for your three wheel motorcycle trike clear title, current registration, ready to go. Will pay top dollar. No spiders, must have pictures and price in place before call. (760) 420-3641. San Marcos

I BUY OLD BAND INSTRUMENTS I buy saxophones, trumpets, Trombone, tuba, flute, clarinet Or any old band instruments. Call (619) 279-7833

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

WILL PAY CASH For records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional Singing Lessons available. Musicians Wanted. Call Jeff Clark, 858- 382-7396.

CASH FOR GUITARS Working or not. Text pics or call. (619) 279-7833

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

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.

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

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

I BUY COMIC BOOKS (619) 279-7833

CASH PAID FOR OLD VW Bug, bus, van. I like to buy running or not call me. (619) 279-7833

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

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GARAGE SALE - TOOLS AND MORE I have a big garage full of tools; air compressor and lot of stuff. I'm selling everything for best offer. My number is (619) 799-5503. Leo Garvey you come and make me an offer.

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

FOR SALE

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DRAPES, CURTAINS Two pairs. Contemporary design with tie backs. Shades of green and brown. 72 inches down, 62 inches across. \$10 each pair. Good condition (858) 484-4483

GAME OF THRONES DVD The complete 5 seasons with bonus features. 6th Season through episodes 7-8. (619) 282-5105. Make offer.



USD (FOOTBALL) BLANKET \$40 like new -100% Cotton. Make: MV Sport Size 50x60. Cash only - mapaul16@gmail.com

WATER HEATER 2 y.o. 75 Gal. Water heater for sale in Mission Beach. \$995. Text (858) 733-0770 for more info.

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FLOOR LAMP WITH READING LAMP This 72" brown combo lamp has an adjustable reading lamp, 2 tea-stained color shades (10" top & 5.75" side) with LED bulbs, 5/8" pole, turn knob switches & 9" round base (with a minor crack). Clean and in good condition. \$15. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5510 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW ALUMINUM WALKING CANE Black or Silver chrome walking cane with a comfortable foam offset handle & wrist strap. Rated for up to 300 lb. Push-button height adjustment (29"-38") and a locking ring for security. New with original tags & stickers. \$12. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

175 PCS FIRST AID KIT W/ CASE This complete first aid kit is ideal for home, office, car & boat. It includes prep pads, towellettes, gloves, cold pack, eye patch, tweezers, bandages, gauze pads & tape. New, never used, in original plastic sealed case. \$12. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

BROWN OPEN BOOKSHELF 19X13X45H This good-looking dark brown 3-shelf display storage unit has an angled design with 3 non-adjustable shelves. Each shelf is about 17.25" wide & from 11.75" to 13" to 14.5" deep. Clean in good condition with normal wear. \$35. Text for more info/pics (619) 796- / cadbcscd@gmail.com

DARK BROWN OTTOMAN (35X24X17H) This comfortable rolling ottoman has nice thick top cushion & soft paddings on all sides. You can sit on it with full support or put your feet up on top while relaxing on your favorite couch or sofa. Excellent condition. \$45. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

HEAVY DUTY METAL OUT-DOOR CHAIR This gray outdoor patio chair is heavy & very sturdy for a full-sized adult. Beautiful decorative seat back, armrests & legs. Metal frame & heavy vinyl strap seat provide for comfort & good support. Excellent condition. \$35. Text for more info/pics (619) 800-5568 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



RAZOR FOLDABLE KICK SCOOTER 2 Razor scooters available with 13" adjustable handlebars, 32-33" max. handle height, & rear heel brakes. \$20 for the one with 20"x 3.75" deck size & \$15 for the other (16"x 3.75") or \$30 for both. Clean & in good condition. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



ARTHRITIS GLOVES RELIEVE PAIN These gray slip-on compression support gloves have open fingertips which allow for greater dexterity and help relieve pain & stiffness & enhance blood flow. Breathable cotton/spandex. New in original package. Size M or L. \$12. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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TIMING BELT Parts & Labor *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$75 most cars 4 cyl.
STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS Plus labor.	\$95 most cars 4 cyl.
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SOLID WOOD VINTAGE SIDE TABLE This is a heavy duty well-constructed side or end table (22"x 26"x 23" H), strong & sturdy with a storage shelf and bottom drawer. Some normal wear on solid wood. Nice decorative legs. Clean and in very good condition. \$45. Text for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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DYMO RHINO 5200 LABLER Dymo Labler used for labeling patch panels, 101 blocks, etc. Make offer. Lakeside (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com



LEATHER CAR COAT ladies leather car coat. Make offer.

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Low Prices On Body & Frame Work, Paint, Mufflers & Cat		SMOG CHECK Most Cars, plus \$8.25 cert. Fast & Convenient *Not a star station. From 2000 & up	\$26⁷⁵

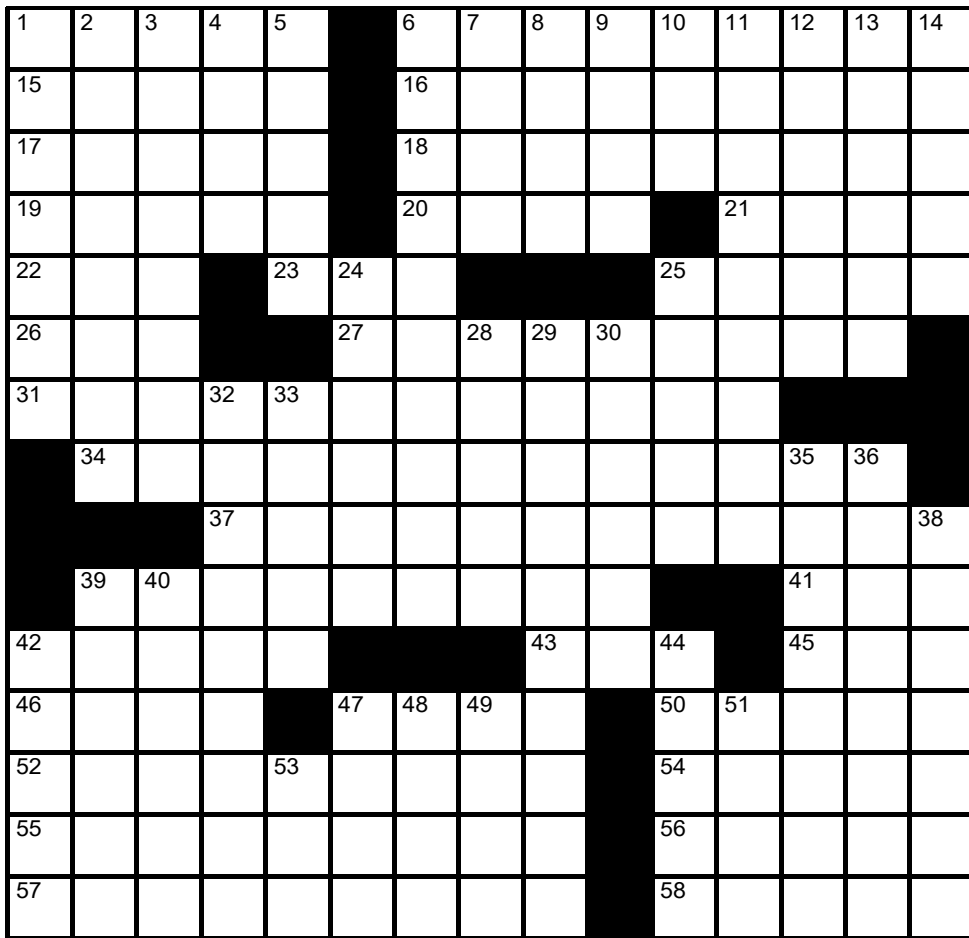
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CROSSWORD



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Across

- 1.** Structural material
6. Nehi offering
15. "Somewhere Only We Know" performers (2004)
16. Stopped oneself
17. Element #18
18. Up against it
19. West of "Futurama"
20. Helper, for short
21. "Agreed"
22. Mellow
23. Baryshnikov's former dance co.

25. Blender brand

- 26.** Scottish veto
27. Withdrawn
31. Preparing it may involve a snap
34. Mandatory
37. Spots for scratches
39. "___ are rarely the protagonists in the English novel, but they are oddly abundant in its margins." (2017 essay in The Conversation)
41. "Still ___" (1999 track ft.

Snoop Dogg)

- 42.** Off-schedule
43. H, as in Greek
45. Pastor's nickname
46. Fashion designer Cassini
47. Tomato variety
50. "The Hobbit" setting
52. Court order?
54. Well-connected Bacon
55. Greeting to new arrivals
56. Upright, as posture
57. Waiting areas
58. "Tiny Bubbles" singer from Hawaii

Down

- 1.** Musicians that suggest you pick it up?
2. Actress with the autobiography "Speedbumps: Flooring It Through Hollywood"
3. Vision of near-perfection?
4. Unstable chemical compound
5. Lotte ___ of "The Threepenny Opera"
6. Long-necked wader with about a five-foot wingspan
7. Deep sleep states
8. Edwards and Lackland, e.g.
9. Nitwit, to a Brit

10. Take a course?

- 11.** Resists squirminess
12. Airing when old networks would've signed off for the day, maybe
13. Found to be
14. Snake with a puff variety
24. Goddess, box, and cornrow, for example
25. Radical that's C₈H₁₇ (with more focus on the 8)
28. "All done"
29. Robins, outside of the U.S.
30. Optimally
32. Netflix series that spawned a Netflix reality show

33. Full of wordplay

- 35.** Like some Internet searches and surreal art, these days
36. Prospectors' reaction after striking gold, maybe
38. 53 minutes past
39. Brawl setting in Westerns
40. Like jigsaw puzzles and some lumber
42. 2017 role for Margot
44. Set a price at
47. Start again
48. Twistable cookie
49. Seriously harm
51. Deli sandwich
53. ___ y tierra burrito (steak and shrimp option)

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

MEDIUM:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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

Lakeside (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com



PORCELAIN DOLLS 3 porcelain dolls. Make offer. (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com



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VINTAGE SPINNER REALS Fress water. 6 reels 4 Daiwa, 2 Shimano. 7 poles. 2 Tackle boxes. Much more. Check it out. Make offer. (619) 390-8216 / robtville5@gmail.com

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The Passing Parade

— South Korean model Ain, also known as Angel Box Girl, is being prosecuted for obscene exposure following incidents from last fall, *Oddity Central* reported. In Seoul and Gangnam, Ain walked through the streets wearing a large cardboard box with holes for her arms and legs – plus two more, which she invited strangers to put their hands in to grope her breasts and other body parts. Naturally, she attracted large crowds that police were called to disperse. "It's freedom of expression," she said. "I just wanted to market myself. I actually saw many positive reactions, with people telling me they support me and applaud my courage." If found guilty, Ain could face a \$3800 fine or up to a year in jail.

Ohhhh-kkaaaayyyy

— Pet owners who are exceedingly attached to their furry friends sometimes go to the trouble of having them preserved through taxidermy after they die. After her Roborovski dwarf hamster Hammy passed away last year, Jess Porter-Langson, 27, who lives in Brighton in the U.K., sought out Bea Ostrowska, a local taxidermist, hoping to immortalize her beloved pet as a pole-dancing stripper, *Metro News* reported. "This hamster was so iconic, and all my friends knew Hammy and wanted to see him," Porter-Langson said. "He needed something special." Ostrowska posed Hammy on a small platform with a pole and sewed a little thong for him to wear, which is stuffed with tiny dollar bills. "He's got this creepy little smile going on," Por-

ter-Langson said. "I was blown away. What is more iconic than a hamster on a stripper pole hustling for money?" What, indeed.

Be Careful What You Wish For

— The Lexington (Kentucky) Convention and Visitors Bureau appears to be desperate for tourists, the *Associated Press* reported. It is using an infrared laser to send messages toward potentially habitable planets in a solar system 40 light years away, luring extraterrestrials with "lush green countryside... (and) famous bluegrass." Lexington native Robert Lodder, an expert in astrobiology and SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), conceived the idea, and linguistics expert Dr. Andrew Byrd consulted: "We included... the molecular structure for water, bourbon and even dopamine... because Lexington is fun!" he said. See you in 2064!

Bright Idea

— Jessica Beatty, 42, of Clearwater, Florida, thought she might throw off the court by submitting someone else's urine for a mandated drug test, *The Smoking Gun* reported. She didn't choose just any old random donor, though -- she allegedly collected urine from her aunt's dog. Beatty was arrested on Dec. 28 for possession of drug paraphernalia and driving with a suspended license; she had priors for cocaine possession and other offenses. When she was confronted on Jan. 11 for her "fraudulent urine sample," she admitted that it wasn't her pee. Her bond is likely to be revoked, sending her back to jail.

Government in Action

— In Oklahoma, a proposed new bill, HB 3084, would prohibit students who "purport to be an imaginary animal or species" – i.e., furies – from participating in schools' curriculum or other activities, *KOKH-TV* reported. Rep. Justin Humphrey of Lane, Oklahoma, filed the bill on Jan. 17; it would also require parents to pick up their furry offspring from school or risk them being turned over to animal control. Leave the cat ears at home, kids.

— You'll need your dictionary for this one. In York, England, signs have been popping up that appear to encourage citizens to "exercise obtundity," the *BBC* reported on Jan. 17. Of course, no one knows what that word means: "Knowing the police, it could be anything," said one resident. Social media has come alive with speculation about the signs, but it turns out that "Exercise Obtundity" is the name of a training program involving the York City Council, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, and the signs are merely warnings of streets that might be closed during the activities. Stand down.

Least Competent Criminal

— A man in Sulphur Springs, Texas, was arrested on Jan. 9 for stealing a Lamborghini in Houston, *KLTV* reported. Everett Van Jennings, 34, parked the sports car in his own garage, police reported -- along with two other vehicles he had nicked. Police said together, they were valued at \$500,000. The Lamborghini's owner tracked the

car using a GPS device and set off the lights and alarms, but Jennings claimed to be out of town and unable to return home. Law enforcement got a search warrant, and along with the cars, found materials used in VIN swapping. Jennings was charged with at least two felonies.

Don't Try This at Home

— OK, everyone knows that opening a bag of potato chips can be as challenging as breaking into a bank vault, especially if you're hungry. But on Jan. 3, a 75-year-old man in Dalton, Georgia, used an unorthodox – and dangerous – method that landed him in the hospital, *The Charlotte Observer* reported. The man tried to use a lighter to get his chips open, resulting in third-degree burns to about 75% of his body. Chips, with their high concentration of fat and carbohydrates, are highly flammable. Next time, try the scissors.


Positively Hitchcockian

— In southwest London, patrons outside a Greggs bakery are being warned of attacks by hungry, hungry crows, *The Sun* reported on Jan. 16. Paras Singh, 23, who works nearby, said, "It's happening every day. They all swoop down in a frenzy." Jay Baiz, 27, a barber, said, "On Thursday, a woman was eating a bacon sandwich. The crow tried to rip it out and nearly scratched her head." Locals are hoping the city council will call in a falconer to scare the crows away.


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4 for **\$150**

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28 g for **\$65**
2 OZ for **\$99**
19.92% THC • Indica

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2 OZ for **\$99**
19.87% THC • Hybrid

Purple Haze



28 g for **\$90**
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28 g for **\$99**
22.90% THC • hybrid

Platinum OG



28 g for **\$99**
22.92% THC • Indica

Gas Mask



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619-404-0061
SmileDesignerSanDiego.com

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619-319-9640
UniversityDentalSanDiego.com



* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 2-26-24. **No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anesthesia may still be required. ***Not all patients qualify for same day implants. Questions can not be answered over phone. Implant consult appointment is required. CT x-ray and bone graft not included.

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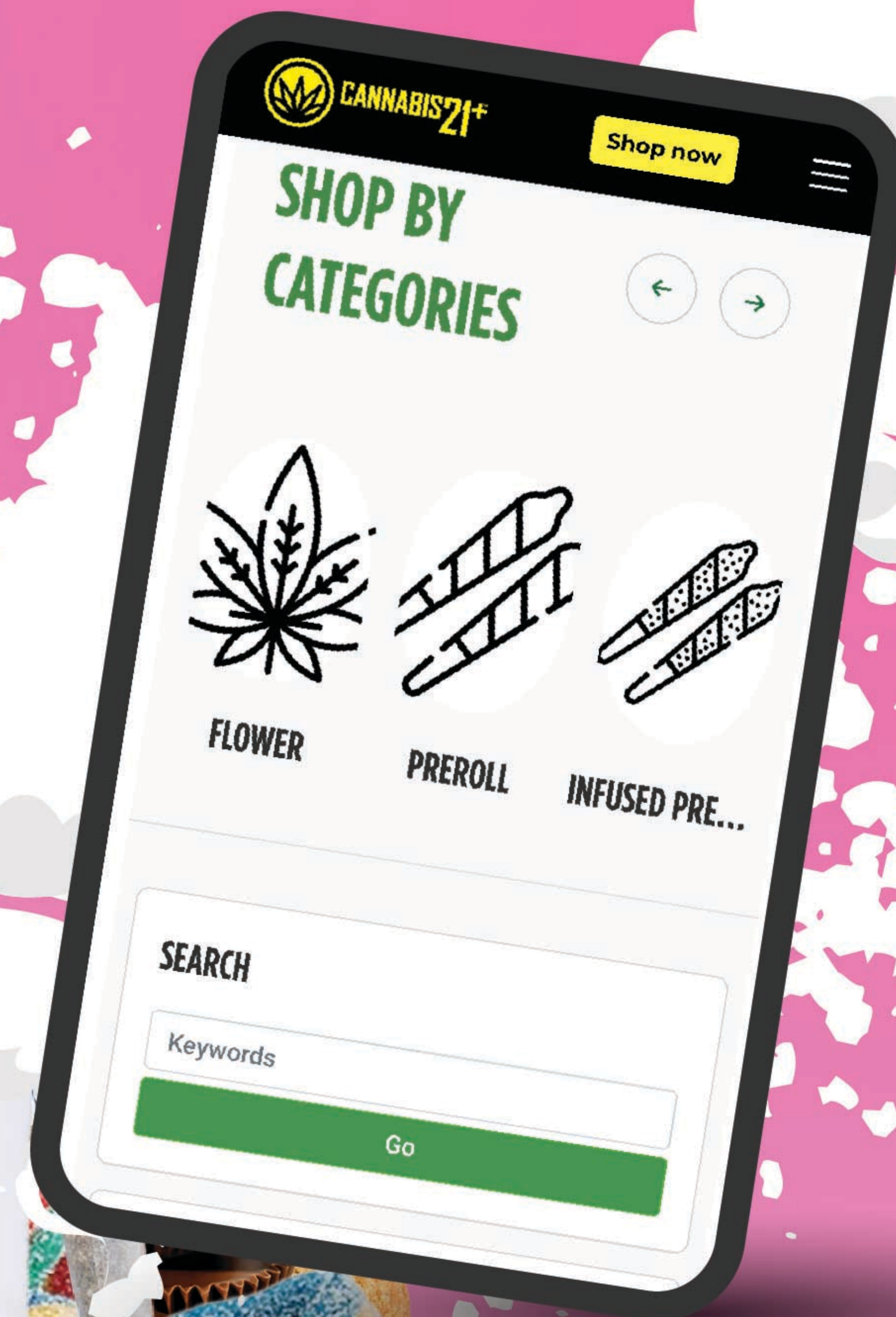


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