

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 53 | NO. 14 | APRIL 4, 2024

Reader

THE WHALE'S RETURN



Mural mounts a comeback
at La Valencia Hotel

Problematic pear trees pulled down ■ Produce-packed party potables? ■ Gentlemen trash collectors

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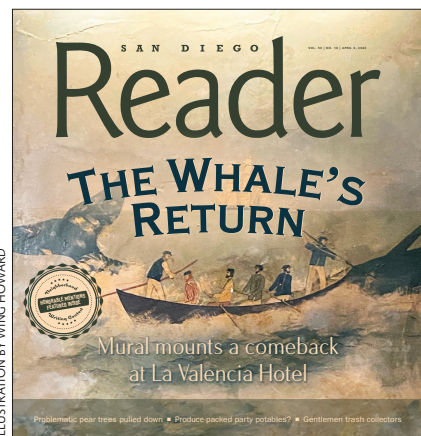


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GOT DEPRESSION?



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

UPTOWN

Group dynamics

Upstart planning group upsets old guard

The San Diego City Council's land use and housing committee recently voted 4-0 to recognize the application of a new group, Vibrant Uptown, also known as the Uptown Community Planning Group, a majority of whose members are renters. The previously existing community planning group, Uptown Planners, was mostly made up of homeowners. The new group aims to build its outreach to be inclusive of the entire community, while the existing one is trying to revamp its image to combat low voter turnout. (Despite the 50,000 residents uptown, recent Uptown Planners voter counts show a steep decline, from less than 500 in March 2023 to 235 in March 2024.)

"Hillcrest makes up the largest part of uptown, yet is consistently under-represented on the Uptown Planners"

Mark Johnson, University Heights, a member of Uptown Planners, called the "proposed takeover of our community's voice" undemocratic. He said that Vibrant Uptown's ideas, based on the results of numerous surveys and planning meetings, "are very contentious and unpopular." Even so, said Zach Farrell, a long-term renter in University Heights, "I think having a balance between renters and homeowners is good; that's how the uptown community is configured. In addition, I've seen the Uptown Planners group sort of arbitrarily delay a lot of housing projects."

Council policy states that planning groups should "to the greatest extent possible represent the entire community." Seats are open to eligible residents, nonprofits, business owners, homeowners, and renters. Uptown Planners have 15 undesignated seats and one appointed youth seat. Vibrant Uptown has 18 voting members with two non-voting seats representing large employers. The 18 voting member seats are designated — one property owner seat from each of the six neighborhoods; six renter seats; five business seats, and one non-profit.

But that's not to say that the new group is a perfect reflection of the community. Uptown, located just north of downtown, is a constella-



Hillcrest: most populous, but that doesn't mean most powerful.

tion of some of the city's most diverse neighborhoods — Hillcrest, Mission Hills, Bankers Hill/Park West, University Heights, Middletown, and the Medical Complex. But both groups are majority white, and exceed the percentage of white residents for the overall community, city staff said. Uptown Planners doesn't report a single black voting member, while Vibrant Uptown had only one when its application was submitted. Pacific Islander, Hispanic, and American Indian racial and ethnic groups make up about 31 percent of the uptown population — yet neither planning group reports any representation from those groups.

Further, according to Ben Nichols of the Hillcrest Business Association, which supports Vibrant Uptown, "Hillcrest makes up the largest part of uptown, yet is consistently under-represented on the Uptown Planners. Hillcrest businesses are seeking clear representation for the neighborhoods of uptown," with residential and business seats that reflect each one's population. "We have to build the structures in our planning groups to make sure diversity thrives." Neighborhoods should vote for their own seats, he said, but often, Hillcrest candidates "get swamped by a large voting bloc from another neighborhood."

When it comes to age, uptown's majority age range is 40-49 years, which is better represented by Vibrant Uptown, whose members are mostly 30-39. Uptown Planners members fall more into the 70-79 year age range, and have higher incomes. (A small percentage of Vibrant Uptown members are in the low income category of \$15,000-\$20,000.)

In all, the city council recognized 39 planning group applications at its recent meeting, including the La Jolla Community Planners, an upstart group hoping to oust the existing La Jolla Community Planning Association. The rival proposal would increase the diversity of members, shorten board term limits, and

focus on outreach and growing attendance. The city council will choose between the two rival and existing groups in May. La Jolla's District 1 councilman Joe LaCava helped jumpstart planning group reform in 2021.

Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, who made the motion to recognize Vibrant Uptown, said it would help ensure a voice for each neighborhood. "The two proposed structures in front of us to represent uptown take a very different approach," he said. While the existing group calls for members to be elected at large, its rival calls for them to be elected by neighborhood — and guarantees each neighborhood two seats. "One for a property owner and one for a renter."

SHEILA PELL

KENSINGTON

What's worse: pear or bare? Scheduling snafu leads to open space outside closed theater



Residents Ken hardly bear the site.

Two weeks ago, the flowering trees that helped to obscure the now-defunct Ken Cinema were removed, leaving only bare patches of earth between the street and the sidewalk along Adams Avenue in Kensington. "They're probably going to try and move the sidewalk back to put in bike lanes," opined George Light on NextDoor recently. "You would think they would stop tearing down all the trees, which

scrub CO2 from the atmosphere and produce oxygen." Light's neighbor wondered if "bike racks were going in the empty dirt plots" where the trees once stood. Anjanette U. suggested the tree removals were done "because the roots are destroying the sidewalk. Folks are suing the city for broken sidewalks."

Later, Light messaged me: "Someone later informed me that the trees had some form of blight and were being removed because they were diseased." A few of Light's neighbors corroborated that account on NextDoor, saying that the removed trees were Bradford pears. The trees were part

of the "63 pear trees" along Adams Avenue mentioned by *SD News* in 2013. Even back then, the city, the Kensington Garden Angels, and the Adams Avenue Business District were dealing with the trees, some of which already had fire blight disease. Bradford pear trees used to be the popular landscaping option county-wide, but they have proven problematic, according to plant-based blogs. They have weak branch structures, and are known to break in storms and high winds, as could be seen in Kensington and the rest of the county during the December and January storms. Plus, the trees rapidly reproduce and form colonies that beat out native San Diego County flora.

This time around, instead of treating the sick trees, the plan is allegedly to replace the Bradford pear trees with magnolia trees. "They won't be just magnolias, because of what we know about monoculture," said Kensington resident Susan L. on NextDoor. "There will

be a mix of a few trees to provide diversity of species and prevent such a pathogen from spreading from tree to tree. Watch for a post about the trees soon." Judy H. clarified that the tree-removal contractor allegedly "jumped the gun and wasn't supposed to start removing the trees this early. Neighbors from TreesKensington and Adams Avenue Business Association

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

complained and the work was stopped. It will start back up in the next week or two, after the new nursery stock is ready to be planted. The plan is to remove trees one day, stump grind, and plant new trees the next day. Advance notice was to be given to both the adjacent businesses and the Garden Angels so they could remove their succulents. Much as folks would like to blame the mayor, it was a mixup on the contractor's end."



Marlborough Drive. "It is rotten completely. Please deal with this tree."

Other states have banned the selling of Bradford pear trees, which initially came from China more than 100 years ago, according to *USAToday.com*. The story noted that TikTok influencers have also recently posted about the white flower-bearing pear trees, because they are "eye-catching...But get close, and a whiff of its blossoms may send you running."

Bradford pears are not the only troubled trees in mid-city. "This is ridiculous!" posted a Kensington resident who lives on Marlborough Drive, just three blocks southeast of the Ken. "This [pictured] street tree is almost ready to fall down. It is rotten completely. Please deal with this tree. I have filed several [GetItDone] reports over the last year. You came out and put a white mark on it. Yet you have done nothing and it is a danger to

people and property. Please, please, please come deal with this."

On March 21, Kensington resident Tom took to NextDoor and asked, "Does anybody know why the City of San Diego no longer has Kensington scheduled for tree trimming? I checked the schedule at sandiego.gov/trees. Under the maintenance tab, you can find a link to the Fiscal Year 2023 palm trimming schedule. All the other neighborhoods seem to be on it."

"The palm tree in front of my grandmother's house has now caused a minimum of \$4000 worth of damage," Kathryn P. added. "The sewer lines are filled with

roots. I would like to chop that tree down for what it's done to me. We have to go to the cottage to use the bathroom."

However, according to the Get It Done app, underneath the Tree Maintenance tab, the city is on top of at least some of the Kensington tree issues. On February 15, the city assessed a palm tree situation on Kensington Drive. The rains had caused branches and bark to fall onto the street, sidewalk, and curb. "The palm trees are maintained by the City," read the report. "The debris was causing traffic hazards/safety issues on the highly populated narrow street. Skunks are hiding in the debris and possible rodents. Health and safety issue." The complaint was labeled "closed — this issue was recently resolved or repaired."

MIKE MADRIAGA

UNDER THE RADAR

Up in smoke A March 28 audit report by California State Auditor **Grant Parks** has found gaps in the way the city of San Diego hands out pot permits, raising the specter of incipient corruption. "Because San Diego did not maintain the records of applications for adult-use cannabis permits, we were unable to accurately identify the number of applications," says the document.

In addition, per the report, "Of the six local jurisdictions we reviewed, four — the cities of Fresno, Sacramento, South Lake Tahoe and the county of Santa Barbara — have chosen to require a competitive process that requires scoring of permit applications for either all or some permit types. The remaining two local jurisdictions — Monterey County and the city of San Diego — have chosen not to require a competitive process that scores applications."

Raising more doubts about the selection process, San Diego and three other jurisdictions "did not require individuals involved in reviewing cannabis business applications to sign impartiality statements." Notes the report: "In any process that requires impartiality or that may be susceptible to bias, it is important to consider and implement safeguards, such as using impartiality statements, to prevent undue influence and strengthen confidence in the integrity of the process."

The auditors went on to say that "We were unable to verify the completeness of the list of applications at San Diego because it did not maintain a comprehensive list of applications it received for adult-use cannabis businesses. Further, San Diego did not maintain the records for applications in a cannabis-specific location in storage, which did not allow us to manually search for the applicable applications."

San Diego's background checks were also spotty, though the auditors credited the city for some recent computer changes. "San Diego could not demonstrate before December 2021 that it followed its documented process for ensuring that applications were complete. San Diego's policy states that its minimum submittal requirements checklist establishes the minimum details that must be included in all plans and documents required to be included in the application and that staff will review applicants' documents against this checklist."

"For applications submitted before December 2021, San Diego simply entered into its tracking database the date the application

was deemed complete. However, for 13 of the applications we reviewed, San Diego could not provide evidence that it followed its policy to compare the applications to the checklist, all of which were submitted before December 2021.

"San Diego's project manager stated that the local jurisdiction's adoption of an online permitting process in December 2021 has improved its documentation and record retention. In fact, we reviewed seven applications that San Diego received after December 2021

and verified that city staff had performed appropriate checks for completeness using the online system."

For whom SANDAG tolls

A long-festering accounting scandal involving big losses and misplaced fees at the State Route 125 toll road — owned and operated by the San Diego Council of Regional Governments, commonly called SANDAG —

is newly detailed in a March 26 investigative report by **Courtney Ruby**, the agency's independent performance auditor. SANDAG bought the troubled toll road out of bankruptcy in December 2011, per the document.

On December 16, 2016, the agency's board gave a contract to Plano, Texas-based ETAN Tolling Technology, Inc. to handle Back Office Systems for both the toll road, known as the South Bay Expressway, and SANDAG's I-15 Express Lanes. Ruby's report says auditors found a host of troubles stemming from that deal. "ETAN's implementation of the Back Office System [for the I-15] Fastlane was headed for trouble from the beginning,"

according to the document. But "SANDAG executive management failed to address the situation in a timely manner, including informing the board of directors." As a result of a series of subsequent failures, "At least \$1 million in revenue has been lost due to a function in [the] ETAN [Back Office System] not being turned on."

The South Bay toll road has fared no better. "The [SANDAG] Finance department lacks adequate internal controls including proper review and supervision to ensure [State Route] 125 financial information is accurately recorded, accounted for, and reported accurately," the audit says. "SR 125 went live on June 6, 2022 with the knowledge that ETAN did not fulfill many of its contractual requirements."

Adds the document, "ETAN's contract with SANDAG included having system documenta-

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Grant Parks: San Diego's weed business oversight may not be totally focused.



Courtney Ruby's audit dragged SANDAG over ETAN snafu.

Under the radar

continued from page 3

tion, and when asked why they only had 10% of the documentation complete for their baseline system, they responded that their government project before SANDAG required ‘minimal if any’ documentation. Regarding SANDAG, they confirmed ‘We had very little documentation on the system,’ and there was very limited baseline documentation.

“It appeared that ETAN personnel did not always know how to fix system problems and the lack of system documentation, or poorly written documentation, made fixing the problems difficult and time-consuming. ETAN also experienced significant personnel turnover during the project, contributing to a lack of historical knowledge, and at times insufficient experience to effectively manage and deliver the system they were contracted to provide.”

In-house staff does not escape criticism for the ensuing debacle: “The Finance department lacked sufficient internal controls including proper supervision and timely reconciliation. Senior Financial Management allowed the situation to persist and did not intercede at an operational level to ensure the reliability of the financial information, instead they dismissed concerns as not material.”

Adds the report, “The ETAN [Back Office System] to this day does not meet many of its requirements, fails to provide most required financial reports, and overall ETAN’s BOS has not reached system acceptance. Per ETAN’s contract, System acceptance was scheduled for September 19, 2018. Instead, ETAN’s BOS continues to require excessive amounts of SANDAG’s staff and consultants time to keep it operational until SANDAG can transition to a new back-office system.”

As a result, the audit notes, SANDAG’S board of directors voted to remove ETAN and approved sole source contracts with Deloitte and A-to-Be on January 12, 2024. “The migration to a new Back-Office System, per SANDAG management, is anticipated to take 7 months to complete.”

Reported KNSD TV January 15, after the switch was announced: “ETAN has been paid \$8.4 million and will collect an additional \$1.3 million.” Some of the allegations against ETAN and SANDAG management first appeared in a wrongful termination lawsuit filed last November by ex-SANDAG finance director and whistleblower **Lauren Warren**.

— 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/.

LETTERS

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

The joy your article brought me

Literary masterpiece! Thank you Georgeanne for writing such a moving and thought-provoking article. As a long time resident and walker of North Park and surrounding neighborhoods, I totally connected with your story. I too have watched this old-school charming neighborhood transform, and I share the fear that the affordable apartment I have resided in for 13 years will be sold to a developer to create more “unaffordable living.”

My dad taught me as a kid to enjoy each day as it comes and not live with the anxiety that the sky is falling. These days, that’s tough, but I took great pleasure in reading your article, and I am grateful for the joy that it brought me. Keep on keeping on and I hope to cross paths with you someday as we stroll through this beautiful concrete jungle.

Kyle Stovel
North Park

Thanks and congrats A thank you and congratulations to Georgeanne Hotchkiss and A.T., first and second place winners of the Neighborhood Writing Contest. Both stories brought tear0s to my eyes and were a pleasure to read. A thank you to the Reader as well for hosting the contest and bringing us these beautifully talented local voices.

Julien Rose Farinas
North Park

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

SDG&E announces rate hike shortly after posting record profits

SD on the QT, Mar. 29, 2024
Support the Power San Diego initiative to replace SDG&E. powersandiego.us Find a petition to sign near you if you are a City of San Diego registered voter – we can get out from under our corporate overlords and reduce our electricity rates. Every non-profit utility in California and there are dozens – every one has lower rates than what we’re stuck with.

—Take back the power

ROFL. It kills me corporate executives with bloated salaries don’t believe other people could do their job for better and cheaper and that removing the investment profits

would somehow disrupt the laws of engineering. Power San Diego all day long. The future is Public Power. Save money, save the planet.
-PSD is for me

San Diego’s Uptown Planners challenged by renters from Vibrant Uptown

Neighborhood News, March 26, 2024
Why is Uptown Planners filled with boomers?
-Boomer Bammer
I think it’s primarily because older homeowners tend to be Boomers and that’s who is on Uptown Planners.
-Boom there it is

Everything in Hillcrest is fleeing

Cover Stories, Mar. 20, 2024
Wow, that was a clear-eyed, well-written piece. It flowed so nicely and just a great writing style. Best thing I’ve seen in this rag in a loooong time. Georgeanne, I hope you continue to write.
-Anthony H
Oh Georgeanne. I wish I could meet you, as our lives are so much alike. Anyway, I loved your story, it spoke to my soul and maybe by some miracle, we may cross paths someday. It is possible, as I take my elderly mom to the same thrift stores you frequent as well.
-Jerika C. Daleo

Congrats on winning the writing contest. I almost felt like I was strolling the streets of Hillcrest with you. Anyway, I just wanted to inform you that yes, SD police has an outreach team. It’s actually a lot more damaging than helpful. If you refuse their “help” which is bed bug infested shelters with crazies, they will give you a ticket. It starts off as an infraction, then becomes a misdemeanor, and eventually, they just arrest you.
-Hillcrest Blues

La Jolla’s Tree House closes out Unreal Estate
UnReal Estate, Mar. 29, 2024
I’ll miss this column, it’s been one of my favorite reads since its debut.
-Unreal Ending

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4 San Diego Reader April 4, 2024

At home with *Reader* readers

The Door's Open. Go In!

Some beards, like Alan's, are magnificent in their autonomy — they grow as they wish, untrimmed and untamed. "You shall not round the corners of your beard." These beards grow in wide bushes, or they hang long and white and straight; on some of the younger faces, they sprout like scraggly chaparral. But many beards are trimmed — full beards that have been reined in at the base; close-cropped beards that still cover much of the face. — *Matthew Lickona* **JUNE 12, 2003**

Suburban Artery

"My wife and I know what to expect. I just feel bad for them. That's why the divorce rate is so high in the military, especially in the Navy — because we have one of the highest rates of separation. After about every deployment, you'll come back, and when you come back, it will be divorce after divorce. The husband or wife has found somebody new; they got lonely after a few months and moved on." — *Matthew Lickona* **SEPT. 25, 2003**

Lisa Makes Sunday Dinner

Except for her stint in the Army, Lisa has lived in Spring Valley all her life. "My mother thought about Temecula, but I told her, 'If you move up to Temecula, you won't be seeing me too much.' They stayed for six

months, then they sold it and moved back down here. She worked in La Jolla and he worked in El Cajon, and he was spending \$350 to \$400 a month on gas — just for him."

— *Matthew Lickona* **NOV. 13, 2003**

Gongolians

He became so enamored of their way of life that he made up his mind to live in a Socialist country and joined the Army after graduating high school with an eye toward defecting to the Soviet Union. But he joined in 1988; when the Berlin Wall came down a year later, it took with it his dreams of Socialist living. He returned to America, used his Army earned college funds to attend UCSD.

— *Matthew Lickona* **NOV. 20, 2003**



Alan, Yehuda, Esther, Shira, Elisheva. There is harmony here —
Alan and Elisheva have realized at least some measure of what they desired.

Far from Empty

Rene speaks of Harvard with a touch of wonder. "The power of Harvard is absolutely immense. It's a world totally to itself; you've got everything. They make sure that their graduates are going to be the fat cats, the leaders in the world. Of course, you've got to have the brightest. If they see a little Einstein coming their way, he'll get a scholarship up to his eyebrows. In the future, he'll be a Harvard man."

— *Matthew Lickona* **NOV. 22, 2000**

Heart Attack House

"Denver in the 1950s seemed to be a haven for a lot of these Jewish people who left Eastern Europe," he says. "But the Romanians wouldn't talk to the Hungarians, and the Poles wouldn't talk from one city to the next. It was truly Old World; the Romanians and the Russians and the Poles hated each other almost worse than the Nazis from whom they were fleeing or the Americans to whom they were strangers."

— *Matthew Lickona* **MAR. 18, 2004**

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Cardiovascular Clinical Trial



Is your high cholesterol level increasing your risk of having a major cardiovascular event?

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The VICTORION-1 PREVENT study will assess if an investigational drug can prevent cardiovascular events (such as heart attacks, strokes, procedures to improve blood flow, and death) in adults who are at high cardiovascular risk and who have high levels of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol (also called 'bad' cholesterol), but have not yet had a major cardiovascular event.

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The whale's return

Whew. Something has been made right in La Jolla. For the last decade, everybody I've spoken to has talked as if a little piece of this town's soul had been ripped out. A piece that used to make them feel that their neighborhood amounted to more than a tourism magnet or a luxury dormitory. And then, during a recent

Jonas Salk (who, let's remember, you anti-vaxxers, pretty-much saved humanity from polio with his vaccine), as well as Joan Kroc, and Sol Price, the Price Club founder.

Chandler liked The Whaling Bar because a) this pretty cool group had the makings of a bona fide artists' colony, b) a real artists' colony, the Green Dragon, was situated right below the



Families gather beneath Wing Howard's whaling mural, back on display after years in storage

evening stroll down Prospect, the magic happened. "They've opened it back up!" said this elderly gentleman on the sidewalk outside The Pink Lady — La Valencia Hotel. He stood, looking awestruck at the bar. *Oh wow. It's The Whaling Bar.*

Last time I looked, The Whaling Bar was dead and buried. Some ten years ago, it was turned into the somewhat vapid Cafe La Rue. Big on expensive, small on lore. I counted it a loss. I had willingly drunk the Kool Aid on the old place's romance. (My great great-great-granddaddy was a whaler, so I guess I was predisposed.) They had this 20-foot mural which I was pleased to see took the whale's side of the story — or at least, there was some sympathy contained in the title: "The Whale's Last Stand." It was painted by Wing Howard, who tuned into the kinda literary notoriety that La Jolla's own Rat Pack was giving the joint. Because, you think La Jolla, you think noir. Raymond Chandler was *primus inter pares* here, and he was beautifully noir in his writing. *The Big Sleep. The Long Goodbye. Farewell, My Lovely.* Not to mention *Playback*, his last novel, which is interesting on a local level, because he set it in Esmeralda, which was his code for La Jolla, where he lived the final years of his life. At this very bar, he drank, talked, and probably argued with his buddies, among them Gregory Peck and Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss himself). Other regulars dropping in here were probably too young for him: Jack Lemmon, Tom Hanks, Robin Williams, and La Jolla luminaries like

hotel, and c) he himself was a serious drinker who liked a serious bar. He said it himself: "I like bars just after they open for the evening. When the air inside is still cool and clean, and everything is shiny, and the barkeep is giving himself that last look in the mirror to see if his tie is straight, and his hair is smooth. I like the neat bottles on the bar back, and the lovely shining glasses and the anticipation. I like to watch the man mix the first one of the evening, and put it down on a crisp mat, and put the little folded napkin beside it. I like to taste it slowly. The first quiet drink of the evening in a quiet bar — that's wonderful."

La Valencia hotel opened in 1925. They created The Whaling Bar in 1949. It lasted 74 years, through 2013. Then, La Rue. But it turns out the town council petitioned the hotel to reopen The Whaling Bar, at least according to one manager on this night, which is — pure luck! — its soft opening. We're surrounded by patches of Wing Howard's whaling mural, now broken up into four separate panels. Some folks are celebrating by ordering "The Whaler," the joint's signature cocktail of cognac, coffee liqueur, Irish whiskey and home-made ice cream.

"Do you know what barstool Raymond Chandler actually sat on?" I ask. "No, but somewhere on that side of the room," the manager says. "Doctor Seuss used to have a plaque in one of the booths. We want to put one back in. Gregory Peck used to be the artistic director for the theater in La Jolla. So all

of his co-stars would come here. People are so interested, we did a whole staff training about the history of La Jolla. We're very excited to see what people think of this *vuelve a la vida*." Me, I think it's grand.

Gentlemen rubbish collectors

It's an odd feeling. I'm standing here at 12th and Imperial, waiting for my stretch limousine, *aka* the number 901 bus, when I spot these gentlemen. And gentlemen they are: they're dressed in white shirts, ties, gray and checkered suits. And down here, you notice:

And at the end, we're going to have a good, fun time while we're at it."

His buddy Erik chimes in. "We started off by Punchbowl Social on 14th street, and decided we'd make our way around this whole area, wherever we're needed most. And then drop our trash bags off. And then we're going to have a little happy hour at East Village Brewing after this. We just decided to do this ourselves. No official backing, except we organized through 'A Clean and Safe San Diego'" (It's part of the Downtown San Diego Partnership). "They helped us with the trash bags. But it has shown me: anyone can get

These gents are not from this part of the planet.

their shoes are fine brown and black leather, nicely buffed. These gents are not from this part of the planet.

I stop one: Trevor Spence. Like all dozen of his compatriots who are combing through the rubbish-dotted landscape, he's armed with plastic gloves, a cherry-picker tool, and a big black plastic bag. "I'm an entrepreneur, in the medical device arena," he says. "We're the Gentlemen of San Diego. We formed last summer, more as a social organization for men, who are like-minded and successful and goal-oriented. We meet once a month, first Fridays, just to get together. It was very social at the beginning, then we thought about it and

involved, and anyone can make a difference if they really want to. Just got to get out there and do it. If people want to find us, we're on Instagram: @thegentlemenofsandiego. Some of us are entrepreneurs, some of us are nine-to-fivers. But at the end of the day, we're all guys who want to be better versions of ourselves."

I have to say, these patches of grass by the transit station have never looked more brilliantly green. Yes, it has been raining and that helps, but still, these guys, just doing it, not asking for anything back, or publicity. (Me meeting them is total serendipity.) Pretty cool.

Okay, as they go picking on their way, I



Just do it: The Gentlemen of San Diego want to be their better selves

said, 'Hey, why don't we give this a purpose, and give it a service component?' That's what brought us out today. This is actually our first service meeting. We're picking up trash in the streets of San Diego to kind of give back to the community, feel good about what we're doing.

do have a couple of gnawing questions. Like, why the ties? By dressing formally like this, do they want to identify themselves as smart, middle-class people different from everybody else hereabouts? And also, the main question I should've asked: why no women?

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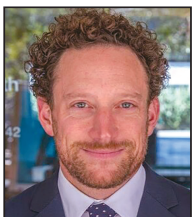
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JOE'S PLACE

Every morning I wake up — still tired, because I never sleep well — pull back my bedroom curtains, and see the house.

The paint, white once upon a time, is cracked and peeling all over. The roof shingles are flaking and charred from too many years under the San Diego sun. An oversized American flag still serves as a makeshift curtain in the three-panel picture window, its stars and stripes faded to a pale, uniform dinginess. On the porch sits an empty cat-food bowl and an old pair of men's sneakers. They've been there for about two years now, possibly more, as if waiting for the cat or the man — Joe, I think his name was — to come back and make them

useful again. But Joe is dead, and the cat was taken to the Humane Society a while ago. So I guess the bowl and the sneakers will just keep sitting there until somebody finally decides to throw them away.

But who would be that somebody? A few relatives cleared out most of Joe's house some time after he died. I walked over and talked to them about his cat and dog. Joe looked after a gray and white long-haired cat that would hang out on his porch. Every summer he'd clip her coat down haphazardly with scissors, presumably out of concern that she might be too hot with all that fur. He also had a little brown Chihuahua. The family didn't know



"Humans have been here, but they were Luddites, and they wouldn't like you. You should go now."

anything about the cat, but the dog had been taken in by some neighbors. I guess they decided to leave the cat's bowl in case she came back and someone wanted to feed her. I'm not sure why they left the sneakers.

Joe lived alone in the house, a classic North Park Craftsman: one story, with a simple low-pitched gabled roof, a large open front porch, etc.. His departure didn't begin the decay: as far back as I can remember, the paint had always been peeling, the roof had always looked charred, and that flag had always been in the window. For years, I'd seen Joe on an almost daily basis — no shirt, stained cargo shorts hanging precariously around his hips — doing yard work with the slow, arthritic stiffness of a 70-something-year-old man. The yardwork didn't have much effect; now and then, a new mound of junk would appear here or there, but it never seemed to look any better: just weeds and patches of dirt and a broken-down truck in the unpaved driveway.

The tiny brown Chihuahua was always a

few feet away while he worked, sniffing in the weeds. Joe would finish up whatever he was doing, then scoop the little dog into the crook of his arm and carry him inside. A couple of times a week, Joe would ride an old mountain bike around the neighborhood. The tiny brown Chihuahua would sit in a basket at the front, his little eyes squinting against the wind. The dog was so small — even for a Chihuahua — that when I first saw him, I thought he was a puppy. But the months passed, and he never grew. One day, I passed Joe and the dog walking through the alley behind my building. I asked him how old the dog was. "Thirteen," he muttered. The surly expression on his face told me, "Go away."

Several weeks after Joe's family left, curiosity dragged me across the street. I didn't think I'd find anything very interesting or valuable — probably just a dead animal in some corner getting eaten by maggots. But I couldn't resist the urge to go look inside the house, to see how Joe had lived. I

walked over in the middle of the afternoon, hoping the neighbors wouldn't notice me poking around. Not that I was too worried. Most of them knew me from my daily walks with my cat, and would probably just figure I was being harmlessly nosy. People who walk their cats don't usually come off as troublemakers.

The front door and windows were bolted, so I went around back; when I got there, I discovered a gutted station wagon some yards behind the broken-down truck. At the rear of the house, immediately around the corner, there was a door that led under the house. At the other corner were a few narrow wooden stairs leading up to the first floor. At the back of the yard, which was strewn with the standard, old-man-living-alone junk — rakes, plastic pipes, metal sheeting, car parts, tools, a single, broken crutch, etc. — there was an open storage shed and a dilapidated little cottage.

There was no lock on the door leading beneath the house, just a piece of wood jammed against it to keep it closed, as if



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something inside might try to escape. I opened the door easily enough and went down a few concrete steps into something too unfinished to be called a basement. It was a misshapen space, about 10 feet by 15 feet, 6 ½ feet in height, with some rough concrete for the floor. The ceiling was wooden planks — the underside of the first floor. Dusty light nudged its way in through a few windows. The air smelled of damp dirt and something else — harder to describe, a vaguely ominous, virgin smell that you rarely find anywhere anymore. I decided it was the smell of a place free of contemporary technology. There was no wifi here, no electricity running through the walls, no cable, not even a functioning landline. I don't know for certain if I could smell these things, but I could certainly feel the lack of *something* in the air — a kind of charge, something that is nowadays ubiquitous. But this wasn't the fresh, clean smell of a forest or the beach, either. It was the smell of "Humans have been here, but they were Luddites, and they wouldn't like you. You

should go now."

Just to the right of the steps was Joe's bike, leaning against its kickstand among a couple of toolboxes and some milk crates filled with more junk. The dog's basket still hung off the handlebars. Looking at the bike, I felt like I was looking at Joe and his little brown Chihuahua, as if his spirit somehow inhabited the bike. The rusted metal frame, the greasy chain, the worn seat. He was there, *in* them somehow, carrying his little dog in the crook of his arm.

Of course, that was crazy. Spirits don't inhabit bicycles. I tried to get back to a more practical frame of mind. For a few seconds, I considered taking the bike. After all, I needed one, and his relatives couldn't have cared much about it if they'd left it behind. But then again, they hadn't thrown it away or left it on the curb for someone to take. Maybe they were planning to come back for it? In any case, did I really want to be riding around on a dead man's bike?

No. It was too morbid. And what if Joe's spirit really *was* living in the bike? He might be a big



"NOT HONKEY DOREY" written on the fence separating his property from the neighbor's.

old pervert-ghost and I might be sitting on his face every time I rode it. Disgusting. No. I'd leave the bike alone. But a few feet away, I spotted a couple of new-looking bike seats in one of the milk crates. They didn't look used enough to be haunted, and I figured they might come in handy at some point, once I got a bike, so I took them and climbed back out into the yard and the San Diego sun.

I wanted to go back home. Something felt very wrong and ugly

about the place. Maybe the bike really *was* haunted. Or maybe it was just the old, gutted cars, the junk in the yard, the way everything looked so worn and dirty. I tried to tell myself it was the family's fault. They might have run out of time to finish the job of clearing things away — had to go back home for work or whatever — so they'd left behind a bit of a mess. But something told me what I was seeing was not what had been left behind by the family. The mess was already there when they arrived.

But despite my urge to leave, I found myself compelled to finish checking out the place. I couldn't let myself be so easily creeped out. It's not like anything had jumped out at me. I hadn't seen some misty figure in a corner. I hadn't even seen any maggot-ridden dead animals. No, I would proceed.

I walked over to the other corner of the house and climbed the rickety stairs up to a door; the original glass panels had been replaced by wire mesh. Rope had been looped and knotted

through this mesh and then through a metal fastener on the wooden inner door. It wasn't possible to open the outer door unless you undid the knot or cut the rope, neither of which I felt up to attempting. So I got on my tiptoes and peeked through the window at the top of the inner door.

What I saw was a kitchen, but the kind of kitchen you would expect to see in a squatter's house, one that had already been abandoned for about 10 years. The walls were missing paneling in some places so that you could see the inner wood frame. In other places, the paneling had been replaced by random pieces of plywood, plastic, and metal sheeting. There was a counter in the middle of the room and a range a few feet away on the right. Everything was filthy and stained. Above and below the range, the cabinets were missing doors. A piece of tarp hung across the window overlooking the yard. I couldn't see into any other part of the house from where I stood, and I didn't want to.

I climbed back down

the stairs and walked over to the shed. A drop-in bathtub lay on its side near the entrance. To the right stood a refrigerator missing its door. At the back, a large cooler had its lid propped open. I was glad to find it empty. Then I went over to the cottage. The door was bolted, but I could see through the windows, which were just above eye level. The front room was a small living room that connected to a separate kitchen and a hallway leading towards the rear. Near one window, there was a table littered with some plates, bowls, and hand tools. A few feet away, a shelf stood in the middle of the room, holding more tools, some calamine lotion, and a bottle of Head & Shoulders. There was no other furniture in the place.

Here, at least, the walls were intact. But they were just bare drywall panels and there were random bits of writing scrawled all over: *Lost between vouchers + compt [sic]; Renegers Reneagers [sic]; TIME; slumdog hophouse host; citizen arrest on neighbors mennece [sic] to society; A.K. NO BACKBONE; pure evil we ask god; ENVIORMENT [sic]; 10/1/2017 DOG DAY*. Between the bits of writing, there were smears and stains, as if some scrawl had been washed off or painted over. A small picture of Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* had been tacked up on one wall. I turned away from the window and decided to go home. As I walked out of the yard, I noticed NOT HONKEY DOREY written on the fence separating his property from the neighbor's. No, I guess it wasn't.

So that's how Joe had lived — in filthy squalor, writing on his walls.

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Was it poverty? Dementia? Both? And yet he took care of his little dog and cat. Rode his bike around the neighborhood, the little dog sitting in the basket.

Walking back to my building — some of the “affordable housing” in the neighborhood — I looked at my neighbors’ houses: million-dollar bungalows with fresh paint and clean siding, newish cars parked in front. The yards were neatly manicured: mowed lawns and carefully composed xeriscaping. Everywhere, rosemary, lavender, and rose bushes, the aggressive points of agave, yucca, and aloe. A few yards had fruit trees — orange, lemon, and loquat — whose fruit would eventually fall and rot on the ground because the residents couldn’t be bothered to gather it, put it in a box, and put the box on the sidewalk for passersby to take. I’m not sure they ever bother picking the fruit, even for their own consumption.

I arrived at my building. The walkway was no longer lined by rich jade bushes as it had been

when I moved in more than 10 years ago. Now there were only rocks. Around the courtyard, where there had been lush greenery — jade, angelina sedum, blue fescue, the vibrant flowers of ice-plant, a two-story loquat tree — there were only rocks or the plants put out by residents themselves. Torrey Pines Property Management (TPPM) had gotten rid of all the vegetation several years earlier. A neighbor said it was to save on landscaping costs. I believed him. They’d also gotten rid of the original coin washer and dryer, replacing them with smaller models that cost more per load. And every year, the rent increased by 10% — the maximum allowable amount. A few years back, before the current rent control law was passed, they’d raised it more than 20% in one year.

Inside, during the day, I can hear my upstairs neighbor walking back and forth. It sounds like constant stomping. It isn’t her fault, though. A few years ago, TPPM stopped putting carpeting in the apartments. Now there is nothing to pad footsteps

or muffle noise unless the resident installs it at his or her own expense. And it doesn’t help that the walls are paper-thin. At night, through my bedroom wall, I can hear the snoring of the building’s 60-something-year-old former handyman. Ever since he stopped being the handyman, he has spent his days sitting at his computer while listening to conspiracy theories on right-wing talk radio. I know this because he keeps his apartment door open and I can see him sitting at a desk in the corner of his living room every time I pass by. I can also hear the radio shows going all day long through my bathroom wall.

He’s a nice guy, though — never caused me any problems, at least not directly. I much prefer him to my other neighbor, the one I can hear snoring through my living room wall, the one who stalked me for two years and broke into my apartment using a key he stole from the ex-handyman while he was still the handyman. The stalking began after he helped me climb through one of my bedroom windows, which

was about 15 feet off the ground. I’d locked myself out of the room, so it was either call a locksmith, which I didn’t want to pay for, or climb through the window. The only ladder I could find, borrowed from another neighbor, wasn’t high enough. I had to stack a milk crate on top to reach my window and then also jump a bit, which required someone to hold the milk crate steady and be present in case I fell and needed an ambulance. The stalker was the only person available to help. I didn’t think much of it. Up until that point, he had exhibited only a few bouts of creepiness, and we had generally been on polite, friendly terms.

Well, I made the jump through the window, but not without momentarily tipping over on the ledge in the wrong direction and almost plummet-

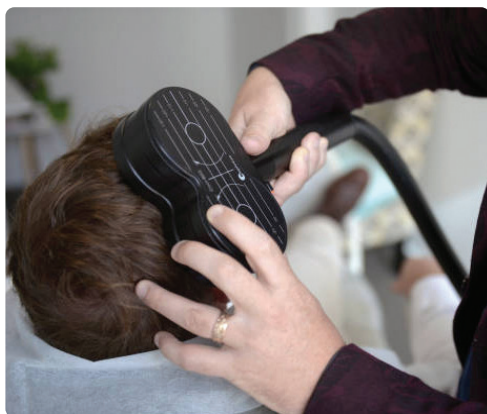
ing to my death. It was all very exciting. So exciting, in fact, that the stalker took it as a great bonding experience, one that meant henceforth we should talk to each other every time I left my apartment. Every. Time. He was fully capable of making this happen, because he was home all day, every day. And not because he worked from home, as I did. He was a retired veteran. He had no job. He also seemed to have no hobbies and no friends besides the handyman and the mailman. He’d spend nearly the entire day just hanging around the building’s courtyard trying to start conversations with the other neighbors, who generally were not interested.

All day, through my living room window, I could hear him hanging around, desperate for company. If he ever

went into his apartment, he left the door open like the handyman. When he heard the handyman get home from work in the afternoon, he’d go over to his place and hang out there for a while. Because I lived right next door and his door was always open, he could hear every time I opened my door to leave or enter my place. After the window adventure, this became his cue to pop out and try to start a conversation, following me to the mailboxes, to the garbage bins, to the laundry room...

After a few weeks, I started giving him a bit of the cold shoulder so he’d back off. He got the hint, but he didn’t exactly back off. He stopped trying to talk to me, but he continued coming out of his apartment every time he heard my door open. On cue, he’d pop out, except now he’d

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stand in the courtyard or in his doorway, glaring at me. Watching me. Every day. Multiple times a day. Nearly every time my door opened, there he was, watching and glaring. I ignored him, pretending not to notice. On some days, I'd open my door with no intention of going anywhere, just to fake him out.

This went on for about four months. Then I woke up one morning, walked into my kitchen and got a shock. Every few weeks, I would check my kitchen door, which opened onto a locked-off side passage of the building. It was actually two doors: a sliding glass inner door and a steel grate outer door. I would often open the glass door to let in air, but the outer door had been locked for 11 years. I had never even had a key. A couple of times, I'd asked the handyman to try to open it so I could use the passage to plant vegetables. Both times, he couldn't find the key; somehow, it had gone missing.

Mild paranoia, the result of living alone as a woman, drove me to check the steel door every once in a while, just



The walls were intact. But there were random bits of writing scrawled all over.

to make sure it was still locked. And this morning, it was not locked. The bolt was undone, and with just a slight push, the door opened.

I called the police and TPPM, who promptly sent over a locksmith. I asked the locksmith if the door's lock had been tampered with. He said no, that it looked as if someone had used a key. I immediately knew who had opened the door. There was only one person who knew all my comings and goings, who was in the building all day, every day, watching me. And he was the only person in all of San Diego besides the guy I was dating (who didn't have time to be a crazy stalker) who knew

I had recently stopped hosting for Airbnb and was once again living alone. (With all his watching, he surely noticed that I no longer had guests coming through.) Only one person besides the handyman was ever in the handyman's apartment and so only one other person had access to the building's keys. And I'd seen him let himself in there even when the handyman was not home, using a spare key.

I realized my neighbor was the reason the handyman's key to my kitchen door had gone missing. He was the only person besides the handyman who ever used the locked side passage of the building. I had seen him there

a few weeks earlier, looking around, even though there wasn't much to look at — just a couple of dying plants and some old window bars. And who else would have any interest in breaking into my apartment? I live in a cheap, old building and drive a noisy, dented, '95 Honda Accord. Clearly, I do not have money. All my electronics and other belongings are of the oldest, cheapest, most basic kind; the kind of stuff you'd have trouble even giving away. No, the person who broke in was not interested in burglary. It was about intrusion, the sense of power derived from knowing they had violated my space, my privacy, the security of my home. It was a kind of psychological rape.

Or maybe he had planned to attack me, or hurt my cats. Who knows?

I explained all of this to the police, told them about the months of stalking and the missing key. Unfortunately, because nothing seemed to have been stolen and there was no sign of forced entry, there was not enough evidence of a crime for me to press charges, or even file a police report. Or rather, I could file a report if I really wanted to, but nothing would come of it.

Because I couldn't press

charges, TPPM did not have legal grounds for doing anything either. And I couldn't move out because I didn't have the two months' rent plus security deposit that would be required if I moved someplace new. I was stuck living next to my stalker, who continued watching my every move for the next year and a half. But at least he couldn't let himself into my apartment anymore. TPPM agreed to hold the copy of the new keys at their office instead of leaving them with the handyman.

After a year and a half, I finally lost my patience one day when he popped out, looking for me as usual. I told him off in the courtyard, loudly, so that the other residents would hear. He tried to laugh it off and then called out to the handyman for help. The handyman refused to get involved. After that, he stopped coming out whenever my door would open.

Then after a few weeks, he banged on my wall like a maniac when I practiced my piano, something I'd done for years without him or anyone else ever complaining. A few hours later, I knocked on his door, and when he came out, I told him off again. This time, I threatened to call the police and file a report of ha-

arrassment for banging on my wall. I guess this must have scared him, because he never banged on my wall again. Evidently, ignoring is not always the best way to deal with a stalker. Sometimes you have to mortify them.

I sometimes wonder why I'm surrounded by creepy old men. Did I accidentally step through some portal into North Park's secret vortex of male tragedy? Is the universe trying to teach me something? Will I ever be able to escape this shit-hole? It's not honkey dorey. Not at all.

A couple of weeks ago, I went back to Joe's place. Not much had changed except that the bike was gone and the dog's basket was in a trash bin. Maybe his relatives had come back. I decided to take the basket home with me. As I left, I noticed a note stuck to the front door. The writing was messy, but legible, and read as follows (personal details changed to protect the individual's privacy): *Joey Griffiths, This is Shane. I stopped by to check on you. My address is XXXX Van Dyke Place, San Diego, CA 92116. (619)555-0090. I'll try to find you later. I'll come back. Love you Joey. Piper died but I got a new dog.*

I called Shane when I got home.

— Julien Rose Farinas



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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Friday | 5

VICTORIAN TO VANGUARD

Examine works from fiber artist Marty Ornish that explore a decade of political, environmental, and feminist perspectives through textile art. The retrospective exhibit will include two parts, uniting the Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House and the Villa Montezuma Museum. Ornish's textiles are nearly as old as the historic buildings in which they are being shown. She integrates Victorian, Edwardian, and contemporary fashion styles while harkening back to a pre-Victorian time when cloth was a luxury. Her art pays homage to an era when fabrics were revered and meticulously cared for, and when fashions were repurposed and re-embellished.

WHEN: Wednesdays through Saturdays, Through Saturday, April 27.

WHERE: Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue, Downtown. gaslampfoundation.org



than 50 beers from local breweries. Enjoy live music and specialty food vendors presented by 91X. Proceeds are donated to the San Diego Music Foundation to fund the Taylor Guitars in Schools program.

WHEN: Saturday, April 6, 12 pm to 4 pm

WHERE: 2223 El Cajon Blvd, North Park. northparkbeerfest.com

BOOTS IN THE PARK

For the eighth year, Waterfront Park will host a day-and-night country-themed party with live music, craft food, cocktails, brewers, local vendors, art displays, and line dancing. Scheduled performers include Thomas Rhett, Lee Brice, Scotty McCreery, Locash, Rhett Akins, and

Alana Springsteen.

WHEN: Saturday, April 6, 5 pm

WHERE: Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway, Downtown. tickets.bootsinthepark.com

Saturday | 6

NORTH PARK FESTIVAL OF BEERS

The 14th North Park Festival of Beers will take place in front of the historic Lafayette Hotel. Check out samples of more



MONDAY, APRIL 8: SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING PARTY

Sunday | 7



SAN MARCOS SPRING FLING STREET FESTIVAL

As many as 15,000 guests will be on hand to peruse the wares of artisans, crafters, and local community businesses. There will be children's attractions and carnival rides. Guests can also

enjoy a showcase of local talent on the San Marcos Community Stage, listen to San Diego County musicians at the Rhythm and Brews beer garden stage, and enjoy a food court, local craft beers, wine, and kombucha.

WHEN: Sunday, April 7, 9 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Via Vera Cruz, San Marcos. citygateevents.com

Monday | 8

SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING PARTY

Celebrate International Dark Sky Week with a solar eclipse viewing. Purchase safe eclipse-viewing glasses from the Fleet's science store. Engage in space demos and activities. Have your eclipse questions answered by the Fleet's resident astronomers and eclipse experts from the University of California San Diego, San Diego State University, and the San Diego Astronomy Association.

WHEN: Monday, April 8, 9 am

WHERE: Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, Balboa Park. fleetscience.org



SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

North Coast United Methodist Church

Contact: 1501 Kelly St., Oceanside 760-439-4099 www.northcoastumc.org

Membership: 100 (Attendance: 45-50)

Pastor: Drew Davis

Age: 49

Born: Martinsville, VA

Formation: Virginia Interment College, Bristol, VA (closed in 2014); Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena

Years Ordained: 16

San Diego Reader: How long do you spend preparing your sermon?

Pastor Drew Davis: My sermons are topically based. I usually spend Fridays working on my sermons, but I am daily processing what my sermon will be. Much of my narrative and con-

versation comes through my visits; I catch things to include in my sermons as I go on my pastoral calls and hear what our dear friends are dealing with in their lives.

SDR: What is your favorite subject on which to preach?

PD: The necessity of being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ and being active in ministry, going out to people as caregiver. Our church has a focus on interacting with community services as we go out and care in ministry. We work with places like Operation Hope. Instead of trying to reinvent the wheel, we do as much community interaction as we can through community services.

SDR: What is your main concern as a member of

the clergy?

PD: How do we present the face of Christ to individuals who have been neglected by the church? My focus recently has been our siblings in the LGBTQ community. There are a lot of dear friends who have felt pushed away from the church and my main concern is personal ministry and faith in displaying Christ's face to those who are neglected by the church. We address this problem by working with community agencies, and we go and serve and interact as the hands and feet of Christ, providing extra care.

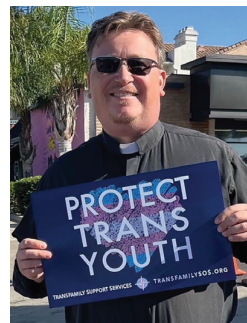
SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PD: We are a community of people who have experi-

enced God's agape love and we want to share it with as many people as possible and in as many ways as possible. We feel there is nothing that separates an individual from God's grace—nothing.

SDR: Why United Methodist?

PD: That was a journey within itself. I grew up Southern Baptist, and I was dealing in college with some exclusionary behavior of my fellow Christians that I could not justify within my spirit. My best friend in college's dad was a United Methodist minister. I started talking to him and told him I didn't like some things I that saw and I felt a need to go out and be with people. He explained to me that John Wesley, the



Drew Davis

founder of Methodism, saw the world as his parish. That made sense to me. So, I found the United Methodist Church through my best friend's dad.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PD: I don't care. My journey is so much about being present in the moment that I don't think about what's next. God

proved that it's more important to be present in the moment when he put on flesh and became Jesus Christ. I believe whole-heartedly in a God who could have snapped his fingers and removed sin; but God decided to put on flesh and experience living here on earth. I don't think about what happens next, but only of being present to touch souls in the moment. When a congregant asks me that question, I say that God holds such a boundless grace for us that he cannot be limited in the reward. Grace, I tell them, has to be experienced through our being.

— Joseph O'Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDReader.com/worship/

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

Allison Beaudry: Clearcoat Vista based artist Allison Beaudry draws parallels between the sleek curves and seductive finish of classic cars and the male gaze of the female body. Intensive research into classic car color schemes and design aesthetic found in vintage Playboy magazines, forms a foundation for Allison Beaudry's new body of work. Show runs from March 2 - April 28. Saturday, April 6, 3pm; **free**. House of Borrego Springs West Gallery, 624 Palm Canyon Drive. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Creativity: A Decade of Sleeping with My Muse Lecture by MartyO on the creative process coinciding with the exhibition *A Splendid Decennium: Victorian to Vanguard*. Saturday, April 6, 10:30am; \$5-\$10. Villa Montezuma Museum, 1925 K Street. (SHERMAN HEIGHTS)

FACE2FACE Hello Again Art Exhibition Hello Again Pet Portraits will mingle with family ancestors; faces of joy may contrast with downcast eyes of sorrow; celebrities draw the eye, while everyday people have a brief moment of attention. Friday, April 5, 5:30pm; **free**. Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

La Jolla Art Association Member Show Enjoy a free art exhibit of 50 paintings by 18 professional artists. All art available for purchase. Thursday, April 4, 11am; Friday, April 5, 11am; Saturday, April 6, 11am; Sunday, April 7, 11am; Monday, April 8, 11am; **free**. Gallery 21 in Spanish Village Art Center, 1770 Village Place. (BALBOA PARK)

Mia Savage: Nectar Unveiling The unveiling of "Nectar" by acclaimed painter Mia Savage is a free, all-ages event showcasing oil paintings of fruits, flowers, and human figures. Includes live music and bar access. Tuesday, April 9, 6pm; **free**. Distinction Gallery, 317 E. Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

BEER

Beers by the Bay with Mike Hess Brewery Celebrate National Beer Day with Mike Hess Brewing and a paired dinner with beer activation tastings. Each food station is paired with specialty beers. Sunday, April 7, 4pm; \$55. Mission Bay Resort, 1775 East Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

North Park Festival of Beers The 15th annual North Park Festival of Beers features more than 50 beers from area breweries. Saturday, April 6, 12pm; Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Don Winslow: City in Ruins Warwick's will host Don Winslow as he discusses and signs his new book, *City in Ruins* (Danny Ryan Trilogy #3). This event is free and open to the public. To ensure seating, reserve one book per person @ warwicks.com/event/winslow-2024. Wednesday, April 10, 7:30pm; **free**-\$32. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Jacqueline Johnson: Elinor McGrath, Pet Doctor Warwick's and La Jolla Riford Library present Jacqueline Johnson as she discusses and signs her new book, *Elinor McGrath, Pet Doctor: The Story of America's First Female Veterinarian*. Kids can bring their toy animals for a pet checkup with Dr. Johnson. Saturday, April 6, 3pm; **free**. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Writers Festival The San Diego Writers Festival offers free classes from instructors and a chance to meet the storytellers. Following a welcome ceremony and keynote address, enjoy 90 speakers and 40 events throughout the day, exhibitors in the courtyard, and food available for purchase. Saturday, April 6, 9am; **free**. Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Shabbat Table with Kitty Morse Author talk and Shabbat dinner with Kitty Morse, author of *Bitter Sweet*. Morse was inspired for her cookbook when she discovered a notebook belonging to her great-grandmother, Blanche listing 160 heirloom recipes. This event will feature Morse's retelling of how she adapted Blanche's recipes for the American kitchen and will include a dinner highlighting

Blanche's recipes. Friday, April 5, 7:30pm; \$43-\$84. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Valerie Bertinelli: Delicious & Decadent Dishes Warwick's and the University of San Diego's College of Arts and Sciences and Humanities Center present Valerie Bertinelli as she discusses and signs her new cookbook, *Indulge: Delicious and Decadent Dishes to Enjoy and Share*, in conversation with Susannah Stern. Tuesday, April 9, 7pm; \$35. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Weekends with Locals: Michael Godin Weekends with Locals will be hosting Michael Godin, author of *The Big Prick: Surgery, Surfing, and Survival in 1980's San Diego*. Sunday, April 7, 1pm; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

After-School Kids Textile Art Class In this 4-week after-school hands-on art class, your child will explore a variety of fiber art techniques. Lessons may include weaving on a frame loom, hand sewing, basket making, embroidery, dyed, painted or printed fabric using plants, dyes or paint, and more. Please register in advance @ bravoschoolofart.squarespace.com. Thursday, April 4, 4pm; \$134-\$152. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Beginning Salsa Dance Series for Adults By the end of this cycle, you'll not only be comfortable with the timing of the music but you'll be able to piece together combinations of steps and styling to make them your own. Thursday, April 4, 7pm;

\$20. 18 and up. Dancehouse Point Loma, 2180 Chatsworth Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

Capturing Your Creativity with Haiku Join Susan J. Farese, sharing several of her photography prompts (nature/seasons) and giving participants ample time for reflection to kick-start/review, enhance and celebrate their Haiku writing journey. Wednesday, April 10, 6pm; 18 and up. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Clinical Somatic Exercise Pain relief that almost no one has heard of. Tuesday, April 9, 6:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Graphic Tales: Create Your Own Graphic Novel Three-part series where you'll explore and create your own graphic novels/comics. Registration is required for this free program, which will take place over the course of 3 days. Audience: Children and teens ages 9 - 14. Location: Community Room. Thursday, April 4, 3:30pm; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Learn to Weave For Kids and Teens Learn how to weave with an expert textile artist and develop your art and math skills. This class is targeted to homeschooling youth ages 10+. No prior experience is required, and all materials will be provided. Registration is required. Tuesday, April 9, 11:30am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Playing with Form & Format in Fiction Enliven your stories with non-traditional innovative prose elements that break rules. Thursday, April 4, 6:30pm; \$36-\$42. Inspirations Gallery, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #204. (LIBERTY STATION)

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COMEDY

Anna Akana AS SEEN ON: Marvel's Ant-Man, Comedy Central's Corporate, Netflix's Jupiter's Legacy, Youtube RED & more! Wednesday, April 10, 8pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

John Cleese: Last Time To See Me Before I Die With all-new routines shaped by his impeccable timing, trademark eccentricity and clever wordplay, John Cleese demonstrates through observational humor and gifted storytelling how he has achieved nothing short of comedy royalty. Monday, April 8, 7:30pm; Tuesday, April 9, 7:30pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Kill Tony's Uncle Lazer AS SEEN ON: Kill Tony, Drinkin' Bros Podcast & more! Thursday, April 4, 8pm; Friday, April 5, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, April 6, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Liz Miele AS SEEN ON: Comedy Central, FOX, AXS TV & more! Sunday, April 7, 7pm; \$25. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Dance Studio Hour (DSH) DHS is an informal performance by students from MiraCosta College Dance Department classes. Bldg. 2700, Rm 2703 Thursday, April 4, 6:30pm; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Golden State Ballet: From New York, With Love Join Golden State Ballet in celebrating the 100th anniversary of The Historic Balboa Theatre for FROM NEW YORK, WITH LOVE, a triple bill evening showcasing some of the world's freshest choreography. Live music by J. S. Bach and Philip Glass round out the night. Saturday, April 6, 7:30pm; Sunday, April 7, 2pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Soatsintle: Her Eyes, Her Story Starting with Afro-Mexico, the forgotten women; the arrival of the Charleston in Mexico, the iconic deer dance, the struggle for life and liberty with the Mexican Revolution and life after the revolution. Special guest singer LuMaya. Saturday, April 6, 7pm; \$20-\$25. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Divine Light Healing: Solar Eclipse Preparation Divine Light healing is a full-spectrum aura therapy. Sunday, April 7, 6:30pm; \$20. 18 and up. Spiritual Arts Institute, 527 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

FOOD & DRINK

Disney's Aladdin Brunch Aladdin, Jasmine and Genie come to life for brunch. Friday, April 5, 8am; Saturday, April 6, 8am; Sunday, April 7, 8am; Mission Bay Resort, 1775 East Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

Seven Seas Food Festival Sip and sample your way around the world of international flavors, craft beers, cocktails, and wines, and enjoy live musical performances along the way. Fridays, 12pm; Saturdays, 12pm; Sundays, 12pm; through Sunday, April 28, SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Tequila & Taco Music Festival California's Largest Traveling Tequila & Taco Music Festival Returns to San Diego! After outgrowing our previous location, we're headed to Snapdragon Stadium! This event will showcase top-shelf Tequila sampling, while you enjoy THE BEST gourmet street tacos San Diego has to offer! Saturday, April 6, 1pm; Sunday, April 7, 12pm; \$30-\$60. Snapdragon Stadium, 2101 Stadium Way. (MISSION VALLEY)

FOR KIDS

Circus Vargas Enjoy laughs, more thrills, and more priceless memories. Thursday, April 4, 7pm; Friday, April 5, 7pm; Saturday, April 6, 7pm; Sunday, April 7, 7pm; Monday, April 8, 7pm; free. Westfield Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North. (MISSION VALLEY)

Disney's Aladdin From the producer of *The Lion King* comes the timeless story of *Aladdin*, filled with beauty, magic, comedy and all your favorite songs from the film as well as new music written by Alan Menken. Thursday, April 4, 7:30pm; Friday, April 5, 7:30pm; Saturday, April 6, 7:30pm; Sunday, April 7, 6:30pm; San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Holi Celebration Celebrate Holi with performances by Hamid Daudani & Group and crafts. Holi is a popular and significant Hindu festival celebrating Colors, Love, and Spring. Saturday, April 6, 2pm; free. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

San Marcos Spring Fling Street Festival Now in its 33rd year, the San Marcos Chamber's Spring Fling promises over 225 artisans & crafters, retailers & nationwide Vendors, Rhythm Brews & Wine Garden, live entertainment on 2 stages, food, Kids Fun Zone, and more. Sunday, April 7, 9am; free. All Along Via Vera Cruz

Spring Break Camps Two one-week musical theater camps for all ages. There will be one full company number taught along with solos and small group songs to increase each students skills. There will be a showcase on the last day of camp. Thursday, April

4, 8:30am; Friday, April 5, 8:30am; \$200. Theatre for Young Professionals, 7960 University Avenue Suite 240. (LA MESA)

Toddler & Preschool Storytime Recommended for ages 2-5, this storytime program includes books, songs, games, and early literacy fun. Location: Community Room Thursday, April 4, 10:30am; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

FUNDRAISERS

Parkinson's Association Step by Step 5k Walk Participating in the 22nd Annual event supports a vital cause and enables PASD to provide a Path of Possibilities for thousands of San Diego County residents who have or are impacted by Parkinson's disease with critical support, resources, and education during and after the Walk. Saturday, April 6, 8am; free-\$50. Liberty Station NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Superhero 5K & 1-Mile Family Fun Walk Join the 20th Anniversary RACE FOR AUTISM 5K Run/Walk and 1-Mile Family Walk. Saturday, April 6, 7am; \$20-\$40. Balboa Park, 2500 Balboa Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

Exploring the Universe Lecture & Distant Galaxy Viewing Celebrate International Dark Sky Week by visiting an Intenational Dark Sky Community in Borrego Springs. Attend an astronomy lecture and viewing of Far Distant Galaxies. This event will explore some of these most distant "island universes." Register in advance @ abdnha.org. Saturday, April 6, 8:30pm; \$10-\$12. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, 200 Palm Canyon Drive. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

NATURE

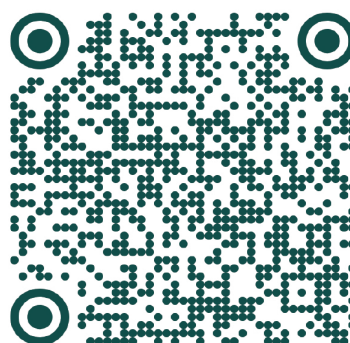
CNPS San Diego Native Garden Tour Explore a vibrant palette of 33 different landscape designs in the Poway area and Coastal San Diego. Special student and group prices available @ cnpsd.org/native-garden-tour-2024. Saturday, April 6, 9am; Sunday, April 7, 9am; \$40. California Native Plant Society, 11855 Caminito Sanudo. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Dark Skies Exhibit Celebrate International Dark Sky Week. View the permanent Dark Skies exhibit with out-of-this-world information on natural darkness, light pollution, and its impact on back country wildlife as well as our ability to view the cosmos. Thursday, April 4, 10am; Friday, April 5, 10am; Saturday, April 6, 10am; Sunday, April 7, 10am; Monday, April 8, 10am; free. Santa Ysabel Nature Center, 22135 CA-79. (SANTA YSABEL)

Dark Sky Education & Camp Under the Stars Celebrate



One Pass to epic museums in
the Balboa Park Cultural District
BuyMyExplorer.org



International Dark Sky Week and camp under the stars. View educational signage to learn about constellations in the night sky and the importance of dark skies. The signs are easily accessible in an open area near some mature oak trees. Thursday, April 4, 10am; Friday, April 5, 10am; Saturday, April 6, 10am; Sunday, April 7, 10am; Monday, April 8, 10am; **free**. Potrero County Park, 24800 Potrero Park Drive. (POTRERO)

Pre-Solar Eclipse Safe Viewing Tips & Sunspot Viewing Dark Skies Valley Center and the Valley Center County Library will host a pre-solar eclipse event, open to the public. The theme of this event is How to Safely View a Solar Eclipse. The solar eclipse will occur on Monday April 8. The library will be distributing free solar viewing safety glasses. Saturday, April 6, 10:30am; **free**. Valley Center Library, 29200 Cole Grade Road. (VALLEY CENTER)

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party Celebrate International Dark Sky Week by viewing the solar eclipse while overlooking the mountain landscape from the terrace at the Visitor Center. Bring your own solar eclipse glasses for safe viewing. Monday, April 8, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party Celebrate International Dark Sky Week with free solar eclipse viewing outside. Have your eclipse questions answered by the Fleet's resident astronomers and eclipse experts from the University of California San Diego, San Diego State University, and the San Diego Astronomy Association. Purchase safe eclipse viewing glasses from the Fleet's The North Star Science Store (opening at 9:00am). Monday, April 8, 9am; **free**. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party & Presentation Celebrate International Dark Sky Week with members of the Julian Dark Sky Network. View the eclipse event with free eclipse glasses and solar telescope viewing. Local high school students will be attending. Monday, April 8, 10am; **free**. Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78. (JULIAN)

Stars at Mission Trails Join members from the San Diego

OUTDOORS

Wild lilac blooming, partial solar eclipse, low tides next week

Wild Lilac (*Ceanothus*) Has Been Springing Its Way Eastward, reaching all the way to the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains. This season's staggered rains have led to hills painted blue and purple. Blooming lilac also gives off an intense fragrance, especially in the evenings. Colder than usual temperatures have delayed the timing of the wildflower bloom. After temperatures increase, we



SAN DIEGO WILL SEE ABOUT 65% OF THE SUN ECLIPSED



THERE ARE BETWEEN 50 AND 60 SPECIES OF *CEANOTHUS*

could see another super bloom in late April or May.

The Talk Of The Nation Is The Total Solar Eclipse On April 8, but here in San Diego, we will be seeing only a partial eclipse. Beginning Monday, April 8 at 10:03 am, the moon will begin to eclipse the sun; it will reach maximum eclipse at 11:11 am and end at 12:23 pm. Remember to never look directly at an eclipsing sun without special glasses. (There are eclipse viewing parties all over the county, many offering viewing glasses.) Or you can check YouTube for how to make a pinhole viewer out of paper and a cardboard box.

April's Lowest Tides Are For Early Risers Only, dropping to -1.25 feet at 4:33 am on Tuesday the 9th, and -1.31 feet at 5:20 am on Wednesday the 10th. The highest tide for April (+6.76 feet) occurs at 10:33 pm on Tuesday the 9th.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Day at the Docks Celebrate the official start of Southern California's spring saltwater fishing season at Scott Street where it meets Garrison St., 92106. The live music bill includes Rhythm Ranchers, the Bayou Brothers, and Ass Pocket Whiskey Fellas. Sunday, April 7, 7am; Fisherman's Landing, 2838 Garrison Street. (POINT LOMA)

Temecula Sunset Market The Temecula Sunset Market is a celebration of local community, culture, art, food, live music, and handcrafted treasures. Wednesday, April 10, 5pm; **free**. Town Square Park, 41902 Main Street. (TEMECULA)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Goodguys 23rd Meguiar's Del Mar Nationals America's Favorite Car Show returns to Southern California for the Goodguys 23rd Meguiar's Del Mar Nationals featuring over 2,500 of the west coast's finest 1999 & older hot rods, trucks, customs, muscle cars and classics! Friday, April 5, 8am; Saturday, April 6, 8am; Sunday, April 7, 8am; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Knee Pain Relief 6 Week Bootcamp The knee pain relief bootcamp will teach you how to release the chronic muscle tension and activate them to promote proper knee function. Saturday, April 6, 12pm; \$200. 18 and up. Sage Wellness, 4469 Morrell Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

San Diego Crew Classic The event features rowing competitors, food trucks, an outdoor beer garden, and VIP hospitality spaces. Friday, April 5, 3pm; Saturday, April 6, 7am; Sunday, April 7, 7am; \$20-\$345. Crown Point, 3700 Crown Point Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

San Diego Gulls Home Game The San Diego Gulls will host 14 different Western Conference opponents at Pechanga Arena as part of their 2023-24 schedule. Saturday, April 6, 6pm; Sunday, April 7, 5pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

San Diego Seals The defending National Lacrosse League West Conference Champion San Diego Seals will host a rival. Friday, April 5, 7pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Yoga: Mindful Movement Instructor Hank Newman RTY 500 lead a class focused on mindful movement with the breath. Suitable for all levels of ability. Please bring a yoga mat, blanket, and water. Wednesday, April 10, 3pm; **free**. 18 and up. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

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](https://www.san-diego-reader.com/movies).

Drive-Away Dolls — A sexed-up (if not exactly sexy), sassy, and ultimately slight crime comedy/road movie from Ethan Coen, who co-wrote the script with his wife Tricia Cooke. The setting is 1999, when gay marriage was still a matter of where you lived — worth noting when your protagonists are lesbians living in Philly and headed to Tallahassee — but the style is pure '70s, what with the psychedelic flashbacks, the funky drop-down screen wipes, the Dutch angles, and the generally grotty aesthetic. Some might be tempted to call it raunchy, what

with all the dildos, sex scenes, and dirty talk (power tools are mentioned, but not displayed). But it's too frank and even sweet for that — Marian (Geraldine Viswanathan) may be virginal in comparison to her travel buddy Jamie (Margaret Qualley), but buttoned-up is not the same as uptight. Everyone here seems remarkably, even enviably comfortable with their sexuality, either as itch in want of scratching or as sincere expression of affection — well, except for one of the two unlucky knuckleheads who get sent after our dolls after they drive away in a car that for some reason already contains some very sensitive merchandise relating to a powerful political figure. The story doesn't hold up under scrutiny — don't overthink it, *man* — so what you're left with is the gentle exploration (send-up?) of lesbian culture; the trademark Coen blend of violence, cupidity, and stupidity; and nostalgia for the grindhouse. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Dune Part Two — Lawrence of Arrakis meets Dr. Sandworm, or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bene Gesserit. Paul Atreides, who left the green and pleasant land of his home planet for the desert wastes of Dune, finds himself eager to avenge the death of his royal father at the hands of the rival House Harkonnen (with a little help from a subtle and sinister Emperor). The best way to do that is to harness the "desert power" of the native Fremen. And the best way to do that is to convince the religious skeptics among them that what he wants is their freedom, and the true believers that what he wants is to fulfill the prophecies about a savior from another world. Yes, his visions warn him that the latter might spark a holy

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war that kills billions, and yes, he's pretty sure that the prophecy is just something cooked up by his mother's religious order to further their own ends — but dang if he doesn't keep doing stuff that makes him look like The Man. He chooses the right name, he rides a huge sandworm, he...well, he does what saviors do. By this point, it should come as no surprise to learn that director Denis Villeneuve is very good at shots and scenes that capture scale and scope — big images for big stories for the big screen — and he keeps the long and layered story rolling along like windswept dunes in a desert. He's a little less sure-handed when it comes to getting up close — maybe too many close-ups of stars Timothée Chalamet and Zendaya, and maybe too few conversations to illuminate Paul's (gradual?) acceptance of his destiny — and the action at the very end saps the impact of what's come immediately before. (It plays almost like a TV teaser: tune in next time!) Anyway, about those references to '60s classics at the outset: the real news here is that our hero is not exactly a good guy. His father may have been noble, but his father was also defeated. The result is a blockbuster space opera that plays like a downbeat drama — we're a long, long way from that famous galaxy far, far away. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Immaculate — Michael Mohan delivers a fun if flawed twist on the old argument between faith and science — specifically, which one gets to save the world, and what salvation looks like, anyway. It helps that it's lovely to look at, and not just because of big-eyed star Sydney Sweeney. (If Elisha Christian's camera doesn't quite leer at her — for shame, this is a devout young religious sister we're dealing with here — it certainly does a lot of beholding.) Christian has a whole world of wonderful visuals in the old Italian convent for old Italian nuns at which Sister Cecilia has arrived — what with the reliquary holding one of the nails that pierced Christ, the pristine countryside stretching for miles in every direction, the catacombs upon which the whole place rests — and he makes the most of his setting. But getting back to the that bit about "fun if flawed." The fun is the flaw, or rather, the lack of it. This is a horror film in which divine rape is treated as a miracle, and in which the second coming is hastened in highly unorthodox fashion, but for much of the runtime (and her mysterious pregnancy), Sweeney is content to shed silent tears over her predicament instead of making legitimate war on the patriarchy. And when the Enemy is revealed, he utterly flubs his big speech. What should be a declaration of war on heaven is instead pitched as a twisted sort of piety. It's as if the film doesn't see the glorious silliness in a woman taking perpetual vows on her first day at the film's outset, or in attempting to make her escape in the midst of labor pains. By the end, you get the feeling that Mohan was so intent on making the (admittedly bonkers) final moments hit that he tried to tamp down everything that came before. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Love Lies Bleeding — What is there to say? That Kristen Stewart can act — that she can inhabit a character perhaps more naturally than any actress of her generation? Okay. That if you want some raunchtastic talk



Immaculate: Sydney Sweeney stars as the Blessed Virgin...Cecilia?

and desperate, grindy onscreen sex in the current cinecultural climate, you're more likely to find it between same-sex partners? Okay again. That Ed Harris' face has become such an unforgiving landscape of craters, caverns, and ravines that it spookily echoes the brutal desert outside of town in which the bodies have been piling up lo these many violent years under his bug-lovin' reign? I say again, okay. And one last affirmative: there is good grit and texture here — perhaps exemplified by the loving attention paid to the world of women's body-building — and a nasty, unsentimental reality that makes the loopy fantasy imagery at the end either a triumphant break from or a goofy undoing of all that's gone before. (The audience at the screening laughed heartily; I'm not sure that was the effect for which the story was going.) But after all that, there isn't much more to say, except that bad people tend to do bad things, and that whatever happens to love, lots of people wind up bleeding as a result. Not exactly a revelation. Once you get the interior ugliness of everyone involved, you may be able to chuckle at some of the violence, ha ha. (2024) — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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.

Disney's Aladdin

From the producer of *The Lion King* comes the timeless story of *Aladdin*, filled with beauty, magic, comedy and all your favorite songs from the film as well as new music written by Tony® and Academy Award® winner Alan Men-

ken (*Newsies*) with lyrics penned by Howard Ashman (*Beauty and the Beast*), Tony Award winner Tim Rice (*The Lion King*, *Aida*), and book writer Chad Beguelin (*The Wedding Singer*). Directed and choreographed by Tony Award winner Casey Nicholaw (*The Book of Mormon*, *Something Rotten!*). SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. +16195701100. 7:30PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY, 6:30PM SUNDAY.

I Love You Because: Modern Day Musical Love Story

A modern love story told through the eyes of four New Yorkers as they navigate the minefield of love in a big city. After two disastrous breakups, Marcy and Austin find themselves working together to reunite Austin with his girlfriend, but naturally, things don't go as planned. Underscored by fun and witty music, *I Love You Because* shows us what happens if you let go of your expectations and open your heart to what life really has to offer. Based on Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. TRINITY THEATRE COMPANY, 1640 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH SUITE 129, MISSION VALLEY. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

La Jolla Playhouse WOW Festival

La Jolla Playhouse's celebrated annual WOW Festival is a four-day celebration of immersive, interactive and breathtaking experiences from local, national and international artists. Free for everyone to attend from April 4 – 7, WOW Festival is presented in partnership with UC San Diego and takes over locations all around the campus. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 4PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 11AM SATURDAY & SUNDAY.

Ordinary People

Conrad Jarrett had an older brother named Buck, and now Buck is gone. What's left of young Conrad's family, with his successful, well-intentioned father and his beautiful, organized and remote mother, is in terrible jeopardy, as is Conrad himself. They are all "ordinary people" and each is fighting a hard battle. This play goes to the essence of a young man, his friends and family, their relationships and survival. POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Princess Lockerooo's Fabulous Waack Dancers

The stage will be transformed into a post-modern disco saloon hosting the world premiere of *The Big Show*, performed by The Fabulous Waack Dancers. The audience, welcomed as club goers and seated on-stage will be

immersed in the culture, history and scene of waacking as Princess Lockerooo, the "Queen of Waacking," honors her mentor, pioneering queer Black waack dancer and Soul Train legend, Tyrone Proctor, who died in 2020, and carries on his legacy through the dance he championed. EPSTEIN FAMILY AMPHITHEATER, 9500 GILMAN DR., LA JOLLA. 7:30PM THURSDAY.

Stew

Mama is up early to prepare an important meal and, even with her family on hand to help, time is running short. Tensions simmer with three generations of Tucker women under one roof, but things come to a boil as the violence hovering around the periphery of their lives begins to intrude. The kitchen becomes a microcosm of the family, a protection from outside traumas with the making of the stew a challenging task (it gets ruined twice) and a group activity needed to keep the family together. Note: Some strong language. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Tartuffe

About midway through 17th-century French satirist Moliere's splendid study of a scoundrel, my companion leaned over and whispered, "So that's where Dr. Seuss got it." *Mais bien sur!* Not just the rollicking rhythm and rhyme, of course — though Richard Wilbur's translation displays a master's touch in its combination of fidelity and invention. I caught maybe a single rhyme that felt ever-so-slightly out of place — a late pairing of "absurd" and "word," funnily enough, given that wordplay and absurdity are the foundational strengths of the play. (Foundational, but hardly

final: As with great Shakesper-ean comedy, the admirable wit on the page becomes genuinely funny when spoken by a canny actor, and properly hilarious when enfolded in smartly directed physical comedy. Special notice here to Katie Karel's sapient servant Dorine for the former and Bruce Turk's religious rogue Tartuffe for the latter — he tears into the role the way his character tears into a chicken — though the entire cast knows its business.)

So yes, Seuss sussed out the way an audience may be carried along and carried away by verse — but he also picked up a thing or two about where to carry it and why. If satire is what closes on Saturday, then you'd better show folks a good time while you feed them their medicine. Think of the unteachable Sneetches, or old Yertle the Turtle.

And yes, given the passage of a few centuries since the play's creation, and a few decades since the rise of the televangelist, we can smile and nod as poor nobleman Orgon gets so caught up in his enthusiasm for the sainted Tartuffe that he bends reason into knots for the sake of his misplaced faith. But folly is man's best friend, or at least his closest companion, and Tartuffe remains everywhere with us, despite the playwright's *regis ex machina* at the end.

Bonus points for making the voice of reason into something of a speechy windbag; the truth hurts, and can even take a toll on those who bear it and share it. It takes some genius to turn it into a good time for those on stage and in the audience. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 7PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Muir Musical and Associated Students Proudly Presents

Something Rotten!

Tickets Free For UCSD Students April 6, 7, 11, 12, 13 Mandeville Auditorium

Book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell

Conceived by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick
Music and Lyrics by Wayne Kirkpatrick and Karey Kirkpatrick

UC San Diego PARENT AND FAMILY GIVING

Something Rotten! is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

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PHOTOGRAPH BY @MIGHTMUDS

Kahlee: "Putting my heart out there and seeing who gravitates towards it."

Grinding for the next generation "I can juggle a chainsaw, a bowling pin, and two Honeycrisp apples while taking a bite out of them. The apples, not the chainsaw or bowling pin." That's Mira Mesa rapper Kahlee, answering the question "What about you would surprise people the most?" He doesn't often juggle in public, but that chainsaw audacity shows through in his dark, dank, forceful music cuts, including the recent "3 in the Chamber."

He'll vouch for his Mira Mesa 'hood, where he's lived since 2007, but as a family man, he concedes it isn't always family-friendly. "The roads are horrible, and the homeless living along Mira Mesa Boulevard are frustrating to see, mainly because there are young school kids walking by them every day. My kids are still young, but as they grow, I want to feel comfortable knowing they're safe walking down the street, that they won't see someone doing something they shouldn't be doing publicly."

Kahlee grew up in Gardena, near Los Angeles, listening to "Eminem, Crooked I, Chino XL, and Talib Kweli. I loved how descriptive they were with their lyrics. I know for some people, it's just about the vibe and the beat, and

those things are important to me too, but the emcee is the paintbrush and the bars are my focus. I stole my mom's car to go to my first concert at the El Rey Theater. Soon, I was going to concerts three or four times a week, and freestyl-ing every chance I could get, whether at an open mic, or cypher after a show, or battling someone at the mall."

Emceeing involves bearing up no matter what the universe throws at you. "I don't wanna bash anyone specifically, but some of these shows with 20 artists who all rap over their vocals with a distorted sound system and have no stage presence just kill me." He says he can recall "one of the homies choking a wack emcee



PHOTOGRAPH BY @RUBIXONE

"The emcee is the paintbrush and the bars are my focus."

for talking trash to him on the mic." He's never been there, but says that when he "opened up for Mos Def at Fourth and B, the sound man left me hanging big time. He wasn't even at the booth to turn the mic up. After the set, I gave that sucka a one dollar tip and told him he deserved it."

Touring also presents challenges. He recalls "staying in a Phoenix hotel with a broken AC, trying to sleep

with three other dudes snoring. I remember being in a van, touring the U.S. with four homies for a month before hitting Canada. We got to the border too late and they were closed, so we smashed another two hours west, because the other border entrance was still open. Couple guys had some legal issues that prevented a smooth entrance, so we had to stay in this town called Rosewood — yeah, like the movie — to sort things out before trying again the next morning. We were the darkest five brothas in that town, I was sure of it. Same tour, we stayed in some small town and had the hotel staff thinking we were the band Incubus. Signed autographs and everything. I've performed at churches and seen people pretending to speak in tongues, which is annoying AF, but I've also performed at juvenile detention facilities for kids on good behavior, which was great."

He aims for a new track every six weeks, which he admits is quite a daunting schedule. "Sometimes, the music flows like a fire hydrant, while other times not so much. I have so much on my plate, from family, my 9-to-5, music, and graphic design jobs, it really helps when I'm collabing. '3 in the Chamber' is a perfect example of something that just happened. Nemy and Sam R I were rolling with me to a show I booked about an hour's drive each way, in the rain. My eyes were watering like crazy because I had a cold. I had to cancel the show, but we decided to go to my studio instead. I already had some beats from Castle Money, and, boom, '3 in the Chamber' was made. Sam R I and his guy Ash Ketcher mixed and mastered it."

He says he doesn't have big plans beyond that six-week grind. "I'm just having fun right now, putting my heart out there and seeing who gravitates towards it. Trying to make shit my great-grandkids can listen to and feel like they're getting some jewels from me."

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Friday, 7:30pm — Acoustic Evenings at the Athenaeum. \$5-\$20.

Balboa Park Recital Hall :
Tuesday, 6:30pm — San Diego City Guard Concert. **Free.**

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

Beach House Grill:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Cassian.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Orianthi. \$35-\$62.

Friday & Saturday, 8pm — Super Diamond.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Old 97's.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Joan Osborne Acoustic Trio Show.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Jimmie Vaughan & The Tilt-A-Whirl Band.

Brick by Brick:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Flotsam & Jetsam. \$22-\$25.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Sunday, 3pm — 10th Annual Mariachi Festival. \$25-\$100.

Cannonball:

Thursday, 5pm — Joanna Gerolaga.
Tuesday, 5pm — Kai Kalama.

Casbah:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Bar Italia.
Friday, 7:30pm — Jesse Daniel. \$18.

Saturday, 7:30pm — The Cactus Blossoms.

Monday, 7:30pm — Atomic Sexies and Tristan Brooks. \$10.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Slow Hollows. \$19-\$20.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Saturday, 11am, 3pm, & 7pm — San Diego Sings! Festival. \$23.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Friday, 8pm — Things Are Swingin'. \$25.

Duck Dive:

Friday, 9pm — Silent Disco. \$5.

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Kai Kalama.

Sunday, 4pm — Keni Yarbro.

Tuesday, 4pm — Kekoa.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

Thursday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Saturday, 6pm — Farrah Camu.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Saturday, 11am — Johnny Martin.

Fisherman's Landing:

Sunday, 7am — Day at the Docks.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Godsmack. \$44-\$309.

Holding Company:

Wednesday, 6:30pm — The White Collars and The Reckless. \$5.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Hurray for the Riff Raff. \$37.

Friday, 7:30pm — Spanish Love Songs and Oso Oso. \$34.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Pacific Dub.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Kelsy Karter.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Hardrock.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — Johnny Martin.

Saturday, 5pm — Alex Elisabeth.

Monday, 5pm — Farrah Camu.

Wednesday, 5pm — Gabriele Dagrezio.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 5:30pm — Kristi Krause.

Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Saturday, 6pm — Shea Givens.

Sunday, 11am — Sean McCole.

Lane:

Thursday, 3pm — Mid City Community Music Gala. \$65-\$90.

Mission Bay Resort:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Friday, 6pm — Joanna Gerolaga.

Saturday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Monday, 6pm — Israel Maldonado.

Tuesday, 6pm — Puro Feeling.

Moonlight Amphitheatre in Bregle Terrace Park:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Hotel California Eagles Tribute.

Friday, 7:30pm — 24K Magic Bruno Mars Tribute.

Saturday, 7:30pm — O-Town, BBMAK, Ryan Cabrera, LFO.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Puro Feeling.

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Sunday, 7:

LIVE five

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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KRISTI KRAUSE at La Valencia

APRIL 4



San Diego native Kristi Krause is a singer-songwriter who performs regularly all over town as part of the Acoustic Spot lineup of nightclub talent. A former *American Idol* contestant, she has also staged concerts in Hawaii and Nashville, with her solo shows covering a variety of genres including pop, country, jazz, and soft rock.

BILLY GALEWOOD at Athenaeum Music & Arts Library

APRIL 5



This edition of Acoustic Evenings at the Athenaeum features Billy Galewood, aka Bushwalla, who started his musical career in Cleveland, Ohio, before studying musical theater at NYC's American Musical and Dramatic Academy. After several collaborations with Jason Mraz, Galewood retired his Bushwalla persona in favor of performing and recording under his given name. This bill also includes Wax and Monette Marino.

HEADPHONE at Winstons Beach Club

APRIL 5



"Our music blends our interests in everything from classical and jazz to electronic and independent rock," according to Headphone, "while the lyrics look at the enigmatic space between connection and detachment, hopefulness and despair." Also appearing on the OB stage will be A Perfect Tool, a local tribute to both A Perfect Circle and Tool.

THE HIGHWAYMAN SHOW at Sunshine Brooks Theatre

APRIL 6



The Highwayman Show featuring Tony Suraci and Makayla Phillips pays tribute to country music icons such as Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and Kris Kristofferson. The large band includes horns, in order to cover everything from "Ring of Fire" to iconic tracks and duets by Patsy Cline and the Carter family.

ISRAEL MALDONADO at Mission Bay Resort

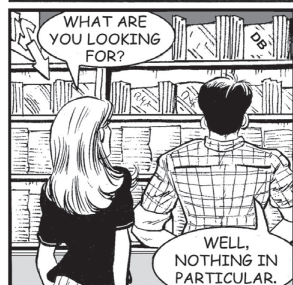
APRIL 8



Israel Maldonado was only seven when he joined his first children's orchestra in his native Tijuana, training in classical guitar at age ten before relocating with his family to Carlsbad, and then Point Loma. A vet of local bands such as Puente and Tres con Todo, his music blends Brazilian, salsa, gypsy, funk, reggae, classical, and rock influences.

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WED. APR. 3

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SUN. APR. 7

FLOTSAM & JETSAM
Nightshadow,
Kauterized, Vachteria

FRI. APR. 12

ENTERPRISE EARTH
Inferi, Crown Magnetar,
Tracheotomy, Palevoid

SAT. APR. 13

WACKEN METAL BATTLE - SAN DIEGO FINALS
The Provoked, Brutalio,
Blackcast, Cascade Effect,
Maskeratt, Faerie Queen

WED. APR. 17

TYR
Trollfest, Aether Realm,
The Dread Crew of
Oddwood, Helsott

FRI. APR. 19

OCEANO
I Declare War,
Shawshank,
Good For Nothing

SAT. APR. 20

DANAVA & DEATHCHANT
The Great Electric Quest

WED. APR. 24

BETTER LOVERS
See You Space Cowboy,
Foreign Hands,
Greyhaven

THU. APR. 25

FIREWIND
Edge of Paradise,
Immortal Guardian

FRI. APR. 26

ORGY & COLD
Horizon Theory,
I Ya Toyah,
Papercut Massacre

SAT. APR. 27

THE SPILL CANVAS
Ace Enders,
Nights Like Thieves

SUN. APR. 28

KORPIKLAANI
Visions of Atlantis,
Illumishade

MON. APR. 29

CRO-MAGS
Berthold City,
Major Pain, Abominate,
Torture Culture

TUE. APR. 30

ULTHAR
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THE GONZO REPORT

The crowd knows every word

TikToker Rick Montgomery connects in real life at Soma

"There's nothing more dangerous than the combined rage of teenage girls," a teenage girl informs me after I ask a group of them to not beat me up. "But we won't be mean!" She smiles, and the group nods in agreement and lets me out of the sardine-can packed crowd. Soma San Diego is hosting singer songwriter Ricky Montgomery tonight, and, after escorting photographer Rhys Vivoli to the photo pit, I'm making my way back to a less densely populated area.

I do most of my talking to fans who are waiting in a line that wraps around the building all the way to the back alley. (Many interviewees will be quoted in print only, because there isn't a parent there to give me permission to interview them on video.) A few gently challenge my presence, informing me that Metallica isn't playing here tonight and then asking what my favorite Ricky Montgomery song is.

When I tell them I like "Black Fins" because it makes my allergies act up, they correctly ascertain that it actually makes my eyes water because of the emotional weight, and stop just short of offering me a tissue. Many seem to have difficulty expressing what Montgomery's music means to them. It's not that they lack passion, knowledge, or intellect. It's just that it's a difficult thing to articulate under the best of circumstances, never mind when you're being put on the spot by a six-foot-tall metalhead who's writing down everything that gets said.

I think I'm clever when I ask questions based on the interludes from Montgomery's latest album — things like "Is kissing someone while they're sleeping assault?" and "How do you feel about ribbons?" But more often than not, the questions fall flat, usually because the person I'm asking hasn't listened to Montgomery's latest album from beginning to end. My old-school research constitutes a different approach than theirs, which is mostly pulling up TikTok videos. (TikTok is where Montgomery first went viral before signing to Warner Records.) Still, they tend to become animated when I tell them that the album stands up as a cohesive piece of work. It's a rare thing that is becoming rarer: an artist creating something that's more than just a col-



PHOTOGRAPH BY RHYS VIVOLI

Ricky Montgomery: pop with substance.

lection of songs, something that instead forms an arc from beginning to end.

The time between the start of Montgomery's set and the end of opener Noah Floersch's isn't music-free. It's filled with songs such as Meredith Brooks' "Bitch" — with "Rick" replacing the title word in a deadpan delivery. It's kind of funny at first, but then it threatens to become kitschy, as song after song uses the same gimmick. Still, there's nothing mawkish about the energy in the room as it continues to fill, or about the fans yelling "Rick, Rick, Rick" louder and louder as showtime approaches. The enthusiasm is authentic, with the loudest cheers coming for the opportunity to win an autographed set list just by signing up for information from the Human Rights Campaign (via text) to support LGBTQ+ equality. Out come the phones.

There's a genuine connection between audience and artist as Montgomery executes his set; most of the crowd knows every word, even of a song that was released just four days ago. On the stairs, a woman dances and acts out every lyric, serenading her companion. A "fuck yeah" escapes my mouth when Montgomery does "I Don't Love You Anymore." I've never heard it before, but the lyrics about conformity leading to suicide hit hard in a place that is usually denied and rarely talked about in public, and they feel deliciously subversive when surrounded by such jauntily poppy music.

Post-show, the air is electric; fans who were shy when I interviewed them pre-show are now gushing and articulate, visibly moved and appearing lighter than air. The merch booth worker tells me that the latest album is completely sold out *on vinyl*, so maybe it'll be listened to as a complete piece by more fans. Or maybe I'll finally get a TikTok account. Nah, probably not. But it doesn't matter. People digest art in individual ways, and there's no superior method.

High-pitched screams come from a corner near the club as someone spots Montgomery leaving. It strikes me as being like a scene from a Beatles movie, but that's cliché and comparative. So instead of dwelling there, I let myself feel elated that music with substance continues to be made, that artists and fans still connect — not despite the potential isolating effects of technology, but because tech can help form a connection that can carry over to real life. ■

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Roth.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Cinderella's
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Friday, 9pm — Sorry For Party
Rocking.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Fly By
Midnight.

Sunday, 7pm — Chokecherry.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Narrow
Head.

Soma:

Saturday, 7pm — BoyWithUke
and Naethan Apollo.

Sound:

Saturday, 8pm — STRFKR and
Ruth Radelet.

Sunshine Brooks Theatre:

Saturday, 4pm & 8pm — The
Highwayman Show.

Thornton Winery:

Friday, 6:30pm — Darryl
Williams Champagne House.

Viejas Arena:

Friday, 7:30pm — Tyler Childers
and Medium Build.

Waterfront Park:

Saturday, 5pm — Boots in the
Park.

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Dogs in a Pile.
Friday, 9pm — Headphone and
A Perfect Tool. \$15.
Saturday, 8pm — The Happys
and Indre. \$12.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Adams Avenue from Normal Heights to University

Heights:

April 27 — Adams Avenue

Unplugged

Aquarius Bar & Grille:

April 19 — Santana Soul

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

April 12 — Acoustic Evenings at
the Athenaeum

Baker-Baum Concert Hall:

April 20, April 21 — Hiromi's
Sonicwonder

Balboa Theatre:

April 18 — Herbie Hancock

Barefoot Bar and Grill:

April 12 — Orion Song

Beach House Grill:

April 19 — Fortunate Youth

Bellamy's Restaurant:

April 20 — Brandon Diaz

Belly Up Tavern:

April 11 — The Brothers

Comatose

April 14 — Jim Messina

April 16 — Coastal Wolves and

The Rightovers

April 17 — Jeff Berkley & the

Banned and Dead Rock West

April 18 — The Strumbellas

April 19 — Z-Trip & Friends

April 21 — Grateful Shred

Brick by Brick:

April 12 — Enterprise Earth and

Inferi

April 17 — Tyr Battle Ballads

April 19 — Oceano and I Declare

War

April 20 — Danava and

Deathchant

April 24 — Better Lovers and

SeeYouSpaceCowboy

Cannonball:

April 11 — Ben Benavente

April 16 — Mike Myrdal

April 18 — Israel Maldonado

April 23 — Kai Kalama

The Casbah:

April 11 — Sheer Mag

April 12 — The Hangmen and

The Oxyx

April 15 — Low Cut Connie

April 17 — Hi-Five Ghost,

Witness, Witch Face

April 18 — Brian Jones Rock N

Roll Revival

April 19 — Emo Nite

April 20 — TWRP

April 21 — Julianna Zachariou

and Lucy Clearwater

April 23 — The Thieves About

and 12 Gauge Trixie

April 24 — Sun Jelly, Wave

Parade, The Junkys

April 25 — Blair Gun, Swive, The

Psychlops

April 27 — Surfer Girl and Dune

Blue

April 28 — A Beacon School

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

April 12 — Quatuor Ébène

April 14 — Abel Selaoe &

Manchester Collective

April 17 — Jacob Tyler Bader and

Christian Rodriguez

April 19 — Ed Kornhauser

April 19, April 19 — Dayramir

González & Habana enTRANCÉ

Duck Foot Brewing

Company:

April 23 — SD Jazz Collective

Duke's La Jolla:

April 12 — Anthony Kauka

Stanley

April 14 — David Rosales

April 16 — Orion Song

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April 19 — Russell Paihinui
April 21 — Keni Yarbro
April 23 — Farrah Camu

Eddie V's:
April 11, April 16, April 18, April 23 — Archie Thompson & the Archtones

Epstein Family Amphitheater:
April 11 — Contra-Tiempo
Activist Dance Theater
April 18 — Antonio Sánchez:
Birdman Live

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:
April 11 — Johnny Martin
April 18 — Christian Taylor
April 20 — Helena Holleran
April 21 — Gabriele Dagherio

Farmer & the Seahorse:
April 13 — Alex Elisabeth

Fast Times:
April 12 — West of 5

First Presbyterian Church Chapel:
April 14, April 21 — Jazz Vespers

The Grand-Ritz Theater:
April 12 — Jimmy's Buffet and Jonny Tarr

Gypsy Magic:
April 20 — Mescaline Maniacs and Livid

Harrah's Resort Southern California:
April 12 — Los Angeles Azules

The Holding Company:
April 14 — Dizzy Wright
April 24 — Astral Sonic

House of Blues:
April 13 — Brigitte Calls Me Baby
April 13 — Wild Child
April 17 — Free Spring Fling Concert
April 18 — Charlotte Cornfield & Al Menne
April 19 — Chris Renzema
April 21 — The Tres Bandas Cabronas Tour
April 23 — An Orchestra Rendition of Dr. Dre 2001
April 24 — Deko With Yameii & Friends

Humphreys by the Bay:
April 18 — Faye Webster and Upchuck
April 19 — Maoli
April 20 — Brittany Howard
April 24 — Elle King

JAI at the Conrad:
April 17 — Jazz Piano All-Stars

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:
April 12 — SD Symphony Jacobs Masterworks: Lang Lang Plays Saint-Saëns
April 14 — SD Symphony Jacobs Masterworks: The Firebird

L'Auberge Del Mar:
April 11 — Orion Song
April 12 — Kristi Krause
April 13 — Marelle
April 14 — Aquile
April 15 — David Shyde
April 17 — Jemille Violet
April 19 — Brandon Diaz
April 22 — Marelle
April 24 — Keni Yarbro

La Jolla Community Center:
April 12 — The Muralikrishnan Carnatic Quartet

La Valencia Hotel:
April 11 — David Shyde
April 12 — Keni Yarbro
April 13 — Tyler F. Simmons
April 13 — Johnny Martin
April 14 — Jemille Violet

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Praise for Pollini in the wake of his passing

Maurizio Pollini, one of the greatest pianists of our time, died on March 23, 2024. Born on January 5, 1942, in Milan, Italy, Pollini's musical gifts were evident from a young age. He began studying piano at the Milan Conservatory when he was just nine years old, and it quickly became clear that he was a prodigious talent.

Pollini's early career was marked by success in prestigious piano competitions; the big one came in 1960 when he won the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, a victory that launched his international career. One of the judges, none other than Arthur Rubenstein, declared that the 18-year-old Pollini played better than any of them.

One of the defining char-

acteristics of Pollini's playing was his meticulous attention to detail. His precision and accuracy were legendary. His technique allowed him to tackle even the most demanding and complex pieces with apparent ease. Pollini's performances were marked by a clarity of tone that captivated audiences and critics alike.

Pollini's repertoire is vast and diverse, spanning works from the Baroque era to postmodern compositions. He is renowned for his interpretations of Chopin, Beethoven, and Debussy along with his takes on modernists such as Pierre Boulez and leftist composer Luigi Nono. However, he will be remembered most for his Chopin. His performances of the études, in particular, are considered definitive.

The criticism of Pollini was that his playing began and ended with technical prowess. There is some reason for this: he may have been musically sensitive, but his emotions were always in check. In performance, he never "milked it." Sometimes a piece needs a good milking, but that was not Pollini's way.

In addition to his solo performances, Pollini was also a sought-after chamber musician and collaborative artist. He performed with some of the world's leading orchestras and conductors, and his recordings of the piano concertos of Beethoven, Brahms, and Schumann are considered among the best in the classical canon.

Pollini also influenced the post-WWII Rossini renaissance as a conductor. Yet



Maurizio Pollini: an artist who kept his emotions in check.

the criticism remained: his work as a conductor was insightful, but he was brisk and literal when it came to tempo. There were no operatic indulgences.

Even so, throughout his career, Pollini received numerous awards and accolades for his contributions to the world of classical music, including the Grammy Award, the Echo Klassik Award, and the International Classical Music

Award. Pollini's recordings garnered critical acclaim and commercial success, further cementing his status as a musical icon.

Maurizio Pollini was a pianist of unparalleled talent and ability. He will remain a beloved figure in the world of classical music. With his death, we lose one more connection to the old world, the analog world. Let us celebrate his remarkable career and enduring legacy.

Classical Music this week

Anastasia: The Musical
"From Tony winners Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty, and Lynn Ahrens, creators of such Broadway classics as Ragtime and Once On This Island, this dazzling show transports its audience from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet

officer determined to silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing con man and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love, and family." Friday, April 5, 7:30pm; Saturday, April 6, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, April 7, 2pm; \$25. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard.

Jakub Józef Orlinski & Il Pomo D'Oro Hear this Grammy-nominated counter-tenor highlight rarely performed music repertoire with the chamber orchestra Il Pomo d'Oro, in a program that includes works by Monteverdi, Frescobaldi, Cavalli, Sartorio, and more. Sunday, April 7, 3pm; \$61-\$95. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

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See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

April 18 — Brian Pierini
April 19 — Keni Yarbro
April 20 — Rachel Jay
April 21 — Matt Heinecke

Madison:
April 16, April 23 — Jazz Night

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
April 20 — Alicia Villarreal

MiraCosta College:
April 21 — Recital: Duo Nova: Yewon Lee & Hyun Jeong Ahn

Mission Bay Resort:
April 11 — Keni Yarbro
April 15 — Kristi Krause
April 16 — Kai Kalama
April 17 — Brandon Diaz
April 18 — Keni Yarbro
April 19 — Rachel Jay
April 22 — David Shyde

Mission Trails Church:
April 14 — Peter Ko Concert

Museum of Making Music:
April 13 — Jesús Florido & Giovanni Piacentini
April 19 — So Far Away: Peter Sprague Plays Carole King

Music Box:
April 11 — Kalimba Acoustic Show
April 12 — Afroman and 3 Legged Dog

April 13 — Pete "Pops" Escovedo
April 16 — Boy Harsher and Lucy
April 17 — Brianna Grace and Anna Ballew
April 18 — Bush Divers, Daddy, Duke Moody
April 19 — The Last Dinner Party and Miss Grit
April 20 — Lime Cordiale
April 21 — Stepping Feet
April 23 — Mk.gee
April 24 — Keni Can Fly and Andrew Garden

Nate's Garden Grill:
April 20 — Tinkersmith

Nick & G's:
April 13 — Farrah Camu
April 19 — David Shyde

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:
April 12 — Social Distortion and Bad Religion

Observatory North Park:
April 20 — Bayside
April 21 — Xavi
April 22 — Dethklok and DragonForce
April 24 — VNV Nation

Open Air Theatre:
April 20 — Koe Wetzel
April 21 — Lizzy McAlpine

April 24, April 25 — Neil Young & Crazy Horse

Panama 66:
April 11, April 25 — Uptown Rhythm Makers

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
April 17 — Lauren Daigle

Petco Park:
April 13 — Billy Joel and Sting

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:
April 13 — The Fabulous Thunderbirds

Poway Library:
April 20 — Día De Los Niños: Hullabaloo

Poway's Irish Pub:
April 20 — West of 5

Pure Project Vista:
April 13 — Saturday Sessions: Twisted Relatives

The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park:
April 12 — Jacobs Masterworks: Lang Lang by the Bay
April 14 — Peter Frampton
April 16 — Khruangbin
April 18 — Sessanta: Puscifer, A Perfect Circle, and Primus
April 22 — Willie Nelson and Asleep at the Wheel

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
April 13 — The Docksiders
April 14 — Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers

San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery:
April 13 — Barrel Room Sessions: Cappo Kelly

Soda Bar:
April 11 — R.A.P. Ferreira and Psalm One
April 12 — Skatejazz
April 13 — Death Cab For Karaoke
April 14 — Kate Clover and DFMK
April 18 — Charles Moothart
April 19 — Cindy Lee and Freak Heat Waves
April 20 — Israel's Arcade and Marlon Funaki
April 21 — Marc Ford and Kareeta
April 22 — Paul Cherry and JW Francis
April 23 — Nascar Aloe
April 24 — Breakup Shoes and Instant Crush

Soma:
April 19 — Saint Luna amd New Aesthetic
April 23 — City Morgue

The Sound:
April 14 — Super Cumbia con Los Askis
April 17 — Taking Back Sunday

St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church:
April 14 — Amarcord: In Aeternum

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:
April 13 — Pam Tillis Trio
April 19 — Gigi De Lana
April 20 — The Music of ABBA
April 22 — MJ The Evolution

Thornton Winery:
April 19 — BIG: Brothers Igniting a Groove

Waterbar:
April 11 — Ryan Hiller

Whistle Stop Bar:
April 22 — Andrea von Kampen

Winstons Beach Club:
April 11 — Dogs in a Pile
April 12 — Josh Heinrichs and Pipe Down
April 13 — Shakedown String Band
April 15 — Electric Waste Band
April 18 — Dogs in a Pile
April 19 — Vana Liya
April 20 — League of Sound Disciples
April 22 — Electric Waste Band

Next time, yogurt

We both fall into silent hyena mode, chewing, chowing, growling a little.

“I tell you,” insists my friend Tim. “He gives the most. He’s the host with the most! He’s worth the trip!”

“Uh, to Spring Valley?” I ask.
“Hey! I live in Spring Valley. What’s wrong with Spring Valley?”

“No, didn’t mean it like that, dude. Just that, when I think Spring Valley, I think big trucks, Big Macs, small portions meted out at fast food joints. No offense, palomino, but isn’t that the Land of Franchise out there on Campo Road?”

“What you don’t know is a lot,” says Tim.
“I’m talking about my friend Manoli. He’s so far from being a franchise it’s not even funny. That’s it. We’re going.”

Twenty minutes later, we’re here. Spring Valley, where country and town collide, right? On the one hand, you expect to see Julie Andrews running slo-mo through the tall grasses. *The hills are alive...* Bucolic’s the word. Trees in their spring finery, sheltering a chuckling rill, plus untouched mountains looming up behind. On the other hand, traffic. Traffic! It never stops — not at this time of day, anyway.

“He’s over there,” Tim says. We’re walking towards a low row of three stores: a farm-type veggie outlet, a flower place, and next to that, “Bravo Cafe. Deli Sandwiches, Soups. Salads. Shakes. Coffees. 6:30am. Breakfast.”

Right now we’re at about 7:30 in da mawn-ing. So brekky’s definitely on the horizon. And I am suddenly starved. So we’re in like Flynn through the single glass door to a little counter space. First sign you see says, “Please wait in the dining room while your order is in process. We will bring it out to you when it’s ready.”

“It gets crowded,” explains Tim. “Small place. People can’t get to the counter.” He makes introductions. “Uh, Manoli, this is my friend Ed. Manoli Antonakakis. Did I get that right?”

Manoli’s Greek. I say hi and launch into my story about the time I left my passport in a taxi — pre-Uber — in Athens, only to be miraculously chased down and found by the driver, just so he could give it back. “That could have been worth a bundle,” I say. “I was so impressed.”

“Greek taxi drivers are famously honest,” Manoli says. “They are family people, and taxis are well regulated. If they take advantage of a customer, they can lose their license.”

“Manoli is famous too, for his big portions,” says Tim. “He always gives a lot of food for your

buck.”
“We started off with just yogurt and coffee,” Manoli says. “Now, we offer a little more.”

Turns out Manoli was involved with the late great East County eatery The Greek Sombrero. “Do you have Greek specialties?” I ask.

“Not really, just the *avgolemono* soup and yogurt.”

Huh. *Avgolemono*. Think it means “egg-lemon” soup. They add a couple of eggs to thicken your lemon-infused broth. They say you just need to throw in bits of chicken, and you’ve got yourself a meal.

But Greek? I should be thinking yogurt. On the other hand, Manoli’s waiting and there’s a big overhead menu to check through. He has a ton of sandwiches and salads, from \$10-14, half-sandwiches from \$8-10, and \$15.75 combo specials, like half a sandwich plus soup. (The two soup choices today, apart from *avgolemono*, are lentil and cream of broccoli. Soup alone goes from \$6.50 for small to \$10.25 for large.)

But back to brekky: our eyes drift to the center section — specifically, to a single three-fer choice. OK, they have a bagel with cream cheese for \$3.50, and yes, an egg and cheese sandwich for \$8.50, but the one serious offering is the Breakfast Sandwich. If my bride, the lovely Diane, were to see this, there’d be hell to pay. This don’t fit no nuts and twigs category. But as the Irish have it, “What the eye doesn’t see, the

over-easy eggs, squiggles of ham, the hashbrowns, and a big pile — not just a few strips — of bacon. On the side, two nice dark wheat slices of toast. All in all, not bad for twelve bucks.

Is this health food?
“Psychologically, dude, fer sher,” says Tim. “This is something you can get your teeth into. And they say your body needs some of this, right? Hey, do I look unhappy chowing into this sausage?” Ah, what the heck. We both fall into silent hyena mode, chewing, chowing, growling a little. It’s like time-transport back to the ‘90s for ol’ Ed. Apart from the greasiness, there’s the salt, as good as an elephant salt-lick. And just the feel: the guilt-satisfaction ratio is slipping over to *sa-tis-fact-ion*.

“I’m from Indiana,” mumbles Tim. “Back there, we love good men’s food.”

Uh, I stay right out of that one. But what



Surrounded by pots of eggs, bananas and broths, Manoli Antonakakis is a one-man miracle-worker

I love most: Manoli does give you generous amounts, specially of the bacon. Nothing micro-measured about his portions.

I’ll make up for it next time. I’ll come back and gloop yogurt, sip *avgolemono* soup, and nibble on Greek salad. Hmm. Only thing: that would be perfect, if only Manoli had some nice red Greek wine to go with it.

The Place: Bravo Cafe & Yogurt, 12887 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-669-6727
Hours: 6.30am-6.30pm daily (till 5pm Friday and Saturday, closed Sunday)
Prices: Egg and cheese breakfast sandwich, \$8.50; breakfast sandwich (with one, two, or three meats, bacon, ham or sausage) \$9.25, \$9.50, or \$10 (add 2 hashbrowns, \$2 extra); soup, e.g. lentil or cream of broccoli, from \$6.50 for small to \$10.25 for large; Bravo sandwich, \$14; salami sandwich, \$10; Greek veggie sandwich, \$8.75; grilled chicken sandwich, \$13; Greek salad, \$8.75 small, \$12 large; tuna salad, \$11 (small), \$14 (large); regular coffee, \$2; cup of milk, \$2
Bus: 894
Nearest Bus Stop: Highway 94 and Steele Canyon Road



Ham’s hidden underneath, but way-generous bacon pile will be a challenge

heart doesn’t grieve.” *Heh heh*. You can get this sandwich with one, two, or three meats: bacon, ham or sausage, for \$9.25, \$9.50, or \$10. And choice of breads too: white, wheat, rye, sour-dough, dark wheat.

Natch, I go for the three-meat. At that minuscule price difference, who wouldn’t? Plus, have to have two squares of hashbrowns for \$2 extra. Tim has the same. We go, as instructed, back to the dining room and wait. It’s not too long, though, before Rose, Manoli’s pretty wife, comes over with the goods. What we end up with is a polystyrene box each, holding a couple of

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San Diego Reader April 4, 2024 23

Drinks All Around

BY AMANDA
TASCHER

APRIL KIRBY

You & Yours
Distilling Company
1495 G Street
East Village



After scoring a sweet parking spot in East Village, I pass by a man using his skateboard to move a couch down the sidewalk. Seems right. Then I duck into You & Yours Distilling Co., where tasting room manager April Kirby shares a smirk with me over skateboard mover man and welcomes me to grab

a stool at the bar.

She begins with some background while I look over the cocktail menu. “We distill red and white California wine grapes. That’s the base for everything that we make. We have a liquor license that allows us to just carry our own distilled spirits, meaning there’s no vermouth, amaros, aperitifs, liqueurs — basically things that have flavor in them. So we are very produce-heavy. We juice a lot of fruits, vegetables. We use herbs, and flowers, and roots, you name it.”

The Spring Salad uses their classic vodka. “It has just a little bit of a sweetness to it. And that’s because we do what is called the ‘late tails cut,’ meaning we don’t mind that there is an ever-so-slight — not sweet and not grape-flavored — little bit of hint of sweetness and mouthfeel leftover from the grapes.” The recipe incorporates bitters made in-house from Buddha’s hand, also used in one of their gins. “We try to use every bit of everything that we can. And bitters is a nice way to use something that maybe you would have thrown away.”

This is the 12th-or-so iteration of the cocktail since they opened seven years ago. “It’s always bell pepper, always a different color, always a different fruit pairing with it. By the time spring comes around, you’re ready for bright yellow and citrusy,” she says, straining the vibrant, juicy mix into a coupe. “The bell pepper always throws people off, like ‘Ew that sounds weird,’ but then when you actually get down to the sweetness of them, they pair so well with fruit. So with this one, it’s juiced cantaloupes and yellow bell peppers. A beautiful ombré color there, and just so fun.”

Finally, she squeezes several droplets of lemon-infused olive oil across the top — the tableside dressing to the salad that is my drink. “Bright, light, doesn’t overly flavor it, but gives it a really nice mouthfeel when you drink it. You get sweetness and a little savory; it’s very layered in its flavor.”

Kirby says the goal is to reframe what people want in a cocktail. “Every drink that we make here is something very unique to this space, something that is unlike what you’ll get elsewhere.”

YOU & YOURS SPRING SALAD



- 1.5 oz You & Yours Vodka
- 2 oz yellow bell pepper & cantaloupe mix*
- 0.75 oz lemon juice
- 0.5 oz honey syrup**
- 2-3 dashes Buddha’s hand bitters
- Pinch of sea salt
- Lemon olive oil for garnish

*Yellow Bell Pepper & Cantaloupe Mix

• 1 c juiced yellow bell pepper

• 1 c juiced cantaloupe

Combine bell pepper and cantaloupe juice in a sealed container and store in the refrigerator for up to one week.

**Honey Syrup

• ½ c hot water

• ½ c honey

Combine hot water and honey and stir until mixed. Store in a sealed container in the refrigerator for up to one week.

Add all ingredients to a shaker with ice. Shake hard and double strain into a footed coupe. Garnish with 5 drops of lemon olive oil.

HAPPY HOUR

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

BANKERS HILL

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

BAY PARK

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

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

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

CARLSBAD

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

CARMEL VALLEY

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

CHULA VISTA

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

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CLAIREMONT

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

CORONADO

McP’s Irish Pub and Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-6pm:* Half off House Chardonnay & Cabernet by the glass, \$1 off beer or cocktails

Village Pizzeria: *Daily, 3-6pm:* discounted appetizers, \$3 domestic pints, \$12 domestic pitchers, \$5 craft pints, \$20 craft pitchers, \$5.50 select glasses of wine. \$3 slices.

DEL MAR

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

Tocaya Modern Mexican: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$3 Cervezas, \$6 wine, \$2 off all margaritas. Select bites starting at \$2.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Gaslamp Tavern: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$2 off drafts, wine, specialty cocktails, \$5 wells. \$2 off appetizers.

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

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

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

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

EAST VILLAGE

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

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

ENCINITAS

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

ESCONDIDO

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

HILLCREST

Cork & Stem: *Wednesday-Sunday, 4-6pm:* \$2 off wine & beer, \$35 bottle & board special, \$13 flatbreads.

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

KENSINGTON

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

LA JOLLA

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

LA MESA

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

LAKESIDE

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

LEMON GROVE

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

LIBERTY STATION

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

MISSION BEACH

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

MISSION HILLS

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

Farmer’s Bottega: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-6pm:* \$6 draft beers, \$3 off glasses of wine, discounted specialty cocktails, appetizers, and flatbreads.

MISSION VALLEY

Lazy Dog: *Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm and 9pm-close:* \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini. *Friday, 3-6pm:* \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini. *Sunday, 9pm-close:* \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini.

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

NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

NORTH PARK

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

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

OCEAN BEACH

The Bowl Ramen & Izakaya: *Daily, Noon-6pm:* \$2 off Izakaya, beer, sake, and wine, \$2.50 Sapporo drafts.

OLD TOWN

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

PACIFIC BEACH

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

POINT LOMA

The Pearl: *Monday-Tuesday, 4-6pm:* \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty cocktails. *Wednesday, 4-6pm:* 4-6pm: \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty drinks. *Thursday-Saturday, 4-6pm:* \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty drinks.

The Wine Pub: *Daily, 4-6pm:* \$5 craft beers on draft, \$5 select red and white wines.

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PERSONALS

ASTOUNDED If you want to make \$25-50k, I'm just starting a new grift and it would be cool to have a protego.

THE DRIVEWAY SOCIETY URGES PET OWNERS to not allow their pets to use the library lawns as their bathrooms since young children play there. Thank you

YOU CAN'T DO EVERYTHING in one trip it's never been done

HEY ARE YOU GOING to get off the high horse any time soon? Hmmm? Hector, I'm talking to you. Enough paying me back already. Don't you think! Now I owe you big time. Love, Big Smoke Dog

DESPERATELY SEARCHING for the infamous Mr.Pee. I never would've pictured this; never ever, ever! Are you lost? 724 Woodlawn. You know the rest. Stop playing.

GIDDY?? OH OH Knock it off just be straight. I'm very up on that giddy stuff. Remember I'm a WA boy; We know how you WA girls work. Giddy. Hmm, that might get some chivalry. No head butting, no grabbing (yeah you get one free pass) and can we just be happy? Nothing complex; just happy for free if possible. Simple just remember how very real we are. Remember I've got a hell of a lot of stuff most don't. We are like some stories; a woman's presence when tolerable. Home away from home. I can't visit. Have a grift you can learn too.

IF YOU HEAR LOUD MUSIC Black Sabbath. Ugh. It's me out

by your place. I know people there now. Sweet BMW convertible. Come say hi.

ALL I KNOW IS I LOVED YOU for just being a home girl. I'm sorry that is a crime of the century. I did try for all that's worth.

TO MY LOVE JOEY VASTOLA Thank you for everything that you do every day for us. You are the kindest, coolest, sexiest man EVER! Love, Lacey

SEEK SENIOR RV SOCIALITES 60's Female with small class A & cat seeks folks with RV's to socialize with on local trips to the beach, desert, casinos. Share meals, happy hours & current event chats to save Democracy, travels, crafts. Julian Trip next up FoodFoodieFun@gmail.com

DAVID AND ANNA Happy Birthday to my favorite twins. Let's party down.Love you guys....GMAN

VINNY I believe your well now. Lets get out of here. If you need my help, Im here for ya brother. Hugs Gman.

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NEED A BOOK RECOMMENDATION? A veteran wrote a book called "Words from the heart" by Travis barns. If you like to read, please go online and order. It is very inspirational and uplifting.

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

NOTICES

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EXHIBIT How Growing Our Food Affects Farmworkers at Centro Cultural de la Raza, Saturday March 2, 2024 through April 7, 2024, 12 to 5pm, closed Mondays

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CHULA VISTA, \$900 Furnished upstairs room with view. Single occupancy. Proof of employment required. Includes utilities, cable/Internet, new mini-refrigerator in room, microwave. Quiet neighborhood. No drugs, smoking, alcohol, pets. East of I-805. (619) 840-7299.

FEMALE Seeking large bedroom with private bath. Active, clean, responsible easy going senior. Great cook, 420 friendly. Call (619) 564-9309, leave message. / robbiemckee777@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR A ROOM FOR RENT 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. / littleman.r32@gmail.com

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

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RENTALS

1 BED 1BATH IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS This house has new flooring/paint and is perfectly located in the middle of North Park and University Heights. Move in ready and washer and dryer are included, pets are also allowed lordj9518@gmail.com

STUDIO IN CHULA VISTA near Sharp Hospital. Private entrance, parking, non-smoking, \$1,000 deposit \$1,500/month. Call (619) 646-6231. Ready in April 1st

NEED 3 BEDROOM RENTAL single mom looking for 3 bedroom rental in University City (92122) for myself and 2 kids ages 9 & 12. Open to having a female roommate(s).

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT AVAILABLE 1 bedroom apartment available April 1st. beautiful garden setting with pool and gated community. For more information call Angel (619) 444-5932 please call during business hours 10am 5pm Monday-Thursday Saturday 9am-1pm. Rent \$1825 deposit \$600.

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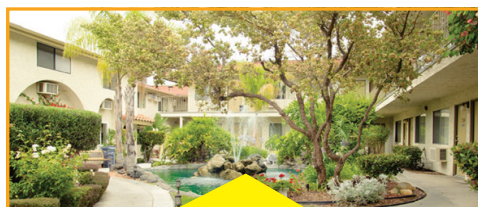
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SOUTH PARK, \$1795 1BD+1BA 1st floor unit near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. Easy 5-minute commute to work. Secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking only. 2329 C Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

CORONADO, \$2350 1BD+1BA sunny upstairs end unit. Stove/ refrigerator, hardwood floors, on-site laundry, shared courtyard with BBQ area. Move-in special! 716 F Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

DOWNTOWN \$1995 1BD+1BA. Welcome to your cozy bungalow-style duplex. Hardwood floors, gated parking for 2 cars. Move-in special! 1764 6th Ave. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

NORTH PARK, \$2650 2BD+1BA in gated community off Adams. New wood-like floors, laundry on site, 2 parking spaces. No pets. Water and trash included. Move-in special! 4678 Ohio Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

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

DOWNTOWN \$1799-2799. 1BD \$1799. 2BD \$2299. 3BD \$2799. Ball Park Square, 1 milla al sur de Petco Park! Harbor Village. NASSCO. Parada de tranvía. 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.

MUSIC

RECORDING STUDIO Pro tools HD and 24 track two inch analog. Neotek 40 input analog console. Amps, guitars, bass, 6'3 Baldwin Grand piano and much more. Studio musicians and production assistance available. (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

FRAMED LYRICS WRITTEN BY JIM MORRISON Gold Frame duplicate of the lyrics written by Jim Morrison for the song "My eyes have seen you" in pencil. Only 1 other exists and that is the original. This is in the custody of Jim Morrisons attorney. Best offer (619) 381-2134.

BEATLES RECORDS (808) 931-0524

MUSICIANS WANTED AVAILABLE Composer seeks assistant/ copyist/ piano/ sightreading. Room / board/ stipend, composition lessons. Busco musico asistente que sepuede leer musica/toca piano. Cuarto, comidas, felia. (619) 457-8516 jebroes5@gmail.com.

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

PETS

ADOPT YOUR NEXT DOG OR CAT FROM BAJA DOG RESCUE! We are a volunteer-run, 100% No Kill animal rescue in Tijuana. We have so many loving pets who can't wait to complete your family! All have been treated by veterinarians and ready to come home. Your rescue donation enables us to save countless lives, thank you! bajadogrescue.org/



WONDERFUL REGISTERED CORGI PUPPIES Our family pet and International Supreme Champion Taffi has had a gorgeous litter of 5 babies! Dad is a fantastic show dog with a wonderful nature. They have been lovingly reared and are very well socialised. They will be vet checked, (929) 249-2403 / millertalor11@gmail.com



SHIH TZU PUPPY Precious shih tzu puppy for sale. 8 week old brown female. Has some light spots on her chest. She was the runt of the litter so she's small. \$550 (760) 470-9290 / campbell-jacqueline1964@gmail.com

DON'T BREED OR BUY WHILE SHELTER PETS DIE! Please don't support selfish breeders bringing countless new animals into the world while others wait in cages or get put down! You may think you need a particular breed, but I promise you will love another. Shelter animals are wonderful, just give them a chance!

SPORTS



STANDUP PADDLE BOARD HAND PUMP This 2 high pressure dual action hand pump with color-coded psi gauge has 2 pumping options: fast-high capacity or easy-high pressure. A carrying bag for all your gears is also included. Clean & in good condition. \$35. Text for more info/ pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcad@gmail.com

MEN'S SKI CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES Men's Descents one piece extra large \$145 one piece large \$95. Ski carrier, handles, locks, boot carriers and ski glasses \$1 each. (619) 218-4031

BICYCLES

BICYCLE PARTS Impressa heavy duty, extra large pack my bike hooks; never used, easy to use on all tires, \$15. Bell telescoping frame pump, used once, \$10. Wrist Gage and two small bike hooks with grips, \$5. Contact (619) 380-4861

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

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

THREE BIKES FOR SALE Two Mountain one Cruiser all new. Mongoose Hondo, Huffy New Port and Huffy Superia. \$150 for all three. Call Lester (805) 946-4594

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

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

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

MOTORCYCLES

2004 HARLEY DAVIDSON Street Clyde screaming Eagle custom high compression head(?) custom exhaust racing cab please call for info (310) 600-8920

MOTORCYCLE CARRIERS FOR SALE Tilting aluminum with built in ramp \$150.00. steel with separate ramp \$100.00. "Fat" brand for Harleys \$200.00. (\$600 new). (619) 928-8220 text best.

HARLEY DAVIDSON Custom Street Glide Screaming Eagle. 2004. \$7,500. Call for more info. (310) 600-8920

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

AUTOMOTIVE

1965 CHEVY PICK UP & 1966 FORD PICK UP V8. Runs and drives. \$2,900. Farm Truck and a 1966 Ford Pick up. No engine with transmission. \$2,500. (619) 478-9403

1969 FORD 1/2 ton pick up. Short bed, step side, F100. Custom cab, six cylinder engine. \$3,900 (619) 655-1830.

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

GOODYEAR TIRE ON STEEL WHEEL: Goodyear Eagle LS, P275/55R/20 mounted on 5 lug steel wheel, bolt holes are 3-1/4" apart, bolt holes are 5-3/8" apart across center, the center hole is 3" diameter, approximately 60% tread left, bought as a spare for trailer, \$75., (760) 746-7209

JAGUAR X-TYPE ALUMINUM WHEELS: Three Original 16" wheels, I only have three, the fourth wheel was damaged by hitting a curb, I am selling all

three for only \$225. Call (760) 746-7209, in Escondido

2005 BUICK LACROSSE CXL Gold Metallic, leather seats, all power. Runs great. All papers. 98K original miles. New front tires, new radiator, new front bearing, new drive belt. cash price \$3,100 858-876-215one

1987 TOYOTA PICK UP 1987 Toyota pick up. Two doors, regular bed, 22 R engine, four speed, good condition, air conditioning, great car, runs good. \$4,500. (619) 576-8196.

DODGE NEON HEAD LIGHT for front of car. One only. Good condition. \$10 bargain. (858) 484-4483

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

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

12 PASSENGER VAN for rent \$40. 1 man and 1 woman chairs get 10% discount mentioned the reader and get one day free with one weekly rental (619) 233-8300.

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

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

TOYOTA 4RUNNER for rent \$300 a week rent to own program available (619) 233-8300.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DOWNTOWN \$590-\$900



In the heart of San Diego Gaslamp Quarter!

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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

We are a fully adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9005580

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
03/12/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. Joshua Tree Plant Adop-
tions**

Located at: **731 Zanzibar Ct,
San Diego, CA 92109, San
Diego County**

Mailing Address: 731 Zanzibar
Ct, San Diego, CA 92109

Registered Owners Name(s):
Robert Leo Craig

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was 01/01/2019.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Robert Leo Craig
3/28/24, 4/4/24,
4/11/24, 4/18/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9006239

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
03/20/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. JB Resources & Trading

Located at: **1610 San Ferdi-
nand, San Diego, CA 92154,
San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 1610 San Fer-
dinand, San Diego, CA 92154

Registered Owners Name(s):
Anderson Jeanbaptiste

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was N/A.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Anderson Jeanbaptiste
4/4/24, 4/11/24,
4/18/24, 4/25/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9001895

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
01/25/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Del Toro Loan Servicing

Located at: **2300 Boswell
Road, Suite 215, Chula Vista,
CA 91914, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 2300 Boswell
Road, Suite 215, Chula Vista,
CA 91914

Registered Owners Name(s):
Private Lending 360 Inc.

This business is conducted by:
**Corporation. The first day of
business was 12/01/2006.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Andrew Louis, CEO
Corporation/LLC Name
Private Lending 360 Inc.
3/28/24, 4/4/24,
4/11/24, 4/18/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9005624

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
03/12/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. Sanderson Home and Yard
Services
b. Rose Point Legal Services**

Located at: **2305 Historic
Decatur Road, Suite 100, San
Diego, CA 92106, San Diego
County**

Mailing Address: 4629 Cass
Street, #179, San Diego, CA
92109

Registered Owners Name(s):
Steven Philip Anderson

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was N/A.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Steven Philip Anderson
3/21/24, 3/28/24,
4/4/24, 4/11/24

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Almalik
W. Rasuwl has copyrighted
his person. Any derivative of
the name **ALMALIK WADUD
RASUWL** will be met with a
“fee schedule” with use of
this name. Amount is to be
determined. Expressed per-
mission must be accompanied
in writing from RASUWL. ANY
PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY
USES MY NAME WILL BE IN
VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL CODE § 3344.



ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME Case No.: 37-2024-00011556-CU-PT-CTL SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego 330 W. BROADWAY, San Diego 92101

Petition Of: **Suzette Montellano**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all Interested Persons: Petitioner: **Suzette Montellano** filed a petition
with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

a. Suzette Montellano to Suzette Havens

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear
before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why
the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person ob-
jecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection
that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before
the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to
show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objec-
tion is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: **04/25/2024**

Time: **8:30 am**. Dept: **61**

The address of the court is the same as noted above.

A copy of this *Order to Show Cause* must be published at least once each
week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the
petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: **San
Diego Reader**

NO HEARING WILL OCCUR ON THE ABOVE DATE, SEE ATTACHMENT.

Dated: **03/13/2024** **Maureen F. Haliahan**
Judge of the Superior Court.

ATTACHMENT TO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME (JC
FORM #NC-120). NO HEARING WILL OCCUR ON THE DATE SPECIFIED IN
THE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE. The court will review the documents filed
as of the date specified on the Order to Show Cause for Change of Name
(JC Form #NC-120). If all requirements for a name change have been
met as of the date specified, and no timely written objection has been
received (required at least two court days before the date specified), the
Petition for Change of Name (JC Form #NC-100) will be granted without a
hearing. One copy of the Order Granting the Petition will be mailed to
the petitioner. To change a name on a legal document, including a birth
certificate, social security card, driver license, passport, and other identi-
fication, a certified copy of Decree Changing Name (JC Form #NC-130) or
Decree Changing Name and Order Recognizing Change of Gender and
for Issuance of New Birth Certificate (JC Form #NC-230) may be required.
Contact the agency(ies) who issues the legal document that needs to be
changed, to determine if a certified copy is required. A certified copy of
Decree Changing Name (JC Form #NC-130) or Decree Changing Name
and Order Recognizing Change of Gender and for Issuance of New Birth
Certificate (JC Form #NC-230) may be obtained from the Civil Business
Office for a fee. Petitioners who are seeking a change of name under the
Safe at Home program may contact the assigned department for informa-
tion on obtaining certified copies. If all the requirements have not been
met as of the date specified, the court will mail the petitioner a written
order with further directions. If a timely objection is filed, the court will set
a hearing date and contact the parties by mail with further directions. A
RESPONDENT OBJECTING TO THE NAME CHANGE MUST FILE A WRITTEN
OBJECTION AT LEAST TWO COURT DAYS (excluding weekends and holi-
days) BEFORE THE DATE SPECIFIED. Do not come to court on the specified
date. The court will notify the parties by mail of a future hearing date. Any
Petition for the name change of a minor that is signed by only one parent
must have this Attachment served along with the Petition and Order to
Show Cause, on the other non-signing parent, and proof of service must
be filed with the court.

Published: 3/21/24, 3/28/24, 4/4/24, 4/11/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9002624

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
02/05/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. City Of Palms Construction

Located at: **1924 Sagewood
Dr, Oceanside, CA 92056,
San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 1924 Sage-
wood Dr, Oceanside, CA 92056

Registered Owners Name(s):
William Felton

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was N/A.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
William Felton
3/21/24, 3/28/24,
4/4/24, 4/11/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9005420

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
03/08/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. J.M. Studios

Located at: **3510 Curlew St,
San Diego, CA 92103, San
Diego County**

Mailing Address: 3510 Curlew
St, San Diego, CA 92103

Registered Owners Name(s):
Chrysalis Homes, Inc.

This business is conducted by:
**A Corporation. The first day
of business was 01/01/2024.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
**Julie Morgan, Chief Financial
Officer**
Corporation/LLC Name
Chrysalis Homes, Inc.
3/21/24, 3/28/24,
3/28/24, 4/4/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9004690

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
03/04/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. HalfmoonHollow Software

Located at: **9375 De Camp
Dr, La Mesa, CA 91942, San
Diego County**

Mailing Address: 9375 De
Camp Dr, La Mesa, CA 91942

Registered Owners Name(s):
Andrew Martin Salamon

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was N/A.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Andrew Martin Salamon
3/14/24, 3/21/24,
3/28/24, 4/4/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9002243

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
01/30/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. ARB Security and Firearms
Training**

Located at: **270 E Douglas
Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020, San
Diego County**

Mailing Address: 270 E Doug-
las Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020

Registered Owners Name(s):
Anthony Barrera

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was N/A.**

I declare that all information in
this statement is true and cor-
rect. (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 misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Anthony Barrera
3/14/24, 3/21/24,
3/28/24, 4/4/24

HELP WANTED

STAFF DEVOPS ENGINEER, Teradata Operations, Inc., San Diego, CA. Develop and build highly available systems and software in large distributed and hybrid cloud environments. \$171,080 per year. 100% telecommuting permitted. Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number 218008)0

LEAD SYSTEM INTEGRATION ENGINEER, VALIDATION for V2G company in San Diego, CA. Must have MEng and relevant experience. \$121,597-\$160,000 /yr. Send CV to Nuvve Holding Corp, 2488 Historic Decatur Road #200, 92106 or email to HR@nuvve.com.

IT RISK ANALYST San Diego, CA – Responsible for participating in IT compliance and risk management initiatives. May work remotely within commuting distance to San Diego, CA office. Salary range: \$136,849

to \$183,300 p/y. Send resume to San Diego County Credit Union: jobs4u@sdccu.com

SR. ANALYSTS III, BUSINESS INT & ANALYTICS E2 Consulting Engineers, Inc. openings for Sr. Analysts III, Business Int & Analytics in San Diego, CA. To Develop and implement a set of analytics applications to transform raw data into meaningful information using data programming languages and visualization software. Telecommuting is permitted, but applicants must live within reasonable commuting distance. Position reports to 9325 Sky Park Ct., Ste 210, San Diego, CA 92123 (San Diego County). Position requires a Master's degree in Business, Statistics, Engineering Management, or related, and two years of experience in a related occupation. Alternatively, position requires a Bachelor's degree in Business, Statistics, Engineering Management, or related, followed by five years of progressively responsible experience. E2 Consulting Engineers, Inc. offers an excellent benefits package including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, 401(k) with employer match, paid time off. Salary range for this position is \$152,000.00 - \$162,000.00 per year. The starting salary will be commensurate with skill, education, experience, and working environment. To apply, email to hr@e2.com, Must reference job 21934.21.3

DIGITAL DESIGN ENGINEER— (loc. San Diego, CA). Perform SoC verification using Mix-Signal simulation environment to test the designed specs of the chip & to correlate w/silicon prod performance. Req: Master or foreign deg. equiv in Electrical Eng or rel field + knowledge of Digital Design. Salary range \$104250 to \$114250/yr. Apply to Tim Sullivan, CFO, InnoPhase, Inc, 5880 Oberlin Dr, 6 fl, San Diego, CA 92121; tsullivan@innophaseinc.com.

SR. ENG. DATA LPL Financial LLC seeks Sr. Eng. Data in San Diego, CA to design & develop data apps using big data tech. Reqs Bach or forgn ed equiv in CIS, CS, Math, Phy, Stat, or rel & 3 yrs exp dsgn & dvlp data apps using big data tech (Hadoop & AWS) to ingest, process & analyze large dis data. Will accept Master & 1 yr same exp. Salary: \$129,168.00/year. Applicants may work remotely from at home worksite anywhere in US. To apply, submit resume to recruitment@lplfinancial.com. Reference Position SED200291.

NOW HIRING A FEMALE CAREGIVER Active retired gentleman needs help with daily routine. Position : www.sdhhsppa.com. 5 hrs/day. Mon Wed Fri. Morning. \$20+/HR. SD Rancho Bernardo. Ad is not for other services or offers. (858) 360-0388

LIVE IN CAREGIVER European; women only. You need to be helpful, love taking care of home and elderly people. Cook Vague, some cleaning and shopping. Would love to be there for you. Phone number is (619) 573-0434

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.

RETIRED DISABLED GENTLEMAN needs assistance once or twice/week with housework in small apartment, downtown

area. \$20/hr. Call or text (619) 403-2781.

JOBS WANTED

CAREGIVER SERVICES OFFERED I have over 4 years experience in caregiving in home care and facility care. I would prefer nightshift please call Lisa (858) 226-9613

SEEKING WORK IN A CHURCH 63 year old ex military man seeking work in a church in San Diego. Looking for part time work or light duty work. Please call Travis (619) 389-0550

GRANDPA TIM has over 16 years in new home alterations additions frames and trims. I will guide you and all your needs. Call Tim (435) 233-8280.

GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER will drive to doctors and hospital appointments will provide companionship prepare meals and much more. Only in Point Loma and Pacific Beach area. Call Carol at (858) 731-6996.

WANTED / TRADE

SEEK FARMLAND TO GROW ORGANIC Nonprofit seeks near coastal properties 1/4 acre - 100+ acres to landscape with a wide variety of organic foods to feed folks in need. You will have an abundance of year round food benefits plus sharecropping profit. Reply: YouGoFarmGal@gmail.com

WANTED: VCR PLAYER working. (619) 301-4079

BUYING GARBAGE PAIL KIDS CARDS Cash for 1st and 2nd series Garbage Pail Kids (1-83 a & b) and full sets, unopened boxes. San Deigo local. (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

CASH PAID FOR DEXCOM SUPPLIES We buy insulin pump supplies & testing supplies such DEXCOM G6, DEXCOM G7, OMNIPODS, MEDTRONIC, Sensors, Transmitters, Quick sets. All items must be SEALED/ UNEXPIRED. Call or Text (619) 535-1848

CASH PAID FOR DIABETIC STRIPS Local cash pick-up for diabetic strips. We buy ULTRA, ACCU-PLUS, & CONTOUR. Boxes must be SEALED/ UNEXPIRED. Call or Text (619) 535-1848

CASH PAID FOR STERLING SILVER Currently paying \$200/lb. We buy sterling silver including sterling silver jewelry, sterling silverware/kitchenware, broken or scrap sterling silver, junk silver coins foreign or domestic. Trusted local buyer. Call or Text Nick at 619-601-3214

SOLAR PANELS WANTED NEW & USED I am looking for solar panels & inverters that are reasonably priced or if they are old I will haul them away for free so they don't end up in the landfill. I am setting up an off grid system, I am looking for a large quantity. (760) 746-7209

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Rockfish regulation changes adopted for season opener – Dolphin Halibut Derby – Day at the Docks here Sunday

Dock Totals 3/24 – 3/30: 729 anglers aboard 39 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 94 bluefin tuna (up to 180-pounds), 40 bocaccio, 16 calico bass, 9 halibut, 6 lingcod, 3 perch, 376 rockfish, 308 sand bass, 77 sanddab, 593 sculpin, 58 sheephead, and 680 whitefish.

Saltwater: This past week featured more bluefin caught within 100 miles of Point Loma, a still-solid sand bass bite off the local flats, some really good bay halibut fishing, and another bit of weather keeping most of the fleet off the water for a day. Seems it has been one of those wet and rough winter/spring seasons, though the fishing between the fronts has been excellent, with bluefin turning on early while northern Baja yellowtail seem to never have stopped biting since last fall.

Spring surf fishing has also been consistently better by the week, weather permitting. Sandcrabs have been showing well on the beaches inspiring a solid barred surfperch bite on incoming tides, while grunion runs have drawn halibut and shovelnose sand sharks into the surf zone on the nights during the runs. If you find grunion, there is always a good chance at hooking a very nice fish by casting a grunion-mimicking lure or Carolina-rigged smelt or sardine out into the surf zone. Grunion are closed for take from April until the end of June, though fishing during the closed runs is allowed as long as one is not taking any of the spawning fish. Expected grunion run dates and times are listed on the CDFW website.

The change in rockfish regulations was adopted this past week, so be sure and check the current regulations before heading out so as not to earn a ticket. Especially the reduction from four fish to two fish per angler per day for vermilion rockfish, as well as the required descending device if targeting rockfish. No one needs to begin the rockfish opener with a ticket, so be sure to check depth regulations, as they change through the year.

An angler recently posed a question on a social media fishing page: “Why was the *Dolphin* fishing in the bay on Wednesday when there’s a whole ocean outside to fish?” I reckon this is a good place to answer that, in case anyone else was wondering. In recent years, the half-day boat has been fishing its winter/spring halibut derby. During these trips, the crew focuses their efforts inside San Diego Bay along the channels and flats where the prized flatfish usually congregate in pre-spawn mode. This year, the derby will run on Wednesdays to April 24th. The cost is \$10 toward the jackpot plus the ticket price of \$85. (The derby began on February 7.)

During each outing, the largest halibuts caught are recorded, and at the end of the derby,



The Royal Polaris got into a solid bluefin nighttime bite in northern Baja waters during their return from an 18-day outing



The leader so far in the *Dolphin's* Halibut Derby is a very nice ‘flatty’ at just over 20 pounds

they will award the top three places. The angler who weighs in the largest fish during the derby will win the cash jackpot, second place wins a rod and reel combo, and third place wins ten free half-day passes. As it is usually slow given the rockfish shutdown and cool water during the few months leading up to our “official opener” which is the week of the Day at the Docks, this is an opportunity to try something different, have a shot at a decent halibut, and win some cash or a prize. The leading fish in the derby so far this year is a very solid 20.09-pounder.

Speaking about the Day at the Docks, this year’s event is this Sunday, April 7, 9am-5pm. It will feature all the favorite family-oriented activities the event is known for, and then some. Having expanded over the last couple of years, the event now takes advantage of the bayside walkway around America’s Cup Harbor to include the many fishing-related businesses, restaurants, and pubs along the path. Envisioned and

begun by H&M’s Catherine Miller back in the late 1970s, the Day at the Docks has kept to its aim of providing a family-oriented event that will bring the general public together with the sportfishing fleet, and thus inspire new generations of anglers to enjoy what is the nation’s largest live-bait sportfishing fleet.

Okuma Fishing Tackle and Everingham Bros Bait Company will be hosting the Kid’s Fishing Adventure at each of the three landings, where kids ages 4 to 12 can have a chance to catch a fish and learn the basics of angling. There will be many seminars hosted by pro anglers and catch, prep, and cook gurus throughout the day. The general public can tour the various sportfishing boats in the fleet that are hosting open houses, enter casting contests and a knot tying competition, watch demos from fishing tackle vendors, and enjoy marine art, including the works of the Peter J Gallery, Larry Beard Ocean Fine Art, and Marea Baja Designs.

Stage shows will begin at 9 am, including three raffles benefitting The Burn Institute at noon, 3 pm, and 4:45 pm, with prizes including free fishing trips, tackle, and tickets to area attractions. Live music throughout the day between the demos and seminars will include The Rhythm Ranchers, Bayou Brothers, and the Irish folk and country rock band the Whiskey Fellas. As always, the event is free to the entire family, though if you want to take one of the bay tours, there is a \$4 charge per person for that. The season is upon us, so go get ‘em!

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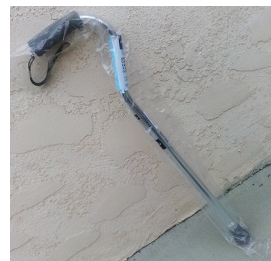
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13							14							
15					16		17							
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Across

1. Chain store with a cat-and-dog logo
6. Archipelago nation in the Indian Ocean
13. Collectively
14. Animated movie based on a Neil Gaiman novel
15. Actor Kevin of "Grey's Anatomy" and "Trainspotting"
17. Added fuel to, as a fire
18. Style of jeans with extra space around the thigh
20. Cast out from the body
21. Mario Party item
22. Home of Benny Beaver
24. Subj. with lab work
27. Grazed
28. Small sample
29. Aykroyd of "Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire"
32. Played in turn
36. Advice to one holding tension
37. Library archives that may be in storage
38. Trout fishing lure
39. ___ loss
40. Super Bowl LIV halftime performer

41. "Animal Farm" structure
42. Gym classes, briefly
43. Dutch astronomer with a namesake "cloud"
45. Sauce for crab cakes, maybe
49. Cereal brand with a High Protein version
53. Hostess offering
55. Skyhook Foundation founder, familiarly
57. Focus of a Royal Canadian centennial on April 1, 2024
58. Apres-ski setting
59. Gets comfy
60. Squirrel away

Down

1. "Mr. ___ Passes By" (A.A. Milne play)
2. Env. stuffer
3. Wild-caught octopus, in a sushi bar
4. Awards in the ad biz
5. Historic building in Baton Rouge, LA or Springfield, IL
6. 1994 Eurodance hit based on an old American folk song
7. Los Juegos Olimpicos prize
8. TikTok offerings involving pencils, maybe
9. Couturier Cassini
10. Vehicle
11. Unpleasant obligation
12. Back-to-school mo.
14. Series with a short-lived "Cyber" offshoot
16. Manga featuring high school student Light Yagami and a mysterious black book
19. What Project Gutenberg offers, in e-book formats
23. When hands are up and down
24. Gargamel's prey
25. What extreme Dutch sportspeople try to jump with a pole
26. 1967 Stevie Wonder title lyric that's followed by "If you leave me sad and blue"
29. Places that may have a lot of kicks and trainers
30. ___-garde
31. Current events-related
33. Letter after ka in Spanish
34. Kraken org.
35. 3-D screening
44. What Balatro's "arcana packs" are themed around
45. "I'm not ___"
46. "Sweet," in Jamaica
47. Shared mine?
48. Shoe insert
50. ___-Chee All Season Portfolio (retro school folder)
51. "___ and the Swan" (Yeats poem)
52. Root beer dispensers
54. Positional start?
56. "I've seen better"

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

MEDIUM:

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

Creme de la Weird

— NBC News reported on March 21 about a Tennessee man suffering from prosopometamorphopsia, also known as PMO – a neurological disorder that causes victims to perceive faces in distorted shapes, size, texture or color. In Victor Sharrah's case, he sees faces as demonic. The 59-year-old of Clarksville said it started in November 2020: "My first thought was I woke up in a demon world," he said. "You can't imagine how scary it was." Sharrah sees the distortions only in person, not in pictures or on computer screens. Consequently, he was able to work with researchers at Dartmouth College to create a visual representation of what he sees vs. reality. There are fewer than 100 reported cases of PMO; symptoms can continue for years, as Sharrah's have, or can resolve after just a few days.

Bright Ideas

— A 47-year-old man was arrested in Parowan, Utah, on March 17 after multiple drivers reported him from I-15, KSL-TV reported. Callers said the man's pickup truck had "red and blue flashing lights and they were getting other vehicles to move out of their way," police said. What tipped them off? The pickup also had a construction company logo on the side. The suspect indicated he was only trying to get through traffic faster, not pull anyone over. He also tested positive for "cannabis, amphetamines and methamphetamine," and he had a small bag of white powder that he said he uses

"to stay awake while driving." He was booked into the Iron County Jail.

Wait, What?

— Dairy cows in Kansas and Texas have tested positive for bird flu, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Associated Press reported that while the virus is affecting cows in those states and in New Mexico, officials say there is no danger to the commercial milk supply because of production regulations and pasteurization, which kills viruses. USDA officials think the cows caught the virus from wild birds. They appear to have coldlike symptoms, but typically recover within 10 days.

More Bright Ideas

— Emma Keen, 42, of Wales, was on the fourth day of her trek to Mount Everest Base Camp in March to raise money for the Kidney Wales Foundation, *Wales Online* reported. As she FaceTimed with her brother and sister-in-law, she showed them a yak standing about 2 meters away. "Without warning I could hear the hoofs pounding toward me, a sharp stabbing pain in the top of my leg," Keen said. The yak was readying for another run at her when she was helped away and airlifted to a hospital, where she got 10 stitches. She later rejoined the group to finish the hike on horseback. "My charity means a lot to me as my brother Peter is currently on the transplant list," Keen said. "It was important that I continue with the trek."

Government in Action

— A state Senate panel in South Carolina is investigating a mystery involving \$1.8 billion, the Associated Press reported on March 26. The huge sum has accumulated over the last decade in a bank account, but authorities don't know where the money is coming from or where it's supposed to go. "It does not inspire confidence," said Gov. Henry McMaster. "But the good news is no money was lost." Meanwhile, state officers are pointing fingers at each other, and lawmakers are annoyed that the money is sitting idle while requests from state agencies are going unfulfilled. "There is no need to hurry up and try to spend it," McMaster said.

— In Oakland, California, 102-year-old Victor Silva Sr. received a citation earlier in March from the city about the graffiti on his fence, KTVU-TV reported. If he didn't remove it, he'd face a \$1100 fine, plus \$1277 for each failed reinspection. Before Silva started using a wheelchair, he'd paint over the graffiti himself. Now, Silva Jr., 70, has that task. "It's hard to keep up with it because as soon as we get it painted, it's gonna be graffiti on it again, and it won't last," he said. The family owns a business nearby that's been broken into three times in the last year. "It's hard to understand where our tax dollars are going," Silva Jr. said. "They can't answer 911, but they can come out and hassle you about a fence?" The city inspector is expected to review the case and, most likely, cancel the citation.

The Continuing Crisis

— Easter is obviously NOT a good time for an egg shortage, as Norwegians are finding out. The Associated Press reported that as a result of bird flu and overproduction, which led the country to ask farmers to reduce their production, eggs are not only hard to find, but are expensive when you can get your hands on them. So Norwegians are crossing the border to Sweden, where 20-packs of eggs are readily available and cost about \$3.70 – 30% less than in Norway. The Maxi-Mat food store in Sweden about 62 miles south of Oslo has been filled with "desperate" shoppers, the Norwegian news outlet *Nettavisen* reported. Wonder if any of them had large ears and a colorful basket?

It's Come to This

— Remember the life-saving door at the end of *Titanic*? The one that Rose and Jack couldn't both fit on? At Heritage Auctions in Dallas on March 23, the Balsa wood panel used in the movie sold for \$718,750 to an anonymous buyer, *The New York Times* reported. The auction liquidated a large trove of items from Planet Hollywood, including Indiana Jones' whip and Jack's ax from *The Shining*. No word yet on whether the new owner has tested the door's width to see if Jack might have, after all, survived.

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

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