

SAN DIEGO

VOL. 53 | NO. 24 | JUNE 13, 2024

Reader

O'Side ON THE Upswing

Welcoming
change
over oysters
at The Brick

Tito at the TJ fight club ■ The Magic Bus from OB ■ Billie Holiday at the Rocket Mart

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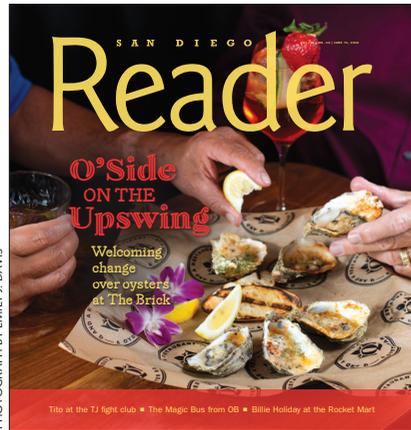
All artists, dates, programs
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San Diego Reader

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June 13, 2024



PHOTOGRAPH BY EMILY J. DAVIS

Unfortunately change is inevitable — page 10



Fighting in the streets of Tijuana — page 2



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BAJA
TJ TKO

A fight club you absolutely talk about
“Come to my fight, this Sunday at five,” said Tito. “Bring your camera, or at least film me with my phone.” I met Tito (not his real name) last summer when he was searching for a kickboxing partner via Reddit. “I’m looking for someone to train in Muay Thai, no experience required,” he posted. I was the only one that showed up in response. Since then, I’ve been going on and off to CREA, a sports complex in Tijuana, to train with him.

I arrived Sunday, April 7, at Parque Teniente Guerrero before 5 pm to find Tito with his Pomeranian dog Sammy and two friends



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

“How much can you know about yourself if you’ve never been in a fight?”

camera. The first fight was between a guy titled El Güero and a guy with a backward cap.

In Chuck Palahniuk’s novel *Fight Club*, the first rule of Fight Club is that you don’t talk about Fight Club. That rule did not hold at Flight Club Mexico. Every fight was published on Instagram. They consisted of two rounds of two minutes each. A sort of

the winner, but as his match was cut short, he wanted more. El Güero, who had already fought, also wanted more. They agreed to two rounds. It was an intense and even fight, but Güero’s punches connected more often. With a bloodied nose and a fat lip, Tito accepted his defeat. “It was one of the best things I’ve done in life,” said Tito in his post-fight interview. He then encouraged me to fight with a younger guy with hearing aids who said he had no experience fighting but was in better shape than I was. I declined. He found an opponent in better shape than *he* was and

tact sports. I got real sick and couldn’t work, so I started the fight club, because I did not want to be at home. We have our first (legal) tournament this Friday, you should come.” I asked if they ever had trouble with the cops. “Yes, but it’s Mexico, we just pay them. Yeah, bro, it blew up. I’m staying consistent and will have big legal events once a month and street fights every weekend if I can.”

Fight Club’s Instagram account has over 144,000 followers. “Unfortunately,” wrote Wick, “Instagram is blocking my growth because people are reporting us. All we do is in good fun, no malice at all, so it’s unfortunate people are hating on it.” The account is filled with videos of street fights involving both boxing gloves and bare knuckles. It also features the occasional video of a pretty girl inviting you to their next event, and encourages clean and friendly fights.

MATTHEW SUÁREZ

CORONADO
Rise of the machines
Government robots not as cool as Robocop, but not as lethal as Terminator

In San Diego, cutting-edge technology is revolutionizing public safety. Robots are now integral to our city’s security efforts, with police, SWAT teams, the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, and private security companies deploying advanced robotic



Roboboats!

received a beating. The fight extended to a third round and then ended with a TKO. The final fight I witnessed was between two teenage friends with no experience. They were both wearing jeans and I had seen them drinking beers before the fight. They threw wildly inaccurate punches. As the sun set, it was clear that the good fights were over, and I left the park.

I reached out to Fight Club Mexico’s Instagram for more information. Someone going by the name of “Juan Wick” responded. “March 16th was the first fight and blew up from there. I just fight for fun. I didn’t think it would be this big, but Mexicans love con-

systems to enhance their operations. These autonomous machines, capable of performing tasks that once required human intervention, are intended to make streets safer and responses more efficient. Further, the U.S. Navy is launching unmanned boats from San Diego’s shores, using technological advances to help protect our nation’s waters. “This will be accomplished through experimentation with the fleet testing,” says Captain Derek Rader, who recently assumed command of the unmanned boats.

On May 20, the U.S. Navy posted a video on YouTube showcasing its two new

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“March 16th was the first fight and blew up from there. I just fight for fun. I didn’t think it would be this big, but Mexicans love contact sports.”

from San Diego. Standing 6’2” and built like a lightweight boxer, Tito was ready to meet his opponent, whoever it might be. Little by little, a crowd of amateur boxers started to show up to the park. Matchmaking began without organization. Find someone your size and ask if they want to fight. “Juan Manuel Andrade de aquí de Tijuana,” said a blond young man to the camera after spitting out his mouthguard. “Oscar Frías, representando la Tía Juana,” said his opponent, also to the

impromptu referee announced the rounds, but rarely did anything to mediate the fight. The crowd formed a circle to improvise a ring. Dogs barked, people cheered, and Mexican folkloric music played in the background as the two men exchanged blows. That first matchup ended in a draw. After the fight, the host interviewed the fighters and gave them each a hat emblazoned with the Fight Club logo.

The next fight was between a French guy named Tito (not my Tito) and a guy with cornrows named Armando. The French guy had more speed and experience and won the fight by crowd decision. Next came two kids ages 18 and 20. The fight was stopped in the first round because the 18-year-old was beating his less experienced opponent, leaving him out of breath and with tearful eyes. Despite the fact that he was receiving a beating, the 20-year-old’s friends encouraged him to continue fighting. The referee did not allow it.

It was finally my friend Tito’s turn to fight. His opponent was similarly sized, albeit a bit shorter. After a minute of exchanging blows, Tito’s opponent fell back and landed awkwardly. He dislocated his shoulder and could not continue the fight. Tito was deemed



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

“All we do is in good fun, no malice at all.”

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

unmanned boats patrolling the Coronado Bridge. The 16-foot gray crafts operate out of the Naval Amphibious Base Coronado.

Just like the robots that help police officers and SWAT teams inland, these crewless boats — made by Maritime Applied Physics Corporation — are packed with computers, cameras, sensors, and a power supply. “If the Navy integrates robots to perform tasks on — and moreso, off — the vessels, that’s going to be on the next level,” exclaimed Jack S., a toy dealer and robot fanatic from Chula Vista. “The unmanned boats and robots will be able to relay intel back to our bases and much more. On Instagram, I saw a robot that climbed stairs and helped our police

in North County capture a man hiding on the second floor of a building. I always tell people, ‘It was not like *Robocop*, but rad nonetheless,’ even if some of the SDDP’s robots look more like the ‘Big Trak toy from the 1980s.’

The reference was aimed at the department’s Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) robots, which San Diego police discussed in a community meeting in February. They are six-pound robots that move via tracked treads and can climb seven-inch obstacles like curbs and stairs. FLIRs have four built-in cameras with illumination and zoom features and audio capabilities, and are small and durable enough to be thrown into a dangerous situation. A video on the device manufacturer’s site depicts military-looking men throwing the robots through a window, and attests that they are “ideal for building clearing, raids, and other close-in scenarios—or to remotely assess industrial environments.” In 2021, news broke of a remote-controlled robot that helped SWAT officers rescue a woman from Christopher Marquez, an armed man who was holed up with her in a downtown San Diego High School dumpster. Because the robot was “able to hear what was being said inside, two SWAT officers fired at Marquez after he allegedly made concerning comments and maneuvered a rifle towards the woman,” according to *Campus Safety* magazine’s website.

FLIR robots may also feature add-ons like a manipulator arm, motorized retention pins for delivering smaller items, and thermal cameras that can look for fugitives



“It was not like *Robocop*, but rad nonetheless.”

Another robot presented by police in February was an ICOR Mini-Caliber Robot, a larger robot which features a mechanical arm capable of holding objects. The ICOR resembles a robotic unit used in an October standoff with a man holed up with a deceased woman in a Del Cerro motel room. NBC 7 news footage shows a police robot bringing the suspect a cigarette. The other three electronic devices presented by police in February were two 836 Technologies communication devices and a SWIFT Under Door Camera.

In a related development, this April, JDS Security Services reportedly deployed the first of three autonomous security robots, which began patrolling the Stratton Apartments and adjacent streets in Clairemont.

MIKE MADIRAGA

DEL MAR

Where the turf meets the surf

But this time, the turf is a levee

As part of its sea rise planning, Del Mar has completed a preliminary conceptual plan for three living levees — earthen embankments that slope gently and combine flood protection with habitat restoration. A series of these levees built along the San Dieguito River could help protect affordable housing at the Fairgrounds and homes in Del Mar’s North Beach. According to the city’s adaptation plan, there are over 600 homes in the North Beach area.

Sea rise and more frequent storms are expected to worsen river flooding over time,

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UNDER THE RADAR

Behest chasing Controversial San Diego City ambulance contractor Falck USA gave a total of \$5000 on May 16 at the behest of San Diego City councilwoman **Marni von Wilpert** to Los Angeles-based Equality California, per a May 30 disclosure statement. In addition, the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park, a taxpayer-subsidized city tenant, also transferred \$5000 to Equality on May 16, according to a May 30 filing. “I recently attended the 2024 San Diego Equality Awards,” noted von Wilpert on Instagram. “This year marks Equality California’s 25th anniversary, and I was honored to help recognize **Tony Hoang**, their Executive Director, for EQCA’s incredible advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights.” Wilpert recently recounted coming out as a lesbian to a *New York Times* reporter, per an October 11, 2023 KPBS dispatch. “When the reporter asked me, ‘Are you a member of the LGBTQ community?’ I didn’t want to hide it, she said. ‘It’s not anything I’m ashamed of.’ She said in many ways it was an easier way to come out, like ripping off a Band-Aid. She said she was told to brace for an onslaught of hate emails and calls that never came. Instead, she said it’s been nothing but love and thank you notes. ‘It was very interesting to come out as a politician because everyone assumed it was political,’ she said, ‘but it is not. But it is very freeing to be able to say that I’m out.’” Both Falck and the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance are listed as Silver Sponsors of the May 17 event.

San Diego Fire Chief **Colin Stowell** has said he will “soon launch a comprehensive analysis to determine whether to stick with the alliance model, bring ambulance service completely in-house or go with some sort of hybrid approach,” according to a May 9 *Union-Tribune* report, setting up a potential battle at city council over whether to save Falck’s lucrative ambulance contract.

Masters of deceit

Prospective students seeking to get into UCSD are being misled about the quality of online courses offered there, a June 6 report by the California State Auditor says. “Online courses and programs have become increasingly common in higher education,” the document notes. “Many colleges work with third-party vendors known as online program managers, which assist in the development and implementation of online programs.” But abuses are rampant. “Some programs describe certificates or awards of completion using

terms that sound similar to academic terminology but do not have the same meaning because they do not confer academic credit. For example, UC San Diego contracts with an [Online Program Manager] that uses the term *MicroMasters* for an open enrollment data science program that does not result in a master’s degree nor provide credit toward a master’s degree at UC San Diego.”

Adds the report: “Compounding the problem of using this misleading phrase, a UC San



Marni von Wilpert’s coming out was ouchless.

Diego representative for the *MicroMasters* program misrepresented its value when we inquired about it in the guise of a prospective student. He stated that although the program was not required for applications to UC San Diego’s online master’s program in data science, it was beneficial to the admissions process. However, according to both UC San Diego’s director of digital learning and its asso-

ciate vice chancellor, an applicant’s completion of the *MicroMasters* program is not taken into account during the admissions process for UC San Diego’s master’s program in data science. The director of digital learning stated that the campus would review the website and speak with program representatives to ensure that information provided does not suggest a connection between the *MicroMasters* and master’s programs. She later stated that the program representative may have given incorrect information because the campus had not adequately communicated details about the differences between the two programs to all involved parties. Such omissions in communication could lead prospec-



Chris Jennewein’s *Times*, they are a-changin’ owners.

tive students to believe that there were additional benefits, such as positively influencing the decision for admission to a degree program, that do not actually exist.” Auditors also discovered that UCSD wasn’t accurately reporting its online dropout rates. “San Diego Extension tracks only the number of students who complete the program, but it does not keep a record of those who drop out or withdraw.”

Times of Arizona San Diego State University, long atop a growing heap of non-profit news providers here, faces a major new challenge with the surprise purchase of the *Times of San Diego* online news operation by an Arizona State University affiliate, per a June 5 announcement.

“Times of San Diego has been acquired by

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LETTERS

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

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

Serra Mesa bike lanes are out of control

Cover Story, May 29, 2024

Bike lanes are paid for with federal funds.

-Point made

Most people don't know if you try to park your car at Snap Dragon trolley station they will give you a ticket or tow you, but they say they want you to take public transportation *SDSU discriminates against disabled, by not obeying ADA parking regulations by not free parking so at least the disabled can take the trolley safely and park their car for free on off event days event.

-ADA Realist

OK Boomers. You couldn't find a resident of Meade Ave in Normal Heights like myself who is thrilled with all of the traffic calming measures? Almost your entire final page dedicated to one anecdote and opinions from NextDoor, the Boomer cesspool of the internet. Oh no! Change! It's scary!

-Driver & Biker

I'm a boomer and agree with you. I live in Hillcrest and bike along both 30th AND Meade all the time.

-Ride or die

San Diego politicians' mixed motives on marijuana

News Under the Radar, May 29, 2024

Woohoo, a new ACE Parking lot. Just what SD needs to spiff up that corner.

"They paved paradise and put up a parking lot"

-Joni Mitchell

-Parking "Not"

Avocado Acres' walking circuit helps neighbors keep in touch

Close to Home, May 31, 2024

Leucadia is a wonderful community. Too bad high end developers and many at the City of Encinitas do have the same passion for our quaint area.

-Keep it undeveloped

I loved reading this charming article about the tucked away neighborhood, Avocado Acres, in tucked away Leucadia. The author did a fine job describing surrounding nature, history, nearby sites and neighborly interactions. Her laments about some current and some inevitable changes are well thought and thought provoking.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading it!

-Julie Lalor

Bidding farewell to The Shell

Classical Music, May 31, 2024

Hollywood Bowl shell renovation and stage replacement were done recently. And there were acoustical fixes implemented. Also, Dolby Theatre, where the Oscars are held, had a major sound update, with the Dolby Atmos system using many more speakers.

-Bowls are like shells

Power corrupts a Toni Atkins donor and a former aide

News Under the Radar, May 22, 2024

Corruption rules in this society. It's not really a swamp. It's a sewer. So sad and disgraceful. They must not have any mirrors in their homes.

-On an Atkins diet

Toni Atkins would be a horrible choice for Governor of CA. Money rules her politics, not betterment of citizens. Shame on her antics.

-Predicter of the future

Another nail in the coffin of Ms. Atkins campaign corruption scheme... She has no conscience.

-Shaming Toni

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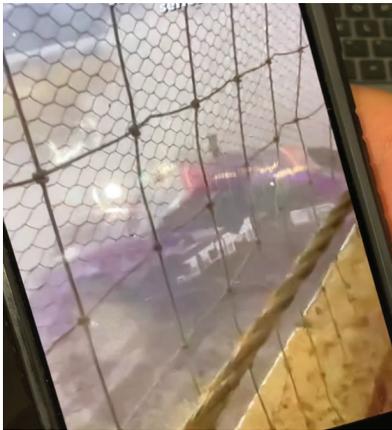
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Luke Fink, a drifter headed for home.

Drifter driver

I meet him at LAX, at one of those tables where you go to charge your iPhone. He's watching video of cars hurling themselves around bends in clouds of smoke and burning rubber. I can't help stopping and looking over his shoulder as one stock car crashes into another one, a purple one, and sends it slamming into the safety wall. A wheel sails serenely past the camera.



Video caught on iPhone: Luke Fink's purple car wrecked by collision

I express some sympathy for the purple car, and am surprised when the fellow watching the video says, "Yes, it's mine. Well, the team I drive for's car."

His name's Luke Fink. He's an Aussie, uh, drifter-driver. "I'm doing a lot of drifting at the moment," he says. "Drifting from Australia to New Zealand to Japan to America and finally all over again. So a fair bit of drifting."

Drifting? If you saw any of the *Fast and Furious* movies, you'll know what it's all about: street racers sliding sideways around turns, barely in control but looking oh-so-cool. And with that hugely successful franchise to back it, "drifting" (as in, cars ceaselessly squealing around corners, hidden in a fog of their own tire smoke) has become America's fourth-

most-watched motor sport (after NASCAR, Formula One, and Super Bikes).

"That crash? I wasn't injured," says Luke. "I was a little bit rattled if anything. But I was fine. My car was reasonably good, considering the accident we had. The other car was destroyed, but the driver of that car was fine, too. I come from a professional BMX" — Bicycle Moto-Cross — "background, and for me, as I got older, we have a saying: 'With age, get a cage.' So I went from the BMX riding into the drift cars, where I had a roll cage, something around me to keep me safe."

But even cages don't save you from the ultimate horror, fire. "Ironically, earlier in this day, in the event before the finals, I was actually on fire," says Luke. "For half of the track, the back of my car was completely on fire. I didn't know. I did see red lights flashing from the track lights, telling us that something was wrong on the track. I ignored them because I could see the car in front of me and he was fine, and we were the only two on the circuit. So my thing was, *Maybe they accidentally pressed the button.* Then we get to the finish line, and there's a lot of commotion going on, waving at us and everything. And where I stopped, I could actually see my pit crew off to my right, and they looked concerned, and I looked up, and I screamed out to the boys. 'What's going on?' And they're like, 'YOU'RE ON FIRE!' And I'm like, 'Should I get out?' And they're like, 'YEAH!' I was like, 'Okay.' Quickly got out of the car, and luckily, okay."

He's 40 now. Why continue with this dangerous sport? "I get to travel to all these cool places, and when you're doing it, the feeling, when you get in the car, there's nothing else. You know, the whole world disappears, and it's just you and the car, not only competing, but having fun at the same time. It's all the exciting parts of motorsports in one. The sideways, the smoke, the sparks, the crashes, the fire — things are constantly happening."

My other question is, if drifting is so famous, why haven't I ever heard of it? "You just haven't

been watching TV at the right time of day!" Luke says. "It's on in a lot of countries, and internet-wise, it's absolutely everywhere. I had a video the other day on Instagram, going to 5 million views."

There's a price, of course: a home life. "Here I am in LAX, finally heading back to Australia. I haven't been home for more than one night

are nice. But then...something happened. My daughter was murdered. I have never gotten over it."

A kind of frisson runs through the bus as it trundles along the ancient Indian trail of Rosecrans.

"Oh God, I'm sorry," says Izzy. "And yet you keep coming back?"

"When my marriage broke up, the drumming was the only thing I had. The only way I could deal with my feelings."

in the past two months. So it'll be very nice to have more than a couple of nights in my own bed. And have fun with my family?"

He says I can see him on YouTube (Fink and Co) and Instagram (Luke Fink).

Any advice to kids dreaming of doing this professionally?

"Get a really good job, and then, start drifting yourself."

Late night on the 35

"I keep coming back," says the elderly lady with the walker-wheeler, Lupita. "I've been coming here for forty years."

"That's more than I can say," says Israel.

Lupita nods. "I bring food to help out some of the homeless people in OB. They're nice. It's something I can do. Ocean Beach helps me that way."

"OB sure helps me," says Izzy. "I come to a drum circle. When my marriage broke up, the drumming was the only thing I had. The only way I could deal with my feelings. I put all my passion into drumming. People would come and watch. I think it helped them with their own lives."

"I'll sing you a song, if you like," says Lupita. And she launches into what I'm pretty sure is the Lauren Daigle song: *When you don't move the mountains I'm needing you to move... when*



Izzy grins as Lupita sings, aboard the therapeutic #35 bus

Izzy. He's sitting at 90 degrees from Lupita in the front section of the bus.

We're aboard the #35, heading south from OB. It's 10 pm. I'm coming from OB's Wednesday night farmers market. Like most times I'm on this bus, it carries its OB vibe with it. The drivers are quirkier, chattier; strangers talk to each other like they're old friends. There's no shortage of long hair and earlobe stretchers. The miasma of OB's ecosphere stays, as long as you're aboard the Magic Bus.

"What brings you? The market?" Izzy asks Lupita.

"Well, I used to live here. I still like it. People

you don't part the waters I wish I could walk through, when you don't give the answers as I cry out to you... Her voice isn't loud, but in the mostly empty bus, it carries. Everybody strains forward to hear. *...I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in you.*

Then Lupita reaches up, pulls the cord, starts adjusting the plastic bags that bulge out from her walker-wheeler, and stands, just as the front of the bus erupts into claps and cheers. She smiles, bobs her head, and maneuvers towards the door. "See you all again," she says.

Izzy and I look at each other. "What is it about this bus?" he asks. ■

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Broadway melody of 2022

Intersectional interests in El Cajon

Above the intersection were Mollison and Broadway collide in El Cajon floats an orange ball, planetary, emblazoned with a sapphire 76. From the sign on the Rocket mini-mart below, a rocket blasts off toward the ball. At night, the cars at the pumps gleam under the canopy lights like sleek spacecraft, readying for launch. Pedestrians wait at the corner for the lights to stop the constant rush of traffic. Just past the station on Broadway is a bus stop. So many missions, so many destinations. A grocery run, a commute to work, a meet-up with friends. Personal growth, a better financial future. The discovery of who we are and how we fit into the big picture. Everybody going somewhere, and I'm already home, watching all this through my kitchen window.

I am, in addition to being a makeup artist, a Brand Ambassador. An older co-worker once asked me where I lived. "East County," I responded. "I'm sorry," she said. Her stale jest did not impact me. I'm not sorry. The racket of my El Cajon intersection is agitating, but the noise also indicates progress, a quest for adventure, the escape from stifling circumstances. The concrete commotion of El Cajon may be a peace thief, but I can explore other parts of San Diego that harbor rejuvenating power. An essential perk of living where I do



Above the intersection floats an orange ball, planetary.



A bucolic scene behind a dumpster at Rocket Mart.

is easy access to highways. The 8 is just a block south on Mollison; a recent half-hour drive to Mission Beach rewarded me with soothing surf and a soggy \$100 bill. If I head down Broadway to Graves Avenue, right past Target, I can merge onto the 67 North to the 52 West to the 805 North to the 5 North to the Whole Foods in Del Mar and their perfect pecan tarts.

But it's not like I have to leave to find life. Some mornings from my window, while sipping a banana smoothie or warm green tea, I will watch a Latina in her late thirties on a smoke break outside Rocket Mart. Every morning, a black woman in her mid-fifties whirs up in her indigo blue wheelchair. The Latina steps down from the curb to greet her companion, taking one last pull before crushing the cigarette under her right ankle boot. Smoke swirls up, mingling with the breeze. The two seem to profit equally from their daily exchange; within seconds the sound of their soft chatter and laughter floats through my open window.

Lately, I've been wondering if the Latina owns the Honda parked in front of the 76 — the one with the faded blue paint and smudged windows displaying a crooked "For Sale" sign. I notice the Honda because, when the midday traffic is dense and unyielding, the vibration sometimes sets off the car's alarm. Yes, being wedged between two busy streets can be noisy: car alarms, honk-

ing horns, screeching tires, revving engines, and shrieking sirens as emergency vehicles race to crash scenes. I think of the woman in the wheelchair and wonder how her particular vehicle has affected her individual mission.

It's late night on New Year's Eve 2022, and I have just placed a bottle of Chandon Brut in the freezer to chill before popping it at midnight when I hear loud babble from the 76 lot. I peek out the window and see a forty-something white female, almost certainly homeless, waving and shouting at people visible only to her. But the noise isn't what holds my attention, not at first. I'm too amazed by her shiny sequined party dress. The emerald paillettes are huge, and reflect the canopy lights like a flashing green disco ball. Her pale skin is soiled. A sky-blue Converse is laced up on her right foot, but on her left foot — nothing. I'm shocked at how carefully coiffed her ash blond hair is as she prances and giggles around her loaded shopping cart. The layered cut is short, with neatly flipped ends, as if she recently tipped a stylist and skipped out of the salon.

Then the woman launches into song, and I lean closer to the screened window, hoping to catch the lyrics. Her voice is gravelly, like a neglected Ford Falcon engine, but the words and tune are audible. It's Billie Holiday: *Good morning, heartache, you old gloomy sight*



Come get ready for takeoff!

Good morning, heartache, thought we'd said good-bye last night...

As she sings, she sways and flaps her hands and wanders from one end of the cart to the other. After the last line, *Good morning heartache, sit down*, she *pliés*, then makes a bold, flying leap into the air. But when she lands, her bare left foot doesn't support her, and she slams to the ground, landing on her derrière. For a moment her head hangs down, and a few sob-like sounds escape from her mouth. Then suddenly, she jerks her head back and cackles. What sound like gunshots explode and echo in the distance; premature celebrations of the New Year. Still laughing, the entertainer staggers to her feet, bows to her imaginary audience, then stumbles to her cart. Her real audience — me — is awestruck by the sequins, strangeness, and performance. A Pontiac driver pulls in and makes a quick Rocket purchase, unaware of what he has just missed. I gaze at the unsheltered female and at the mint condition Firebird as they veer out of the lot in opposite directions.

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A photograph of two men sitting at a wooden table in a restaurant. The man on the left is wearing a blue polo shirt and glasses, smiling broadly. The man on the right is wearing a maroon button-down shirt, also smiling. On the table is a tray of oysters on the half shell, garnished with lemon and purple flowers. There are also two drinks: a small glass with a green beverage and a larger glass with a red beverage and a strawberry garnish. The background is a brick wall with a black metal grid.

O'Side ON THE Upswing

My two companions are, like me, in their sixties. They have spent their entire lives in Oceanside.

Welcoming change over oysters at The Brick

I'm sitting at a table in the Q&A Oyster Bar in the restored Brick Hotel complex in downtown Oceanside, a block and a half from the

pier. The decor is elegant, but not overdone: polished wood tables, black leather booths, and old brick walls that may or may not date back to the original 1888 Schuyler Hardware Store. I'm munching on pricey, chargrilled East Coast oysters and enjoying a \$15 craft cocktail, a breezy concoction called the Sunshine Spritz that is made with strawberry-infused Aperol, Elderflower liqueur, and prosecco.

My two companions are, like me, in their sixties. They have spent their entire lives in

Oceanside. One is Ted Badillo, a retired school teacher, and charter school founder, with whom I shared a homeroom at the old University of San Diego High School in Linda Vista. The other is Tim Aldrich, who with his family owns the building and oversaw its restoration.

We're discussing the renaissance of Oceanside, which happened so quickly, after years and years of false starts, that anyone who's been away for even four or five years would hardly recognize it. Two parking lots on Pacific Street,

directly across from the pier, where transients used to congregate, are now home to a pair of boutique resort hotels, the Seabird and the Mission Pacific, which opened in May 2021. Both hotels, modest mid-rises painted in soft pastels, are operated by Hyatt Resorts. The six-story Seabird Resort has 226 hotel rooms, a rooftop patio bar, and the Valle restaurant, one of only five in San Diego County to be awarded the coveted Michelin star. The seven-story Mission Pacific Hotel has 161 guest rooms and suites that flank the restored Graves House. The historic structure, famous for its appearance in the Tom Cruise movie *Top Gun*, is now a museum and coffee house whose specialty is the High Pie, filled with locally grown fruit and topped with mascarpone ice cream.

A block down Pier View Way is Aldrich's Brick Hotel complex, which opened in June 2022 after a five-year renovation project. The structure was disassembled, brick by brick; retrofitted; and then reassembled with the original bricks. On the ground floor is the oyster bar and, next to it, Frankie's, a San Francisco-style long bar that replaced a succession of seedy dives and their drug-dealing employees. Floors two and three, the latter added several decades ago, are home to 10 guest rooms. And on top is a charming rooftop bar, the Cococabana, a Caribbean-style cocktail lounge with lots of neon, panoramic ocean views, and a menu of inventive craft cocktails and small plates.

The back door of the Brick Hotel leads to the Succulent Café coffee-



Oceanside hotels under construction in March 2020

PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

coffeehouse that also has locations in Leucadia and the San Diego Airport. The two-story brick Bunker House, built in 1886, had a checkered past, once serving as a brothel and then a flophouse where a murder occurred in 1976.

What's happened in downtown Oceanside over the last few years, Aldrich says, is the fulfillment of a dream many old-timers have harbored for years but feared would never come: a rather sudden, and most dramatic, transformation from the seedy stepchild of coastal North County into a thriving, sophisticated resort town that attracts visitors from all over the world.

"We've been trying to do this for 30 years, maybe more," Aldrich says of downtown Oceanside's dramatic makeover. "It's almost like everyone else matured and we were the

house and an outdoor patio and "tap room" operated by the Stone Brewery. Across Tremont Street from the tap room is Senor Grubby's, a gourmet Mexican restaurant famous for its inventive tacos and burritos.

One block to the west, where the railroad underpass empties onto Cleve-

land Street, is SALT, a mixed-use development with 52 rental apartments wrapped around a five-story parking structure, with most of the 438 spaces reserved for public use. On the ground floor of the building, which opened in 2019, are shops and restaurants, including Parlor Doughnuts, one of

the new breed of fancy donut shops. Like Seabird and Mission Pacific, the SALT site was once a parking lot.

Most recently, a historic building on Cleveland Street, one block north of the Pier View Way pedestrian underpass, was taken over by Pannikin Coffee & Tea, an upscale



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last ones left — and we were the jewel. No one else has a pier, or a harbor, or the Strand. As beautiful as Carlsbad is, you don't get as close to the water most of the time. Much of Carlsbad's waterfront is on the bluffs. What happened is that our assets finally became so valuable that this became a financial move that was made largely with outside money. It's long been said in financial circles that nobody wants to invest in a redevelopment area until there's a Starbucks, and now there finally is one. Companies are seeing there's an opportunity here."

Aldrich says the "new Oceanside" is a product of a perfect storm of positives, including the soaring value of property near the water; state housing mandates that pushed cities to increase densities near transit; and a growing willingness by the Oceanside City Council to greenlight big new developments in the hopes of boosting tax revenues."

Another factor is the city running out of patience with the riffraff. The Oceanside City Council, faced with a growing shortage of po-



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

The historic Graves House, famous for its appearance in the Tom Cruise movie *Top Gun*, is now a museum and coffee house whose specialty is the High Pie, filled with locally grown fruit and topped with mascarpone ice cream.

lice officers — 42, at last count — brought in private security to clean up the streets. Even minor infractions were penalized, much as they did in New York City during the 1990s reign of police commissioner Bill Bratton. One of the pedestrian targets was the pedestrian railroad underpass at Pier View Way, a popular hangout for transients and drug dealers. (I remember one day in 2017

when there was a shirtless, bloodied man lying on his back, straddling the curb between the walkway and landscaping, pants mid-thigh, urinating like a fountain, as a family with two small children walked by.)

"We had been getting complaints from police about that spot, and the problem was they could not see what was going on down there when they drove by on patrol," says

Chuck Lowery, a former deputy mayor who served on the Oceanside City Council from 2014 until 2018. "So we made it a no-smoking area, so everyone down there who smoked was cited and told to get out of there. Another thing we did was install a sound system playing loud classical music, not rock or rap — and people don't want to hang out and do their deeds under classical music."

Cracking down on what polite society would call "undesirables" is a rather recent development. Fixing the source of the problem was a long time coming. For years, Oceanside city leaders cited the proximity of the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base as the primary reason why the city's repeated attempts to clean up its act — particularly its gritty downtown area — had consistently and dramatically failed, even as the hearts of coastal towns further south — Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach — had been transformed into vibrant, so-

phisticated and hip shopping, dining and nightlife destinations. Downtown Oceanside remained a seedy sea of check-cashing joints, dive bars, arcades, and surplus stores.

After each failed attempt at gentrification, with each report of another downtown shooting, stabbing or bloody fistfight, city leaders wasted no time in pointing fingers at those young men in uniform, many of them from flyover country, who had never lived on their own before. When they weren't on duty, they wanted to raise hell — and to make matters worse, they also proved easy prey for the gangs of east Oceanside — mostly Mexican and Samoan, with names like Barrio Posole Locos, Deep Valley Bloods, and Deep Valley Crips.

The gangs, for the most part, were homegrown. The San Luis Rey River Valley was predominantly agricultural, and the farmworkers were mostly Latinos who had been brought into the

United States through the federal government's Bracero program, which began during the Second World War, when labor was hard to come by. The city's huge Samoan population is descended from the U.S. Marines stationed at Camp Pendleton during World War II, and is concentrated in the Back Gate area. As their children became Americanized, they did not necessarily share the same work ethic as their parents, particularly when there was more money to be made with drugs and the victimizing of young, naive Marines.

Downtown Oceanside is where the Marines and the gangs that preyed on them met. The streets were an open market for drugs, prostitution, and robberies, while the businesses, as businesses tend to do, catered to the local population. And as the downtown of what had once been a sleepy seaside village grew and at the same deteriorated, the area became a magnet for other societal outcasts — the drunks, the drug addicts, the bums and the grifters.

My friend Ted Badillo remembers that during the Vietnam War, "a huge influx of military" moved into the area. "The young Marines would get paid and then go crazy," he recalls. "You've got a bunch of 17-year-olds, 18-year-olds, who had never been away from home before, and they would buy cars and rev them up and drive all over downtown, smoking and drinking and just living the great life."

The influx of so many young, naive Marines led to a flurry of used car dealers, barbershops, check-cashing joints, liquor stores, dive bars, and even a topless club or two. A number of fur-

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niture rental stores also opened up, as many of the Marines opted for off-base housing. The green jarheads proved easy prey for unscrupulous businesspeople as well as the gangs to the east. Drug dealing and prostitution flourished. “I had friends who would take saccharine, foil it up and tell them it was acid,” Badillo recalls. “And the streets were filled with cars — the Marines, before they got deployed, would park them out in the street, jack them up so the tires wouldn’t go flat, and pretty much abandon them until they got back — if they got back.”

After high school, Badillo briefly worked at a liquor store across the street from what is now Frankie’s — which at the time was a bar called the Townhouse that catered to a black clientele.

“It must have been 1980, 1981,” Badillo recalls. “I walked into the liquor store just as the night manager had gotten into fistfight with two Marines who were mad because he wouldn’t sell them beer because they were under 21. He was a big guy, and he was just throwing them around like rag dolls. I walked in right when it was happening, and he said, ‘Teddy, you want to work here?’”

Badillo worked at the liquor store for about a year, and befriended the manager of the Townhouse because he would frequently cash checks for her employees. “Directly across from us was a titty bar, and then next to that was the Townhouse,” he recalls. “The manager was this big black woman, and she let us in and give us drinks. Some of the black guys would bump into us and stare us down, but she would get right up in their faces and say, ‘Don’t



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

Oceanside Pier looking east toward hotels

be messing with my boys.’ I remember every now and then the vice squad would walk in, and everyone knew right away who they were because they were white. It was crazy down there — the Marines would get blasted and then go next door to the titty bar, which is where a lot of the drug dealers hung out.”

Tom Bussey, a retired Oceanside Police Officer who still works two days a week as a department spokesman, worked the streets of downtown from 1975 to 1985. “It was pretty tough when you came downtown,” he recalls. “There were a lot of folks hanging around what I call the low bars, and we had a lot of gang activity and prostitution. Some of our biggest fights were right in the middle of what we used to call Third Street. We had the Townhouse right next to a half-naked bar, and across the street from that was the USO. Boy, we used to get some hellacious fights, enough to call for seven or eight officers, which was about everyone who was working down there.”

Despite all of this chaos, Oceanside city leaders tried their best to clean up their town, particularly after they saw how

San Diego transformed its once-dilapidated Gaslamp Quarter, which came to life in the ‘80s with the opening of the Horton Plaza shopping center, but didn’t really flourish until the following decade, with its rash of residential construction.

Up in Oceanside, a new downtown Civic Center and library were completed in 1990 on the other side of the Coast Highway, which at the time was still called Hill Street. The complex, designed by Charles Moore in the style of Irving Gill, boasted white arches and plain white walls, along with a sizeable public square, complete with a central fountain.

In 1995, Coaster train service began between downtown Oceanside and San Diego, followed a year later by the numbered street names being changed to reflect their proximity to the shore. Second Street had been renamed Mission Avenue back in the Fifties, but in 1996 First Street became Seagaze Drive, Third Street became Pier View Way, Fourth Street was renamed Civic Center Drive, Fifth Street became Sportfisher Drive, Sixth Street became Surfdrider Way, Seventh

Street became Windway Way, Eighth Street became Neptune Way and Ninth Street was renamed Breakwater Way. That same year, Hill Street was changed back to its original name, Coast Highway, and historic 101 signs went up all along the route through Oceanside.

In 1999, a 16-screen

movie theater opened on Mission one block west of the Coast Highway as the anchor of Ocean Place Plaza, an ambitious 22,000-square foot retail and dining center. A year later, the Downtown Business Association — formed a decade earlier to combat drug sales, prostitution, and gang activity through the hiring of private security — was certified by the state of California as an official Main Street organization and rebranded MainStreet Oceanside, which according to the Main Street website, “signifies a strong commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization.”

MainStreet Oceanside’s activities include a weekly Thursday morning Farmers Market and Thursday evening Sunset Market that attract

hundreds of people to downtown. The railroad underpass was completed in 2001, turning Pier View Way between Cleveland and Myers streets into a pedestrian walkway. In 2002, the city paid \$1.5 million to buy the core downtown area’s last remaining strip club, the Playgirl Club on Pier View Way, and promptly shut it down (the location is now home to the California Surf Museum). And in 2008 came the first high-density, blufftop residential structure on Pacific Street: Wyndham Oceanside Pier, consisting of 168 timeshare units and several street-level restaurants, including 333 Pacific.

But despite these and other improvements, Oceanside was still a place where parents didn’t want their kids hanging out, particularly after dark. Even in the late

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'80s and '90s and into the 2000s, when other coastal towns began the swift and lucrative march toward gentrification, downtown Oceanside remained rough — and dangerous. In 1995 alone, the city counted 24 homicides, nine of them gang-related. That was about the same time that residents of neighboring cities began to derisively refer to Oceanside as “Oceanslime.” And as recently as 2004, a *San Diego Union-Tribune* article suggested gang violence was once again becoming “a big issue in Oceanside” after several years of cooling down, prompting the city’s decision “to strictly enforce a 10 pm curfew for juveniles under the age of 18 who are hanging out or loitering on city streets.” The article noted that the “wave of violence ... comes as the city is courting developers to build a downtown resort hotel, which many officials believe is the linchpin to the city’s redevelopment plan.”

Aldrich likens the movie theater complex, condo building and restaurants like 33 Pacific and Hello Betty as islands in a sea of continued blight. “They

just sat there for four or five years without any support around them,” he says. “We must have had a dozen or more false starts.”

But even before the city began aggressively going after the troublemakers, Aldrich says, the demographics in Oceanside were changing for the better. “The problem with the Marines during the Vietnam era was the quality of recruits in the ‘70s and even for a while after that, into the ‘80s,” Aldrich says. “Back then, if you were in a small town and you were a problem kid, you were given the opportunity by the judge to either go to jail or join the Marines to straighten out. So you had a lot of troubled kids. Now, the Marines don’t take kids unless they’re high school graduates with no record whatsoever, so the Marines that come in now are generally good citizens. The other thing that’s happened is the makeup of the base. There was a time when there were 40,000 military personnel at Camp Pendleton, while the population of Oceanside was only about 65,000, 75,000. Now, the city has 175,000 people,



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOUD

The Pier View Way pedestrian underpass

and the military has a much smaller presence, maybe 25,000.”

The gang culture, too, has softened with time, says Chuck Lowery, the former deputy mayor. There are still gangs in Oceanside, centered around the eastern part of the San Luis Rey River Valley and the back gate of Camp Pendleton, but “thanks to community groups, city-funded programs, and several non-profits, there’s an upward movement,” Lowery says. “The kids are realizing they can’t keep doing that gang activity if they want to survive.”

There is a downside to

all this gentrification, however. Skyrocketing home prices — the median sales price over the last five years has shot up from the low \$500,000s to \$830,000 as of February 2024, according to Redfin, a real estate technology company — has led to an influx of investors and speculators who often turn homes into short-term rentals.

“That’s why we don’t have enough full-time rental housing in the market,” Chuck Lowery says. “There is nothing for rent around here; an investor buys a home for \$1 million, rehabs it, and rents it out at \$400 or \$500 a night as an Airbnb because otherwise they can’t afford the payments. The loss of housing to investors is a very big issue.”

For his part, Ted Badillo laments the taller build-

ings that have become commonplace in downtown Oceanside. “We used to have beautiful views of the ocean and the horizon,” he says. “Now, we have these gigantic buildings that block the view. I mean, it’s capitalism — you’ve got to pay for the building. And everything is cleaner, and there’s all this cool new stuff. Like any resort town, it looks beautiful — but for some of us who have lived here a long time, everyone’s charging an arm and a leg and you can no longer enjoy a burger down there.”

Like it or not, there’s more coming. Last June, developers submitted preliminary plans for two eight-story apartment buildings, with up to 360 units, for the last two vacant blocks in the pier

area, on either side of Pier View Way just west of the railroad tracks. Currently used for parking, the sites would also include street-level restaurants and retail businesses.

Three blocks to the south, the Oceanside Transit Center will be getting a major overhaul over the next couple of years. Preliminary environmental documents submitted last August to the Oceanside Planning Division call for the 10-acre train and bus station property on Tremont Street to include a public plaza, a multi-story office building, retail shops, three parking garages with room for 1800 cars, a 165-room boutique hotel and a huge residential development with up to 547 apartments — 15% of them set aside for lower-income residents.

“The concept is to get young people who work in Los Angeles or San Diego to be able to take the train home and live in Oceanside on the beach,” Aldrich says. “And when you start flooding all these people into the area, all of a sudden you have enough volume to support not just restaurants and nightclubs but also grocery stores, drugstores and other types of businesses that cater to residents and not just tourists.”

Aldrich says he empathizes with those who lament the loss of downtown

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PHOTOGRAPH BY EMILY J. DAVIS

Aldrich's Brick Hotel complex opened in June 2022 after a five-year renovation project. The structure was disassembled, brick by brick; retrofitted; and then reassembled with the original bricks.

Oceanside's small-town vibe, seedy as it might have been. "I know there are a lot of people in the com-

munity who resent what's happening here," he says. "They liked it when you could park your car near

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Newswell, an innovative non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and strengthening local news outlets," says the statement by *Times of San Diego* founder and editor **Chris Jennewein**, who once ran the *Union-Tribune's* website. "*Times of San Diego* will continue to be based in San Diego with local reporting and editing, while gaining access to shared resources, best practices, industry innovations and new opportunities for revenue and digital advancements essential for growth and sustainability." The abrupt ownership change brings a host of uncertainties for the future of local non-profit media, including SDSU-run KPBS, which in past years has relied on corporate and downtown lobbying interests for much of its funding. Arizona public records show that Newswell incorporated on March 29 of this year,

and is barred under its articles of incorporation from outright political action. "No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall neither participate in nor intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distributing of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office," says the document. But with Newswell being set up to furnish "charitable fundraising services for promoting research, education and other activities relating to journalism and broadcasting," according to its articles, the switch from for-profit to non-profit status under Arizona State University aegis is kindling fundraising fears of non-profit influencers.

Another concern is Arizona State's growing ties to artificial intelligence giant OpenAI. "By providing access to advanced AI capabilities, these tools are leveling the playing field, allowing individuals and organizations --

the beach and not worry about all the tourists. But I tell you, it was rough — the people were rough, the bars were rough, the town was rough. And I find the big hotels exciting, because they are drawing families. I have a video from 30 years ago, when I was the local KOCT-TV guy. I was embedded with the vice squad, and we were on john patrols. We had a young girl from the sheriff's academy posing as a prostitute, and we were picking up johns left and right — in the same exact area where these hotels are, and where families with young children are making their way to the beach."

The Oceanside Police Department's Tom Bussey shares Aldrich's enthusiasm. "What a big change," he says. "We don't have anywhere near the crime we used to have downtown — it's just all upscale, pretty much."

— *Thomas K. Arnold*

regardless of size or resources -- to harness the power of AI for creative and innovative endeavors," ASU said in a January 18 news release announcing that the school would be "the first higher education institution to collaborate with" the artificial intelligence behemoth. In April, *Times of San Diego's* Jennewein, spoke out against California legislation favored by the California News Publishers Association that would force Google and Meta to pay news publishers a fee for use of their content. "Google and other big tech companies aren't stealing news, they're bringing readers to it," Jennewein was quoted in an April 21 *Washington Post* dispatch as saying. "They've built an ecosystem that makes the news far more accessible to everyone."

— *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.



Horse races, boat races, potato, potahto. An olde-timey image of the flooded racetrack from back in 1980.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 3

which is concerning, since the northern third of the city is less than 20 feet above sea level. In February 1980, a major flood left the racetrack and Fairground, which is lower than the river's south bank, swamped by three to five feet of water. The levees should reduce, but not eliminate flood risk. Areas that experience flooding will continue to see some flooding similar to existing conditions, a report says.

Currently, Imperial Beach is the only city in San Diego with a living levee project, which is built along the Bay-

shore Bikeway through the Tijuana River Valley. "Del Mar's is a little different," said principal planner Amanda Lee at last Monday's city council meeting. It puts several small levees together into a system, she explained. The first, at the Fairgrounds, will provide flood protection during existing sea level rise and a 10- or 25-year storm flood; one foot of sea level rise and a 10-year storm flood; and 2.5 feet of sea level rise and an annual storm. Levee two — the NC Zone/Public Works — will provide protection during existing sea level rise and 100-year storm flood; and three feet of sea level rise and a 25-year storm flood event. The third levee at North Beach (north from

15th Street to the San Dieguito river mouth) will provide protection for homes in the 100-year flood zone, but not for beachfront properties subject to ocean flooding.

City officials said no trails would be removed for the project. The total cost is estimated between 5 and 10 million dollars. The next step is finding funding for modeling studies. Any levee project along the river will require coordination and participation from the 22nd District Agricultural Association, including state funding.

"This is probably the most important project we're going to be doing," said council member Dave Druker. "We could lose the North Beach area."

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Friday | 14

BIG: BROTHERS IGNITING A GROOVE

Based in Orange County, B.I.G. (Brothers Igniting a Groove) is an R&B, smooth jazz, and old-school funk



band whose repertoire includes over 100 songs, including both covers and original compositions. The core group was founded in 2002 by Marcus "Slim" Shaw, and they've gone on to become a summer staple at the Temecula winery, where jazz concerts will be staged all summer.

WHEN: Friday, June 14, 6:30 pm

WHERE: Thornton Winery, 32575 Rancho California Road, Temecula. thorntonwine.com

Saturday | 15

CITY HEIGHTS STREET FOOD FESTIVAL

Stop by for some street food: elote, tacos, stir fries, gyros, kabobs, and grilled seafood, all available for pur-



chase. Enjoy family-friendly kids activities, live art, music, cultural performances, and drinks. All registration and ticketing proceeds will be used to provide job assistance, food, housing, safer streets, and other critical support to the City Heights community. Kids are free.

WHEN: Saturday, June 15, 11 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights. cityheightscdc.org

SIERRA CLUB SEAL SOCIETY WALK & TALK

The La Jolla seals and sea lions are wild animals living in their natural habitats, and this is the only location along the California coastline where you can view both harbor seal and California sea lion breeding areas. Come hear a short talk and take a docent-led tour to the Children's Pool, where the docent will point out both pregnant seals and newborn pups.

WHEN: Saturdays, June 15, June 22, and June 29, 2 pm to 3 pm

WHERE: Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. sandiegosierraclub.org/seal-society

Monday | 17

LEARN TO FLY RADIO CONTROLLED AIRCRAFT

The Palomar Radio Control Flyers are hosting free flight lessons.

Planes, batteries, chargers, transmitters and "Buddy" boxes provided. Planes will be flown on a 600'x40' asphalt runway. There are four separate helicopter pads, a pit area with tables and chairs, toilet facilities, and an RV parking area.



SATURDAY, JUNE 15: SIERRA CLUB SEAL SOCIETY WALK & TALK

WHEN: Mondays, 5 pm to 8 pm.

Through Wednesday, August 28.

WHERE: Johnson Field, Pankey Road, Fallbrook. palomarrcflyers.com

Tuesday | 18

TASTE OF LITTLE ITALY

Taste of Little Italy takes place all across the neighborhood's 48 blocks. Over twenty participating restaurants will offer dishes such as crispy herbed gnocchi *cacio e pepe*-style, homemade cavatelli pasta with truffle and mushroom cream sauce, mini biscuit sliders, rockfish ceviche, and Wagyu skewers. Guests will receive a

taste passport upon arrival, allowing them to sample bites and enjoy live music at Piazza della Famiglia and Piazza Basilone.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 18 and Wednesday, June 19, 4 pm to 8 pm
WHERE: Piazza della Famiglia,



523 West Date Street, Little Italy. littleitalysd.com



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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Summer Learning: Wild Wonders Learn about amazing animals at this interactive wildlife program. Thursday, June 13, 10:30am; **free**. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

ART

Stephen Frank Gary: 1969 Opening Reception Opening artist reception for Stephen Frank Gary's antiwar themed art show called *1969*. On display June 15 to August 7, 2024 Saturday, June 15, 5pm; **free**. Asto Gallery, 3927 Convoy Street. (KEARNY MESA)

Summer Nights at Comic-Con Museum Comic-Con Museum's new after-hours event series features an interactive evening of cosplay, competitive puzzling, games, craft-making, friendly competition, and more. Friday, June 14, 6pm; Comic-Con Museum, 2131 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

AUTOMOTIVE

At Full Speed Please join us and the SD Auto Museum for a family friendly STEAM event on June 15th from 11am-2pm! Recommended ages 4-12. We will have STEAM-themed activities free with museum admission. Bring your friends and family to drop by! Saturday, June 15, 11am; 4 and up. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

BEER

Beers by the Bay with Ballast Point Beers by the Bay dinner series with Ballast Point Brewing features a paired dinner including an array of specialty beer paired with carefully crafted entrees inspired by SoCal cuisine from our Executive Chef, Roy Hendrickson. Friday, June 14, 6pm; \$55. Mission Bay Resort, 1775 East Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Carley Fortune: This Summer Will Be Different Join #1 New York Times Bestselling author Carley Fortune as she discusses THIS SUMMER WILL BE DIFFERENT w/Hannah Brown Monday,

Rhyme & Verse

Three poems by Lucille Clifton

Moonchild

whatever slid into my mother's room that late june night, tapping her great belly, summoned me out roundheaded and unsmiling. is this the moon, my father used to grin. cradling me? it was the moon but nobody knew it then.

the moon understands dark places. the moon has secrets of her own. she holds what light she can.

we girls were ten years old and giggling in our hand-me-downs. we wanted breasts, pretended that we had them, tissued our undershirts. jay johnson is teaching me to french kiss, ella bragged, who is teaching you? how do you say; my father?

the moon is queen of everything. she rules the oceans, rivers, rain. when I am asked whose tears these are I always blame the moon.

Cutting Greens

curling them around i hold their bodies in obscene embrace thinking of everything but kinship. collards and kale strain against each strange other away from my kissmaking hand and the iron bedpot. the pot is black.

the cutting board is black, my hand, and just for a minute the greens roll black under the knife, and the kitchen twists dark on its spine and i taste in my natural appetite the bond of live things everywhere.

Lorena

it lay in my palm soft and trembled as a new bird and i thought about authority and how it always insisted on itself, how it was master of the man, how it measured him, never was ignored or denied, and how it promised there would be sweetness if it was obeyed just like the saints do, like the angels and i opened the window and held out my uncupped hand; i swear to god i thought it could fly



Lucille Clifton (1936-2010) was an American poet, and the Poet Laureate of Maryland from 1979 to 1985. She twice placed as a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for poetry. Because of her poems' brevity and clever use of rhyme, Clifton is often compared to Emily Dickinson. Her poetry is also distinguished by a lack of capitalization and short, clipped lines, which reflect a desire to pare down her experiences, as reflected in the verse, to the barest of essentials. Clifton's poems often focus on race relations and the cultural experiences of blacks in American society.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

June 17, 7pm; \$10-\$19. Coronado School of the Arts, 650 D Avenue. (CORONADO)

Meredith Jaeger: The Incorrigibles Warwick's presents Meredith Jaeger as she discusses and signs her new book, *The Incorrigibles*, in conversation with Michelle Gable. Free seating is subject to available space on a first-come, first-served basis. To ensure seating, reserve one book per person @ warwicks.com/event/jaeger-2024. Monday, June 17, 7:30pm; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Stacey Cochran: Jordan Version 3.2 Author and filmmaker Stacey Cochran will discuss the new novel *Jordan Version 3.2*. Saturday, June 15, 3pm; **free**. Artifact Books, 603 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (ENCINITAS)

The Story of Spoons Culinary Historians of San Diego will present *The Story of Spoons*, and Ken Albala, in the Neil Morgan Auditorium. *The Story of Spoons* recounts the journey of food historian Ken Albala into the world of slodj carving, an entirely new area of food history and practical hands-on research. Saturday, June 15, 10:30am; Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Weekends with Locals: Diane Nares Weekends with Locals will be hosting Diane Nares, author of *His Place at the Table*. Sunday, June 16, 1pm; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Beginner's Nature Photography Workshop Meet outside the visitor center parking lot and walk on the refuge trails to learn how to best use your camera's settings to capture great shots. Camera phones are also welcomed. Be prepared to walk about 1.6 miles round trip on flat ground starting at the visitor center and then towards North McCoy trail. Friday, June 14, 9am; **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Coffee Cupping Embark on a sensory journey and enhance your coffee appreciation. Thursdays, 2:30pm; through Thursday, June 13, \$30. 18 and up. San Diego Coffee Training Institute, 1616 National Avenue. (BARRIO LOGAN)

DJ Redlite's Beat Lab Over four weeks, you'll dive into the essentials of entertainment, beat matching, turntable techniques, and DJ software. Monday, June 17, 6pm; \$100. 18 and up. Mid-City Community Music, 4011 Ohio Street. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Father's Day Pottery Wheel Workshop Book a one-time pottery wheel experience and let Dad go loose with clay. His untrimmed piece can be glazed for pick up later. Includes 1 piece per registrant; additional pieces may be glazed; fire for additional fees. Sunday,

June 16, 2:30pm; \$75. 15 and up. Mud Lily, 2888 Adams Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Identify Coastal Plants & Animals Using iNaturalist The San Diego Natural History Museum and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be leading an in-person event to record the biodiversity found at Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge. No prior experience is necessary, but an RSVP is highly encouraged. Sign up by emailing Park Ranger Nancy Fernandez at Nancy_Fernandez@fws.gov. Saturday, June 15, 9am; **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Kokedama Workshop Create beautiful kokedama with hands

on instruction. Tuesday, June 18, 10:20am; \$25-\$35. Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Macrame Shelf Craft Workshop Learn how to make a Macrame Wall Shelf. Admission includes step-by-step instructions and supplies. No previous experience required. Wednesday, June 19, 6:30pm; \$45. Mike Hess Brewing Ocean Beach, 4893 Voltaire Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

Oceanography Merit Badge Days The 5th Annual Oceanography Merit Badge Days invites Scouts BSA youth to enroll and earn their Oceanography Merit Badge through attendance at one of three classes. Saturday, June 15,

9am; \$24-\$54. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Podcasting 101 Dive into the exciting world of podcasting with our Podcasting 101 workshop, designed to turn your curiosity into creation! Whether you're a seasoned listener or a newcomer to the realm, our engaging discussions will touch on basic ins and outs of the podcast industry! Saturday, June 15, 3pm; Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

San Diego Fixit Clinic Learn how to fix broken appliances and gadgets. Saturday, June 15, 10am; **free**. La Mesa Library, 8074 Allison Avenue. (LA MESA)

COMEDY

American Improv Theatre - Saturday, June 15, 7:30pm; Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

Celeste Barber - Sunday, June 16, 7:30pm; 18 and up. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DL Hughley AS SEEN ON: CNN, BET, ABC, HBO, NBC, UPN, the Original Kings of Comedy, Comedy Central & New York Time's Best Selling Author. Friday, June 14, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, June 15, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, June 16, 7pm; 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Dustin Nickerson A Seattle native now suffering in Southern California, Dustin Nickerson is an in demand comic on the rise. In 2020, he released his debut comedy special *Overwhelmed* on Amazon Prime. Saturday, June 15, 6pm and 8:30pm; Sunday, June 16, 6pm; Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Ellen DeGeneres - Wednesday, June 19, 7:30pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Josh Wolf Josh Wolf is a comedian, actor and NY Times Bestselling author best known for his work as a round table guest and writer on E!'s *Chelsea Lately* and *After Lately*. Friday, June 14, 7pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, June 15, 7pm

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and 9:30pm; Sunday, June 16, 7pm; 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

Major Malfunction: Daddy Issues Bring your dad to a Father's Day comedy show featuring San Diego's funny women. Sunday, June 16, 3pm; \$25. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Patton Oswalt - Friday, June 14, 7:30pm; Humphreys by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Fighting Climate Change Fighting Climate Change with Nuclear Power and Renewable Energy Sources: Join the San Diego Section of the American Nuclear Society for dinner with a presentation and discussion on the role of nuclear energy and renewables in fighting climate change with section member Mehdi Sarram Wednesday, June 19, 5:30pm; **free**. International House of Pancakes, 16759 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Sangha Day Saturday Short community meeting to discuss tasks to keep Dharma Center running smoothly, and then spend time together doing a fun activity. This is for people who cannot make an ongoing commitment but would like to help out with one-time small dharma projects randomly. Saturday, June 15, 2pm; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Town Hall on Continuation of Sales Tax Measure The City's special sales tax measure (Prop J) is set to expire. Come join the City of El Cajon at upcoming Town Halls to learn about the services provided through sales tax and what services may have to be cut if the funding source is not continued. Thursday, June 13, 6pm; **free**. Bostonia Recreation Center, 1049 Bostonia Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Town Hall on Continuation of Sales Tax Measure The City's special sales tax measure (Prop J) is set to expire. Come join the City of El Cajon at upcoming Town Halls to learn about the services provided through sales tax and what services may have to be cut if the funding source is not continued. Saturday, June 15, 1pm; **free**. Ronald Reagan Community Center, 195 E. Douglas. Tuesday, June 18, 6pm; **free**. John F. Kennedy Park, 1675 East Madison Avenue. (EL CAJON)

FATHERS DAY

Avian Adventure Day Embark on a journey around the lagoon at the Discovery Center, accompanied by seasoned birder experts. Seek out the native birds that call our area home, learning fascinating facts along the way. Sunday, June 16, 8am; **free**-\$10. Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center, 1580 Cannon Road. (CARLSBAD)

OUTDOORS

Western azalea and elderberry bloom, earliest sunrise of 2024

Western Azalea, A Native *Rhododendron*, is blooming this month in scattered locations throughout the county's higher mountains. Fond of moist forested areas, it's often found along creeks and in shaded canyons. Like its ornamental cousins, western azalea's fragrant white (sometimes pink- or yellow-tinted) flowers are borne in ornate clusters with five lobes. It is also deciduous, and will be without leaves for many months of the year. There is a colony of them in Palomar Mountain State Park alongside a trail linking Doane



A LATE SPRING SUNRISE OVER BALBOA PARK LOOKS LIKE A SCENE FROM A DR. SEUSS BOOK.



WESTERN AZALEA (*RHODODENDRON OCCIDENTALE*) IS A NATIVE SHRUB CAPABLE OF GROWING 3-5 METERS TALL.

Valley and Chimney Flats. White-flowering azaleas can also be found along the Azalea Glen Trail in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.

Elderberry, two species of which range over most of San Diego County, is in full bloom this month. The flat-topped, creamy white blossoms of this large shrub or small tree can be seen in the natural coastal canyon areas such as Tecolote Canyon and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, as well as in the more moist areas of the foothills and mountains. The elderberry's tiny fruits, which ripen in late summer, have traditionally been used for various drinks and preserves.

Earliest Sunrise This Year, reckoned in Daylight Saving Time, occurred Tuesday, June 11, at 5:38:47 a.m. This event occurs about a week before the longest day of the year — the summer solstice — because of factors related to the shape of the Earth's orbit and the angle between Earth's axis and the plane of its revolution around the sun.

FUNDRAISERS

Switchfoot Bro-Am Beach Fest

The annual Switchfoot BRO-AM Beach Fest combines surf, live music, and community giving to help San Diego kids in need. Saturday, June 15, 7am; Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

LECTURES

AAAS-Pacific Division Science Conference

The American Association for the Advancement of Science – Pacific Division presents speakers from across the natural, physical, social, and health sciences – as well as engineering and artistic/humanistic aspects of science. Monday, June 17, 5:30pm; Tuesday, June 18, 7am; Wednesday, June 19, 7am; \$50-\$95. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

NATURE

Family Discovery Walk: Insects

Join MTRP Trail Guides for a family-oriented adventure learning about some of the interesting insects and spiders that live in Mission Trails. Meet in the day use parking lot. Saturday, June 15, 1pm; **free**. Mission Trails Regional

Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Family Walk Learn about this beautiful, protected space, and join us for a 1-mile gentle/flat walking tour. You'll be guided by BLF docents who will share the lagoon's history and talk about the species that live there as well as the plant communities of the lagoon environments. Registration is required @ batiqitoslagoon.org. Meet at the Nature Center. Saturday, June 15, 10am; **free**. Batiqitos Lagoon Nature Center, 7380 Gabbiano Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Free Interpretive Walks Free interpretive nature walk on the second and third Sunday of each month. Hear about the plants and wildlife. Walks are moderately paced on the lower creek trail and begin in front of the Elfin Forest Interpretive Center Honoring Susan J. Varty. Sunday, June 16, 9am; **free**. Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, 8833 Harmony Grove Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Guided Bird Walk Join MTRP bird walk leaders for a guided bird walk along the shore of Kumeyaay Lake. Water attracts a variety of birds at this time of year. Meet in the Kumeyaay Lake Campground day use parking lot. Bring binoculars if you have them. Friday, June 14, 8am & Sunday June 15, 8am; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk. Walks are free and open to the public, with no camping or reservations required. Learn about the lush riparian habitat of the Kumeyaay Lake shoreline, home to many birds, animals, and unique plants. Walks start from the Campground Entry Station. Thursday, June 13, 8:30am; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Sierra Club Seal Society Walk & Talk Join the Sierra Club Seal Society for a free talk and walk to see sea lions and their newborn pups. Saturday, June 15, 2pm; **free**. Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Summer Twilight Walk Join MTRP Trail Guides for free special interpretive walks at twilight this summer. Enjoy an evening walk in the park and learn about the changes that occur at dusk as the sun goes down. Walks meet at the parking lot at the corner of Bushy Hill Drive and Father Junipero Serra Trail, across from Kumeyaay Lake Campground. NOT at the Visitor Center. Don't forget to bring along a flashlight and an extra layer of clothing — it often cools down after the sun sets. Saturday, June 15, 7:30pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Teen Service Learning Candy Sushi | June 13, 2024 Make your own candy sushi. Thursday, June 13, 4pm; **free**. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Archers King Arthur Tournament This King Arthur Renaissance-themed tournament features music, costumes, a BBQ, and an archery competition. Kids under 12 shoot for free. Sunday, June 16, 9am; \$20-\$40. Rube Powell Archery Range, 2145 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Growlers vs Los Angeles Aviators Kids 12 and under get in free. Saturday, June 15, 6:30am; Mission Bay High School, 2475 Grand Avenue. (MISSION BEACH)

Zenith International Games Championship Watch as athletes of all ages showcase their agility and skill in thrilling competitions including speed, skills, and freestyle. Enjoy live music while you indulge in food available for purchase throughout the event. Sunday, June 16, 9am; **free**. Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

THEATER LISTINGS

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

The Ballad of Johnny & June

Love is a burning thing Country music royalty Johnny Cash and June Carter remain to this day one of the most famous couples of the 20th Century. Created with the support of the family and told through the eyes of their son John Carter Cash, this new musical covers it all: their childhoods, their 1956 meeting at the Grand Ole Opry, the storied on-stage proposal in 1968, and the soaring highs and whiplash lows of fame, life on the road, addiction, arrests, controversies, marriage, family and devotion. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Camelot

A smart production of a great musical: unobtrusive direction, solid casting, and inventive staging. Camelot *sounds* like a big show — King Arthur, Lancelot, the knights of the Round Table, the creation of the chivalrous order, the transformation of England, war, for Pete's sake — but North Coast Rep, cheerfully bowing to the necessity of its intimate dimensions, hews close to the famous story's heart: the friendships of a King. And really, that's the genius of the story, because where else can the personal and political — the very big and the very small — so intimately intermingle... and conflict? (Arthur, having grown up under the wise tutelage of Merlin the wizard, wants to change "might makes right" to "might for right," and that's a lovely idea for a king to have, but even a king must reckon with the tortuous and tempted human hearts within his household, and himself.) So even though there are often only one or two people onstage, none of the bigness is lost. Quite the opposite: the small-scale interactions feel enlarged: the temptation to personal betrayal is at the same time the temptation to treason, and more — the temptation to raze a civilization. It's thrilling stuff, and surprisingly painful after the crazy fun of the first act, when Lauren Weinberg's spirited Guenevere has giddily daydreamed about the romantic frisson of having men fight over her, Brian Krinsky's imposing Lancelot has modestly proclaimed his perfection,



The Ballad of Johnny and June: Never let the truth get in the way of a good story.

and Jered McLenigan's Arthur has risen to his moment. And yet, wasn't the pain portended by all that came before it: the queen's love, the knight's power, the king's dream? The singing is mostly strong all 'round — so much so that they might have dropped the mics — but special mention might be made of Weinberg's, which must serve so many moods: now lilting, now saucy, now richly melancholy. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

The Color Purple

Based on the novel by Alice Walker, book by Marsha Norman, music & lyrics by Brenda Russell, Allee Willis, and Stephen Bray, directed by Kandace Crystal, musical direction by Leigh Scarritt, choreography by Alyssa "Ajay" Junious. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Fat Ham

The 2022 Pulitzer-winning, Tony-nominated sensation Fat Ham is a fresh and funny take on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. OLD GLOBE - DONALD & DARLENE SHILEY STAGE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

High School Musical the Musical

Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life on our stage featuring some of San Diego's most talented young artists! Troy, Gabriella and the students of East High must deal with issues of first love, friends and family while balancing their classes and extracurricular activities. It's the first day after winter break at East High. The Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians and Skater Dudes find their cliques, recount their vacations and look forward to the new year. Basketball team captain and

resident jock, Troy, discovers that the brainy Gabriella, a girl he met singing karaoke on his ski trip, has just enrolled at East High. They cause an upheaval when they decide to audition for the high school musical that is being led by Ms. Darbus. Although many students resent the threat posed to the "status quo," Troy and Gabriella's alliance might just open the door for others to shine as well. Disney's High School Musical is fun for the whole family. THEATRE FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, 7960 UNIVERSITY AVENUE SUITE 240, LA MESA. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY.

Juneteenth AXIS Event

The Old Globe is celebrating and honoring traditions with a CoLAB original play by commissioned playwright Gill Sotu, plus live music, spoken word performances, and more. Free, family-friendly event. COPLEY PLAZA, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 11AM SATURDAY.

Life by Numbers

World premier by Lisa Balderston: It's been two years since Ellie's father passed away, and she's nervous about her Mom's recent interest in dating, which prompts her to move back home. She finds there are more changes in her Mom's world than she anticipated. Featuring Laura Ganz-Holtan, Ell Miller, Lucinda Moaney, Steven Ronggur Silalahi, Lesa Sailors. Adult themes, same-sex relationships discussed. LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Pásale Pásale

Get ready to embark on a journey into the heart of the Swap Meet with TuYo Theatre's latest production. "Pásale Pásale" comes back from the sold-out workshop in the 2024 La Jolla Playhouse W.O.W. Festival and joins TuYo Theatre's record of successful immersive plays like "On Her Shoulders We Stand", illuminating the contribu-

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tions of Latinas during WW2 in San Diego, and “Las Cuatro Milpas,” celebrating the iconic Barrio Logan restaurant. Set against the backdrop of the bustling Bayfront Swap Meet, “Pásale Pásale” transports audiences into a vibrant world where laughter, music, and solidarity reign supreme. When Señor Muchacos decides to raise vendors’ fees, a wave of anxiety sweeps through those already struggling to make ends meet. However, amidst the uncertainty, audiences become active participants in the journey towards self-determination, standing in solidarity with the vendors as they navigate the challenges ahead.

Vanity Fair by Kate Hamill
There are many tensions in Kate Hamill’s adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray’s novel of amorality and ambition in 19th-century English society, some of them fruitful, some of them less so. Fruitful: the “we are not so different, you and I” drama between lowborn Becky Sharp and highborn Amelia Sedley, emphasized by the way they frequently manage to utter the same line at the same time but in different situations and from different parts of the stage. Less so: the hard lean toward comedy on the part of the largely capable cast (in scenes that might be

played as serious or even sad) vs. the Manager’s sardonic harangues, which are aimed squarely at the audience. She’s full of talk about the false glory of war, the immutable cycle of history, and the illusion of morality — “nobody’s good or bad really, we’re all just trying to get along” — to the point where we might just wonder why we’re supposed to care about the goings-on onstage. (She’s ready for that, accusing us throughout of being bored and eager to leave and/or falling asleep, but going meta doesn’t help add meaning.) Fruitful: highlighting the fact that while morals may change, the clash of character and circumstance will always produce drama, both in the soul and society. (A repeated refrain: “All the choices you made, would you make them again?”) Less so: highlighting the passage of time with bits of modern pop and strange protests against being judged. Moving on to the production: Scripps makes do in fine fashion with its seven actors, all but two of whom play multiple roles, and Alyssa Anne Austin has the charisma to make Becky’s rise believable. Special note should be made of Marcene Drysdale’s costumes, which do good work delineating the character changes, and look great to boot.

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE,
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7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS,
2PM SUNDAYS.

MOVIES

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

Civil War — It’s telling that the two war photographers at the center of Alex Garland’s story say they have parents back home in the heartland who are pretending that the civil war that is raging right here in the No Longer United States of America (the reasons for it are unclear and unimportant, but maybe the President shouldn’t have disbanded the FBI) is not happening. Because if your harrowing images of human conflict and suffering, obtained at great personal risk and even greater personal cost, can’t even rouse Mom and Dad to belief — let alone concern, let alone action — well then, what exactly is the status, what exactly is the point, of the media? Why are you wading into the horror — no, not wading, plunging, immersing yourself in the very worst of humanity. We get it, you’re good journalists: you’re here to get the story, not to take sides. But really, why? Weary Lee (a scowling Kirstin Dunst) isn’t quite sure any more, but she’s still game to join gung-ho Joel (Wagner Moura) on a mad dash for D.C. in an attempt to interview a President who might just have them shot on sight, since he views journalists as the enemy. (At least Joel is

honest about his motivations: combat gets him hard, and even after it hits too close to home, he stays on task.) What Lee didn’t count on was bringing newbie Jesse along for the ride (an impossibly tiny Cailee Spaeny); Jesse with her old-school camera and new-kid eagerness. “If I got shot, would you take a picture of it?” she asks, wonderingly. “What do you think?” snaps Lee. Unlike this review, Garland keeps the thinky stuff in the background and concentrates on the brutal, intimate action — like a good war photographer should. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Evil Does Not Exist — Well, then, what does, Mr. Director? Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s followup to *Drive My Car* goes very small to dig very deep. There are precious few events — a girl walking home from school through the woods, a forgetful man doing chores, a contentious community meeting in the country followed by a blunt business meeting in the city, etc. But the scarcity sharpens focus on what is there, makes room for rumination on the careful — methodical, really — presentation of words and pictures. There are answers to my opening question — desire, competition, chance, intention, etc. — but they still leave room for mystery. A quiet, thoughtful, but very ungently moment in the life of a place that, like all places, threatens to collapse once things become unbalanced. (2024) — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Furiosa — Just as Tom Hardy’s taciturn Max was not the dramatic center of director and co-writer George Miller’s hyper-kinetic *Mad Max: Fury Road* — that honor went to Charlize Theron’s rebellious Praetorian Furiosa

and her mad quest to find a paradise in the wasteland — so that same Furiosa is not the center of the more reflective but still wildly mobile prequel *Furiosa*. This time, it’s Chris Hemsworth’s hook-nosed, ambitious and vicious, frequently weird and somewhat less frequently wise gang leader Dr. Dementus who gets the sidelong spotlight. Dementus just wants what’s best for his people, even if he himself is doomed to despair, now that the endlessly warring world has taken those he loved and left him with just a stuffed bear for comfort. And what’s best for his people, as far as he can tell, is for little captive Furiosa to tell him where he can find her Edenic home — the sort of place where fruit trees still grow, even after humanity has all but wiped the world clean in its mad embrace of violence. Talking of which, Dementus kills Furiosa’s mom in an effort to get the location, thus giving our big-eyed heroine her raison d’être for much of the rest of the film. But before he can get the girl to talk, he stumbles into the unholy trinity of *Fury Road*’s makeshift civilization — The Citadel, Gastown, and the Bullet Farm — and the mental wheels start turning. Phew! That’s a lot of plot just to set the scene — small wonder the thing runs two and a half hours. And yeah, some of that scene-setting involves surprisingly clunky special effects/sound work — how exactly do people chat in a sandstorm? But once the gears catch and things get rolling, literally and otherwise, the ride is by turns thrilling and fascinating, a brutal, complicated struggle of conflicting interests and strategies leading to a desert showdown that is...well, a word on that. It’s talky, and it slams the action to a halt, and it sounds very much like an authorial statement: Dementus throwing off his

eccentric speech and vocabulary and revealing the dark heart of the Mad Max saga. But it also makes way for a nasty, batty, but strangely redemptive segue into *Fury Road*’s story. Make it epic, indeed. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

I Saw the TV Glow — Jane Schoenbrun’s followup to *We’re All Going to the World’s Fair* has been hailed as a breakthrough cinematic treatment of gender dysphoria. Maybe so, but it’s a good enough piece of art to bear multiple interpretations; for your humble correspondent, it played an almost shockingly effective evocation of How Things Felt, back before the internet made cult followings into malignant mobs, and more importantly, back before we — the collective we — put aside childish things and let adulthood take hold. Before the mundane obscured the magical. Maddy and Owen are miserable middle-schoolers; she because Dad is loud and violent, he because Dad is cold and controlling. They bond over and take comfort in watching *The Pink Opaque*, a show that is supposedly for kids, but way too complicated and creepy for that to be true. The show’s heroines are up against Mr. Melancholy, a moon man whose chief weapon is self-forgetting. Hardly the enemy of children; more like the enemy of childhood. After the show gets cancelled, Maddy disappears; her reappearance years later forces a reckoning. What she says is impossible; what she says is terrifying. And yet. Owen says early on that he knows something is wrong with him, and Justice Smith’s performance makes that clear. Whether it’s anything more than simply being a person is less so. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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Sorry but not sad Peak Covid-19 was a tough time for Rob “Roob” Blackwell. “I, like many people, started struggling with pretty significant mental health issues during the lockdown,” Blackwell explains. “I have always had major depressive disorder, and it manifests as anxiety in me — and my anxiety just went through the roof during that time. And not just because of the pandemic; it was also the political and racial climate and how things just got so ugly during that time. We were isolating, and I just started to crumble.” A longtime

fact, that song that I wrote is one of the songs” — “Ain’t That Dope” — “that is on the EP that I put out.”

The EP, *Who’s Sorry Now?*, features the debut recordings



Actual Sorry Section sign



Rob Blackwell sought solace in the ease of the uke.

pianist, Blackwell decided to learn to play a different instrument during the pandemic, to help relieve stress. He picked the ukulele because he heard from others that it had a short learning curve, and began taking lessons with Anna Zinova (Pinkey). “I couldn’t even make my fingers curve, it was so awkward for me. But over time I got a little better.”

After several lessons, Zinova suggested that Blackwell write a song that utilized the four different playing techniques they had worked on during their sessions. “So, I wrote a song, and I played it for her, and she was like, ‘Oh, man, that was not at all what I expected. It was so much better than I even expected. You really don’t need me for lessons anymore. You just need to work on your own. Go do this.’ In

from Blackwell’s new project. “The name Sorry Section comes from a sign I saw in a restaurant a few years back that said ‘Sorry Section Closed.’ The absence of a comma after ‘Sorry’ implied that the place actually had a sorry section. And that made me think: *who sits in the sorry section, why are they there, and what do they talk about?*” All five of the songs were written by Blackwell and feature his vocals and newfound uke skills. “I actually channeled a lot of what I was feeling into those songs, and particularly into the lyrics. Once those songs were in the can and being recorded, it was cathartic, and I felt loads lighter for having done so.”

Beefing up the tracks are a handful of musicians (including Zinova, who contributed violin parts on two of the tracks) that

Blackwell met over the years via his locals-intensive *Not So Serious Radio* show, which broadcasts out of Palomar College’s radio station. Sean Burdeux (Paper Forest) contributed guitar and bass, Brian Scafi (D/Wolves) added drum, guitar, and bass on songs, and John Vineyard (The Oxen) helped out with some slide guitar and bass. Blackwell still seems amazed that this collection of musicians, whose lives are packed with work and other music projects, found the time to record with him. “I couldn’t be more indebted to all four of them,” he says. “They actually rehearsed prior to coming into the studio, and came for one or more sessions. For a while, I couldn’t even talk about it without crying. I was just that moved by it. I still am moved. I just don’t cry any more about it.”

Besides Sorry Section, Blackwell is still hosting *Not So Serious Radio*, even though the original format of the show never fully recovered post-Covid. “When it came back in 2022, the college made a decision to basically limit the live radio shows to students only, and it would only be during, essentially, business hours,” he explains. “So, people like me who were essentially volunteers, who had evening shows, were basically SOL. But they did give me the option to record a show, like a podcast, in advance and they would upload it. I have been doing that for four-plus years now. I don’t prefer it, and I miss being live, but it’s kind of what I have, so I continue on.”

As for Sorry Section live performances, Blackwell has no plans to trot out full-band shows anytime soon, but he *is* looking to test the waters of local solo open-mic nights with his trusty uke. He’s eyeing the Monday night event at the Ould Sod (hosted by Lauren Leigh) that he attended earlier this year. “I think I’m over the fear part of performing, because I feel more confident with the songs and my ability to do it solo. But stay tuned.”

— Dryw Keltz

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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



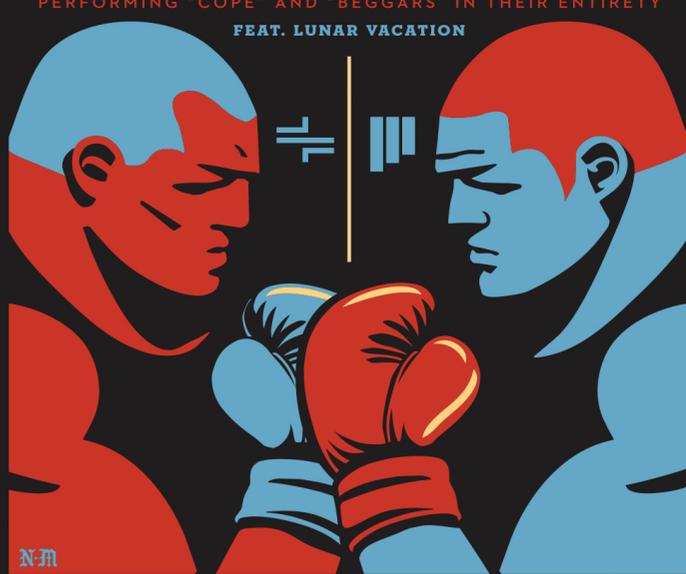
<p>THU. JUN. 13 GLASSING Knumears, Old Gods</p>	<p>FRI. JUN. 14 ILL NINO Flaw, A Killer’s Confession, The Crowned</p>
<p>SAT. JUN. 15 SPITER Desolus, New Skeletal Faces, Chain Wolf</p>	<p>WED. JUN. 19 PLANET-B Kent Osborne</p>
<p>TUE. JUN. 25 DEATH TO ALL Performing “Scream Bloody Gore” In Entirety Cryptopsy, Aggression</p>	<p>WED. JUN. 26 DEATH TO ALL Performing “The Sound Of Perseverance” In Entirety Cryptopsy, Aggression</p>
<p>SAT. JUN. 29 GAYC/DC Headbanger’s Ball, Into the Void, Made of Metal</p>	<p>SAT. JUL. 6 HELSTOTT Cascade Effect, Brutalation, Son ov Leviathan, Parasitic Existence</p>
<p>THU. JUL. 11 KRUELTY Mongrel, Holy Death, Hereditary, Abstain</p>	<p>SAT. JUL. 13 CAPSULE with special guests</p>
<p>SAT. JUN. 22 WACKEN METAL BATTLE - NATIONAL FINALS Cascade Effect, Father Wolf, Versipul, Prime Prophecy, WarTroll, Fadrait</p>	<p>FRI. JUN. 28 GORGATRON Casket Robbery, Voraath, Bluntsplitter</p>
<p>TUE. JUL. 9 SNAKES OF RUSSIA & DEAD REGISTER with special guests</p>	<p>WED. JUL. 17 SACRAMENTUM Vimur, Lucemortis</p>

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UPTOWN RHYTHM MAKERS at Panama 66

JUNE 13



Inspired by New Orleans dance bands of the 1920s and New Orleans revival bands of the 1940s through 1960s, the Uptown Rhythm Makers came together in 2003 to play traditional jazz in the New Orleans Dixieland style. Members also perform in around a dozen other local bands and orchestras, all well known in Dixieland trad circles.

SWITCHFOOT BRO-AM BEACH FEST at Moonlight Beach

JUNE 15



The annual Switchfoot BRO-AM Beach Fest combines surfing, live music, and fundraising. Proceeds go toward providing grants to nonprofit organizations that provide services to homeless, at-risk and disadvantaged youth, especially programs related to music, art and surfing. The event emphasizes sustainable practices such as BYO reusable bottles, water refill stations, and waste education, to ensure a thriving future for children and our planet.

COBBY BRZESKI at Books & Records

JUNE 16



Cobby Brzeski is a multi-genre, multi-instrumental musical artist and songwriter originally from Naples, Florida. She writes, performs, and records original 1940s-inspired swing music. Her debut album *Vintage Girl In A Modern World* was partially recorded by Rolling Stones producer Alan Sanderson at local Pacific Beat Studio.

CHEST FEVER at the Casbah

JUNE 16



The members of local alt-folk heroes Mrs. Henry who make up the tribute band Chest Fever put aside their original songs to instead celebrate 55 years of music by Bob Dylan's onetime rock-and-roll backing group The Band. The side-project got its start playing entire Band albums such as *The Last Waltz*, as chronicled in a short film documentary. The bill includes Harry Katz & the Pistachios.

ELVIN BISHOP at the Belly Up

JUNE 17



Former San Diegan Elvin Bishop is best known for 1970s hits such as "Fooled Around and Fell in Love," "On and On," and "Save It For a Rainy Day," and for getting his acoustic guitar smashed by John Belushi in *Animal House*. This tour features him backed by Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio, with Willy Jordan on cajon and vocals and Bob Welsh on guitar. They've released a couple of albums, including *Something Smells Funky 'Round Here*. Opening the show will be the Johnny Vernazza Band.

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Alejandra's Fine Mexican Food & Cantina:

Friday, 6pm — Robert Chini.

Aquarius Bar & Grille:

Saturday, 6pm — Santana Soul. \$5.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Wednesday, 8:30pm & 8:30pm — Brian Blade & The Fellowship Band. \$40-\$45.

Aztec Brewing Company:

Sunday, 6pm — Aztec Jazz Jam. Free.

Baker-Baum Concert Hall:

Saturday, 6pm & 9pm — A New World: intimate music from FINAL FANTASY.

Balboa Library:

Saturday, 2pm — C'est L'Amour: The Music of Paris. Free.

Beach House Grill:

Saturday, 4pm — Will Clarke. \$40-\$60.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Mike Gordon.

Friday, 8pm — WITCH

(W.I.T.C.H.) and Scientist.

Saturday, 9pm — Wayward Sons.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Cowboy Junkies.

Monday, 7pm — Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — The Steely Damned 2.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Matthew Phillips and Lioneer. \$9-\$16.

Books & Records:

Friday, 7pm — Sue Palmer. Free.

Saturday, 7pm — Megan

Nguyen. Free.

Sunday, 11am — Brunch with Cobby Brzeski & Her Vintage Trio. Free.

Wednesday, 6pm — Jonesy Jones. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Glassing, Knumears, Old Gods. \$15.

Friday, 7:30pm — Ill Niño 25th Anniversary Tour. \$20-\$25.

Saturday, 7pm — Spiter and Desolus. \$15-\$20.

Wednesday, 8pm — Planet B and Kent Osborne. \$15-\$20.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, 7:30pm — Old Crow Medicine Show.

Cannonball:

Tuesday, 5pm — Mike Myrdal.

Casbah:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Tyler Halverson. \$18.

Friday, 7:30pm — French Cassettes.

Saturday, 7:30pm — The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band.

Sunday, 7pm — Chest Fever.

Monday, 7:30pm — The Suede Grenades and The Film Company. \$9.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Davila 666, DFMK, Junkys.

Wednesday, 7pm — Open Oscillator #45. \$8.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Mainly Mozart beams its brilliance this month

As 2024 reaches the gloomy month of June — though, to be honest, June gloom started in March this year — there is one blinding ray of sunshine gleaming on the gray horizon. The San Diego Mainly Mozart Festival is set to beam its brilliance into the San Diego zeitgeist, starting on Thursday, June 20, and concluding on Saturday, June 29.

In past years, Mainly Mozart has set up a stage at the Surf Sports Park — formerly the polo grounds — in Del Mar. Last year, they split time between Del Mar, The Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, and The Epstein Family Amphitheatre on the campus of UC San Diego. This year, the Surf Sports Park is out. Mainly Mozart will present four concerts at

The Epstein and two concerts at The Conrad.

Ever since Covid, Mainly Mozart has been juggling venues. The sweet spot for the size of these concerts would be a concert hall of about 800-1000 seats, but that option doesn't exist in San Diego. The Epstein works in terms of size, but it is an outdoor venue, not a concert hall. However, last year's performance at The Epstein of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* was excellent.

The first concert at The Epstein on Thursday, June 20, includes Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 21* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 6*. Fun fact: in 1967, a film entitled *Elvira Madigan* used the second movement of Mozart's piano concerto to such great effect that

classical record labels began marketing it as "Elvira Madigan."

The next concert at The Epstein is on Saturday, June 22. The featured piece here is Gabriel Faure's *Requiem*. Of all the sacred music written over the ages, this piece is probably the easiest to access. Faure wasn't interested in proving any musical points or advancing the grammar of tonality. He simply wrote a gorgeous piece of music audiences with which audiences have been in love since was first performed in July of 1900.

Concerts three and four at The Epstein are on Thursday, June 27, and Saturday, June 29. The Thursday concert features Mozart's *Symphony No. 38*. The Saturday June 29 concert includes Max Bruch's



Mainly Mozart at The Epstein Family Amphitheatre on the campus of UC San Diego

Scottish Fantasy for Orchestra and Violin, and Felix Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 3 "Scottish."* Stefan Jackiw is the violinist.

The two concerts at The Conrad are going to be special occasions. The first, on Sunday, June 23, features Mozart's *Gran Partita Serenade*. If you recall the movie *Amadeus*, this was the first music by Mozart that Salieri heard. Mainly Mozart pre-

sented the *Gran Partita* five or six years ago, and it was one of the best concerts of the year. The second concert is on Tuesday, June 25. This is a concert that you should circle on your calendar. The chance to hear the string section of the Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra perform Pytor Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings* is a rare opportunity. For more information, visit MainlyMozart.org.

Classical Music this week

San Diego Opera: Equal Voices Concert

Mezzo-soprano: Guadalupe Paz Tenor: Tony Baek Accompanist: Bruce Stasyna Thursday, June 13, 3pm; free. South Chula Vista Library, 389 Orange Avenue.

San Diego Opera: Equal Voices Concert

Mezzo-soprano: Guadalupe Paz Tenor: Tony Baek Accompanist: Bruce Stasyna Thursday, June 13, 12pm; free. San Ysidro Branch Library, 4235 Beyer Boulevard.

Youth Piano Concerto

The City of Encinitas, in partnership with the North Coast Symphony Orchestra, presents the inaugural 2024 Youth Piano Concerto Competition Concert. The

award-winning performers include Frank Luo, Mozart Piano Concerto No. 23 in A, Movement 3; Luna Lee, Beethoven Concerto No 1, Movement 3; and Maxwell Tran, Shostakovich Concerto No. 2,

Movement 1. The orchestra will also perform Beethoven's Prometheus Overture. Saturday, June 15, 2:30pm; \$15-\$25. Encinitas Community and Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Old Dominion.

Friday, 7:30pm — TLC.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Pepe Aguilar.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Whiskey Myers.

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 3pm — Farrah Camu.

Sunday, 4pm — Keni Yarbro.

Tuesday, 4pm — Russell

Paihinui.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:

Thursday, 6pm — Blaise Guld.

Saturday, 6pm — Johnny Martin.

Sunday, 4pm — Israel

Maldonado. Free.

Monday, 6pm — Andrew Peña.

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Saturday, 11am — Mike Myrdal.

Sunday, 11am — Kinnie Dye.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, 8pm — Walker Hayes.

Sunday, 8pm — Tesla. \$59-\$248.

Holding Company:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Mc Ehti

and Graft. \$20-\$30.

Hotel Republic San Diego:

Friday, 6pm — DJ Jenny Pocket.

Free.

Saturday, 6pm — Trevor Davis

Trio. Free.

Sunday, 11am — Mercedes

Moore Trio. Free.

House of Blues:

Friday, 7:30pm — Half Past Two.

Friday, 7:30pm — Mystery

Skulls.

Saturday, 9pm — Gimme

Gimme Disco. \$16-\$31.

Saturday, 9pm — Taylor's

Version. \$15-\$22.

Sunday, 7pm — Bktherula. \$25.

Sunday, 7:30pm — D. Savage.

Wednesday, 7pm — The Dead

Daisies. \$17-\$30.

Wednesday, 7pm — Transviolet.

\$18.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Friday, 8:30pm — Toga Party

Band. \$15.

Humphreys by the Bay:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — The

Movement.

Jacumba Hot Springs Spa & Lodge:

Thursday, 8pm — Habibi. \$25-

\$30.

Jazz Lounge:

Sunday, 6pm — Molly Miller

Trio.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Thursday, 5pm — Orion Song.

Friday, 7pm — Jemille Viale.

Saturday, 7pm — Gabriele

Dagrezio.

Wednesday, 5pm — Marelle.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, 7:30pm — Münir Beken:

The Soul of Turkish Music. \$35-

\$50.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 5:30pm — David

Shyde.

Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Saturday, 11am — Brandon Diaz.

Sunday, 11am — Johnny Martin.

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Jessica Pratt

and Tony Molina.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

Friday, 7pm — Nathan Welden.

Saturday, 7pm — Blaise Guld.

Mission Bay Resort:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Friday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Tuesday, 6pm — Orion Song.

Wednesday, 6pm — Kai Kalama.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Saddle Up

Swing with DJ Liza.

Friday, 8:30pm — Call of

Tomorrow.

Friday, 8:30pm — Drivin' the

Bus.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Vision

Video. \$25.

Friday, 7:30pm — The Soul

Rebels and Sean Kuti.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Bunt. \$20-

\$25.

Sunday, 7pm — Rebel Star

Tribute to David Bowie. \$15-\$17.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 8pm — FMera Epic New

Wave Night. \$6-\$8.

Sunday, 7:30pm — The Guest

Room and Hardcastle. \$10-\$15.

New Village Arts Theatre:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Korrie

Yamaoka Song Prism: White

Space. \$20.

Nick & G's:

Friday, 6pm — David Shyde.

North Coast Repertory Theatre:

Monday, 7:30pm — The Peter

Sprague Quartet. \$42.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Noah Kahan.

Observatory North Park:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Hobo

Johnson & The Lovemakers.

Old Town Blues Club:

Saturday, 8:30pm — West of 5.

Free.

Omni La Costa Resort and Spa:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Live from

La Costa: Jessy J & Paul Brown.

\$57-\$150.

Open Air Theatre:

Friday, 7:30pm — Brit Floyd.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Daryl

Hall and Elvis Costello & The

Imposters.

Oxford Social Club:

Thursday, 10:30pm — DJ

Beatnick.

Friday, 7:30pm — Sophisticated

Fridays with Cutswell.

Saturday, 10:30pm — DJ

Bamboozle.

Panama 66:

Thursday, 6pm — Uptown

Rhythm Makers. Free.

Petco Park:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Kaleo and

Neal Francis.

THE GONZO REPORT

A gentle rebellion

Hiroshima visits the Museum of Making Music

"This is why they didn't let me talk in the band," joked master kotoist June Kuramoto from a stage at The Museum of Making Music in Carlsbad. The band was jazz fusion legends Hiroshima, which is made up of Kuramoto and keyboardist Kimo Cornwell. Her instrument has 13 strings, and is outfitted with the same number of movable bridges that change the pitch and key — unlike a guitar with its string gauges of differing sizes and pegs that can decrease or increase the pitch. Kuramoto needed to slide the bridges and tune the koto between every song, but no one minded. I could not imagine anyone being hostile to or disrespecting her.

During our pre-show interview, when she discussed touring with Miles Davis, I almost couldn't stop myself from asking "Was he really a mean motherfucker?" But in a rare moment of, fuck, I dunno what, my potty mouth was nullified. Perhaps that was her superpower, radiating calm and kindness that

made me more mindful of what I said, made me choose my words more wisely. It's also quite possible that my liver was out of whack, causing me to behave oddly.

Kuramoto and Cornwell's place in history is solid, and compounds the experience of the Museum. A Division of the North American Music Merchants (NAMM), the program opened in 2000 to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the trade show's birth. It's more than a collection of dusty relics and shiny new technology. The experience is immersive, helping to manifest the link between amplification and the rise of rock and roll, and more.

After storing her cello safely in her office, executive director Carolyn Grant gave me a tour and some more in-depth history, explaining how the pandemic worked in their favor, since the museum's renovations coincided with closure mandates. Her enthusiasm for the video and audio enhancements to the kiosks at each display was contagious. She noted that people's methods of learning — visual, reading, or audio — were all taken into account, through text and interviews with the musicians and with the people



Koto master June Kuramoto



Jazz explorer Kimo Cornwell

that created the instruments.

We paused before a bust of Henry Steinway, the great-grandson of the piano maker who founded Steinway & Sons. Grandson Henry served as the museum board's first president, and Grant's fondness for him was evident in her voice and her eyes. Moving through the displays, my mind was made dizzy with information, and I realized I could spend hours in here soaking it up and learning.

And then I heard an enthusiastic cacophony. I sought the source: a boy, under 10, playing a banjo while his mother smiled at his energetic efforts. When I asked him why he picked it up, and whether he thought it would be a good way to annoy his mother, he told me he just wanted to pick it up and make sounds, so he did. Many rooms had instruments placed there for people to just pick up and play. I used a Fender Precision to play

"War Pigs" and a guide told me that headphones were available, but I declined, content to hold the instrument and imagine that I sounded better than I probably did.

I had some time and a date with a lobster roll at the Green Dragon Tavern, which claimed to make it "Connecticut style." The food represented my home state proudly. It was a short walk back to the museum, past Carlsbad's renowned flower fields. Once there, I settled into my seat in the music hall. I saw the venue filling up with eager fans, snippets of conversation running the gamut from memories of seeing Hiroshima to a few who said they could die happy after this performance. The sound was pristine, and the admiration with which Cornwell and Kuramoto regarded each other was beautiful to see.

Rebellion is innate to innovation, no matter how gently it expresses itself. Cornwell searched for jazz records in his home state of Hawaii, unstoppable in his quest when he was younger. No mean feat in pre-internet times. Kuramoto was once reduced to tears when told in Japan that many people disapproved of her bringing the koto — their national instrument — to modern music. It was her passion and love for it that propelled her, and the sold-out audience was grateful for it. Driving home, the flower fields took on a new beauty as Kuramoto and Cornwell's set echoed in my head, providing a soundtrack that I didn't even realize was missing before the show. ■

Find The Gonzo Report online at sandiegoreader.com/gonzo

Thornton Winery:

Friday, 6:30pm — BIG: Brothers Igniting a Groove.

Town Center Community Park:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Santee Summer Concert: Cassie B. Free.

Waterfront Park:

Saturday, 12pm — Kinfolk Fest. \$25-\$200.

Winstons Beach Club:

Friday, 9pm — Forreggae Party. \$15.

Sunday, 5pm — Eric Lindell. \$35.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Baker-Baum Concert Hall:

June 23, June 25 — Mainly Mozart All-Star Orchestra Festival

Balboa Theatre:

June 21 — Justin Hayward

Belly Up Tavern:

June 20 — Third World
June 21 — Saved By The 90s and Radio Thieves
June 23 — Al Stewart

Brick by Brick:

June 22 — Wacken Metal Battle National Finals
June 25-26 — Death to All and Cryptopsy

The Casbah:

June 20 — Justin John Rodriguez and Sutton James

June 21 — Emo Nite

June 22 — Very Be Careful and Ritmos Tropicocosmos

June 23 — The Dollyrots and Go Betty Go

June 25 — Eric Schroeder and Sam Ritchie

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

June 23 — Mainly Mozart: Gran Partita Serenade

June 25 — Mainly Mozart: Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

June 23 — Pancho Barraza

June 26 — Smokey Robinson

Epstein Family Amphitheater:

June 20, June 22, June 27, June 29 — Mainly Mozart All-Star Orchestra Festival

House of Blues:

June 20 — Teethe

June 20 — Jose Madero

June 21 — Hot Water Music and Quicksand

June 22 — Randy Rogers Band

June 22 — Levels House Party

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

June 26 — Slack Key Ohana

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Pizza on the piazza

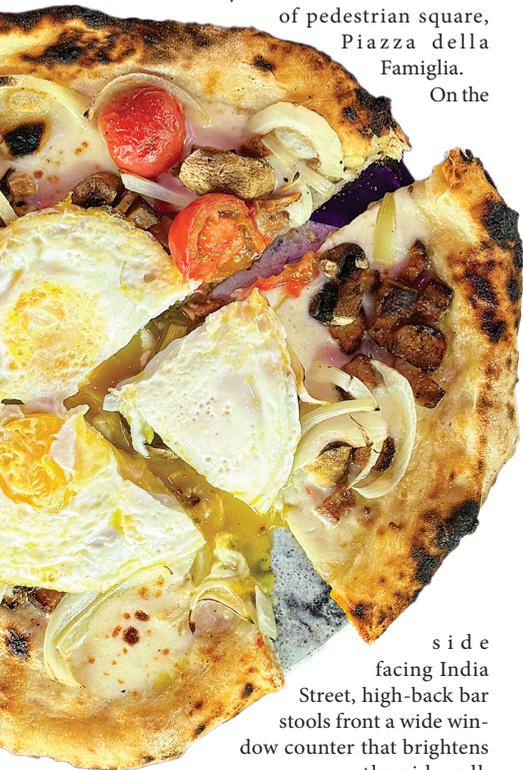
For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit SDReader.com/feast

Vincenzo's cheesy pastas, and now breakfast pizza

Vincenzo Cucina and Lounge, 550 W Date St., San Diego. Hmmm. Should I start or finish with the macchiato?

I've taken a seat at the bar at Vincenzo Cucina and Lounge. The place is a newcomer to the heart of Little Italy, set at the northwest corner of pedestrian square, Piazza della Famiglia.

On the



The breakfast pizza: sausage, peppers, onions, tomatoes, and eggs over easy.

evening beverage, the Aperol spritz. Between this, and its tables on the piazza, Vincenzo gives the neighborhood a legit location for the Ital-

ian national pastime of *aperitivo* and people watching.

Except, I'm here at 11:30 in the morning, because that's when the restaurant's cheese wheel pasta service starts. And because I've noticed an intriguing something else on the menu: breakfast pizza.

The cheese wheels first, because they are definitely Vincenzo's hook. It starts with a familiar idea: a hot pasta dish is tossed in the hollowed-out bowl of a cheese wheel, so that the cheese melts into the sauce, effectively giving the pasta a rich, umami coating. To this end, dozens of wheels of two-year aged Parmigiano Reggiano, the size of snare drums, line the long wall of Vincenzo's large dining room, destined to put the finishing touches on an especially creamy Fettuccine Alfredo (\$25).

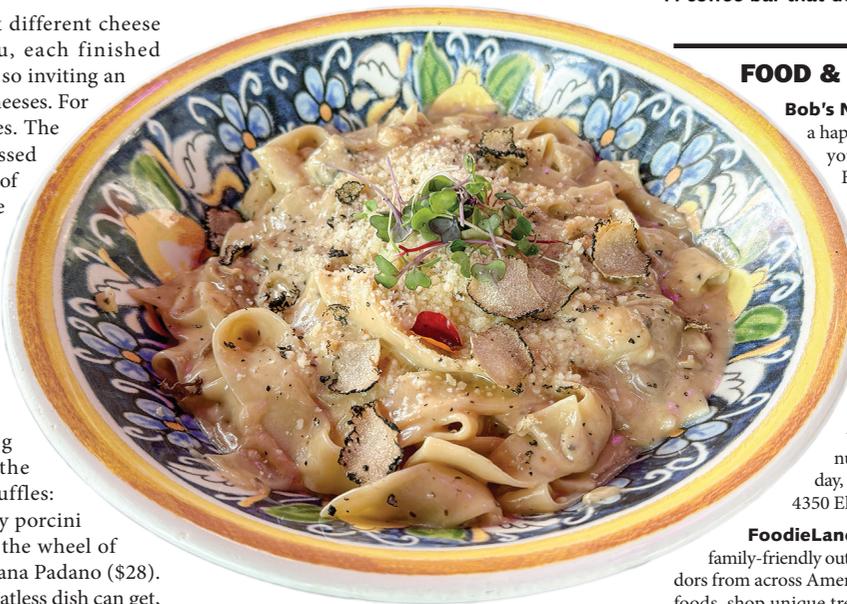
But that's only one of six different cheese wheel pastas on the menu, each finished within a different wheel and so inviting an exploration of Italian hard cheeses. For example, sheep's milk cheeses. The fusilli Bolognese (\$29) is tossed in a Sardinian pecorino; fans of Roman cuisine will appreciate the bucatini carbonara (\$25), tossed in Pecorino Romano. Each pasta has its own designated wheel, on display within a glass booth off the kitchen, so you can see your order get the treatment.

The eggy carbonara would make a fine late-morning order, but I go for one of the options featuring shaved truffles: the pappardelle in a creamy porcini mushroom sauce, tossed in the wheel of grainy cow's milk cheese, Grana Padano (\$28). It's about as indulgent as a meatless dish can get, a supremely flavorful example why Italians I've met tend to mock the American fondness for macaroni and cheese.

Of course, the real reason I skip the carbonara is I have that other eggy dish in my sights. Vincenzo offers a menu of wood-fired, Neapolitan style pizzas that get a little unusual as they venture beyond the \$15 Margherita. The *tartufo*



A coffee bar that doubles as an *aperitivo* bar.



Pecorino and truffle pappardelle, tossed in a Grana Padano cheese wheel.

(truffle) pizza features spinach, fig jam, and the silky, spun mozzarella called *stracciatella* (\$18). The spicy *soppressata* pie add a spin with smoked provolone.

And the \$17 breakfast pizza takes a pie topped with Italian sausage, peppers, onions, and mushrooms, and adds three eggs—scrambled or over easy.

Sunny-side would have looked better than either option, but at least with over easy I could count on a pool of runny yolk to add to the experience. I have a feeling the breakfast pizza has more to do with Vincenzo's location, immediately downstairs from the wildly popular brunch spot Morning Glory, which frequently sports a line of hungry customers that extends all the way to the bottom of those stairs.

In other words, if you show up for brunch and don't want to wait in that line, now you can sit down for eggy pizza and pasta downstairs instead. You just need to figure out whether you prefer to sip your espresso drink before or after you eat it. As an American, I suspect the only reasonable answer is: both.

-Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Bob's National Bourbon Day Enjoy a happy hour and bourbon tasting as you pair with Garrison Brother's Bourbon. Includes a flight, cocktail and light bites. Friday, June 14, 5:30pm; free-\$30. 21 and up. Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

City Heights Street Food Festival Enjoy a full day of live art, music, family-friendly activities, drinks, community and street food, taking place on University Avenue @ 37th and 38th Street. Saturday, June 15, 11am; \$10-\$15. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

FoodieLand Night Market Join us at our family-friendly outdoor festival featuring 210+ vendors from across America. Taste exciting multicultural foods, shop unique treasured goods from small businesses, challenge your friends to games, and watch live on-stage performances! Friday, June 14, 3pm; Saturday, June 15, 1pm; Sunday, June 16, 3pm; \$6. Snapdragon Stadium, 2101 Stadium Way. (MISSION VALLEY)

Knob Creek Whiskey Club June Whiskey Club event with Knob Creek from Clermont, Ky. The price includes a welcome cocktail, 0.5-oz. tastings of four whiskeys (9-year, Maple, Rye, 12-year), and a food menu of charcuterie, sausage board, and steak sliders. Tuesday, June 18, 6pm; \$65. 21 and up. Whiskey House, 420 3rd Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Promises2Kids Benefit Tasting Event Promises2Kids, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a brighter future for current and former foster children in San Diego County, is holding a 21+ event featuring premium whiskey, scotch, and bourbon tasting together with Barrel & Board. Thursday, June 13, 6pm; \$60-\$1200. 21 and up. Vault Miramar, 9340 Dowdy Dr., Suite 102. (MIRAMAR)

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

Taste of Little Italy Taste of Little Italy takes place across 48 blocks of the neighborhood. With over 20 participating restaurants offering diverse cuisines like pizza, pasta, burgers, and sushi, attendees can explore a range of flavors. Tuesday, June 18, 4pm; Wednesday, June 19, 4pm; \$55. Piazza della Famiglia, 523 West Date Street. (LITTLE ITALY)



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PERSONALS

HEY CACT: Why don't you advocate changing the name of the city while you are at it!

YOU NO LONGER MATTER You are alone and I'll never give you an iota of a minute; No matter how bad it is. I am finally like you in that I hear noise around me and you are not a real bad dream of loneliness that took away a person I loved; Me

HALEY H. A friend of ours called me and said they saw you sitting under a bridge near Old Town. You looked sad and a little torn up. Please baby, you deserve so much more in life than being out on the streets. Go get help, it's out there. I love you. Mom

THE PHONE NUMBER LOOKS FAMILIAR If this was you astounding one, by all means I didn't know it. I got a lot of calls by publishing my number in Reader. Some really strange ones too.

STEVEN WELLSWENTZ I'm looking for you!! I hope you're alive and well. If you see this, please call me! (442) 273-7351 Samantha (your wife) If you know Steve-o, please pass this message along

SEEKING RV CAMPERS TO BEFRIEND 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 Foodie-Fun@gmail.com

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HERPES AND HPV SUPPORT GROUP 2nd Thursday every month at Balboa Park's Casa Del Prado, Room 104, BYOBeverage. We'll provide Bronx Pizza, come get some support, strength and hope.

MAJOR MALFUNCTION is the hottest comedy show in town! See you on Sunday, June 16th at Mic Drop Gold Room at 4 PM. Be there or be square!!

SENIORS MUST ACT We the over 60 years. must march and Protest against genocide or do we just look the other way? we know donegal2015@att.net

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SCHIZOPHRENIA RESEARCH STUDY Research that is available for schizophrenia patients 18 to 65 years old. Outpatient study is available. Compensation and transportation will be provided upon qualification. Must be drug free. Please call (619) 389-0550. Travis. Referral number only.

GAME MAKING & PINBALL CAMP! Who has a child who loves STEAM learning?! Game Making & Pinball Machine Camp is a fun mix of concept, design & building exploration with a small group. New date available: Mon-Fri, July 22-26, 9am-12pm. Save your space today at sandiegocraft.org/ (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

CLASSES / LESSONS

KIDS & TEEN SUMMER CRAFT CAMPS Do you have a child or teen looking for craft this summer?! San Diego Craft Collective offers small craft camps for kids and teens interested in exploring traditional craft in a safe, nurturing space. We offer lots of crafts. Visit sandiegocraft.org/ (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

KIDS & TEENS WEAVING CAMPS! Do you have a child/teen interested in Weaving & STEAM?! Save your space today in Kids & Teens Weaving Basics, 8+yrs &/or Teens Rigid Heddle Weaving Camp, 13+yrs from July 29-Aug 2. Small class sizes & professional instruction. —> sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO DYE WITH INDIGO! Join us at San Diego Craft Collective this Sunday afternoon for Natural Indigo Dye! Learn all

about Indigo Natural Dye & bring your own item to refresh in the vat and learn the magical process of indigo in this hands-on experience! Sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO SEW THIS SUNDAY! Join us at San Diego Craft Collective this Sunday morning for sewing! Learn to sew on a sewing machine as you create a fun, folding bag. Great for carrying fiber & more! This class is part of our Fiber Fest! Sign up at: Sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

PRESCHOOL SUMMER CRAFT CAMPS Looking for summer fun for your preschooler?! San Diego Craft Collective offers fun, creative camps for your child. Cooking & Craft Camp & Mini-Maker Camps will help your child explore the wide world of creativity in a safe & nurturing environment. (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

PRIVATE PERSONAL TRAINING Unlock Your Best Self at Swole House Fitness! Are you ready to transform your body and boost your confidence? Our private personal training sessions are tailored to meet your unique fitness goals.

PUPPET THEATER SUMMER CAMP! Do you have a child who loves theater arts and wants to expand their skills?! In our Puppetry & Theater Camp, ages 8-12yrs create a muppet-puppet, learn puppetry & join in for a fun week of friendship & laughter! July 29-Aug 2. —> sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

SEWING & FASHION DESIGN CAMPS! Do you have a child/teen interested in Sewing & STEAM?! Save your space today in Kids & Teens Sewing Camp, 8+yrs &/or Teens Fashion Design Camp, 13+yrs from Aug 12-16. Small class sizes & professional instruction. Sign up at sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

SUMMER COOKING & CRAFT CAMP! Who has a child who loves to learn about Food?! Where food comes from, gardening, how to prepare fun foods, with a mix of crafting fun with friends! Save your child's space today for Cooking & Craft Camp from June 17-21 —> sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

POLE PARTY CLASS We offer Pole, Burlesque or Belly Dance class for your special event such as Bachelorette parties and bdays, we are a mobile service and we come to your rental or space, Dance classes are a great addition and elevate the fun! www.cabaret21.com (951) 291-1962 / sunnymooresville@gmail.com

AFFORDABLE 1 DAY REIKI CLASSES Become a Reiki Practitioner in this 5 hr. class in June. Help yourself and others heal. Limited enrollment. Sign up now! star@indigocakra.com

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Join us outdoors Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings or indoors for Qi Gong 6pm Tuesday and Chen Taijiquan 6pm Monday and

Wednesday. Taoist Sanctuary. Sign up on our website. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155. taoistsanctuary.org.

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

ROOMMATES

FULLY FURNISHED ONE BEDROOM Our one bedroom apartment home is 630 sq.ft. with washer/dryer connection, granite counters, wood plank floors thought apartment. Living room and bedroom has ceiling fans. Bathroom has ceramic tile and it's large! Kitchen has granite countertop. michealenders-nisp@gmail.com

MATURE LADY NEEDS PRIVATE ROOM In major need of a private place/space in a drama free sober non toxic household. I'm respectful, quiet, neat, clean, mellow, kind. I can trade cleaning, pet care, house sitting, & other domestic tasks for shelter. No. criminal background, nonsmoker! Thanks!sandiegolady13@gmail.com

CHULA VISTA ROOMMATE 65+ MALE Senior mobile home park. 1 bed, 1 bath, parking, kitchen privileges, internet/wifi, no smoking/pets, Background Check. \$795.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. (619) 420-0369 / abedwellbutler@gmail.com

QUIET, 52M LOOKING FOR PEACE I am a 52yo male, looking for a peaceful roommate. Female preferred. My credit is

good, and I am working full time. San Diego, downtown, National City, Balboa Park areas. I have the deposit, if you can help clean and maybe cook. (619) 379-1531

LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT 59 year old male looking for room to rent, studio, or 1 bedroom apartment ideally in east county but flexible with area. Looking for 1300\$ or less. Prefer no pets. Call (619) 405-2389

UNFURNISHED ROOM FOR RENT \$700/month + \$700/ deposit. Shared utilities, bath and kitchen. Close to freeway & imperial beach. Male only. (619) 572-5598

FURNISHED ROOM FOR RENT In Imperial Beach close to ocean; male only; TV & fridge in room; use of kitchen & laundry machines; no smoking or overnight guests; \$ 1,200/month; donnamackersie@att.net (619) 424-6133

SHARE A GREAT CONDO Downtown La Mesa - \$1500. Includes your own bedroom, bath, utilities, beautiful view, spacious, parking, quiet, secure, clean, and fun. Text Brad (858) 775-3477

ROOMMATE WANTED Seeking hip artsy, musical, Eastern spiritual natural male/female. \$550. deposit negotiable, work exchange / for reduced rent. fungi@420friendlyliving.space. includes electricity. (619) 457-8516

EASYGOING, FUN, FIT 420 friendly senior female needs cheap safe room/space, can pay some rent, barter cleaning/cooking/labor. Call/text Therese (619) 552-6123.

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

TINY ROOM TO LIVE PLEASE 65 year healthy single, no family,

Legals@SanDiegoReader.com • 619-235-3000

LEGAL NOTICES

We are a fully adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9011663

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 06/06/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. The Cutie Cart

Located at: 350 W. Ash St. Unit 802, San Diego, CA 92101, San Diego County Mailing Address: 350 W. Ash St. Unit 802, San Diego, CA 92101

Registered Owners Name(s): PR In Person, Inc.

This business is conducted by: Corporation. The first day of business was N/A.

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

Registrant Name /s/ Ann M. Duke, President Corporation/LLC Name PR In Person, Inc. 6/13/2024, 6/20/2024, 6/27/2024, 7/4/2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9010903

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 05/22/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. Apex Reliability Solar Services

Located at: 5113 Alpine Pl. Ste. 150, Las Vegas, NV 89107, Clark County Mailing Address: 5113 Alpine Pl. Ste. 150, Las Vegas, NV 89107

Registered Owners Name(s): Apex Reliability Services LLC

This business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was N/A.

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

Registrant Name /s/ Mark A. Fernandez, Manager Corporation/LLC Name Apex Reliability Services LLC 5/30/2024, 6/6/2024, 6/13/2024, 6/20/2024

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME
Case No.: 37-2024-00024418-CL-PT-CT
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego
330 W. BROADWAY, San Diego 92101

Petition Of: Lee Edwin Gargel FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all Interested Persons: Petitioner: Lee Edwin Gargel filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

a. Lee Edwin Gargel to Glassy Lee Legrag

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 objecting 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 objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: 07/10/2024
Time: 08:30 am. Dept: C-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: 05/28/2024 Maureen F. Hallahan 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 identification, 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 information 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 holidays) 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: 6/13/2024, 6/20/2024, 6/27/2024, 7/4/2024

never married non-smoker. Clean SoCal native low income full time job, male high school/college graduate. Seeking somber room in Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

RENTALS

OFFICE SPACE Office space approximately 600 square feet zoned m2. \$1250/month (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

CARLSBAD, \$4500. 4BD+2.5BA Newly remodeled home in great location! 2-car garage; balcony off master; new flooring, cabinets, quartz counter-tops. Ask about move-in special! Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointrealestate.com

COLLEGE AREA, \$1875, \$2300. 1BD+1BA and 2BD+2BA apartment. Fireplace, new vinyl flooring. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. Move-in special: 1/2 Off first month with 1-year lease. 4828 Art Street. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointrealestate.com

TALMADGE, \$1795. 1BD+1BA. Wood-like flooring throughout. Upstairs unit. Fireplace. Private balcony. Gated parking for 1 car. Water and trash included. No pets. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month with 1-year lease. 4416 47th St. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointrealestate.com



BAJA MX RENTAL \$1100 a month long-term beautiful river and ocean views, gated community \$125 a night or \$500 a week (760) 250-7055

1 BEDROOM APT/GRANNY FLAT 1 Bed 1 bath Furnished Granny Flat Attached to the back of house Private entrance. Allied Gardens Near Kaiser. Sunset View. No smoking no pets. \$1700 per Month includes utilities.

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

\$1000 security deposit. call (619) 280-7752 (available now!)



MEXICO, LA MISSION TWO BEDROOM ONE BATHROOM \$1100 a month. Other houses to choose from THAT are directly in front of the ocean and the river, and is very close to the community (760) 250-7055



3 BEDROOM/2 BATHROOM RENTAL IN MEXICO Four car garage, extra large Jacuzzi in the bathroom, has a separate studio that rents out for \$600. Beautiful above the unit. \$1,600 a month long-term. kilometer 58 (760) 250-7055

4BD/2BATH 6 CAR GARAGE RENTAL IN MEXICO gated development. Four swimming pools, three Jacuzzis. \$2500 Punta piera (760) 250-7055



BEAUTIFUL 2 BEDROOMS/2 BATH IN MEXICO very large and high in furniture. Jacuzzi, bring your dogs completely furnished LA Mission kilometer 58 Beautiful view. \$1000 Per month. (760) 250-7055

FURNISHED STUDIO IN MEXICO washing machine, dryer. Directly in front of the river and ocean kilometer 58 LA mission \$750 a month long-term rental 13 months (760) 250-7055



TWO BEDROOM, TWO BATHROOM LUXURY CONDO IN MEXICO directly in front of the river; a little bit to the right of the ocean. 58 LA mission very high end extra large Jacuzzi in the unit. \$1,000 per month. (760) 250-7055



DOWNTOWN \$650-\$750
Classic building in downtown San Diego. Nice sized private rooms share common bathrooms. Property is well maintained with friendly staff. Peaceful and comfortable building with cable TV hookups and on-site laundry. Close to work. MTS trolley stop very close with easy access to the downtown free shuttle.

Southern Hotel
1159 Sixth Ave. and B St. • (619) 239-3808



5 ACRE HORSE PROPERTY FOR RENT Rosarito/Ensenada area. LA Mission beautiful property. 5 acre horse property. Four bedrooms, two bath plus extra large Jacuzzi. The 5 acres are completely fenced. \$1,000/month. Not going to last. Call now (760) 250-7055

FOUR BEDROOM, TWO BATHROOM, COMPLETELY FURNISHED IN MEXICO Four bedroom, two bathroom, completely furnished direct river, and Ocean view. Bring your dog, bring your horses; plenty of parking. Gated community kilometer 58 very close to Lafonda. \$1,000 a month long-term 13 months high-speed Internet. Tenant pays for utilities, water, electric internet, propane. Very nice property not going to last (760) 250-7055

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

REAL ESTATE

NONPROFIT SEEKS FARM-LAND Nonprofit seeks level 1/4 ac to 100+ acres farmland with water & compost dump truck access. Year round organic veggies to giveaway with fruit & cut flowers to sell & share % of net for rent. Reply with location and water type. RayGoFarmGal@gmail.com

OCEANFRONT PARADISE! 3BR/3BA 10 minutes from the US Border in Playas de Tijuana & Breathtaking Views For Only 375k Call Ray (858) 790-2380 Playa y Sol RE / ray@playaysol.com

MUSIC

RECORDING CLASSES Learn recording techniques with a professional seasoned recording engineer in a professional recording studio. Analog digital, Pro Tools Mixing, mastering, tuning, drum recording (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

RECORDING STUDIO Pro tools HD3 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

ACOUSTIC GUITAR Beautiful Sonora brand acoustic guitar \$100 or trade for used cornet. (619) 586-7736

MUSICAL EQUIPMENT: LEXICON ALPHA AUDIO INTERFACE \$35. Email elifthebell@gmail.com.

YAMAHA KEYBOARD PSR 260. \$65. Call (619) 993-9392

GUITAR SEMI-HOLLOW ELECTRIC Made in Japan 1960s. On/off pickup switches. Tremolo arm. Sturdy chipboard case. Tone pot bad. \$270 (619) 995-7058

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.

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

MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air

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

PETS



Peppermint Chip (M)

BERNEADOODLE PUPPIES AVAILABLE The world's best dog (we think) has come to your neighborhood! Marvellous tri-colored with eye spots and sweet yet smart personality. Genetically sound. Delivered available. Genetic tests available upon request. BernedoodlePups4sale.com (858) 922-1979 / shadonix@sbcglobal.net

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/

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

MICKEY MANTLE FIRST COVER SPORTS ILLUSTRATED 1956 Very good condition \$200 Chris (805) 837-4928

SPORTS CARD ALBUMS Charges, Padres etc. Oldies and goodies. Call Jeff (619) 820-7905

SPORTS CARDS 10,000 cards for \$100. All teams, plus singles. Gwynn, Nolan, Griffey, Jordan, Koby, LaDainian, Brady, Lebron, etc. Call Ernie (619) 562-1129

BICYCLES

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

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

CERVELO R5 CA Road bike 61 cm. Ultegra Di2, 16f lbs.4 oz. \$3400. Leon (619) 517-1293

2009 JONWAY 150 CC SCOOTER It's been ridden 21 miles and has been in storage since. Looks old but is mechanically brand new. Come with complete service manual, current dmrv non-op. \$1800. (619) 742-0171 leave message

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



2012 YAMAHA 950CC V-STAR Only 4,982 miles and in Great Condition. Well maintained, garaged only. We have another motorcycle so no longer need the extra bike. Great time to ride now! dlopez432ride@gmail.com

2004 HARLEY DAVIDSON Street Clyde Screaming Eagle. Custom. \$5,500 Please 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



2002 JAGUAR XK8 CONVERTIBLE 2002 Jaguar Convertible XK8 62,000 Miles, runs great, Low Mileage, Wood Upholstery with Special CD Changer & Car Cover included. \$4800. (619) 309-8992 / wayneenglish@yahoo.com



1999 CHEVY SUBURBAN 1500 LIFTED Chevy Suburban 1500 with Lift-Kit, Barn-Doors, 5.7L, Runs Great, Rebuilt Transmission, 4 like New Tires (33 X 12.50 X R15CT) 165k miles, as-is, Tuned Up, New Water Pump. \$2500. (619) 309-8992



1949 CADILLAC COUPE DEVILLE 1949 Cadillac Coupe for sale. Runs but needs work. Great for collectors and Historical restorationist. Asking \$15,000 (323) 496-9548

04 TOYOTA SOLARA RUNS GOOD TLC 2004 Toyota solara runs good need work tlc. 4dr auto will take trade small pick up running or not. Please hit me a call asap 85836one4787 (858) 361-4787 / goldflyn@yahoo.com

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



1976 VW BUG FOR SALE \$5,000 1976 VW Bug for sale. Vintage Centerline Rims, rebuilt engine, Fuel injection. Runs great. Great collectors item. Asking 5,000 Firm (323) 496-9548

2021 RED KIA FORTE 37,002 miles Michelin Tires clear title Red; in excellent condition. Call or text (619) 395-3661

MICHELIN TIRES Four; near new. Size 235/30 ZR 20. \$700 (858) 877-8498

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

WE BUY ALL TYPE OF CARS We buy all type of cars running or not. Call (619) 484-4032 - Get a quote - Get your cash. Same day pickup, Same day cash. No title, no tires, no keys, engine not working, check engine light on, running or not.

CAR RENTALS RENT TO OWN PROGRAM no credit no problem. (760) 633-3552

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



2004 TOYOTA AVALON Runs and drives great, low miles 149,500, no mechanical issues, has newer tires, and good brakes. Power seat, power windows, updated Sony CD am/fm stereo with usb. \$3,500 call Lou-ise (619) 936-2371 / mucciouise7@gmail.com

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

RENTAL CAR starting from \$17.95 per day \$99 a week 350 a month 3006 Barnett Ave. Point Loma open seven days a week trucks for rent \$300 a week Toyota-4 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.

HELP WANTED

SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER IN TEST

(Platform Science, Inc.; San Diego, CA) (Multiple Positions): Test complex API, web & mobile based applications. *Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. Salary: \$129,522-\$170,000/yr Applicants should email resumes to michelle.guerero@platformscience.com

PRINCIPAL TEST AUTOMATION ARCHITECT

Tandem Diabetes Care seeks full-time Principal Test Automation Architect in San Diego, CA DUTIES: For in-house software development in the regulated healthcare software environment, lead test automation architecture & software test teams; manage & guide teams in automated compliance, guide development & implementation of products & test automation. REQ: Bach in Comp Eng/Comp Sci & 3 yrs exp. in any quality assurance, QA, test automation, product test, software developer, software engineer, or engineer title. Drug screen (excluding marijuana) and background check required. Salary: From \$154,622.18. TO APPLY: Email CV to careers@tandemdiabetes.com (write "Principal Test Automation Architect" in subject line)

Senior DevOps Engineer (Aya Healthcare, Inc.; San Diego, CA): Responsible for the design, testing, deployment, maintenance & documentation of technology & automata for the operation of a secure & highly available infrastructure environment. Remote Position. Telecommuting allowed. \$210,000-\$235,000/yr. Resume to HR at: applicants@ayahealthcare.com. Ref: 2452.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ANALYST

E2 Consulting Engineers, Inc. has an opening for Information Management Analyst in San Diego, CA. To Research, design, develop, and test the manufacturing and implementation of electrical systems. Position requires a bachelor's degree in construction management, electrical engineering, or related field, and 5 years of post-bachelor's progressive experience in a related occupation. Telecommuting is permitted, but applicants must live within reasonable commuting distance. 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 \$152,963 - \$162,963. The starting salary will be commensurate with skill, education, experience, and working environment. Email to hr@e2.com, Must reference job 21934.55.2

SENIOR ANDROID ENGINEER

Insulet Corporation - San Diego, CA - Senior Android Engineer - Develop Android software applications using Java. Position is fixed location based in San Diego office; telecommuting from a home office may also be allowed. 20% domestic travel for business meetings, implementations, seminars, trainings, and trainings. Salary: \$146,328.00-\$222,420.00/year. To apply: Send resumes to recruiter@insulet.com. Req#REQ-2024-6457 Senior Android Engineer.

LIVE-IN AMA-DE-CASA permanent job, mature, experienced for a couple in Oceanside. For all house work, good cook, clean laundry, etc. Need references. \$3,000 including benefits, room, food and utilities. Please text (951) 315-6213 your name and details / condosct@gmail.com

DRIVER WANTED We are seeking for a driver for my old family member on a part-time basis (Mondays & Fridays only) weekly pay \$435 must have a valid state-issued driver's license. Must be professional, safe and patient email us: walkergb10@att.net

RELIABLE NANNY IS NEEDED We have decided to find a domestic worker for the above position nanny, housekeeper, chef and driver in our home. We are looking for an employee to be a big sister or brother to our kids and to become another member of our family. katydillion@proton.me

CAREGIVER (NORTH PARK): Quadriplegic seeking evening caregiver from 4pm- 7pm Sunday-Thursday and Saturday. Major responsibilities will be cooking, cleaning, and transferring client into bed. Must be strong, enthusiastic, and willing to learn. Will train but prefer those with caregiving experience. Please email resume or letter of interest to rustykrumm@Hotmail.com

WILL PAY FOR SPONSORSHIP RESEARCH Senior citizen will pay you to do research in helping to find a sponsorship in helping to secure 4 dental implants on the top. Keith (619) 551-66368

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

JOBS WANTED

LOOKING FOR WORK AS: COOK, BUSSEUR OR BARBACK P/T or F/T ok. Can start A.S.A.P Any shift ok. Email me at khevinstouch@gmail.com or call (619) 626-8930

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San Diego area lakes the most productive for bass – Bluefin number doubles as they bite through the night

Dock Totals 6/2– 6/8: 2563 anglers aboard 111 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 7 barracuda, 1077 bluefin tuna (up to 225 pounds), 102 bonito, 1 cabazon, 1026 calico bass, 13 halibut, 3 lingcod, 1 mako shark, 2 perch, 4302 rockfish, 411 sand bass, 162 sculpin, 37 sheephead, 179 whitefish, 1 white seabass, and 35 yellowtail.

Saltwater: All in all, it was just another outstanding week for the world's largest and finest live-bait sportfishing fleet, with the bluefin tuna and calico bass count doubling over the previous week's count. Bonito fell off to one-quarter as bluefin picked back up, and the sand bass and halibut counts better than quadrupled, which also is an indication of a shift in the targeted areas by the local half-day runs.

Fewer boats targeted rockfish, though those counts were still solid, but the boats working the areas where the bluefin were being caught did not have to shift their tactics as often from tuna to groundfish, thanks to the solid nighttime bite and sporadic daylight action. The bite at night has been consistent enough that some boats are leaving a little earlier in the afternoon to fully take advantage of the better hours between sunset and sunrise.

Calico bass have been biting very well along the kelp edges, with a few homeguard yellowtail to 45 pounds and legal white seabass in the mix. Halibut have been chewing on bait and plastics from the channel edges inside San Diego Bay as far back as the Coronado Bridge out to the Imperial Beach flats south of Point Loma, where sand bass have also been performing well.

A very nice white seabass was caught on the *Dolphin* PM half-day run. As we are a couple weeks shy of the official start of summer, and with water much cooler in general offshore than the past several years, the fishing has been very good for those getting out there.

Along the beaches, some algae blooms, otherwise known as red tides, have dirtied up the water and slowed the action a bit where found. As the red tides can deplete oxygen in the water, gamefish tend to avoid the dark-stained water and will move into cleaner locations. So, if you're pounding the beaches in search of barred surfperch and corbina, it is usually best to look for water that is less brownish-red and more blue-green when these blooms occur.

So far, no mass die-offs of baitfish have been reported on the beaches, so these blooms do not seem to have the toxicity of some of the more devastating blooms, which can greatly affect baitfish, sea birds, and marine mammals. In general, algae blooms do not affect the quality of the flesh of gamefish, but they can raise toxicity in shellfish like mussels. Surf fishing has still been very good outside of those areas where there have been dense blooms for anglers



A nice white seabass caught while fishing the PM half-day run aboard the *Dolphin* out of Fisherman's Landing.



Nighttime bluefin fishing is still going strong, as witnessed by this nice tuna caught on a recent *Intrepid* trip to the grounds.

chucking plastics, crankbaits, and baited hooks with clams or sandcrabs.

Along with the solid calico bite along the kelp edges, a few nice yellowtail have been caught off La Jolla by private boaters, and on Saturday's PM half-day run, a nice white seabass was caught. Sand bass have been chewing bait and plastics in around 90 feet of water off the Imperial Beach flats, with some great halibut fishing from the San Diego Bay channels as far back as the Coronado Bridge and out to those flats to the south of Point Loma.

Freshwater: A note to the transplants to the San Diego area from the southern-tier states and others who may not be aware; Southern California and the San Diego area specifically has turned out a lot of impressive largemouth bass over the years. With several lakes in canyon areas that feature a deep water column from the spring spawning beds to the cooler drop-offs bass prefer in the heat of the summer, along with many lakes with stocked trout, there have been some very large bass caught in our region.

Proof of that lies in the fact that 13 of the 15 top largemouth bass in the world have been caught from Southern California lakes, most of those from Castaic, Dixon, and Miramar. Even if we discount the one at number ten caught by the infamous "snagger" Mike Long, that is quite an impressive nod to the southern California largemouth bass fishery. (That's not to say Mr. Long snagged his number ten fish, but when the noted bass angler was caught snagging on camera, his credibility in the fishing world came crashing down, costing him several sponsors and endorsements.)

Without entering further into that hullabaloo, let it suffice to say that the San Diego area is certainly a great fishing destination for largemouth bass in our lakes, as well as being the standout location from which to venture asea for great seasonal pelagic tuna fishing, a well-maintained nearshore fishery for endemic species such as calico bass, sand bass, halibut, and good action in the surf, especially for barred surf perch and California corbina. They're out there, so go get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

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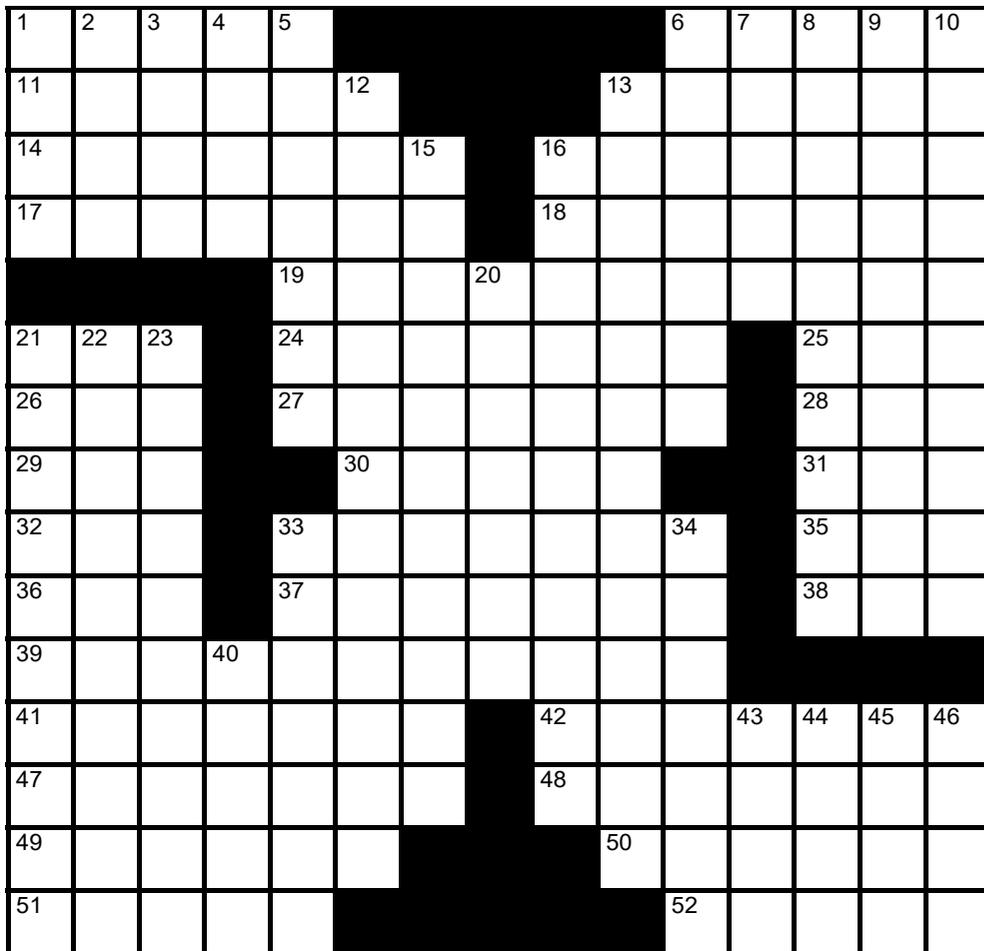
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Across

- 1.** Uninspired order, with "the"
6. Butt heads
11. 3-D map type
13. Keep tempo with, as a song (just not on beats 1 and 3)
14. Namesake of element #106
16. Scored 72, perhaps
17. It may precede 44321
18. Sour reactions
19. Pay phone need, once
21. Reno and Garland, for short
24. "Here's the thing ..."

Down

- 1.** Bear seen outdoors
2. Resort to
3. Cell finish?
4. Onetime Sony line of robotic pets
5. Washington Mystics and Capitals owner Ted
6. Headwear that may ring a bell?
7. Andy's role on "Taxi"
8. Material at the back

25. "___ Boot"

- 26.** Holiday that lined up with February 10, 2024
27. Singer settings, in literature
28. Suffix after ion or union
29. Actor Heo Sung-___ who played gangster Jang Deok-su in "Squid Game"
30. Alex P's TV mom
31. Millennium div.
32. MKE abbr.
33. On edge
35. "Chicago Med" areas
36. "Son of," in some surnames
37. Namesake, say

38. Edinburgh-to-London dir.

- 39.** Far from
41. Some Bronze Age artifacts
42. Silicate mineral that sounds like paradise?
47. Crafts under investigation in 2024
48. Sierra follower
49. Played
50. Sci-fi villains that debuted in 1963
51. Middle name in the "black-ish" cast
52. Bingo coinage?

- 9.** They may look up to a Leo
10. Savvy
12. Throughout
13. Dim
15. Air of horror
16. It may cause some division on TV
20. 2002 Wimbledon winner ___ Hewitt
21. Like some goals
22. Manual replacement?
23. Propeller on the

- Mississippi, maybe
33. Adam's group
34. Capital city close to Mount Ararat
40. Children's movie that interrupted a 1968 Raiders-Jets broadcast
43. Role for Beyoncé
44. "See the one before"
45. Opinion
46. "Happy Motoring!" brand

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

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Vacation Goals

— Headed to Arizona this summer? (I mean, who isn't?) Motor on over to Williams and drop into the Poozeum, the new permanent location for George Frandsen's extensive coprolite collection. (Coprolite, in case you didn't know, is fossilized animal feces, United Press International reported.) Frandsen earned a Guinness World Record in 2015 with his collection of 1277 fossils – but now, the Poozeum is the permanent home of 8000 specimens. "Several years ago, I noticed a glaring absence of coprolite representation in mainstream sources and museum exhibits," Frandsen said. "The world's premier dinosaur poop museum" offers free admission – but don't bypass the gift shop!

Oops!

— The website for the Republican National Convention features a photo of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where the convention will be held starting on July 15, on each of its pages. At least, it was supposed to. On June 4, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported that the website section called "News and Updates" highlighted a photo of Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam -- not Milwaukee. According to an internet archive, the errant photo had been in place on the page since February. The RNC declined to comment.

— The *South China Morning Post* reported on May 27 that a 26-year-old man from Naringgul, Indonesia, was hoodwinked into marriage after dating his "wife," Kanza, 26, for a year. Just 12 days into their union, the

man, who goes by AK, became suspicious when his bride continued to wear her headscarf at home and avoided intimacy. After doing a little sleuthing, AK discovered that Kanza was actually a man who had been cross-dressing since 2020. The scoundrel later told authorities that he married AK to steal his family's assets. He was arrested and could face four years in prison.

Questionable Judgment

— At a McDonald's restaurant in Booval, Queensland, Australia, a customer caught an employee using a french fry heat lamp to dry a dirty mop head. *Yahoo! News* reported on May 20. The customer said the mop had just been used to mop the floors; she heard another employee say, "I don't think you should be doing that as it could be a safety issue as it can catch on fire," but the first worker just "laughed it off." A spokesperson for McDonald's Australia called it an "isolated incident" and said the staff had undergone "retraining" on food safety procedures.

Awesome!

— As a 32-year-old man and his 66-year-old father argued on May 28 in Commerce City, Colorado, the father allegedly shot several times at the son, CNN reported. The father was believed to be intoxicated. While his aim was right on, a fluke saved the younger man's life: a .22-caliber bullet lodged in the 10 millimeter-wide silver chain link necklace he was wearing at his throat. The victim escaped with just a puncture wound; his dad is charged with first-degree attempted murder.

Ewwwww!

— A woman named Cheyenne called in to a radio show in Australia on May 28 and dropped a whopper of a confession, the *New York Post* reported. "So my man passed away in August last year and got cremated," Cheyenne began. "I went over to my mom's one night and thought to cheer her up a bit ... 'Let's just taste Nan.'" The caller went on to say that her brother, who had been in prison, was recently released and as a "welcome home" dinner, she made him pasta with sauce -- a *la* Nan. "I thought it would be funny to prank him ... and I put some of Nan's ashes in the pasta sauce." Cheyenne said she has a "weird addiction" to the ashes, and believes they help connect her with her late granny. "Nan will live on through me forever," she said. *Bon appetit.*

Recurring Theme

— Constance Glantz, 74, was receiving hospice care at a Waverly, Nebraska, nursing home when she seemed to pass away on June 3, *The New York Times* reported. The nursing home contacted the funeral home, and she was transported there. But as a mortician began the process of preparing her for burial, they discovered she was still breathing. Paramedics were called, and Glantz was taken to the hospital, where she actually died later the same day. "This is a very unusual case," said Chief Deputy Ben Houchin noted. "At this point, we have not been able to find any criminal intent by the nursing home, but the investigation is ongoing."

Weird Science

— Scientists in Japan are at it again, *Oddity Central* reported on May 31. The Japanese tech company Kirin Holdings has released the new Elecispoon, a metal-and-plastic, battery-powered spoon that will improve human taste buds' perception of salt, thereby allowing them to use less salt in their foods. Overconsumption of salt is a health issue in Japan. The tip of the spoon's bowl transfers an electric charge to the food it touches and generates an electric field around the tongue, which causes sodium ions to bond together. The spoon, which sells for \$128, has four intensity settings.

Crime Report

— Six Bricks & Minifigs stores across southern California have been targeted by Lego thieves, the *Los Angeles Times* reported on June 5. The popular figurines lifted from the Lego resellers amount to about \$100,000 worth of merchandise. Katie Leuschner, who owns the store in Whittier, said that on May 3, burglars broke glass to enter the store, then filled trash bags with the booty. "They're not stealing big box sets," she said. "They're stealing minifigures, and those individual guys go for \$500 to \$600 apiece, so they're easily stolen and resold for a quick profit." Other cities have been hit, too, by what one website calls a black market for Lego items. Leuschner and other owners are modifying their storefronts to be less vulnerable to the thieves.

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

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