

SAN DIEGO

VOL. 53 | NO. 48 | NOVEMBER 28, 2024

Reader

2024

HOLIDAY GUIDE





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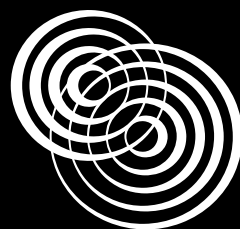
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This will keep you busy for a while— page 16



Glass Spells rock the Music Box — page 25

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LETTERS

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

Unreadable

The flip page version is unreadable. The tiny font gets blurry at what would maybe be a readable size.

DR Win
San Diego

I'll pay attention

Thank you for the article ("San Diego car vandals – getting bolder?," Neighborhood News, Nov. 11, 2024). We've had periodic vandalism of our vehicles. It never occurred to us that it could be someone trying to force us to sell my older vehicle.

With the article, I recalled being asked if I was interested in selling my vehicle, then what would it take for me to sell it. I chalked it up to idle conversation. Next time I'll pay attention to who is asking.

Jane Hastings
College East

Puzzles need headline

Hello, Reader friends
Long-time reader, occasional letter-writer, faithful puzzler. Could you do us a favor and start including the "title" of the crossword puzzles? I actually had no idea the puzzles even had a title until recently, when I went to a site where the puzzles are reviewed. (I go there just to read commentary or if I can't figure out the theme.)

A recent puzzle had the theme "That's Unreal." But that wasn't shown in the paper and the theme didn't make any sense without knowing that. The puzzle had common phrases where the letters "AI" were added to make wacky fun answers. ("AI" being "Unreal.") My brother and I do the puzzles weekly and neither of us had

any idea what was going on. It would definitely make for a more satisfying puzzle experience to see the title along with the puzzle each week.

David Manzi
Talmadge

Our previous crossword creator told me that the puzzle titles were to be discovered in the process of completing the puzzle. I was under the impression that this was the case for the "Jonesin' Crosswords" puzzles. Upon asking this week, Matt told me that the titles are to be included with each puzzle when printed. My apologies, and the puzzles will run as such moving forward.

-Admin

Good ol' literary skill

Reading Georgianne Hotchkiss's second submission, ("The Encanto girl who wouldn't give up writing", Cover Stories, Nov. 6, 2024) was another dip in the pool of good ol' literary skill. At the risk of sounding boorishly pedantic, she brought to page hues of Lillian Hellman and Carson McCullers. Good stuff, Reader. Thank you.

Jeff Keith
San Diego

continued on page 7

Baby Boy

BORN
OCTOBER 29, 2024
DEBERRY FAMILY

Welcoming our baby boy.

"He who exist from the undivided."

Weighing
6 pounds,
5 ounces.

Sharp Grossmont
Hospital

"And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts."

11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BAJA

Reportorial risk at the races and elsewhere

Capturing moving objects on video sometimes means getting hit by them

On November 14, at the Baja 1000 in Ensenada, an orange trophy truck in the contingency lanes lost control and hit four people. The four were rushed to the hospital, where two died.

Yolie Stover, an off-road reporter from Imperial Beach, was just around the corner live-streaming for her *Off-Road Girl Loves Baja* channel when the accident occurred. “The trophy truck hit the car in front and crushed four people,” she told me. “The guy getting interviewed that had his back to the car [survived]. Two other racers on quads died too,” she added. “One injured racer was being transported to the hospital by their chase crew and died on the way. The other had just finished his section on the racecourse and got hit by a car.” Stover wasn’t sure if the cameraperson or vlogger interviewing the victim was also struck, but she’s aware of the risks involved in filming race events. She’s been capturing off-road races with a video camera since 1999 and filming the Baja race series — produced by SCORE International — on her smartphone for over five years.

Like many vloggers and camera operators at the race events, Stover has experienced injuries from debris while filming off-road races herself. “Many times by lots of rocks,” she said.



Accidents happen when there are roads.

Meanwhile, the same day, across the border near Snapdragon Stadium east of Mission Valley, a blue Mini crashed into the Costco food court, as reported by *911 Video News*. Outlet founder Doug Aguillard was one of the first on the scene to capture the aftermath of the Costco incident, where no injuries were reported.

Like Stover and the person filming the trophy truck before it lunged forward, Aguillard has had his own close calls. In October, he was injured while preparing to film a police chase.

“When the suspect and officers were coming towards me, in the excitement and me worrying about getting the shot, I grabbed my camera and forgot to put my truck in gear,” Aguillard explained. As he stepped out, the truck began moving, and he fell. “And I got run over by my own vehicle. Luckily, I was able to get myself off of the road before I got hit — I had to crawl.” His truck continued rolling until it hit a few objects. Officers assisted him, and his son brought him to the VA Hospital to ensure

he was okay.

Members of Road One Towing’s staff know a thing or two about the hazards of working near moving vehicles, and they have worked with Aguillard at previous accident scenes. They shared their support: “Our

“Letting this project die as it currently stands is a blemish on a city like Escondido, not allowing for 21 more apartment units at affordable rates — that hurts the community as a whole.”

thoughts and prayers are with you, and your work is greatly appreciated. We hope you get well soon.” This sentiment was echoed widely in the comments on his video.

These incidents serve as reminders of the hazards faced by reporters, camera operators, and vloggers. During the recent Olympics, for example, a cameraman accidentally stepped into the path of runners in a 5000-meter race. The risks resonate; I’ve had my share of close calls while capturing action shots for my outlets. Once, I was photographing roller skaters speeding by at 25 miles per hour, and I filmed a drift event, and rubber chunks hit me in the face.

Even YouTubers exposing scams encounter danger. Recently, some creators filming scammers were assaulted by the same individuals they were documenting. Someone in a passing car threw coins at the vloggers.

In 2022, two reporters, Lourdes Maldonado Lopez and Margarito Martinez, were shot and killed in Tijuana. In the 1990s, Michael Burke, a Los Angeles cameraman, lost his life while filming in San Diego County.

MIKE MADRIAGA

ESCONDIDO

City strives for live/work balance

But stops short of letting empty office building turn into apartments

It takes more than a developer’s proposal to turn deserted offices into homes — even in Escondido, where a surge in empty office buildings has led the city to regulate them with fees.

Given the empty offices (Escondido has an 8.8 percent vacancy rate) and a severe housing shortage (the city claims it needs 9607 new homes by 2029, and that only 1088 units were built between 2021 and 2023), some see an opportunity.

At the northeast corner of South Hickory Street, near the historic downtown and Grand Avenue, is a three-story office building the owner wants to convert into 21 homes. The project’s two-bedroom units would rent for less than \$2000; a hard-to-find value in the city.

Last week, the planning commission voted 3-1 to deny the conversion, which required a general plan amendment to change the land use from office to urban and a zoning change from commercial to residential.

City planner Veronica Morones said the request for a general plan amendment is “inconsistent” with the city’s goals for residential development because the project provides no open space, unlike other apartments in the area, such as Summit, Rosewood Villas and Montecristo Villas, which have recreational and open spaces.

Based on the proposed unit count, 6400 square feet of usable open space is required, which applicant Darshan Patel said might be squeezed in by using existing landscaping areas.

Patel sought a waiver of open space under density bonus law, which planners did not contest. But according to the city attorney, a density bonus request doesn’t require them “to grant a legislative entitlement to change the land use and zoning designations for a site.”

Commissioners weren’t worried that amending the general plan not to include open space would set a precedent for other applicants in the future; the main issue was that “the bar is exceedingly high” when it comes to making changes to the general plan.

The infill project failed to meet stan-

continued on page 5



Car vs. Costco

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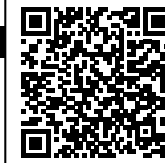
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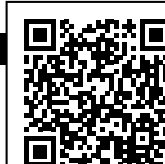
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 4

dards of living, since it lacked open space or recreational amenities, planners said. The complex would also have two parking spaces per unit, which is "overparked."

"It does go back to standards of living, because in some of your floor plans you're not even showing closets," said commissioner Carrie Mecaro. "It's great that they're going to be affordable, but people who live in these spaces also deserve to live in a space that functions."

"We're going to see a lot of this coming through," she said of future infill projects. The city has identified over 800 sites that could be used to accommodate 10,000 units of

various income levels, staff said, "and this is not one of them."

Another issue was the density bonus request for one additional unit. Commissioners disagreed with the applicant's use of a waiver for dedication of a two-foot strip of alleyway as a public easement.

"They're just providing the two feet for future widening should another project or city project be funded to do the widening down the alley," said Owen Tunnell, assistant city engineer. "Our alleys are currently 20 feet and our city standard" is 24 feet. "So any project would have to dedicate their side of the alley."



Two bedrooms for under two grand? Nope, too bad!

Tracy Burrow, a local who spoke in support, said the project would be good both in terms of housing and climate, because it wouldn't result in new construction and related emissions.

Patel defended the project, saying the affordable units would be furnished with

beds, TVs, and more.

"Letting this project die as it currently stands is a blemish on a city like Escondido, not allowing for 21 more apartment units at affordable rates — that hurts the community as a whole."

SHEILA PELL

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UNDER THE RADAR

Jared backs Bobby Jr. Onetime La Jolla denizen **Jared Polis**, now governor of Colorado, is under fire from some fellow Democrats for praising the nomination by **Donald Trump** of **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.** to run the department of Health and Human Services. “[Kennedy] helped us defeat vaccine mandates in Colorado in 2019 and will help make America healthy again by shaking up HHS and FDA,” Polis wrote in a November 14 post on his X account.

“I hope he leans into personal choice on vaccines rather than bans (which I think are terrible, just like mandates) but what I’m most optimistic about is taking on big pharma and the corporate ag oligopoly to improve our health. Before you mock him or disagree, I want to share with you some quotes that if he follows through show why I’m excited: ‘In some categories, there are entire departments, like the nutrition department at the FDA that are — that have to go, that are not doing their job, they’re not protecting our kids,’ YES!

“The entire nutrition regime is dominated by big corporate ag rather than human health and they do more harm than good ‘We’ve got to get off of pesticide-intensive agriculture.’ YES! We have tried unsuccessfully to better protect people and pollinators from harmful pesticides here in Colorado and we need all the help we can get to take on big chemical companies and improve human health and the environment! For our pollinators and our people! He will face strong special interest opposition on these, but I look forward to partnering with him to truly make America healthy again and I hope that we can finally make progress on these important issues.”

The head of the Colorado Democratic Party, **Shad Murib**, fired back: “Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has been credibly accused of sexual assault and consistently undermines trust in science using his personal beliefs and conspiracy theories as evidence.”

Polis responded to the pushback in a subsequent post: “Science must remain THE cornerstone of our nation’s health policy and the science-backed decision to get vaccinated improves public health and safety. But if as a country we follow the science we would also be far more concerned about the impact of pesticides on public health, ag policy on nutrition, and the lack of access to prescription drugs due to drug high prices. This is why I am for a major shake-up in institutions like the FDA

that have been barriers to lowering drug costs and promoting healthy food choices. Let there be any doubt, I am vaccinated as is my family. I will hold any HHS Secretary to the same high standard of protecting and improving public health.”

An October 1, 2018 *Colorado Independent* profile describes Polis’s political coming of age in San Diego. “At that time of his life, Jared played almost daily in an urban canyon near his family’s home in the uppercrust San



Jared Polis learned to love nature in La Jolla.

Diego community of La Jolla, and one day some neighbors came by to inform his parents that developers sought to build condominiums in the canyon.”

According to his mother **Susan Schutz**: “Jared stood up and said, ‘Have you ever been in the canyon? There’s no snakes, there’s no garbage.’ He said, ‘I walk in it and play in it every day after school. It’s a beautiful place to be.’ He spoke for about 10 minutes, and the council later surprised every-

one by siding with Jared. The local newspaper quoted the mayor saying it was ‘that young man’s’ speech that made the difference.”

Polis, a La Jolla Country Day alum who went on to Princeton, changed his last name from Schutz to Polis in 2000 during his race for a seat on the Colorado State Board of Education about a year after an alleged 1999 shoving of a staffer emerged. “Polis’ documented assault on his female employee is grossly unacceptable and reveals his true character,” said Republican Colorado GOP Chairman **Jeff Hays**, as cited in a September 25, 2018 *Complete Colorado* piece. Colo-



Can Toni Atkins do to Harris what Trump did to Harris?

rado House Minority Leader **Patrick Neville**, a Republican, added, “I hope women take a look at this. I don’t think he should be throwing stones in glass houses.”

Toni vs Kamala? San Diego-based California state Senate Democrat **Toni Atkins**, who wants to get elected governor in 2026, replacing termed-out **Gavin Newsom**, may find herself facing off against defeated presidential

candidate **Kamala Harris**, per a round of post-election speculation. But Harris may not jump into the race, and that could be the least of Atkins’s troubles. “**Dan Morain**, Ms. Harris’s biographer and author of *Kamala’s Way: An American Life*, said if Ms Harris were to run for California governor, she would likely win by over 2 million votes,” reports *Telegraph.com* in a November 20 dispatch.

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Under the radar

continued from page 6

"But he added that such a move would be 'complicated on a personal level' as she is close friends with **Eleni Kounalakis**, California's lieutenant governor who is also expected to run. 'I would be surprised if [Harris] tried to elbow her friend, Lady Kounalakis, aside. I would be surprised, I would not be shocked.' Being governor of California is a pretty cool job, a lot of clout, especially in an era when you know Trump is going to be president...[it's a] perch from which she could make political points, and [run for president] in 28 or 32.'" — *Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)*

According to the story "A recent poll found nearly half of voters would be very or somewhat likely to support Ms. Harris, 60, if she runs to replace Gavin Newsom in her home state." Atkins has continued to fatten her gubernatorial campaign fund, pulling \$5000 from Cox Communications senior vice president **Sam Attisha** on October 29, and the same from the United Food & Commercial Workers Union Local 135 PAC the day before.

— *Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)*

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

LETTERS

continued from page 3

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

Last plane out of Seoul, 1950
Golden Dreams, Nov. 22, 2024
Never let it be said you don't have interesting friends, Bill, and this is quite a good story.

Korea of the South is a very long way from the situation it was in during its war with the North, yet there are fascinating human stories I would learn surrounding how this happened, and who persons were in the South after partition, when I lived there in the early 1970s.

This was a time when the curve turned, and a very poor country felt its hope, which was shared throughout. Perhaps in the stories would be some very good things to understand for here, for now.

— *Don Cleeve*

What about those Cayman Islands assets?

City Lights, Dec. 3, 2014
Would you not think after reading this article, the Jennings should be in jail?

— *Jail them all*

Now what can they do with Encinitas unstable cliffs?

Cover Stories, Nov. 20, 2024
Time for Tort reform!

— *Torter tot*

San Diego car vandals – getting bolder?

Neighborhood News, Nov. 11, 2024

Big fun till someone is shot
— *Active shooter*

If you have a garage, park your car in it where it belongs.

— *House privileged*

^Give me a break! Most of us living in apartments don't have the luxury of parking in a garage. It's a challenge just to find street parking. These vandals need to be caught and pay for the damages. I bet if they were forced to clean up the s#*t they would think twice about doing it again. It's not funny, it's disgusting! The ones doing it are immature and disturbed.

— *Poor little renter*

I feel sorry for the City Heights folks, but Kensington and University Heights residents are known for being rude. Kamala Harris thanks you all for those Democrat party votes, defunding the police and whatnot, why don't y'all cash out those million-dollar homes and go move to a state with castle doctrine?

— *Good questioner*

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Yacht club moved, letters from prison

A Little Bit East of Eden

There are also sharp disputes about Noah's Ark within the Creationist movement. Some years ago, in the ICR museum, I helped John Morris, their principal ark investigator, look for signs of the ark in telephoto slides he took of various likely sites on Mt. Ararat. Morris has not yet found the ark but remains convinced it is on Ararat because of all the reported sightings. ICR presents many of these photos in the museum's ark exhibit.

By Tom McIver, NOV. 3, 1994

All Mudhens Move to Talbot Street

Sun broke through the morning haze as the boats commenced. The clubhouse – two two-story structures joined by a one-story link in the center – creaked, and balked, and groaned. The trip, nudging across the bay, took three hours, during which every window shattered. “Unbelievably,” says historian Iris Engstrand, “the scheme worked!” When high tide ebbed, the clubhouse dripped dry on 25 pilings. It required numerous internal repairs, but all agreed that the move was a success.

By Jeff Smith, OCT. 4, 2001

All sorts of mail, all sorts of people

[Midway post office] “You sell your soul for a

few bucks,” he says, arching his eyebrows for emphasis. “You tell yourself. ‘Where can you make this type of money without an education?’ Yet many have had educations.” Carlos has a degree in economics from UCSD. “It’s not just the work,” he continues, “it’s the whole damn environment. The management here is the worst I’ve ever experienced or known of. How could a worker feel a part of the place?”

By Anthony Turner, DEC. 10, 1981

Letters from the Inside

A couple of my Mexican friends [in the Metropolitan Correctional Center] approached me with this news. “So & So is going to kill you tonight or tomorrow.” My tattooed friend

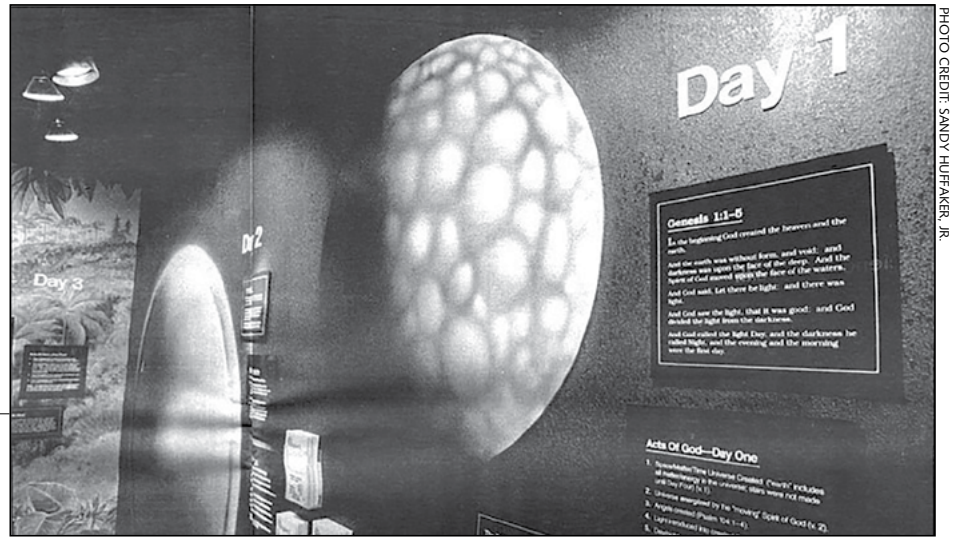


PHOTO CREDIT: SANDY HUFBAKER, JR.

Science and Faith is the theme of the first hall. The exhibit's narration declares that true science fully confirms a literal interpretation of the Book of Genesis.

had made up his mind. On several occasions I had informed the people in power that I thought my life was in serious jeopardy. This was laughed off: “I’d like a transfer. My life is in danger, too.” So upon receiving the warning, I decided to handle things myself.

By Tom Gleason, SEPT. 20 AND 27, 1984

Angel in Black

Ten patients are now being cared for at the Sis-

ters of Mercy Hospital, Sixth and H. Yesterday a very delicate operation was performed there by four surgeons. The sufferer was a girl of 12, who had accidentally swallowed a piece of wire two weeks before. It stuck in the trachea and refused to come up within reach or to go down, so that she could speak only in a whisper. An incision was made into her windpipe, the wire removed, and the part sewed up.

By Barbara Palmer, SEPT. 27, 2001

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A version of this story ran in the Reader on January 26, 1989

Present Imperfect

THE MORNING AFTER CHRISTMAS, Horton Plaza's four magnet stores promised to open at eight. There were to be sales, 30 and 40 and 50, 70 percent off original prices. Nordstrom, Mervyns, Robinson's teemed with buyers. Many carried bags and boxes that held gifts they wished to return. Heading out of the parking area on their way to Nordstrom, Gary and his wife, scarves wrapped round their throats, strolled arm in arm. Gary had to take back a red sweater. "It's a size extra-large and it should be large"

"One look at Gary," said his wife, pressing Gary's arm, "and anyone could tell, should know. That he's large not extra-large"

"It's a \$50 sweater. From Eddie Bauer. I'm gonna return it," Gary smiled, "and hope I can get another just like it in the same color"

"But before we do that," said Gary's wife, "I'm going to spend my Christmas bonus at Nordstrom!"

After Michael and Carol's presents had been opened and ribbons and wrappings were tossed away, while turkey roasted and Michael helped his wife set the dining room table the couple Michael confessed, had "one hell of a fight."

He regretted, now, that he'd answered Carol truthfully, told her the brown-and-black checked sports jacket she'd given him "just wasn't his image." He brushed the lapel with work-hardened fingers. "I should have lied. Said, 'Great, honey!' But I didn't. I'd say, yes, I ruined the whole day. This jacket," he fit the top back over the box, "was the big-ticket item from her to me."

Michael planned to return the jacket, have their charge account credited. "Too late," he shrugged, as he stepped on an escalator headed down, "to do anything else."

A blonde, her eyes lined in blue pencil, breathily explained, "I'm returning a pair of pants and a shirt because it's over and above what I could ever need. I got so many gifts from my husband — just too much. I got so many wonderful things



PHOTOGRAPH BY DRSEBEG, ISTOCK EDITORIAL / GETTY IMAGES PLUS

Remember holiday shopping at Horton Plaza?

from him. These things are beautiful." She stooped, sat on her heels, took the lid from the box. She drew back tissue, revealing pale pink wool trousers, matching pink silk shirt. "Aren't they gorgeous? Who wouldn't want them? We've been married only

a year" She closed the box, got to her feet. "He's too good to me."

Perry and his sister Miriam, UCLA students, he in social sciences and she in pre-med, spent Christmas with their mother and step-father. "Our new stepfather," said Miriam,

whose arms were dragged down by Nordstrom shopping bags. "Our mother spends literally thousands on presents, maybe out of guilt over our childhood. I don't know. I do know I'm willing to accept her gifts, whatever reason they're offered. But Perry here," she laid her head on Perry's shoulder, "this is his stuff we're returning."

"9 West boots," said Laurie. "That's what I've got to take back. They're beautiful, but they didn't fit me. They're size seven and a half, and I need size eight. A friend of mine gave them to me. When she bought them, she knew they wouldn't fit me, but she didn't want to leave me without a present. She wanted me to have something to open up, so she saved the receipt and everything. I also have some lingerie from Victoria's Secret that I'm returning. A teddy, jewel

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There are other requirements for taking part in this study. The study team will discuss these other criteria with you.

blue. My sister gave it to me, in medium. I have to get it in a small.”

“An entire set of Christmas china, a joint present from my two goofy, married sisters, and don’t ask me why they gave dishes to me,” offered Matt agreeably enough. “And don’t,” he pleaded, “ask me to get it out and show you what it looks like. It’s white china, painted with your basic Christmas tree and Santa motif. What else can I do but take it back? A single guy needs Christmas china like a hole in the head. What I’d rather have is a laundry hamper.”

The soft-spoken, flushed brunette, garbed in a houndstooth cashmere blazer, stood beneath Jessop’s clock and unwrapped a box, revealing a caramel leather purse made by Gurka. “It’s a \$250 bag. My husband got it and didn’t know better — I know another store where I can get it for 20 percent less. Twenty percent of \$250, that’s serious money. I explained it to him, Christmas morning. It’s okay with him.”

Carla, middle aged, had stood by, listening to the tale of the Gurka. As the purse’s temporary owner scurried off, Carla shook

her head and said, “Five years ago, I became a Jehovah’s Witness. I’m so glad, I don’t have to worry anymore about Christmas! I’m so glad I have nothing to return. It’s just one more way in which my conversion has made my life better.”

“I got this sweater,” Julie held up a V-neck cardigan, “and it is too small. I ended up getting three sweaters, and they are all too small. I don’t know what I’m going to do. Get other sweaters? A credit? Money? I’m in a bad mood about it all. About Christmas, about having to take stuff back, about traffic, about bills, about the Christmas tree mess ground into the living room carpet. My husband told me this morning, ‘You need to take Midol.’ You can imagine, I guess, what I told him?”

Norma scowled. She clutched, beneath her arm, a green Brentano’s bag. “Self-help books from my sister-in-law. Her name’s Glenda, and she’s, frankly, a bitch. Right after I opened them, Christmas morning, even though my husband was squeezing my arm hard enough that today I have bruises, I told her, ‘I hope you’ve got the damned sales slip,

because I’m taking these books back.’ She and her husband lived with us for a few months two years ago, when they were both out of work. She’d sit in her grungy nightgown at the kitchen table all day, she’d watch me fix lunch for the kids, wash dishes, fix dinner. She’d say, ‘Norma, how can you give my nephews all that saturated fat?’ She never lifted a hand to offer to do one thing, and they never bought a cent’s worth of groceries, and now he’s selling cars — Hondas — and they’re raking in bucks and it’s never, ‘Gee, could we maybe write you a \$500 check for all those home-cooked meals? For the roof over our useless heads’ My husband tells me, ‘Blood’s blood.’ You know what Glenda calls me? ‘A very negative person.’”

Outside Abercrombie and Fitch, in whose window a life-size toy brown bear brooded, a blond surfer — tanned Alex — waggled fur-lined boots a plaid Pendleton scarf, fur-lined leather gloves He snarled. “I don’t feel the need to wear boots, scarf, gloves in Southern California. They’re going back to the store.”

“Well,” said dark-haired



American Christmas had its own vocabulary, its own grammar, and the movie *Home Alone* was my guidebook.

Roger, pulling his parka tight against a gust of wind, “I’m returning shirts and jeans that my two boys got. They are actually my wife’s boys from a previous marriage. They’re 10 and 12 years old. But I’ve loved them like my own since the summer of 1980, when I met their mother. Their real father hasn’t seen them since 1986, and all we can figure, looking at the size of this stuff, is he thinks they haven’t grown for two years. He called yesterday, from LA. He’s a drinker. He said to the oldest guy that being away from them was eating him up, that holidays are a time to be with family, and he didn’t have anyone. It tears up my wife, this stuff. ‘Sure it’s sad,’ I tell her, ‘but basically, it just pisses me off.’ You get my drift?”

Regina, an exuberant mid-twentyish charmer, ran a hand through her dark curls. “Let’s see. I have a sweater that’s too small and a food chopper I’ll never use My mom gave me the chopper. She gave it to me because I make a lot of salads. I told her that I was going to take it back and get a

can opener — you know, the little cute kind that hangs from under the cupboard?” Regina emphasized, however, that she did get a lot of things for Christmas that don’t have to be returned. “A beautiful ring, a garnet — that’s my birthstone; clothes; a heap of money that I’m getting ready to spend!” Regina whooped and disappeared into the Broadway’s doors.

“I’m always late, everywhere,” Suzie pouted, pulling up bright pink legwarmers over her black jeans. “So what I ended up getting was three watches. I’m taking back two. Who needs three watches? I’m going to get cash back, if I can, and put it in my vacation savings. I’ll use their money,” she giggled, “to get away from them. I’ll be late in distant countries.”

As Rosemary and her husband, he carrying a hat box, walked out of the Village Hat Shop, the sun was nearing the meridian. Sky was clear. The wind had died down, and shoppers and gift returners bustled shoulder to shoulder along Horton Plaza’s top tier. Offered a jubilant

Rosemary, “We returned a hat we gave to a friend. It was too big. What we’ve got here,” she took the top from the box, “is a kind of safari hat. It’s even better than the one we first bought him” Rosemary tilted back the hat’s brim, grinned. “This hat has a wire in the brim so you can shape it any way you want. Neat, huh?”

Behind the counter in the Village Hat Shop, the tall clerk ran a pale, slender hand through his crest of black hair. “We’ve already had some returns.” During his break, he planned to take some of his own gifts back. “For Christmas, I got a rectangular vase from my brother. My family often gives me gifts I can’t return. I just can’t bear to do it. So I put them in my house where they can see them when they come over. I feel bad about returning gifts unless it’s clothing that’s really awful that I could never wear. For instance, I got a sweatshirt with sailboats on it that says ‘San Diego.’ I’d never wear it.”

Christopher opened the cash register, put in a check from a wide-shouldered, bearded man who had purchased a brown fedora. Christopher doffed his own wide-brimmed black hat, flung back his blond ponytail, showed white teeth. “If money were tight. I’d return something just to get the money for it. If I didn’t really love it It’s resourceful. Last year my sister gave me a beautiful set of gloves and a scarf, and I returned them. I needed money. I got \$150.”

Sitting on a bench across from the Broadway, waiting for his mother and sister, a weary man in his mid-20s said he’d just returned several pairs of jeans. “They were too small. I got fat last year. Gained an inch in my

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waist. An inch can be a big deal when you wear jeans. My mom gave me both pair” He leaned back against a post and smiled. “But I also got a huge train set. Next year, I’ll put it around the Christmas tree.”

A slightly built young man rounding the corner of Dudenhoeffer Fine Jewelry Ltd. had come to return a sweatsuit. “What people do is that when they buy a sweatsuit, they want, say, a size medium pair of pants and a size large jacket, so they take the hanger on which the size medium sweatsuit is, take off the medium pants, and stick large pants on the hanger. Then they leave the mismatched set there on the rack for some unsuspecting customer who wants medium. My guess is that overweight people do that so they can take a large jacket that will zip over their guts. It

oughta be against the law.”

Petite Carmen and tall, tall, long-necked Fred seemed conjugally familiar, looked sleepy, still warm, as they explained the packages they carried. “What we’ve got here,” said Fred, raspily, “is basically a case of either a duplication of items or nondesirable items. The nondesirable items,” he bristled, turning his green eyes down onto Carmen, “are all the clothes I gave her. We’ve known each other for nine months. We weren’t together last Christmas. But I got her a lot of gifts. A lot.”

Plucky Carmen wasn’t about to be made to feel guilty. “Do you want to see the men’s boxer shorts Freddy here gave me?” With thumb and forefinger, she plucked out a silky garment, held it up. She laughed.

Fred swallowed hard. His Adam’s apple bulged.

“I could tell by her face she didn’t like them.”

A short woman, eyes downcast, clung to a tall man’s hand. He bought her a black jacket when what she really wanted was a coat. “I took hours, shopping for it.” His gaze fell on the top of her head, the crown of which, in mid-morning sunshine, shone golden.

“It broke his heart,” she scuffed one Bass Weejun toe against another, “when I told him.”

Hangdog Gerald was bringing back a Lladro Christmas ornament, fashioned in a blue-and-white Wedgewood design, that he’d given his girlfriend. “It’s real nice It has the baby Jesus on it and everything. But my girlfriend’s Jewish. I mean,” Gerald stammered, “I didn’t know she wouldn’t want an ornament with Jesus on it or anything. It was pretty expensive. I’m also return-



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ing some Chanel No. 5.”

Paul, brown hair gray-ing, sits on a black metal bench smoking a cigarette. He warms one hand on his belly beneath his blue Yale sweatshirt. The Rolex on his hairy wrist glitters. “I’m a dad. I’m relaxing while my kids shop. They were at their mother’s for Christmas, and today’s my gift to them. I let them get what they want. With the sales, they can get twice as much anyway and save me the headache of having to pick stuff out for them.”

But what did he get for Christmas? “It’s always difficult to buy for dads — I know it was hard to find something for mine. Let’s see I got a garage-door opener from my brother — a gift he’d promised me last year. A very nice mahogany pencil box and scratch pad holder for my desk from one of my daughters. A Rival crock pot slow cooker for stews that I can cook all day while I’m at work and a Honey-Baked brand ham from my mother, who knows I can’t boil water and wants to make sure I eat. Two dozen Christmas cookies my other daughter Melissa made and put in a metal container — I guess she made about 15 dozen

cookies and gave them to everyone. And a book from my ex, *The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, which is, I guess, an AA book.”

—Judith Moore and
Abe Opincar

The following story ran in Reader on December 20, 2017

Sister Santa’s once-a-year smile

I fell in love with America for the first time on a sweaty night in a Bangkok refugee center in March 1991. “In America people have meat with every meal,” my dad told me as we looked into the city skyline glittering with streetlights and blinking neon signs in the distance. I was transfixed. Braised meat, steaks, chops; meat on skewers, meat over rice, between bread. All around us were other refugee families coming to America through Humanitarian Operation, a subprogram for the relocation of families that faced political persecution in Vietnam. After a week of boiled eggs and pickled turnip every day, twice a day, I was ready for Meat Country.

Two months later, I fell

for America even harder. It was my birthday. My Uncle Frank bought me a cake with my name on it and bought me a mottled-gray Huffly bike. I did not know this was a thing: that you got free stuff, a cake, and a song on a day that commemorated your birth. I also always thought my birthday was in August, but who cares? And then came Christmas.

Christmas in my village of Lam Son meant night Masses with about two hours devoted to singing and scripture reading. The songs were mostly major-key standards, accompanied by some American Christmas carols with Vietnamese lyrics.

Afterward we would head out to the front of the church and the priest would project the movie *King of Kings* onto a white sheet while we sat cross-legged with our families on the gravelly ground. Little kids would sit with arms folded as a sign of respect. The more devout church ladies would cross themselves every time Jesus, played by Jeffrey Hunter, appeared onscreen. I wonder now what Hunter would have felt about being an object of devotion to some lady

in a brown *ao dai*, teeth blackened by betel nut, and skin prune-darkened by the sun.

We would eat popcorn handed out by the nuns. Among them was the *Soeur Santa*, affectionately called Soeur Satan, who had a chubby face and a voice like vinegar. We’d then trek back to our homes in the dark guided by the shapes of swaying bamboo trees in the night. I would wear my good jeans, my big-boy jeans imported from Laos with patches spelling out nonsense English words on them. The priest would go back to his rectory, light a cigarette, and fall asleep watching old soccer games on one of the three TVs in town. What was most apparent was the lack of stuff, or the promise of stuff. There were no elves-on-the-shelves, no lists, no Stasi Santa wire-tapping us and watching us while we slept.

American Christmas had its own vocabulary, its own grammar, and the movie *Home Alone* was my guidebook. I learned there was no Christmas but American Christmas, and Macaulay Culkin was its prophet. American Christmas was fluorescent-bright, it was loud, it talked back to its mom, and made its family disappear. Nobody went to Mass during American Christmas except for semi-orphaned

kids and weird old men with snow shovels. And even though *Home Alone* was in some ways a cynical movie, it made me think of family in a more immediate sense — the movie was about forgiveness and grace as much as it was about outsmarting burglars who probably would have just knocked out Kevin with their big adult hands and called it a day.

I watched the movie over and over on VHS and even bought the novelized version on Scholastic book day in school. Side-by-side, the contrast is temptingly convenient. On the one hand we have a rustic set-piece defined by its smallness and communal intimacy, while on the other hand, a tacky worship of capitalism and individualism. You want to choose the former in the same way you want to eat that gluten-free, fair-trade, organic chocolate bar: it’s the more virtuous option.

But it’s not so binary. I loved, I adored American Christmas. I looked forward to seeing the glittering lights in the bustling suburban malls of the Bay Area, Eastridge, and Valley Fair, Vallco Park (RIP), and Great Mall. I looked forward to hearing “Jingle Bells” in English — there was more Jesus in the Vietnamese one. I loved having the option to pick out a Calvin Klein windbreaker

or a Tommy Hilfiger one, of getting a Rune Glibberg Flip skateboard deck or a Natas Kaupas Element version. It was odd for me to experience American Christmas with such joy and see some Americans denounce its materialism. Only in a country of abundance can people reject stuff, reject ownership, and come off as more virtuous than their neighbors. In my village, we were sharing year-old toothbrushes gifted by my mom’s friend from Australia.

Over the years, I admit there was a constant tension between the Christmases past and present. But like many things, they synthesized, fused. I learned to stop worrying, stop choosing, and to love them both. I celebrated American Christmas with open gratitude while Vietnamese Christmas played a hidden soundtrack underneath. And every year after the presents have been unwrapped by the tree and the prime rib is congealing on the oversized plates and Nat King Cole sings “Chestnuts roasting on an open fire...” on Pandora, I look inside myself. I replay those dark Lam Son nights, of a flickering Jesus swaying on the white sheet, *Soeur Santa* smiling her once-a-year smile, and me in my big-boy Laotian pants in my father’s arms on the long walk home.

—Tam Hoang



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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



local punk grandfathers The Zeros. The bill includes Infamous Stiffs.

WHEN: Friday, November 29, 7:30 pm

WHERE: The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard,

Little Italy. casbahmusic.com

Thursday | 28

THANKSGIVING LUNCH CRUISE

Savor waterfront sights while indulging in a three-course Thanksgiving feast. The cruise includes a welcome glass of champagne, a three-course plated lunch, and soloist entertainment. Try starters such as burrata caprese and jumbo prawn cocktails; then enjoy an herb roasted turkey breast, traditional turkey gravy with whipped potatoes, herbed stuffing, oven roasted veggies, and cranberry chutney. For dessert: pumpkin pie with eggnog whipped cream.

WHEN: Thursday, November 28, 1 pm to 3 pm

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

Friday | 29

THE AVENGERS AND ZEROS '77

Among the original wave of punk bands to achieve mythic status were The Avengers, founded in San Francisco circa 1977. They opened for the Sex Pistols and had a brief recording career before splitting in 1979. Now reunited, they'll be joined by co-headliners Zeros '77, with Robert Lopez and Hector Penalosa from



Saturday | 30

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IN ESCONDIDO

Kick off your day in Heritage Garden



with activities for the whole family, including games, a holiday cabaret, and a clothing drive. Pick up a small business bingo card and collect stamps as

you shop for a chance to win prizes. Cards can be found at Sunny Side Kitchen as early as 6:30 am, or visit the station located at the corner of E Grand

and Juniper from 10 am to 2 pm. This is also where you will find art activities, a photo booth, live music, and bonus squares. Follow the map for participating locations and enjoy free trolley stops to get you around.

WHEN: Saturday, November 30, starting at 6:30 am

WHERE: Orange Street, Escondido. downtownesccondido.com

EAST VILLAGE TREE LIGHTING & HOLIDAY MARKET

Come peruse a curated holiday market

presented by San Diego Markets with live music, food, drinks, activities for kids, and a chance to take a photo with Santa. San Diego's elected officials will help kick off the holiday season with a tree lighting ceremony at 6:45 pm.

WHEN: Saturday, November 30, 4 pm to 8 pm



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3: HOLIDAY GONDOLA CRUISE

WHERE: The Quartyard. 1301 Market Street, East Village. eastvillagesandiego.com

Tuesday | 3

HOLIDAY GONDOLA CRUISE

Take a 50-minute cruise through the canals and waterways of the Coronado Cays. aboard a decorated gondola, piloted by a holiday-themed gondolier. There will be music, complimentary corkage, wine glasses and mugs, gingerbread cookies, and blankets. Bring up to six guests.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 3, 3 pm to 8 pm. Through Sunday, December 22.

WHERE: The Gondola Company, 503 Grand Caribe Causeway, Coronado. gondolacompany.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 sreader.com/events/submit.*

ART

Black Friday Art Market Enjoy works by local artists, including: Maxx Moses Brandon Flowers Dominique King Reginald Green Andrea Rushing Ami Judah Mensah Bey Zig Wharton Paul Adjei Rick Parks Jason Humphrey Ramel J Wallace & David Colon Friday, November 29, 12pm; free. H-Town Christian Academy, 6785 Imperial Avenue. (SKYLINE)

Black Friday Art Market Explore and collect unique works from 12 artists in Graffiti Gardens while enjoying music, a live DJ, and meet creators like Myvino, Maxx Moses, Brandon Flowers, and others. Friday, November 29, 12pm; free. Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego, 6785 Imperial Avenue. (ENCANTO)

Figure Drawing: Uninstructed Whether just learning to draw, or already proficient in the human form, this uninstructed session referencing a live clothed model is the perfect opportunity for artists to hone skills. Sunday, December 1, 12pm; Pacific View Arts Center, 380 West F Street. (ENCINITAS)

Home Decor Gift & Craft Boutique Handcrafted gifts including Thanksgiving and Christmas items, wood products, told painting, jewelry, jams and jellies, home decor, vintage, soaps, pillows and more, all crafted by local artisans. Info: show-pro@cox.net. Friday, November 29, 9am; Saturday, November 30, 9am; free. La Mesa Community Center, 4975 Memorial Drive. (LA MESA)

Palomar College Student Art & Craft Sale Students offer up their one-of-a-kind handcrafted treasures. Ceramics, fiber goods, prints, wood-working, glass, and more. Tuesday, December 3, 9am; Wednesday, December 4, 9am; free. Boehm Gallery at Palomar College, 1140 West Mission Road. (PALOMAR COLLEGE)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Jewels of the Season Geared toward beginners and seasoned crafting professionals alike, you will create heirloom-quality treasures in the style of the original artists, Florence Hord and Elizabeth Schlappi. Cost of the class includes all materials for one stunning ornament and holiday refreshments. Monday, December 2, 10am and 1pm; \$85-\$95. Timken Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Sips & Sweets with Santa Your family ticket includes a great lineup of fun family activities, entertainment (music, fun), and a meet-and-greet with the Grinch and Cindy Lou. Sunday, December 1, 10am; \$10-\$65. AleSmith Brewing Company, 9990 Alesmith Court. (MIRAMAR)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Balance & Breath & Holiday Market Kick off the holiday season with a morning of wellness focused on balance and breathwork. After class, shop a holiday market featuring local vendors and brands. Sunday, December 1, 9:30am; free-\$35. La Jolla Woman's Club, 7791 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Candle Making & Cyder Craft two custom 8oz candles tailored to your favorite colors and scents. Learn about waxes, wicks, and fragrances while exploring your creativity, with all materials provided to bring your ideas to life. Plus, enjoy a refreshing craft cyder as you work on your creations. Monday, December 2, 6pm; \$40. Newtopia Cyder, 10045 Carroll Canyon Road. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Cathedral of Light: Thanksgiving Sound Healing Join Zen Soul Balance on Thanksgiving weekend for a transformative 90-minute sound healing session. Saturday, November 30, 4pm; \$45. St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church, 2728 Sixth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Make Your Own Ramen This class is perfect for anyone who

enjoys Asian flavors and wants to learn more about how to recreate these flavors and techniques at home. Sunday, December 1, 5pm; \$59. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

Women & Wellness Wednesdays Gather with fellow female entrepreneurs for a transformative evening centered on self-discovery, connection, and professional growth. This month: The Joyful Pause. Wednesday, December 4, 6pm; \$17-\$27. 21 and up. Aphrodite Fertility Acupuncture, 2970 Fifth Ave Suite #320. (BANKERS HILL)

COMEDY

And That's Why We Drink The Pour Decisions Tour Wednesday, December 4, 7:30pm; Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Improvised Comedy at Lestat's on Adams Share your stories and see them improvisationally alchemized into comedy gold by SD's premier Chicago style improv troupe, Follow The Monster. \$5, converts to cafe credit. Sunday 12/1, 7pm Lestat's on Adams. 3343 Adams Ave. Sunday, December 1, 7pm; \$5. Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Pete Holmes & Patton Oswalt 5pm show features Mark Serritella, Michael Devon and Lori Marie 8pm show features Chad & JT, Erica Rhodes, Maronzio Vance and Mark Serritella Sunday, December 1, 5pm and 8pm; \$50-\$80. 21 and up. Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

Shi Mishbah Shi - Saturday, November 30, 8:30pm; Magnolia Performing Arts Center, 210 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

DANCE

Flamenco Sur Dance Co.: Desplante The students of Flamenco Sur Dance Company take you on a journey into the rich and vibrant world of flamenco. Saturday, November 30, 6pm; \$36-\$42. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Port of San Diego Harbor Police Department Open House Want to learn more about the Port of San Diego's Harbor Police Department and how you can make a difference in your community? Representatives from the Background Investigation Unit and Human Resources will be available to answer your questions. In addition, there will be an opportunity to meet team members from the Dive Team, Drone Team, Training Unit, K9 Unit, Dispatch, and Recruiting. Wednesday, December 4, 6pm; free. Port of San Diego, 3165 Pacific Highway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

FUNDRAISERS

American Lung Association Champions Unite Pickleball Tournament Reality TV star Gerry Turner will be joining in the celebrity match on Center Court with other notable American Lung Association friends. Wednesday, December 4, 1pm; Hub, 9545 Campo Road. (SPRING VALLEY)

LECTURES

The Future of U.S.-China Relations After the Election Now that the U.S. election has concluded, how might it shape the future of U.S.-China relations from both American and Chinese perspectives? What issues are likely to gain or lose prominence, and how might these shifts affect the bilateral dynamic? UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy, Robinson Building 3, room 3201 Monday, December 2, 3:30pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

NATURE

Birding With All Your Senses Join Ornithologist Jeanie Anderson for an easy stroll on a path in the canyon with many birds both visible and calling. Bring sturdy shoes, binoculars and coverups. Meet at the Preserve sign at the west end of Canyonside Park Driveway, 12122 Black Mtn. Rd., Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129. Sponsored by the Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Saturday, November 30, 7:45am; free. 12122 Black Mtn. Rd., Rancho Peñasquitos 92129

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park. These interpretive nature walks are offered to enhance your appreciation of the unique beauty of San Diego's natural environment. The trails used are easy, but have uneven surfaces and some involve steps, so be sure to wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes and bring along water. A hat and

sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturdays, 9:30am; through Sunday, November 24, free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Nature Collective Family Fun Day Join San Elijo Lagoon Rangers and Nature Collective Ambassadors for a Family-Friendly Day. Discover the journey of a seed to grow into a plant, such as those sprouting up within the San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve. Sunday, December 1, 10am; free. San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA)

Rose Canyon Mystery Tour Local history buffs will find clues and a mystery to solve. From time to time your guide will ask: 'What are you walking on? He may even point-out some clues. But he does not have all the answers. Quiet, well-behaved, leashed pets are welcome. No bathrooms or water are available. Park under the carports that overlook the traffic lights by the school's main entrance. Saturday, November 30, 2:30pm; free. University City High School, 6949 Genesee Avenue. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Price is Right Live! - Saturday, November 30, 8pm; 21 and up. Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway. (TEMECULA)

Tis the Season to Shop Local - Shop Small Saturday in Ocean Beach Kick off the holiday season by shopping local at the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association's annual Shop Small Saturday event. Saturday, November 30, 10am; free. Drum Circle Beach, 1900 Ocean Front. (OCEAN BEACH)

SPORTS & FITNESS

SDSU vs Air Force Senior Day Saturday, November 30, 5pm; Snapdragon Stadium, 2101 Stadium Way. (MISSION VALLEY)

San Diego Clippers Home Game Come see your San Diego Clippers play the Stockton Kings in their first season at Frontwave Arena. Sunday, December 1, 6:30pm; Tuesday, December 3, 7pm; Frontwave Arena, 3475 Hero Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Gulls Home Game The San Diego Gulls will host the Tucson Roadrunners at Pechanga Arena as part of their 2024-25 schedule. Saturday, November 30, 6pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

San Diego Seals Home Game The defending National Lacrosse League West Conference Champion San Diego Seals face off against the Philadelphia Wings at the Pechanga Arena. Sunday, December 1, 2pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

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.

Anora — Writer-director Sean Baker's latest foray into the private lives of people who make their privates public opens brilliantly, as New York City stripper/escort Anora (a gung-ho, all-in Mikey Madison) grinds her way through her daily grind, making nice with a steady procession of customers, one replacing another so seamlessly that they run together just as they must in our heroine's mind. Then, during a break, a co-worker marvels that one fellow "told me how much I reminded him of his daughter, then ordered five private dances from me!" (The horror.) "At least he paid for the dances," replies Anora. (The banality.) That's Baker, mingling the deeply personal and the "merely" physical in ways feel moral without feeling moralistic.

Talking of which: the reason Anora (who prefers "Annie") gets picked to take care of Ivan, the young Russian playboy who shows up at her club, is that she had a grandmother who never learned English after coming over from the old country. Ivan is so taken with her attentions that he hires her for a week of sexy party-times and whisks her off to Vegas, a city famous for its spur-of-the-moment weddings. What fun! He even tells her that he'd be happy with her even without his parents' money. Annie tries not to believe him, but she doesn't have enough happy reality to counter the much happier fantasy — there's a sister (who feels like she should show up more), but no future. Small surprise when a mid-video game quickie gets interrupted by Ivan's long-suffering babysitter Garnick and his assistant Igor.

The manhunt that follows is longer than it needs to be, and even a bit indulgent, but still largely entertaining — a description which fits the film as a whole. Perhaps the director's most conventional effort to date; it even veers toward cliché in its final scene. But what comes before is strong enough to make it hit anyway. (2024)— M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Conclave — Director Edward Berger's adaptation of Robert Harris' novel about the election of a new pope is shot and acted as a Serious Movie: all those muted reds and saturated blacks in those lingering shots of the Sistine Chapel ceiling overhead and the embattled Cardinals below, all that anguish and intellection

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in the faces of Ralph Fiennes, John Lithgow, Stanley Tucci, et al. (Oh, and not a little ambition, as well: Tucci's American hopeful insists that every Cardinal, deep down, has picked out the name he'd choose for himself as pope — although it's hard to believe this applies to the humble, war-weary newcomer who arrives at the conclave's outset and announces that he was elevated in secret by the late pontiff, despite his mysterious health concerns.)

But it's scored and written as a potboiler in the mode of *The Da Vinci Code*. (No Opus Dei assassins here, but still plenty of sturm and drang about the dark forces that keep the Church mired in the Dark Ages of Latin rites and sexual rigidity, forces that are threatened by the modern virtues of doubt and openness.) The sawing strings and plunking piano that punctuate the action, the ponderous portentousness of pronouncements like, "The Church is not tradition; the Church is what we do next."

And the fact that in the end, the drama is driven not by the Cardinals' ideas and ideals, but their secret sins: the sexual puritan with a promiscuous past, the lover of Latin with a heart full of hate, etc. It's possible that the film takes itself entirely too seriously; fortunately, the viewer is under no such obligation, and may have a good time as a result. (2024) — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

THEATER LISTINGS

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.

A Christmas Carol

This year's production features new elements including fresh original music, an expanded storyline, and a revitalized script with imaginative stagecraft, puppetry, live sound effects, and all the heartwarming tradition you love. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, 7PM WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4.

Backyard Renaissance Presents Misery

Based on the novel by Stephen King, directed by MJ Sieber. TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, & SUNDAYS.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Back for its 27th year, the family favorite features the songs "Santa for a Day," "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch," and "Welcome,

OUTDOORS

Elevated ice crystals lead to solar halos, Cottonwoods' tawny foliage

Atmospheric Ice-Crystal Effects Are Often Observed, starting about this time of year, because of the frequent appearance of high clouds made of tiny bits of ice. The most familiar of these optical effects is the 22°-radius halo, or ring, around the sun or the moon. Less often seen: a "corona," a colored disk around the sun or moon — not the same as the solar corona seen during total eclipse; a "sundog," a colored arc left and right of the sun; the sun pillar, a vertical column of light above the rising or setting sun; and a host of other rare and inconspicuous optical phenomena. All of these optical effects are a consequence of sunlight or moonlight refracting through or



LOCAL COTTONWOOD TREES ARE STILL HANGING ON TO THEIR YELLOW AND ORANGE LEAVES.



SOLAR HALO IN SAN CLEMENTE

reflecting from the tiny facets of ice crystals in cirrus and other types of high clouds.

The Fremont Cottonwoods Along The San Diego River in Mission Gorge are still showing their best tawny foliage. You can park at the Old Mission Dam historic site or at the Mission Trails Regional Park visitors' center and explore the riparian area by way of riverside trails, or by walking, bike riding, or skating along the bike path high above the river's south and east banks. Large cottonwoods can also be seen along other watercourses throughout the San Diego County backcountry, including along the Sweetwater River near Cottonwood Golf Course, and in Cottonwood Valley, east of Pine Valley along Interstate 8.

Saturdays New Moon Will Provide Us With Higher Than Average Tides. Saturday's high tide will be 6.5 feet at 7:56 am, Sunday's will be even higher at 6.56 feet at 8:24 am, and Monday's high tide will peak at 6.59 feet at 8:55 am. We shouldn't see any coastal flooding since the surf is predicted to only be in the 2-3 foot range, but it is always fun to go down and check out the waves crashing against the rocks.

Christmas (Fah Who Doraze)." OLD GLOBE - DONALD & DARLENE SHILEY STAGE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 10:30AM & 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Ken Ludwig's Twas the Night Before Christmas

"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse." But wait. A mouse is stirring - because Santa missed his house last year. Before you can say "Merry Christmas," we're off on the wild adventures of a mouse, an elf, and a spunky little girl who visit the North Pole and just won't take no for an answer. Featuring: River Baig, Dani Guinn, Thomas Jarrett, Chris Miller, Matt Sayre, and Dani Uzman. LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

The Man Who Came to Dinner

Sheridan Whiteside - critic, wit, intimate friend of the great and near great - having dined at the home of the Stanleys, slips on their doorstep and breaks his

hip. The result is a tumultuous six weeks of confinement as Whiteside turns the Stanley household upside down, forcing everyone in town to cater to his demands. Meanwhile, Whiteside's secretary gives her notice after falling in love with a local reporter, and Whiteside engages every weapon in his arsenal to keep her in his employ. Appropriate for all audiences. POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS.

Miracle On 34th Street: Live Musical Radio Play

Told in the style of a radio play and created by San Diego artists Jon Lorenz and Lance Arthur Smith, with live Foley effects and a score of holiday carols. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

My Grandson Benjamin

Bestselling author Ludmila Ulitskaya wrote this play in the 1980s, but its themes remain timeless. Thanks to the work of stage masters Lia Akhedzhakova and Aleksandra Islentseva, joined by a cast of bright young actors, the play

is in turn poignant and comical, soul-gripping and hopeful.*This play is performed in Russian BALBOA THEATRE, 868 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. +16195701100. 7PM SUNDAY.

Your Local Theatre Presents: A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, Again

Your Local Theatre Presents: A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, Again is a laugh-out-loud funny and heartfelt story for theatre lovers and holiday

enthusiasts alike. Eddie is a young actor, fresh out of Juilliard and ready to make his mark on the American Theatre. His dreams are within reach... sort of. First he's just going to do this regional production of A Christmas Carol. As the years pass, Eddie finds himself back at the same local theatre, over and over and over again. Much remains the same: the play, the stage manager, the green room — though Eddie finds himself in different costumes as he ages through the

male roles over the course of his career. Anna Ouyang Moench's comedic and moving new play is a love letter to actors, artists and dreamers of all professions who make sacrifices large and small in service of their work... and ultimately wonder whether it was worth it.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 1PM & 7PM SUNDAY, 7:30PM TUESDAY, DEC. 3 & WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4.

A Charlie Brown Christmas
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Jingle Terrace
at the Moonlight
Amphitheater

2024 HOLIDAY GUIDE

HOLIDAY CANDLE MAKING WORKSHOP

3138 Fifth Avenue

GASLAMP

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” That line from the beginning of John’s Gospel goes a long way toward explaining the raw appeal of the Christmas narrative. In this story, the good guys win. Hooray! Here’s your chance to join in the celebration and light a single candle against the darkness — a candle you created. Choose from a range of scents and vessels, and let expert Lini guide you step by step while you enjoy complimentary snacks and beverages. Friday and Saturday nights starting November 29, 8:30 pm-9:30 pm, \$85.

SALUTE THE SEASON TREE LIGHTING

North Promenade

LIBERTY STATION

Plenty of places will host tree lightings this holiday season, but how many of them will use a Chevy Silverado EV RST to provide juice for an array of bulbs adorning an 88-foot Norfolk pine? (Cue up the commercial of a truck jolting its way through the Julian backcountry and safely lighting up one of our majestic Coulter pines. “Christmas: brought to you — wherever you are — by Chevy.”) The free festivities begin at 5 pm on November 29, and include a showing of *The Grinch* movie, photos with Santa, live music, and fire truck rides.

HOLIDAY PAJAMA JAM AT WICKED WEST

1735 National Avenue

BARRIO LOGAN

When [under] the roof there arose such a clatter/ I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter... Holiday PJs are highly suggested — which is not necessarily the same thing as suggestive, mind you — at this 21+ event brought to you by San Diego Collective (“Curators of Good Vibes from America’s Finest City”) and Hickies and Dryhumps, featuring DJ sets from Noodles, Kaos, Julz, Nikks, and Reecaps. Start your season with a hip-hop happening running from 4 pm-9 pm on December 1. Tickets start at \$12.30

NINTH ANNUAL RELEASE THE HOLIDAY CHEER

2455 Cushing Road

LIBERTY STATION

How did we know the Grinch could be saved? His dog Max liked him! San Diego's "most charitable and pet-friendly military appreciation event" returns with the gift of free veterinary care for military/veteran families, thanks to a grant from the MacBeth Foundation. The gathering runs from 11 am-2 pm on December 1, and includes live music; a vendor village with military discounts; face painting, temporary tattoos, and friendship bracelet making; a Christmas read-aloud; photos with Santa; and of course, the famous pet parade and costume contest. Tickets range from free to \$12.16.

HOLIDAY POSADA

14145 Campo Road

JAMUL

Las Posadas is a religious festival honoring the journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of the baby Jesus — through terrain not too terribly unlike our own back country. Make your own journey and bring a new, unwrapped toy, a teddy bear, or a \$25 donation to Jamul Casino this December 5, and join in a Christmas Posada hosted by *La Revista Binacional* and The Emilio Nares Foundation in support of children with cancer. Games, raffles, food, drinks, and of course, piñatas! The evening of "hope, giving, and celebration" runs from 6 pm-8:30 pm.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

5998 Alcalá Park Way

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Out of darkness shall

emerge light, out of sorrow, joy. Every year, the University of San Diego keeps Christ in Christmas in beautiful fashion through this collection of readings from the Old and New Testaments tracing the story of salvation history that culminated in the birth of Jesus — illuminated throughout with carols and hymns. Admission is free for the event, held on December 6 from 7:30 pm-9 pm amid the ornate grandeur of the University's Founder's Chapel.

HOLIDAY POP-UP BAR

435 Sixth Avenue

GASLAMP

Jimmy Buffett, born on Christmas Day in 1945, has gone to the big luau in the sky, but he left us a Christmas album to remember him by. *Let's get away from sleigh bells, let's get away from snow/*

Let's make a break some Christmas, dear, I know the place to go... But if, oh alas, you cannot manage to sail off to Christmas Island this season, you can at least stop by the lobby of the Margaritaville Hotel on December 6, 13, or 20 from 5 pm-8 pm to visit their holiday pop-up bar. Enjoy live music and a special holiday cocktail menu as you dream of hanging your stocking on a great big coconut tree...

JINGLE TERRACE: SOCAL HOLIDAY SPLASH!

1250 Vale Terrace Drive

VISTA

Whenever you pick up a Christmas card that has that heavenly host filling the sky and proclaiming "Peace on earth to men of good will," you will note that one of them always has a trumpet — or at least a horn of some kind.

CYGNET THEATRE PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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Directed by Sean Murray
Music Direction by Patrick Marion

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November 29 — December 24

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That's because God loves brass, and that's why you want to head out to the Moonlight Amphitheatre on select nights of their Jingle Terrace event to hear the Jingle Brass Band. If you stop by on December 6-8, you'll also get to meet some Christmas reindeer! If you stop by on December 17 or 19, you'll also get to meet some Christmas highland cows! Help provide hot meals in North County (there's a cash donation station) while enjoying music, crafts, games, and costumed characters! Admission and parking are free! Runs from 5:30 pm-8:30 pm December 6-21.



Salute the Season Tree Lighting at Liberty Station

THRIVING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

Online

Ladies: Christmas is never not coming. Whether you're a mom

attempting to navigate your kids' Christmas lists, or a daughter bringing home Mr. Right-For-You, Wrong-for-Them to meet the

parents, or a girlfriend getting ready to help out in the kitchen with His Mom, or a sister having to hang out with certain members of your fam-

ily instead of friends, you know: Christmas is never not coming. Join Dr. Michelle and this online event for help "navigating the holiday

season with ease and grace," as you take part in a day of "insightful discussions, practical tips, and interactive workshops" built with

your well-being in mind. Help put the "happy" in Happy Holidays! Saturday, December 7, 8 am-9:30 am. Admission: \$30.

OCEAN BEACH HOLIDAY PARADE

Newport Avenue

OCEAN BEACH

Look, you know you want to go to a Holiday Parade. And you probably suspect it should be the OB Holiday Parade: an institution, but never institutional, just like San Diego, man. So get out there on December 7 and get your spot for the show before it starts at 5 pm. BUT. But... But, if you just can't make it, if you lack the drive for the drive out to the furthest reaches of the 8 West, if you just want to chill away from the chill of the wintery ocean winds... there is

Fight Hunger This Season

You can make a difference for thousands of seniors, military personnel, children and families by making your donation to the San Diego Food Bank!



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Get Lit candle-making workshop

a solution. We hesitate to mention it, because the internet has already ruined so much. But this year, there is a Newport Cam, just so you can watch live from the comfort of your wherever. Find it at oceanbeach-sandiego.com.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

7027 Friars Road

MISSION VALLEY

We probably shouldn't even mention this little breakfasty shindig at Nieman Marcus in Fashion Valley — that's where he gets stuff to give to the rich kids, don't you know — because if you

try to buy a ticket (\$70 for kids, \$55 for kids 3-12), the best you can do at this point is get put on a wait list. So most likely, no mimosas for you, no hot chocolate for your kids, no brioche French toast or eggs with herbed creme fraiche or applewood bacon or crispy pota-



Disney / Hello Kitty Market

toes for anyone. And oh, that's right — no face time with Santa. Really not much point in mentioning that it'll be on December 8 at 10 am. Except — maybe this can serve as your reminder to get in line early come next year!

HOLIDAY HOOPLA

6506 El Cajon Boulevard, Suite H

COLLEGE AREA

If you're of a certain age, you've seen a holiday movie that involved romance, and a romance that involved dancing. Not grooving, not free-styling, not shaking what your mother gave you, but

dancing in that more formal, perhaps even more intimate way that couples do in movies. Moving in unison, gazing into each other's eyes, dare we say it... *talking*. Maybe visit the Starlight Dance Studio on December 13 at 6 pm for a little lesson in line dancing and yes, partner dancing. But also



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CHRISTMAS ON THE PLAZA

875 Hotel Circle South

MISSION VALLEY

The Morris Cerullo Legacy International Center is “a dream born by God in the hearts of Morris and Theresa Cerullo to be a unique place of refreshing, blessing, impartation, worship, prayer, ministry and miracles that would be marked by the unmistakable presence of God.” It’s also the host to a free event on December 13 and 14 from 4 pm-8 pm featuring carolers, a life-size Nativity, food trucks, live music, an LED tree and dome, a simulated ride in their 4D dome theater, miniature ponies, kids’ activities, and all manner of thing. You are invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child 12 or younger.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

14134 Midland Road

POWAY

Why did *The Polar Express* hit the way it did? Lots of reasons. But one of them was surely the romance of the train. You can have your Jet Age efficiency, but if you want magic, well...it wasn’t a plane that took Harry Potter to Hogwarts. Take a little trip out of time of your own in Old Poway Park on December 13 and 14, starting at 4:30 pm with, you guessed it, a tree lighting and Santa’s arrival on the Poway Midland Railroad. And after you do a little caroling, listen to a little music, sample a treat and get the kiddies a craft, you can take your own nighttime ride on the rails.

SANTA BAR CRAWL

702 Fifth Avenue

GASLAMP

Santa flew so you could crawl. Journey through the Gaslamp’s most decked-out bars while dressed in your best Santa Suit (or maybe dressed as one of his Little Helpers), enjoying free-entry, drink specials, and more. Eight venues, some with live DJs, welcome shots along the way, and a free after party! So yes, you have to be 21, and yes, you have to be ready to party. Check in at Whiskey Girl between noon and 6 pm on December 14. Early bird tickets can be had online for just \$24 or so.

WINTER WONDERLAND

310 Euclid Avenue

CHOLLAS VIEW

You shouldn’t let the Christmas season pass

without seeing a little snow. You know this. It doesn’t matter whether there was snow at the first Christmas. It doesn’t matter that snow makes no sense in San Diego. Neither do flying reindeer. This year, get your flake fix on at Festival Park at Market Creek Plaza on December 14 from 4 pm-8 pm. Admission is free, but feel free to donate \$5 per family to help keep the snow falling. Register online to snag your place in line, and keep an eye out for the toy giveaways!


ROOFTOP MAKERS MARKET

600 F Street

GASLAMP

When it comes to presents, it’s the thought that counts — and maybe also the view. Ascend to the roof of the Andaz hotel for a visit to a pop-up

A new Christmas comedy of hope, healing, and holiday magic



Manny
and the *Wise Queens*


Written by Idris Goodwin
Directed by Jacole Kitchen

December 6-22

Tickets & Info

OCEANSIDE THEATRE COMPANY

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SUNDAY, DEC. 1

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San Diego Reader November 28, 2024 21



Santa Bar Crawl

market featuring local makers, along with live music, food and drinks for sale, and plenty of selfie spots to help you remember all the effort that went into finding that certain special something for that certain special someone. Event runs 11 am-3 pm on December 15.

DISNEY/HELLO KITTY POP-UP MARKET

1640 Camino Del Rio North
MISSION VALLEY
Peanuts creator Charles Schulz embodied the great paradox of Christmas. He gave us the script for *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, which brilliantly penetrated

the commercialism of Christmas to find the meaning beneath it all. He also sold countless plushies and images of Snoopy in a Santa cap. Come to think of it, there's a *Mickey Christmas Carol* that does much the same thing. Anyway, here's a Disney/Hello Kitty pop-up



Holiday Inspired Pop-up Bar at Margaritaville Hotel

market at Mission Valley Center with free prizes for the first 100 adults in line. Runs 11 am-7 pm on December 15.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

4773 Marlborough Drive
KENSINGTON
The first celebration of Christmas was a song,

performed by a heavenly choir for an audience of shepherds. The Stellarum Chamber Choir returns to the Kensington Community Church for their third annual Festival of Christmas, featuring both classic and innovative presentations of sacred and secular music, plus poems and

readings to summon up the spirit of Christmas. Revel in the "Wexford Carol," the "Shepherd's Carol," and the "Seal Lullaby," among others, and sing along with familiar classics like "Angels We Have Heard on High" and "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." Tickets are free, but seating is

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Stellarum Chamber Choir will perform at the Festival of Christmas at Kensington Community Church

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on suds while you and/or the little ones create a wreath, a snowman, or a stand of festive trees. Tickets are \$50 for the event, held on December 18 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm. RSVP online.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS

Ugly Christmas sweater things are tricky. Anyone can head out to some big-box retail resell giant and pick up something garish and tacky and/or stupid and unfunny.

And maybe something like that will prove ugly enough to win a prize at the Air Conditioned Lounge’s Ugly Christmas Sweater Party, held from 9 pm-11:30 pm this December 28. But that was never the point. The point, Charlie, was and is to wear something that somebody, somewhere thought was truly wonderful — in the best/worst case scenario, something handcrafted with love. Remember, people, camp is born, not made. Tickets start at \$7.18.

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blurt the inside track

The twists and turns behind *Twists and Turns* A certain singer for a certain world-famous group spent his childhood in San Diego before flying 1263.5 miles north to fame and fortune in Seattle. Aaron Bleiweiss, late of the funky group On The One, came the

white Fender Stratocaster, which I still have and play today. I took weekly lessons throughout high school, but I didn't play as much during college. It wasn't until I headed off to music school in LA for a few years that things got really serious for me."

In San Diego, he took



Aaron Bleiweiss: still strumming the Strat he scored back in the day.

other way, maybe to balance things out. "I'm actually a Seattle native," admits the singer-songwriter, whose new album *Twists and Turns* hit in September. "Growing up in Seattle, grunge had a major influence on me, as did classic rock. Bands like Nirvana with *Nevermind*, Pearl Jam's *Ten*, Screaming Trees' *Sweet Oblivion*, Alice in Chains' *Facelift*, *Sweet Water*, Jimi Hendrix's *Are You Experienced?*, Led Zeppelin's *I-IV*, and The Allman Brothers' *Eat a Peach* were all on heavy rotation in my early years. Those albums really lit the fire for me and got me excited about picking up a guitar."

His classical-pianist Mom got him lessons on her instrument; Bleiweiss stuck with that from age four or five up until fifth grade. "At that point, I switched to guitar because I felt a stronger connection to it, especially since it was one of the things that really drew me into the music I was listening to at the time. I still remember going down to a store called American Music with my Mom. She bought me my first guitar, a black-and-

the Strat through On the One, StarShak, and Anthony Smith's Trunk Fulla Funk. Then came a stretch back East, a sharp contrast to Left Coast life. "I lived in Brooklyn, both in Williamsburg and South Williamsburg, from 2013 to 2021. I used to walk about seven miles a day to and from work, unless there was a crazy storm. During those walks, I'd listen to podcasts or new music, often getting lost in the city. Even though I generally took the same route, I always stumbled upon something new, whether it was a piece of graffiti on a wall or a store I'd never noticed before. There's always something to do and a new place to explore, which really inspired and energized me during that time. With music all around me, I probably attended three or four shows a month on average."

In Brooklyn, he took the leap into writing fresh material, and the tunes on *Twists and Turns* progressed from there. But returning to San Diego, he insists, "brought a different kind of inspiration. The city's more laid-back pace

and fresh perspective have sparked new creative directions. I've found that inspiration is still abundant; it's just a matter of viewing it through a new lens."

He cut *Twists and Turns* around town, including Big Fish Recording in Encinitas, his own home, and "a studio that used to be next to San Diego Audio Design." His old boss Anthony Smith helped produce. He also thanks his players, most of whom are from San Diego, including Anthony Smith, John Staten, Kevin Freeby, Ken Dow, Sean Hurley, Rebecca Jade, Durell Anthony, Leonard Patton, Dan Hochhalter, Derek Cannon, Gerard Nolan, Kevin Esposito, and Alex Vargas.

Asked how he goes about weaving together song genres, he says that's "just what naturally came out as I started writing. I never set out to specifically create a funk tune or a bluegrass song. Honestly, everything was challenging. I had never done this before, so all the final decisions rested on my shoulders. Like anything new, there was a lot to learn. It felt like putting together a puzzle, searching for different pieces that fit just right. Once I assembled my dream team, everything started to fall into place over time. The songs evolved as I worked on this project for about five years."

A proud LP nerd, Bleiweiss loves to sort through the stacks, giving shout-outs to local vinyl retailers M-Theory, Folk Arts, Vinyl Junkies, and Cow Records. "To me, there's something special about the story, the art, and the lyrics. Vinyl allows you to explore those elements. So, when I decided to put my album out, I wanted to include the lyrics and some photos, and vinyl seemed like the perfect way to do that. Nobody buys CDs anymore, so vinyl is also a great way to support an artist."

And yes, he's still spinning *Eat A Peach*.

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Andrew Hamlin, Dryw Keltz, Jake Peterson, Jay Allen Sanford, Spike Steffenhagen

You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Aztec Brewing Company: Sunday, 6pm — Aztec Jazz Jam. Free.

Balboa Theatre: Saturday, 7:30pm — Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. \$57-\$93.

Barefoot Bar and Grill: Saturday, 6pm — Orion Song.

Bellamy's Restaurant: Saturday, 6pm — Blaise Guld.

Belly Up Tavern: Friday & Saturday, 7:30pm — The Greyboy Allstars: Grab Bag 2007-2023. Monday, 7:30pm — Better Than Ezra's Legends of the Fall. \$51. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Odie Leigh.

Booze Brothers Brewing Company: Friday, 7pm — Hippy Goods, Brawley, JB Barton. Free.

Brick by Brick: Friday, 9pm — Charli Parti. \$23-\$26.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: Friday, 2pm — Six String Society: 27 Club. \$38-\$55. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Irish Christmas in America. \$42-\$78.

Cannonball: Tuesday, 5pm — Ben Benavente.

Casbah: Friday, 7:30pm — The Avengers and Zeros '77. Saturday, 7:30pm — Scary Pierre Record Release Party. \$10. Sunday, 7:30pm — Rey Wolf and This Lonesome Paradise. \$10. Tuesday, 7:30pm — King Raam. \$25. Wednesday, 7:30pm — Fractal, Moondaddy, Seamus Scanlan. \$10.

Centro Cultural de la Raza: Saturday, 6:30pm — Aqui Es La Cosa. \$30.

Cordova Bar: Sunday, 6pm — Patrick Greco & his Patrack. \$5.

Duke's La Jolla: Friday, 3pm — Russell Paihinui. Sunday, 4pm — Keni Yarbro. Tuesday, 4pm — Orion Song.

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Sat - Nov 30
MOMENT TRIGGER
DJ Murder - Muerte en Aceite Sleep as Form of Escape

Thurs - Dec 5
SMALL TALK AND DIE
Peeler - The Hemoglobins - Vanouhi

Fri - Dec 6
MEET ME IN THE BATHROOM
with DJ Mike Delgado, Aaron Wallace and Mandy Warhol

Sat - Dec 7
GRAVEBEAT

Mon - Dec 9
LOVECOLOR
Holdfast - Sideswiped

Thurs - Dec 12
SCOTTY THUNDERS & THE DOLLBREAKERS
This Unrest
Whatevr - Golf.Alpha.Bravo

Fri - Dec 13
FELICITY
Sunburnt - Home by Five

Sat - Dec 14
AMALGAMATED
Epic 18 - Steady Souls
City Soul Collective DJs

Thurs - Dec 19
SLAPPIN' HANDS WITH RIC SCALES

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa: Friday, 6pm — Helena Holleran. Saturday, 6pm — Jason Graham. Tuesday, 6pm — Jolene Cruz.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar: Friday, 8pm — Jemille Viallet. Saturday, 12pm — Ed Kornhauser.

Farmer & the Seahorse: Sunday, 11am — Tolan Shaw.

House of Blues: Friday, 9pm — A Very Cozy Christmas Tour. Friday, 7pm — Shanin Blake. Saturday, 9pm — Gimme Gimme Disco. Saturday, 7:30pm — Trauma Ray. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Roe Kapara.

Jacobs Music Center: Saturday, 7:30pm — Leslie Odom, Jr. Christmas Tour.

Jacumba Hot Springs Hotel: Saturday, 8pm — Candlelight Sessions: This Lonesome Paradise. Free.

L'Auberge Del Mar: Friday, 7pm — Jolene Cruz. Saturday, 7pm — Jemille Viallet. Sunday, 11am — Andrew Peña. Monday, 5pm — Shea Givens. Wednesday, 5pm — Lee Coulter.

La Valencia Hotel: Thursday, 12pm — David Shyde. Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro. Saturday, 11am — Kristi Krause. Saturday, 6pm — Rachel Jay. Sunday, 11am — Tyler F. Simmons.

Mission Bay Resort: Thursday, 2pm, Wednesday, 6pm — Kinnie Dye. Friday, 6pm — TJ Moss. Saturday, 11am — Matt Heinecke. Monday, 6pm — David Shyde. Tuesday, 6pm — Mike Myrdal.

Moonshine Beach: Saturday, 7:30pm — Drake Milligan.

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THE GREYBOY ALLSTARS at the Belly Up

NOV 29 AND 30



Debuting in 1993, The Greyboy Allstars includes Rolling Stones sax player Karl Denson and Roger Waters keyboardist Robert Walter. The band will be celebrating their eighth studio album *Grab Bag: 2007-2023* (released November 22), with nine previously unreleased tracks, including a cover of Michael Jackson's "The Way You Make Me Feel." The two-night bill will feature co-founder DJ Greyboy on Friday and DJ Johnny Basil is guesting on Saturday.

ACOUSTIC REVOLT at Winstons

NOV 30

PHOTOGRAPH BY BY LANDON HALE



Revolt against hunger by attending an afternoon benefit show in Ocean Beach that kicks off at 2:30 pm with Yuma, Arizona rockers Rude Boy Beto. The bill also includes Austin, Texas band Half Man, and locals Urethane (featuring skateboard hero Steve Caballero) and Jonny Wagon, who was born in Memphis, Tennessee before relocating to San Diego and playing with Behind the Wagon and his own trio.

SCARY PIERRE RECORD RELEASE PARTY at the Casbah

NOV 30



Scary Pierre is a female fronted rock group featuring Black Hondo singer Lucina Gonzalez, along with guitarist-keyboardist-cellist Alia Jywook (Vaginals, Hot Nerds). The group will debut their new album *Sticky Situation*, with opening bands set to include Owl Be Damned, which features singer Douglas Thompson (Low and Be Told, The Marsupials) and drummer Ben Johnson (The Long and Short of It, Hostile Comb-Over). Also appearing will be Hauntu, and the evening includes a DJ set from DJ Mandy Warhol.

THEE SACRED SOULS at Soma

DEC 1



Thee Sacred Souls founding duo Alex Garcia and Sal Samano (formerly of Fake Tides) began cutting bedroom demos of rhythm tracks together in 2019. After their first club date, they were signed by Daptone Records producer and co-founder, Bosco Mann (Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings), and within days were recording at Mann's Riverside studio. The band will play a set peppered with tracks from their recently released sophomore album *Got a Story To Tell*.

GLASS SPELLS at Music Box

DEC 4



Glass Spells is a synth-pop group featuring founding bassist/keyboardist Anthony Ramirez, backed as of 2021 by singer Tania Costello. They just got back from a tour supporting Cannons, where they debuted live versions of tracks from their newest album *Crystals*. The bill includes Secret Lynx.

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THE GONZO REPORT

A metal man at the jazz jam

French compositions fly at California English

"People say I'm too nice to play jazz," says bassist Paul Tillery. He's unloading an upright bass to perform at California English with guitarist Jon Garner as a duo. They're replacing Amanda Portela, who had to cancel because of illness, and this sets the tone for a lot of last-minute shuffling for this writer as I accidentally crash not one, but two private events.

Back to Tillery's statement about being "too nice to play jazz" for a moment: it's been my experience since diving into jazz coverage over a year ago that most jazz musicians are pretty nice, and their musical vocabulary leads to extended conversations of music outside of jazz. In Tillery's case, it's all about Iron Maiden, Metallica, and Black Sabbath, and my usual practice of taunting bass players backfires on me because we share too much musical DNA.

A quick intro to Garner later, I'm sitting outside to the left of the duo, sipping on tea because I want something warm as the temperatures drop and the breeze starts to accentuate the cold. The menu looks tempting, but the fish and chips I crave are available only for lunch. The dinner version has English smashed peas and I hate peas. As a child, I used to try to feed my Playskool horse that ofal, and he never ate it. Stupid plastic horse.

Awakening from my resentful reverie, I look up to realize that everyone is on one side of the patio. In the middle in front of the musicians and on the opposite side, there are only empty chairs. The manager, Marco, tells me I'm sitting in the middle of a private event. That must be why the bartender looked confused when I tried to pay for my tea.

It also explains why many people in the section are wearing name badges. I try to sneak a peek at the plastic tags to suss out where they all work, as the neighborhood is surrounded by laboratories. But my glasses are good only for distance; their primary purpose is screaming "hookers and blow" via their yellow tint. Maybe the badge holders are celebrating a breakthrough in creating a mutant like Wolverine or, even better, a taco-making robot! I leave



Garner and Tillery, deep into their dynamic interplay.

them to it and move over to the other side of the patio, where Marco tells me another private event will start in less than an hour.

Exploring the venue, I find it simultaneously cavernous and comfortable. At the bar, a customer named Justin is deciding on a beer. I ask him about the prolonged deliberation, and he tells me Smithwick's used to be his favorite Irish beer, but the last time he ordered it at another bar, it was tapped wrong and tasted weird. He takes a leap of faith and orders a pint of something else, placing his taste buds in the bartender's hands. What my limited experience assumes are croquet mallets are placed throughout the restaurant as décor, along with books by executive chef Richard Blais. More

functionally, there are more mallets on the lawn area — assumedly for playing the game and not for eliciting a thud like a whacked wheel of cheese when striking someone on the chest as Jack Torrance did in *The Shining*.

Back on the patio, setup begins for the second private event, and a staffer named Flora kindly moves my seat away from the chaos but with the same view of the band, which is cranking out some gypsy jazz *manouche*. Several compositions are from the catalog of the genre's inspiration, Django Reinhardt. In a move that is challenging under the best of circumstances, the duo attempts a piece written for a larger ensemble, complete with the warning not to try this at home. The musical lock they've created increases in intensity when Tillery fixes his eyes on Garner's hands for cues that happen so smoothly, they must be difficult without a time-keeping instrument. I have no idea if they perform the song to aficionado standards. I just appreciate the constant attack of notes and the dynamic interplay. The way the gas flames encased in a glass barrier behind them are giving a Number of the Beast vibe doesn't hurt.

Post-set, my interview with Garner is less about jazz and more about Iron Maiden and him seeing Black Flag with Henry Rollins in New England. I figure that spirit is what he brings, no matter what style he's playing. And speaking of spirits, I check on Justin to see how his beer is. He raises his glass and tells me it's perfect. Faith restored. ■

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Music Box:

Friday, 7:30pm — Shallou. \$32.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Brother Ali and Ant. \$27.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Dolphins on Acid and The Aquadolls. \$15.
Monday, 7:30pm — The Defiant and Left Alone. \$23-\$25.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Glass Spells and Secret Lynx. \$25.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 8pm — Rocco Sledge and Cold Craft. \$6-\$8.
Sunday, 7pm — Headworm, Velvateen, Andromeda. \$5-\$7.

Observatory North Park:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Amigo The Devil.

Open Air Theatre:

Friday, 7:30pm — Yuridia.
Sunday, 7:30pm — King Diamond, Overkill, Night Demon.

Orfila Vineyards & Winery Oceanside:

Sunday, 12pm — Blaise Guld.

San Dieguito United Methodist Church:

Saturday, 2pm — Joyful Traditions: A Community Messiah Sing. \$15-\$20.

San Marcos Lutheran Church:

Sunday, 3pm — Holiday Choral Concert: 'Twas The Week Before Christmas (Barbershop Style). Free.

Senses Human Bistro:

Saturday, 6pm — Santana Soul. Free.

Soda Bar:

Friday, 7:30pm — Bar Stool Preachers and Bite Me Bambi. \$22.
Saturday, 7:30pm — The Delta Bombers and Spaghetti Cumbia. \$24.

Wednesday, 7pm — Tageous, New Mispioria, Lunas. \$15.

Sound:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Dinosaur Jr.

Sycuan Casino Resort:

Friday, 8pm — Engelbert Humperdinck. \$69-\$99.
Saturday, 8pm, Sunday, 7pm — Paperback Writer. \$19-\$29.

Wicked West:

Saturday, 8pm — Sasha Marie.

Winstons Beach Club:

Saturday, 2:30pm — Acoustic

Revolt. \$10.

Sunday, 4pm — Whisky Bleu.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Baker-Baum Concert Hall:

December 5 — Barbara Hannigan & Bertrand Chamayou
December 7 — Kings ReJoyce

Balboa Theatre:

December 7 — Making Merry
December 8 — Jake Shimabukuro: Holidays in Hawaii

Belly Up Tavern:

December 5 — Shovels & Rope
December 7 — Betamaxx Very 80s Christmas
December 8-9 — Dawes

Brick by Brick:

December 6 — The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus
December 7 — Shred For Dime Tribute Show
December 8 — Dance With the Dead and Korine

The Casbah:

December 5 — The New Division and BlakLight
December 6 — Pleasure Pill, Blair

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New music, "New World"

The struggle session returned with a vengeance at the San Diego Symphony Orchestra concert on Saturday, November 16. The previous weekend's concert had featured a program without any contemporary pieces for me to struggle through as an audience member, and it felt so good.

This concert, however, began with "The Chairman Dances" from *Nixon in China* by John Adams. While I like John Adams, I don't need to hear this piece twice within any given year, and it feels as if the Symphony just performed this just the other day at The Shell.

The second piece of "music" was a violin concerto by Thomas Adès entitled *Concentric* something

or other. Violinist Leila Josefowicz gave a quirky but ultimately useless introduction to the piece. Apparently, there were space-ships and waves and dinosaurs in the music. Needless to say, I and the audience had different ideas about what those things might sound like.

Here's the thing with contemporary music: the organization has to pay royalties to the publisher. The music is usually unpalatable and it costs more to perform but hey, at least Thomas Adès and his publisher made a little money. Albeit in what amounts to a bait-and-switch maneuver. The entire audience was there to hear

Antonin Dvorak's *Symphony No. 9* "From the New World." I wonder what the attendance would have looked like without the Dvorak. What if the concert had been all Thomas Adès?

I must say, however, that Josefowicz played the hell out of the piece. She is an amazing musician and a fierce performer. The symphony, as conducted by Elena Schwarz, was straightforward. There is something to be said for this approach. It could be considered a way to restore Dvorak's music to its original intentions and to remove any pretentious performance practices that have choked the piece. On the other hand, if there is to be no push and pull. If there are to be no risks taken, then why is the conductor there?

For instance, the brass chorale that starts the second movement can be ponderous. In Schwarz's hands, it was not stagnant, but it bordered on being perfunctory. The entire performance sat on the edge of being too breezy, too slim.



Antonin Dvorak's Ninth is one of the world's favorite symphonies, so a straightforward approach was probably okay.

However, everything worked. The orchestra played brilliantly. Dvorak's Ninth is one of the world's

favorite symphonies, and no one could have been disappointed with this performance.

Classical Music this week

Billy Childs Quartet

The fall concert series continues with the Billy Childs Quartet, featuring Childs on piano, Matthew Stubbs on clarinet, Dan Chmielinski on bass, and Benjamin Ring on drums. Multi-Grammy-winner Billy

Childs has been commissioned by Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the Kronos Quartet, the Dorian Wind Quintet, the Lincoln Center

Jazz Orchestra, the American Brass Quintet, the Ying Quartet, the Lyris Quartet, and Anne Akiko Meyers. Sunday, December 1, 7:30pm; \$50-\$55. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street

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Gun, J Mahon
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December 8 — Thunderpussy and James & The Cold Gun

Epstein Family Amphitheater:

December 7 — Campana Sobre Campana: Christmas in Mexico
December 8 — Choir! Choir! Choir!

Frontwave Arena:

December 7 — KSON's Country Christmas

Guggenheim Theatre:

December 7 — B-Side Players

The Holding Company:

December 8 — The Toasters

House of Blues:

December 8 — Echosmith

Jacobs Music Center:

December 6-8 — Two Concertos: Barnatan Plays Shostakovich

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

December 5 — Judy Collins
December 7 — Anuhea

Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD:

December 7-8 — Luminosity: Colorists Past and Present

Museum of Making Music:

December 8 — Eric Rigler's Celtic Hollywood

Music Box:

December 5 — The Crystal Method and Rabbit in the Moon
December 6 — BoomBox
December 7 — G-Space and Kaipora
December 8 — Saint Luna, Mom Cars, Sunshower

Nativity Catholic Church:

December 8 — Christmas Concert: Magnificat

Navajo Live:

December 7 — Roxfest: Up The Itons and Led Aeros
December 8 — Hypno Toads and Hillendale Drive

Observatory North Park:

December 5 — ian
December 7, December 8 — Crosses†††

Pechanga Arena San Diego:

December 5 — Maverick City Music

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

December 7 — Kenny G

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

December 7 — Jim Curry: A Rocky Mountain Christmas

San Diego Civic Theatre:

December 8 — Sarah Brightman

Soda Bar:

December 5 — Semiwestern

December 6 — N8NOFACE
December 7 — Emma Ruth Rundle and Storefront Church
December 8 — Molly Grace

Soma:

December 6 — Gingfest
December 7 — Foxtide
December 8 — Tito Double P

The Sound:

December 6 — The Elovaters and Little Stranger

Sycuan Casino Resort:

December 6-7 — Purple Experience

Til-Two Club:


December 9 — Lovecolor

UC San Diego Park & Market:

December 7 — The B-Side Players

Winstons Beach Club:

December 7 — Burning Doors: Jim Morrison Birthday Celebration



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DEC. 6, 7, & 8

Jacobs Music Center



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All artists, dates, programs and pricing subject to change.



A very hot dog

“Are you sure? This is our spiciest. Our scariest.”

Barrio Logan, I’m thinking, is bound to be a cinch for Yoli, the Mexican lemon-lime soft drink that started in Guerrero a century ago, and tastes like Sprite, only a tad more concentrated. That’s why I’m walking on the sunset side of Logan Avenue on this Thursday afternoon as people are setting up for the evening market. It’s been a while since I’ve been in the barrio. Good to know it’s all still here, what with the all the gentrification pressure you hear about. It’s not just the familiar and fantastic food smells; it’s also great that the gentle, communal street-life feel is alive and well. I pass places like “Sew Loka,” a place where the art of sewing is being revived. (Yes, a take on *Soy Loca* — “I’m crazy.”). Then I pass by the sun-lit façade of “Todo Pa’ La Cruda.” The columns are wildly decorated. (Name means “Everything for the Hangover.”) I guess they’ll have menudo, and other *vuelta a la vida* dishes like *pozole verde* and *caldo de marisco*. A couple of Anglo guys who are in there chowing say they’re eating the best veggie burritos of their lives, for about six bucks each. I’m almost tempted to sit right down and order one.

Except a veggie burrito is not what I’m really looking for, here in the barrio. What I want is — don’t laugh — a hot dog. Not just any hot dog, but what I heard described as a “Sonoran hot dog,” like they have down in Hermosillo (the capital of Sonora). Sounds so delicious. Basically a beef dog wrapped in bacon, drowning in pinto beans, onions, tomatoes, and lots of different sautéed peppers, all tucked up inside a wide bolillo jacket.

The gal at Todo Pa’ La Cruda says they don’t do dogs, not even Mexican dogs. So I carry on up Logan, past Fish Guts, and the Italian place that Michelin mentions, Ciccía. Uber-cool — if a little expensive. But hey, hey, it’s my lucky night: I notice a place across Logan: “Barrio Dogg.” Lights blazing. It used to be famous as a street cart built into an actual 1964 Chevy Impala. The guys who started it about seven years ago were into low-rider culture. Then it moved into this brick-and-mortar location, which makes sense, because this here is the heart of low-rider land. Did well, looks like, because it expanded to a second operation in Petco

Park, and now they’ve even opened a third in San Antonio, Texas. They call their food Chicano Comfort Food. Dogs with a Mexican *riqueza*. This I gotta try. I hop inside and hitch myself onto a stool at the counter that faces the sidewalk.

Francisco and Ericka come up with a menu. “Sonoran dogs?” I say.

“We have many like that,” Francisco says. What I like is that he and Ericka are keen to get into it. I ask for a *michelada*. (Turns out the name comes from the

Mexican slang for beer, *chela*. *Mi chelada!* Who knew? She has one brought up for me. Gonna pay \$11, I think). “It’s kind of like a Bloody Mary, with La Especial beer,” she says. Mine is the regular, with clamato and salsa roja. And along with

jalapenos and lime, it has a dried prune floating on top, a *saladito*.

“The *saladito* will sink through the drink and add a saltiness to the flavor,” Ericka says.

It’s refreshing and peppery, but Ericka says the “Fresca” *michelada* is the most popular. It has cucumber juice added.

I wait a few minutes, and instead of my hot dog, Ericka arrives with a jar of what looks like a creme caramel custard. “This is because we’ve kept you waiting,” she says. Huh. Nice and sweet, and this is going to be cool with the coming heat.

Now Francisco, who’s also one of the cooks, appears with this little mountain that is my *La Yorona* hot dog. “Are you sure?” he asks. “This is our spiciest. Our scariest.” And by the time he has run through all the ingredients, I believe him. Apart from the big beef dog, wrapped in bacon, there’s the...well, take it away! “Chile con carne, cheddar cheese, sliced jalapenos, aged Manchega cheese, salsa verde, different peppers we call Crazy Rabbit, Purple Rain, and Creeper or Carolina Reaper, Dragon Tears (that’s a kind of chili oil), crunchy fried onion and garlic, pickled red onion, fresh habanero, wasabi sesame seeds, and one of the bolillo buns, which we bake ourselves every morning.”

Wow. So I get the “tears,” but how come that name, *La Yorona*? It turns out it’s based on the legend which goes back to Aztec times, of *La Llorona*, a vengeful ghost. She wanders by water mourning her children — who she drowned. I



Like everything in the barrio, good art reigns supreme



Surprise gift of crème caramel custard



Great combo: hot hot dog and cool michelada

think it also ties in with *La Malinche*, the “Mother of Modern Mexico,” who guided Cortez, bore a son to him, and some say betrayed her people by aiding the Spanish. One way or another, you’re gonna be shedding tears.

And specially, when I bite into something small and lethal, feels like, man, I’m shedding more than tears. But I surprise even myself: I seem to be able to handle the heat. Mainly because the flavors are so strong and luscious, and surrounded by that excellent bolillo, they almost round out the tongue-withering heat. The *chela* helps too. When

I’m finished, I sit back like a sumo wrestler after Round Ten. I’ll have to come back, because now I’m curious about other options like *El Bombero* (“The Fireman,” with seven distinct chiles), or *El Xolito*, with cheese, sour cream and, they say, plenty of crunchy garlic. Costs two dollars less than my \$12 *Yorona*.

“Come back when the low riders parade past here,” says Ericka. “Every weekend evening. Like your *La Yorona* dog, they’re hot!”

Oh, and the Yoli? Guess we’re talking TJ for that. ■

The Place: Barrio Dogg, 2234 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-546-7889

Hours: 10am - 9pm daily

Prices: *El Xolito* hot dog, \$10; *El Capone* (Chicago-style with mustard), \$10; *El Samurai*, Asian-style, with hoisan BBQ and sriracha sauce) \$10; *El Bombero* (“the fireman,” 7 different chiles), \$11; *El Smokey* (“Texas BBQ-inspired,” \$12); *La Yorona* (“the scariest!”), multiple chiles, two cheeses) \$12, \$15 wrapped in bacon

Buses: 12, 901

Nearest bus stop: Logan Avenue and César E Chavez Parkway

Trolley: Blue Line

Nearest Trolley Stop: Barrio Logan

THANKSGIVING DINING

Bounteous Thanksgiving

Brunch Buffet The spread includes a diverse selection of appetizers, Shrimp Cocktail, Smoked Salmon with bagels and an Autumn Valley Kale Salad. For the main course, diners can choose from a variety of seasonal dishes. Sides, such as Pumpkin Pie and Pecan Pie. Thursday, November 28, 10am; **free**-\$140. South Coast Winery Resort & Spa, 34843 Rancho California Road. (TEMECULA)

Seaside Thanksgiving

Buffet Enjoy a seaside buffet featuring chilled seafood, a variety of cheeses and charcuterie, hearty soups and salads, and a carving station with herb-marinated turkey and prime rib. Thursday, November 28, 11:30am; \$45-\$89. Shores Restaurant, 8110 Camino del Oro. (LA JOLLA)

Thanksgiving Brunch Buffet Gather with family and friends

to reflect. Enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving buffet, courtesy of the resort’s culinary team led by Executive Chef Emily Brubaker. Thursday, November 28, 11:30am; \$65-\$150. Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

Thanksgiving Buffet

Why spend all day cooking and cleaning up when you can enjoy friends and family on Thanksgiving. Thursday, November 28, 11:30am; \$19-\$68. Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant, 2600 Calhoun Street. (OLD TOWN)

Thanksgiving Day Dining

Start your day with an à la carte brunch (7:00am - 2:00pm), or give thanks during a curated Thanksgiving feast buffet (2:00pm - 8:00pm) featuring an expansive spread of fresh seafood, carving stations, holiday classics, and desserts. Thursday, November 28, 2pm; \$50-\$150.

Dockside 1953, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanksgiving Prix Fixe

Feast Enjoy a crafted selection of gourmet dishes with oceanfront views. Thursday, November 28, 4:30pm; \$165. Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Thanksgiving Day Dining

Thanksgiving buffet featuring a carving station, classic holiday dishes, and options for all palates. Thursday, November 28, 2pm; \$68-\$150. Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanksgiving Day Dining

The 3-course prix fixe menu features traditional holiday dishes and seasonal So-Cal cuisine. Thursday, November 28, 2pm; \$55. Bronze Bird Food Wine & Spirits, 910 Broadway Circle. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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PERSONALS

MY BUDDY & LOVE CORNFED Stinkerz...Never forget or doubt that you are loved unconditionally & whole heartedly; forever and always regardless of our fights. You're my everything. I love you xoxo Kitty n Roxy puppy 2

RIP MIKE POPPS You were more than a friend/roommate, your family. You will be missed tremendously, never forgotten, loved always/forever. My kids will hear about u and our stories. I know ur our angel now. Until we meet again....xoxo STINKERZ I hate to break it to you like this but our baby Roxy loves her mama way more than you stinky boy! Hahaha queffah latiffah=1 vs. you=0. Girls rule; boys not out and drool. lol jk NOT xoxo hello Kitty & puppy

"WHERE'S DAR-DAR @?" Hey girly so sorry about your loss of tank like that. Just remember everything will be ok. If you need a friend(s) you know where we are at anytime 24/7. Hope this puts a smile on your pretty face. Love you xoxoxo Kitty & Frankie

BEULAH Guess who broke his hip.

KEITH WILLIAMSON Please contact me, your wife Maria. I'd like to meet with you I've got my own apartment and I need a hand finding a car. Please help. (858) 276-1166. Have the best day ever.

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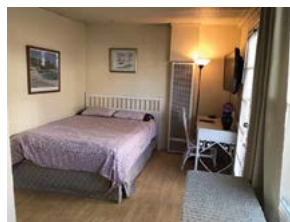
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021909

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/01/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Information Beach
Located at: **2844 Wyandotte Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 2844 Wyandotte Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117

Registered Owners Name(s):
Information Beach 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/
Clayton Charles Kordahl
Corporation/LLC Name
Information Beach LLC
11/14/24, 11/21/24,
11/28/24, 12/5/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022627

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/13/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Don's Sicilian Specialty Foods

Located at: **3955 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 3955 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977

Registered Owners Name(s):
Nicholas Thomas Ingrande

This business is conducted by:
An Individual. The first day of business was 11/13/2024.

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/
Nicholas Thomas Ingrande
11/28/24, 12/5/24,
12/12/24, 12/19/24

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022437

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/12/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Designs by M. Schneider

Located at: **4455 Mentone St Apt 2, San Diego, CA 92107, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 4455 Mentone St Apt 2, San Diego, CA 92107

Registered Owners Name(s):
Margaret Schneider

This business is conducted by:
An Individual. The first day of business was 05/02/2024.

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/
Margaret Schneider
11/21/24, 11/28/24,
12/5/24, 12/12/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021743

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/30/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. POSTERELITE
b. OSHA4LESS
c. MYPOSTERSERVICE
d. EPOSTERCENTER
e. Elite Business Ventures**

Located at: **13700 Stowe Dr, Poway, CA 92064, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 13700 Stowe Dr, Poway, CA 92064

Registered Owners Name(s):
Elite Business Ventures LLC
State of Incorporation/Organization: **Delaware**

This business is conducted by:
A Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was 10/12/2023.

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

Registrant Name /s/
Jonathan Michael Grant, CFO
Corporation/LLC Name
Elite Business Ventures LLC
11/7/24, 11/14/24,
11/21/24, 11/28/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021670

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/30/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Pride Flag Co

Located at: **7527 Convo Ct, San Diego, CA 92111, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 7527 Convo Ct, San Diego, CA 92111

Registered Owners Name(s):
Madeline Regan Russell

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

I declare that all information in this statement is true and 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/
Madeline Regan Russell
11/7/24, 11/14/24,
11/21/24, 11/28/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021812

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/31/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Fierro's Carpet Steam Cleanng

Located at: **817 Eta St, Apt 1507, National City, CA 91950, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 817 Eta St, Apt 1507, National City, CA 91950

Registered Owners Name(s):
Oscar Fierro

This business is conducted by:
An Individual. The first day of business was 03/03/2011.

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/
Oscar Fierro
11/21/24, 11/28/24,
12/5/24, 12/12/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021188

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/22/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Rise and Shine Play

Located at: **2907 Shelter Island Drive Ste. 102-103, San Diego, CA 92106, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 3104 Lytton Street, San Diego, CA 92110

Registered Owners Name(s):
Rise and Shine Play 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/
Andrea Elliott, CEO
Corporation/LLC Name
Rise and Shine Play LLC
11/14/24, 11/21/24,
11/28/24, 12/5/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021649

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/29/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Savarratherapy.com

Located at: **3108 Fifth Avenue, Suite D, San Diego, CA 92103, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 3108 Fifth Avenue, Suite D, San Diego, CA 92103

Registered Owners Name(s):
Savarra Kathleen Howry

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

I declare that all information in this statement is true and 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/
Savarra Kathleen Howry
11/28/24, 12/5/24,
12/12/24, 12/19/24

LEGAL NOTICES

We are a fully adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9020735

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/15/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. NHB Properties

Located at: 4616 Van Dyke Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116, San Diego County

Mailing Address: 4616 Van Dyke Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116

Registered Owners Name(s): Theresa Smisek Reid

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

I declare that all information in this statement is true and 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/ Theresa Smisek Reid 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022649

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/13/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. Cane Dubb – Music Video and Social Media Production

Located at: 3131 Chamoune Ave, San Diego, CA 92105, San Diego County

Mailing Address: 3131 Chamoune Ave, San Diego, CA 92105

Registered Owners Name(s): David Edward Stafford

This business is conducted by: An Individual. The first day of business was 05/08/2023.

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

Registrant Name /s/ David Edward Stafford 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022333

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/06/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. Bear and Mare Leather-work

Located at: 13943 Calvary Rd, Poway, CA 92064, San Diego County

Mailing Address: 13943 Calvary Rd, Poway, CA 92064

Registered Owners Name(s): Christine Heather Joyce

This business is conducted by: A Married Couple. The first day of business was 11/01/2024.

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/ Christine Heather Joyce 11/14/24, 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9021504

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 10/28/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. Gyoza Zaku

Located at: 3400 Cottage Way, STE G2 #26383, Sacramento, CA 95825, Sacramento County

Mailing Address: 1661 Harvey Milk St. Apt 508, San Diego, CA 92103

Registered Owners Name(s): Aunty K 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/ Myat Thin Kyu, Member Corporation/ LLC Name Aunty K LLC 11/14/24, 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022258

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/06/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. SDC Optical

Located at: 10089 Willow Creek Rd, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92131, San Diego County

Mailing Address: 10089 Willow Creek Rd, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92131

Registered Owners Name(s): Anthony Lu

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

I declare that all information in this statement is true and 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/ Anthony Lu 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9022391

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 11/08/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. Minor Details

Located at: 5913 Henley Drive, San Diego, CA 92120, San Diego County

Mailing Address: 5913 Henley Drive, San Diego, CA 92120

Registered Owners Name(s): Nicholas John Buchmiller

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

I declare that all information in this statement is true and 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/ Nicholas John Buchmiller 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION FOR PARENTAL RIGHTS TERMINATION PROCEEDINGS

TO: The father, David Baillie, to child B.M.B born on September 9, 2009 to mother Jennifer Dawn Nalley.

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

YOU ARE REQUIRED to answer the petition within (40) days after November 24, 2024, exclusive of that date, which is January 3, 2025.

Upon your failure to answer the petition within the time prescribed, your parental rights to the child may be terminated. Also take notice that (1) If you are an indigent parent and is not already represented by appointed counsel, the you are entitled to appointed counsel, and that provisional counsel has been appointed, and that the appointment of provisional counsel shall be reviewed by the Court at the first hearing after service; (2) this is a new case, and any attorney previously appointed will not be your attorney or represent you in this proceeding unless ordered by the Court; (3) notice of the date, time and place of the hearing will be mailed to you by the Clerk of Court upon filing of the Answer or forty (40) days from the date of services of this Summons if no answer is filed; (4) the purpose of the hearing is to terminate the parental rights to the above-named child; (5) the parents have a right to attend the hearing.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than January 3, 2025. Said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice; upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This is the 18th of November, 2024.

Bryan M. Clousing

Attorney for the Department of

Social Services

Shelby, NC 28151

Published: 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego 330 W. BROADWAY, San Diego 92101

Petition Of: Shelby Lynn Schragger-Sours FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all Interested Persons: Petitioner: Shelby Lynn Schragger-Sours filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

a. Shelby Lynn Schragger-Sours to Shelby Lynn Schragger 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: 01/02/2025 Time: 8:30 am. Dept: 61

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

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

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

Dated: 11/12/2024 Maureen F. Hallhan 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 RESPONSE 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: 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24, 12/12/24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego 330 W. BROADWAY, San Diego 92101

Petition Of: Laura D. Hernandez AKA Laura del Castillo Hernandez FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all Interested Persons: Petitioner: Laura D. Hernandez AKA Laura del Castillo Hernandez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

a. Laura D. Hernandez AKA Laura del Castillo Hernandez to Laura Hernandez del Castillo

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: 12/23/2024 Time: 8:30 am. Dept: 61

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

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

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

Dated: 11/05/2024 Maureen F. Hallhan 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 RESPONSE 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: 11/14/24, 11/21/24, 11/28/24, 12/5/24

Chunky yellowtail from Alijos Rocks – Imperial Beach Pier thresher shark

Dock Totals 11/17 – 11/23: 458 anglers aboard 27 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 2 bonito, 3 lingcod, 9 rock crab, 2167 rockfish, 9 sand bass, 8 sculpin, 22 sheephead, 29 spiny lobster (70 released), 273 whitefish, and 3 yellowtail.

Saltwater: The reason I total the fish caught by the half day to 3-day fleet is that most longer running boats do not report their counts. That said, some of the boats that run anything from 1.5-day to long range trips of a week or longer also don't report their counts on the shorter trips. So, I total the fish caught from the same set of boats every week over the past ten years to give a sampling of the catch that is consistent. This is why there are no tuna in the count this week, and also so few yellowtail. But yes, some boats got into yellowfin, bluefin, and yellowtail within 3-day range.

Most of the pelagic action was far south, from the Bahia Asuncion area south to the Ridge and banks outside of Bahia Magdalena off the Pacific side of the lower half of the Baja Peninsula. Yellowfin tuna, some pushing 300 pounds and one pending world record 442.5-pounder reported last week, and bluefin tuna to 200 pounds are still being found off southern Baja, while there are still sightings of tuna outside off northern Baja and even out west at the Cortez and Tanner banks. Varying winter conditions often keep the boats working south along the coast rather than further offshore, so that can also skew the counts.

While most of the long-range fleet has been concentrating along the Baja Pacific coast south of Isla Cedros, the *Searcher* went out west to Alijos Rocks and found steady action on yellowfin tuna, some wahoo, and yellowtail. Alijos Rocks are a series of tiny, steep, uninhabited, and barren volcanic islets about 190 miles west of the southern Baja coast. The total land area is a couple acres, and is mostly pinnacle rock. The edges of the drop-offs around the high spot are steep, which provides upwelled nutrients where baitfish and their predators gather, making it a choice, if not distant, destination for long-range boats.

On that *Searcher* trip, a yellowtail caught by angler Arturo Pino off the edge at Alijos Rocks was about the thickest yellowtail I have ever seen. I have seen some fat ones, but most are built like torpedoes, long and narrow. Their cousin amberjacks will have more "shoulders" on them, with a taller profile, but this was not an amberjack. We should get an official weight on the fish when the *Searcher* returns mid-week, but, given an estimated length and girth, Arturo's fish may be around 60 pounds. In looking at the photo, I figure about 50 inches long by at least a 30-inch girth. Given the common formula of length times girth squared then divided by 800, the fish would weigh just over 56 pounds. And that is a very conservative estimate of the girth. It would be nowhere near the world record, but it does have some folks wondering if the fish is somehow a hybrid yellowtail/amberjack or just a bit deformed.

Locally, lobster hooping was tough and a bit hit-and-miss, while rockfish continue to be the



This good-sized thresher shark caught from Imperial Beach Pier had to be hauled up by a pier gaff.



An oddly thick yellowtail caught off Alijos Rocks by Arturo Pino while fishing aboard the *Searcher*.

main target and are biting well in 300 to 600 feet of water. On the beaches, surf perch have slowed to a pick, as have corbina and croaker. Pier anglers are getting mostly mackerel, but in turn, rebaiting a mackerel and sending it out on a heavier setup might just get one a decent thresher shark, as they are cruising within reach in 60-foot and shallower while preying on mackerel. I have seen a few recent reports of the long-tailed sharks being caught from Orange County to Imperial Beach, where

one nice specimen was hauled up and over the rail this week.

Imperial Beach Pier is going through some repairs and upgrades, where \$2 million has been allocated to add enhancements and replace a couple pilings. The southernmost pier in California has been closed for times when public safety could be endangered, such as during the piling replacements being done by helicopter but has opened a day or two between phases. The current phase of the project should be completed and the pier fully reopened by Thanksgiving Day. Future deck board replacement work and utility piping work may require partial pier closures or short full pier closures. The project is anticipated to be complete in summer 2025, so until then, check the Port of San Diego Imperial Beach Pier Enhancement page for updates.

Imperial Beach Pier used to be the landing and launching point for sportboats, like the *Bright* and *Morningstar*, that used the pier as a convenient departure to fish the Coronado Islands. I rode that boat from the pier a few times, and can see why, given rising insurance costs, that they had to quit running those trips. There was a ramp that one had to walk down to board the boat, and with the waves causing the boat to buck and rock, it made getting aboard a challenge at times. Anglers' rods and tackle boxes were loaded by a davit (a small crane) mounted to the pier. My last trip out on that boat was on a Monday, seniors' day, and it took a while to get underway, because a strong yellowtail bite had lured some 50 seniors, who took advantage of the half price discount and excellent fishing. My partner Susan and I were the only passengers that day under 55 years old, and she had an unlimited supply of both cold beer from the galley and off-color jokes offered by winking geezers. In spite of the crowded load, we got limits of yellowtail and gifted beer, so it was actually quite the fun day on the water!

Most anglers fishing from piers are those targeting smaller fish such as mackerel, croaker, and the occasional piling perch. But there are a few folks who traipse out to the ends and set up for big game; usually sharks and bat rays. When targeting larger fish from a platform far above the water, a pier gaff is necessary to raise the fish too heavy to be brought up by rod and reel. These gaffs are basically a weighted large treble hook on a rope, and often requires a second person to gaff the fish while the angler keeps the fish flat on the surface. Some piers with bait shops will have a loaner pier gaff, though there is usually one or more anglers out there targeting larger game who has one if the need arises. Whether the beach, bay, lake, or offshore, they're out there so go out and get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

BICYCLES

RALEIGH ROAD BIKE free retro TV with purchase of a very good Raleigh road bike. Call (619) 292-5816.

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.

GORGEOUS BLUE AND WHITE BIKE FRAME BMC road bike frame 47 CM and it's never used in storage. Must see call (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

2014 HARLEY ELECTRA GLIDE comes with cover and charger. \$14,000 OBO or trade for Jeep. 14K miles. (619) 258-3541

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

AUTOMOTIVE

1930 FORD JALOPY 2 frames, title, parts \$1800. Request pictures. (760) 717-1334

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.

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

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

SEARS PENSKE AUTO ANALYZER for 8, 6 and 4

cylinder motors. Model number 24421043. (619) 435-6561. \$50 for the kit. Ask for Pete

1996 MIATA MX5 beautiful red color, new radio and tires. Needs head gasket and transmission work. \$500 (760) 644-8683. Escondido

2001 VOLVO S80 Clean title. 109,000 miles. Runs good but needs some work. (619) 576-1623

LOOKING FOR A 1990 OR OLDER FORD CARGO VAN fgross0421@gmail.com.

TOYOTA PICK UP 1987 Gray truck, four cylinder, 22R engine, four speed. Runs great. Long term ownership. \$4,500. (619) 576-8196.

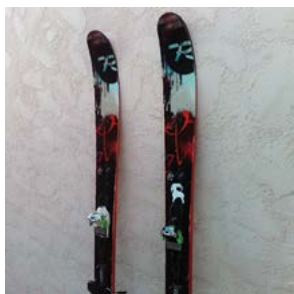
CAR RENTALS RENT TO OWN PROGRAM no credit no problem. (760) 633-3552

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

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

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

RENTAL CAR AVAILABLE also rent to own programs thousand



ROSSIGNOL 178 CM (70") SKIS This high quality and good looking skis come with Marker Squire adjustable bindings which would fit any size boot. Clean and in good condition with some scuffs & chips on surface. \$95. Text or email for more information and/or pictures. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcsgd@gmail.com

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

IHSS CAREGIVER NEEDED
Certified IHSS caregiver needed for a woman in LA Gardens w/ vehicle, cooking, cleaning, shopping. LF a permanent provider. Available 5 hrs./day from Mon-Sun (40hrs/week). 2 shifts available will discuss in interview. (619) 488-0822 or (619) 269-3434. None

ASSIST ON EBAY - PART TIME CASH Need an eBay assistant. Part time. Earn \$15-20/hr. depending on skill. Familiarity with eBay a plus. Computer skills needed. Shipping & camera skills as well. Chula Vista/Bonita near area preferred. Contact at ashscot@aol.com (832) 651-8302

IHSS FEMALE CAREGIVER
Active elderly gentleman needs help with daily routine. Position requires enrollment: www.sdi-hsspa.com. 5 hrs/day Mon Wed Fri. AM. \$20+/HR. San Diego, 4S Ranch. Ad is not for other offers. (858) 360-0388 text only

NANNY NEEDED!!! My Bosses wife is looking to hire a part time Nanny! Attaching flyer for what's she is looking for and where to can contact her about the job! Thanks!

DRIVER Seeking loyal driver for senior family member, part time, Mondays & Fridays. Pay: \$415/week. Must have a valid state-issued driver's license and be professional, safe and patient. Please email: momojasonpr@gmail.com

CAREGIVER (NORTH PARK): Seeking part-time evening caregiver. Hours are between 4

PM-8 PM. Total available hours are approximately between 16-20. Schedule is flexible. Must be reliable, dependable and physically fit. Willing to train right person but preferred someone experienced with quadriplegics. Must be kind, caring, and a sense of humor is helpful. We like to laugh while we work because life is too short. Please feel free to email me at rustykrumm@hotmail.com or text/call at (619) 512-3099. Thank you for your interest and I look forward to meeting you.

IHSS CAREGIVER WANTED
Must have vehicle. 3 to 5 days per week. Mornings only. Prefer long term. Must be an organized person and a good cook and willing to start ASAP. Please call for more information (619) 488-0822. I'm a Christian lady PS

IN HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICE CAREGIVER Lovely woman lives by Allied Gardens near Mission Valley. Needs a registered in-home supportive service caregiver. Must be in the mornings for 4-6 hours per day up to five days per week. Please leave your info and phone number by calling (619) 269-3434.

OB SPACE CADETS NEEDED
I need help with the OB Spaceman Van for the OB Xmas parade. Please contact me at clintcarycosmicart@gmail.com or call or text (619) 684-0127

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

HOUSE/PET SITTER AVAILABLE NOW Will you be traveling out of town for the holiday season & in need of a house & maybe also a pet sitter? Please seriously consider hiring me! I have experience & I'm a huge animal lover! I'm a mature, lady, reliable, responsible, compassionate & caring! sandiegolady13@gmail.com

DOMESTIC GODDESS FOR CLEANING! Lady in extreme need of legit cash paying gigs, especially of the domestic variety. Experience in all areas of household tasks-laundry,organizing,pet care,house/pet sitting, cooking/baking,etc.I'm very reliable,respectful,responsible & real! Thanks! sandiegolady13@gmail.com

NANNY NEEDED JOB AD LISTING I'd like to apply for your prior ad job listing that there was no contact info provided in it. I'm well qualified and have availabilities. Email me for resume and more info if interested. Thanks, Kitty L. @ Kittyemploymenttopps619@gmail.com k

PROFESSIONAL PERSONAL ASST. Experienced, professional, dedicated. Proficient in organization, scheduling, & communication. Reliable, efficient, detail-oriented. expert in task management, planning, & multitasking. Committed to enhancing your productivity. Contact 4 inquiries. (760) 923-6287 / kittyemploymenttopps619@gmail.com

CLASS B & C DRIVER LOOKING FOR WORK Former driver seeking part time temporary work class B - C delivering your product. Have good experience. Can lift 50 lbs. John (858) 277-4908

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

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

GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER will provide companionship and friendship will discuss topics of interest prepare meals and much more in Point Loma and Pacific Beach California area. Please call Carol at (858) 731-6996

WANTED / TRADE

275 GALLON IBC TOTES WANTED I am looking for used 275 gallon IBC totes in good useable condition at a reasonable price. (760) 746-7209

WANTED 1-1/4" BLACK STEEL PIPE I am looking for schedule 40 or schedule 80 black steel pipe, I can't use galvanized pipe or other diameter pipe sizes. I can use pipe lengths from 5 feet up to 21 feet long. Let me know what you have and the price, call (760) 746-7209

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

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

BUYING OLD DINNER MENUS Buying old dinner menus. Full size menus & large collections preferred. Pre-1970 along with other vintage restaurant items. Cash paid. San Diego local. (832) 651-8302 / ashscot@aol.com

CRAFT SUPPLIES Looking for new/used but in good condition craft supplies such as hand held sewing machine, embroidery patterns/needles/floss/hoops, light table, pens/markers, acrylic and watercolor paints/brushes, knitting yarn, etc. will pay cash or trade (760) 923-6287 / kittyemploymenttopps619@gmail.com

SOLAR PANELS WANTED NEW & USED I am looking for solar panels & inverters that

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

LETTERPRESS AND BOOK-BINDING Looking for Letterpress and bookbinding tool, supplies, etc. daandewaal@cox.net

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

CASSETTE PLAYER WANTED side by side. Reel to reel. Any brand. Chris (805) 837-4928

LOOKING FOR USED OLDER AMERICAN CAR used older American Car for Medical Transportation. Buick, Cadillac, or Chevrolet from the late 70's or the 80's. Call (760) 559-6760

WANTED: OLD STEREO GEAR Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call (619) 606-1541; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

CASH PAID FOR GPS. SONAR LOWRANCE & SIM-RAD. Call (619) 286-0364

I BUY KNIFE COLLECTIONS (619) 806-6703 Scott

I BUY VINTAGE TOYS (619) 806-6703 Scott

BUYING RECORDS, CASSETTES, Tubes. Cash paid for LP & 45 records, vintage stereos/speakers, cassettes/blank cassettes, vacuum tubes, reel tapes, 8-tracks. Brands include McIntosh, Marantz, Sansui, Fisher, Scott, Pioneer, JBL, Altec, Tannoy, Western Electric & more. I come to you! Call/ Text (619) 889-5237.

I BUY VINTAGE PILOT HELMETS (619) 806-6703 Scott

I BUY VINTAGE SKATEBOARDS (619) 806-6703 Scott

I BUY VINTAGE MUSIC GEAR drums, guitars, amplifiers, etc 1-(619) 806-6703 Scott

LOOKING TO BUY OLD DRUM SETS I pay cash. Any old Band Instruments. Text me pictures or call (619) 279-7833

CASH PAID: FOR OLD STEREO GEAR Receivers, Amplifiers, Speakers, Turntables. Call Me (619) 279-7833

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

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

WILL PAY CASH \$2 Sale on all Records, DVDs, CDs, and Clothing. Thousands of each are in stock. Will also buy Records, DVDs, CDs, and Clothing. North Park. 3939 Iowa Street #2 92104, (858) 382-7396 Thur-Sun 8 am - 6 pm

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

WILL PAY CASH.... \$2 Sale on all Records, DVDs, CDs, and Clothing. Thousands of each are in stock. Will also buy Records, DVDs, CDs, and Clothing. North Park. 3939 Iowa Street #2 92104, (858) 382-7396 Thur-Sun 8 am - 6 pm

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

OLD SINGER SEWING MACHINES Singer 221 Sewing Machine. (619) 279-7833. Text me pictures of what you have

I BUY HAMMOND ORGANS AND LESLIE SPEAKERS Text me pics. (619) 279-7833

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

I BUY VINTAGE STEREOS pioneer, marantz, Sansui etc 1-(619) 806-6703 Scott

CASH PAID FOR OLD VW Old VW Bus, Van, Bug. I like to buy any condition. Call or text pics #619-279-7833

CASH FOR COMIC BOOKS Money, Money, Money! I pay cash for old comic books. Mark (619) 933-6275

WANTED: OLD SLOT CARS Or old toys. Cell/text (619) 279-7833.

GARAGE SALES

FREE FURNITURE FOR YOUR HOME We are giving away

totally free of any cost these 5 comfortable pieces of furniture, all in good condition ; 2 overstuffed sofa chairs, a large 2-piece sofa set, and a soft furry reclining lounge. Phone (858) 322-9795, email: mysandiegocarl@yahoo.com

FOR SALE

BEAUTIFUL OIL PAINTING 1998. By Dottie Gernick. \$49 or best. Cardiff. (760) 692-7741



CROCK POT SLOW COOKER 1.5 QTS. This 80 watts crock-pot w/ removable pot & glass lid is perfect for cooking small meals or keeping food warm. There are some stains inside the base but the white pot & glass lid are in good condition & fully functional. \$12. Text for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE THERMOS This lovely vintage 4 cup thermos (new) was made in Taiwan. A wonderful gift to someone special or enjoy it yourself to store your favorite hot or cold beverages. Brand new, never used, in a plastic bag & original box. \$25. Text for more info/pics. (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW BLOOD PRESSURE MONITOR This easy-to-use monitor gives digital readout of pulse & blood pressure, on a large well-lit screen. It stores 60 readings with date & time. The cuff fits wrist circumference from 5.3" to 8.5". New in box with batteries. \$15. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5510 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW SHOWER BATH SAFETY GRABBAR This 24" carbon

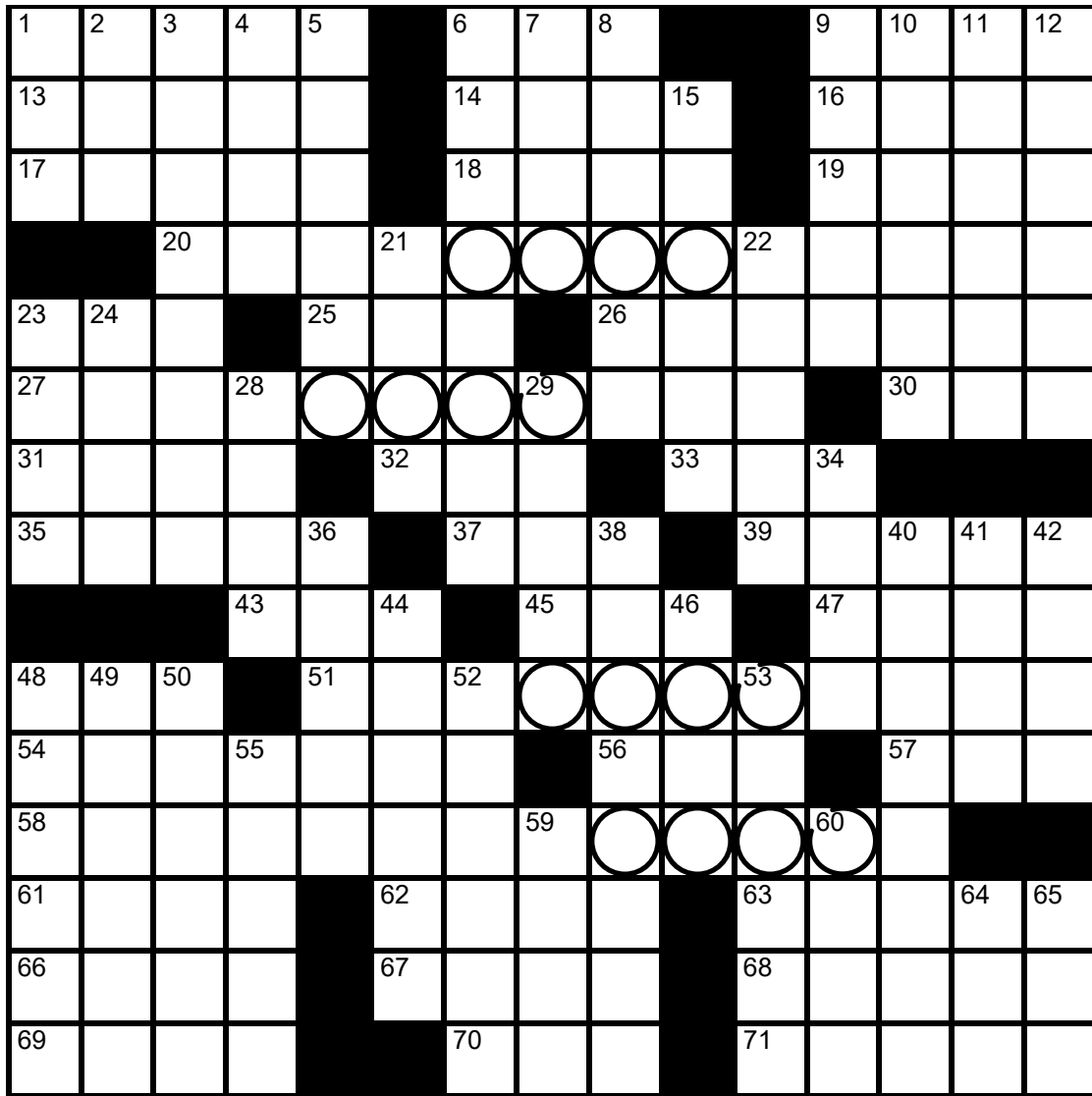
OIL CHANGE Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w/30 oil. Special only for 4cyl vehicles. 6-8cyl vehicle does not apply.	\$29⁹⁵ most cars
AC SERVICE Diagnostic \$95	\$49 Recharge from
BRAKES Front or rear *Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.	From \$49 most cars
30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$65 most cars
RADIATOR or Transmission Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$45 most cars 4 cyl.
TIMING BELT Parts & Labor *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$75 most cars 4 cyl.
STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS Plus labor.	\$95 most cars 4 cyl.
FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT 36 and up.	
We'll beat any written estimate! Dents, dings, scratches? Now offering bodywork.	
Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary! 8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C 858-533-8120	

CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE With any Service or Repair	SMOG CHECK SPECIAL STAR Certified \$31⁷⁵* Smog Test or All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through December 18, 2024 +\$8.25 cert	STAR Certified SMOG CHECK TEST ONLY \$51⁷⁵ +\$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.
EXHAUST SYSTEM REPAIR AVAILABLE	ENGINE STEAM CLEAN AVAILABLE Most Vehicles	30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL from \$279⁹⁵ 4-cyl. Most vehicles. Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis • Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension
NEW CV AXLE from \$159⁹⁵ Parts & Labor		TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price Recommended at 60k miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.
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CROSSWORD

"WHOLE GRAINS"



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Across

- 1. No longer dangerous
- 6. Cut (down)
- 9. "Take ___ from me ..."
- 13. Pizza topping, technically
- 14. "Lucky Jim" novelist Kingsley
- 16. Salacious
- 17. True to a cause
- 18. "Archer" character Kane
- 19. Night, at the MusËe
- 20. 2002 Disney title duo
- 23. "Much ___ About Nothing"
- 25. 1960s TV Tarzan Ron who died in 2024
- 26. "Didn't see you there!"
- 27. Almost there

Down

- 21. Former American automaker
- 22. Herb in stuffing
- 23. Hooded vipers
- 24. "3 Feet High and Rising" group ___ Soul
- 28. Hawaiian mackerels
- 29. Took a curved path
- 34. Arabic alphabet starter
- 36. Jack Sprat's dietary rule
- 38. Experiment area
- 40. Word that forms a retronym when appearing before "guitar"
- 41. Baseball field cover
- 42. Concludes
- 44. Hanukkah toy nobody actually plays with, spelled

Across

- 30. Kyoto currency
- 31. Think ahead
- 32. Title for Galahad or Guinness
- 33. Singer Sumac
- 35. Place to get the highlights?
- 37. Statute
- 39. Make happy
- 43. Grass roll
- 45. Brain activity meas.
- 47. Volunteer's offer
- 48. Abbr. in many Black church names
- 51. '70s sitcom character always talking about "the big one"
- 54. 1930s world heavyweight champion whose son was on
- 56. Mid-afternoon drink
- 57. High points
- 58. Terrain that's tough to predict, or a representation of the circled letters
- 61. "Monsieur Hulot's Holiday" writer Jacques
- 62. Cold cuts shop
- 63. Out of style
- 66. Ht. above sea level
- 67. Aspiring DA's exam
- 68. Greek salad item
- 69. Mineral deposit
- 70. U.S. Election Day, e.g.
- 71. Command to an attack dog

Down

- 1. Gallaudet University subj.
- 2. Confucian principle
- 3. Support small businesses, perhaps
- 4. Berry in a bowl
- 5. Former Fed head Janet
- 6. Kuala Lumpur's country
- 7. Muscat's country
- 8. Schedule space, metaphorically
- 9. "L.A. Law" character Becker
- 10. Without slack
- 11. Christmas tree decoration
- 12. Slithering constrictor
- 15. Strut about

- 30. more Yiddishly
- 46. Earth goddess of Greek mythology
- 48. Beer brand from Holland
- 49. Hawaiian "thank you"
- 50. Left
- 52. Jim Varney's movie series alter ego
- 53. South African restaurant chain known for peri-peri chicken
- 55. Pantothenic acid, in a vitamin complex
- 59. Actress Summer of "Firefly"
- 60. "Giraffe in Flames" painter
- 64. Brink of a holiday
- 65. FDR or JFK

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

steel grab bar (300 lbs. capacity) provides support when using the shower, tub or toilet. It can be mounted directly into wood studs or other wall materials. New in box w/instructions & 6 stainless screws. \$18. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

9" ROUND X 3" SPRING-FORM PAN This heavy duty aluminum pan with drop off bottom is perfect for baking cheesecake and making deep dish Pizza. It features a waffled texture on the bottom and sides that makes food release easy. Clean & in good condition. \$8. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



SMALL METAL GLASS LANTERN This beautiful decorative orange lantern (2.5"L x 2.25"W x 4.25"H) w/ flickering candle light comes w/ glass panels & metal frame (1 can be opened) & a hanging ring on top. Battery included. Clean in very good condition. \$8. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW FOLDING TREKKING POLE(S) Made of 7075 aircraft-grade aluminum alloy, this strong, sturdy & durable fast-locking adjustable hiking pole/walking stick has adjustable wrist wrap & comfort-grip handle. New in excellent condition

w/bag. \$15 or \$25 for 2. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



LARGE GRAY FABRIC OTTOMAN This comfortable & good looking ottoman is 51"x 51"x 16" high with 6" thick cushion, 8" base frame & four 6" legs. It is very strong and perfect for your living, family or other large room. Clean in excellent condition. \$35. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

NEW/USED GIRL CLOTHES FOR SALE I have bags full of new to barely used 1x little girls clothing from dresses bottoms skirts tops sweaters swimsuits shoes etc most r brand named. Various sizes/styles. buy individually or in bulk (bags or bundles). Great deals contact 4 details/\$ (760) 923-6287 / kittysemploymentopps619@gmail.com

ANANSI TEA & STONES A seller of liquid fertilizer, tumbled stones, and nursery stock Collard Greens and Dragon Fruit facebook.com/marketplace/item/2722867274558915/ (619) 920-9969 / WHITEKEL-SC05@GMAIL.COM

VINYL RECORDS CDS DVD FOR SALE Thursday thru Sunday... 9am to 4... 3939 Iowa St. Suite 2... North Park... Vinyl

Records CDs DVDs for 2\$ dollars each!!... (858) 382-7396



BABY SWING WITH MUSIC & SOUND Fisher-Price Sweet Cradle 'n Swing features adjustable speeds, music & nature sounds with side-to-side or head-to-toe swinging motions. Legs can easily be folded. A/C power plug is included. Clean in good condition. \$25. Text for more info/pictures (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



NEW TALKING BLOOD PRESSURE KIT This pulse & blood pressure unit has a large digital readout with talking features in English & Spanish. One button operation. It comes with universal cuff, user's manual, quick start guide & batteries. New & never used. \$25. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com



WHITE IKEA HIGH CHAIR W/ TRAY Ikea Antilop high chair is easy to take apart & bring along so your child sits safely anywhere at the same table as adults. The raised edge of the tray prevents spills from ending up on the floor. Excellent condition. \$15. Text for more info/pictures (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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

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

ELECTRIC CARVING KNIFE Toast master double blade is ideal for the holidays making your carving easy good condition. Use few times only \$15 (858) 484-4483

HANGING PENDANT LIGHT 37" TALL This hard-wired classic pendant light has a frosted glass shade with a metal trim. Max. height is 37"

and is adjustable. Clean in good condition. 2 pendant lights available, \$20 each or \$35 for both. Light bulbs not included. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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



INFANT BABY TO TODDLER ROCKER This Fisher-Price rocker has 2 bat-at animal friends overhead, deep cozy seat with safety belts, reclining seat back, calming vibrations (batteries incl.) & foldout kickstand. Like new, clean & in excellent condition. \$18. Text for more info/pics (619) 796-5680 / cadbcscd@gmail.com

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Suspicion Confirmed

— Customs officials at the Lima, Peru, airport spotted something unusual about a man boarding a flight on Nov. 8, *The New York Times* reported. The unnamed 28-year-old, a citizen of South Korea, was returning home with a planned stopover in France, but he was notable because of his extremely swollen stomach, officials said. When asked to lift his shirt, he revealed a creepy, crawly cargo: 320 tarantulas, 110 centipedes and nine bullet ants. Each bug had its own plastic bag, all of which were attached to two girdles wrapped around the man's body. The 35 adult tarantulas were each about the size of a human hand. All the bugs are native to the Amazon region of Peru, said Walter Silva, a government wildlife specialist. He added that the discovery was "part of the illegal wildlife trafficking that moves millions of dollars." The tarantulas are on the country's endangered species list. The man was arrested with charges pending.

Field Report

— Norwegian fisherman Harald Engen got a message on Nov. 11 that his 32-foot boat's trawl nets had snagged something most unusual, the *Anchorage Daily News* reported. Turns out the USS Virginia, a 377-foot nuclear-powered submarine, had been chugging away from Tromsø, Norway, with a Norwegian Coast Guard vessel escorting it, when its propellers became entangled with the nets. As a result, the Coast Guard had to cut the nets to free the submarine. They

assured Engen that he would be reimbursed for his nets.

Gimme a Sign

— Transportation workers in Boulder, Colorado, had to go out on Nov. 19 to take down some "freelance" road signs that had mysteriously appeared in the city, 9News-TV reported. The signs, which appeared in four different locations, warned drivers to "Get Off Your Damn Phone" and "Don't Kill Any Kids Today," along with other messages. Boulder Police spokesperson Dionne Waugh said the signs are professionally made and installed, but officials don't know who put them up. "I'm guessing that it's a concerned citizen that is kind of fed up with the behavior they're seeing in their neighborhoods," said police commander Darren Fladung. He suggested there are more appropriate ways to get those messages out.

Latest Religious Message

— Why settle for a middleman when you can confess your sins straight to Jesus Christ himself? Worshipers at St. Peter's Church in Lucerne, Switzerland, are baring their souls to a hologram Jesus powered by AI, the *Daily Mail* reported on Nov. 20. And already, at least two-thirds of the people who have received the image's grace have called it a "spiritual" experience. "Though it's a machine, it gave me so much advice," one person said -- like, "Your task is not to judge, but to accompany with love." The AI Jesus can even speak 100 different languages. It was trained at the Lucerne Univer-

sity of Applied Sciences and Arts using the New Testament.

It's Come to This

— Sweden's minister for gender equality and work life, Paulina Brandberg, has spoken in the past about her extreme phobia of bananas, *The Guardian* reported on Nov. 14. But recently leaked emails have made clear just how far her staff will go to protect her from the yellow fruits. For instance, staff will specify that "no traces of bananas must be in the room" before she arrives. Brandberg said she was getting professional help with her phobia, but Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson backed her up: "I am disturbed when a hardworking cabinet minister is almost reduced to a phobia and people make fun of it."

Weird Science

— University of Richmond professor and neuroscientist Kelly Lambert has been training rats to drive tiny cars since 2019, the *New York Post* reported. "Unexpectedly, we found that the rats had an intense motivation for their driving training, often jumping into the car and revving the 'lever engine' before their vehicle hit the road," Lambert said. She and her fellow scientists concluded that the rats' excitement was a Pavlovian response to treats and operating the vehicles -- but even when the treats were removed, they were ready to put the pedal to the metal. "They remind us that planning, an-

ticipating and enjoying the ride may be key to a healthy brain," Lambert said.

Great Art

— The duct-taped banana "artwork" just won't turn brown and mushy and find its way into the bin. On Nov. 20 in New York City, Sotheby's sold the latest iteration for \$6.2 million to Justin Sun, founder of the cryptocurrency platform TRON, WFAA-TV reported. Bidding started at \$800,000. Sun said the art "represents a cultural phenomenon that bridges the worlds of art, memes and the cryptocurrency community. ... In the coming days, I will personally eat the banana as part of this unique artistic experience, honoring its place in both art history and popular culture." Lucky for Sun, he technically bought the rights to duct-tape any other banana to any other wall and call it "Comedian," as it was dubbed in 2019 by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan.

The Passing Parade

— On Nov. 6, Mohammed Abdullah Alabilan, 27, of Pennsylvania, received a lap dance inside the Reign nightclub in Clearwater, Florida, but "refused to pay the \$40 service fee," *The Smoking Gun* reported. When Alabilan tried to leave the club, a deputy stepped in and charged him with misdemeanor theft. He was released from jail after paying ... a \$40 bond. The judge ordered him to stay away from the nightclub.

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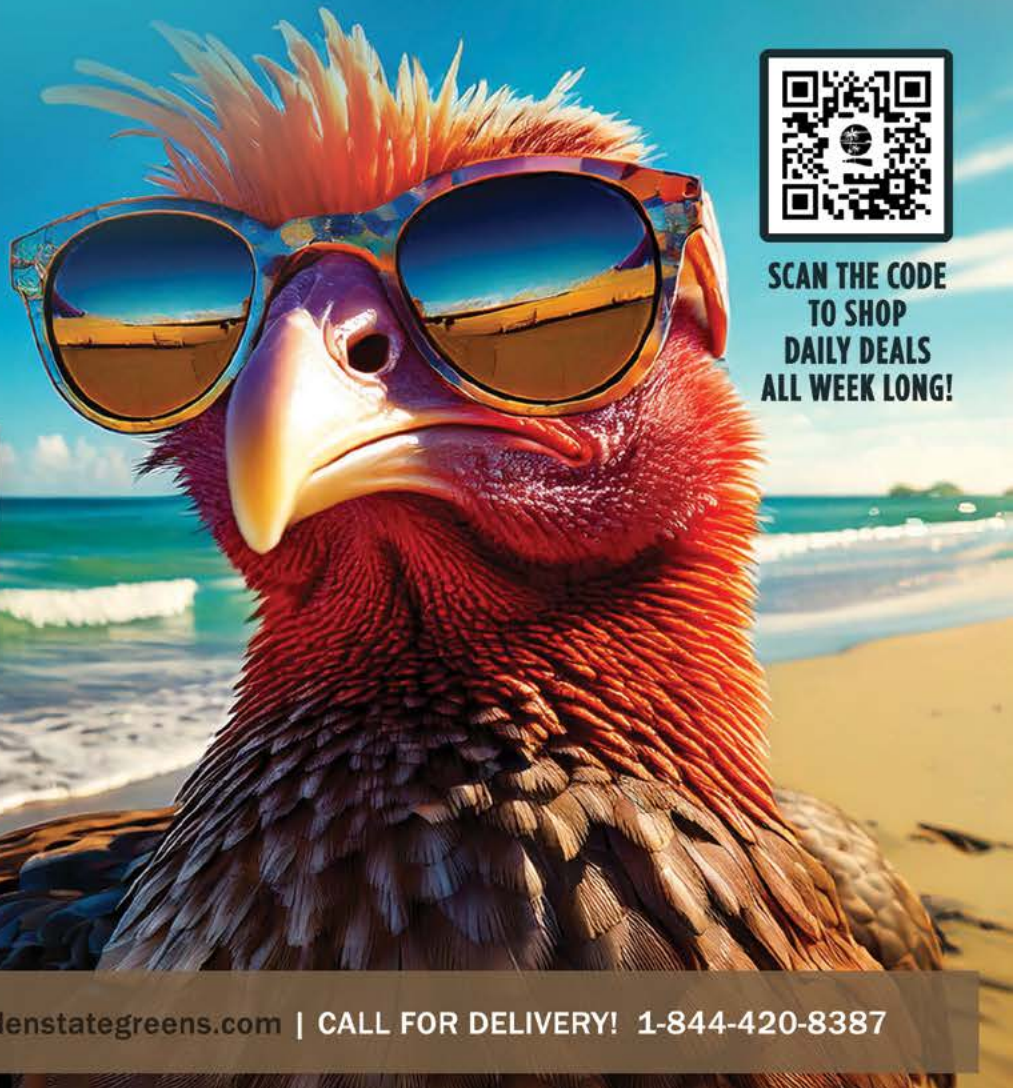
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Implant offices of Dr Armin Hage DDS & Associates

DR ARMIN HAGE

Is a Loma Linda University Graduate • Is a Diplomat at International Academy of Dental Implantology

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3365 Rosecrans St, San Diego, 92110
619-404-0061
SmileDesignerSanDiego.com

University Dental (College Area)
6324 University Ave, San Diego, 92115
619-319-9640
UniversityDentalSanDiego.com



* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 12-30-24. **No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anaesthesia may still be required. ***Not all patients qualify for same day implants. Questions can not be answered over phone. Implant consult appointment is required. CT x-ray and bone graft not included.

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