

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 53 | NO. 51 | DECEMBER 19, 2024

Reader

AVID Learners

The hard charity of
high expectations

The chronicles of Windansea ■ Past Palm to The Pits ■ A beer for the Legion



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December 19, 2024



AVID students have a shared goal — page 12



Blame Betty rocks the library — page 23

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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.

My brother gave up
Reader crossword

Please dump Matt Jones as
your crossword puzzle con-
tributor. I realize the likes of
a David Levinson Wilk, who
could create clever, engag-
ing puzzles with fun, bright,
entertaining word play, don't
grow on trees. But anyone
would be better than Matt
Jones. Heck, no one would
be better. Just a blank spot
where the puzzle goes would
be an improvement.

My brother and I have
done the Reader puzzles for
as long as I can remember.
And since replacing Wilk
with Jones, I'm constantly
telling my brother he should
have used this clue or answer
or added this or that. I don't
know anything about puz-
zles but my brother always
agrees my ideas land better.
In fact, my brother gave up
doing them in the last few
weeks. I've tried to continue.
But no more.

Jones' puzzles are just
a slog to get through and
add little to no enjoy-
ment to life. And if all
that weren't enough rea-
son to dump him — and
it is — his sad, whiny anti-
Trump puzzle put him over
the top — or to be more
accurate, at the bottom of
the bottom. And I would say
the same thing had he used
the letters in Biden or Harris
for his anti-Trump rage of
a trick, replacing the letters
T.R.U.M.P. with "F.U."

I'm sure Mr Jones thought
he was the most clever con-
structor of all time, gleefully
rubbing his hands together
and thoroughly enjoying
this piece of excrement of a
puzzle that probably no one
else was able to solve. But
just because he enjoys wal-
lowing in such excrement

doesn't mean anyone else
should have to.

The world has enough
negativity and hatred already.

Crossword puzzles should
be an escape from all of the
vile, ugly, nasty pettiness of
the world, not add to it.

David Manzi
Talmadge

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

94th Aero Squadron – French
farmhouse still works

Tin Fork, Dec. 11, 2024

Ed, did you know the 94th
Aero Squadron Restau-
rants are part of a fran-
chise system? At one time
there were 14 of the World
War I themed restaurants,
usually built next to small
airports. There are still a
few around the country.

-WW2 buff

Glad you're back, Ed!

-Ed fan

Mang Tomas, banana ketchup
barred in San Diego

Neighborhood News, Dec. 2, 2024

Just like Sriracha sauce
last year around July. Was
a shortage and people
panicked. Bottles on Ebay
going for \$25. Ridiculous
I thought.

-Not fallin' for it

I want my Jufran.

-Phiending for it

homemade is easy.

-DIYer

SD Symphony singer
tells what it's like
behind the scenes

Cover Stories, Dec. 4, 2024

So good to have a com-
mentary reminding me of
Welton Jones. A great read.
Thanks

-Classically pleased

Is Cortez Hill the author's
real name?

-Banker's Hill

Bait and Switch at San
Diego Symphony

Classical Music, Nov. 22, 2024

Yuck to this review. I would
give anything to hear an all-
Ades concert.

-Begging to differ

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Earn up to \$125 for your story and photos. Go to sreader.com/write

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

CORONADO

Disappearance at the Del Parking lots and poltergeists both vanish amid restoration

The historic Hotel Del Coronado is currently undergoing a \$550 million restoration — the latest in a series of changes and additions that I have witnessed during my family's 30 years of visiting. A recent visit revealed that work in some areas, such as the sumptuous lobby, has already been completed. (Though this year's lobby Christmas tree, while still impressive, did look a little different. A fellow visitor, Barbie, shared an observation: "I thought it was funny that the gal in the gift shop said that the signature ornaments were being hung five feet and higher on the tree because people were stealing them — oh dear.")

The last part of the restoration project is slated for completion by spring 2025, and includes updates to the hotel's original Victorian section: the guest rooms, suites, and iconic event spaces such as the Crown Room,



PHOTOGRAPH BY GABBY M.

"While visiting Hotel del Coronado, I snapped some photos of the hotel while walking to the entrance and noticed a figure appear in the top (furthest right) window that is not there in the photo one second before and was gone one second after."

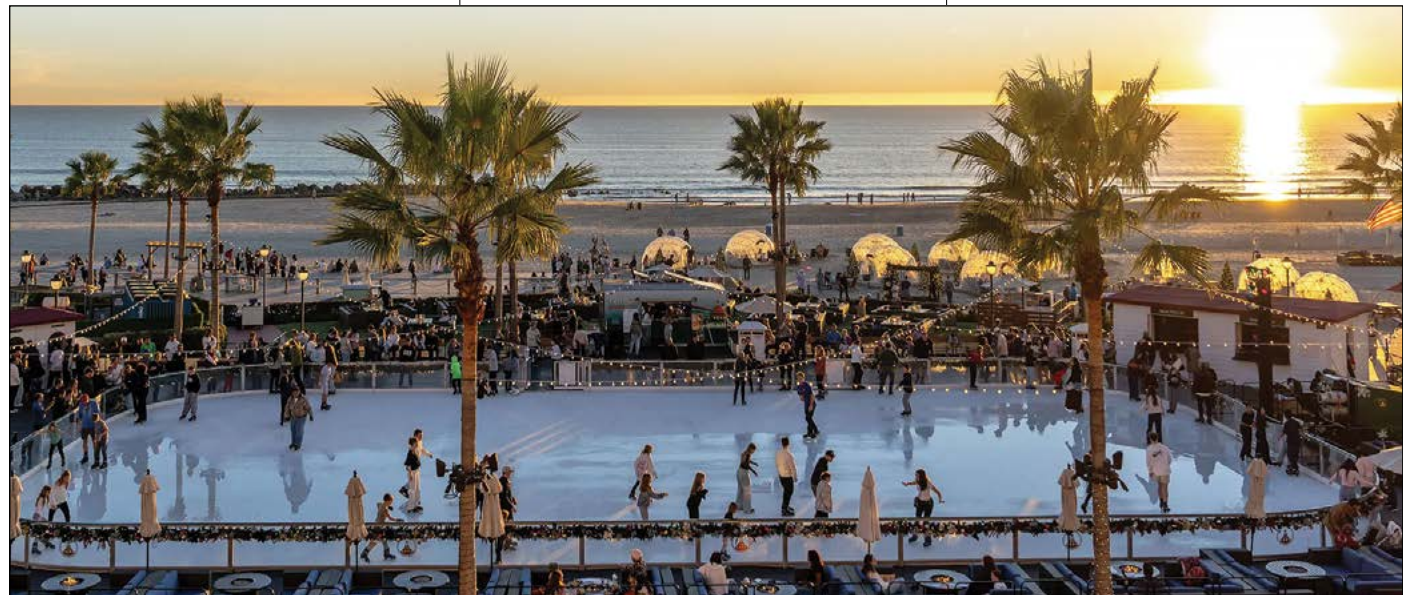


PHOTO CREDIT: HOTELDEL.COM

The past is prologue: Coronado's Tent City is now Glowing Bungalow Town.

Coronet Room, and Ocean Ballroom. Scaffolding currently encases the 115-foot Ocean Ballroom tower, But it seems that no amount of renovation can remove interest in a dark spot in the hotel's

beachfront road, searching for street parking in front of one of the neighborhood's multi-million-dollar mansions. After some effort, we finally found a spot about half a mile away from the hotel. From there, a pathway by the

"Be careful parking your car near the hotel Coronado homes. A friend of mine had his car vandalized."

history: the 1892 suicide of a woman named Kate Morgan in room 3327 — and the subsequent rumors of a haunting. When I visited as a high school kid in the '90s, the friendly elevator man would tell me about the ghost. And a recent Reddit post by user 19toke90 announced a "Potential Sighting at Hotel del Coronado" in the "Captured Apparition" section. "While visiting Hotel del Coronado, I snapped some photos of the hotel while walking to the entrance and noticed a figure appear in the top (furthest right) window that is not there in the photo one second before and was gone one second after." The user posted photos taken seconds apart; the middle image showed a mysterious figure in the top-right window.

Skeptical Redditors suggested it could have been a worker, but 19toke90 disagreed. "No one is allowed on this side of the hotel right now as it's undergoing restorations... this was after-hours on a Sunday of Labor Day weekend, so no one was there." Others brightened the photo to analyze it further, debating whether it was a ghost or something else entirely. During our visit, we attempted to investigate the mystery window ourselves, but access to the upper floors — and even the iconic brass birdcage elevator — was restricted, likely due to the renovations.

We did encounter a mysterious disappearance of our own, however: upon arriving, we discovered that the parking lot off Avenida del Sol was no longer there. Instead, we were directed to the lot off RH Dana Place, which was full. We drove along a scenic stretch of

beach led us to the rear of the hotel, near its seasonal ice-skating rink and space-age bungalows on the sand.

Later, as we made our way back to the car, we noticed some rowdy individuals shouting obscenities in the otherwise quiet neighbor-

NATIONAL CITY

Short-term solution

If you can't beat 'em, charge 'em

Short-term rentals are illegal in National City, but even so, the city estimates that at anywhere from 125 to 200 are in operation at any given time. Officials have been fielding complaints about parked cars and loud parties connected with the properties, and police recently told the city council that the rentals have brought with them crimes ranging from minor infractions to violent felonies. "Yes, they are a problem," said Capt. Derek Aydelotte.

The mass shooting last month at a party of over 100 teens in a vacant house that left four injured and one dead did not take place in a short-term rental. But it still stoked fears of



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARLES CREHORE

The \$550 million restoration has entered its final phase.

hood. It seems that as more visitors park in residential areas, tensions are rising. On Reddit, one user posted a warning: "Be careful parking your car near the hotel Coronado homes. A friend of mine had his car vandalized when he parked on free street parking near the homes while visiting the Del for Christmas vibes."

MIKE MADRIAGA

public safety at properties where owners were absent. The solution? Martin Reeder, the city's principal planner, gave a report that highlighted how a regulatory ordinance could generate revenue by collecting transient occupancy tax from the rentals, while also addressing community concerns and ensuring compliance.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 4

City councilmember Luz Molina said she felt “a little bit caught off guard” about creating a policy for short-term rentals. The one-page staff report included none of the information she was now hearing. Instead, she heard the city attorney say these are currently illegal in the city. “I don’t understand why we are considering this if they’re not permitted?” She asked if there was active



You can either crack down on these patriotic AirBnB folks, or make them give you money.

enforcement of the city’s ban, what revenue the city hoped to gain, and whether there could be a location breakdown of the rentals by council district.

Vice-mayor Ditas Yamane agreed with the idea of showing the breakdown by district. “It looks like chicken pox,” she said of the 200 STRs shown strewn around the city. “Right now, it’s everywhere. We don’t know who to go after.”

Reeder replied that the city has a permissive land use code, so it’s not expressly stated in the code. “You’re correct, those are illegal.” However, he noted, initial searches of AirBnB and Vrbo had come up with as many as 200 cases. “If we’re going to prosecute 200 cases that’s going to take a lot of staff power.” He granted that the city would risk seeming to reward bad behavior by issuing permits, “but this will allow us to start with a clean

slate to be sure the city is getting benefit from the money.”

Vacation rentals are a topic the city has batted around “ever since the AirBnB craze five or six years ago,” Reeder said. Since then, Chula Vista and San Diego had already passed their own short term rental ordinances. He argued that the Chula Vista model might serve National City well, since the cities are similarly sized — and pointed to its particular rules, such as parking requirements. Most of National City is in high transit areas, and under new state laws, most new development doesn’t require parking provisions, which

could put a burden on neighborhoods that find themselves hosting party houses. Other rules included quiet hours and mandatory responses to phone complaints within one hour. Putting an economic hardship on bad actors would help, he said, and if problems continue, “you’ll lose the license.” The application fee for Chula Vista is around \$100, Reeder said.

A phased approach to implementing the rules would begin with getting an ordinance, then hiring vendors. The city has already gotten proposals from three different vendors to manage and enforce its program.

City staff will now gather more data on the location and number of short-term rentals in the city, bring it back to the council in February, and draft an ordinance for review in March.

SHEILA PELL

UNDER THE RADAR

Sermons subpoenaed A controversial ex-mayor of Houston, Texas looking for higher office has ponied up \$5000 for the 2026 gubernatorial campaign of termed-out state Senate Democrat **Toni Atkins**. **Annise Parker**, current President & CEO of the LGBTQ Victory Fund, made the contribution on December 6, according to a December 10 disclosure filing.

A decade ago, Parker was forced to back away from an effort to subpoena five local pastors opposed a rule prohibiting discrimination against gays and lesbians. “The subpoenas drew fire from conservative groups across the country, which called them an attack on religious liberty and freedom of speech.

The controversy emerged during a legal battle over the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance, known as HERO, which expanded the city’s ban on discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity,” reported *The Texas Tribune* in an October 29, 2014 story. “The subpoenas, sent to some outspoken pastors and religious leaders who had opposed the ordinance, had asked for ‘all speeches, presentations, or sermons related to HERO, the Petition, Mayor Annise Parker, homosexuality, or gender identity prepared by, delivered by, revised by, or approved by you or in your possession.’ Parker has said that the controversy was based on a misunderstanding. The goal of the subpoenas, she said earlier this month, was to see if there were any specific instructions given by pastors about how to fill out a petition challenging the ordinance. She suggested that the outrage over the word ‘sermon’ in the subpoenas may have been due to ‘deliberate misinterpretation.’”

The Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) was repealed a year later, on November 3, 2015, in a referendum organized by Parker’s opponents. “With 95 percent of votes counted, 61 percent of voters opposed the measure. The embattled ordinance, better known as HERO, would have made it illegal to discriminate against someone based on 15 different ‘protected characteristics,’ including sex, race, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity,” reported *The Texas Tribune*.

According to the same account, “Supporters hoped the ordinance would align Houston with other major cities with similar measures in place. But opponents successfully attacked the measure with arguments about bathrooms.

Dubbing it ‘the bathroom ordinance,’ they argued the ordinance’s gender identity protection would allow sexual predators to enter women’s bathrooms. Outside of polling places, signs read ‘NO Men in Women’s Bathrooms.’ And television ads bankrolled by opponents depicted a young girl being followed into a bathroom stall by a mysterious older man.” Parker, who became Houston’s first openly gay mayor in 2010, left office in 2016.

Now, according to published reports, she may run against incumbent Harris County Judge **Lina Hidalgo**, a fellow Democrat. “Parker is the president and CEO of the LGBTQ+ Victory Fund, which is dedicated to recruiting and supporting queer candidates for elected office nationwide. She announced in February that she is stepping down from the Victory Fund at the end of the year,” the *Houston Chronicle* reported April 30. “She looked at a run for county judge in

2018, but she did not want to run against popular Republican incumbent **Ed Emmett**, a personal friend who was not seen as politically vulnerable at the time — despite his eventual loss to Hidalgo.”

Big money avengers **Brian Maienschein**, the ex-San Diego city councilman and termed-out state Assembly Democrat, lost badly last month to **Heather Ferbert** to fill the seat of termed-out San Diego City Attorney **Mara Elliott**, 56.83 percent to 43.17, according to final results posted online by the County Registrar of Voters.

Now it appears that at least some of that lopsided margin may have come courtesy of a well-heeled group of out-of-town card room owners out for revenge. “California’s card rooms lost a costly legislative fight this year as they sought to kill a bill that would allow their competitors, tribal casinos, to sue them,” reports CalMatters in a December post. “In an extraordinary display of political retribution, California’s card room industry

spent more than \$3 million in the lead up to the November election to oppose four lawmakers who played key roles in the bill’s passage. Three of the candidates targeted by the card rooms ended up losing, including the rare defeat of an incumbent Democratic senator. The card rooms also went after termed-out Democratic Assembly member Brian Maienschein in his failed bid for San Diego

continued on page 6



Victory Fund CEO Annise Parker seeks victory for Atkins



Did Heather Ferbert win because Maienschein played his cards wrong?

Because of the upcoming holidays, our next two issues (12/26 & 1/2) won't hit the street until Thursday.

Most unpopular man in San Diego history — Bruce Henderson

Behind-the-scenes interviews now on YouTube



The only non-insider to read the Chargers contract

City Attorney John Witt admitted he did not read it.



Mayor Susan Golding: 'You are a liar.'

The Spanos family wrote a road map out of San Diego to L.A.



The infamous Chargers ticket guarantee

It cost the city more than \$100 million.



'The Chargers wanted me to shut up'

They had a big billboard with me as public enemy #1.



John Moores gets 26 blocks of downtown San Diego for free

City councilwoman, getting stock tips from Moores, feeds secrets to Padres.



Aftermath of Chargers and Padres scandals

FBI goes after Stallings, Golding career ruined, Chargers move to L.A.

Under the radar

continued from page 5

city attorney. The card rooms spent at least \$443,000 opposing Maienschein. He got on the card rooms' bad side when he cast a key vote that let the bill advance from the Assembly Judiciary Committee, which Maienschein chaired. [Keith] Sharp, the lawyer for Hawaiian Gardens, said Maienschein also refused to meet with him and other card room representatives before the vote. Maienschein didn't return messages. A TV ad from the card rooms attacked Maienschein for his voting record before he switched his party affiliation from Republican to Democrat in 2019.

The outcome of the big money clash with the card rooms turned out better for Oceanside Republican **Lauree Davies**, who "won her race for reelection despite the card room's cash onslaught. And just barely. Only 3870 out of 230,546 total votes separated her from her Democratic challenger, Chris Duncan. The card rooms spent at least \$1.3 million on outreach boosting Duncan and slamming Davies, according to state campaign finance reports.

One mailer said she was aligned with 'anti-choice radicals,' 'MAGA extremists' and 'Big Oil.' Davies infuriated card rooms when she cast a vote that let the gambling bill advance out of a committee this summer, despite having a cardroom

in her district." Offered **Sharp**: "We really don't want to be the sort of, you know, the Rodney Dangerfield of industries. We want to be respected, We (will) work hard to continue to gain respect and protect our employees, protect our cities, protect our businesses."

Adds the *CalMatters* account: "To the card rooms, the three defeats were a sign their money was well spent, even if the cash went to purely punitive purposes. Case in point: Two of the lawmakers who lost their races were vacating their Assembly seats and were running in non-legislative races. Had they won, it's unlikely they'd deal very often with card room related issues. Tribes have long outspent card rooms in state politics. Tribes have given candidates for state office more than \$23.5 million since 2014.

"That's more than double what oil companies have given the state's politicians during the same years. Card rooms have spent only a fraction as much. More recently, tribes have contributed \$6.3 million to candidates since January 2023 while card rooms have donated at least \$1.3 million. Those funds don't include the \$3 million the card rooms spent targeting the four candidates this fall."

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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LETTERS

continued from page 3

Could Supplemental Security Income house the homeless?

Close to Home, Nov. 22, 2024

Something has to be done to help the homeless. Most have no desire to help themselves and they need to get off the streets.

—Help the hopeless

Unintended results of five roundabouts in Oceanside

Neighborhood News, Feb. 26, 2024

As a resident of O'side for almost 3 decades, IMHO, that strip of road is an

absolute unregulated mess of speeders and reckless driving.

You need only drive south down coast highway to see how much better each other area handles things than O'side does.

I for one look forward to the changes.

—Optimistic in O'side

What does the #4011 stand for on banana stickers?

Straight From the Hip, September 21, 2000

I only eat Chiquita and ONE bananas

—Plantain and simple

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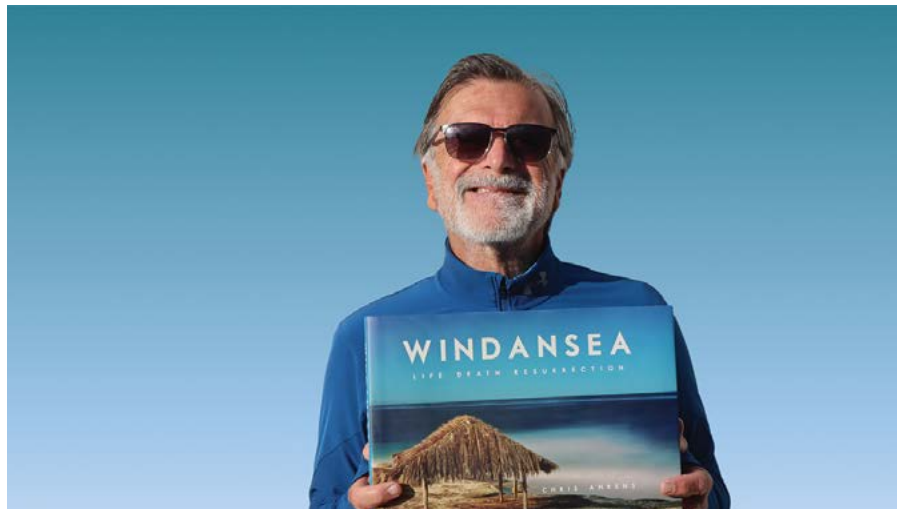
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The author and his illustrated history of La Jolla's historic surf break.

Windansea: Life. Death. Resurrection

When Woodbridge “Woody” Parker Brown first beheld La Jolla in 1937, he wasn’t looking to surf. A glider pilot, he preferred air currents to wave breaks. His wife would tow his motorless airplane to the top of a cliff behind the couple’s old car, then gather speed as she raced toward the edge.. Once there, she slammed on the brakes, skidded in the dirt, and launched Woody into the wild blue yonder. He once soared for 23 hours (a world-record at the time) above a primitive beach called Black’s, named after the Black family, who operated a horse ranch overlooking the ocean. At the time, there were fewer than 5000 residents scattered along La Jolla’s seven miles of coast, and only one surfboard builder in San Diego: Emil Sigler. And yet, while no one really knows which 20th century surfer first rode Windansea’s glorious two-way peak, most credit the brilliant Brown with the maiden voyage.

Windansea is an oddly prosaic, descriptive name, and there are others like it for nearby surf spots: Middles, Big Rock, Little Point. The bluntness belies the creativity of those who rode (and ride) the waves there. Some argue that these spots, along with Simmons, Dunemere, and the Womp, are all part of Windansea. Maybe, but the main break at the foot of Nautilus Street — where a palm frond shack indicates your arrival — is central on “surf’s up” days. The shack is a landmark, declaring, “the best break in the area is out there.” That break consists of four quarters: the outside rights, the inside rights known as Right Hooker, the outside lefts, and the inside lefts.

You start at the parking lot, though it’s unlikely you’ll find a place to actually park there. Some people have more affection for The Lot than they do for their families. Estranged from their wealthy parents, many Lot locals find cohesion with other lost souls who have gravitated to the ocean. The Lot is where you check the surf and tell the stories. It also serves as bleachers from which

to observe the action. A well-worn dirt path winds down a short bluff to a rocky beach. Clean, large-grained sand squeaks beneath your feet. The water can change from grey to emerald green to gold to turquoise to electric blue depending on the conditions. When the surf is flat and the water clear, you can see the series of submerged reefs that give the waves their shape. Moss-covered sandstone coves provide refuge for teenage potheads and young lovers. Thick kelp forests provide a home to varieties of fish while keeping ocean chop in check. The beach gently jogs for three-tenths of a mile to the south before abruptly ending at Big Rock.

At first glance, Windansea waves appear as mushy peaks breaking near shore. Your first paddle out proves this is not the case. The peak rises far from the sand and is quick and thick, unloading more water than nearly any other SoCal surf spot. And while Windansea mimics a smaller version of one of the North Shore’s premier spots, Sunset Beach, the nearby Big Rock serves up a quarter-scale model of the Pipeline in the shape of a punchy locals-only razor reef. (This helps to explain why La Jolla surfers do so well in Hawaii.)

Beyond the shack, the next prominent inorganic structure on the beach is a storm drain that once doubled as a bobsled course for the Mac Meda Destruction Company. Mac Meda was a the fictitious business founded by Jack “Mac” Macpherson and Bob “Meda” Rakestraw, ostensibly to keep Windansea sacred while at

the same time having more fun than the law allowed. Finally, there is the most famous sewage pumping station in the world, the cement monolith that is La Jolla pump house # 21, immortalized for better and for worse in Tom Wolfe’s *The Pump House Gang*.

Wolfe helped make Windansea famous, and like everything wonderful that attracts too much attention, the place would eventually be tamed. Today, you can find it on tourist maps and airport walls. Quaint bungalows have been replaced by enormous stucco boxes. Nobody drives their car into the shorebreak or rides

early ‘60s, but never surfed there regularly until the late ‘70s when I started spending weekends with surfer Chris O’Rourke after his terminal cancer diagnosis. I was interested in writing a book about O’Rourke’s amazing life, and we often talked long into the night about his adventures with other legendary Windansea figures. By Chris’s time, Butch Van Artsdalen had moved to Hawaii, become the first Mr. Pipeline, and passed away at age 38. *Endless Summer* star Mike Hynson was still in the lineup, but his image was fading. This left Tom Ortner, David Rullo and Jon Close in

Windansea sometimes generates the melancholy felt when the house is full, but the party is dying.

Flexi-Flyers out of sewer pipes anymore. The shack, once considered an eyesore reserved for surf bums, is now a historical landmark visited by tourists. The break still retains enough badness and localism to loosen a tooth for being on the right wave at the wrong time, but even so, modern-day Windansea sometimes generates the melancholy felt when the house is full, but the party is dying. While real fun still happens, the outlaw past has been relegated to recollections during dimly lit luaus and surf reunions. It’s impossible now to imagine surfers, some in Nazi uniforms, invading the shore to the thrill and horror of spectators. While this was certainly insensitive, there was nothing anti-semitic in it. It was simply another way to give the world the finger while keeping boredom at bay.

I became fascinated with Windansea in the

charge. When O’Rourke died in 1981 at just 22 years old, I put the project aside. Then in 2000, *Surfer’s Journal* publisher Steve Pezman asked me to write a feature on Windansea for his newly launched publication. Woody Brown and other pioneers of the surf break were still alive and anxious to tell their stories. Local legend Carl Ekstrom opened the vault wide with tales of surfers like Pat Curren, Al Nelson, and Tiny Brain Thomas, who rolled his friend Billy Graham’s car into the shorebreak in order to make a surfing reef.

It was all more than I could tell in a magazine piece. Now, nearly a quarter century later, my labors have borne fruit: the full-color coffee table book *Windansea: Life. Death. Resurrection*. Just in time for Christmas.

To order, email the author at perelandrapub@gmail.com. ■



Wolfe is gone, but the waves remain.

Party at The Pits

Precious memories of toxic to-dos

It was always the 92154. Not IB, not San Ysidro, and not Chula Vista, but the 92154. Well, not *always*: sometimes, it was referred to as Otay Mesa or South San Diego. It was a region situated between Chula Vista, sometimes referred to as “Chula Juana,” and San Ysidro, which was just “on the border.” Easy reference points. Palm Avenue stretched from Imperial Beach at 9th Street all the way west to 805 South. The on-ramp to the 805 North was the end of the road. Well, except for the stretch of concrete center median that went about 60 more feet before coming to a dead end. Then the asphalt ended, left there in case of future development, and multiple dirt paths led out into the rough terrain beyond. It was desolate, but so many memories begin at that eastern endpoint.

Everyone who shares those memories called the place The Pits. Why did they call it The Pits? Probably because, as the *LA Times* put it in 1986, it was “the site of the only two toxic-waste landfills ever licensed in San Diego County.” Plus, “a county garbage dump, and...an illegal toxic dump that is on the federal Superfund cleanup list. One of the toxic landfills was operated by the county between 1960 and 1980, and officials estimate that 20 million gallons of waste went into its open pits. The wastes included everything from spent sulfuric acid and brake fluid to sewage and asbestos scrap.” The piece cites rumors that the remains of the original Shamu are nearby in another dump site. “Now the site of the original pits, which have been filled in, can be used for development under Chula Vista’s plan.” But before that happened, it was our place to party.

The year was 1989. The place was Montgomery High School. The time was sixth period. The talk was, “Are you going to the party tonight?” The answer was yes. But first, you had to load up on supplies. There was a great pizza joint right off the 805 at Palm: Pizza



From the Montgomery High School Class of 1989 Reunion Facebook page.

Stop. Delicious. And I loved the logo: just a picture of a traffic light and a pizza. (There’s a KFC on the spot now.) There was a liquor store next to the pizza joint; a guy named Frank ran it with his brother and sister. I miss them sometimes. The place got demolished, and they moved the liquor store to the back of the strip mall, where it still stands today.

I have vivid dreams of that strip mall: the Palm Ridge Shopping Center. The Mickey D’s is still there, and there’s still a gas station where I would go to buy sodas, snacks, and candy. And then there was the matter of beer. I wasn’t into the beer runs; we had fake IDs we had bought in downtown San Diego, but we used those only when we went into Tijuana or to clubs in San Diego. Me and my friends would just ask an adult if they would buy us a couple of 12-packs of Natural Ice. We did get

burned a couple of times — asking the wrong person, or even an undercover cop — but it was worth the risk. (Nights in Tijuana in the late ‘80s were a story in themselves. Going down there was still the norm: Cinco de Mayo or Club A or Margaritas Village or Las Pulgas Disco Club. What a time.)

As you headed east on Palm Avenue and crossed the Beyer Avenue/Picador intersection, you would start to see them: flickering orange spots, spread unevenly across the landscape. Bonfires — every Friday night. Conversing with buddies. Music on full blast from the “pull out” car stereo hooked into the MTX wooden speaker box in the backseat. Empty beer cans tossed into the back of a friend’s dropped Nissan truck. As I drive up Palm now past Denner Road, it curves to the right, and as I scan the patches of brush, I realize I might

be looking at the exact spot where I was raving. It’s like a dream of another world.

We weren’t the only ones enjoying the freedom of the wilderness. During the day on the weekends, you had off-roaders doing their thing: dirt bikes, quads, three-wheelers, all riding right past the signs that prohibited off-road activity. Once in a while, the cops would show up to rain on their parade and cite them. What did they expect? Many of those signs just got knocked over, or even shot to pieces by guys in 4x4 trucks. Some areas were fenced off, but the fences got cut — probably on a Friday night.

Now, the whole area is another world: the Ocean View Hills community. The streets have names like Regatta Lane, Island Breeze Lane, Sea Lavender Way, and Daysailor Court. Tract homes and big box stores. The rest is history; the history of the Jogger! The Palm Avenue Jogger; what happened to him? These new residents may not remember him. He jogged the whole stretch in his famous running boots. Really cool to talk to.

I still pass Montgomery High School on a daily basis, and it still sends my mind back to those days. Cheers now to Gen Z. Long live South San Diego.



Prohibited pastimes, from the YouTube video “When Walkmans Ruled the Earth,” taken at The Pits, 1989.



Intersection of Firethorn and Palm, with Mount Pits in the distance, from the YouTube video “McDonald’s on Palm Ave. and Surrounding Area - 1984.”

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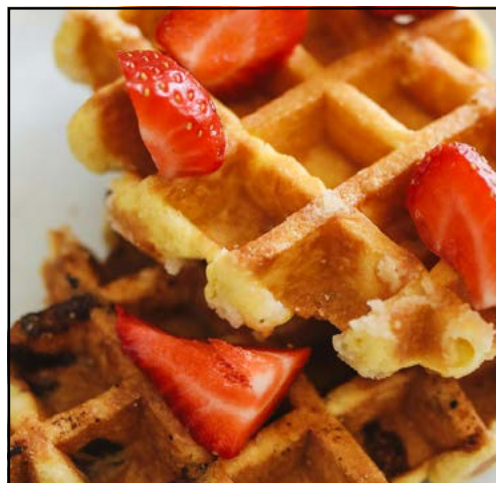
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8th grade Standley Middle School students, from left to right: Madison Galeana, Sebastian Nunez, and Logan Preston, with teacher Nikki Botts in the back center.

AVID Learners

The hard charity of high expectations

In 1980, Cameron Crowe was an undercover student at Clairemont High School, situated in one of San Diego's original planned communities, or suburbs. Five years after the end of the Vietnam war, Crowe was there principally to observe his research subjects, suburban adolescents, for his upcoming novel and movie, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*.

But that wasn't the only story percolating on the Clairemont High campus in 1980. The school also gave rise to an education program that would go on

to make college accessible to millions of students who'd become the first in their families to graduate from college.

It started with San Diego Unified receiving a federal court order to integrate its schools, which were segregated because of housing patterns — the result of historical redlining to keep out “undesirable elements” from neighborhoods north of Interstate 8. In 1980, Clairemont

High School had 2000 students — and just eight were Black or Hispanic, says Mary Catherine Swanson, an English teacher at the school and protagonist of this story. (She quickly disabuses me of the myth that Crowe was undercover. “Everyone knew who he was.”) The district introduced voluntary busing, which essentially meant busing kids from south of the 8 to north of the 8, and spe-

cifically, from southeast San Diego to Clairemont High School.

Many teachers had concerns: how would they educate their students without lowering their standards and holding other students back? Swanson saw it as an opportunity. She was no fan of remedial education, which she dismissed as rudimentary worksheets and other items designed to keep students busy — and in many cases, bored. If she could challenge this new cohort of students by raising expectations while providing a ton of academic and personal support (via an elective class), they would rise to the challenge. Philosophically, she believed in untracking the students, or moving them from the slow track to the fast track. Her classroom became a laboratory for testing her theory. Her measurement stick? Getting her students accepted to four-year colleges and universities. She called the elective AVID, for Advancement via Individual Determination.

When Swanson, now 80, was designing the AVID elective, “UCSD had the lowest minority enrollment rate and the highest concomitant attrition rate among minority kids,” she says, meaning there weren’t a lot of minority kids at UCSD, and that due to financial burden, they often had to drop out or discontinue their education. “I figured, we’re going to have these kids for four years. If we put them in the right academic classes and we give them tutoring and we work on their life skills, I think we can get them off to UCSD. And I went to the principal and he said to me, ‘I’m



English teacher Mary Catherine Swanson designed the AVID program at Clairemont High School in the early 1980s.

retiring at the end of this year. Go ahead and do anything you want to do.’ And that’s what I did.”

Initially, she had to navigate other teachers’ skepticism — getting them to agree to untracking the students would be an obstacle. In retrospect, she’s understanding: “I was now putting kids into advanced classes who were not ready for advanced classes.” Fortunately, there were “a few really good teachers” who agreed and accepted the students into their class. The first year of the AVID elective, Swanson started with 32 students, two of whom dropped out, leaving her a core group of 30 students. Swanson told me that “28 went to a four-year college and two went to community college.” After eight years had passed, they’d all graduated from four-year colleges and universities, every last one of them.

In 1986, Swanson left Clairemont High to create the AVID Center and focus on growing the program. Today, AVID is a mainstay in K-12 education and is offered in most schools throughout San Diego County and in over 8000 schools across 47 states, according to the AVID Center.

I decide I need to see

AVID in action, so I go back to my own stomping grounds, Standley Middle School in University City, where I was an average student who could have been helped by a program like AVID. Standley looks pretty much the same as I remember it: windowless buildings that make it look more like a sprawling prison more than an educational institution. But inside the period-one AVID classroom of about 20 students, there is life brimming. The seventh and eighth graders have transformed the classroom wall into a collage of colorful student artwork and college pennants, with the AVID logo across the center. I’m greeted by Nikki Asaro Botts, a cheerful, high-energy teacher who’s been with the program since 2010.

She points out that being smart and curious isn’t enough to guarantee success in school. Knowing how to “do” school and master the unwritten curriculum is a big focus of AVID at the elementary school and middle school level. In middle school, AVID teaches students how to organize their notes and assignments, plan their days and weeks, manage their time, and communicate with teachers. When I visit, the students are working on a time management exercise that they will turn into a podcast. Botts’ other goal is to help students “build a college-going mindset, so they’re familiar with what college is looking for.” For many middle school students, going to college isn’t on their radar. That’s what the college pennants and the field trips to San Diego State University are for.

When Swanson creat-

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ed the program 45 years ago, she realized that its success would depend on her ability to foster a community of students. She explains, “We are a family that sets goals and supports each other. The students form community within the school. They feel they belong.”

In their other classes, students may never see the teacher again after the semester ends. Ideally, the AVID teacher stays with the same groups of kids for three or four years. At Standley, Botts tells me, the AVID students form a community, just like AVID founder Swanson envisioned. “It’s all about creating that family of students who motivate and teach each other and build relationships.” They grow together like a family and are surrounded by people — AVID teachers, tutors, counselors, and their fellow students — who have a stake in their success. And when they tran-

sition to high school, they can enroll in AVID to maintain the support and continuity. University City High School, which is less than a mile from Standley, sends AVID students to talk to the middle school AVID students about what to expect from high school and what classes to take.

Not long ago, Botts and her family had a couple of her former students over for spaghetti and meatballs. “A lot of these kids, they just need love and someone who’s got their back and who’s going to push them to be successful, tell them they can do it. I think that’s me.” She notes with a smile that she also “gets frustrated with them when they mess around, or they don’t turn their stuff in like they’re supposed to.” She can be soft but she’s no softie.

Central to the students’ success is the AVID binder. “In sixth grade AVID, I teach the students how to organize



UCHS/University City High School seniors and AVID students:
Caio Rocha, Xionna McCusker, David Berezchnyi

their binders,” says Botts. “They have a daily planner, a monthly planner and calendars with all of their assignments and due dates mapped out, when their tests are going to be, when they have meetings.” The binders help keep the students on track, but they’re also for the teachers, who need to know what and how their AVID students are

doing in their academic courses. “Before I taught AVID, I was responsible for how a student did in English for one year,” said Botts. “As an AVID teacher, I’m responsible for how they do in every single class they have for four years. And how am I going to have access to all of that? Well, I’ve got to have the notes. I’ve got to know what’s going on

in class.”

Botts says one of the byproducts of the AVID binder is increased confidence. “When they’re organized, students’ behavior changes and they feel more confident and can function better. They can listen more effectively,” she said.

AVID is an elective course; the students who take the class “choose to be here,” she emphasizes. She introduces me to a few of them. Logan Preston is in 8th grade and has been in AVID since 6th grade. “I just really liked the energy that Ms. Botts had,” he says. “After I took AVID in sixth grade, I wanted to come back, because her strategies helped me come through sixth grade. She has really good motivation and a really good attitude.” Sebastian Nunez had difficulty in sixth grade “because I wasn’t doing so good in my academics.” So, he enrolled in AVID. Sebastian credits Botts with helping him learn how to manage his time, take notes and learn “multiple strategies throughout the years of being in AVID.” He says now he has “the passion to go to college.”

Botts describes herself as a school mom “who always wants to see kids succeed. It’s just an awesome feeling. Some of these kids I’ve had since sixth grade, and I’ve seen them increase their academics and their social behavior.” Curriculum and teaching strategies are important but are not enough — you need a great AVID teacher. That’s why it’s important for schools to select the right person for the job.

AVID student Madison Galeana describes Botts as being an “immediately welcoming teacher” who helped her “look forward into the future and to not give up.” All three students said they’ll continue to take the AVID elective when they graduate to University City High School. Logan wants to go to Penn State or Ohio State, somewhere where there’s a prestigious football program, while Sebastian wants to attend Louisiana State University, at least partly because the Tigers have a good baseball program. For her part, Madison wants to go to UC Davis, which she researched as a younger girl and has always wanted to attend. She tells me that researching colleges is “really fun.”

Providing access to college tutors, ideally former AVID students themselves, is a key feature of the program. Sometimes it can be difficult for schools to find or afford tutors. But that’s not a problem for Botts, who says she is grateful for “the whole slew of tutors” that the school has access to during the week. That’s largely because of a partnership that San Diego Unified School District has with UCSD College Corps, which supplies the tu-

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tors. In addition to running tutorials and helping the middle school students academically, the college students serve as role models. AVID students can see themselves in their AVID tutors and make the mental connection that they can also succeed if they challenge themselves and work hard.

AVID tutor and UCSD undergrad Leia Ninete is a second-year biology student who grew up in Riverside, where throughout high school she was an AVID student. “AVID helped me a lot with getting ready for college and learning about resources that I didn’t know about, helping me with my classes, like applying to college and financial aid, and becoming organized.” Leia says she is “Pre-PA” right now and wants to go to graduate school to become a physician’s assistant.

From Los Angeles, Peter Leonido is, like Leia, a UCSD student and AVID tutor who was himself an AVID student in all four years of high school. He said he’s grateful for the level of support that the AVID program gets at Standley, but that he wishes it were spread more equally to other high schools in San Diego. He’s also a tutor at Crawford High School and notices a difference. “We don’t have teachers that are experienced as Ms. Botts who are teaching the curriculum, and we definitely need that support.”

After college, Peter wants to give back and plans to work in K-12 or in higher education. “Coming from a low-income background, being the first in my family to go to college, I definitely want to help students in-



Jennifer Roberts Huszar, UCHS/University City High School AVID teacher.

crease their access to college and chances of being more than what they see for themselves.”

UCHS is my next stop. It’s been 40 years since I graduated from University City High, and the school looks remarkably the same, except the outside perimeter is gated with imposing ten-foot fences and a surrounding wall. I find Jennifer Roberts Huszar’s AVID classroom, where the students are organized into small groups.

If AVID middle school is all about exposing kids to college and getting them motivated and organized, AVID at the high school level is about ensuring students are qualified and prepared for college — what Huszar calls college readiness.

AVID was conceived for kids in the academic middle who would be the first in their family to go to college. However, “that shows up a little differently depending where you are in the country,” says AVID Center CEO Thuan Nguyen. “We’re in some of the lowest income schools in the country, and we’re also in some of the most affluent schools in the country,

too.” (Nguyen immigrated to the U.S. as a child refugee from Vietnam.)

“Here at UC High School,” Huszar concedes, “our student population doesn’t include a ton of students whose parents didn’t go to college. We are fairly affluent here, upper middle class.” AVID at UCHS is focused on supporting students who are taking their first AP class, she

said, adding that “we’re trying hard to get students to take more AP courses, but it’s hard.” She tries to enroll students who are “moving into advanced studies from sort of the standard track to the more advanced track, and they need that extra support.”

UCHS also has a number of immigrant students who take AVID. David Bereznyi’s fam-

ily immigrated from the Ukraine in 2016. He took AVID in middle school and has continued to take AVID in high school. “As a first-generation college-going student, it helps you a lot, he said. “It guides you towards the right direction so you know the steps to take to get into college.” David especially found helpful the group discussions, note-taking, and tutorials where they’d work together as a group. He’s currently taking AP Literature and AP Government. As an immigrant, he knew taking AP government would be challenging but he’s “adjusted to it.” He’s applied to colleges and would like to stay in California, hopefully at SDSU.

Caio Rocha’s family moved here from Brazil in 2017. The UC High senior speaks Portuguese and English as a second language; still, he’s challenging himself with AP Literature.

“AVID is helping a lot. I can see that my grades have improved,” he said. “Last year I was struggling. I was basically a C student. Now I have mostly As.” He plans to attend Miramar College and study aviation — he comes from a family of pilots — and then transfer to a four-year college.

Huszar notes that the AVID Center had always put an emphasis on students attending four-year colleges and universities. But now, more kids are using the free community college that’s available through the San Diego Community College District; after two years, many will transfer to a four-year college.

Senior Xionna McCusker has been in AVID for four years, since she was a freshman at UC High. “I feel like having regular classes isn’t challenging enough. I feel I would procrastinate more in those classes.” In 2023, she took AP Language and honors



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history, and this year, AP Government. “My family is all from Mexico, so I know more about the Mexican government than the U.S. government. I went in blindly, not knowing anything, and now, as the first semester comes to an end, I’ve learned a lot about U.S. politics.”

Before AVID, Xionna didn’t see herself going to college. “After high school, I assumed I’d just get a job without even going to college. But AVID widened my options. Being in AVID motivated me and changed how I saw things. I’m a first-generation college student and I really like the idea of being the first in my family to go to college.” Huszar remarks, “I can give them the taste of going to college so they know it’s in their future and that they can do it if they want to do it.”

Sometimes parents of AVID students have mixed feelings about their child’s success.



Standley Middle School AVID tutors Lea Ninete and Peter Leonido, both UCSD undergrad students.

Swanson shared an anecdote from when she was an AVID teacher that illustrates this point. “When the kids got their college acceptance letters, we celebrated and I made pennants and hung them from the ceiling of the classroom,” she said. But then she noticed that she was more excited than some of the

students, and she asked for an explanation. “And they said, ‘Well, my parents aren’t really sure they want me to go.’” The parents were concerned not only about the cost of college but also about losing their child’s economic contribution, on which the family depended. “How do I say to a family that’s strug-

gling economically, ‘Your child is not going to be a wage earner for four years, but trust me, at the end of four years, they will make really good money and help you out of the economic situation you’re in now.’” (AVID students typically apply for financial aid through FAFSA, Free Application for Federal Student Aid.)

PHOTOGRAPH BY ADAM BEHAR

It’s common these days for educational leaders to espouse a belief in “college for all.” Their point isn’t that all kids must go to college, but that they must have the opportunity, which means taking the right classes to ensure they’re qualified. And yet there’s a counter-narrative that’s being advanced by the likes of Peter Thiel and Elon Musk, that kids don’t need to go to college in order to be successful. So, I put the question to AVID founder Mary Catherine Swanson: maybe college isn’t the end all and be all? “I couldn’t disagree more,” she responds. She sees it as an issue of economic competitiveness. “Since the end of World War 2, America has been the leader among nations. The advances we’ve made are the result of being an educated people. Look at India, which has some great universities and is making big advancements. The same thing is true in China. Everybody’s not going to go to college, I recognize that, but we need to push college, because we need to stay competitive worldwide, and without college, we won’t.”

Although AVID’s mission is to get more students into college, increasingly AVID is focused on what happens to their students *after* college. AVID founder Swanson cites the case of Jesus Medrano, an AVID student (and now a board member of AVID Center) who achieved his academic dream of attending MIT. But after graduating, he felt lost. The way Swanson tells it, the university didn’t help Medrano with “any kind of connections or framework for getting a job,” for transitioning to the next chapter. AVID Cen-

ter is trying to help close that gap by connecting newly minted college grads, who went through AVID K-12, with successful AVID alumni to help them navigate their post-university lives.

Swanson says, “AVID is so much bigger and offers so much more today” than when she created the first AVID elective at Clairemont High School in 1980. AVID Center has almost 300 full-time employees and trains almost 80,000 teachers a year, including hosting the Summer Institute, which teachers I spoke with regard as the gold standard for teacher training.

Swanson, who was named CNN and *Time* magazine’s “America’s Best Teacher” in addition to numerous other accolades, says it was never about her. “The credit goes to the students. I was just the right person in the right place at the right time.” Swanson retired from AVID Center in 2006 and remains on the board of directors.

AVID has a motto: “Connections + Organization + Tutorials/Study Groups = Student Success.” At the end of the day, AVID students succeed because they have a common goal they’re working towards, a college-oriented culture into which they’re immersed, a community of AVID teachers, tutors and fellow students to keep them motivated and on schedule, and the individual determination to achieve it all. AVID is, after all, Advancement via *Individual* Determination. “That means taking personal responsibility and not playing the victim,” Swanson emphasizes. “If we can get that in society at large, can you imagine?”

— Adam Behar

Vaccine Trials for All Ages



We have vaccine research studies for volunteers of all ages, including Flu, RSV, Pneumonia, Covid-19, Monkey Pox & more. Call for information & priority status. Participants can receive up to \$2,800 in compensation.

Call (619) 658-5418

California Research Foundation

Calendar

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 19

TOO \$HORT & DJ SYMPHONY

Todd Anthony Shaw, better known by his stage name Too \$hort, is a pioneer of West Coast hip-hop; he earned some



TOO \$HORT

of the first hit records in that genre. His best-known track, "The Ghetto," reached number 12 on the *Billboard* R&B/hip-hop chart. DJ Symphony is known as the official DJ for GZA of the Wu-Tang Clan and has worked with Snoop Dogg, Rick Ross, 2 Chainz, and KRS-One.

WHEN: Thursday, December 19, 8 pm

WHERE: Music Box, 1337 India Street, Little Italy. musicboxsd.com

Friday | 20

PEPPERMINT BEACH CLUB

Stop by a pop-up that brings the North



Pole to San Diego with snowfall, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and entertainment. Shoppers can enjoy holiday cocktails, ice skating, and deals. Plus: have your gifts professionally wrapped from now until December 24th.

WHEN: 10 am to 9 pm, through Tuesday, December 24

WHERE: Westfield University Towne Centre, 4425 La Jolla Village Drive, Mission Valley. westfield.com

Saturday | 21

HOLIDAYS AT THE ZOO

Join the Zoo for Jungle Bells, an after-dark event with live entertainment and amazing light displays. Enjoy a brass band, reindeer games, jugglers, snowfalls, Santa, story time, and acrobatic elves. New this year: holiday light treks.

WHEN: Sunday, December 15 to Sunday, January 5, 5 pm to 8 pm
WHERE: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park. sandiegozoo.org/jungle-bells



WHEN: Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 am to 4 pm, through January 5

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

Sunday | 22

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TOURS

Learn about Victorian Christmas traditions as you take a self-guided tour through the decked halls of the Davis-Horton House. Keep an eye out for hidden nutcrackers along the way — find them all, and win a prize.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21: JUNGLE BELLS

Tuesday | 24

JINGLE BELLE CRUISES

Take a festive sightseeing cruise on Mission Bay departing from the Bahia Resort Hotel and the Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa. Adults can warm up with a welcome hot cider while children receive a complimentary candy bag, face painting, balloons, and festive crafts. Guests can take a photo with Santa and get a printed copy to take home. A cash bar offers seasonal treats and beverages, and carolers sing holiday tunes.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 24, 2 pm and 4 pm
WHERE: Bahia Resort Hotel. 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. bahiahotel.com/jingle-belle-cruise

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

ART

Art Day Camp Grades K-5

Experience the world of using art to spread joy, belonging, and generosity to our community. Students will be inspired to create like famous artists such as Kieth Haring and Jean Michel Basquiat, and Faith Ringgold, whose legacy of art brought people and communities together through Social and Environmental Justice. Monday, December 23, 8:30am; \$100-\$170. ArtReach, 1065 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

City Lights: An Immersive Journey Through Light & Sound

Embark on a 50-minute journey through six unique zones – featuring lasers, reactive video, LED sculptures, projection mapping, and more – each inspired by a different aspect of city life. End the experience by indulging in an elevated cocktail lounge featuring a seasonal El Comal tapas-style menu. Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, 5:30pm; through Sunday, January 19, **free**-\$22. Quartyard, 1301 Market Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Meet the Makers USA

Discover unique, practical, made-in-the-USA products like resin art, candles, wood-fired household items, greeting cards, jewelry, crocheted items, organic cotton Children's clothing, pet products, health and beauty and more. Raffles. Giveaways. Saturdays, 10am; through Monday, December 30, **free**. Flower Pot Cafe & Bakery, 7530 Fay Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

The Art Of Dr. Seuss

The Art Of Dr. Seuss - 25 Years Through The Wrong End of The Telescope allows the world its first chance to see images Ted had made privately yet never shared with the general public. Thursdays, December 19, 10am; Friday, December 20, 10am; Saturday, December 21, 10am; Sunday, December 22, 10am; Monday, December 23, 10am; Tuesday, December 24, 10am; **free**. Exclusive Collections Gallery Gaslamp, 621 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Transformative Currents: Art and Action in the Pacific Ocean

Works in diverse media by 21 contemporary artists and collaborative teams are organized around the theme of ocean currents, which traverse the Pacific and suggest fluidity, interconnectivity, and collective responsibility. Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am; Wednesdays, 11am; through Sunday, January 19, Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

BOOZE NEWS

BY MATTHEW FLYNN

Restoration and refreshment

“Northern Pine Brewing Co. started distributing our beer to American Legion Post 416 in Encinitas at the beginning of 2024, and they became quick fans and supporters of ours,” explains Anne Ortega, who co-founded Northern Pine along with her husband Aaron and their friend Robert Parsons. “Post 416 is the first Post that Operation Restorations will be revitalizing, and we met the founders of the project through them. We loved the idea of the project and wanted to support any way we could. The project's founders asked if we could brew a beer in honor of the American Legion and to help spread the word about Operation Restorations and what American Legions do for their communi-

ties, and Legiontown Hoppy Lager was born.”

Legiontown is a 5.5% ABV lager brewed with Liberty, Citra, and Vista hops and a base of North American two-row malts. The result is a light but hoppy beer with citrus and stone fruit notes and a nice floral aroma. It has some of the flavor of the hop-heavy IPAs that helped make San Diego beers famous, but without excess bitterness. The beer is being canned later this month and is available on tap at the Encinitas Legion as well as the Northern Pine tasting rooms in Oceanside and Del Mar.

As a brewery owned and operated by Marine vets, Northern Pine's decision to join forces with both Post 416 and Operation Restorations makes sense. The American Legion was founded in 1919 and is one of the largest veteran service organizations in the country. The Legion serves as a place for veterans to gather and socialize while advocating for veterans' rights, supporting community service projects, promoting mentorship and education, and fostering a sense of camaraderie among its members.

Operation Restoration, which was started by Valerie Griggs and Kathleen Bade, is a project dedicated to revitalizing American Legions across the country while preserving the history of the buildings. Ortega explains Operation Restorations plans in Encinitas: “They will be remodeling and restoring multiple rooms and the patio at American Legion Post 416. Two rooms in the



Northern Pine is making a lager for the Legion; the Legion is making a place for veterans.

back that were used as storage in the past will be turned into a conference room for Commanders and meetings, and the second into a game room.

The kitchen will be upgraded, as will the bar, stage, patio, and seating areas. The goal is to keep the bones and the history of the building intact while making necessary updates that will allow the Legion to successfully run for years to come.”

Film crews have been on hand to document the restoration taking place at Post 416, as they will be for every American Legion across the country that Operation Restorations helps. Full episodes of the restoration projects will be available on Operation Restorations' YouTube channel in 2025.

Although it's just the beginning, Ortega envisions big things for both the beer and the project, “Operation Restorations and Legiontown are just getting on their feet. While a lot of progress has been made on this first remodel and with the beer, there is still so much to come.”

For more craft booze news, see [sdreader.com/booze/](https://www.san-diego-reader.com/booze/)

AUTOMOTIVE

Bonita Cars & Coffee The BCC is a gathering of classic cars, hot rods, custom rides, and just about anything that rolls on the streets. Saturdays, 7am; through Saturday, December 28, Bonita Donuts, 4414 Bonita Road. (BONITA)

Carlsbad Cars & Coffee - Saturdays, 7am; through Saturday, December 28, Behind Pelly's Fish Market in the Ralph's parking lot (CARLSBAD)

Corvettes & Coffee Toy Drive Toy Drive for Encanto Elementary School to provide all 390 students a toy. Please bring an unwrapped toy to help the kiddos (K1 - 5th grade). Saturday, December 21, 9:30am; Dave & Buster's, 2931 Camino del Rio North. (MISSION VALLEY)

Escondido Cars & Coffee All cars welcome Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, August 24, **free**. Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Point Loma Cars & Coffee Where enthusiasts of vehicles of all makes and models gather and share our passion of cars on beautiful Shelter Island, next to the Bali Hai restaurant. Trucks and motorcycles included! Saturdays, 7:30am; through Saturday, December 28, Shelter Island paring lot, right next to the Bali Hai (POINT LOMA)

Rancho Santa Fe Cars & Coffee The Rancho Santa Fe Cars and Coffee automobile enthusiast event celebrates automotive excellence each Saturday morning in beautiful Rancho Santa Fe. We welcome the finest sports and luxury cars – hypercars, supercars, exotic cars, rare vintage cars, and other extraordinary cars. Saturdays, 8am; through Saturday, December 28, 6009 Paseo Delicias (RANCHO SANTA FE)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Early Bird Shopping, Hot Cocoa & Storytime Icelanders have a beautiful tradition of giving books to each other on Christmas Eve and then spending the night reading. This custom is so deeply ingrained in the culture that it is the reason for the Jólábókaflód, or the “Christmas Book Flood,” when the majority of books in Iceland are sold between September and December in preparation for Christmas giving. Enjoy traditional hot chocolate and book shopping for everyone on your list. Sunday, December 22, 9pm; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Corvette Community 4th Annual Toy Drive Fourth toy drive to ensure unhoused children at Father Joe's Villages experience the joy of Christmas with gifts. Saturday, December 21, 9:30am; **free**. Big Five Sporting Goods, 364 East H Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Dreidel Day Celebrate Hanukkah at the library with fun dreidel games and crafts. Sunday, December 22, 2pm; **free**. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Festive Chocolate and Bourbon Pairing Enjoy holiday favorites paired with sipping bourbon whiskeys. Thursday, December 19, 6pm; \$75. 21 and up. Sweet Petite Confections, 3582 Mt. Acadia Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

Gingerbread House Decorating Party Decorate a gingerbread house as a family. All supplies will be provided. Event is free to attend. Saturday, December 21, 10am; **free**. South Bay Christian Alliance, 610 Paseo Del Rey. (CHULA VISTA)

Holiday Coffee Cocktail Class Enjoy an evening of cocktail crafting and gingerbread decorating. Unleash your creativity as you design and decorate your very own gingerbread house. Everything you need will be provided. Friday, December 20, 6pm; \$49. OX Coffee, 8590 Rio San Diego Dr., Suite B. (MISSION VALLEY)

Holiday Gondola Cruise Celebrate the magic of the season with a festive Holiday Gondola Cruise through the scenic canals and tranquil waterways of Coronado Cays. Enjoy an intimate, 50-minute cruise aboard a beautifully decorated gondola, complete with a holiday-themed gondolier. Great for couples or small groups. Thursdays, 3pm; Fridays, 3pm; Saturdays, 3pm; Sundays, 3pm; Mondays, 3pm; through Sunday, December 22, Gondola Company, 503 Grand Caribe Causeway. (CORONADO)

Holiday Lights Explore the museum grounds, where you'll find decorated exhibits and vintage displays. Stroll through the enchanting pathways. Enjoy things Pictures with Santa, a petting zoo, s'mores & Christmas movies, train rides, and step back in times with museum houses like the blacksmiths and the weavers and spinners. Plus a special showing from a model trains club and their holiday display. Friday, December 20, 5pm; Saturday, December 21, 5pm; \$10-\$12. Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue. (VISTA)

MSC Youth Business Fair Come out and support the future genera-

tion of leaders and entrepreneurs. See young talent in action, discover unique products, and pick up some special gifts for the holiday season. Sunday, December 22, 2pm; **free**. Encore Event Center, 8253 Ronson Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Polar Express Family Day Don your pajamas, watch the classic film *The Polar Express*, participate in crafts, and enjoy exhibits. Saturday, December 21, 10am; **free**-\$20. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Rady Children's Ice Rink It started with a vision to bring an outdoor ice rink to San Diego and raise money for kids with cancer. We had over 30,000 skaters in 2023 and have raised over 2 million dollars for the Thriving After Cancer Program at Rady Children's Hospital-SD. 7-days-a-week, 10am; through Sunday, January 5, \$15-\$20. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

San Diego Ballet: The Nutcracker - Destination Dance San Diego Ballet brings America's favorite holiday event to dazzling life. The Nutcracker features Tchaikovsky's timeless score and an international cast of more than 100 beautifully costumed dancers. Saturday, December 21, 12pm and 4pm; Magnolia Performing Arts Center, 210 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

The Festive Forest The Festive Forest is an approx. half mile Holiday Lights Walk decorated with Christmas lights, inflatables, and more. Fridays, 4:30pm; Saturdays, 4:30pm; through Sunday, January 5, \$5-\$8. Banner Ranch Julian, 36342 Highway 78. (JULIAN)

The Nutcracker Young and old alike will be captivated by Elizabeth Wistrich's choreography, costumes and sets. Friday, December 20, 2pm

and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 2pm; Monday, December 23, 2pm and 7:30pm; \$39-\$99. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Ukulele Christmas Caroling Sing-a-long with festive ukulele music. Saturday, December 21, 2pm; **free**. Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Victorian Christmas Tours of the Davis-Horton House This December, learn this history of Victorian Christmas traditions as you take a self-guided tour through the decked halls of the Davis-Horton House! Keep an eye out for hidden nutcrackers along the way—find them all, and win a prize! Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; through Wednesday, December 18, \$10. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

'Twas the Night Before Christmas Celebrate Christmas Eve with an exclusive Holiday Large Cast Iron entrée, complemented by a choice from a bevy of festive seasonal cocktails. Tuesday, December 24, 5pm; \$75. Lionfish, 435 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Alzheimer's San Diego: How to Talk About Memory Loss

Learn how to plan for successful, lower-stress family discussions about difficult topics like changes in memory, driving, and living alone. This class is presented by local nonprofit Alzheimer's San Diego. Pre-registration is recommended @ www.alzsd.org/events/. Friday, December 20, 11am; Pacific

Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street.
(PACIFIC BEACH)

Christmas Decorating Class for Kids Children ages 5+ will enjoy an engaging and festive 90-minute session, decorating their own chocolate bars and Oreos while getting in the holiday spirit. They'll learn the secrets of chocolate creation and craft their own unique Christmas-inspired confections. All materials and tools are provided, and kids get to take home their custom-designed chocolates to enjoy. Sunday, December 22, 12pm; \$35. Seabreeze Craft Chocolates, 3840 Valley Centre Dr. Suite 604. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Chunky Yarn Blankets Craft your very own cozy blanket using soft, chunky yarn. Thursday, December 19, 6pm; \$75. Novo Brazil Brewing, 1640 Camino Del Rio North Suite 341. (MISSION VALLEY)

Divine Light Healing Night: Healing Power of Love Neil and the Divine Light healers guide you through a technique to receive spiritual energy to heal and transform your life. Saturday, December 21, 6:30pm; \$20. 18 and up. Spiritual Arts Institute, 527 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

Free Improv Comedy Class Make new friends at a free improv comedy class. Friday, December 20, 6:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Meditation Class: Expanding Consciousness with Sound Hosted by Teresa Thursday, December 19, 6:45pm; **free**-\$20. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Meditation, Awareness & Awakening Hosted by Turiya Dhara Saturday, December 21, 10:45am; **free**-\$20. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Stand Up Comedy Class Join our six week stand up comedy workshop, and develop a 5 minute set that you can perform at open mics and live shows! Every week will be an interactive workshop that will cover different topics. For more details please email Jesse Egan @ jesseegancomedy@gmail.com Saturday, December 21, 12pm; Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

COMEDY

Ahmed Al-kadri Ahmed Al-kadri is a Yemeni-American comedian based in L.A. Ahmed has gained a following on Tik Tok and Instagram with several viral videos. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm and 10pm; \$31. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

All Hands On Deck Wacky improvised game show (similar to *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*) powered by audience suggestions. (Family Friendly). Saturdays, 7pm; through Saturday, December 28, \$7-\$15. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

All Hands On Deck (Uncensored) Wild improvised game show (similar to *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*) powered by audience suggestions. For Mature Audiences. Fridays, 10pm; Saturdays, 10pm; through Friday, December 27, \$7-\$15. 18 and up. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

Broadway Unscripted Improv team creates a musical that has never been performed before right in front of your eyes. Thursday, December 19, 8:30pm; \$15. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

Bumbled: Improvised Comedy Show Bumbled is an improv show that uses the dating profile (from any app/service) of one lucky audience member to inspire a night of fast-paced comedy. Sunday, December 22, 7pm; \$7-\$15. 21 and up. National Lampoon: The Yellow Door, 701 Fifth Ave., 3rd Floor. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Comedy Open Mic Night Mondays, 7:30pm; through Wednesday, December 31, 1st Street Bar, 656 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (ENCINITAS)

Comedy Under the Stars Lineup TBA Saturday, December 21, 5:30pm; **free**-\$10. 21 and up. Bolt Brewing, 8179 Center Street. (LA MESA)

Dan Donahue AS SEEN ON: Instagram, TikTok, Don't Tell Comedy & more! Thursday, December 19, 8pm; \$24. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Gayliens Laugh & Wine Comedy Show LGBTQIA+ comedians featuring Allen Rios, Amanda Cohen, Rand, Denise Winkelman and headliner DD Stepps. Hosted by Cassidy Stains. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; **free**. 21 and up. Cork & Stem, 1035 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Hyprov: Improv Under Hypnosis Hyprov begins with an expert hypnotist welcoming 20 volunteers on stage to be hypnotized—a process that takes about 20 minutes. The most receptive “Hyprovisors” then join a world-class improviser and create an instant improv troupe and perform the rest of the show, while fully under hypnosis. Sunday, December 22, 6:30pm; 12 and up. Magnolia Performing Arts Center, 210 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

Improv SmackDown Sunday Independent local improv teams battle, audience votes for the winner of the night's competition. Sundays, 8:30pm; through Tuesday, December 31, \$5-\$20. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

Improv VS Standup Guest standup comedians do their set, then improvisers create scenes based on their material. For mature audiences. Saturdays, 8:30pm; through Saturday, December 28, \$7-\$15. 18 and up. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

Josh Adam Meyers Josh Adam Meyers is the creator and host of The Goddamn Comedy Jam, a live comedy and music show that con-

tinues to be one of the most popular live shows in Los Angeles at its base, The Roxy. Friday, December 20, 7pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 7pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 7pm; \$28. 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

Katherine Blanford Katherine Blanford has brought her human Golden Retriever presence across the country and internationally, sharing confessions of her southern family secrets and awkward adolescent years. Friday, December 20, 7pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 7pm and 9:30pm; \$25. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Lyrics & Laughs Cabaret singers perform, then improvisers take the stage to create scenes based off their songs. Fridays, 7pm; through Friday, December 27, \$7-\$15. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

ShinDig Show The ShinDig Show is one of the top comedy shows in Los Angeles bringing you the biggest headliners and up and coming comics as seen on Comedy Central, Netflix, HBO, The Late Show, Def Jam, Showtime and Conan. Thursday, December 19, 8pm; \$25. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Slink Johnson Actor Gerald “Slink” Johnson has had a huge impact on black entertainment and pop culture with his unique portrayal of unforgettable characters Thursday, December 19, 8pm; \$31. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Telenovela Improv Join improv team, LIRRER for an hour of over-the-top dramatic passion paired with laughs, performed in English. Friday, December 20, 8:30pm; \$5-\$15. Mockingbird Improv, 2590 Truxtun Road #200. (LIBERTY STATION)

The Best of San Diego The Best of San Diego is San Diego's longest running local showcase that has helped launch the careers of some of the top comedians in the industry today. This is the show that will allow you to say, “I remember seeing them at the La Jolla Comedy Store way back in...” Thursday, December 19, 8pm; 21 and up. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

The Mic @ Mic Drop This open mic offers a fantastic opportunity for comedians to test out their material and fine-tune their sets before performing for weekend audiences. Guests are welcome, and we've got chips and salsa, beer, and wine to keep you fueled and refreshed throughout the afternoon. Saturday, December 21, 3pm; \$10. 21 and up. Mic Drop Comedy, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Unscripted Comedy Show Based completely on audience suggestions, the cast creates the entire 100 minute show from scratch without a script. Fridays, 7:30pm; Saturdays, 7:30pm; Sundays, 7:30pm; through Tuesday,

A Charlie Brown Christmas
FEATURING LIVE MUSIC WITH ARCHIE THOMPSON AND THE ARCHTONES

FOOD AND BEVERAGES
GAMES AND KIDS ACTIVITIES

FREE EVENT
DECEMBER 21
ANY TIME BETWEEN 2PM AND 6PM

First Presbyterian Church
SAN DIEGO

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MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

WIN TICKETS	<p>with special guest DICKIES</p>	Enter to win a pair of tickets to see Black Flag. Deadline to Enter: Friday, December 27 at 1pm.
WIN TICKETS	<p>Ghost AUGUST 10 VIEJAS ARENA</p>	Enter to win a pair of tickets to see Ghost. Deadline to Enter: Tuesday, December 31 at 1pm.
WIN TICKETS	<p>JIM MORRISON Celebration - Featuring wild child A LIVE DOORS CONCERT RECREATION FRIDAY JANUARY 10 HOUSE OF BLUES • SAN DIEGO, CA</p>	Enter to win a pair of tickets to see Wild Child. Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 6 at 1pm.

Enter to win at sandiegoreader.com/contests

December 31, \$17-\$22. National Comedy Theatre, 3717 India Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Zoltan Kaszas AS SEEN ON: YouTube, Dry Bar Comedy & more! Friday, December 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Belly Dance Dinner Show Enjoy Persian cuisine and a belly dance show. Saturdays, 7:30pm; through Saturday, December 28, **free**. Shiraz Restaurant, 12125 Alta Carmel Court. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Golden State Ballet's Nutcracker Golden State Ballet is thrilled to bring The Nutcracker to life at the San Diego Civic Theatre! With Tchaikovsky's iconic score performed live by the world-renowned San Diego Symphony, this production promises an unforgettable experience. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 1pm and 5:30pm; San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Hangout Hub New to the area? Looking to meet people? Just need a space to chat? Unwind, hang out, and meet friends at PQ library's Hangout Hub! Drop-in for a friendly game with new friends or catch up with old ones while working on your latest craft. Saturday, December 21, 3:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Rancho Penasquitos Library, 13330 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

FOOD & DRINK

Holiday Onesie Brunch Wear your favorite holiday onesie or pajamas to indulge in brunch favorites like omelets, Monkey Cakes, French toasts, and more. Friday, December 20, 10am; Duck Dive, 4650 Mission Boulevard. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Lane Field Park Market & Live Music Dive into the buzz with 30+ of the city's top food and craft vendors serving up everything from sizzling BBQ to mouth-watering beef and chicken bulgogi rice bowls. Sip on an ice-cold smoothie, groove to live music, and shop unique crafts. Bring a picnic chair or blanket and spend the day! For more info including our weekly vendor line-up, visit our Instagram @sandiegofoodmarkets or website www.sandiegofoodmarkets.com. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Saturday, December 27, **free**. Lane Field Park, 1009 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Ramona Holiday Wine Trail Purchase tickets and receive a wine glass along with visiting 15+ participating wineries offering 3

OUTDOORS

Hike off those holiday calories, Poinsettias peak, What is winter?

Hike Off Those Holiday Calories in San Diego County's High Places and take advantage of December's characteristically clear air. From spots such as Cuyamaca Peak in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Wooded Hill in the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area, and Boucher Hill at Palomar Mountain State Park, vistas stretching a hundred miles across the Pacific Ocean are not uncommon at this time of year. Look for the dark profiles of Santa Catalina and San Clemente Islands, lying northwest and west of San Diego, respectively. **Poinsettias, A Favorite of Backyard Gardeners**, are now exhibiting their scarlet, petal-like bracts, just in time for the holidays. The onset of 14-hour-long nights triggers their behavior: in San Diego, this condition is met just before the winter solstice, at 1:20 am on Saturday, December 21. This event signals the beginning of winter



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARKUS WINKLER

POINSETTIAS PREFER BRIGHT, INDIRECT SUNLIGHT – DIRECT SUNLIGHT CAN SCORCH THEIR DELICATE LEAVES



STANDING ON TOP OF VIEJAS MOUNTAIN
LOOKING TOWARDS CUYAMACA PEAK

in the Northern Hemisphere and the beginning of summer in the Southern Hemisphere. **With Only About 10 Hours Of Daylight**, San Diego must endure its darkest and gloomiest nights this week and next. During the day, the sun struggles to an altitude of only 34 degrees (as seen from San Diego), and then quickly sinks toward the horizon. The word “solstice” comes from the Latin *sol* (“sun”) and *sistere* (“to stand still”); the sun's path appears to freeze for a few days at the equinox before reversing its path. On the bright side, literally and figuratively, our days will start getting longer as the sun's path rises higher in the sky each day. The process starts very slowly though: in December, our daylight increases by merely seconds per day. By March, we will see daily increases of 3 minutes. **But Is the Winter Solstice Really The Beginning Of Winter?** It depends on whether you're following a meteorological calendar or the astronomical calendar. Astronomical winter begins on December 21 and ends on March 20 at the Spring equinox, based on the position of the earth and the sun. Meteorological winter begins on December 1 and ends at the end of February, based on climate patterns. Our coldest average temperatures are the third week of January, a whole month after the sun begins its climb back up into the sky.

tastes of wine. Each winery has different events planned. This purchase allows participation for all 3 weekends. Saturday, December 21, 12pm; Sunday, December 22, 12pm; \$20. 21 and up. Ramona Main Street

Rosé Wednesdays Guests can enjoy \$10 glasses of Hampton Water Rosé at the restaurant's bar. Wednesdays, 11am; through Thursday, December 26, 21 and up. Sea & Sky Coastal Cuisine, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive. (LA JOLLA)

FOR KIDS

Children's Storytime Great for children ages 1 through 9. This is a free event. Reservations are not necessary. Fridays, 3pm; through Wednesday, December 18, **free**. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Adventure Camp Winter Break San Diego Adventure Camp offers a premium day camp experience for kids ages 5 to 12 years old. Activity-based camp is focused on themed days and weeks with plenty of fun activities

in the pool and around Belmont Park. Monday, December 23, 9am; \$99-\$379. Plunge San Diego, 3115 Ocean Front Walk Ste 100. (MISSION BEACH)

NATURE

Family Discovery Walk: Wildlife Habitats Join MTRP Trail Guides for a family-oriented adventure learning how the habitats in Mission Trails support a diversity of wildlife and discover how water influences them. Meet in the Kumeyaay Lake Camp ground day-use parking lot. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, and bring along water. A hat and sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, December 21, 1pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Guided Bird Walk - Lake Murray (Ball Fields) Join MTRP bird walk leaders for a guided walk along the scenic shore of Lake Murray. In winter, Lake Murray reliably provides an abundance of waterfowl as well as land birds.

Saturday bird walk is designed for beginning or newer birdwatchers, but all skill levels are welcome to attend. Walks are canceled if raining. Meet on the northwest side of the lake. After entering at Murray Park Dr. and Belle Glade Ave. proceed along the driveway past a set of ballfields on your right and turn into the paved parking lot on your right. Friday, December 20, 8am; Saturday, December 21, 8am; **free**. Lake Murray Park Drive

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park. 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. Cooler temperatures make for a great experience. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturdays, 9:30am; Sundays, 9:30am; through Sunday, December 29, **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Nature Collective Volunteer Restoration Event Help is needed to restore precious habitats, from removing invasive plants to

helping grow native plants indigenous to the area, help nature thrive, which benefits wildlife and our communities. Family friendly, Ages 6+ (minors with guardians). Accessible trail, registration required. Saturday, December 21, 9am; **free**. San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA)

Oceans at Night Discover the wonders and mysteries of the ocean after dark during this nighttime 21+ event. Enjoy an evening filled with live music, cocktails and interactive experiences, all while exploring the aquarium in a new light! Advanced reservations are required @ aquarium.ucsd.edu/events/oceans-night-december. Thursday, December 19, 6:30pm; \$37-\$40. 21 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Stars at West Sycamore Join members from the San Diego Astronomy Association at the West Sycamore Staging Area to view the nighttime sky through telescopes. Dark night for a star party with the moon rising after 10pm. End of Stonebridge Parkway, Scripps Ranch (map) From

I-15, go east on Pomerado Road and turn right on Stonebridge Parkway. The entrance to West Sycamore is at the very east end of Stonebridge Parkway. Starts at dusk. Park on the paved street and walk past the gate into the park where telescopes are set up. 32 55' 59.6"N 117 00' 01.5"W Sunset 4:47 Friday, December 20, 4:45pm; **free**. West Sycamore – Mission Trails Regional Park, 17160 Stonebridge Parkway. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Seals Home Game The San Diego Seals face off against the Georgia Swarm at the Pechanga Arena. Saturday, December 21, 7pm; Pechanga Arena San Diego, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Sunset Surf Flow Yoga Yoga class with Jacqueline Kowalik from YogaJawn and CVAC. Tuesdays, 6pm; through Tuesday, December 24, \$7-\$15. Lifeguard Tower 32, 4355 Carlsbad Boulevard. (CARLSBAD)

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

Like Marley at the outset of Charles Dickens' famous Christmas story, The Old Globe's Ebenezer Scrooge's Big San Diego Christmas Show is dead. (Or at least, it's not running this year.) And like Marley, its restless spirit roams the weary world, seeking to help others avoid its fate. Or so one might suppose, given the addition of madcap comic elements in Cygnet's reworked presentation of its annual production. Right off the bat, Bob Cratchit is forced to chase an enchanted coal scuttle to the whimsical stylings of a slide whistle. A little of that goes a long way, so when, just a moment later, he engages in a leeeengthy fumbling of his dropped papers, the viewer may begin wondering what he's in for. What he's in for is a bit of a platypus: part goofy comedy, part terrifying ghost story — David McBean's Marley and Ghost of Christmas Present still astonish for their utter go-for-broke big-swing drama — and part musical dramedy. Poor young Ebenezer, abandoned at school one Christmas. Happy young Ebenezer, rescued because Papa changed his mind for some reason! Happy Ebenezer, young and in love! Poor Ebenezer, consumed with money. The shift in tone and focus makes for an entertaining evening, but maybe not a moving one. The horror of what Ebenezer had become is blunted, as is the glory of what he recovers after his ordeal. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM THURSDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, 2PM & 7PM MONDAY, 2PM TUESDAY, DEC. 24.

A Christmas Carol 2024

Enjoy a new adaptation of A Christmas Carol, written by Jordan Miller. This play will be a modern adaptation of Charles Dickens' timeless tale of Ebenezer Scrooge's greed and redemption. An LA party girl will be visited by four ghosts, who hope to open her heart to the plight of the poor and powerless in the world. THEATRE FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, 7960 UNIVERSITY AVENUE SUITE 240, LA MESA. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY.

A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story Told by Jefferson Mays

Mays will portray over 50 beloved characters from Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol—from Scrooge and Marley to Tiny Tim and the three Ghosts. In this new version of his one-man show, Mays showcases Dickens's text.

OLD GLOBE - SHERYL & HARVEY



A Christmas Carol: This year, Cygnet adds some silly alongside the spooky.

WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS, 2PM 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, 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.

Manny & The Wise Queens

OTC presents the first full staging of *Manny and the Wise Queens*, introducing audiences to the small town of Bethlehem, U.S.A., where a bright star draws distant visitors to usher in a new era one December night in 2020. The gift-bearing travelers find themselves in the attic of Manny, a depressed recent high school graduate, who has locked himself away to escape the remnants of holiday cheer in his quarantined

town. Luckily, the sudden arrival of the two wise queens provides a potential key to Manny's deliverance. Written by Idris Goodwin and directed by Jacole Kitchen. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

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.

Thank YULE for Being a Friend

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the store, each department was dripping with Yuletide decor. Sophia was nestled all snug in her bed, while visions of sugar prunes danced in her head.

Before traveling to spend the Holidays with their families, Dorothy, Blanche, and Rose participate in a golden gift exchange full of hilarious surprises. Just as they get to the airport a winter storm blows in, leaving them trapped! In an unexpected Charles Dickens twist of events, the three grannies must visit their past, present, and future to save Christmas (and find Sophia)... just in time for turkey lurkey. Lucky audience members may even have a chance to make their stage debut and become the next #TokenSophia. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 7PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

MOVIES

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

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 partytimes 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 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)

Opening December 21

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the inside track blurt

Back after the break

Aaron Stewart grew up mostly in South Florida, then moved to San Diego back in 2011. Since then, he’s figured out where the primo ice cream lies. “I love heading over to Oceanside on Mission Avenue for the Thursday night street fair,” says Stewart, who recently dropped *Travel-*

remember any artists or songs specifically that made me want to do music. It kind of all just grew from my parents putting me in piano lessons, and just having a creativity inside that those musical skills gave me an outlet to explore.”

He admires “artists who are true singers and also value



Aaron Stewart: the rare soul who is happy to make music a side hustle instead of a day job.

ing Light, his first new music in 15 years. “Catching a bite with friends at the Mission Avenue Bar and Grill. You can never go wrong hitting up Handel’s Ice Cream after dinner, or hey, even on its own.”

Stewart has only ever lived in North County, “first in San Marcos, specifically San Elijo and now the Shadowridge area of Vista. The neighborhood of San Elijo really captured my attention from my first visit, as it was such a quaint neighborhood: just a bit detached up in the hills, but with a school, restaurants, grocery store, and most conveniences all in the town square right across from my apartment. Eventually, I was ready to buy my own house and moved to Vista, and absolutely love it here.”

Stewart shares music with anyone who wants to listen, but he started out with the Lord and His followers. “I grew up in the church, playing piano and singing in choirs and school plays. I always loved all kinds of music, and it’s funny, I can’t

versatility. Kelly Clarkson is someone who really can just sing anything, in almost any style, and that’s always been inspiring.” But speaking of Christian-raised talent, “I also love someone like Ryan Tedder from OneRepublic, because he’s a fantastic songwriter and performer and has found a way to blend them both together.”

His first solo album *Resolution* came out back in 2009. “After that, I changed careers, moved to California, and took a bit of a musical break in the process. Then, after working on a lot more music by myself at home during the pandemic, I woke up the day after Christmas 2020 and decided I was going to record a Christmas album the following year. Nine months later, I had released *The Wonder of Christmas*, an album comprised of my own arrangements of familiar Christmas tunes, and a couple of originals, recorded with a full orchestra in Nashville.”

Accounting for the 15-year gap, he explains, “My whole

life had been music, since I started playing piano at four years old, and leading me into a church music job. In 2006, I co-founded a software company that I helped work on just in my spare time. In 2011, after quite a few years of the company’s success, we bought a building in Carlsbad and moved the company here. I left my church music job and became a full-time product manager for our software. But after more time to reflect during the pandemic, I realized that music was never just a job. It was both a job and one of my biggest passions, and just because the job part was done, didn’t mean the passion had to die too. It sounds funny, but it really was mostly just allowing myself to classify music in a different way, and give myself permission to pursue it on the side, even if it wasn’t funding my life.”

Asked about his favorite cuts on the new record, he says, “You mean, pick a favorite child! Haha, okay, but I’m choosing three. ‘A Little Bit Obsessed’ kickstarted the entire project, and that was the first single. I love how joyful and upbeat it is, but also how much is going on, vocally and production-wise. ‘Savor’ is probably my favorite vocal performance I’ve ever done. The range of this song is pretty intense. I also love the message, which is a constant reminder to not only live in the future like I’m prone to do, but enjoy the big and small moments of the journey along the way. ‘Infinite Sky,’ the last song on the project, got me out of my box the most, in such fun and surprising ways. This song was written differently than the rest, too. The producer actually made the entire track first, and then I wrote the lyrics and the melody to it. Some clever phrases and pop culture references, which I wouldn’t have done had I written it the way I usually write.”

— 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

Baker-Baum Concert Hall:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Charlie Brown Jingles & Jazz.

Balboa Theatre:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Dave Koz & Friends Christmas Tour.
Friday, 7:30pm — Las Posadas.

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

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Sullvn and Friends. \$20-\$34.
Friday, 7:30pm — Chevy Metal. \$30-\$53.
Saturday, 7:30pm — FABBA Christmas Show. \$22-\$39.
Sunday, 8pm — Abbey Road Christmas Show.
Monday, 7pm — Nancarrow and Brawley. \$18.

Brick by Brick:
Friday, 7:30pm — Vinny Appice’s Sabbath Knights. \$37.

Cannonball:
Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde.

Carlsbad City Library:
Saturday, 5pm — Blame Betty.

Casbah:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Faetooth, Home View, Blossom. \$15.
Friday, 8:30pm — Ziggy Shuffledust & the Spiders From Mars. \$25.
Saturday, 8:30pm — El Vez with The Centuries.
Sunday, 6pm — Sara Petite and TK & the Deadlist.
Monday, 8:30pm — Marujah Record Release.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Exile on Kettner Blvd. **Free.**

Cordova Bar:
Sunday, 6pm — The Mango Bay Band. \$5.

Coronado Library:
Saturday, 3pm — The King’s Carolers Holiday Sing-Along. **Free.**

Duck Foot Brewing Company:
Thursday, 6pm — Dead Head Night.
Sunday, 1pm — Bluegrass Sunday.

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:
Friday, 6pm — Rachel Jay.

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Thurs · Dec 19
SLAPPIN' HANDS WITH RIC SCALES

Fri · Dec 20
THE ERA-80S TO 2000S DANCE PARTY
with DJs Mike Delgado Heather Hardcore Madam V & Paradox Papi

Sat · Dec 21
TAKING LIBERTIES
with Heather Hardcore & Javi Nunez (Festivus Theme)

Mon · Dec 23
FESTIVUS!!!

Thurs · Dec 26
OPEN VINYL DJ NIGHT

Fri · Dec 27
SUCIO
Legions · GTG · Insolence

Sat · Dec 28
ROB LEINES
Kimmi Bitter

Sun · Dec 29
MOURNING HIGH
Wayward Shot · Savage & The Witch

Tues · Dec 31
NEW YEARS EVE
We Are YR Friends
with DJs Aaron Wallace Mike Delgado · Mandy Warhol

Fri · Jan 3
CAUSTICA
with DJs Barbiesirk & Virtigo
Industrial · EBM · Hellektro · Dark

SODA BAR

Wed 12/18 @ Soda
METH MATH
BLUE ROJO

Thu 12/19 @ Soda
DUMBO GETS MAD
SPACEHALL SOUND MACHINE

Fri 12/20 @ Soda
DEATH CAB FOR KARAOKE
LIVE BAND KARAOKE!

Sat 12/21 @ Soda
DANG!
A SOULFUL ELECTRONIC DANCE NIGHT

Sun 12/22 @ Soda
CRASHER
VICE ALGAE • NANOBEL

Sun 12/22 @ Music Box
THE MCCCHARMLYS
THE CHARITIES

Thu 12/26 @ Soda
OATMEAL
RICKY • G.I.R.L.

Fri 12/27 @ Soda
DAFT PUNK NIGHT

Sat 12/28 @ Soda
TWIN RITUAL
CATHERINE MOAN • DISCO GOTH DJ SET

Sun 12/29 @ Soda
THE FILM COMPANY
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Saturday, 6pm — Christian Taylor.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:
Saturday, 8pm — David Shyde.

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

Harry's Sports Bar & Grill:
Saturday, 5pm — Go Scarlet Music Video Premier. **Free.**

House of Blues:
Thursday, 7pm — Beach Bums. \$15.
Friday, 6pm — Stoney B Blues. **Free.**
Friday, 7:30pm — The Vandals. \$30-\$75.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Fishbone, Damage, Strawberry Fuzz. \$30-\$75.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Ramona.

Jacobs Music Center:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Voctave: It Feels Like Christmas.
Saturday, 7:30pm, *Sunday*, 2pm & 7:30pm — San Diego Symphony: Elf in Concert.

L'Auberge Del Mar:
Thursday, 5pm — Helena Holleran.
Saturday, 7pm — Rachel Jay.

La Valencia Hotel:
Thursday, 5:30pm — Perry O'Neal.
Friday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Saturday, 6pm — Helena Holleran.
Sunday, 11am — David Shyde.

La Valle Coastal Club & Resort:
Friday, 5pm — Jolene Cruz.

Mission Bay Resort:
Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Friday, 6pm — Mike Myrdal.
Sunday, 6pm — Blaise Guld.
Monday, 6pm — David Shyde.

Mission Hills United Church of Christ:
Saturday, 6am — Have You Heard? A Celtic Christmas Celebration. **Free.**

Music Box:
Thursday, 8pm — Too Short and DJ Symphony. \$59-\$160.
Friday, 7:30pm — Phora.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Klub Nocturno.
Sunday, 7:30pm — The McCharmlys & The Charities.

Nate's Garden Grill:
Sunday, 12pm — Tinkersmith. **Free.**

Navajo Live:
Friday, 8pm — Stone Horse and Manzanita Blues. \$6-\$10.
Saturday, 8pm — Dive Bar Saints and The Thieves About. \$6-\$10.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Mike & Delci Band and Bump n Grind. \$5-\$7.

Nick & G's:
Friday, 6pm — Matt Heinecke.
Saturday, 6pm — Blaise Guld.

North Coast Repertory Theatre:
Thursday & Friday, 7:30pm, *Saturday & Sunday*, 2pm & 7:30pm, *Monday*, 2pm — 2 Pianos 4 Hands. \$64.

Observatory North Park:
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 7pm — Social Distortion.

Orfila Vineyards & Winery Oceanside:
Friday, 3:30pm — Perry O'Neal.
Saturday, 3:30pm — Orion Song.

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
Friday, 8pm — Air Supply.

LIVE five

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Find LIVE FIVE online at sdreader.com/music

REBECCA JADE WITH DAVE KOZ at Balboa Theatre

DEC 19



When Dave Koz and Friends perform jazzy renditions of timeless Christmas classics on his 27th anniversary Christmas tour at downtown's Balboa Theatre, they'll be accompanied by local singer Rebecca Jade, who has been a part of the Koz tours for several years now. Locally, she's the winner of several San Diego Music Awards, including for Best R&B, Funk or Soul Song and for Best Video.

STONEY B. BLUES at House Of Blues

DEC 20



The Stoney B. Blues Band is fronted by singer-guitarist Michael Stone, aka Stoney B., a transplant from New Orleans by way of Chicago whose father is Lil' Howling Wolf, aka Jessie Sanders. With over 50 years of experience, his style most resembles the Chicago and Southern old school blues, with strong influences from Muddy Waters, BB King, and Jimmy Reed.

MANZANITA BLUES at Navajo Live

DEC 20



Manzanita Blues was formed in 2017 as a blues cover band, playing rockin' blues around San Diego's East County. They began writing and performing original music in 2019 and released their first CD in 2020, *Manzanita Blues TO DAY* (See Through Records). The San Carlos bill includes Stone Horse.

BLAME BETTY at Carlsbad City Library

DEC 21



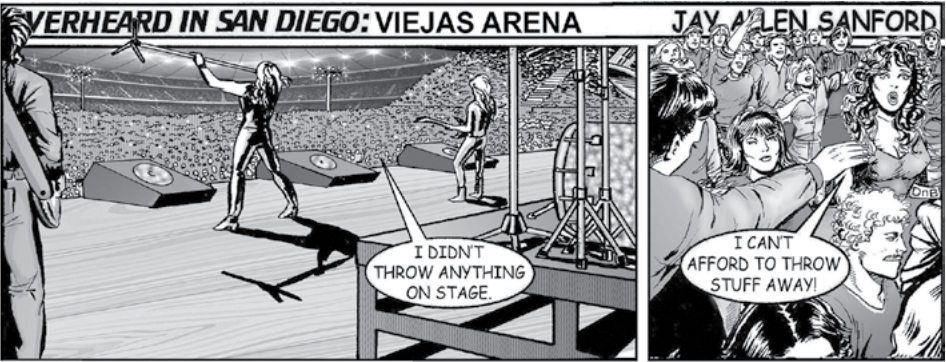
Blame Betty will throw a rockin' dance party in the Ann Kulchin Courtyard at the Carlsbad City Library. The rockabilly, roots rock, and surf music band was formed in 2019. The group's style is based upon the sounds of Sun Records and other artists from the 1950s, heavily influenced by Elvis Presley, Eddie Cochran, Carl Perkins, Gene Vincent, Link Wray, and Johnny Cash, in addition to Southern California surf music.

THE MARUJAH RECORD RELEASE at the Casbah

DEC 23



Marujah describes their music as "Post Latin alternative gypsy noise destruction with ska punk peppered in for good measure." The winners of two San Diego Music Awards for Best World Music Album will debut their new album *Latency* and its lead single "Sana," a ska-punk song sung in Spanish and co-produced by John Avila of Oingo Boingo. The bill includes Martin & The Big Nativty Scene and The Cedar Shakers.



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VINNY APPICE'S
SABBATH
KNIGHTS
Avadan



SAT. JAN. 4
ATHEIST
Abysmal Dawn,
Defixion,
Vexxum

SUN. JAN. 12
BONGINATOR
Frog Mallet

THU. JAN. 16
UNIDAD
TRAUMA
Scum Portal,
Genestealer,
Attention Monger

SAT. JAN. 18
SNOT
Adema,
Sicksense

FRI. JAN. 24
VAMPIRES
EVERYWHERE +
PRIEST
Julien-K, Apparitional

SUN. JAN. 26
HED PE
Silent Vice,
Kella Sin,
Mommy Milkers

WED. JAN. 29
VCTMS
Heavy//Hitter,
Saltwound,
Freetown Forest

THU. JAN. 30
THE BROWNING
Dropout Kings,
Filth, The Defect,
Good For Nothing

TUE. FEB. 4
RITZ
Doc Backer

FRI. FEB. 7
DOPETHRONE
Kadabra,
CHRCH,
Abyssal

THU. FEB. 13
SAIGON KICK
with special guests

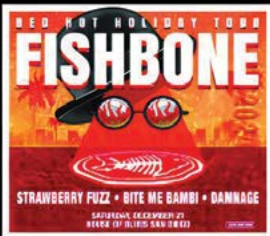
FRI. FEB. 14
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Ex Deo

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DEC 27 Y2K AF

DEC 28 CUMBIATRON

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JAN 02 BLACK FLAG

JAN 03 EMO NIGHT BROOKLYN

JAN 04 GONE9

JAN 04 BROADWAY RAVE

JAN 08 BEN BARNES

JAN 10 WILD CHILD

JAN 11 GIMME GIMME DISCO

JAN 11 TAYLOR'S VERSION

JAN 14 MAX MCNOWN

JAN 18 ELSA Y ELMAR

JAN 17 STRANGELOVE

JAN 17 TX2

JAN 18 LATIN MAFIA

JAN 18 ETHAN REGAN

JAN 24 LAUREN SANDERSON

JAN 25 WALLICE

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Soda Bar:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Dumbo Gets Mad. \$24.
Friday, 7:30pm — Death Cab For Karaoke.
Saturday, 7:30pm — DANG! A Soulful Electronic Dance Night.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Crasher and Vice Algae. \$7.

Soma:
Friday, 7pm — Sundiver CA and Marlon Funaki.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Avoid and New Aesthetic.

Sound:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Digable Plants and The Pharcyde.
Friday, 7:30pm — Samantha Fish and Cedric Burnside.

Steele 94:
Friday, 6:30pm — Santana Soul. Free.

Sycuan Casino Resort:
Friday, 8pm — Girl Named Tom. \$59-\$69.

Union Kitchen & Tap:
Friday, 7pm — Tolan Shaw.

Waterbar:
Thursday, 6pm — Ben Benavente.

Winstons Beach Club:
Thursday, 9pm — Sanford Street. \$12.
Friday, 9pm — The Irie. The Riddims, Ease Up. \$15.
Saturday, 8pm — Fish & the Seaweeds.
Saturday, 4pm — Shambala.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Aquarius Bar & Grille:
January 1 — Santana Soul

Balboa Theatre:
December 27 — Jim Brickman: Comfort & Joy

Barefoot Bar and Grill:
December 27 — Helena Holleran
December 28 — Jonny Tarr
January 4 — Freddie Walton

Bellamy's Restaurant:
December 28 — Andrew Peña
January 4 — The Heart

Belly Up Tavern:
December 26 — Jimmy's Buffet
December 27 — Donavon Frankenreiter
December 28 — Easy Wind
December 29 — The Steely Damned 2
December 30 — Never Die Young
December 31 — Fan Halen and Livin' On A Prayer
January 2 — Missing Persons
January 3 — The PettyBreakers
January 4 — The Devastators
January 5 — Lee Rocker

Brick by Brick:
December 27 — Hot To Go
December 28 — Taking Back Saturday
January 4 — Atheist and Abysmal Dawn

Cannonball:
December 26 — Ben Benavente
January 2 — Christian Taylor

The Casbah:
December 26 — Devotional: The Depeche Mode Experience
December 27 — The Cure Christmas Dance Party
December 28 — Schizophonics and Mistress 77
December 29-31 — Starcrawler
January 3 — The Wyld Gooms and Ray Brandes' Tell-Tale Hearts Tribute
January 4 — Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys

Deano's Pub:
January 4 — Goodfeels Band

Duke's La Jolla:
December 29 — Keni Yarbrow
January 3 — Jolene Cruz

Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa:
December 27 — Orion Song
January 2 — Jolene Cruz
January 3 — David Shyde
January 5 — Freddie Walton

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:
January 3 — Jemille Viallet
January 4 — Kevin McCully
January 4 — Shea Givens
January 5 — Ed Kornhauser

Farmer & the Seahorse:
December 29 — Matt Heinecke
January 4 — David Shyde

Hangar 76 Brewery and Wine Bar:
December 30 — The Soto Six

House of Blues:
December 27 — Ron Houston
December 27 — Y2K AF
December 28 — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink
December 28 — Cumbiatron
December 31 — Chickenbone Slim & the Biscuits
December 31 — Shrek Rave
January 2 — Black Flag
January 3 — Emo Night Brooklyn
January 4 — 6ONE9 and Casey & Romy
January 4 — Broadway Rave

Jacobs Music Center:
December 26 — Homayoun Shajarian & Anoushiravan Rohani

Kimball Coastal Eatery:
December 28 — Santana Soul

L'Auberge Del Mar:
December 26 — David Shyde
December 27 — Tyler F. Simmons
December 28 — Marelle
December 29 — Helena Holleran

January 1 — Keni Yarbrow
January 2 — Ben Benavente
January 3 — Shea Givens
January 4 — Jesse Johnson

La Jolla Woman's Club:
January 5 — Le Salon De Musiques

La Valencia Hotel:
December 27 — Keni Yarbrow
December 28 — Orion Song
January 2 — David Shyde
January 3 — Marelle
January 4 — Kevin James O'Brien
January 5 — The Heart

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:
December 26 — The B Side Players

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
January 4 — Who's Bad: Michael Jackson Tribute

Mission Bay Resort:
December 26 — Keni Yarbrow
December 27 — Kai Kalama
December 28 — Helena Holleran
December 30 — David Shyde
January 2 — Keni Yarbrow
January 3 — Rachel Jay
January 4 — Mike Myrdal
January 4 — By The Lee
January 5 — David Shyde

Moonshine Beach:
December 31 — NYE with DJ Real Hypha & DJ Kiki

Music Box:
December 26 — Feed Me
December 27 — Afrobeats Night San Diego
December 28 — Flamingosis and Don Rayon
December 29 — G Perico
January 3 — Stayin Alive Disco Dance Party
January 4 — Pink Talking Fish

Music Company:
December 26 — Thursday Night Jam Sessions
January 2 — Women's Nights Jam Sessions

Navajo Live:
December 27 — Jeff Ousley & The Party Crashers
December 28 — Full Collins
December 29 — Hot Stone Meat Party

Nick & G's:
December 27 — David Shyde
December 31, January 3 — Matt Heinecke

North Coast Repertory Theatre:
December 26-29 — 2 Pianos 4 Hands

Nova SD:
December 27 — Deorro
December 28 — JAUZ
December 30 — Armnhmr
December 31 — Deadmau5

Observatory North Park:
December 28-29 — Social Distortion
December 30 — X - Putting the X back in XMAS
January 5 — T.S.O.L.
January 10 — Sweet & Tender Hooligans

Orfila Vineyards & Winery Oceanside:
December 27 — Tim Apple
December 29 — Blaise Guld
January 3 — By The Lee
January 4 — Freddie Walton
January 5 — Matt Heinecke

Panama 66:
December 26 — Uptown Rhythm Makers

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The operatic battle of the sexes

Recently, I came across a social media post that asked if there are any operas with an all-female chorus. To be clear, this doesn't mean operas that have a chorus scene with only women. There are umpteen million of those. Is there an opera that has chorus parts but no men throughout?

The answer that immediately comes to mind is *Suor Angelica* by Giacomo Puccini. The opera is set in a convent, there are no lead roles for men, and there's a heavenly chorus at the conclusion. Surely, this is the one. Nope, turns out there are men in the off-stage heavenly chorus.

A few people answered with two operas I'd not heard of. The first is a one-act opera of about 30 minutes by Gustav Holst entitled *Sāvitri*. Holst was deep into Hindu mysticism and philosophy. The story of *Sāvitri* is taken from The *Mahābhārata*. From what I can tell, there is a chorus of female spirits in this brief opera. However, the scope of the opera allows for just four singers to perform the chorus, if need be. I'm not sure that counts. Another

one-act I that was proposed is *Sancta Susanna* by Paul Hindemith. This opera, like *Suor Angelica*, is set in a convent. This one appears to hold up but, like *Sāvitri*, it is only about 30 minutes long.

For all intents and purposes there are no operas that need to cast an all-female chorus. What about all-male chorus operas?

There are two that everyone knows: *The Barber of Seville* by Gioachino Rossini and *Rigoletto* by Giuseppe Verdi. The chorus in *The Barber of Seville* is just a bunch of soldiers who show up at the end of the show. In *Rigoletto*, the chorus is integral to the story since they kidnap Rigoletto's daughter Gilda. Those are the two big ones. I'm fairly confident several lesser-known Bel Canto operas have all-men choruses. Operas from that period are crawling with choruses of soldiers.

There is a modern opera that qualifies. I was in the San Diego Opera production of *Moby Dick* by Jake Heggie and that has an all-male chorus of sailors. In fact, that one



Opera in its totality is balanced between men and women.

has *only* male characters, but the character of the boy Pip is sung by a soprano.

In the comments about the initial question, there was a sentiment that the lack of operas with all-female choruses is something of a travesty. It isn't. When it comes down to operas that are performed on the regular,

there are two with all-male choruses. The idea that all endeavors must be split 50-50 between women and men is about the stupidest thing our culture has developed.

In the realm of opera, there are more chorus parts for men. That is true. However, opera in its totality is balanced between men and women.

The greatest operatic roles are for women. Even in *Rigoletto*, the role of Gilda is the protagonist. In all the operas by Richard Wagner that are named after men — *The Flying Dutchman*, *Lohengrin*, etc. — it is the female lead that is the hero. The men are all flawed heroes. The women are the saviors.

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Parq Restaurant:

December 31 — The Ball on Broadway

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

December 29 — En Vogue
January 3-5 — Pechanga Pow Wow
January 11 — The Fab Four: USA Meets the Beatles

Petco Park:

December 30 — Wild Horses Festival
December 31, January 1 — Proper NYE

Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina:

January 5 — Sea Sessions: Whitney Shay

Soda Bar:

December 27 — Daft Punk Night
December 28 — Twin Ritual and

Catherine Moan

December 29 — The Film Company, Witness, Swive, The Beldams
December 30-31 — Frankie & the Witch Fingers
January 3 — Friday Night Fever
January 5 — Ways Away and Bent Blue
January 6 — Auz Fontaine
January 7 — Lana Del Rabies and God is War
January 8 — Mark Battles
January 9 — Sunny Sweeney
January 11 — Sweet Nonsense

The Sound:

December 27 — Karl Denson's Tiny Universe and Jackie Greene
December 31 — Yächtle Crév

Sycuan Casino Resort:

December 28 — Rebecca Jade & Friends: A Soulful Holiday

January 3 — Chapel Hart
January 10 — Trouble Man: A Tribute to Marvin Gaye

TERI Campus Of Life:

December 28 — Ticket To Ride: A Celebration of the Beatles
January 4 — Sammy Listoe

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park:

January 3 — Tyler Grant

Union Kitchen & Tap:

January 3 — Andrew Peña
January 4 — Jemille Vialet

Waterbar:

January 2 — Ryan Hiller

Winstons Beach Club:

December 27 — The Naked Funk Project
December 31 — Electric Waste Band

Classical Music this week

48th Annual Candlelight Musical Meditation

Lessons and Carols will feature Traditional and New Music set around scripture readings of the Season. Featuring the Mission Basilica Choir, accompanied by Organist and Pianist Howard McCullough, and other Instruments and Soloists. Directed by Gene Regard. A free will offering will be taken, and a Reception is held following. For information about the Mission call 619-283-7319. Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm; Sunday, December 22,

7:30pm; free. Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcala, 10818 San Diego Mission Road.

Golden State Ballet's Nutcracker Golden State Ballet is thrilled to bring The Nutcracker to life at the San Diego Civic Theatre! Get ready to be swept away by breathtaking choreography, a vibrant cast of our talented company dancers and award-winning academy students, all gracing the stage in stunning costumes amidst dazzling sets. With Tchaikovsky's iconic

score performed live by the world-renowned San Diego Symphony, this production promises an unforgettable experience. Step into the magic with Clara and her Nutcracker Prince as they journey to the Land of the Sweets. This is the holiday event of the season—you won't want to miss it! Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 1pm and 5:30pm; San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue.

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Birria for two

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Tuétano and Mujer Divina: two storefronts, one famous birria

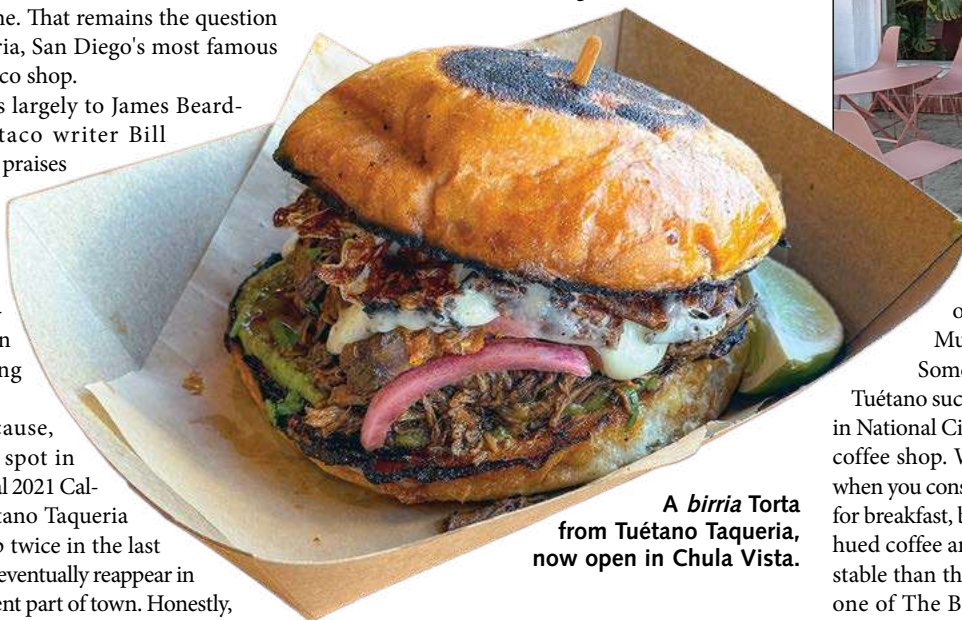
Tuétano Taqueria; 216 3rd Ave., Chula Vista. To bone or not to bone. That remains the question at Tuétano Taqueria, San Diego's most famous (yet precarious) taco shop.

Famous, thanks largely to James Beard-award winning taco writer Bill Esparza singing its praises in *Food & Wine Magazine* back in 2019 (though hat tip to my colleague Chad Deal for kicking off the hype in the *Reader's* spring 2018 taco issue).

Precarious because, despite earning a spot in Michelin's inaugural 2021 California guide, Tuétano Taqueria has closed up shop twice in the last three years, only to eventually reappear in a completely different part of town. Honestly, I've known food trucks that have stayed put longer.

That Tuétano got national attention in the first place is remarkable, because it started out in a small San Ysidro storefront on the wrong side of the freeway from border-crossing foot traffic.

Owner and chef Priscilla Curiel shut that location down in 2021 and moved the operation to anchor a food co-op in Old Town. But that more central spot didn't last any longer, closing last year, and leaving San Diego once again without its namesake *tuétano*: the roasted bone marrow offered as an add-on to Curiel's signature *birria* tacos.



A *birria* Torta from Tuétano Taqueria, now open in Chula Vista.

But now the *birria* is back — and the marrow too — this time with a Third Avenue storefront slinging the stewed beef in the thick of downtown Chula Vista. And it's not alone. Tuétano opened immediately next door to Curiel's



Tacos and tortas on the right, burritos and coffee on the left.

other, less notorious *birria* brand: Mujer Divina.

Somewhere in the midst of all that early Tuétano success, Curiel launched Mujer Divina in National City, as a woman-themed burrito and coffee shop. Which is less surprising a concept when you consider that birria is traditionally eaten for breakfast, but I still find it baffling that a pink-hued coffee and burrito business has been more stable than that taco shop GQ magazine named one of The Best New Restaurants In America in 2020.

Nevertheless, Mujer Divina briefly held two locations before its National City shop closed this summer. But its flowery counter shop on Third has been rolling right along on the strength of *café de olla*, flavored lattes, and a simple burrito menu built chiefly on flour tortillas wrapping up that same signature *birria*.

Either way, the arrival of Tuétano raises the question: is one birria recipe enough to support two side by side businesses?

Because, despite the bone marrow propelling Tuétano's media coverage, Curiel's *birria* recipe is what makes this business go. You can get it on a quesadilla (\$10), a torta (\$14), or as a taco (\$5-\$5.75). As a taco, choices include *quesabirria* (with melted cheese), and having it made on a handmade corn tortilla for a few cents more. Adding the marrow (served with a stick to push it out of the bone) can make it tastier, in the way beef fat makes everything tastier. But the price of marrow has risen over the years, and it's now \$7, which is (checks notes) more expensive than the taco itself.

More to the point: the *tuétano* is not strictly necessary. This birria's good enough to stand on its own. Quite possibly good enough to see both businesses flourish. Especially if hungry souls take a bite of the *birria* torta. Built on a *telera* roll baked in-house and toasted on the griddle, with smashed avocado, melted Oaxaca cheese, and a generously thick serving of beef, this glorious beast of a sandwich reminds me what we collectively miss whenever Tuétano closes shop.

Frankly, Curiel hasn't always been the savviest restaurateur: service at her restaurants has historically been uneven — which I've witnessed in person, and in a parade of churlish online reviews — and landlord disputes would seem to follow her around the county. But artistically? I hope I can ever make one thing in life as good as her *birria*. No bones about it.

—Ian Anderson

HOLIDAY DINING

Christmas Day Dinner At the hotel's lobby bar, The Landing, guests can enjoy high-end wines and statement cocktails, including the option to build-your-own Old Fashioned featuring rare whiskeys and bourbons. In addition to a menu of assorted light bites, The Landing will also be serving two dinner specials on Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 5pm; Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Dining Celebrate with breathtaking bay views and festive flavors in the upstairs ballrooms for a Christmas Champagne Brunch buffet or savor a three-course holiday dinner at Oceana Coastal Kitchen, complete with optional wine pairings. Wednesday, December 25, 10am; \$85-\$150. Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Christmas Dinner Celebrate with seasonal So-Cal dishes with a hint of inspiration from holiday classics. Kids menu available. Reservations recommended. Wednesday, December 25, 2pm; \$55. Bronze Bird Food Wine & Spirits, 910 Broadway Circle. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Eve Dining Celebrate a memorable Christmas Eve where the chefs take care of the cooking while you enjoy the magic of the season. Indulge in a festive three-course dinner featuring your choice of starter, entrée, and dessert, all while soaking in the bay views. Tuesday, December 24, 5pm; \$79. Dockside 1953, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Festive Chocolate and Bourbon Pairing Enjoy holiday favorites paired with sipping bourbon whiskeys. Thursday, December 19, 6pm; \$75. 21 and up. Sweet Petite Confections, 3582 Mt. Acadia Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

Fried Chicken & Shortcake Christmas Dinner Six courses of different fried chicken, in line with the Japanese tradition of eating KFC and strawberry shortcake during the Christmas holiday. Matsu will be using different parts of the chicken for each course, and doing different styles of fried chicken, influenced from places around the world. Monday, December 23, 4pm; \$135-\$265. 21 and up. Matsu, 626 South Tremont. (OCEANSIDE)

Holiday Dinner Enjoy handcrafted cocktails and a three-course dinner. Saturday, December 21, 5pm; \$195. Stonepine Estate, 150 East Carmel Valley Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Savor The Season Buffet Celebrate the season with slow-poached Baja white prawns, tender prime picanha carved to order, and seasonal favorites like butternut squash with candied pepitas, seafood delicacies, and desserts like Nutella & Bailey's cakes and gingerbread cookies. Wednesday, December 25, 1pm; \$55-\$115. Piper, 105 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

The Café & Lobby Bar Christmas Visit The Café + Lobby Bar, in the lobby of Alma San Diego, for a holiday menu. Tuesday, December 24, 4pm; Wednesday, December 25, 4pm; \$12-\$42. Kimpton Alma Hotel, 1047 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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ALATEEN MEETINGS Feeling trapped with someone else's drinking? Alateen meetings for ages 12-18 every Thursday from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. at 625 Otay Lakes Rd Chula Vista Ca. No cost, anonymous, not religious. (619) 792-6042 / elemusic@hotmail.com

AFTERSCHOOL CRAFT CLASSES! Welcome! Craft Collective is offering lots of fun, afternoon, after school & weekend craft classes—Craft Studio, Woodworking, Ceramics, Sewing & Fashion Design—for your preschooler, child & teen. Sibling & military discounts. sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

KIDS HOLIDAY CRAFT CAMPS! Looking for fun, engaging, skill-building for your child over the upcoming holidays?! Craft Collective is offering holiday camps over Winter Break. Classes are small so kids can explore & develop their skills. Save your space today—sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO CARVE A SPOON! Have you always wanted to learn to carve a wooden spoon? On January 25 & 26, learn all the skills to begin your carving journey while creating your own unique, decorative spoon with extra details. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! *Military discount (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO MAKE YOUR OWN PERFUME This January, learn to formulate your own signature fragrance with a French Perfume Designer. You'll use essential oils & fragrance notes to learn formulation. Beginners welcome, 14+. Military discounts. Visit sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO THROW MINI POTTERY! Learn to throw pottery on a tiny wheel! In this 2-hr workshop this Jan & Feb, you will learn to throw tiny ceramic pieces. Perfect for beginners & fun for ceramicists at any level! Students will make multiple small pieces. Visit: sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO THROW POTTERY! In our 4 & 5-week series, learn how to throw your own handmade pottery on a ceramic wheel! Beginning in January & throughout the year, create your own long-lasting glazed pottery. Visit sandiegocraft.org for more info & sign up! Military discount. (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

LEARN TO WET FELT A FLOWER! This January 18, 9am-12pm,

join us at Craft Collective & learn to wet felt your own soaps! Handmaking season is here and mindful making with a friend or family is perfect to celebrate the new year! Military discount. Visit: sandiegocraft.org today! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

MACRAME' A HOLIDAY SNOWFLAKE! Happy holidays! Celebrate the season with this hands-on Macrame' Snowflake Ornament workshop taught by Jordan from The Knottery. This Sat, 10-11:30am at San Diego Craft Collective, you will learn to knot & tie. Ages 10+ yrs. Visit sandiegocraft.org/ (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

MAKE A HOLIDAY POP-UP CARD! Join us this Saturday, Dec 7, 9am-12pm for a fun Decorative Holiday Pop-Up Card Workshop! Explore papers, folding, color and the element of surprise as we head full steam into the holiday season! Space is limited. Visit: sandiegocraft.org. (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

MEND YOUR LOVE THIS MONTH! Calling all Stuffed Animal Lovies that need repair! Do you have a plush that needs mending & love?! Join us Sat, Dec 21 from 12-2pm for a special workshop to spark joy back into your stuffy! Great for kids & adults. Sign up at sandiegocraft.org (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

PUPPET MAKING FUN IS HERE! Fun for all ages! Learn to make your own puppet with colorful, surprising supplies with a teacher who learned the art of puppet making from a Jim Henson Muppeteer. You're never too old to have fun! Saturday, Dec 7 from 1-5pm at sandiegocraft.org! (619) 273-3235 / make@sandiegocraft.org

ROOMMATES

ROOM FOR RENT IN CHULA VISTA Private room. Walk-in closet. Private bathroom. Private parking space. Hall. (619) 761-6329. \$1,100 a month.

2 ROOMS 4 RENT Military Friendly. 5 bedroom home. 2 rooms for rent. Access to Laundry and Kitchen. Utilities included. (619) 905-2479 / kris-rains22@gmail.com

IN MAJOR NEED OF A ROOM STAT!! Single gal who is responsible, reliable, respectful & real needs a place/space in a safe, stable, serene, sane type of household! I love animals, clean background, zero drama or criminal record. Currently can trade various household tasks for rent! Thanks sandiegolady13@gmail.com

I'M LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT 60 year old male looking for room to rent, studio, or 1 bedroom apartment. Call Mark at (619) 405-2389.

POWAY \$1175 LG BR, PRIV BA Poway \$1175 private br, ba. Share upscale 2 br, 2 ba dual-master apt. 2nd floor balcony entrance with view. Large br, walk-in closet, & full private bath. \$1175 + 1/2 Utilities. Available now! All amenities, near all. (858) 472-0470 dirkf@cox.net

ROOM FOR RENT. INDEPENDENT LIVING. Room for rent. Independent living. Nice view home. Wi-Fi, meals. Shared room \$850 move-in bonus \$100 off first two months rent La Mesa (619) 750-4447.

TINY ROOM TO LIVE PLEASE 65 year healthy single, no family, never married non-smoker. Clean SoCal native low income full time job, male high school/college graduate. Seeking somber room in Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

RENTALS

HOUSE RENTAL We rent a house with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathroom, kitchen and living room. Please contact Lois Huynh at (619) 607-5072. Home address is 2425 Corinna CT, San Diego, CA 92105 / irene1997nguyen@gmail.com

RENT ME! Mobile tap trailer for rent. 4 taps to pour. Use it to promote your business or elevate your party. Easy delivery, set up and clean up. Book us now. www.splitpours.com (619) 859-0462 / info@splitpours.com

SENIOR 55+ APARTMENT \$1499 55+ senior or handicapped applicant only. \$1499. 1 Bed/ 1 bath spacious 500ft rental. 4260 44th St, San Diego, ca 92115. Remodeled. * Move in ready! * Gated entrance. * New flooring. * New paint. * New AC. * New heater (619) 559-4941 / HSapts123@gmail.com

MEXICO, ROSARITO, ENSENADA, PUNTA PIERA Four bedroom, six car garage. Best neighborhood in Baja. Five swimming pools, Jacuzzi, oceanfront access, gated community. \$2,100 a month. (760) 250-7055



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

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

ONE BEDROOM/ ONE BATH APARTMENT WITH PRIVATE ENTRANCE One bedroom/ one bath apartment in Little Italy for \$1,300. Near trolley, downtown,

airport, and sea world, utilities included and private entrance. No smoking or pets. Includes fridge. Call Meredith (619) 771-8808.



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

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



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

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

FURNISHED STUDIO IN MEXICO washing machine, dryer. Directly in front of the river and

DOWNTOWN \$650-\$750



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

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

ocean kilometer 58 LA mission \$750 a month long-term rental 13 months (760) 250-7055



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



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

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1510 Cozy studio near Adams, upstairs unit, vinyl plank flooring, water, trash and gas included. Great location near shopping and restaurants with easy freeway access. No pets. 3351 Madison Avenue. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com.

MUSIC

RECORDING CLASSES Learn recording techniques one on one with a professional seasoned recording engineer in an established recording studio. Analog, digital, Pro Tools Recording, mixing, mastering, vocal tuning, drum tracking outboard gear and much more. Call Scott (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail. com

RECORDING STUDIO Pro tools HD3 and 24 track two inch analog. Neotek 40 input analog console. Amps, guitars, bass, 6'3 Baldwin Grand piano and much more. Studio musicians and production assistance available. Gift Certificates Available (760) 855-3551 / exumrecording@gmail.com

REHEARSAL SPACE Rehearsal space monthly 24-hour access air conditioned call Scott(760-855-3551 (760) 855-3551 / exum-recording@gmail.com

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

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

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

DON'T BREED OR BUY WHILE SHELTER PETS DIE! Please don't support selfish breeders

bringing countless new animals into the world while others wait in cages or get put down! You may think you need a particular breed, but I promise you will love another. Shelter animals are wonderful, just give them a chance!

PETS



FLUFFY PUREBRED CORGI PUPPIES Rare Fluffy coat corgi pups from proven purebred line. Parents on-site. Pick yours for Christmas! Both sable and tri-colors, male and female available. text (619) 480-7830 / kelly-lynnne1221@gmail.com



ANDI HAV./ TERR NEEDS HOME Andi needs a home her owner will no be able to make it back to care for her. She is about 12 years old and calm. Goes on short walks. Was rescued from a puppy mill. Please give her a chance. I have to move out and have an older dog as well. (619) 348-3137 / lupitavls@aol.com



ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES We have Male & Female lively and lovable Lilac/Tan English Bulldog puppies. They are full of energy, absolutely LOVES their toys and enjoys cuddles, especially a good cheek rub! \$600 for each puppy. mahyar.mo913@gmail.com



YORKIE PUPPIES Male and female puppies available. Looking for the perfect companion? Meet LILY & RYAN are stunning Teacup Yorkie with a short nose

and charming triangular ears. Price \$400 lindrasch472@gmail. com

SPORTS

NEW FOLDING TREKKING POLES 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 / cadbcsd@gmail.com

BASEBALL CARDS 40K. 79' to the early 90's. Many brands. Many players. Football, basketball, baseball; mostly baseball. \$500 or best offer. Chris (805) 837-4928

SPORT CARD COLLECTION 2000 cards for \$20. All teams all players call Joe (619) 562-1129 bye or make an offer

BICYCLES

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

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

BIKES Four bikes selling them for \$40 a piece. Call Joyce Scott at (619) 552-6988

BICYCLE EQUIPMENT Impresa heavy duty, extra large 4 pack bike hooks; never used, easy to use on all tires, \$10. Bell telescoping frame pump, quick inflation with gauge, used once, \$5. Two small bike hooks with grips, \$5. Contact (619) 380-4861

TWO FULL SIZE STREET BIKES One mens and 1 females. Both for \$40. Good Shape. Located in Campo. Text only (442) 238-7382

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

1960'S M15 SUZUKI PROJECT MOTORCYCLE \$500. (760) 717-1334 pix available

1972 HONDA 350 CL Like new. gas tank never had gas in it, no rust, won-t find a better one. 9,000. (207) 265-6640

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

1950'S MORRIS MINOR CONVERTIBLE PROJECT \$1,000. (760) 717-1334 pix available

1960'S MG ROADSTER PARTS \$500. (760) 717-1334 pix available

1961 LANCIA APIA HARDTOP CONVERTIBLE BODY \$2500. (760) 717-1334 pix available

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



1998 328I FOR SALE, LOW MILES. Second owner. Only 150k miles. Just smogged registered and serviced. All records. Very reliable and loaded. \$5,900 or best offer. Runs great. (619) 508-3900 / idanl@yahoo.com



FIAT 500, 2012, CUTE, \$4K Selling my loved 2012 Fiat 500. Runs well, fuel efficient, daily driver. Had \$832 full maintenance done in September. I'm 86 and downsizing my fleet. (213) 479-6006 / oz.bluelman@yahoo.com

2005 FORD ECONOLINE E350 VAN None op last four years. Rebuilt V10. Runs great until engine light comes on. \$1,000 cash. Clear title. (619) 902-2343



2013 LEXUS GS350 Low Mileage 94k, Premium Package, no dings/scratches, looks and runs like brand new. One owner and well cared for. \$15,800 OBO (619) 980-7100 / latchfordpj@gmail.com

RIDESHARE Need ride to work to carlsbad from mira mesa call (858) 471-6082

YOUR NEXT CAR AWAITS! 7980 Clairemont Mesa Blvd or Call in and let us know you heard from us on Classified (858) 277-2850. Siry Auto, for an extensive selection of top-notch used cars at unbeatable prices.

2006 FORD F-150 For Sale - Needs engine - \$1500 OBO (760) 716-7808

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.

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.

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

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



2005 GMC SIERRA 2500 HD. NICE! Good condition, well maintained, low mileage for the year. 6.0 liter Vortec, automatic, power windows, locks, mirrors, seat. New tires and alloy wheels. Chrome step rails. Strong, clean, reliable heavy duty truck. \$8900 Cash. (760) 522-4293. Oceanside / matthibl@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

BIOTECH/SCIENCES. Various levels of experience. Gilead Sciences, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company, has an opening in Oceanside, CA for the following position: Research Associate, FPD (Formulation and Proc Dev) (RA53): Perform procedures, trials and experiments that support development activities in the formulation & process development job family. Telecommuting permitted up to 2 days per week. Annual salary range for this position is \$85,134 to \$90,360. For the position listed, compensation will vary depending on experience and qualifications,

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9024288

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks Recorder/County Clerk County of San Diego: 12/10/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s): a. **EZ Bankruptcy**

Located at: **2323 Broadway #104, San Diego, CA 92102, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 2323 Broadway #104, San Diego, CA 92102

Registered Owners Name(s): **LeRoy George Siddell**

This business is conducted by: **An Individual. The first day of business was 12/09/2024.**

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/ **LeRoy George Siddell** 12/19/24, 12/26/24, 1/2/25, 1/9/24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Public Auction for Items left at 1633 Diamond St. Apt 39 San Diego, CA 92109 being held on January 2nd between 9am and 5pm. Items include Mattress and bedding, golf clubs, Misc Kitchen items, dishware, misc tools, small office desk, kitchen blender and nutri bullet, keurig coffee maker, misc books, kitchen trash can, vacuum cleaner, 45" LCD TV, lamp stand, 2 barstools, air purifier, sofa. All items used condition. Please contact Trish at 858-272-4398 to view items.

12/19/24, 12/26/24

LEGAL NOTICES

We are a fully adjudicated publication for San Diego County.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9022750

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
11/14/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Levinson Realty Group

Located at: **1644 Sagewood
Way, San Marcos, CA 92078,
San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 1644
Sagewood Way, San Marcos,
CA 92078

Registered Owners Name(s):
Todd Matthew Levinson

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was 02/01/2020.**

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

Registrant Name /s/
Todd Matthew Levinson
12/12/24, 12/19/24,
12/26/24, 1/2/25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9023375

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
11/25/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. Big Oven Pizza Mobile
Catering Truck**

Located at: **3083 Reed Road,
Escondido, CA 92027, San
Diego County**

Mailing Address: 3083 Reed
Road, Escondido, CA 92027

Registered Owners Name(s):
Smoking Oven 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 cor-
rect. (A registrant who declares
as true any material matter
pursuant to Section 17913 of
the Business and Professions
code that the registrant knows
to be false is guilty of a misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Abdulraouf Kreidly, CEO
Corporation/LLC Name
Smoking Oven LLC
12/12/24, 12/19/24,
12/26/24, 1/2/25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9023651

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
11/27/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
**a. Rudy's Mobile Notary
Services**

Located at: **1217 Gonzales
Way, Chula Vista, CA 91910,
San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 1217 Gonza-
les Way, Chula Vista, CA 91910

Registered Owners Name(s):
Rudolph Ortiz

This business is conducted by:
**An Individual. The first day
of business was 08/1/2024.**

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

Registrant Name /s/
Rudolph Ortiz
12/5/24, 12/12/24,
12/19/24, 12/26/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.:
2024-9023202

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
11/21/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Talent Code Solutions

Located at: **11180 Brooke
Drive, #41180, San Diego, CA
92126, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 11180 Brooke
Drive, #41180, San Diego, CA
92126

Registered Owners Name(s):
Talent Find Solutions LLC

This business is conducted by:
**A Limited Liability Company.
The first day of business was
10/17/2024.**

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

Registrant Name /s/
Cherise McCaskill, President
Corporation/LLC Name
Talent Find Solutions LLC
12/5/24, 12/12/24,
12/19/24, 12/26/24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME Case No.: 24CU025367C SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego 330 W. BROADWAY, San Diego 92101

Petition Of: **Caroline RoseMarie Rodriguez**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all Interested Persons: Petitioner: **Caroline RoseMarie Rodriguez** filed
a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: **01/22/2025**

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: **11/27/2024** **Maureen F. Hallahan**
Judge of the Superior Court.

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

Published: 12/12/24, 12/19/24, 12/26/24, 1/2/25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RICHARD H. SMITH Case No.: 24PE001968C

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

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who
may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of (specify all
names by which the decedent was known):

Richard H. Smith, also known as Richard Harold Smith

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Heidi J. Smith in the Superior
Court of California, County of San Diego.

The Petition for Probate requests that Heidi J. Smith be appointed as
personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted
to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the
file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the
Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the
personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court
approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the per-
sonal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons
unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: **January 16, 2025**

Time: **1:45 pm**, Dept: **503**

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

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the
hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court
before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must
file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representa-
tive appointed by the court within the **later** of either (1) **four months**
from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representa-
tive, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) **60
days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice
under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California stat-
utes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may
want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interest-
ed in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice
(form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets
or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A
Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
Michael Sweetman, Attorney for Petitioner Heidi J. Smith

Published: 12/5/24, 12/12/24, 12/19/24

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No.:
2024-9023178

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego:
11/21/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Stardust Gifts
b. Stardust Gifts by Ella

Located at: **415 Laurel St.
#529, San Diego, CA 92101,
San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 415 Laurel St.
#529, San Diego, CA 92101

Registered Owners Name(s):
Ella Can LLC

This business is conducted by:
A Limited Liability Company.

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

Registrant Name /s/
**Michaela Martin,
Managing Member**
12/5/24, 12/12/24,
12/19/24, 12/26/24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 2024-9023049

Filed with Jordan Z. Marks
Recorder/County Clerk County
of San Diego: 11/20/2024

Fictitious Business Name(s):
a. Cali Property Maids
b. Cali Property Maid
c. Vacation Property Maids
d. Vacation Property Maid
e. Mover Maids
f. Mover Maid
g. Commercial Property Maids
h. Commercial Property Maid
i. Medical Office Maids
j. Medical Office Maid
k. Construction Property Maids
l. Construction Property Maid
m. Luxury Maids Service
n. Luxury Maid Service

Located at: **8880 Rio San Diego
Dr. 8th Floor #2031, San Diego,
CA 92108, San Diego County**

Mailing Address: 8880 Rio San
Diego Dr. 8th Floor #2031, San
Diego, CA 92108

Registered Owners Name(s):
Cali Property Maids, LLC

This business is conducted by:
**A Limited Liability Company.
The first day of business was
07/11/2019.**

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 punish-
able by a fine not to exceed one
thousand dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Maria McCarthy, Manager
Corporation/LLC Name
Cali Property Maids, LLC
12/5/24, 12/12/24, 12/19/24, 12/26/24

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 Av-
enue, 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 cor-
rect. (A registrant who declares
as true any material matter
pursuant to Section 17913 of
the Business and Professions
code that the registrant knows
to be false is guilty of a misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Savarra Kathleen Howry
11/28/24, 12/5/24,
12/12/24, 12/19/24

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 cor-
rect. (A registrant who declares
as true any material matter
pursuant to Section 17913 of
the Business and Professions
code that the registrant knows
to be false is guilty of a misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (1,000).)

Registrant Name /s/
Nicholas Thomas Ingrande
11/28/24, 12/5/24,
12/12/24, 12/19/24

Big kited bluefin on the *Red Rooster III* – Lake fishing heating up as the weather cools

Dock Totals 12/8 – 12/14: 542 anglers aboard 29 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past week caught 6 bluefin tuna, 45 bonito, 2 calico bass, 8 rock crab, 2289 rockfish, 92 sand bass, 220 sculpin, 40 sheephead, 23 spiny lobster (36 released), 461 whitefish, 87 yellowfin tuna, and 2 yellowtail.

Saltwater: While only half as many anglers got out to the rockfish grounds as the week previous, fishing improved, and the catch was doubled for those dropping deep. Whitefish and sheep head numbers were also up, indicating better conditions triggering a much better bite. Sea surface temperatures have been dropping as usual along the California current, pushing pelagic species further south, but yellowfin tuna are still being caught in extended three-day range, and bluefin tuna are still in the area.

Yellowfin are much more temperature-sensitive than bluefin, and will move out of range of all but the long-range fleet as winter approaches, while bluefin are always out there off our coast somewhere. Daily conditions and whether they can be found is the trick with bluefin this time of year. As bluefin will often feed lower in the water column, plane spotters often do not see schools, so they can be found only by metering. Even if they're seen on the surface, bluefin can move several dozen miles in a day.

Knowing where they are most commonly found — off the Baja Coast and the outer banks 100 miles west of Point Loma — can shorten the search for the often elusive bluefin. So far this year, bluefin have been near the same areas off Baja where boats have been targeting the larger-than-normal yellowfin bite within a few days travel from Point Loma. In past seasons, as the cool water pushes south in the late fall and winter months, bluefin have become more prevalent at the Cortez and Tanner banks southwest of San Clemente Island.

This year, though, has been one of the best years for the better grade of yellowfin and bluefin tuna combined. We have been getting the larger bluefin in good numbers for a decade or so, but to have yellowfin in the 50 to 100-pound class within three to five-day range has not been so common. Even where the big yellowfin are usually caught — down along the Ridge and banks of the



Angler Sharon Hendrix Kramer with her 200-pound bluefin caught while kite-fishing aboard the *Red Rooster III*



Archan Phandanouvong pulling his soon-to-be-released 49.5-pound catfish to the scale at Lake Wohlford

southern end of Baja — they seem to be larger than normal, with a potential all-tackle world record fish caught this past month aboard the *Excel*.

The *Red Rooster III* reported awesome fishing from start to finish during their Ocean Tackle Research 10-day trip. Beginning with 25- to 50-pound tuna a day or so south, they then moved onto solid 70- to 100-pound yellowfin further south. By the time they got off Bahia Magdalena, they were catch-and-release marlin fishing. They rounded out the trip with fair action on big bluefin with a nice kited 200-pounder, catch-and-release yellowfin, yellowtail, and some solid rockfish and lingcod fishing. Gotta love long range season with the excellent operators working out of San Diego!

Freshwater: Trout and catfish have been the two main catches in San Diego County lakes, with a few nice largemouth bass in the mix. The larger bass seem to get triggered into activity by the trout plants, and are usually targeted in deeper water at this time of year than during late spring and summer. That said, trout, catfish, bass, and panfish have all been biting well for anglers at the Santee Lakes, which are shallow compared to our other reservoirs in the county. Miramar, Jennings, and San Vicente have all been producing a decent bass bite off the deeper drop-offs as the bass are moving into deeper water. A-rigs, dropshots, swimbaits (especially trout colored), and robo worms have been the best lures to use for bass, while catfish have been biting on the usual assortment of bait, including chicken liver and cut mackerel. For

trout, Powerbait and minijigs, including small tube baits in the 16th to 32nd of an ounce size, have been the hot ticket. Larger catfish also seem to get inspired by the trout fishing activity, with some of the better catches coming more so around Christmas than during the summer season when most lakes are stocking them. This was true again this past week at Lake Wohlford for angler Archan Phandanouvong, who caught a nice cat just a half pound shy of the fifty-pound mark. Archan was soaking a chunk of mackerel off Bass Point when the big fish bit. He toted the fish to the scale and after it was weighed, the big cat was successfully released. Whether the beach, bay, lake, or offshore, they're out there, so go out and get 'em!

DANIEL POWELL

and for benefits visit: <https://www.gilead.com/careers/compensation-benefits-and-wellbeing>. Ref. code and email resume to globalmobilityservices@gilead.com.

ENGINEERING

Zoox Inc., a leading autonomous electric vehicle co. has openings in San Diego, CA: Firmware Validation Engineer (\$119) \$136K-\$138K. Write compr test plans based on rqmts. Dev & impl automated tests. Telecom avail w/in same geo location. To apply: Email resumes@zoox.com. Must ref job# in Subject Line. EOE

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

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: momoajasonpr@gmail.com

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.

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

JOBS WANTED

LOOKING TO BE A RELIEF COOK/DISHWASHER Temp agencies are welcome to call or text. Mr. Gheir Haigh Flecher. (858) 287-3765.

CASH JOBS Wanted parttime cash jobs call (858) 471-6082

LOOKING FOR LEGIT CASH PAYING Mature lady in serious need of earning money so please contact me with any domestic types of. jobs especially such as pet sitting, House sitting, housekeeping, dog walking. Legit cash paying gigs. only! Nothing inappropriate please! Contact me now! sandiegolady13@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.

WANTED / TRADE

OLDER LEXUS WANTED Looking for an older Lexus model from years 1997-2012. Mileage 50K-200k preferred. Service records preferred. Paying \$3000-\$6000 depending on the condition and other factors. Call or text 619-601-3214. If no answer please leave voicemail. Thank you!

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

WANTED: A BELL AND MOUNTING BRACKET oFr christian chapel. No larger than 12 in to help complete chapel at a reasonable price. (207) 265-6640

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 / ashscoot@aol.com

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SEARCHING FOR OLD TUBE STEREO 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 (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

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

LOOKING FOR A DONATED A MESSAGE CHAIR (USED IS OKAY) Looking for someone to donate & deliver the Massage Chair. Khevin Miller C.M.T.(858) 287-3765

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.

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CASH PAID FOR GPS, RADAR, ETC. GPS, radar, fish finder, marine radio, chart plotter, furuno, garmin, raymarine, lowrance, yamaha, apelo, auto pilot, vhf. cash paid. call me (619) 279-7833

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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, Tansoy, Western Electric & more. I come to you! Call/Text (619) 889-5237.

San Diego Reader December 19, 2024 **31**

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HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED UCSD UCSD Interpersonal Psychiatry Program is looking to recruit healthy volunteers to participate in a research study that

examines biomarkers of depression using encephalography (EEG). You will receive compensation for your time. Call to learn more. (858) 249-2625 / iptrials@health.ucsd.edu

UCSD TMS TRIALS FOR DEPRESSION UCSD Interpersonal Psychiatry Research Program is currently recruiting participants for clinical trials that investigate the effects of transcranial magnetic stimulation on symptoms of depression. Find out if you qualify today via phone or email. (858) 249-2625 / iptrials@health.ucsd.edu

DAYCARE OPENINGS AVAILABLE! Join Ginette Family Childcare-Where We Shape Tomorrow's Leaders! Openings for children ages 0-12! Location: San Diego, CA 92115. Call/Text: (619) 917-6908. Hours: 24/7, Monday-Saturday. Email: ginettefamilychildcare@gmail.com. Call us today for a tour! (619) 335-3651 / jordancreates619@gmail.com

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Awesome!

— A Laysan albatross named Wisdom, who lives at the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, laid what experts believe to be her 60th egg recently, her first in four years. Wisdom is 74 years old, the Associated Press reported on Dec. 6. Laysan albatrosses mate for life; Wisdom's mate, Akeakamai, has not been seen for several years, and Wisdom started stepping out with another male. "We are optimistic that the egg will hatch," said Jonathan Plissner, supervisory wildlife biologist at the refuge. Eggs typically incubate for about two months.

Sign of the Times

— An unnamed woman in Chongqing, China, landed the grand prize of \$1,380 after she managed to avoid using her mobile phone for ... one hour, MSN reported on Dec. 3. A local business organized the "public welfare challenge" aimed to spotlight the issue of smartphone addiction. The winning participant showed up in her jammies and had to lie perfectly still, without benefit of distractions like books or movies. Out of 10 contestants, she was the only one who prevailed.

Eyes All Over

— Ever feel like you're being watched? Someone in Bend, Oregon, has been putting googly eyes on public artwork in local roundabouts, reported the *Sacramento Bee* on Dec. 8. At least eight statues and sculptures have been "enhanced" so far, and city

officials are none too pleased. "While the googly eyes placed on the various art pieces around town might give you a chuckle, it costs money to remove them with care to not damage the art," read a Dec. 4 post on the city's Instagram page. It seems the adhesive used by the googly bandit can damage the artwork; the city claims to have spent \$1500 on repairs so far. However, the comments on the city's post were decidedly pro-whimsy: "These googly eyes give me the hope to move forward each day," read one. Others included: "Let us have some fun," "Googly eyes keep my mental health in a good place," and the hard-to-argue-with "LONG LIVE GOOGLY EYES!"

That's Commitment

— And you thought your commute was tough. International student Guangli Xu, 28, currently in his final semester at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia, went viral in early December after posting a video on Douyin (the Chinese version of TikTok) documenting his weekly commute. That is, his weekly 5468-mile commute. Xu told SBS Mandarin that the trip from his hometown of Dezhou in China's Shandong province to Melbourne and back -- a journey he made 11 times between August and October -- costs about \$1500, which ends up being comparable to what his cost of living would be if he stayed in Melbourne full-time. "But I think the money is better spent.

Saving Santa

— Ho-ho-ho-no: one of Santa's helpers had

to be rescued off the side of a building, reported *USA Today* on Dec. 10. Firefighters were called to the scene of the Holiday Extravaganza in Norwalk, Connecticut, when a man dressed as Santa Claus got stuck 60 feet off the ground. The man was rappelling down the 13-story building when part of his costume became entangled in the rigging. The rescue crew pulled him to safety through a 6th-floor window; no injuries were reported. (Had it been the real Santa, of course, the reindeer would have flown to his rescue right away.)

Bad Habit

— A mafia investigation in Italy recently yielded 24 arrests, but one suspect stands out among the rest: Sister Anna Donelli. The BBC reported on Dec. 4 that a sting operation by the Italian police caught the nun using her position as a volunteer at a prison, which gave her "free access to the penitentiary facilities," to relay messages and info between the notorious 'Ndrangheta mafia and its incarcerated members. Donelli will surely have company as she awaits trial; the police operation, which involves hundreds of officers, is ongoing across northern Italy.

Yay, Science!

— A Chicago middle-schooler brought some goose droppings to science club -- and landed in the middle of a biomedical breakthrough. The club is supervised by researchers from the University of Illinois as part of an initiative to "involve young learners in

the search for new antibiotics," reported *ScienceAlert* on Dec. 5. Students were instructed to "explore their neighborhood for new bioactive compounds." Hence, goose poop from a local park. With the help of the pros, the student safely isolated a bacterium from the droppings that showed antibiotic activity -- an incredibly rare and important feat, say the experts. Not only that, but the bacterium also produced a never-before-seen natural compound which, in lab tests, slowed the growth of certain cancer cells. The student is now listed as a co-author of the peer-reviewed paper on the discoveries.

Issss That You Ssssnoring?

— Here's some news to help you replenish your stock of nightmare fuel. *The Indian Express* reported that a man in Stellenbosch, South Africa, found a surprise under his bedroom pillow when he returned home in late November: a live cape cobra. The man immediately called Stellenbosch Snake Removals, who posted a video clip on Nov. 24 on Facebook of the removal by expert snake wrangler Emile Rossouw. The company called the highly venomous snake "by far our most dangerous cobra," and said "with the Black Mamba it accounts for the majority of fatal snake bites in South Africa." Sleep tight.

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

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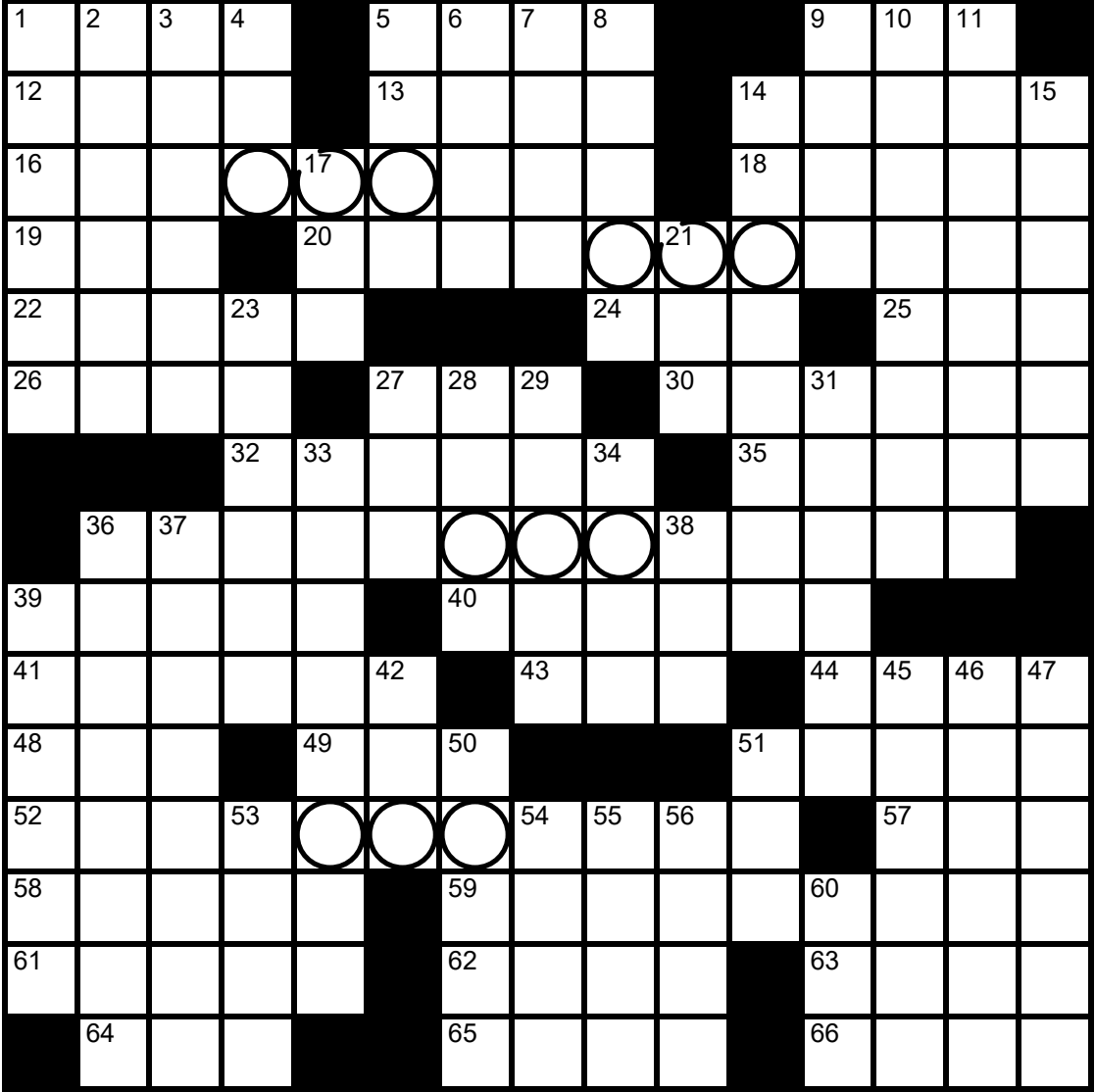
San Diego Reader December 19, 2024

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CROSSWORD

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Across

- 1. "Midnite Vultures" musician
- 5. False witness
- 9. PPO alternative
- 12. Biodiversity sci.
- 13. Taj Mahal city
- 14. Kinder chocolate biscuit bar
- 16. NYC mayor Ed Koch's greeting (or just a question of evaluation)
- 18. "Rags-to-riches" author Horatio
- 19. Hoppy concoction
- 20. Western Nevada body of water with distinctive rock structures sticking out

Down

- 1. Act properly
- 2. French academies
- 3. Shrinks in fear
- 4. Dutch airline that's three letters in a row
- 5. "A Black ____ Sketch Show"
- 6. "Frankenstein" assistant
- 7. Opera highlight
- 8. "____ 1/2" (classic manga)
- 9. Ship bottom
- 10. Dave Mustaine thrash metal band
- 11. Basic gold unit
- 14. Basis for an "MST3K" episode, generally
- 15. Vague caveat

22. Vice ____

- 24. Pitcher's asset
- 25. Indian lentil dish
- 26. In ____ (basically)
- 27. X in the Greek alphabet
- 30. Those running leisurely
- 32. Slow the progress of
- 35. The "V" in CV
- 36. CBS panel show hosted by Taylor Tomlinson
- 39. Book with routes
- 40. Shetlands, e.g.
- 41. Endocrinologist's concerns
- 43. Racing driver Verstappen
- 44. Petty squabble
- 48. Gobble up

- 17. Linguist's notation system, for short
- 21. Non-virtual, for short
- 23. Vegan food also called "wheat gluten"
- 27. Lifeguard training subj.
- 28. Burlap base
- 29. Take the cake, for example
- 31. Complete mess
- 33. "____ et messieurs ..."
- 34. Mrs. Garrett on "The Facts of Life"
- 36. Like Chris Tucker and Ed Helms, by birth
- 37. Reason to pull over
- 38. Overrule
- 39. Type of hiring

49. Wanted poster abbr.

- 51. Overwhelmingly
- 52. Dale Earnhardt, Sr. nickname, with "The"
- 57. Yucatan yell
- 58. "Goosebumps" author R. L.
- 59. Centers represented by the circled letters
- 61. Grades
- 62. "____ least consider the possibility"
- 63. "30 Rock" costar Baldwin
- 64. "Excitebike" gaming platform
- 65. Faucets
- 66. Neighbor of Cygnus and Draco

- discrimination
- 42. Winter Olympics item
- 45. "We can hope!"
- 46. Move unsteadily
- 47. Coke-owned citrus soft drink
- 50. Take the blame for
- 51. Word following tech or crypto
- 53. Tattoo parlor stock
- 54. Opera set near the Nile
- 55. Letters on a vaccine for whooping cough (among other things)
- 56. Chooses (to)
- 60. Consequent ending?

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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



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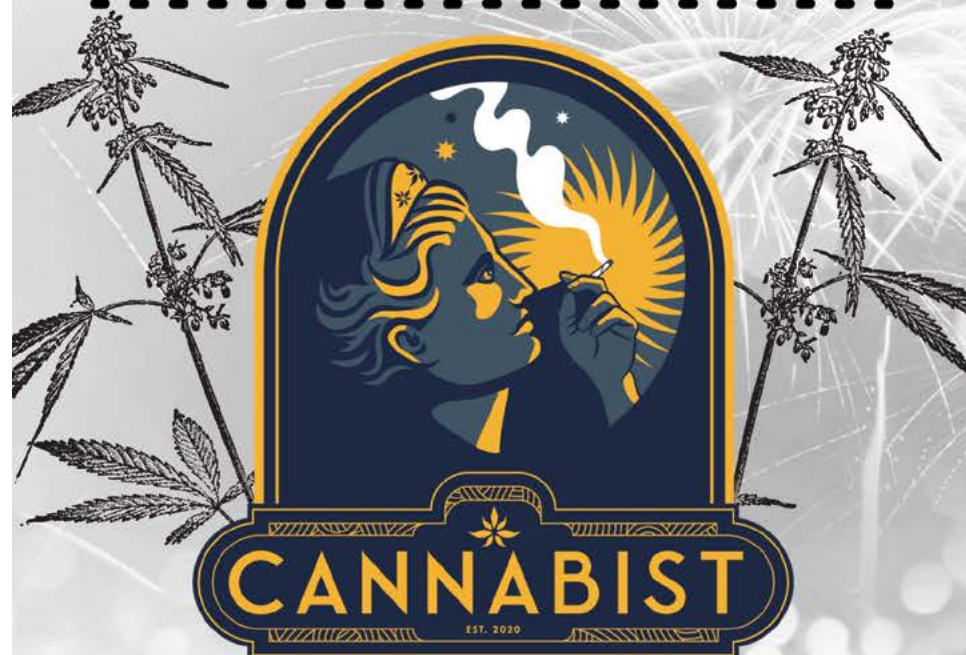
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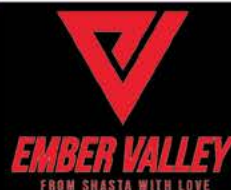
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* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 1-20-25. **No-Needle system cannot be 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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