

News briefs

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about 27% higher than originally anticipated. The estimated projection was 755, but 965 filed the SERP paperwork by the Jan. 15 deadline.

SD Unified's Budget Review Team communicated with principals, site administrators and labor partners that the increase in SERP applicants "gives us an opportunity to develop and implement an attrition model that is both fiscal aligned and allows us to retain as many employees as possible to avoid a large amount of layoffs."

Jobs report: Steady employment counters San Diegans' reality

For the first time in a decade, the San Diego unemployment rate hasn't changed in five consecutive months, according to regional data released by the California Employment Development Department. The latest labor market data has been analyzed by San Diego Regional Policy & Innovation Center (PIC) Chief Economist, Daniel Enemark, PhD., who adjusted the raw data to account for seasonal trends.

This record-setting lack of change is remarkable as it shows that not a single sector added or lost 1,000 jobs between November and December 2024. December's unemployment rate sat at a shockingly stable 4.6%.

"With the unemployment rate historically stable – and quite close to full employment – why do so many of us feel so negatively about the economy?" said Dr. Enemark. "The answer is there are plenty of jobs, but not enough jobs that provide financial self-sufficiency."

A report commissioned by the San Diego Foundation, PIC found that over a third of San Diegans live in households not earning enough to cover the costs of a lower standard of living without government assistance. That rate is twice as high for Latinos.

Today the median home price in San Diego County is \$935,000. With a 30-year fixed mortgage at current rates plus property taxes, that house will cost around \$5,900 a month, unaffordable for any household earning less than \$253,000 a year, which is most households.

"Doctor Who" exhibit coming to Comic-Con Museum

It's time for Whovians to dust off their sonic screwdrivers because San Diego's Comic-Con Museum, located inside historic Balboa Park, has announced that tickets for the highly anticipated U.S. premiere of the Doctor Who Worlds of Wonder: Where Science Meets Fiction exhibit are on sale now ahead of its opening on March 15.

The exhibit features an extensive array of original props and sets, and a unique collection of behind-the-scenes resource materials from the world's longest-running science fiction show. This multi-sensory exhibit invites visitors to experience the Doctor's adventures, come face to face with a selection of iconic characters, and explore some of the worlds visited on screen, all while learning about the real-life science behind the show's memorable moments. A wealth of scientific "wibbly-wobbly, timey-wimey" topics like the concept of time travel, artificial intelligence, DNA manipulation, and cloning can be explored throughout the exhibit.

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Uptown // Downtown Calendar

Working Title No. 4

Join PROJECT [BLANK] at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral on Feb. 6-8 from 6-9 p.m. for their fourth-annual exhibition of experimental art and music, featuring dozens of visual artists, filmmakers, sound and performance artists, composers, and musicians. Tickets start at \$15.

Super Bowl at Rooftop Cinema Club

On Super Bowl Sunday (Sunday, Feb. 9), Rooftop Cinema Club is hosting a watch party atop the Grand Hyatt with 24-foot LED screens and the San Diego skyline as a backdrop. \$20 ticket includes popcorn.

"The Harlem Rhapsody" book launch

For Black History Month, on Monday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m., New York Times best-selling coauthor ("The Personal Librarian," 2021) Victoria Christopher Murray will join hundreds of San Diego book lovers for the launch of her new historical novel, "The Harlem Rhapsody." Hosted at the San Diego Central Library's state-of-the-art Neil Morgan Auditorium, the author talk, Q&A and book signing is part of a series organized and funded by the Library Foundation San Diego.

bravOG40

The Original 40 Brewing Company in North Park is hosting a Real Housewives/Vanderpump/Bravo TV-themed Galentine's Day event on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 6 – 9 p.m. The evening will feature trivia, raffle prizes, Pumptini cocktails, photo booth,

Bravolebrity-curated music playlist, and pop-up shop from Pacific Beach's Trendy & Tippy clothing and accessories store.



Galentine's Day at Havana 1920. (Photo courtesy of GBOD Hospitality Group)

Galentine's Day at Havana 1920

Besties, boos and everyone in between can celebrate love, laughter and friendship this Galentine's Day at Havana 1920 (548 Fifth Ave.) during its lovely Havana Nights event from 7 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13.

"we are continuous"

A poignant exploration of identity, love, and the invisible threads that connect us at Diversionary Theatre. The show plays from Feb. 13 to March 9. Discounted tickets start at \$11.50. diversionary.org.

"Dog Man: The Musical"

Based on the worldwide best-selling hit series by Dav Pilkey, "Dog Man: The Musical" is a hilarious and heartwarming production following the chronicles of Dog Man, who with the head of a dog and the body of a policeman, loves to fight crime and chew on the furniture. This family-friendly production will be

at Balboa Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$37.90.

The Restaurant Awards with DJ Showtime

A night at Oxford Social Club (435 Fifth Ave.) dedicated to celebrating Little Italy's top restaurants, with award presentations and DJ Showtime behind the decks on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 10:30 p.m. Entry starts at \$20.

Tribute to the Reggae Legends 2025

Tribute to the Reggae Legends, also known as Bob Marley Day, honors the rich legacy of reggae music at an annual two-day festival at the WorldBeat Cultural Center (2100 Park Blvd.) in Balboa Park on Feb. 21 and 22. Tickets start at \$40 at tributetothelegends.com.



"Sideways Stories from Wayside School" (Courtesy image)

"Sideways Stories from Wayside School"

San Diego Junior Theatre continues its 77th season with "Sideways Stories from Wayside School," based on the popular Louis Sachar book series of the same name. It will run Fridays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. from Feb. 28 to March 16.

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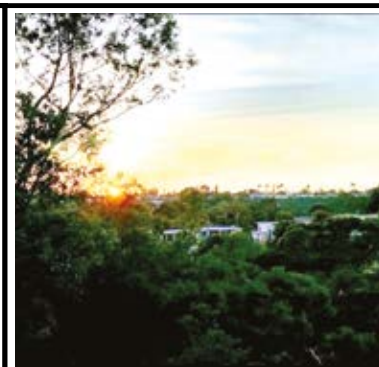
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