

Travel: The weird and wonderful side of Catalina beckons SoCal day-trippers looking for a quick and easy getaway. C9



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HEALTH

Infant's plight spotlights donor crisis



David Whiting
Columnist

Sweet baby James critically needs liver transplant; as he waits for a lifeline, he's showered with love

You could call this column a tale of twin babies, one healthy, the other desperately fighting for his life and in need of a liver transplant. But this story isn't only

about little James Quinn, who patiently waits for a liver while a dedicated staff at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital nurtures him and keeps him alive.

At its heart, this column is about the tens of thousands of people in this nation who will die if they don't receive a healthy organ from a donor. That's right, donor organs matter. In the starkest terms, they allow people to live. They also remind us to love.

WHITING » PAGE 9



James, left, and his twin brother, Hendrix Quinn. James was diagnosed with atresia disease and will die without a donor liver.

COURTESY OF JACINDA QUINN

HEALTH

FRIENDS HELP MAN BE HIS BEST



PHOTOS BY MINDY SCHAUER — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eddy Newton III, 49, at home with longtime friend Cindy Day, left, and his mother, Emilee, in Riverside.

Eddy Newton III's supporters see nothing but kindness when they see him; they have launched a fundraising campaign to replace his rundown mobile home

By Theresa Walker
twalker@ocregister.com
@TillTheresa on Twitter

Eddy Newton III is one in 10,000.

That's how rare it is to be born with the genetic disorder that distorts his face with benign tumors that constantly invade his head and neck.

People mistakenly think he suffers from the same disease that afflicted the Elephant Man, the carnival name given to 19th century Englishman Joseph Merrick, whose life story was made into a Tony Award-winning play in 1979 and then a big screen film a year later.

Merrick's sufferings were from a related disease. But the reaction from those who don't know the difference is the same.

Newton's looks typically make strangers cringe. Or, worse, hurt

NEWTON » PAGE 14



Newton looks out the bedroom window of his mobile home that he shares with his mother. Newton has neurofibromatosis, a disease that distorts his face and has caused him to have multiple surgeries.

DRUG ADDICTION

Phantom fentanyl deaths skyrocket

By Teri Storza
tsorza@ocregister.com
@teriastorza on Twitter

The good news, if there is any, is that opioid prescriptions and drug-related emergency room visits have declined in Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties — as well as in California as a whole — since 2014.

The not-so-good news — and there's plenty — is that fentanyl-related deaths have skyrocketed over the past five years, especially in Los Angeles County, which far outpaces the state average. Fifteen people died from fentanyl overdoses in 2014 in L.A. County. In 2018, deaths spiked 1,247% to 202, according to data from the California Department of Public Health.

FENTANYL » PAGE 12

MEDIA

'Crime Beat' podcast's second season nears

By Keith Sharon
ksharon@ocregister.com
@KeithSharonOC on Twitter

A new season of the "Crime Beat" podcast is afoot.

On Thursday, the second season of the deep-dive narrative crime series will be available on AppleCoreMedia, iTunes, Stitcher or wherever you get your podcasts. Season two of "Crime Beat" is called "Mom vs. Murderer."

'CRIME BEAT' » PAGE 7

IMPEACHMENT

Ukraine inquiry rattles State Department

Findings threaten to tarnish department's reputation as a nonpartisan arm of foreign policy, officials say. **PAGE A17**

MUSIC

Liam Gallagher takes stock of his rock star life

The former Oasis frontman has family and getting older on his mind, plus his coming Hollywood shows. **SPOTLIGHT**

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MUSIC

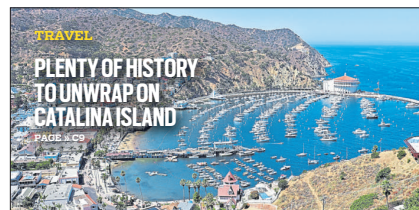
THE THEMES OF Liam Gallagher

The former Oasis frontman has family and getting older on his mind — plus new output and coming Hollywood shows

By Peter Larsen — plarsen@ocregister.com @PeterLarsenBSF on Twitter

Liam Gallagher was at home in London, enjoying a rare few days of sloth in a year packed with action. “Just sitting around the house, man, reshuffling the pack,” he says over the phone in the thick accent of his native Manchester. “As It Was,” a documentary tracing his post-Oasis comeback and lingering feud with brother and Oasis bandmate Noel, was about to come out in the United States after its June debut in the United Kingdom. He’s got a new solo album, “Why Me? Why Not,” and he

LIAM » PAGE 3



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TRAVEL

Sunday, October 6, 2019 »

SANTA CATALINA ISLAND



Billionaire William Wrigley Jr. bought most of Santa Catalina Island 100 years ago, turning it into a bona fide resort destination. COURTESY OF CATALINA ISLAND MUSEUM

The historic Wrigley Mansion has been turned into the Mt Ada bed and breakfast. DAVID DICKSTEIN

The chewing gum magnate's legacy

No man is an island, but William Wrigley came close

By David Dickstein
Correspondent

On Santa Catalina Island, fish fly, the casino has no gambling and there's a Third Street, but no First or Second street. Even Catalina's unofficial song is amiss — "The Island of Romance" isn't 26 miles across the sea, as the classic Four Preps tune goes, but a less-melodic 19.6 if we're singing about minimum distance from the mainland.

Wacky stuff, but Catalina's quirks aren't worth losing sleep over unless you're the type of person bothered by the fact that Knott's Berry Farm no longer grows berries or the Los Angeles Angels don't play in L.A. The island's 4,000 residents seem to embrace their homegrown peculiarities, and for the rest of us, we get to experience the weird and wonderful with easy getaways, thanks to high-speed boat trips of 60 to 90 minutes from four ports in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

With its distinctive silhouette visible on most days from many parts of the Southern California coast, teasing those who want to get away from it all, even if just for a day, Catalina beckons like a local Bali Hai. Its 27 lodgings, near-50 restaurants and bars and other prerequisites to be called a full-service resort destination put Catalina on a whole other level with its fellow ferry-serving retreats of the region.

What also separates Catalina from the likes of Newport Beach's Balboa Island and Long Beach's Naples — besides a channel, of course — is that the watercraft bound for Catalina aren't making room for cars. People, and lots of them, are what's being carried on comfortable vessels from Long Beach, San Pedro, Newport Beach and Dana Point to Avalon, Catalina's only city, and the rustic village of Two Harbors.

About 70 percent of the 1 million estimated to visit Catalina this year will arrive by cross-channel watercraft, paying about \$40 each way.

The escape for claustrophobic mainlanders is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Catalina Island Co. being purchased by

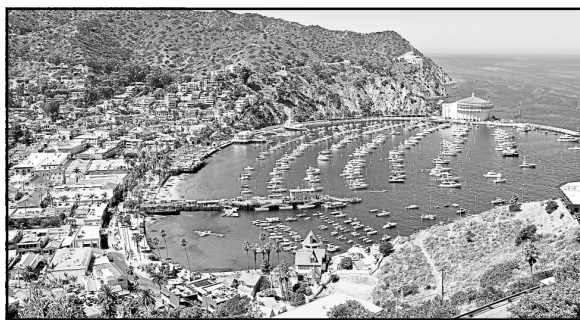


PHOTO BY DAVID DICKSTEIN

Picturesque views of Avalon, the larger of the island's two towns, are among the benefits of staying or dining at Mt Ada, formerly known as the Wrigley Mansion.



PHOTO BY DAVID DICKSTEIN

A black-crowned night heron welcomes visiting mainlanders near the Avalon ferry terminal. Ships from four cities make the journey to the island and back.

chewing gum industrialist William Wrigley Jr., who at the time was also the majority owner of baseball's Chicago Cubs. The land deal in 1919 contributed to Catalina's true development as a resort destination.

In honor of the Wrigley centennial, Avalon is festooned with flags resembling those flown at Wrigley Field after a Cubs victory. Since this isn't Chicago, the "W" on the banners could very well stand more for "Wrigley" than "win." The centennial celebration that continues through the year has much more going on besides decorations.

Wrigley's legacy is be-

ing honored at restaurants, hotels and tour operations throughout Avalon. In this milestone year, nods to a century's worth of history can be seen, heard and even eaten from one inviting end of Avalon to the other — or, in geographical terms, from where the Catalina Express and Catalina Flyer ferries dock at Cabrillo Peninsula to Avalon's best beach along Descanso Bay.

Visitors can get a literal taste of the Wrigley centennial simply by chewing a stick of Doublemint while strolling along shore-hugging Crescent Avenue. Or they can freshen their breath with Wrigley gum

after eating one of several "Flashback Favorites" being served through December at restaurants owned and operated by the Catalina Island Co.

Mt Ada, the punctuation-challenged former Wrigley estate that is now a swanky view-blessed, six-suite bed and breakfast, is celebrating the centennial with the additions of Old Plantation Vegetable Soup, creole-style swordfish and Poor Man's Rice Pudding on its lunch menu. In 1922, these dishes were served at the Hotel Saint Catherine, which from 1918-1966 stood where the Descanso Beach Club is today.

got a jump on its own centennial celebration when it had a soft reopening in August after being closed for 18 months of sorely needed renovation. Named after his daughter-in-law, Helen Atwater Wrigley, the spruced-up property turns 100 in July. The restyled lobby is elegant yet unpretentious, with a beachy vibe, and now adorned with the hotel namesake's personal harp and accordion.

When visitors aren't eating, sleeping or shopping on Catalina, they're often discovering. For the centennial, the Catalina Island Co. is offering guided anniversary tours that pair scenic ocean and canyon views with a deep dive into rich history and a drive deep inside the 74-square-mile landscape.

Through Jan. 19, an exhibition at the Catalina Island Museum commemorates Wrigley's execution of his vision for Catalina, focusing on the first year of ownership. Seasonally, the island has dozens of tour operators happy to take you scuba diving, parasailing, sport fishing, zip-lining, sailing, kayaking and on a host of other adventures. Less strenuous activities include charter sails with or without the romance, glass-bottom boat rides to see dry what snorkelers see wet, and checking for yourself whether flying fish do exist.

Exciting and unique as many of these excursions may be, they aren't of the one-must-see on the island. Behold the Casino.

As overused as "iconic" is in the travel writing world, there's no getting around using the adjective to describe the pink, round building that majestically juts out of Avalon Harbor like the Eiffel Tower adorns Paris' skyline. Opened in 1929 under Wrigley's direction, the Casino, named after the Italian word for "gathering place," epitomizes everything glamorous about Catalina. Its golden years may have passed, but the era when the likes of Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and Kay Kyser played swing there comes alive with special events and, more frequently, regularly scheduled walking tours of the grand palace.



PHOTO BY ANDREW ALLEN

The personal harp of Helen Atwater Wrigley, daughter-in-law of the gum magnate, is in the lobby of the newly renovated Hotel Atwater.

Avalon Grille, arguably the town's go-to fine dining establishment, is serving up a Cosmopolitan Salad and swordfish with Italian sausage, all once served at the St. Catherine.

For imbibing island visitors, Wrigley Martinis, created in the 1950s by William's son, Philip Knight Wrigley, are being concocted for another few months at the beach club and Avalon Grille. The gin-based drink, cheekily priced at \$19.19, comes with a pack of gum. And, no, it's not Trident — that would be like drinking Pepsi in Atlanta.

More respects to the elder Wrigley are being paid at Hotel Atwater, the first hotel built under his direction. The 95-unit property