

VALLEY NEWS

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VALLEY NEWS

GRADUATION

June 16 – 22, 2023 www.myvalleynews.com Volume 23, Issue 24

Congratulations CLASS OF 2023

C-2 Valley News • www.myvalleynews.com • June 16, 2023

*Congratulations
CLASS OF 2023*

Chaparral High School • Temecula, CA

Tyler Wang plays "Pomp and Circumstance No. 1" on the piano to start the commencement ceremony at Chaparral High School on Thursday, June 8.

Chaparral Principal Tina Miller listens as ASB President Summer Rostick addresses the class of 2023.

Valley News/David Cordero photo

Chaparral High School • Temecula, CA

Chaparral High School Class of 2023 graduate Samuel Amador waves to loved ones during the high school's graduation ceremony, June 1.

Valley News/David Cordero photo

Chaparral High School • Temecula, CA

Chaparral High School Class of 2023 graduate Sunshine Blaustein poses with her peers during the high school's graduation ceremony.

Valley News/David Cordero photo

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*Congratulations
CLASS OF 2023*

Murrieta Mesa High School • Murrieta, CA

Jordan Wages sings "The Star Spangled Banner" as Commanding Officer Aaron Matheus.

Murrieta Mesa High School • Murrieta, CA

Xavier McCullum walks with his peers at the Murrieta Mesa High School graduation ceremony.

Murrieta Mesa High School • Murrieta, CA

Murrieta Mesa High School graduate Sunshine Blaustein gathers with her peers during the high school's graduation ceremony.

**MURRIETA VALLEY USD
Congratulates
THE CLASS OF 2023
INSPIRE THE WORLD
WITH YOUR
INTELLIGENCE,
KINDNESS AND
PERSONAL SUCCESS!**

VALLEY NEWS

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French Valley neighborhood showcases festive holiday displays. B-2

2023 top 10 local sports moments and more. C-1

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VALLEY NEWS

A Reedermedia publication

SERVING TEMECULA, MURRIETA, LAKE ELsinore, MENIFEE, WILDOMAR, HEMET, SAN JACINTO AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

December 29, 2023 - January 4, 2024

Volume 23, Issue 52

2023 Year in review through photos

Rosie 2023 through the lens of staff photographer Shore Glasson starting on page A-2.

Rancho Water board re-elects President John Rossi and Senior Vice President Brian Brady

John Rossi, President, Rancho Water District photo
Brian Brady, Senior Vice President, Rancho Water District photo

Community leader lauded for his 'golden deeds'

Mike Acciari, center, this year's recipient of the Book of Golden Deeds is joined by the Exchange Club's newest members, Jim Wilson, left, and Mike Koenig, right.

INDEX

Area Valley Outlook.....D-1
Business.....C-5
Cities.....B-2
Calendars of Events.....B-2
Classifieds.....C-7
Education.....B-6
Entertainment.....B-5
Health.....B-5
Homes & Gardens.....B-4
Local.....C-7
Neighborhood News.....C-1
Obituaries.....B-1
Sports.....C-1

TEMECULA — The Rancho Water District Board of Directors unanimously re-elected John Rossi and Brian Brady at their annual meeting last week for a one-year term beginning in January.

President Rossi has served on the board since 2010 and was elected as President and Brian Brady as Senior Vice President in 2019. Rossi has been a member of the board for a one-year term beginning in January.

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Diana A. Rhodes — Diana A. Rhodes, Special to Valley News

Each year, the Hemet-San Jacinto Exchange Club presents the "Book of Golden Deeds" and on Dec. 4, Victoria Caramella, the Exchange Club's Director of CTE and Marketing, presented the award to Rossi.

"With our focus on God, country and youth, the Exchange Club is honored to present the Book of Golden Deeds," Caramella said. "Mr. Rossi has been a tenured resident of the valley for many years and has been involved in many important projects here.

see RANCHO, page A-2

DEEDS, page A-4

TAKEOVER — The Rancho Water District Board of Directors unanimously re-elected John Rossi and Brian Brady at their annual meeting last week for a one-year term beginning in January.

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see DEEDS, page A-4

INDEX

Area Valley Outlook.....D-1
Business.....B-7
Business Directory.....B-7
Calendars of Events.....B-7
Classifieds.....B-7
Education.....B-4
Entertainment.....B-5
Faith.....B-10
Health.....A-7
Homes & Gardens.....B-10
Legal Notices.....B-8
Local.....A-1
Obituaries.....B-1
Regional News.....B-7

A. Marquesa Mesa graduate in 2016, Kyan Burns gets ready for action in the 2023 Desert TV Holiday Bowl.

Former Chaperon standout, Justin Dorchik (right, 57), and USC teammate, Junchi Mareshin (79), line up on a post play to protect QB Matt Heim of Petro Pete, the site of the 2023 Desert TV Holiday Bowl.

workshop

PERRIS — The Riverside County District 1 has awarded a \$10,000 grant to support the work of the Guitars of Hope Music Therapy Program, which uses innovative program transforming lives through sustainable agricultural workshops.

see page A-10

INDEX

Area Valley Outlook.....B-1
Business.....B-7
Business Directory.....B-7
Calendars of Events.....B-7
Classifieds.....B-7
Education.....B-4
Entertainment.....B-5
Faith.....B-10
Health.....A-7
Homes & Gardens.....B-10
Legal Notices.....B-8
Local.....A-1
Obituaries.....B-1
Regional News.....B-7

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Volume 24, Issue 1

SPORTS

2023 Dedich, Murrieta Mesa's Barrs USC win Holiday Bowl

Riley Koenig/Las Vegas photo

Ramarr's Dedich, Murrieta Mesa's Barrs USC win Holiday Bowl

Riley Koenig/Las Vegas photo

WILDMAR'S Rock Fitness energizes community with Back-to-Homeschool Fest. B-4

Hope House to open this fall, offering shelter and support for pregnant women and young moms. B-7

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Volume 25, Issue 1

Rose Salgado Elementary School opening is celebrated

Members of the Salgado family gather for a photo in front of the newest and largest elementary school in the San Jacinto Unified School District. Photo by Alex Tapia/Valley News photo

ROSE SALGADO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians — The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians held a ribbon cutting ceremony, Aug. 1, for its new elementary school in Hemet. The school's namesake, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Tribal member

Families enjoy shopping before heading back to school

NCFD firefighters bottle a residential solar backup battery fire sparks safety concerns

On Friday, August 8, 2005, the North County Fire Protection District responded to a residential fire in Fallbrook caused by a lithium-ion battery exploding. The black, which was containing a lithium-ion battery, exploded during cooling efforts, highlighted the potential dangers of lithium-ion batteries in lithium-ion batteries.

The incident occurred on Arrowwood Ct. in Fallbrook, where a solar system had been installed with energy generation by solar panels during the day for evening use, experiencing a short circuit causing a dangerous reaction in which the battery exploded, causing a fire.

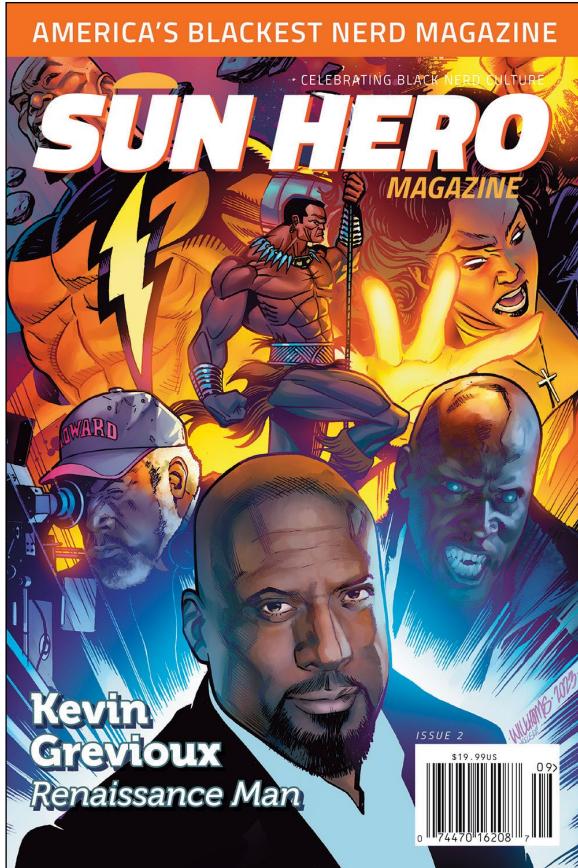
"We had to use several thousand

Julie Reeder

see SOLAR, page A-2

SUN HERO MAGAZINE

Page size 6"x9"



Karina Young

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SUN HERO MAGAZINE

Page size 6"x9"

FEATURED ARTIST

ARIE MONROE

By Dané Shobe

Where do we even begin? Your art is beautiful, vibrant, and highly imaginative. How did you discover your passion for art?

Growing up I always loved coloring books and drawing. I wrote my first children's book when I was in 5th grade and my class and teachers loved it. It was about a little girl who found a dinosaur egg and it hatched and a triceratops was born.

That year I was doing really bad in my studies and the teacher I did much better with making art. I remember my 5th-grade teacher telling my mom in a parent-teacher conference that I was a really slow child.

I never saw it that way. I studied hard and often double and triple-checked my work cause I didn't want to be wrong. My mom had told me I was not allowed to get Cs and Ds so I was always careful to make sure I did everything correctly.

That same teacher found out that the city hall was hosting an art contest for kids so I built a life-size paper mache triceratops hatching out of an egg to go with my book. It won an award and was put on display in city hall.

When I made it to middle school I made up my mind that I wanted to be an artist.

I love animation – Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Tiny Toons were my absolute favorite. When my 6th grade art teacher noticed, he made a photocopy of the book *How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way*.



[Above] Mainasha from Tornado Alley. [Left] The artist Arie Monroe. [Previous spread] Mainasha as Captain America by Arie Monroe.



How did you come up with your main character, Mainasha, and the story for your comic *Tornado Alley*?

I attended an art high school called Paseo Academy of Fine and Performing Arts.

I loved comics and was always making stories and designing new characters. One day I drew a character I felt looked like me. I wanted her to do and be everything I thought I could not be.

I wanted to escape my life and express myself, and I did it through Mainasha. I developed a little obsession with The Wizard and the Wizard of Oz.

I wrote so many stories for her but I didn't know where it was going and I remember a teacher in high school used to call me The Quiet Storm because I was quiet but they said I drew up a storm.

So Quiet Storm and Tornado Alley were a 2 part series. Tornado Alley was a short story comic series while Quiet Storm was for longer form graphic novel style stories with more serious storylines.

You use of color in your art is very striking, which makes your decision to go black and white for *Tornado Alley* somewhat surprising. Why did you choose to go that route?

I LOVE BW COMICS AND I AM A HUGE MANGA FAN. When drawing comics I prefer the beauty of ink on paper. I don't think I could ever only draw digital comics because I love the artistry behind a beautifully inked page.

I went to the Joe Lefter School where I really learned how to ink comics and I am a huge fan of ink wash and charcoal drawings.

Two of my favorite inkers are Sean Murphy Goran and Matco Scaler. But I also am a big fan of Frank Frazetta and a lot of other old-school comic artists. Seeing the ink sit on top of the paper is thrilling to me and color waters it down and takes away from the pure drawing skill of the artist.

Whenever I see the work of Sean or Matco colored in by someone else, it seems to suck the energy out of the artwork and dumb it down. Craig Thompson's "Habibi" is another example of drawing genius. Every page is beautiful and black and white.

[Right] Pages of Monroe's comic book *Tornado Alley*. 33

DEMARIO'S DOPE DROPS

DeMario Hill is a passionate supporter of Black indie comics. Inspired by diverse characters like Bishop from X-Men, he discovered the Black indie scene through online communities. Now, he actively champions indie creators and their stories, celebrating representation in comics.



PURGE #1
Amara Entertainment

This revamp of the 1993 Black indie classic is an amazing, action-packed sci-fi comic with fight sequences that feel like they belong in a movie, paired with beautifully illustrated artwork. The book opens with a glimpse into Purge's intriguing backstory, which immediately draws you in. I especially enjoyed the witty banter between Purge and his A.I. assistant, Cleo, who, despite his stubbornness, always looks out for him. The story is sharply written by veteran comic book author Roosevelt Pitt Jr. of ANIA fame*, keeping readers hooked and eager for the next issue.

*see Sun Hero #1

THE CARDINAL #1
Alpha Comics

The Cardinal brings a fresh perspective, introducing a dynamic Black character that readers will come to fully understand by the book's end. The hero's striking costume design immediately stands out, and the story launches into action from the first page, drawing readers in. The artwork is phenomenal, keeping the momentum going throughout. While the origin of his powers is revealed later in the issue, it's woven in with sharp, clever writing that elevates the entire book. This is a standout debut and one of my favorite Black indie comics. I highly recommend it to anyone looking to discover a cool new Black superhero with incredible powers.



THE ALMIGHTY STREET TEAM #1
By various artists

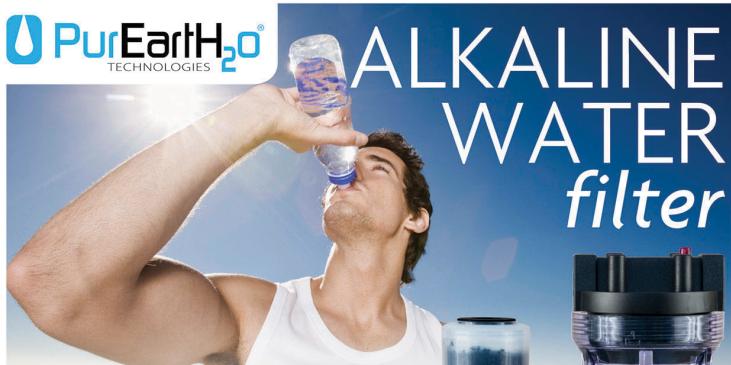
I thought this was an amazing book and hope that someday the creators pick it up as an ongoing series because it truly deserves it. One thing that immediately stood out was its unique layout. Unlike most comics that you read left to right, this book is read from top to bottom—a setup I haven't seen before. It didn't detract from my experience, but it might take some readers a bit to adjust.

The dark panels give the book a gritty, intense feel that really works. The action and some of the dialogue bring back a sense of 90s nostalgia, reminiscent of classic hood movies in a good way. The team of heroes, all visually striking and distinct, comes together to save their city, making for a compelling cast.

For true Black indie comic fans, this is a must-read that won't disappoint.

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