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SAN DIEGO'S ENDLESS SUMMER

A band of committed locavores, indie designers, and restaurateurs have marched into **Liberty Station**, a former naval training center.

by ARCHANA RAM

1 MANGIA, MANGIA

The people behind the city's best pizza (Buona Forchetta) and pasta (Bice) have joined forces at **Officine Buona Forchetta**. The magic happens in two gold-tiled wood-fire ovens—one dedicated to gluten-free pizzas—that produce blistered Neapolitan pies.
2865 Sims Rd.

2 SHOP TO IT

Slip into the SoCal way of life at **Moniker General**, where you can buy canvas-and-leather backpacks and electric-blue surfboards, all made in San Diego. Stop at the bar for a local beer or a nitro cold-brew coffee made with Moniker's own blend, or scope out the boutique's salvaged-wood furniture.
2860 Sims Rd.

3 HOT STUFF

Spending an afternoon at **Fireside by the Patio** is like hanging out in a friend's backyard—if your friend had an enormous deck and an obsession with cooking by fire. Most tables are outside, and every item on the menu, from juicy elk yakitori to finely charred quinoa salads, is cooked on a grill or in a wood-fire oven.
2855 Perry Rd.

4 FRESH AND NEW

With nearly 30 local purveyors, the just-opened **Liberty Public Market** is a microcosm of San Diego's food world—and its sole restaurant, **Mess Hall**, is a microcosm of the market. Every day, chef Tim Kolanko roams the stalls and then riffs on ingredients that catch his eye. Say, sea trout. Kolanko once served a potato pancake inspired by the ones his Polish grandmother made, but upgraded it with a sea trout crudo, trout roe, and lemon purée. "There was a lot in one bite," he says.
2820 Historic Decatur Rd.

5 SIP AND SCREEN

Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens has bocce ball, craft brews, and 50,000 square feet of space—what more could you want on a summer day? After dusk, settle in for a classic movie (*Fight Club*, *The Princess Bride*) paired with pretzels, tuna poke tacos, and a Stone IPA.
2816 Historic Decatur Rd.

6 COMIC RELIEF

San Diego Comic Art Gallery caters to both comic geeks and '80s kids. It hosts rotating exhibits of works by curator Kevin Eastman—the cocreator of the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*—and other artists, including *My Little Pony* illustrator Sara Richard. A re-creation of Eastman's studio displays nostalgia-inducing *TMNT* figurines.
2765 Truxtun Rd.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: CATALINA LONDOÑO, COURTESY OF MONIKER GENERAL, COURTESY OF FIRESIDE BY THE PATIO, MARC TIELEMANS/ALAMY, JESSICA SAMPLE

illustrations by WENDY MACNAUGHTON