

■ HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY COUNCIL

Let The Public Decide the Fate of Libraries?

A charter amendment is proposed

In an effort to head off the privatization of the city's library system, three members of the Huntington Beach City Council are asking to put the matter before the public.

At Tuesday's meeting of the council, a proposal by Councilmembers Rhonda Bolton, Dan Kalmick and Natalie Moser will be considered.

What they're asking for is to place on the Nov. 5 general election ballot a proposed charter amendment to require a majority vote of the city council and a majority vote of those citizens voting "to approve any proposal that would change the whole-

sale management of the library and/or any proposal to operate the library with a private contractor that would employ library staff to achieve cost savings" as well as an advisory vote of voters on whether to "hire a third-party contractor to operate the HBPL; replacement of the current management structure."

Also, they are asking the city manager to "cease any further work" on requests for proposals to operate the library system.

Unlike most Orange County cities, Huntington Beach operates its own library system.

The council majority has

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Judge orders freedom for a HB riot suspect

A Huntington Beach man indicted for allegedly breaking federal conspiracy and riot laws was ordered released from jail this week by a federal judge.

U.S. District Court Judge Cormac J. Carney on Tuesday granted bail to Robert Rundo and twice

has dismissed the U.S. government's case against him and other members of the "Rise Above Movement," a white supremacist group that is now reportedly disbanded.

Rundo was one of four people charged in 2018 for their actions in Hun-

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■ DANCERS FOR LIBERTY



FOLKLORICO dancers provided the entertainment at the Westminster Senior Citizen Center on Friday in observance of Cinco de Mayo, the Mexican holiday celebrating the defeat of invading French forces in 1862 (Tribune photo).

■ WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

Resolution honoring Jane Fonda opposed

By Jim Torrolano
Orange County Tribune

A resolution to ask the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to rescind its resolution honoring Jane Fonda was approved by the West-

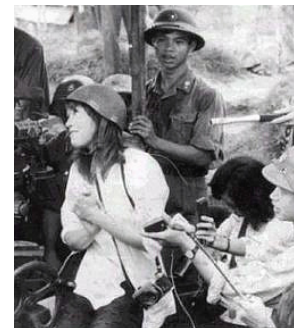
minster City Council on Friday afternoon.

The vote was 5-0.

A two-hour special meeting of the council was called to register the council's opposition not only to giving recognition to the actress but especially to declaring April 30 to be "Jane Fonda Day." That's the day observed as the fall of Saigon.

"We lost Saigon," said Assemblyman and former Westminster mayor Tri Ta, "but we didn't lose our fighting spirit."

Fonda angered many – especially Vietnam War veterans and Vietnamese refugees who fled to



JANE FONDA in Hanoi in 1972 (Wikipedia)

America and settled in Westminster – for her 1972 trip to communist North Vietnam. During her visit there, she was photographed seated at an anti-aircraft battery wearing a helmet, an image which suggested she was supporting the shooting down of American planes.

She has since apologized. The LA. County resolution referred to Fonda's

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Inside The Tribune



Trout is out

SPORTS Page 6 & 7

Honoring of Jane Fonda is opposed

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work on climate change. Speakers called her “garbage,” “treasonous” and “Hanoi Jane.” While nearly all of them were in support of the proposed council resolution, some suggested that it wasn’t relevant to Westminster and questioned the need to hold a special meeting on a Friday. Councilmembers replied that because of the large number of Vietnamese-American residents in the city – about half of the population – is was something that concerned their constituents. The next regular meeting of the city council is set for Wednesday, May 8 at 6 p.m.

Public vote on library status?

Continued from page 1

already spoken in favor of privatization, and that comes in the wake of earlier moves to create a parent-guardian review board for books available to children, a move that some critics have called “censorship.” The council will meet in its chambers in closed session at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. for the regular meeting at 2000 Main St. (at Yorktown Avenue).

The★Tribune

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Judge orders freedom for a HB riot suspect

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tington Beach in March 2017, in Berkeley in April 2017 and San Bernardino in September 2017.

Prosecutors claim that Rundo organized confrontations that turned violent and attacked not just counter-protestors but also law enforcement officers.

Carney put the blame on “antifa,” so-called anti-fascists, and criticized what he felt was selective enforcement by prosecuting far-right groups more than far-left groups.

The judge termed Rundo not a threat to democracy, but “a knucklehead who was misguided.”

Rundo was back in Orange County after a year. He was extradited from Romania to face charges of conspiracy and rioting.



ROBERT RUNDO (FBI/HBPD)

Although Rundo was ordered released on Tuesday, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals later said it that would have to wait for four days.



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News & Views

Seeing future through the smoke now

The future has landed in Garden Grove's Civic Center area.

I'm not talking about the Civic Center Revitalization project; that undertaking – including a new police building with adjacent parking structure, as well as a new park – will take years to complete.

I'm referring in this instance to the first openings in the Cottage Industries development on 8th and 9th Street a few blocks over. The Tribune ran a



Retorts Jim Tortolano

“Chow Lines” review of Smoke Queen BBQ a few days ago by John Borack, who gave it high marks. Marilyn and I dropped by on Thursday and were similarly impressed; the portions were so big (and good) that we had enough food for dinner that night.

But that's only part of the story. The grounds of the Cottage Industries include not just that soon-to-be iconic eatery, but unique open eating and relaxation areas, including teepees, Adirondack chairs, hopscotch paths, etc. etc. along with a revitalized community garden.

Adjacent is Eco Now, the latest of four “zero waste shop and refill stations” where we bought laundry soap and two orange-crate style boxes decorated with retro labels from Garden Grove's orange grove days.

One of the owners, Thea, told us that she not only had planted her business in the area, but her family has also moved to the Big Strawberry and is already signed up to work at the Strawberry Festival.

Additionally, we also chatted with Linda Sadeghi, who is the

Police vigilant for Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayor (Fifth of May) is the day to celebrate the victory of Mexican forces against the invading French army in 1862.

It was a great victory for freedom, but you may not have much liberty if you celebrate too much this weekend, especially by drinking and driving.

Police in Garden Grove and Huntington Beach are encouraging motorists to be responsible by arranging for a designated

driver when drinking alcohol.

Both police agencies are planning on stepped-up enforcement by adding additional patrol officers looking for drivers impaired by being under the influence of liquor or drugs.

“Don't put yourself and others at risk by driving impaired,” said HBPD Sgt. Mike Thomas.

“If you're planning to celebrate with a drink or two, leave your keys at home and designate a

sober driver,” said GGPD Chief Amir El-Farra.

Both agencies point out that alcohol isn't the only substance that can impair judgment and lead to accidents or arrest. Distracted driving (texting, etc.) can also be dangerous.

Marijuana, certain prescription medications and even some over-the-counter drug may also affect your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

TOP COOK CONNIE



Connie Flores (with flowers) has been chosen as one of nine California Classified Employees of the Year by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. Flores has worked as a cook/baker in the Garden Grove Unified School District for over two decades. Currently she's at Garden Grove High School where she oversees making 1000 or more meals a day. She also serves as catering chief for the district's Apple Cart Cafe. GGUSD Superintendent Gabriela Mafi is at her left. The GGUSD serves most of Garden Grove as well as parts of Anaheim, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster (GGUSD photo).

Shred paper, dump junk at free event

Need to shred those mounds of old paperwork, get rid of those big appliances or furniture clogging up the garage?

On Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., the City of Garden Grove and Garden Grove Sanitary District, in collaboration with Republic Services, will host a paper shredding and community cleanup day, offering residents the opportunity to safely shred old documents and properly dispose of bulky items for free.

The drop-off location will be at Garden Grove Park, located at 9301 Westminster Avenue. The event is open to Garden Grove residents only. Proof of residency is required. The May 11 cleanup day is the only opportunity for residents to participate in the city's paper shredding service for 2024.

Residents may bring up to five boxes of paper for safe and secure on-site shredding, and dispose of unwanted household items, such as non-refrigerant appliances, furniture, mattresses, carpets, and electronic waste. This will be a self-service event in which residents will be unloading their own items on a first-come, first-served basis, until bins are full.

Items not accepted include hazardous waste, batteries, LED lights, refrigerators, freezers, AC units, concrete, dirt, and tires. For a complete list of banned items, visit ggcity.org/cleanup-days.

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The OCT covers the cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster. In addition to local news there's a national/world news update and coverage of favorite area prep and pro sports teams as well.

NewsUpdate

Hopeful Signs in Cease-Fire Talks

Egypt and U.S. seeking to bring Hamas, Israel to a deal

There are hopeful signs in negotiations over further cease-fire talks in the war in Gaza.

Egyptian and American diplomats are seeking to broker a deal under which a compromise can be reached between Israel and Hamas over a way to stop the conflict, or at least put a long-term end to hostilities in place.

A new report from the United Nations estimates that even if the war stops immediately, it would be

until 2040 to rebuild the residences in Gaza destroyed by Israeli attacks.

Being discussed is an immediate six-week cease-fire and the partial release of Israelis held by Hamas as hostages as negotiations proceed toward a possible complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza.

Earlier, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated that his nation's goal was to completely destroy Hamas.



NEGOTIATIONS are being led by Egypt and the United States (Shutterstock).



175,000 NEW JOBS is below predictions (Wikipedia).

Two views of jobs report: is it bad news or good news?

The Labor Department reported that the American economy added 175,000 new jobs in April.

Is that good news or bad news?

Former president Donald Trump said "the job numbers just came out and they're horrible."

President Joe Biden said the numbers showed "the great American comeback continues."

The numbers were not as robust as economists had predicted, but there may be good news in that. Employment and the economy have both expanded so quickly that

the Federal Reserve has been ratcheting up interest rates.

Those rates are the highest in two decades because of that.

A sign of a slowing economy could lead "the Fed" into cutting rates, which would be welcome to many business sectors.

Congressman, wife charged with taking bribes for 'favors'

Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-Texas) and his wife were indicted by the U.S. Justice Department for allegedly accepting almost \$600,000 in bribes from a foreign government and a Mexican bank.

Cuellar and his wife, Imelda, are claimed to have taken the money from an oil and gas company owned by the government of the south Asian nation of Azerbaijan and a bank based in

Mexico City in exchange for "political favors" on behalf of their financial benefactors.

That's against the law as it acting as an unregistered agent of a foreign nation.

The arrangement is alleged to have been in place from 2014 to 2021. The Cuellars appeared in court in Houston on Friday and were released after posting a \$100,000 bond.

Weather: Sunny side soon

After a lot of clouds, sunny skies are on the way – eventually – to our West Orange County area. Saturday will have mostly cloudy skies with a high of 65 and an overnight low of 56. Sunday will see more heat at 69 (50) with partly cloudy conditions.

Monday will be sunny as the temps rise to "sunny" with a high of 71 (53). Tuesday will be similar at 71 (54).

Arts & Living

Magnificent 'Night Music' At GWC

You can catch it through Sunday in Hunt. Beach

By Thom de Martino
Orange County Tribune

Love moves in mysterious ways. (Though lust is reasonably predictable.)

In the marvelous new Martie Ramm-directed "A Little Night Music" at Golden West College's Mainstage Theater, it's 1900's Sweden, and love is in the air – although a romantic storm is brewing for a number of wayward lovebirds.

There's the lawyer, Fredrik Egerman (Mark Waters), and his recent wife Anne (a stellar Amanda MacDonald), 20 years his junior -- but after 11 months of marriage, still determinedly retaining her maidenhood; there's also Fredrik's pious adult son Henrik (Joey Nestra-West) -- destined for the seminary, but flirted with by both Anne and the lascivious (and utterly charming) maid Petra (Payton Moore).

"My lap isn't one of the devil's snares..." coos Anne to Henrik... but one wonders.

Meanwhile, the frustrated Fredrik's wandering eye soon turns to his (unbeknownst to Anne) old flame -- the breathtaking stage actress, Desiree Armfeldt (Mary Frances Conover); and when Anne notices the glances between the two at a performance, she flees in tears.

When the two former lovers reunite, their tryst is interrupted by Desiree's current Lothario -- the grandiose Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm (a delightfully pompous Liam Cavanaugh), who's none-too-pleased to find the pair so informal... and Fredrik in his nightrobe.

Carl-Magnus is so dismayed by this that he shares his suspicions about his lover's dalliances



MARK WATERS as Fredrik Egerman and Mary Frances Conover in "A Little Night Music" at Golden West College's Mainstage Theater (Greg Parks photo).

Stage Review

with his wife -- just let that sink in -- the long-suffering Countess Charlotte Malcolm (Novelee Smedley). But when she realizes that her husband's paramour's lover's wife is her old school friend, Anne... she begins plotting her revenge.

The paths of all the players are destined to come together in a weekend in the countryside, courtesy of Desiree's mother, the wily Madame Armfeldt (Megan Cherry) -- who also caretakes her granddaughter, the young Ms. Armfeldt (Paulina Contois). With all these relationships at play, will love triumph, or desire?

"A Little Night Music" is a spellbinding work, with an expansive cast: of particular note are the singers who set the

stage, and dancing and narrating through song on the events therein (including William Logan, Saffron Brauer, Courtney Fiduccia, Mark Torres and Carrie Vinikow); special recognition should be made of the excellent 20-piece orchestra behind the scenes, as well as the piano work onstage of the talented young Ms. Contois.

Astonishing work by the main cast -- Cavanaugh's Count is a boorish buffoon, yet endearing in some strange way; the renewed relationship between Waters' Fredrik and Conover's Desiree charms, as does the playfulness of MacDonald's Anne to the harried Nestra-West's Henrik; and the musical performances, such as Moore's "The Miller's Son" and particularly Conover's "Send In the Clowns" make the heart swell, and may even move the viewer to tears.

Great: ★★★★★

A beautiful, funny, farcical Broadway classic, "A Little Night Music" is a spicy, sexy story of love, lust, and the blur between the two; playing for only one final weekend at Golden West's Mainstage Theater, it's one you yourself will fall in love with.

"A Little Night Music", Mark Waters, Mary Frances Conover and Liam Cavanaugh star in this classic musical romp of lovers and the games they play, on the way to finding their soulmates.

Playing through Sunday May 5 at the Golden West College Mainstage Theater, 15751 Gothard St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Tickets available through the box office at 714-895-8150, x1 or at www.gwctheater.com.

TheSportsPages

How the Halos can exorcise their bad luck

As promised, Jim's second half of proposals for rescuing the Los Angeles Angels from perpetual exile in the Under .500 club.

Remedy Four: Relocate or threaten to relocate. The Oakland A's were the worst team in baseball last year, and now with the imminent move (eventually to Las Vegas by way of Sacramento), they've shown a dramatic improvement in standing in third place in the AL West.



Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

No miracle, but an improvement and better than the Angels.

And look at the Rams. They were awful before they left for St. Louis and then won a Super Bowl there. After a while they stunk again and moved back to L.A. where they won another Super Bowl.

Remedy Five: Bad performance is sometimes the product of more than just bad hops. Something more nefarious is going on.

In the TV series "Ted Lasso" the team overcame adversity by lifting a curse via sacrificing objects that meant a lot to them. Considering the gap between their play and their pay, they could burn their April paychecks. And don't deposit May's yet.

Remedy Six: This one is actually serious. During the glory years (yes, there were some), the Halos had a great bullpen and lights-out closers. Find some bulletproof ninth-inning heroes, throw some Ohtani money at them and we won't have to suffer through all those come-from-ahead defeats that have become so familiar to fans for the last decade.

Maybe Phil Regan has a great grandson.

Trout Is Out ... Again



MIKE TROUT is hurt ... again (Angels photo)

Injuries pile up as superstar's career slows

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM (AP) — Mike Trout never had a significant injury in his charmed baseball career until May 2017, when he tore a thumb ligament sliding headfirst into second base.

On his first day back from a 39-game absence, the superstar slugger stole second — and he slid headfirst again.

"I'm not changing the way I play," a grinning Trout said that night in the Los Angeles Angels' clubhouse, a singular young athlete confident in his exceptionalism.

Less than seven years later in the hallway outside that same Anaheim clubhouse, Trout repeatedly fought back tears Tuesday while he publicly processed his fourth major injury in the past four seasons.

"It's just frustrating," he said quietly, his eyes downcast. "But we'll get through it. ... I play the game hard, and (stuff) happens."

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Angels beat Cleveland, Dodgers defeat Braves

Jose Soriano pitched what the Los Angeles Angels have needed for a long time; six innings of shutout ball that led to a 6-0 victory over the Guardians in Cleveland on Friday night.

He worked six innings and gave up five hits, striking out three batters and walking one. It was his first victory after four losses. The bullpen held up the rest the way, finishing the last three in-

nings with just one hit.

The Halos got home runs from Mickey Moniak (a three-run shot) and a solo homer from Nolan Schanuel, who batted 3-for-4 to raise his batting average to .250. Willie Calhoun had a stellar night in the DH spot, going 3-for-4 with a run scored.

With the win, the Angels are 12-20 and remained tied for last

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AL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
Seattle	17-15	.531	—	6-4
Texas	17-16	.515	.5	5-5
Oakland	16-17	.485	1.5	7-3
Houston	12-20	.375	5	5-5
ANGELS	12-20	.375	5	3-7

NL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
DODGERS	21-13	.618	—	8-2
San Diego	17-18	.486	4.5	4-6
San Fran.	15-18	.455	5.5	5-5
Arizona	14-19	.424	6.5	3-7
Colorado	8-24	.250	12	3-7

Mike Trout's fourth major injury in four seasons

Continued from page 6

Trout still might be the greatest baseball player produced by his generation, but he'll never again be that 25-year-old who seemed pretty sure he was invincible. Like Ken Griffey Jr. before him, Trout's mid-career injury problems have waylaid a meteoric career and stalled his historic rate of production at the plate. The 32-year-old Trout's talent

and passion still shine when he's on the field, but they haven't kept him healthy in his second decade in baseball.

Since the start of the 2021 season, Trout has played in 266

games. The Angels' meeting with Philadelphia on Wednesday was the 251st game he has missed in that stretch.

Trout had 285 career homers when he won his third AL MVP award in 2019. The Angels' center fielder has hit just 93 homers in the four-plus seasons since then, with COVID-19 shortening his 2020 campaign and injuries doing the rest.

Trout had 1,324 hits after the 2019 season, but he has compiled just 324 since, greatly slowing his march toward 2,000 or 3,000. His batting average (.277) and OPS (.958) since 2019 are also significantly below his career marks.

While Trout's bat speed remains among the fastest in the majors, he has acknowledged several struggles with his mechanics for the past two seasons, including a declining contact rate and troubles with high-velocity pitching. Trout still led the majors with 10 homers when he got hurt this week, but his batting average was down to .220 — even dipping his career

average below .300 shortly before his injury.

Trout now has a torn meniscus in his left knee. Compounding his frustration, he doesn't know how it happened — perhaps while running in the outfield, perhaps while simply walking to the dugout.

"Nobody wants to play more than Mike does," Angels general manager Perry Minasian said. "He loves this. He loves everything about this. He wakes up thinking about it. He goes to bed thinking about it. He eats, sleeps and breathes baseball. I really feel for him."

Trout was baseball's breakout star of the 2010s, a strapping slugger from small-town southern New Jersey who dazzled the sport when he landed in Orange County. He's an electrifying hitter, an exciting fielder, and a

Continued on page 8



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Retorts: Smokey

Continued from page 3

driving force behind Cottage, which consists of repurposing old homes in the area east of Civic Center Drive and north of Garden Grove Boulevard, for shops, stores and even — eventually — a boutique motel.

It's been a long haul for Linda, but she is clearly dedicated to doing quality work that will add another major attraction to the booming civic center/downtown area.

Mayor Steve Jones has dedicated much of his efforts to make Garden Grove more "hip." Hip it is becoming but if I continue to eat the big, delicious briskets at Smoke Queen, my own hips will soon not be "becoming" to me.



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Oilers win opener, Pacifica ends season

Seven West Orange County teams in baseball post-season

The two West Orange County Division 1 baseball teams split their CIF-SS round one games on Friday.

Huntington Beach (21-8) overpowered Santiago of Corona 11-2, and Pacifica (18-10) lost to Aquinas 7-2.

Against the Sharks (16-13), the Oilers got a strong start from Nathen Aceves, who pitched four innings, yielding just three hits and one earned run.

At bat, Matt Hansen went 2-for-2 with a home run, five RBIs and three runs scored. Trevor Gold-

PREP SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

CIF-SS Playoffs Spring 2024

First Round Division 1 Baseball Friday

Hunting. Beach 11, Santiago 2
Aquinas 7, Pacifica 2

Second Round Boys Tennis Friday, Division 4

Xavier Prep 13, G. Grove 5
Division 5
Bolsa Grand 12, Montclair 6
Western 12, Quartz Hills 6

netz was 2-for-3 and scored one run.

HBHS will next face the Villa Park Spartans (18-11) on Tuesday. Villa Park got to the second round with a 6-1 win over Bishop Amat.

The Mariners closed out the 2024 season with an opening round defeat at the hands of Aquinas High of San Bernardino. For the M's it was their fourth straight loss.

The Falcons will go on to play Notre Dame of Sherman Oaks on Tuesday.

In boys' tennis, Garden Grove lost 13-5 to Xavier Prep in Division 4, second round action. In Division 5, second round, Bolsa Grande defeated Montclair 12-6 and Western bested Quartz Hills 12-6.

In Division 6, second round play, Los Amigos eased past Gary 10-8.

Trout is out again, and woe to the Angels team

Continued from page 7

fiery competitor often described as the spiritual heir to Mickey Mantle.

Trout seemed capable of anything, even if he only got the Angels to the playoffs once in 2014. But as the Halos' losing seasons piled up, he gradually became familiar with pain, sleepless nights and interminable medical procedures.

Trout missed all but 36 games of the 2021 season with a strained calf that healed confoundingly slowly. He missed five weeks of the 2022 season with a back injury, although he still hit 40 homers.

Trout then broke a bone in his

hand on a foul ball last July 3. He tried to return in August when it briefly looked like the Angels might make a postseason run, but he played only one painful game before shutting it down for the year.

Trout had been in "a good frame of mind" this season, new Angels manager Ron Washington said. "He was loving coming to the ballpark, and he was loving going out there, trying to get in the swing of things of the season, and then this happened."

There's no timeline for Trout's recovery, but most athletes with the injury miss at least a couple of months, often more.

Andy Page's walkoff hit lifts Dodgers to victory

Continued from page 6

place in the American League West with the Houston Astros.

Back at Chavez Ravine, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Atlanta Braves played to a 2-2 deadlock through nine innings and it took "overtime" to settle the matter.

The Dodgers scored in the bot-

tom of the 11th inning to post a 4-3 victory. Andy Page's walkoff single into right-center brought home the winning run. Page had four hits on the night and is hitting .333.

The victory put the Dodgers at 21-13 and still 4.5 games ahead in the National League West Division.

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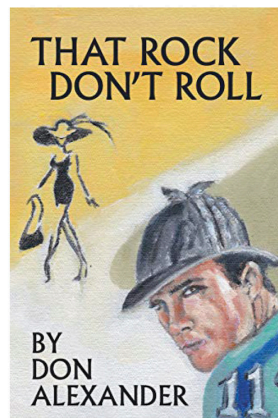
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