

Reader

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

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JANUARY 1, 2004

"I could love a duck!" the American poet Theodore Roethke wrote hyperbolically, manically, in one of an astonishing series of longish poems usually referred to as "The Lost Son" poems. I've always liked ducks myself. For lots of reasons. First of all: it's a funny word: "duck." "Quack" is a funny word. I read somewhere that all words with the letter *k* in them are inherently funny. This doesn't test out 100 percent, however. Ku Klux Klan would be an example. Also, ducks are the long-distance birds, the ones that fly (and they fly so high!) in giant arrowheads each spring and fall. Huey, Dewey, Louie,

C O N T I N U E D O N P A G E

3 2

Frozen Drama



LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. You may phone them in by calling 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or e-mail them to letters@SanDiegoReader.com via the Internet. Please include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Ego Boost
How nice of the *Reader* to showcase all the second-tier communities and give them a public ego boost over the holidays (“Neighborhood,” December 24)! Thank you. America’s Finest Community hopes it encourages them to continue vying for our title.
We enjoy the competition.
James Varnadore
City Heights

North Park Ride
I enjoyed your roundup of neighborhoods (“Neighborhood: Small Towns of San Diego,” December 24). In North Park, our smaller neighborhood publishes its own newsletter (the animals get the bylines), throws a delicious brunch (complete with zydeco and Sting music), sponsors an annual bird watch/walk on Christmas, and organizes an annual Ugly Pumpkin Bowl on Thanksgiving. Recently, we voted to call ourselves Switzer Highland, and now we’re designing T-shirts and creating a resource directory. Our slogan is “Minutes from Everywhere.”
Martin Kruming
North Park

Santee Miffed
I read the *Reader* every week, and I was looking forward to reading the article “Neighborhood: Small Towns of San Diego” (December 24). And after reading it, I was very upset to find that my town was not featured anywhere in your article. I’m curious to find out why you would leave out a great place to live like Santee. I’ve lived here since 1972, and I’m very proud of this town and how it has grown. I raised my children here, and I think it has a lot to offer, yet it was sadly missing from your article.
I didn’t finish reading the article because of this.
Tina Presley
via e-mail

Suspects Subterfuge
You apparently like to skew meanings (Letters, editor’s response, December 24). The writer of “Stink Bomb” (December 18) may not have been anonymous to you but sure was to us. I thought that you published this paper for the readers, not merely for your own benefit. A bit of subterfuge, I would say. For all we know, you made up the article.
Ken Druhot
(Proudly displaying my name)
San Marcos

Histrionics Display
Well, that tears it! I have stayed away from my local Vons because, although I am not involved in any unions, I respectfully took their side for the medical benefits. However, after reading this article (“Stink Bomb,” December 18), I plan to visit my local Vons right after work. Today.
I am dismayed at such histrionics. Union members have the right to strike and picket but not to panic those who enter the store or work there. Nothing will be accomplished by this behavior but cause anger, as I am feeling right now. South Bay, North County, coastal area. Where will it be next? Or is this all over San Diego County and I have been too blind to see?

It takes one member of the union to show pride and be honorable and one member to be radical. No one wins with this behavior. Union members better think twice, and the union itself better speak to those who would show poor character. Why are they, the union, allowing this? You have lost my confidence in you and my support.
Joyce Romero
Escondido

Union Dinosaur
Mr. Carlson (Letters, December 24) seems to misunderstand what he did by going on strike: he walked away from his job. Did he actually do so thinking it would not be filled by someone else? Did he actually expect Albertsons to just send the store’s contents back to its vendors, close its doors, and take a vacation? How naïve! If he winds up losing his job, will the union refund all of his union dues

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An archive of City Lights stories can be searched on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com

The year 2003 was a busy news year. But more than a few interesting developments somehow eluded that bastion of the local establishment, the Union-Tribune:

The Arts San Diego Symphony president and CEO **Douglas Gerhart**, credited by many with pulling the once-bankrupt organization from the jaws of financial oblivion, got into hot water with his wife of 17 years. In a divorce action filed in February, **Stacey Gerhart** declared, "I do not believe that it would be in the best interests of our children for Doug and me to continue to reside together in the family residence... Doug has an anger-management problem and can often be intimidating and verbally abusive... If he is angry, he sometimes misdirects his anger and is physically abusive to our daughter's dog." Gerhart quit his job and left town in June, less than a month after the story broke. Though he wanted to be head of the Pittsburgh Symphony, Gerhart later wound up in charge of the orchestra in Sioux City, Iowa.

Politics After a spate of rumors about the absence of *Union-Tribune* editor **Karin Winner** from the newsroom during the big fires, *Editor & Publisher* reported that Winner had "hitched a ride with a Mexican mail truck" back from a vacation in Tecate. That provoked in-house *U-T* talk about Winner's purportedly leaving her car with another female *U-T* editor, who was staying with her at Tecate's Rancho La Puerta fat farm. ... Ex-admiral **Ronne Froman**, a highly touted Bersin aide, mysteriously quit her job in April and went to work for the Red Cross after collecting hundreds of thousands of dollars in salary and bonuses. ... The president's office at the University of California reported that attorney **Charles La Bella** is charging the university \$324 an hour for his services as "liaison" to the federal government's investigation into fraudulent UC management of the Los Alamos National Lab. La Bella has worked for Padres owner and UC regent **John Moores** and his bankrupt Peregrine Systems. ... Some of the honorary host committee listed on the invitation to San Diego city councilman **Scott Peters**'s summer fundraiser raised eyebrows. They included fellow councilmen **Michael Zuchet** and **Ralph Inzunza**, prime subjects of the federal investigation of Cheetahs strip-club owner **Mike Galardi**. Councilmembers **Toni Atkins** and **Jim Madaffer**, both called to testify before a grand jury hearing evidence in the case, were also listed as honorary hosts, along with Mayor **Dick Murphy**. ... Murphy, who has nominated himself the ethics mayor, jumped out of and then back into his race for reelection — maybe because he has a family to support. According to summer campaign filings, Murphy's daughter **Kelly** received at least \$5000 in "fundraising" fees from Murphy's campaign committee. ... In his latest personal-disclosure filing, city councilman **Charles Lewis** reported getting a free meal worth \$110 in March from the Gaslamp's Lou and Mickey's bar and eatery. Explained Lewis in his July filing, "Re-



Charles La Bella

ceived letter from restaurant to try out their new place for dinner." ... Democratic assemblywoman **Christine Kehoe**, running for state senate, picked up \$1000 from La Jolla's **Norm Blachford**, the wealthy Canadian inventor who played sugar daddy to Hillcrest's infamous **Andrew Cunanan**, killer of fashion mogul **Gianni Versace**. ... Ex-**Pete Wilson** campaign chief **George Gorton** and Wilson honcho **Bob White** both had key roles in the Schwarzenegger for Governor campaign. Gorton billed the campaign for \$32,500. ... Longtime Wilson operative **Marty Wilson** (no relation), who now lives in a Sacramento suburb, submitted a bill for \$25,000 in August. White, known as a dandy-dressing European shoe hound during Wilson's mayoral days here, has another headquarters, this one at his own \$750,000 second-home hideaway purchased last year in ritzy Palm Desert. ... **Mitz Lee**, wife of **Jeff Lee**, who lost his school-board bid to **Katherine Nakamura**, is running for an open seat in district A, which was redrawn by allies of Superintendent **Alan Bersin** to evict incumbent **Frances O'Neill Zimmerman**. (After his defeat, Jeff Lee gave up politics and is now enrolled in professional culinary classes at Grossmont College, where he has a scholarship from a national chefs' organization.)



Christine Kehoe

Crime and Criminals Ex-con **Mark Ruzumna** turned up dead in his Sorrento Valley condo before he could testify before the federal grand jury investigating the Cheetahs scandal. His roommate, **Stuart Weingarden**, told the coroner that he had "returned to the condo at approximately 20:30, 8-21-03 and found Ruzumna seated on the living room couch slumped forward into a coffee table and his face was resting on a hamburger. Weingarden claims he spoke to Ruzumna and that he received a response from Ruzumna. Weingarden then went to bed for the evening, and when he awoke the next morning encountered Ruzumna in the same position as the previous evening." ... Federal court judge **Marilyn Huff** okayed wiretaps believed related to the Cheetahs case that picked up 26,154 "intercepts," involving conversations of 1393 people, with 1227 of the intercepts said to be "incriminating." Total cost of the operation was \$577,575. ... After a citizen's complaint, National City mayor **Nick Inzunza**, brother of indicted San Diego city councilman **Ralph Inzunza**, amended his statement of economic interest to reveal a raft of low-income multifamily units he and wife **Olga** own within his brother's council district in the city of San Diego.



Nick Inzunza

— *Matt Potter*

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.

Sons of Scam

By Don Bauder

The 3M Co. of St. Paul, Minnesota, is one of the world's best-managed companies. It is among the 30 blue chips making up the Dow Jones Industrial Average. It makes Scotch tape and thousands of other products in such areas as electronics, safety, telecommunications, graphic arts, and health care.

arts and crafts, school supplies, and religious products. Verily, it radiates New England rectitude. "Our purpose is to improve the social fabric by helping people play,"



Robin McPherson

It represents all the Midwestern virtues of hard work, modesty, ingenuousness and ingeniousness, and superior technological innovation.

Similarly, S&S Worldwide is a company in rural Colchester, Connecticut, that makes

says S&S.

San Diego has a 3M and an S&S, too. These — er, uh — creative enterprises represent all the characteristics of Southern California entrepreneurialism: disingenuousness, cozenage, hokey-

pokey. Indeed, they are what California's postal designation, CA, may actually stand for: Con Artistry.

San Diego's 3M are Maradei-McPherson-Moran, telemarketing flimflammers with a long history of being pursued by federal government law enforcement, as well as enraged investors who have been fleeced.

On December 11, Mark Maradei pleaded guilty to federal tax evasion. In April of 2003, when he learned that there was a federal criminal grand jury probing Internet Web Services Co. (IWSC) and A2Z Shopping.com — two companies at which he had worked alongside Robin McPherson and Steven Moran — Maradei admitted that he had not paid federal income tax for several years. His maximum sentence is five years in the slammer.

McPherson is a fugitive, according to Denise Rubin, special agent in charge of the San Diego Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation office. In December of 2000, McPherson was convicted of tax evasion and conspiracy to defraud the United States for his role in Continental Wireless Cable and related companies, a telemarketing scam that skinned \$10

continued on page 4

Contact Don Bauder at 619-881-2395 or don.bauder@mac.com

Neal Obermeyer



House Glut Stuns Tijuana

By Ernie Grimm

Prospective home buyers in San Diego have waited for months for prices to stop their upward climb. In Tijuana, they're no longer waiting. Many Tijuana residents are leaving the city's colossal rental market and buying their own homes, which in some cases are a third less expensive than they were a year ago.

"When this development started, the houses were selling for over \$300,000," says

of the development La Perla, a block from the beach and a few miles south of the border in Playas. Becerra, in her late 30s, has a round face and expressive light-brown eyes that match her business suit. She slides her sunglasses onto her head as she leads a group of home shoppers through the

the 2000-square-foot home features tile floors, tile showers, a large kitchen, maid's quarters, walk-in closets, vaulted ceilings, and a two-car garage. Natural light floods every room through large windows and skylights. All five model homes, situated across the street from the grassy park in the center of La Perla, are equally luxurious, though laid out differently. Becerra tells me that Esteban Loaiza, a Tijuana native who pitches for the Chicago White Sox, has purchased all five. This close to the beach, a house like this would sell for at least \$700,000 in Ocean Beach, well over a million dollars in La Jolla. "These houses are priced at \$208,000," Becerra says.

Back in her second-floor office a few blocks inland, Becerra, who is the president of the Tijuana Real Estate Association, explains the current drop in prices. "Prices are always dictated by supply and demand," she shrugs. "And in the last decade there have been so many houses built in the eastern neighborhoods of Tijuana that we finally have a surplus of housing."

Becerra offers an indicator of how housing supply is catching up with demand in Tijuana. "I have been ten years in this business," she



La Perla, Playas de Tijuana

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE KLEIN



Martha Becerra Rotter

Playas de Tijuana real estate agent Martha Becerra Rotter, as she steers her blue Suburban through the guarded gate

ornate Mexican colonial front door of a model home. A blend of modern and traditional Mexican architecture,

says, flowing back and forth between Spanish and English, "and I normally show a buyer five, maybe eight properties in a certain area at a certain price. Now, I can easily show 20 houses in a given price range in a given area."

That fact, she says, gives the buyer power. "The buyer is thinking, if there are 20 houses he can afford, then he will make low offers and see if someone bites. He can go to a house that's being offered for \$200,000 and say, 'Look, I can give you \$120,000 cash,' and one of them might just take it."

With homebuyers in that position of power, prices are being driven down all around Tijuana, "and my sellers are upset about it," Becerra laughs.

Along with dropping prices, home-buying hopefuls in Tijuana have something else to be happy about. As recently as a year ago, bank mortgages, though still officially offered by banks in Tijuana, were "nonexistent," Becerra explains. "In 1994, mortgage rates were 90 to 95 percent. And recently they were around 50 percent, which is still too high. Now,

mortgages are being offered at 15 percent, sometimes 14 percent. So people are starting to get mortgages. Cash purchases are going down because some buyers who could pay cash are choosing to get mortgages and protect their cash."

A high level of supply versus demand has also driven down rents 15 to 20 percent in Tijuana. Despite that fact, Becerra says she's recommending that Tijuana's legions of home renters buy new homes instead of lowering their rents. "A medium-

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Do You Remember 2003?

By Robert Kumpel

1. San Diego's U.S. Attorney's office once had a staff of 122 prosecutors. How many have resigned in the past year?

- A. 15
- B. 20
- C. 27
- D. 34

2. By losing to the Kansas City Chiefs on November 30, Marty Schottenheimer had lost more than nine games in a season for the first time as an NFL head coach. How many seasons (including the present) has Schottenheimer been a head coach in the NFL?

- A. 10
- B. 12
- C. 15
- D. 17

3. Reverend Henry Lyons was released from prison November 30 and returned to preaching after serving nearly five years for grand theft and racketeering. Lyons was convicted of committing these crimes while he served as president of which religious group?

- A. The Southern Baptist Convention
- B. The Missouri Synod of Lutherans
- C. The Unitarian-Universalist Church
- D. The National Baptist Convention



Marty Schottenheimer



Henry Lyons



Sylvester Croom



Michael Jackson



Saddam Hussein



George Bush

4. A Democratic investment group has announced plans to buy radio stations in five major cities in hopes of starting a liberal radio network to counter the voice of conservative talk radio. They also announced negotiations with which popular entertainer to host a call-in talk show?

- A. Rosie O'Donnell
- B. Al Franken
- C. Barbra Streisand
- D. Ed Asner

5. A panic ensued in Pennsylvania when green onions

served at a Chi-Chi's restaurant caused an outbreak of hepatitis. What location were the onions traced back to?

- A. Mexico
- B. Guatemala
- C. Texas
- D. New Mexico

6. Which politician made the statement, "I think that gay marriage is something that should be between a man and a woman"?

- A. George W. Bush
- B. Dick Cheney

C. Joseph Lieberman
D. Arnold Schwarzenegger

7. Sylvester Croom became the first black head football coach ever in the Southeastern Conference after being hired by which university?

- A. Clemson
- B. LSU
- C. Mississippi State
- D. Auburn

8. The parent company of Zany Brainy stores announced that they would liquidate the chain, while filing

for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Which is Zany Brainy's parent company?

- A. Toys "R" Us
- B. The Limited
- C. General Toys
- D. FAO Schwarz

9. On December 3, ground was broken in Fredericksburg, Virginia, for a unique museum. The museum will be the first U.S. museum focused entirely on what subject?

- A. slavery

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Sons of scam

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million from investors before it was shut down by the Securities and Exchange Commission. McPherson never

showed up for his sentencing in March of 2001 and hasn't been seen since.

McPherson's role as president of Continental Wireless dates back to the early 1990s. According to the county's intergovernmental Boiler

Room Task Force, McPherson had earlier been in trouble for securities violations in California — one reason, perhaps, why he also went by the alias of Robin Ribble. His "teletouts" promised investors 100 percent annual returns.

Maradei and Moran soon picked up the beat. In their telemarketing wireless cable scams, Knoxville LLC and TENEVA Impound Management, they promised 300 to 400 percent returns in two to four years. At that time, wire-

less cable telemarketing scams were so virulent that the Securities and Exchange Commission set up a task force to fight them. In a settlement in U.S. district court, Moran and Maradei were each ordered to

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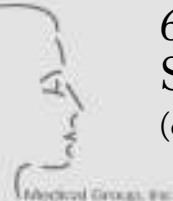
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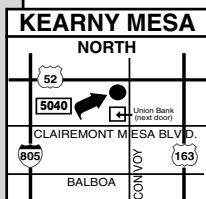
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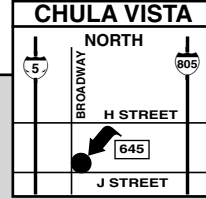
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Sons of scam

continued from page 4

shell out \$1 million in disgorgement of ill-gotten gains and civil penalties.

Moran did some hard

time on that one. When the bankruptcy trustee was searching for assets, Moran took the Fifth Amendment over the proceeds of a Mercedes-Benz he owned. An exasperated judge dispatched him to the pokey for con-

tempt of court.

From there, Moran went into what was, for him, high finance: so-called mortgage foreclosure consulting. He and two soul mates, from an office in Rancho Bernardo, took up-front fees from des-

perate homeowners in default on their mortgages. Moran and crew promised that they would be able to renegotiate with the lenders. If the negotiations were unsuccessful, the up-front fees would be returned. But the despondent

homeowners weren't helped and didn't get their money back, said the district attorney's office. Moran and his two colleagues pleaded guilty to deceitful practices, and Moran got three years of probation.

Then Maradei, Moran, and McPherson combined their expertise in securities scams with the Internet. In Maradei's plea agreement with the government, the 3M's Internet telemarketing/spam scam is spelled out in detail.

In 1997, Robin McPherson and two colleagues, Bryan and Robert Hertz, launched Internet Web Services (IWSC), an Internet service provider. Their telespielers and spammers pitched a double-deal: by plunking \$10,000 to \$80,000 in the pot, investors could set up an online shopping mall that the company would support. Those malls would sell name-brand merchandise through a drop-ship arrangement to be lined up with manufacturers. Also, the investors could buy shares. The stock would soon go public and zoom up 600 to 1000 percent in short order.

Soon, Moran came aboard. The company made numerous misrepresentations — such as on the drop-ship arrangement, which didn't work — according to the plea agreement. But as it plucked \$6 million from investors' pockets, the company piled up huge debts, and the California Department of Corporations was on its tail. So it filed for bankruptcy, utilizing offshore trusts and corporations in the machinations.

Soon, a company called A2Z USA was born. It had essentially the same personnel and same *modus operandi* — and heard even more intense screams from cuckolded investors whose online malls and stock were both worthless. Moran was president. McPherson disappeared to Canada to set up a Vancouver sales office. Moran considered him "radioactive," according to the plea agreement, because of his indictments in the U.S. Maradei was a hotshot salesman, reporting to Moran and McPherson.

British Columbia securities regulators closed up the operation there, naming McPherson, Moran, and Maradei in its actions. (Vancouver is a world center of hyper-speculation and fraud. Getting kicked out of Vancouver for humbuggery is like getting ousted from the John Birch Society for extremism.) But

continued on page 12

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San Diego's Best DUI Defense Attorney

What To Do If You Are Stopped For Drunk Driving

The following is the opinion of the author and is not intended to give legal advice to any specific person. The reader is advised to seek legal counsel if prosecuted for DUI. This information is of general nature intended for readers age 21 or older and is based on California law.

Let's start with some basics. Driving while under the influence of alcohol or any other drug is antisocial behavior. The horror caused by the death or maiming of a loved one by a "drunk driver" is unthinkable. The pain caused by such an incident scars forever not only the victims but the drinking driver, who is usually a decent, law-abiding citizen. No sane person would want such a thing to happen, not even one time.

However, what if elected officials use this terrible blight on society as an excuse to whip the general public into a frenzy and to capitalize on the human misery flowing from this carnage, only for the purpose of getting votes in the next election? And what if other effective remedies to the Driving Under the Influence problem are ignored deliberately? Finally, what if the liquor and restaurant industries pay big bucks into the political coffers of these same elected officials or chapters of MADD to lobby against legislation directed at the liquor and restaurant industries' contribution to the problem?

"Control" is the key word. You will not wipe out DUI any more than you will wipe out any other disease. But a healthy body is a body in "control," and the same applies to a healthy society. Let's look at some facts. There is little doubt the 0.08 percent blood alcohol law is window dressing and avoids the real issues. The fact is 0.08 percent is so low a blood alcohol level that local police officers have told me they cannot possibly tell the difference between 0.07 percent and 0.08 percent based on objective symptoms during the roadside sobriety test. Consequently, if you admit to having had a drink or if the officer smells alcohol on your breath, you are going downtown for further tests, no matter how you do on the field sobriety test or roadside breath test. The foremost authority in the world on DUI, A. W. Jones from Sweden, refers to them on "monkey tests" and of no value in DUI testing.

So, why do these embarrassing roadside tests at all? Don't do them is my answer; don't ever take the so-called field sobriety test. First of all, it is not a sobriety test. It is a coordination test, and many people who clearly are not under the influence of alcohol simply are not coordinated. That's a fact. If they want to use a coordination test to measure sobriety, they should require you to take a similar test once each year to provide a baseline from which to measure your performance at roadside.

Secondly, the tests are subjective and the officer can conclude you failed even if you are the most coordinated person in the world. He later will tell the jury at trial that you did poorly to prove he was right in arresting you and bringing you downtown for further testing. Once downtown, your blood alcohol level may have increased and may, in fact, be 0.16 percent (over double the legal limit) or higher at that later point in time. Depending upon when you had your last food and drink of alcohol, however, you easily could have been 0.04 percent, 0.06 percent, or 0.07 percent blood alcohol level at the time you were driving. The only blood alcohol level that is relevant or important under the code is the blood alcohol level at the time of driving. The fact you are determined to be 0.08 percent or more at a later point in time does not automatically make you guilty of breaking the law, under CVC Section 23152B.

Furthermore, any conclusion to be drawn from a blood alcohol level assumes the machine is measuring accurately, which often times is not the case. In order to challenge the blood alcohol level, it becomes necessary to retain a competent attorney to point this out to the jury and to show the arresting officer is not an objective, detached third-party witness. He wants to see a conviction to vindicate his decision to arrest. Obviously, the officer will exaggerate and distort in order to prove his point, and he is able to do so because very few of the field sobriety tests truly are objective. Which raises another question: Instead of ordering the accused to recite the alphabet while the officer writes into the police record the alleged results, why not allow the accused to actually write the alphabet out in his own hand? This would be direct evidence of the accused's ability to demonstrate his dexterity and hand coordination directly to the jury. Taxpayers have purchased expensive video and audio taping equipment for our law enforcement agencies, but those agencies rarely use the equipment in driving under the influence cases, thereby denying the jury firsthand evidence of the accused's actual state of sobriety. Instead, the officer simply testifies before the jury about how badly the accused did on one test. He actually is telling the jury, "Trust me. I have no motive to lie. If I say he did badly, that should be enough for you." When I asked a local television moderator to question the police about what happened to those 16 expensive video cameras donated to the San Diego Police Department by Aetna Insurance and which the local newspapers touted as the "doom of drunk drivers," the local police person said, "They are all broke." Right! And I just saw Elvis last week, too.

The fact is the officer does have a motive to lie, and, sadly, stretching the truth to gain a conviction seems to be the rule, rather than the exception. A retiring CHP officer recently interviewed for an investigator position with my firm told me he could double his annual salary by \$50,000 working overtime making court appearances in DUI cases. He lamented that he disliked working nights because it required him to ride with a partner. This veteran CHP officer explained that if he stopped a suspected DUI and formed the opinion following the field sobriety test that the driver was not DUI, very often his patrol partner, eager for overtime, would say, "If you don't take him downtown, I will." Doesn't a \$50,000 increase in one's annual salary provide a motive to lie about performance on the field sobriety test? Police officers and overzealous young prosecutors often are heard around the courthouse rationalizing less-than-candid police officer testimony in marginal cases saying, "If they were not drinking and driving, they wouldn't be in trouble in the first place." That may be MADD's law, but it is not the law in any state of this United States. A public policy saying "The end justifies the means" didn't work for the communists and it won't work in a free society.

For these reasons, if you are stopped, do not take these trick roadside sobriety tests, and if you are a juror, demand to see the written alphabet, video/audio tape recordings, or other firsthand evidence of impairment. It is very easy to provide. The law is a search for the truth and should not be a witch hunt guided by hysteria, half-truths, and self-serving statements of the arresting officer.

Recently, a San Diego police officer told me as part of his training he was required to attend a school on the breath machine. He was amazed when a fellow officer was administered known amounts of alcohol in an effort to demonstrate the workings of the alcohol breath-testing machine. What amazed him was he saw the officer consume seven gin and tonics, yet the breath results registered only 0.04 percent, well below the legal limit. I saw the same thing occur in alcohol studies I attended in forensic laboratories in Los Angeles, and it illustrates my point. If the officer weighed 200 pounds and each drink he consumed was one ounce, the resulting blood alcohol level should be 0.13 percent. So, either the machine was testing improperly or the officer was tested right after drinking and before the alcohol fully was absorbed into his blood stream. That is exactly what happens to the citizen who is stopped just as he is leaving a bar. He is 0.04 percent or 0.05 percent and "OK" to drive at that point in time, but 30 minutes to two hours later, as the alcohol becomes absorbed into his blood stream, he increases his blood alcohol level to 0.12 percent or 0.14 percent, over the legal limit. Incredible, but true. Because of this physiological phenomenon we see people convicted of driving under the influence even though they are not guilty of violating the 0.08 percent law "per se." Thousands upon thousands of people every day plead guilty based on a chemical test result over 0.08, never knowing they actually are innocent.

The statistics from the National Traffic Safety Council state that 80 percent of the DUI-related fatalities are caused by 10 percent of the DUI drivers. We in the trade call them the "Gamma Alcoholics." These are sick people who repeatedly go through the court's revolving door, each time coming out a little more stripped of their social status, and each time coming out a little more dangerous to the rest of us. That is because no one in the present system of justice has addressed adequately the causes for this continual abuse of alcohol. Elected officials insist on making public policy decisions that look good to the voters but are not good for society. Instead of providing state resources for "Social Model Alcohol Rehabilitation Houses," which have as much as an 82 percent non-recidivist rate and cause alcohol abusers to stop drinking for life, they'd rather lock them up in jails where they get no help for their drinking problem.

The biggest injustice, however, is the cruel, callous disregard our lawmakers show for the rights of the thousands of 0.05 percent and 0.06 percent drivers who are arrested for DUI and eventually blow over 0.08 percent 30 minutes to two hours after they were driving. These people are in truth, and in fact, innocent of Driving Under the Influence, but because of a misdirected emphasis by the government, these hapless individuals must hire an attorney competent in this area of the law and science, and pay for the services of a medical doctor or toxicologist if they hope to have any chance of avoiding huge fines, jail time and a very serious criminal record. And remember, these are ordinary citizens just like you and me who go to work every day, play by the rules, yet still find themselves charged with a serious crime (not just a traffic infraction) and are treated by the courts just as if they committed a robbery or carjacking. And what's worse, it's on their record for the rest of their lives, not just the 7-10 years the judge tells them.

When you see the great number of new liquor licenses being issued to small gas station convenience stores who easily can sell beer

and wine to young drivers; when you see the bright lights advertising liquor and encouraging people to drink because alcohol sales make up 80 percent of the net profit for the restaurant business and provide a huge tax base for our state; when you also consider only two beers can equal a 0.08 percent blood alcohol level in a small person, you must ask yourself whose pockets are being lined to keep the law enforcement and legislative emphasis on the citizen who has just consumed a couple of "after-dinner" drinks and is snagged by a cop "who just happened to be cruising by" and noticed the license plate light was not properly illuminating the license plate as the driver was pulling out of a restaurant's parking lot to go home. To make matters worse, the United States Supreme Court in 1996 held that an attorney cannot challenge the subjective motive of an officer for making a traffic stop in open court. This means that if a police officer wants to pull you over only because he saw you exit a bar and figures you've been drinking, he can use the fact that your license plate is not properly illuminated as a basis to stop you and smell your breath to see if you exhibit the odor of alcohol. Under this Supreme Court decision his real motive in stopping you cannot be challenged. This decision encourages perjury (a felony) and is a national disgrace. Every right-thinking American should hang his head in shame over *When v. United States*.

Injustices always will occur. You, the reader, however, can help to put a curb to these abuses right now. First, when you are a juror, remember a police officer has done his job when he arrests a person for "mere suspicion" of DUI. Your standard as a juror is completely different. Your job is to determine the truth, "beyond a reasonable doubt," based on testimony and specific evidence you hear during the trial. You should demand to see a written alphabet test and audio/video tapes of the person who was drinking depicting their condition as close in time to the time of driving as possible. Consider evidence of impairment taken 30 minutes or more after the accused was removed from his vehicle as not relevant in determining the alcohol level at the time of driving. And if some police officers are so arrogant they expect you to take only their word without some independent corroboration, reject the unsupported testimony of the officer. If that is done often enough, you will see cleaner, more professional police work.

Secondly, stick to your guns as a juror. We paid a dear price for our constitutional rights. Many courageous young men have died on pieces of real estate all over the globe so each of our rights would be preserved and to protect us from an oppressive government. And one of the most important of these rights is that it takes a unanimous verdict by all 12 jurors to convict an individual of a crime. If you, as a juror, go along with a guilty verdict only because 11 others feel the accused is guilty and pressure you to agree, then you also are guilty of not following the law. More importantly, you have let down those who have sacrificed their lives so others could be free. In other words, if you are the lone juror and you are not convinced "beyond a reasonable doubt," it is your legal and moral duty to hold out and not give in.

Many jurors are confused by the burden of proof in a DUI case. They ask, what does "proof beyond a reasonable doubt" really mean? Let me give you my test. You enter the courtroom and the defendant sits all through opening arguments, the presentation of evidence and finally closing arguments with a hood covering his identity. You deliberate and give your decision to the judge, who then reads it out loud in the courtroom. As the hood is lifted from the head of the accused, you see the person accused is your son or daughter. If you still are satisfied that you did the right thing, then you know for sure that you were convinced "beyond a reasonable doubt." In making this important decision it is important to always remember: This is a criminal case and a citizen may end up in jail for six months, lose his job and suffer the disgrace of a criminal conviction because of your decision in his trial. As a lawyer, I am not allowed to tell you during the trial about the penalty my client will suffer, but now I can, and I think you should know.

Before I leave the subject of jurors and DUI, let me comment on a common point of confusion. Unlike other crimes, those accused of DUI almost always are charged with two violations, 23152A and 23152B. The "B" charge is driving with a blood alcohol level of 0.08 percent or more in one's blood. The "A" charge is driving with enough alcohol in your system so you no longer have the ability to drive your car as a reasonable and prudent person would. Many times a juror who is not quite convinced will decide to split the difference and find the citizen guilty of the 23152A but not guilty of 23152B, figuring the citizen on trial will get a lesser sentence. The fact is that the citizen will get the full sentence of up to six months in county jail if you find him guilty of either count. So don't be misled.

What should you do then if you intend to legally drink and drive?

1. Before you go out, check all brake lights, license plate lights, and look for any minor imperfections a policeman will be able to use for an excuse to stop you.
2. Be cautious driving after 11 pm or always when crossing the border. Come to full and complete stops – no California stops.
3. If you see a policeman following you, pull into the first place possible without arousing suspicion.
4. If stopped, be respectful at all times.
5. Respectfully decline the field test based on this article stating such tests are subjective and often impossible to do. If you write to the address below, we will give you a card to hand to the policeman. If you are afraid they will arrest you immediately and take you downtown, rest assured that since it is impossible for the officer to determine if you are 0.07 percent or 0.08 percent based on your performance on those same field tests, you will be going downtown anyway if you have admitted to drinking anything at all.
6. Do not allow the officer to pass his finger or pen or other objects by your eyes and ask you to follow while not moving your head, as this test is very controversial and highly discredited in some scientific circles.
7. Another problem is a number of people are confusing the small hand-held breath device – about the size of a package of cigarettes – with the larger breath-testing machine usually employed at the police station itself. The hand-held unit is part of the field test and if you are 21 and over you always should refuse to blow into it because it may be highly inaccurate, while the blood or breath test at the hospital or police station, on the other hand, is required by law. You must complete one of those two tests: Blood or breath. Again, when I talk about you blowing into the breath machine, I absolutely do not mean the small hand-held device in the field. In my opinion, it may read inaccurately and convict you of DUI when you clearly are not. It may, in my opinion, falsely convict you and give you a criminal record for life. I said for life – not just seven or ten years. Note: If you exhibit objective symptoms of drugs, they can require you to take a second blood or urine test, if you choose breath as your first option.
8. You will not lose your license automatically for failing to do the field sobriety test under the "Stop and Snatch Laws," which came into effect July 1, 1990. There is a lot of misinformation in that regard. You do not have to take a roadside breath test either. You still have your choice of blood or breath, and you always should choose breath testing down at the station house as your first choice. If you cannot provide a breath sample at the main testing facility, only then allow a blood test. A favorite trick played by the officers is to put a scowl on their face when you explain politely to the officer you know your rights and the law does not require you to blow into the small hand-held unit on the side of the road. Rest assured when they reach the point of having you do a field sobriety test you will be going downtown no matter what. I have had reports that some officers become so frustrated they have lied and told clients, many of whom are responsible business people, that the law recently changed and now requires they blow into the small hand-held breath machine. Don't allow yourself to be taken in by this outright lie. If the law changes, DMV will notify you. Knowledge is power. If you exercise your right to remain silent and refuse to do the roadside acrobatics or any field sobriety test, it will be extremely difficult to almost impossible for the police to make a provable DUI case against you. Also, the officer may get aggressive and snap orders that you now are required to take a blood test downtown. Such is clearly not the law unless you exhibit clear signs of drug intoxication or the breath machine is out of order.

Police work, if done professionally, should be a search for the truth. The laws are there for the protection of all. Regarding the "Stop and Snatch Law": They will take your license if arrested and you take the blood test or if you take a breath test and blow 0.08 percent or higher. The police will issue you a temporary license good for 30 days. Be careful, though. You have only 10 days to call the DMV and ask for a hearing; otherwise, your right to drive is gone for four or more months. Your attorney will appear with you at the DMV hearing.

Conclusion: There are many professional officers on the road trying to keep our streets safe. Always be polite, but refuse to do the field tests. There is absolutely no statute or code that requires it.

If you want to learn more about your rights, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Eugene Ellis, Attorney at Law, 2232 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92104.



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1-866-NO-NODUI (1-866-666-6384)

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Sons of scam

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before it was all over, the A2Z scam snatched \$12 million from investors, according to the Maradei plea agreement.

There are more shoes to drop as the grand jury's work continues. "IRS Criminal Investigation will continue to aggressively investigate telemarketers who solicit funds under fraudulent pretenses from the unsuspecting pub-

lic, and then fail to report the profits they make," says Rubin.

Then there is San Diego's S&S. It was a golf caper. That's not surprising. North County is the center of the world's golf-equipment industry. And

it's also the center of golf scams, such as the 90-day golf club telemarketing racket. Golfers are told that they can buy a set of clubs for \$1500 or so, and if they aren't satisfied, they can return them in 90 days and get their money

back. But after 90 days, the company won't return the funds, and it's too late to get money from the credit card company.

But San Diego's S&S, August L. Slivnik and Jeffrey C. Stein, tried a new one. Slivnik

is the son of the owner of a machine shop that for years has done manufacturing for San Marcos's legendary Scotty Cameron, whose Pro Line putters are sold by Titleist. According to the district attorney's office, Slivnik swiped two stamps that bore Cameron's trademark.

Soon, phony Scotty Cameron Pro Line putters were advertised on eBay for more than \$1500, although they were actually cheapies worth less than a tenth of that. Cameron had noticed that the two stamps were missing and had an investigator put in a false bid. Slivnik and Stein fell into the trap. The two confessed. Assistant district attorney Steve Davis wanted a \$10,000 fine for each and probation, but superior court judge William Mudd gave S&S informal probation and a \$200 fine and made the caper a misdemeanor. Such a wrist slap is a disappointment, but in San Diego, the rich white-collar criminals don't even get that. ■

House glut

continued from page 3

sized house," Becerra points to a picture on the wall above her desk of a two-story modern home, "like that one there, you can buy for \$150,000. It's three bedrooms, two bathrooms, about 1800 square feet. On that you would pay \$1000 a month [mortgage payment]. It's better to pay \$1000 to the bank than \$800 in rent."

That kind of thinking is catching on. "People are buying more than ever," Becerra says. But she says cultural influences are slowing the home-buying revolution. "In the culture of Mexico," she explains, "people are not accustomed to credit. Mexico is not a credit society. We're not accustomed to owing money for long periods of time. For instance, people here would be very uncomfortable buying this desk if they had to pay for it for two years."

Consequently, the standard 30-year loan offered in the United States is nonexistent in Mexico. "Here it's 20 years, sometimes 25 years, and that still makes people uncomfortable. Because of that, the banks are marketing

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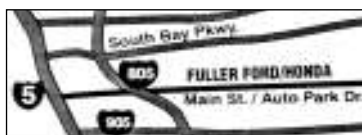
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House glut

continued from page 12

the loans by telling people the more you pay to the principal, the sooner it will become your property solely. That's

how they've convinced the people, by saying, 'Yes, you do owe, but you can pay it off as fast as you can.' ”

But the cultural aversion to credit, Becerra says, exists “mostly for the older generations. The new generations

are more comfortable with the new credit system. It is a whole new way of thinking for Mexicans, so it will take time for it to catch on with the former generations.

“Another change in the younger generations,” Becerra

continues, “is that more couples have both husband and wife working. That's something that hasn't been the norm. The women who worked before were single, divorced, or single parents. Normally, married women

would stay home.”

These credit-friendly double-income families are looking for homes, Becerra says, “Normally, in the eastern zone of the city, all the way out toward Tecate. The older zones of the city are often too

expensive. But Tijuana is like the country of Mexico — in the majority of the areas you find all kinds of housing, except in areas like Hacienda Agua Caliente and Lomas de Agua Caliente, near the race-track. Those areas are pretty much all expensive. But in the older neighborhoods, you can find all kinds of expensive and inexpensive homes. In some eastern neighborhoods they sell houses for a half-million dollars near the social-interest developments” — government-assisted condominiums for low-income families — “because there are a lot of people with money, people that work in the U.S. that live down here, and they want to be near the border crossing. So they build big houses. Here in Playas, we have social-interest developments across the street from \$500,000 houses. When the developments were built, they were on the edge of the city. But the city has grown so much, and so many houses have been built, that they're in the middle of town now.” ■

2003

continued from page 3

- B. Felix the Cat
- C. serial killers
- D. tobacco products

10. U.S. car sales rebounded in November, showing a strong increase over sales figures for last year. Leading the way with a 22-percent increase in sales from a year before was what company?

- A. Ford
- B. General Motors
- C. DaimlerChrysler
- D. Toyota

11. Which local Indian band purchased the U.S. Grant Hotel for \$45 million?

- A. Sycuan
- B. Barona
- C. Viejas
- D. Pala

12. The College Board has announced that it will offer four new languages for the AP exam, which gives college credit to high school students who pass the exam. Which language is *not* being offered for the first time?

- A. German
- B. Japanese
- C. Mandarin

continued on page 16



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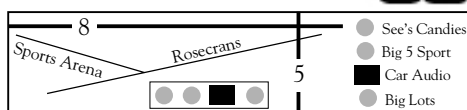
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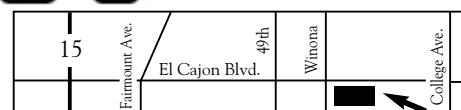
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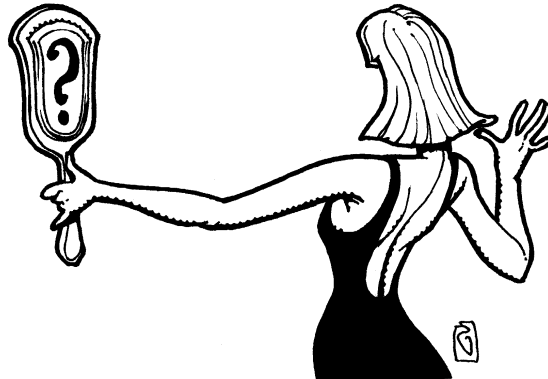
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

Illustration by Rick Geary



BY MATTHEW ALICE

Heymatt:

If I were you, who would I be?

— Anonymous, the net

We save these “who are you?” questions in a big tub, and periodically Grandma Alice threatens to throw them out if we don’t answer them. So to start the new year with a clean slate and avoid the wrath of Grandma, here’s a roundup of all the snoopy questions we’ve gotten lately. And if you were me, Anonymous, you’d be bugged that people can’t mind their own business.

Dear Matt:

Are you an individual or a collaboration, simultaneous or serial? Are you an assortment? Or perhaps a ghost? Or the staff of the public library?

— Tina, Golden Hill

No, no. Library staffers all have real jobs and are much too busy with important stuff to field questions like whether pigeons get headaches and what’s the ground speed of a fart. That’s strictly Matthew Alice territory.

Dear Matthew Alice:

Hey, you’re not in the phone book. And I don’t believe you are who you say you are. What kind of parents would give a kid a name like yours anyway?

— Ed, San Diego

Planning to call M.A. at home, were you? Frittering away your precious turn on Earth looking up famous people in the phone book? Get a job, Ed. And leave the Alices out of this. Mom’s got her hands full, what with that one-quarter-scale Dodge Dart she’s building in the storm cellar and checking in with the parole officers every week. And Pop’s hot on the trail of a turnip reportedly shaped like Millard Fillmore. It will complete his collection of tubers resembling dead presidents. My folks are much too busy for aggravation from nosy strangers.

Heymatt:

Is it true that in a former incarnation you authored a best-selling biography of Truman Capote? But since it was a previous incarnation, was it really “you”?

— Wondering, San Diego

To be honest, I’m not even sure this letter was meant for me. It was discovered while we were hosing down the offices after the rowdy *Reader* Christmas party. The letter’s so badly stained with aerosol-cheese blots, smashed Scooter Pies, and strawberry Kool-Aid that the salutation is virtually illegible. In previous incarnations, I must have been the village idiot or I’d not be stuck in this Matthew Alice gig this time around.

Dear Matthew:

I’ll bet you’re not even a real person. Your name doesn’t appear anywhere in the staff list. I’ll bet your column is written by different people every week.

— MG, San Diego

Always happy to separate an immoderate man from his cash, MG. Ante up. But remember, it’s an accepted fact that the *Reader* staff box contains the names of several entities who could only marginally be considered “real people.” So I take my nonappearance as proof of nothing.

Hey:

What’s the story with the “Matthew” and the “Alice”? Got some gender identification problems, pal?

— Clark, El Cajon

Oh, yeah, sure. I’m just waiting for the day Oprah does a show on people who suffer the personal agony and humiliation of growing up with a funny name. Then I’ll spill my guts. Where do you people get these ideas? And more to the point, why don’t you keep them to yourselves?

What are you wearing right now?

— Jayne, Bay Park

As I’ve said before, I always write in the nude, so no T-shirt blocks the inspirational *chi*. When your e-mail arrived, though, I was dressed in a kilt and my comfy pair of Doc Martens.

A searchable archive of past columns is available at SanDiegoReader.com

Got a question you need answered? Send an *email* to hey matt@cts.com or *fax* to 619-231-0498 or *mail* to Matthew Alice, c/o the *Reader*, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

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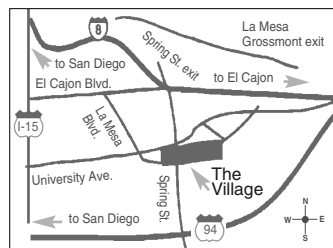
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SportingBox By Patrick Daugherty

Team Mascot Takes a Beating

Christmas, New Year's, family, tots, tads, gifts, food, drink, and fellowship. And right in there with the best holiday tradition is our annual end-of-the-year sports wrap-up, which, as regulars recall, is always combined with our annual year-to-come sports wrap-up. This way readers with busy lives can get all their 2003 and 2004 sports information in one place without wasting valuable time watching grown men and women do remarkable things with balls.

Okay, let's get to it. Introducing, in the red corner — drum roll, please — the highlights of 2003.

The Box is pleased to learn that Don Zimmer, the ex-San Diego Padres manager believed to be dead since 1981, is actually a team mascot for the New York Yankees. His employment came to my attention when Popeye was decked by Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez after the gimp/bench coach charged said pitcher during the 2003 American League Championship Series.

We are pleased to see Zim is as crazy now as he was when he skippered the Padres in 1973, losing 102 games, a record that has never been surpassed before or since. We love you, Don, but still, amidst the memories and the heart tugs, one wonders, what do you have on Joe Torre? Documents? Pictures? Videotapes? All three?

Highlights of 2004:

It's official. Marty Schottenheimer will coach the San Diego Chargers for the 2005 season despite racking up another 4-and-12 record in 2004. General manager A.J. Smith told reporters, "If we hired another coach, we'd still have to pay Schottenheimer's salary. Why have two 4-and-12 coaches on the payroll?"

This is why A.J. lives in a nice house and we're late on the rent again. Come to think of it, just between you and me, do you ever wonder what A.J. knows that we don't?

Rodeo professionals are asking the same question, albeit in a slightly different way. Gritty cowboys and bronco-busters gather in groups, spit on their boots, show their belly scars, and mumble, "Do you ever wonder what they know that we don't?" In this instance, rodeo insiders are referring to the mad-cow disease outbreak in Washington state. By December 31, 2003, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Nicaragua,

Jamaica, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, Vietnam, Ukraine, Japan, South Korea, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Russia, South Africa, Morocco, Lebanon, Jordan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Australia — representing, roughly, two billion people — had banned or stopped importing U.S. beef. France, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, and Sweden, representing roughly 350 million people, already had banned almost all U.S. beef due to massive misuse of growth hormones in American livestock.

Back in the States, as 2003 ended, United Press International reported, "The United States Department of Agriculture insisted the U.S. beef supply is safe after announcing the first documented case of mad-cow disease in the United States, but for six months the agency repeatedly refused to release its tests for mad cow to United Press International.

"UPI initially requested the documents on July 10, and the agency sent a response letter dated July 24, saying it had launched a search for any documents pertaining to mad-cow tests from 2002 and 2003. 'If any documents exist, they will be forwarded,' USDA official Michael Marquis wrote in the letter.

"Despite this and a 30-day limit under the Freedom of Information Act on responding to such a request, the USDA never sent any corresponding documents. The agency's FOI office also did not return several calls from UPI placed over a series of months."

Since mad-cow day one, U.S. officials have insisted that there is no danger from the disease. Consumers need not worry — "no danger to the food supply because muscle cuts of meat have almost no risk."

Well, who are you going to believe? Don Zimmer and the American Beef Institute or a bunch of foreign scientists who, most likely, speak French?

Finishing with 2004 sports highlights:

Tiger Woods tells Dr. Phil, "I have enough money."

Michael Jackson admits to having a sleep-over with Don Zimmer. "There is nothing wrong in sharing my bed with a team mascot."

The Vegas Line

Favorite	Moneyline	Wild Card Weekend (Home Team in CAPS)		Underdog	Moneyline
		Spread	O/U		
BALTIMORE	-120	1	40	Tennessee	Even
CAROLINA	-155	3	34½	Dallas	+135
GREEN BAY	-330	7	44	Seattle	+250
INDIANAPOLIS	-155	3	49	Denver	+135

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St. Louis Rams	5 to 1	Kansas City Chiefs	6 to 1
Green Bay Packers	10 to 1	Tennessee Titans	14 to 1
Indianapolis Colts	16 to 1	Baltimore Ravens	16 to 1
Denver Broncos	20 to 1	Carolina Panthers	25 to 1
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Address: 2727 E. 7th St., National City,
619-267-8990
Year founded locally: 1904
Senior pastor: Reverend Will James
Congregation size: 850
Staff: 2 full-time, 6 part-time
Sabbath school enrollment: 200
Annual budget: \$204,000
Weekly giving: \$3100
Singles program: yes
Diversity: Filipino, white, Hispanic, African-American, Afro-Caribbean
Dress: dressy casual to dressy
Services: Saturday worship, 10:45 a.m.

Some aspects of Seventh-Day Adventism have become so mainstream that few people who eat breakfast cereals or order soy-milk lattes know about the denomination that set America's health-food mania in motion. Ellen White, Seventh-Day Adventism's chief founder, was formed by the early 19th century's great religious revival. The era's zeal led many believers like White to surmise that the Second Coming was imminent.

On a late December morning in 1844, at a Bible study in South Portland, Maine, White experienced the first of many visions that inspired her to reconsider Christian belief and practice. Her reinterpretation of Scripture defined the particulars—strict vegetarianism, Saturday worship, natural medicine—that set Seventh-Day Adventists apart from other Christians. Her teachings were persuasive. W.K. Kellogg, the inventor of corn flakes, was an ardent Seventh-Day Adventist. You can thank Ellen White for Rice Krispies, Pop-Tarts, Fruit Loops, Frosted Mini-Wheats, Morningstar Farms meatless Breakfast Links, and many other Kellogg products.

The first book that White's followers published was called *Hymns for God's Peculiar People That Keep the Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus*. Almost 160 years later, Adventists still cherish that particular adjective.

"Well, we are God's *peculiar* people," said Norman Schaffner last Saturday when I visited Paradise Valley Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Schaffner, who serves as Paradise Valley's treasurer, has attended the church for more than 50 years. I'd asked him why Adventists didn't just chuck their distinctions and become plain ol' evangelical Protestants.

"We value our distinctiveness. We're trying to keep God's commandments."

I asked Schaffner that question because some Adventists do want to seem more like plain ol' evangelical Protestants. They don't use "Seventh-Day Adventist" in their church name. They rarely mention Ellen White and downplay Adventist particularisms like vegetarianism. But this Paradise Valley church, founded in 1904, is the mothership for San Diego County Adventism and is known for its adherence to tradition. Ellen White herself chose the land on which the church and Paradise Valley Hospital were built. *Thirsty*

Elephant, a history of the hospital, shows photos taken in the 1930s during the institution's many open houses. Smiling nurses stand before exhibits on "The Wonderbean: Soybean" and "Correct Diet: The Secret of Health."

Associate pastor Harry Bennett told me that until very recently Paradise Valley Hospital served only vegetarian food.

"I'd say that right now, out of the 400 physicians who work there, only 20 are practicing Adventists. The hospital started serving meat out of consideration for the non-Adventist physicians."

The church itself is a grand white structure with many floor-to-ceiling panes of stained glass set into its east and west walls. The deep pews are upholstered in plush soft gray. Above the baptismal shine the pipes of the church's enormous pipe organ. Last Saturday morning, the men and women who took their place in this dramatic nave were dressed in suits and long dresses. Some of the women wore hats. A 15-piece orchestra boomed out the morning's eight hymns. Down the center aisle, real candles flickered atop staves attached to the pews.

Reverend Bennett's sermon, "What Makes God Smile?" was an example of the upbeat orderliness that characterizes Adventism.

"There are five answers to that question," Reverend Bennett told us. Citing the story of Noah, Reverend Bennett explained that God smiles when "we love God supremely," "trust God even when it doesn't make sense to trust him," "obey him wholeheartedly," "praise and thank him continually," and "use our abilities."

As for the last answer, Reverend Bennett further explained that God especially delighted in his children's work. I couldn't help thinking that while Adventists might differ from normative Protestantism in significant ways, they took the Protestant work ethic to heart. The term "work ethic" appears often in Adventist literature. And Adventists were most diligent in their missionary work.

The majority of people

who now attend Paradise Valley are Filipino.

"We Caucasians are definitely the minority," Reverend Bennett told me after the service. "Of the 13 million Adventists in the world today, perhaps only 1 million are white Americans. The largest Adventist congregation in San Diego is Hispanic."

After last Saturday's worship service, I sat and talked for some time with Reverend Bennett, Norman Schaffner, Schaffner's wife Clariece, and a young Filipino fellow named Aunesto Quilop. I was interested in what Adventism's particularisms meant to them.

"You've heard how culturally diverse Adventism has become," Quilop said. "The particulars of our belief and practice bind us together. They're the common language we all understand."

"Our distinctions do something else," Clariece said. "They remind us to live every day of our lives in preparation for Jesus Christ's imminent return."

—Abe Opincar



REVEREND HARRY BENNETT

Paradise Valley Seventh-Day Adventist Church National City ★★★★½

Sermon

content.....★★★★
delivery.....★★★★

Liturgy.....★★★★

Music

congregational.....★★
choir.....★★★★

Snacks.....★★★★

Flowers.....no flowers

Architecture.....★★★★

Friendliness.....★★★★

Poor to satisfactory.....(none)
Good.....★
Very good.....★★
Excellent.....★★★★
Extraordinary.....★★★★



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Dear Aunt Trudy,

I'm employed in a large office and there are six of us in our department who have worked together for quite a while and have become friends. We socialize outside of work and know each other's spouses. Until recently we got along famously. A couple of months ago there were a few people promoted in our department. There's one guy in our group of friends, Todd, who feels as if he was unfairly passed over for a promotion during this last round. One of the other guys in our group of friends, Ed, did get promoted. Todd has suddenly become angry and sour, and he just can't stop talking about how he was unjustly passed over for promotion. He refuses to get together with us now when we invite him out to dinner or for drinks. He says it just reminds him of how bitter he feels about not being promoted when Ed was. All of us have told Todd how sorry we are and that we wish it was different and that he had been promoted too, but we can't get Todd to snap out of it and accept our invitations anymore. It's not like any of us in our group of friends had anything to do with the decisions about who did and didn't get promoted. What should we do to get our pal back into the fold? Seems to me it's a time of year to let bygones be bygones and not to nurse grudges.

MISSING OUR BUDDY IN SANTEE

Dear Missing,

Unfortunately you can't decide for a friend how quickly they're going to get over a slight. Todd may simply need more time to come to terms with what he feels was a bad blow and an injustice. You happy five can go on about your social lives and continue to extend invitations to Todd. Eventually, the hope is he'll make his peace with the fact that he wasn't promoted and get over it. You can let him know you really miss him and that as soon as he feels like it, you'd love him to hang out with the gang as he did in days of yore. You can also offer to talk the problem through with him, brainstorm about how he might talk to a supervisor about why he wasn't promoted, or other positive actions he might take to address his workplace dissatisfactions, if that's appropriate. He might need an opportunity to vent. Beyond that, it's up to Todd to work through his anger and jealousy like a big boy. I hope he's not going to be so stubbornly inconsolable that he'll sacrifice friendship to office politics here. That would be a crying shame.

Dear Aunt Trudy,

I couldn't help responding to last week's letter regarding the neglectful dog owner. But I'm not writing to protest the ill treatment of this poor dog whose owner often leaves him alone over night with the result that the dog howls and keeps the neighbors awake (though I agree the owner should be reprimanded). I'm writing on behalf of the non-dog-owners of the world coping with those whose life choices are based around the pooch. I'm convinced the man I'm dating uses nocturnal dog walks as a reason to avoid intimacy (or maybe it's me?). Somehow inviting him to bring the dog over with his toothbrush seems more than I bargained for. Can't a dog survive one night without its master?

BITING MY TONGUE IN BURLINGAME

Dear Biting,

If the man you're interested in is so devoted to his pooch, you may have more luck if you share his devotion, or at least respect and honor it, than if you agitate against it. If for some reason you don't want him to bring the dog to your place when you wish to spend the night together, then if you can, why not go to his? That solves the problem of his making excuses that he can't spend the night because Fido will be lonely, or needs a walk, etc., and you can get to know the other, four-legged love of his life, too. This solution will also prevent your being an accessory to the very crime the letter you mention complained of: a dog being left alone night after night to express his canine angst by singing various tragic opera arias at the top of his lungs. Also, if you're willing to be flexible and stay over at his place, it will be a good test to see if the man in question really does have intimacy issues. Let's see if he continues to be reluctant or withholding after he can no longer use the hound as an excuse or if he is simply a conscientious dog owner.

Write to Aunt Trudy c/o the San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; call her at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at 619-881-2401; or e-mail to trudy@sdreader.com

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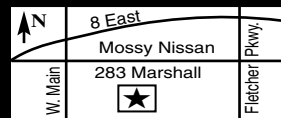
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—EVE KELLY

Smelly feet are a problem around the Kelly household. The kids' closet emits a musty, sweaty, sour aroma. Husband Patrick's shoes have ripened with age. And my feet — well, I think they smell like roses but Patrick disagrees. "A combination of vomit and decaying vegetation" is his description of my shoe odor. Yeah, well at least I don't have gas and stinky shoes like someone I know. I considered building a bonfire in the backyard and throwing all of the family's shoes on it.

Instead, I turned to the professionals. "Basically most odor is caused secondary to athlete's foot infections, which is a fungal infection of the feet," explained Dr. Ron Worley, podiatrist. "The fungus digests the outer skin layers and the odor comes from the chemical breakdown of products from proteins in the skin."

I asked Dr. Worley what to do for treatment.

"Most of the time," he answered, "it can be treated effectively with over-the-counter antifungals. We also caution people to treat their shoes as well with an over-the-counter surface disinfectant like Lysol. Because people will treat their athlete's foot and start clearing it up and then they will stick their feet back into their shoes, which are still infected with fungus."

Before he let me off the phone, Worley warned, "The second problem that causes foot odor is when a bacterial condition sets up in the sweat glands of the feet and it causes chemical changes resulting in a very foul odor. This condition can't be just washed off with soap and water. People that have it, they wash with soap and water and within a half an hour their feet will be malodorous again."

In addition to the smell coming back shortly after washing the feet, Dr. Worley said another sign of bacteria infecting sweat glands in the feet is very sweaty feet, to the point "where people just soak their stockings. They usually have the sweaty condition first and then that bacterial condition of the sweat glands sets up later. Using a disinfectant product like Lysol in the shoes is helpful in addition to the prescription treatment."

Any preventative tips?

"It is always a good thing to alternate

"It smells like Altoids...with a hint of sweaty feet on the finish."

the shoes you wear," he offered. "Certainly if you have leather shoes, use shoe trees or something like that to help absorb moisture. It will make decent shoes last a lot longer as well as being healthier for your feet."

The next evening, Patrick and I sat down for a daunting task, putting our noses to the leather of a lineup of rancid shoes. I could almost see undulating vapors curling up from the shoes sitting on the table.

Desenex Foot and Sneaker Deodorant Spray Powder (\$5.49 for three ounces at Rite Aid) left the shoe smelling like a public bathroom, and a few minutes later, the musty smell made a reappearance.

Gold Bond Medicated Foot Spray (\$5.79 for 3.5 ounces at Longs Drugs) left powdery gunk on the shoes.

"It smells like Altoids," Patrick chuckled, "with a hint of sweaty feet on the finish."

Odor-Eaters Foot & Sneaker Spray Powder (\$5.99 for four ounces at Rite Aid) claimed to prevent athlete's foot. Patrick liked its clean, inoffensive smell right after spraying, but the odor of feet came racing back after a few minutes' reprieve.

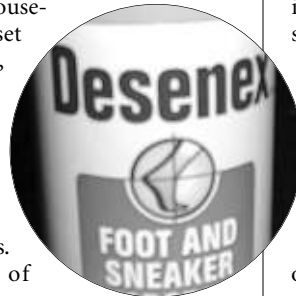
Dr. Scholl's Odor Destroyers Sport Spray Powder (\$5.99 for 3.5 ounces at Rite Aid) covered the offensive smell with a floral scent we could not place. Definitely a keeper.

The last of the sprays was Lysol Disinfectant Spray (\$5.19 for 12 ounces at Ralphs). I never would have bought it had Dr. Worley not recommended it. Patrick was skeptical. "Do you want to be walking by people and invoke memories of their grammar school bathroom?" he asked as he sprayed a blast into my pungent sneaker. "I'm flashing back to the bathroom at St. Casimir's already." He stood corrected a few minutes later when only a neutral smell of leather was detectable.

We moved on to the powders. Dr. Scholl's Odor Destroyers Shoe Shot Deodorant Powder (\$7.59 for eight ounces at Rite Aid) gave off a heavy pine scent, and it was hard to keep from dumping too much powder into the shoe. But, if pine is your scent, it definitely blocked the odor.

Equate Foot Powder (\$2.27 for seven ounces at Wal-Mart) left the feet covered in a silky powder and smelled of toothpaste. "It's Pepsodent," Patrick said. "Like I had when I was a kid. Who would have known that odor-killing products would bring back such childhood memories?"

Dr. Scholl's Original Foot Powder (\$5.99 for seven ounces at Rite Aid), at twice the price of Equate, similarly masked the smell.



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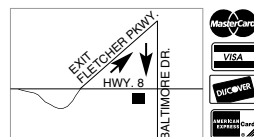
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Crasher

NO PLACE FOR A WHITE GUY

by Josh Board

my first party was in South Park, a salsa party for a gal's birthday. The guy who invited me was named Phillip; he spoke with a thick German accent and looked like a combination of a younger, better-looking Andy Warhol and the Mike Myers character Dieter from *Saturday Night Live* who said, "Would you like to pet my monkey?"

Phillip was a great host, telling me the beer and alcohol were in the refrigerator and food in the kitchen. But when I went into the kitchen, I didn't see any food. I did see two people smoking a joint. And I saw a giant chocolate cake. I opted for the cake. I took a beer as well and watched four couples salsa dancing.

A beautiful Asian woman named Mai lived at this house with two roommates. She told me it was her birthday the following week, and I heard her say, "I'm going to spend it with my mom. She's a real party animal." She kept trying to get me on the dance floor, and I kept telling her, "A dance floor is no place for a white guy." I asked one of the other women, who



looked to be in her early 20s, if they moved all the furniture out of the living room for the space to dance. She said, "No. We don't have much furniture. It's always like this. We only have those two couches."

Speaking of furniture, I met an African-American furniture maker named Gary. He was 6'6" and was an



Top: ¡salsa!; bottom left: capoeira party

told me he didn't play. (Damn it — there I go stereotyping people again.) I told him about meeting the actor Wolfgang Bodison,

"When you dance like that, you could probably get any woman at this party."

amazing dancer. And every time he went into the kitchen for a drink, he had to duck to avoid the light hanging down. Since I played basketball, I brought the subject up with him. He

who starred in *A Few Good Men*. Bodison was a tall African-American, and he said when Nicholson would see him on the set, Jack always wanted to talk about the Lakers. Bodison told me,

"It was so embarrassing because I don't know anything about basketball, and he knows everything — all the stats of all the players. People assume because I'm tall and black, I should know about hoops." But Gary didn't hold it against me. We talked about a number of subjects, and he promised to invite me to some cool parties he knew about.

I enjoyed watching everyone salsa, but when you've got ten couples on the floor, it gets quite crowded. A few times people bumped into each other. And

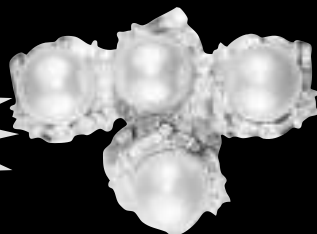
I don't particularly care for that music. I asked Phillip if the neighbors minded, and he said, "I told them we were having a party and invited them. It's not too loud, though."

While I was waiting to use the bathroom, a cute blonde who looked like Sarah Jessica Parker started talking to me. When I told her who I thought she looked like, she replied, "Everyone says that. I hate that, because I don't think she's that pretty." She's a journalism major at SDSU and said, "Can I ask you some questions about journalism and writing?" She then asked me a question, and as I started to answer, she started talking to somebody else. When she was done talking to that person, she asked me another question. Again I started to answer, and she walked away to say hello to a person entering the party. She then came back and told me she once sat next to Bill Murray on an airplane.

An Asian guy overheard and told me he writes for the *Journal of Asian Culture and Commerce*. There were a stack of those papers

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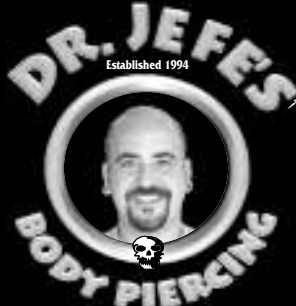
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Crasher

against the wall. I wanted to ask if he brings those to parties instead of a nice bottle of booze. He and I had a great conversation about writing and dealing with editors (it was good stuff, if you're reading this, boss). An Asian lady told me later on the porch, where ten of us were smoking, that she writes for a Filipino magazine and that she wrote a story on gambling at the Indian casinos she was hoping the Reader might publish.

As I walked back into the party, I told Mai she was a good dancer. She grabbed me and made me dance. Of course, she did all the dancing, and I basically stood there. Her scarf was nearly touching the floor, and she looked sexy. I said, "How can you dance so well with one hand holding your beer?" She smiled and took a drink while continuing to dance.

One of the few white couples I saw there was in the middle of a dance lesson. The girl was telling her boyfriend, "Just count. 1-2-3. See, it's easy." As he did this, looking down at his feet, she said, "You've got it! That's all there is to it."

Some of the men dancing looked uncomfortable, but all the women were enthusiastic as they shook their hips and smiled. One short, good-looking Latino guy was amazing. He danced with a few different women, and I overheard someone say, "When you dance like that, you could probably get any woman at this party."

I left to go to a capoeira party on Tenth Avenue at 11:30 p.m. The woman who invited me said, "It goes from 10:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. That's the way the Brazilians party."

I met Sarda and told

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Crasher

her I would've been there earlier, but I ran a red light and spent half an hour with a cop. She said, "My boyfriend just got hit half an hour ago by a guy that ran a red light while going to pick up another keg."

There was beer and a Brazilian drink called

caipirinha, which has vodka, lime, and lots of sugar. It was pretty strong.

Since Sarda looked to be Caucasian, I asked about her name. She said, "In Capoeira, they give you a name. This isn't my real name, but *sarda* in Portuguese means freckle." Her face is covered with freckles. She introduced me to her

boyfriend, a 6'3" red-head named Cenoura. She told me, "That means carrot. When they see you, they give you a nickname by looking at you." That reminds me of *Animal House*, when the fraternity names people by looking at them (although it sounds cooler being a Sarda or Cenoura than a Flounder or Otter).

I was surprised to see a lot of Caucasians at this party. Sure, I did see a few Middle Easterners and people of other races. Everyone looked to be in their early 20s except for a white guy with a beard. He told me he's one of the older ones, in his 40s. He said, "Hey, we were performing capoeira in Balboa Park

at a *Reader* party. One of your bosses started doing it, and did it well. He could actually do a handstand. I think he does a lot of yoga. It was funny when all the change fell out of his pocket, though. He certainly wasn't dressed for it." He went on to tell me that learning capoeira at his age is difficult on his body. He

confessed, "I'll never be able to do the moves that our master can do. He's not here tonight but is in New York."

The one Brazilian woman I talked to was telling me a lot about capoeira. She is involved in demonstrations at schools and loves working with children. She explained all about the origins of this type of

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Crasher

dance, the instruments used, and how you learn to play those as well.

I was watching some videos on a TV they had, and it seemed odd. I grew up as a kid watching Bruce Lee movies. And as a teenager, I was a big boxing fan. Well, this is more of a dance between two people. A circle is formed, and musical instruments are played. The two in the center of the circle keep eye contact and throw roundhouse kicks and punches at each other, but they never connect. They let the other duck, and in between that, they dance. It looks like break dancing. And it involves a lot of handstands. Sometimes one will step out of the circle, and another will jump in. It looks a little like the tag-team thing in wrestling. When a new person enters, they often do a little prayer in front of the people playing the instruments.

This petite Brazilian lady told me, "In Brazil, the only thing more popular than this is soccer. You can see people doing this on the street corners everywhere." Another person told me, "I saw people doing this in Israel, but the music was a lot different."

I ask Sarda if people ever get hit accidentally. She said, "Yes. Some people are more aggres-

sive. A lot of us have only been doing this a few years."

The reggae band the Prolifics had been sounding great. I especially liked their ballads. But when they took a break, the capoeira started. A circle was formed, and the crowd clapped in rhythm, three quick claps every few seconds. A few people had instruments: a tam-bourine and a few *berimbau*, which is a stringed instrument that is always played. Another pounded a bongo drum.

It was fun to watch them, especially Cenoura, who is one of the few here who can do the handstands with ease. Another guy did a series of flips that amazed me. When the women performed, it reminded me of the way people danced at Woodstock, with more swirling than flying kicks and handstands.

There was a tiny balcony that about ten people crowded onto. Somebody said, "You can climb up that fire escape ladder. Once you're on the roof, you'll get an amazing view of the city. But when you walk up the ladder, try not to look down."

I'll wait for my next dinner at Mr. A's for a view of the city. ■

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CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

DONALD, UNCA SCROOGE, DAFFY — DUCKS WHO FORGOT their pants. I left out Daisy deliberately. In duckdom (as in most bird species) it’s a drake’s world; they get the color. There is something about ducks’ feet and ducks’ bills that, frankly, fills me with joy. One of the worst things I’ve ever smelled: rotten duck eggs. A duck’s feces are among the most repellent I’ve seen: green and white and slimy. One of the funniest duck stories I personally witnessed: early ’70s, somebody in my crowd is flush, and we all (five or six) go to a French restaurant. One of our party, never having tasted *duck à l’orange*, is urged to order it. When it arrives he doesn’t notice the waiter lighting the cognac and, upon seeing the flames, jumps up and begins beating them out with his napkin. This is the class of people I hung around with as a youth. I like ducks because they look a little funny, but I know they are savvy, strong, and indefatigable and make oddly plaintive noises. As a teenager I did some bird-hunting but never got a shot off at a duck except once, when in frustration, about 100 yards out of range, I let go both barrels of my 16-gauge side-by-side. I swear that several of the ducks on the closer side of the V lifted up their tails, as Daffy or Bugs might do if Elmer took a shot at them: their way of flipping me the bird.

I wanted to know more about ducks — wild ducks, waterfowl — and I was interested in the art of taxidermy. Of all the taxidermied creatures I’ve looked at, I think it’s the birds, and particularly waterfowl, that look the most natural or alive. You can get a close and accurate look at their colors, which are spectacular in range and hue and pattern, iridescences found nowhere else, and all contained in the miraculous and primordial invention of nature called feathers.

Very few full-time taxidermists work in San Diego, and probably the only one who specializes in waterfowl is Kevin Moreau, just turned 40, whose taxidermy business is called KWest Taxidermy. When I first talk to him on the phone, I sense that he is passionate not only about his work but about waterfowl in general. We arrange to meet when I get to San Diego a few days later. He calls back the next day to cancel. He’s decided against being interviewed. He says he’s gotten harassing phone calls a few times. People who think he stuffs animals gun-crazed hunters have slaughtered. His first priority is providing for his family (he and his wife have six sons between them), and his second priority is honoring the creatures he loves. His respect for

a

PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HUFAKER, JR.



Kevin Moreau

these creatures goes well beyond his taxidermy work, as you will see. He doesn't want phone calls or even the possibility thereof interfering with his work. It takes some talking, but I talk him out of not talking to me.

I go to see him. Kevin Moreau is a native San Diegan, growing up in Fletcher Hills and graduating from Grossmont High. He tells me he was a decent student and went to college for a few semesters, but in the classroom he was always either looking out the window or wanting to: "to see what birds I could see, which birds they were, and what they were doing." His father was an art teacher, and it was from him that Kevin learned a great deal of his craft — drafting abilities, drawing and painting skills, a sense of color and line. He's about 5 feet 11 and built like a bull — his chest and shoulders are solid, and his forearms and hands are massive. He was a drummer in a rock band in his youth, and it's to that that he attributes his strong forearms. Maybe so, but he works still with great muscular concentration in his hands and arms. Somebody told me once that thoracic surgeons need very strong hands and forearms — to pry open our chests for surgery. I asked a brain surgeon whom I happened to have access to about this. He said that nowadays they have surgical jaws-of-life tools to do that work for them. I wasn't sure if he was just telling me the facts or if there was a touch of surgeon rivalry involved. Moreau has not only the strong hands of a thoracic surgeon but also the delicate touch of a brain surgeon.

He and his family live in a modest ranch house in a quiet neighborhood. When you walk in the front door, however, you enter another world. What was originally meant to be a living room is now his showroom/office and is filled with many mounted ducks and other birds, some fish, and three or four stunning tableaux/dioramas (as one might see in a natural history museum) combining sculpture and taxidermy. Each creates — simultaneously — under- and above-water scenes: lots of ducks dive and many fish leap. There's a case filled with ribbons, most of them blue: from competitions he's entered. To remind one that a large family lives here as well: a huge bucket filled with shoes. To the left is the kitchen, dominated by two huge freezers where all the birds and fish waiting to be mounted are kept. Business is pretty good — he's about six months behind with his jobs. Off the kitchen is the living room (which was probably meant to be a din-

ing room). It, too, contains elements of his work, in this case a desk in the corner where he does most of the brush (as opposed to airbrush) painting of his show decoys — more about them later. In his dusty back yard he has two other work spaces: a canvas carport structure where he airbrushes and carves his decoys, and a small shack where he mounts birds and fish. It's a humble operation: he's not getting rich stuffing dead animals. He does it to preserve creatures he reveres, respects, and protects. He does it to earn a living. He's one of the blessed: he gets to earn his living doing something he loves.

Moreau got his start in taxidermy when he was about 10, which means he's been doing it for three-quarters of his life. A friend and neighbor expressed some interest in taxidermy, and that friend's father offered to pay for a correspondence course for both of them. A different book came each month. The friend lost interest quickly, but Moreau was hooked. W.B. Yeats, the great Irish bard, exhorts, table thumps, in a poem: "Irish poets, learn your trade!" That's what Moreau did. At 16 he got a job working for Lyons and O'Haver, the top taxidermists in the area. He stayed there a few years, left for a few years, worked for them again for a few years. A job came up as a park ranger at Santee Lakes, and he did that for six years while continuing to work at his taxidermy part-time.

This is an example of what I mean when I say he "protects" these creatures. When he started working at Santee Lakes, he noticed there were only about six wood ducks showing up every year, he figured all from the same family. Allow me to wax rhapsodic about wood ducks for a few sentences. Whether you believe in the genius of Nature or the genius of God, you will have to agree that on the day the wood duck was invented, Nature or God was on a roll, inspired, color-drunk, visionary, feeling giddily generous: "Life is going to be a mess for these humans so let's give them something to look at to take their minds off their petty, greedy selves for whole moments at a time." I can imagine God or Nature thinking like that. Oh green-and-white-and-red and red-and-white-and-orange and dots of white on brown-going-to-scarlet! When Moreau noticed the paucity of wood ducks, he got together with some like-minded people, and they began putting up nest boxes for wood ducks. They're cavity nesters, and there weren't many places for them to nest around the relatively new (1959) man-made Santee Lakes. Now there are maybe

300 wood ducks who check in there every year — for the whole winter or for a rest on their way to and from Mexico.

We take a ride to the lakes. He is like a kid in a candy store, pointing out ducks — there are several different species here, as well as some grebes. A healthy duck can live 10 to 15 years. I've often wondered if an old duck just dies on the wing — flying back from the 14th trip to Mexico, the graybeard duck's heart stops and down he goes. An appropriate way for a duck to die. A female lays a clutch of 8 to 12 eggs a year, but predators — skunk, fox, coyote, raccoon, opossum, largemouth bass — take a lot of eggs and hatch-



PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HUFFAKER, JR.

Mako shark and greater scaup

lings. Only 10 to 20 percent of duck eggs make it to duck adulthood. Moreau notices one female looking a little distressed — she is followed by only two ducklings, still very young. He wants to think she's stashed a few more in the reeds, but he knows that unlikely. We have binoculars, and he keeps handing them to me and pointing out different species — and several wood ducks.

Want to know

another way he honors these birds? He stuffs and mounts them, and this is how it works. A customer brings him a dead duck, frozen, guts and all, as soon as possible after shooting it. It is okay for the

sensitive reader to stop now, so as not to linger too long on the thought of shooting to death an innocent animal. Human beings hunt. For 99 percent of human existence we have been hunters and gatherers, always have been, always will be. Almost all hunters are conservationists. And almost all hunters eat every scrap of meat on everything they kill. Very few hunters own handguns. One doesn't hunt with a handgun.

The night before Moreau mounts a duck, he thaws it, and it sits in a Tupperware container until morning, soaking in water and a secret chemical: Joy dishwashing soap. He takes a thawed and drenched pintail duck out of the

water and holds it up for me. It has already been cleaned. All that is left is the skin, the feathers, the bill, the feet, and five bones: wings, legs (to the first joint), and skull. To do this, he made a shallow incision down its belly and peeled the skin and feathers off the bird in one piece. Didn't need to open the gut cavity. He uses all the meat, either barbecuing it in a simple recipe I'll reveal at the end of this, or he makes it into sausage or salami. Duck salami: sounds good to me!


When he holds the dripping duck up by the neck, it is one of the most sorry-looking creatures I've seen. I've seen better-looking roadkill. Its neck is grossly elongated (when

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it's wet, it stretches; when it dries, it shortens up), it is soaked, colorless, like a rung-out dishrag. That will change very quickly. First, Moreau wrings out the duck. (I wonder if the previous six words have appeared in that order before in an English sentence.) Then he dips it in a tub of acetone, which degreases the duck. He removes the duck from the acetone and literally turns the duck inside out while he pats and shakes it dry. Already the duck is starting to look fuller, fluffier. Then he whips out a hair dryer and finishes off most of the drying process, and the duck, though still limp and hollow, has almost all of the life of its feathers back.

He's precut five pieces of wire: one for each leg, each wing, and another for the neck. He now does something that reminds me again of the work of a doctor or nurse: as if inserting an IV, he threads a wire into the duck's middle toe's tendon, which looks a lot like the vein in the back of a human hand, and works the wire up through the foot and leg, with a few inches left over in the chest cavity. Each foot, each wing. The threading of the wire through the wings is less dramatic, like getting a hypodermic through your shirt. He runs another wire through the middle of a piece of "foam-bird necking," inserts it in the duck's neck, into the skull. The wires, of course, are there so the taxidermist can position the bird in any way he wants. Doing this realistically is learned the old-fashioned way: by watching thousands of living birds

and by studying pictures. Most birds are mounted to show them in flight.

The bird is looking better and better. Moreau works very fast, eyeballs everything (no measuring tools), and makes it look easy, which is why master craftsmen are called master craftsmen. I can see the muscles and tendons in his forearms and hands working hard. In fact, he's been having problems with tendinitis lately, and he wears a band at the top of his forearms that seems to lessen the pain. He shows me the inside of the bird. The skin is a creamy white dotted with goose bumps: the feathers pressing from the outside. It is the softest skin, I swear, I've ever touched. I can see two or three pellet marks from the shotgun that took him down. Boo-hoo.

Next, Moreau stuffs the bird. A great deal of taxidermy is done now with "blanks" — you buy, from a taxidermy supply house, the inner form of a creature. If you look at catalogs, these forms seem very odd. They're made for virtually every creature on earth. They're kind of a sickly yellow color and have no (or virtually no) protuberances — antlers, gills, ears, tails, etc. They look naked, impotent, bald, ghosts of the creatures they are. Moreau still mounts his bird the old-fashioned way: he wraps the proper amount of excelsior (wood wool) in twine, presses it here and there to form the right shape, and in it goes. Then he sews the bird's belly up, seamlessly.

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The eyes. The eyes of a creature are crucial. Realistic eyes and facial expression are very important, and how a taxidermist does eyes is one area where the men are separated from the boys. Moreau likes to give his birds "attitude," and a lot of that is in the eyes. This particular pintail takes a 10-mm dark brown artificial eye. Many companies make just about any eyeball you might want, every creature, and they'll even make eyes to order on specifications by the taxidermist. Moreau also calls the eyes "the personality" of the duck. He says he makes his pintail eyes (he shapes the eye socket) "more football shape," avoids the "long-eyed look." The pintail's eyes are fairly easy to

mount. The eyes of my now-favorite, the wood duck, are another matter. The eye, first of all, is rimmed by a deep but slightly diluted (maybe with a drop of gold) scarlet. Little, evenly spaced ridges or bumps all along the rim, when struck by sunlight, create an effect like a string of red-white-red-white Christmas lights circling the duck's eye. The eye is teardrop-shaped, tilted on its side, pointy end forward. Next, the iris is a slightly more diluted scarlet but still a rich creamy color. Then a round asteroid belt of light green, the color of the earliest moss to appear in a springtime New England forest, dotted with black specks. It's a circular falling star, or the head

of a comet eating the tail of a comet. Then, then: the black, liquid, perfect ebony pearls, the pupils. I read a very

using the real skull rather than a blank. The copy promotes this for accuracy: "It is important to note that when

cause undue stretching of the opening — leave the lids on!"

There is no minutiae in this business, meaning no detail too small to pay attention to. To do the creature justice, every hair, every feather, every fleck, each subtlety has to be considered. I like looking at specialized catalogs like this — one is reminded over and over again of the power of the human imagination and the drive toward perfection, even as we know that there is no such thing as perfect when it's made by man.

There is an advertisement in one of the trade catalogs I love: Skulls Unlimited. They're the largest supplier of skulls and skeletons, and they're a lead-

ing company "in commercial preparation of bone for colleges, taxidermists, and zoos." They also provide another service. Say you've taken an animal, and you want its skeleton, for whatever reason. It's gotta be clean, very clean. That could take dozens of hours by hand, scraping, boiling, fleshing with special tools. What if you have a whole moose skeleton you want cleaned of all flesh, cartilage, fat, ligaments, everything? You send it to Skulls Unlimited, and they put the subject in a box with several hundred dermestid beetles, which "assure that over-boiled or macerated specimens are a thing of the past." It's the same job the beetles do in the wild. The

He puts a dab of modeling clay in the eye socket and presses the eye to it.

detailed description of how to mount these eyes. I won't go into the process at length, but it works best with the old method of taxidermy,

skinning and cleaning the head skin that the natural eyelids are kept intact on the skin. There is no need to trim them off, and doing so would

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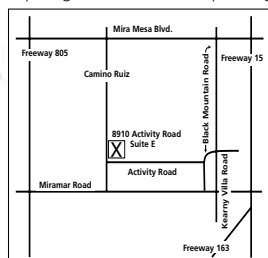
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dermestids are the last species of beetle to arrive at a corpse in the woods (rat, squirrel, deer, human, etc.), and they polish off the gristle, etc. They're gristle-eaters. On days when I believe in reincarnation, I like to think the people in this life who didn't bat an eye while eating sumptuously in front of starving people come back, in their next life, as dermestid beetles.

Moreau has row upon row of little drawers filled with bird and fish eyes. He's really zeroing in on the head now. Through this whole process, the only time the duck is out of his hand is when he puts it on his workbench for a few minutes to sew it up. He takes a pair of big tweezers and pokes little bits of excelsior into the bird's head through the eye socket, and then

with a larger pair of homemade wooden tweezers he inserts more right up the duck's bill, into the skull and cheeks. It looks like a crane putting his beak into a duck's mouth! He's doing this very fast, putting minute bits in each side, each spot, constantly turning, gauging. He particularly favors a fuller-cheek look: "I don't like my birds looking like they flew over from Ethiopia."

I keep asking him questions, which he mostly accommodates, but every once in a while I can sense that he wishes I weren't there, so he could be lost in his duck of the day.

Next, the eyes. He puts a dab of modeling clay in the eye socket and presses the eye to it. Next, the wings and feet. He puts the wings in the position he wants and pins them to a cardboard pattern (he uses the paper from manila folders). This helps spread and further dry the feathers and allows him to arrange them more carefully — as they would look in real flight/life. He does a similar thing with the feet — spreads the toes and pins them to backing. He turns the bird

around in his hands, adjusting this wing, the arc of the neck, and he hangs the bird on the wall. This pintail is in about a three-quarter profile, ascending. It's not done yet — more drying, more detail work, but it looks like a real duck to me, a real duck in flight, and

answer my question, but I think he is implying: look at birds long enough, do this long enough, and you just *know*.

Moreau mounts fish too, most commonly largemouth bass. Nowadays a lot of fishing is catch-and-release, but you can get a mounted

of shoot-and-release hunting. Perhaps in the future we'll have shotgun shells filled with little laser pellets to electronically tell you if you made the shot or not. Moreau kind of likes the idea. He thinks of tiny tranquilizer pellets in shotgun shells. I ask him if the duck might then break its neck falling to earth. He says unlikely, since wounded birds almost always land alive. Duck wakes up, flies away. I then think: Does this mean never, *never* any duck salami again?

Moreau prefers mounting fish the old-fashioned way also, which is called skin-mounting and is much more time-consuming, does take a real fish, but ends up more specific and nongeneric. A trout, for example, has spectacular colors, and each fish is unique. Gerard Manley Hopkins, a great 19th-century poet, a priest in a monastic order, is practically orgasmic when praising the beauty of a trout: "For rose moles all in stipple upon trout that swim..." Fr. Hopkins didn't have many outlets — his superiors didn't allow him to publish in his lifetime — but he sure could get excited about a fish (and lots of

other things), for which I am deeply grateful!

One of my favorite dioramas in Moreau's showroom is a huge largemouth bass crashing upward through the surface of the water, maw wide open and about to swallow a small bluegill in midair. The bluegill's tail is attached by an invisible wire to the inside of the bass's mouth. He's a fraction of a second from being devoured. On my honor, not using any of the techniques, say, a cartoonist can use to create expression in an animal, Moreau has managed to make the little bluegill look as if his short life is passing before his eyes. Moreau's got this drama frozen, half above water and half below. Below the waterline, you see a river bottom, stones, sand, weed (which he uses to suggest the river's current), even an old fishing lure treated to look as if it's been on the river bottom for a long time. In front, hiding behind a rock, is another small bluegill, sometimes called sunfish, or, where I grew up, pumpkin seeds. (People never ate them. Only fish ate them.) This small fish is placed, angled — head slightly tilted down — so its body language

The bluegill's tail is attached by an invisible wire to the inside of the bass's mouth.

incredibly different than the bedraggled, absurdly long-necked dishrag he started with a few hours ago. When I remark upon how he creates a sense of movement in something still, he says, "Hawks and owls have to fly — they make their living doing that — but ducks will fly just because they love to fly." This seems not to

fish exactly like the fish you caught — all you have to do is measure it and/or take a quick picture. By the size, a taxidermist can estimate the weight, and companies sell blanks to the quarter of an inch of any fish you want. The company or the taxidermist simply (well, it's not so simple) paints the blank. I bring up the possibility



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gives the impression it's trying not to look (and by not watching, the monster might go away) at its pal about to be gone forever. There's another fish with just its head poking out from behind a log in the rear

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of the diorama. It looks as if it's getting ready to make a break for it in the opposite direction of the big bass.

Again, I'm astonished by how Moreau has captured so much motion, so much primal eat-or-be-eaten energy, in something absolutely rigid, still. The sides and the surface of the diorama are made of Plexiglas, but he uses another substance, a kind of casting resin, to create the effect of the water following the fish up as he breaks the surface of the water. I say to Moreau that I essentially understand how one can create the sense of water falling down, but how does he create this sense of water falling, or trailing, *up*? He doesn't want to go into this in too much detail — secrets of the trade — but tells me that it is a very slow process, very time-consuming, but necessary to "make it look real."

Pressed a little, he says he studied his own hand rising quickly from

water — many, many times. He also says if it's not done right, the water will look like ice, and that's not acceptable.

"To make it look real" — that's the nature of this kind of homage, passion, this kind of art. I ask him about hunting. He's an avid duck hunter, though he reminds me that he can do it only 60 to 90 days a year — that's the whole season. Maybe he hunts 20 or 30 of those days. Ducks are one of the toughest birds to hunt. First of all, it's always cold and always wet. You sit, and sometimes lie, in a blind, calling ducks who you hope spot the decoys you're hunting over and come down to take a look: "This a good place to rest? Good to feed? Is that Uncle Fred, I haven't seen him in..."

A canvasback comes in at about 60 mph, and you better get your shot off from no more than 40 yards away. Nowadays all bird shot is steel, no more lead shot, because of environmental problems with lead in the water. Steel shot is not as effective. It's a pretty fair fight. Ducks are very smart. The tiniest movement they detect that's not supposed to be there and they're gone. They know how to keep out of range but get close enough to take a good look. There are strict limits. Certain ducks are protected.

The King of Ducks, the canvasback, either can't be hunted at all, or maybe, if their numbers are looking better, a hunter could take one a season. They're called the King of Ducks because they are mighty fine eating. They feed exclusively on sago pondweed and sweet-water grass. Market hunting is no longer legal — in other words, hunters can't shoot wild

"The mergansers, they come in like F-14s and will make a fool out of a hunter."

game and then sell it to a market or restaurant. In the 19th Century, when canvasbacks were plentiful, they still sold for exorbitant prices (\$5.00 for two as opposed to 50 cents for two mallards) so coveted was their flesh. How a duck tastes has a great deal to do with what it eats. Lots of ducks eat mostly fish — they tend to taste a little fishy. Wild-duck meat is the leanest meat you can

get. Most ducks fly thousands of miles; they're like long-distance runners: great endurance, nearly zero body fat, long muscles.

I want to take you to Kevin Moreau's other, even more passionate, love. (The love I'm talking about is work-love, not family- or God-love.) It's taxidermy related but requires neither a gun nor a real creature. He carves, and

requiring skills in carving, sculpture, wood-working, painting. Being really good at one of these things after a lifetime of work is hard enough, but to be able to do all of them at a high level: tip of the hat!

When Moreau paints a duck, he paints a duck *on* a duck; it's a three-dimensional object.

I have a friend. He's a highly successful physician, an accomplished writer. He (and his wife) are also internationally known art collectors. Almost all modern and contemporary art. I love to go to his house. He has astonishing paintings and sculptures, many by the most famous artists working today or major 20th-century artists. He has things I've seen pictures of in books. He also has things — which he's paid many thousands of dollars for — that make me want to dope-slap him on the head and say, "What were you thinking when you bought this?" For example, he has one sculpture that consists of a basketball floating in a rectangular fish tank. (I notice a fish tank exactly like it in Moreau's back yard. It cost \$9.99.) The sculpture sits on a table. That's it, that's all. A five-minute job. A concept...re what? A metaphor...re what? My friend owned the sculpture for a few months, and the basketball was

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starting to develop a little scrim of green scum around its waterline. My friend couldn't figure out if this was supposed to be a part of the sculpture, its meaning. But he didn't like the green scum. He considered asking the artist if the scum was part of the point, but in the end he scrubbed the basketball clean with a toothbrush. Maybe he thought his action was part of the point: man's endless task of trying to clean what occurs in the biological world but is distasteful to him, blah, blah. Give me a break! I'll bet my child's college fund that the possibility of scum on the basketball never even occurred to the artist! I imagine him looking at the check my friend gave him and thinking sucker, sucker, sucker and then thinking, "I hope I don't get cancer [my friend is an

oncologist] and need this sucker after he wakes up and whiffs the Postum." I repeat: my friend is smart, knowledgeable. Go figure.

But this is what I figure: I don't trust art that just happens; I don't trust five-minute art. I trust *made* art. Horace, the great Latin poet, said poems (which are art objects) are *made* things. There's a contemporary artist named Chuck Close who's known mostly for huge portraits of friends. Each one takes hundreds of hours of work to make and consists of hundreds of thousands of brushstrokes — he works in a manner entirely his own but which seems to have some of its origins in impressionism and pointillism. He was asked at the end of an interview what he would most like to be remem-

bered for. He said: for making paintings "by hand."

That's what Kevin Moreau will be remembered for as an artist: he "makes things by hand."

This is how he makes a decorative, or show, decoy. He starts by showing me a decoy he's already carved (more of this process later), a hooded merganser. The wood duck and the hooded merganser are way up there on his list of favorite ducks. "Woodies and hoodies," he calls them. There are three kinds of mergansers — the common merganser, the red-breasted merganser, and the hooded. Moreau tells me that sometimes a merganser will lay a few of her eggs in a wood duck's nest, and the wood duck will hatch and raise them as her own, thus slightly increasing the chances of

the merganser's keeping more of her brood alive. Clever duck. The male hooded merganser has a hood, which he can make stand up to display his colors and to look bigger, tougher. To whom he's displaying them is, of course, lady ducks. He's a little stumpy, a fish-eater, and has a blue-green iridescent face that runs into the ultrawhite of the back of his head just beyond his rather beady yellow eyes.

Moreau's already done some of the painting and all of the carving of this bird, including attaching a black walnut keel to keep the bird upright and balanced on the water. To get him to displace just the right amount of water, Moreau drills little holes in the keel and inserts small dollops of lead. He says it's the same principle as when

a mechanic helps to align your wheels by inserting lead weights in certain places between the tire and the rim.

Moreau has a large library of reference books, thousands of pictures of different waterfowl. He has several of these books open on his desk. He knows ducks. There's not one duck he can't identify at less than a hundred yards away. There's not a duck's sound he doesn't know. He asks me, "What kind of sound does a duck make?" I say, "I'll have to think about that for a while." He says: "They don't all quack. Only about half quack — they whistle, squeal, tweet. A pintail makes a sound almost like a cricket. The widgeon whistles, the teal peeps..." He imitates most of the sounds as he continues to paint the merganser.

I notice what looks

like a piece of ordinary pocket comb on his desk. That's what it is. He uses it to put the slight grooves in the wood to help bring out the vermiculation — the little parallel lines throughout so much of a duck's plumage. At one point he uses a brush so tiny it has only a few bristles. I tell him I read about a man who paints incredibly tiny objects and sometimes uses a brush with only one bristle, *and* he makes the brushstrokes in between his own heartbeats. Moreau's work is almost as delicate: "I hold my breath on each stroke." He also uses magnifying goggles. The basketball/fish-tank sculptor I mentioned earlier probably was wearing goggles too when he did his "sculpture": beer goggles.

It's hard to describe the array and subtleties

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of the colors, the shadings, the sense of light where it's called for (the duck is painted as if in daytime under sun), the thousands of strokes and re-strokes, the palimpsests, the do-overs. As in mounting a duck, Moreau does all this holding the duck in his left hand and painting with his right. Constantly moving it, eye-balling for symmetry. I say that I thought most people did this kind of painting with the duck in a vice or fixed to something. He says, "Some guys do it that way." Meaning most guys, meaning not him. The final stage in the decoy-painting is air-brushing. Even though 98 percent of the duck is hand-painted, the air-brush painting is crucial: it creates a softness to the duck's feathers that's much harder to get with a brush, and this softness brings out the detail. "To make wood look soft is the challenge."

A little later, Moreau shows me the earlier stages of making competition decoys. He starts with a solid block of basswood (or, sometimes, tupelo). He cuts a rough shape with a band saw, working fast (in fact, pushing the wood hard and straining the blade), and that sweet, sharp smell of friction-scathed wood rises into the air. After he gets the rough shape, he sits at the bench, and using a sander with a large round-headed carbide bit, he brings the duck out of the wood. As usual: duck in one hand, tool in the other. He says, "I can see the duck in the wood." He doesn't know that Michelangelo said a similar thing about the figure being inside the block and all he had to do was get rid of the marble around it. Within an hour, hour and a half, he has a pretty smooth but still

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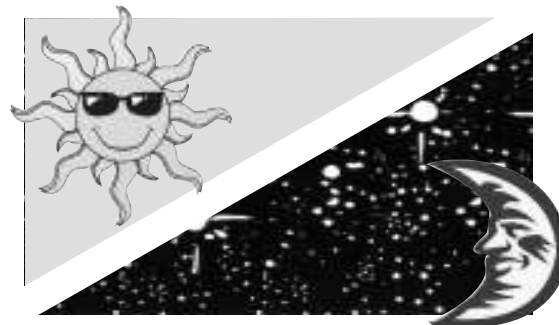
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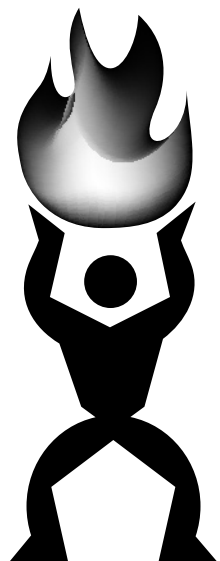
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not close to being painted merganser.

I look down after Moreau has been sanding for quite a while and notice that his big friendly black Lab retriever is lying under the blizzard of sawdust. He is almost completely covered but unfazed. His name is Zephyr. Moreau says only two things get him excited: in a bad way if a bug lands on him and in a good way when he sees Moreau take one of his shotguns from the rack and Zephyr knows he's going hunting, which he was born to do.

What do we call Moreau? A painter, a taxidermist, a sculptor, a carver? All of those. I'd call him an artist and — I've put my eyeballs on his work — a damn good one.

I want to talk to him a little bit more about hunting. As I said, I hunted as a teenager, and although not good at it, I liked tramping around in the woods. I've recently moved to Georgia and bought a few long guns: a Winchester .30-30 carbine (the rifle the cowboys carry in the movies) and a 20-gauge side-by-side double barrel. The few times I shot the rifle, it made too much noise. I did shoot a baseball with it just to see what happens. Answer: it blows a big hole in it. But the .30-30's gonna stay on the rack. I've taken up skeet shooting and am thinking it might be the sport of my dotage. I might try some bird hunting, pheasant maybe, or quail. I don't think I want to hunt ducks. Not because I now have more reverence for them — it's too cold and wet.

I ask Moreau how often he hunts. Anything else but ducks? He goes as often as possible during the 60- to 90-day season and hardly ever hunts anything else. He

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doesn't have any macho hunting stories. Instead, he wants to tell me about a solo duck-hunting trip he took to the Salton Sea, the primary duck-hunting area in Southern California. The Salton Sea is about 75 miles northeast of San Diego and is less than a hundred years old — it was formed when the Colorado River knocked out irrigation dikes and flooded a part of the desert called the Salton

Sink. It's in trouble now, drying up and getting saltier. It's already about 25 percent saltier than the Pacific Ocean. Studies have shown, however, that the water meets federal standards for drinking. This sounds a little odd to me, since it's 25 percent saltier than the Pacific, and we don't drink the Pacific. But I got this news from the *New York Times*, and as we all know, the Gray Lady never gets it wrong.

The Salton Sea is a major stopover and wintering place along the Pacific Flyway, which 15 to 30 million birds travel each year. If the Salton dies, there will be big-time problems for migrating waterfowl.

Moreau got to the sea in the middle of the night and slept for a few hours in the back of his truck. He was up about 4:30. He'd planned to hunt from a rowboat, but the water was too choppy, spray blowing off the tops of the waves. There was a full moon, and it hung just over the sea and was "the biggest I've ever seen." Instead of the boat, Moreau walked out on a long rock jetty. He was awestruck and a little sad that he was experiencing this alone. The wind, the water, the moonlight, and walking out on the rocks made him feel he was becoming more a part of the

landscape, made him understand how small we humans are next to the grandeur of Nature (or God). He was thrilled, he felt blessed to be a part of this.

He tells me this story a few times, each time his eyes lighting with the memory, each time struggling to find the words to describe what he felt — it was spiritual, epiphanic, deeply moving. Later, he wrote one of the two poems he has written in his life. The other was a love poem to his wife. He recites the poem to me from memory. Here are a few lines: "So I turned and faced the restless wind. / It took more strength to stand therein / but the effort was worth the magnificent sight. / Stars danced and played on troubled seas / I felt so alone but privileged to be..." It is unlikely that Moreau will be among the American poets after

his death, but honestly, just as I'd much prefer to look at one of his ducks — either mounted or painted — than look at the basketball in the fish tank, I find more pleasure in his poem than in the literary equivalent (oh, there are many, tedious and pretentious, beyond imaging) of the basketball/fish tank.

I had asked him for a hunting story but didn't get it. I don't know if he even saw a duck that day, let alone took one. About the only specific hunting comment I later found in all my notes and tapes of our time together was "The mergansers, they come in like F-14s and will make a fool out of a hunter."

On our last day together I tell him I know something about ducks that I bet he doesn't know. He gives me an "Oh, yeah?" look. I tell him a duck's quack

doesn't echo. Sound technicians, audio experts, scientists, etc., have no idea why this is true. Tests are ongoing. He *didn't* know that. Somehow that has never come up in his work.

Here's his recipe for barbecued duck: Cut duck meat into about one-inch squares. Marinate in Italian salad dressing for a few hours. Wrap each piece in a half piece of bacon (duck meat, as mentioned, is very lean and will dry out quickly). Cook it fast over a hot fire. Cook only long enough that the "bacon looks edible." I tried it: tasty, tasty, tasty. I had to use store-bought duck. But someday, someday, somewhere, there will be a taste of canvasback for me. ■

— Thomas Lux

Thomas Lux holds the Bourne Chair in Poetry at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His next book, *The Cradle Place*, will be published in April by Houghton Mifflin. He lives in Atlanta.

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IT'S A BEAUTIFUL THING

"I'M NOT GOING TO LET MY KIDS OUT OF THE HOUSE BECAUSE OF KIDS LIKE ME."

Wally, 19, attends Mesa College. He's got an eye for Anna Kournikova. "She's hot. She's got this whole 'I'm a tennis player,' sexy, dripping-wet kinda thing goin'."

How old were you and where did you lose your virginity? "I was 17 and on a futon at my girlfriend's friend's house."

How many times did you have sex with that same girl? "Couldn't tell ya. Numbers are hard to give. Not like it was in the hundreds, but I stopped counting after a while."

Was it the first time for her? "Yes."

Did the influence of drugs or peer pressure lead you to have sex? "Nope."

Did you become more confident with women after losing your virginity? "Nope. I've never really had a confidence problem when it came to women. It's never really been a problem for me."

What do girls appreciate most: money, flattering words, or respect? "Um, in the beginning, flattering words; I mean, if you're goin' to meet a girl randomly, flattering words will get her attention and it'll get her, you know, for that one or two dates or whatever. But ultimately, respect."

How many girls have you had sex with since your first? "One."

How many girlfriends have you had? "Maybe somewhere



Wally

around ten-ish."

How many were sexual relationships? "Two."

Have you had relationships in which sex wasn't important? "I think sex isn't all that important in all relationships. I mean, it's a fun part of the relationship, but it's not, like, a necessity."

Did the sexual relationships last longer than the ones that weren't? "It's coincidental that those ones didn't last as long as the current ones because [of] maturity. Obviously, I'm older now, and so I'm more likely to date somebody longer now that I'm 19 as opposed to when I was 14 or 15."

How can sex improve a relationship? "It's like an emotional bond you have when you share yourself with somebody. I don't think it can make the relationship worse unless that's what the people all go for...just the sex."

How can sex damage a relationship? "If you want to get technical, not having sex can damage a relationship. A lot of people get divorced because, you know, it's just not happening. Having sex with somebody you're not supposed to be having sex with can damage your relationship."

How often do you have sex nowadays? "Maybe three or four times a week."

Where is the most common place you have sex? "The bed. The bedroom.... I've never really had sex in that odd of a place. I mean, I've done sexual things, but not intercourse in an unusual place...maybe a shower or the kitchen sink."

What type of contraceptives do you use? "Currently, my girlfriend is on the pill. So me, personally [none], because she's on the pill."

Have you ever gotten anyone pregnant or received an STD? "No."

What are your parents' feelings

about your sexual activity? "Well, my family, they're really, really chill about the whole sex thing. My family never was the family that was, like, 'Don't do this, don't do that.' I think as long as I'm responsible about it there should be no problem."

What are your thoughts about waiting till marriage to have sex? "If that's what the person wants, then that's fine with me. It depends on the person; I mean, a lot of that comes with religious beliefs."

In what way does American society need to change its perception of sex? "Um, I notice sex is becoming more popular with younger kids. I think they're knowing a lot more about it. I don't agree with the whole 'let's try to scare kids into not having sex' thing, because, ultimately, it backfires. They're goin' to do it if they want to do it."

What would you tell your kids about sex, and what age would you tell them? "Well, I would try to educate them and not say, 'Okay, go do it,' or 'Okay, don't go do it,' because it's the natural teenage thing to go against what you're told. As for the age I'd approach them, I don't know, that's really hard for a parent. So, I'm not sure."

Charles, 19, goes to UC Berkeley. Porn star Jenna Jameson is his ultimate sex symbol. "She's been around the block a couple times, but quality, quality. Seriously, who would turn her down?"

How old were you and where did you lose your virginity? "I was 14 and I lost it in a movie theater — on the floor."

How many times did you have sex with that same girl? "With that girl, I only had sex with her once."

Was it the first time for her? "Good question. No one really knows. It's a

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Charles

great mystery."

Did the influence of drugs or peer pressure ever lead you to have sex? "Yes. This one time I got high, then drunk, and then I fucked a fat chick. And I made a fat chick's day, let me tell you. That's why I don't drink anymore."

Did you become more confident with women after losing your virginity? "Yes. I became more confident, but then I also became more greedy. So it all backfired, and I didn't get any quality chicks for three years."

What do girls appreciate most: money, flattering words, or respect? "They definitely appreciate the flattering words, and they say they want to be respected, but they like the guys who are pushy. It's kinda this conundrum that we have been unable to resolve because you want to respect, but you have to force yourself...so much that they like you. So it's a fine line with the respect thing. And yes, they like money."

How many girls have you had sex with since your first? "Since my first, I've had sex with four girls."

How many girlfriends have you had? "I've had lots of girlfriends. I'd say upwards of eight."

Were they all sexual relationships? "No. Only two and a half, because one of the relationships, we were going out and then we weren't going out, and then we had sex and then hated each other."

Have you had relationships where sex wasn't important? "Nope."

Did the sexual relationships last longer than

the ones that weren't? "All the relationships where sex didn't happen ended."

How can sex improve a relationship? "It can improve a relationship by making people feel closer to each other. It's a strong bond between two people."

How can sex damage a relationship? "Sex can always damage a relationship by one party not being satisfied; by having sex with other people that aren't part of the relationship, you know? Threesomes kill relationships from what I hear. I've been lookin' to try that out..."

How often do you have sex nowadays? "I get sex when I see my girlfriend. She doesn't live here, so it's kinda rare, but when I am having it, it's usually several times a day for a week straight...but it's, like, a three-week dry spell."

Where is the most common place you have sex? "The common place I've had sex is in my room, in the bed. The bed is a great place for sex. The most unusual place, the floor of a movie theater."

What type of contraceptives do you use? "I personally have used the condom, and my girlfriend started using this patch thing she slaps on her back, and that works out quite nicely."

Have you ever gotten anyone pregnant or received an STD? "No. I haven't gotten anyone pregnant or any STDs or anything. In today's society, it's, like, really easy *not* to get those things."

What are your parents' feelings about your sexual activity? "I don't know what their feelings are, but I want to know what their feelings are. As far as I'm concerned, they don't have sex; I was a test-tube baby."

What are your thoughts about waiting till marriage to have sex? "Um, my belief is that sex is about 50 percent of a relationship. I don't

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think you really know someone until you have sex with them. I think it's very important to have it before marriage."

In what way does American society need to change its perception of sex? "America should really look at the way Europeans think about sex. Sex is a beautiful thing, but it's really frowned upon by American society. It's not talked about. I think if it was more open or less taboo it would be better for America."

What would you tell your kids about sex, and what age would you tell them? "Well, I'm not going to let my kids out of the house because of kids like me. But I'm gonna tell them that whatever they do, they have to make the decision for themselves. That they need to be careful. That's the key. I don't want them to do anything that would harm them for life."

Harlan, 18, thinks of Pamela Anderson when asked who is the ultimate sex symbol.



Harlan

"Because she's got big hooters," he says.

How old were you, and where did you lose your virginity? "I was 14. At my ex-girlfriend's house. Her parents left for the weekend."

How many times did you have sex with that same girl? "Like, four."

Was it the first time for her? "Yeah."

Did the influence of drugs or peer pressure lead you to have sex? "Never. Never."

Did you become more confident with women after losing your virginity? "Hell, yeah. It just made me more



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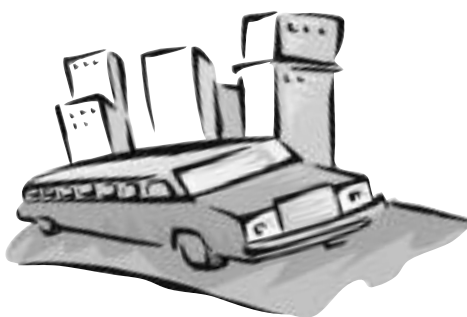
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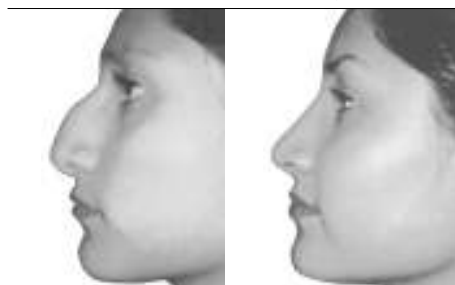


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relaxed. Like, I wasn't worried to say things in front of them. I wasn't worried to talk."

What do girls appreciate most: money, flattering words, or respect? "I think a combination of all three. Like, if you have no money, you can't take them out to dinner; you can't do anything nice for them. If you can't charm them with words, then you're at a loss. If you don't have respect for a girl, you know, how can you keep a girl?"

How many girls have you had sex with since your first? "Three."

How many girlfriends have you had? "I don't even know. I've only had one this year. I'd say about eight or six."

Were they all sexual relationships? "Yes."

Have you had relationships in which sex wasn't important? "Yes."

Did the sexual relationships last longer than the ones that weren't? "The ones with sex lasted longer because you don't feel as close to them [if you don't have sex]. I don't know if it's true, but with me, if I don't have sex with a girl, I don't feel as secure with them. But with sex in a relationship, you feel really open, like you could tell them anything; whereas, if you don't, it's like you're holding something back."

How can sex improve a relationship? "It can improve a relationship by being closer and more in tune with each other."

How can sex damage a relationship? "Oh, yeah. Like, my freshman year, when I had sex with my girlfriend then, after that, three weeks later, we broke up. I guess I just wasn't ready for it yet. We both grew further apart because of it."

How often do you have sex nowadays? "If I'm lucky, every day (if I can see her). If not, like, three, four times a week."

Where is the most common place you have sex? "It depends. Her

house, my house. My bedroom, her bedroom. But the most unusual was in my car on Rosecrans [Street]."

What type of contraceptives do you use? "She takes the patch and we also use condoms. Both at the same time. I don't want a child."

Have you ever gotten anyone pregnant or received an STD? "No, I haven't."

What are your parents' feelings about your sexual activity? "They don't like it. I've had many sex talks. They really disagree with it until I get married. But it's not up to them."

What are your thoughts about waiting till marriage to have sex? "I've got nothing wrong with that. I just feel closer to [my girlfriend] and you can be open."

In what way does American society need to change its perception of sex? "I think they need to be more open with it. It's something that shouldn't be shunned."

What would you tell your kids about sex, and what age would you tell them? "I'd tell them right as they were born.... There's no reason to keep it from kids. I think if they know a lot about it, they can make their own decisions."

Skippy, 17, attends San Diego High. To him, "Christina Aguilera [is] probably the ultimate



Skippy

sex symbol, I think... Or Pamela Anderson."

How old were you and where did you lose your virginity? "I lost it at my house when I was 14. It was just a party. I had been going out with a girl for about five months, and that was

the only time we ever had sex.”

Was it the first time for her? “Yeah.”

Did the influence of drugs or peer pressure lead you to have sex? “Yeah, I think so. I mean, alcohol [will] always be an influence, of course....”

Did you become more confident with women after losing your virginity? “Yeah, for sure. I think everybody is. I mean, after the first time is kinda off your chest, you’re just more comfortable. You’re not afraid to approach women as much because the whole sexual-tension thing is over.”

What do girls appreciate most: money, flattering words, or respect? “Respect. I mean, they all care about money and flowers and candy, but if you give a girl respect, I think that’s what their biggest thing is.”

How many girls have you had sex with since your first? “Like, six. I think six, I’ll have to count.”

How many girlfriends have you had? “I don’t know. Maybe 10 or 15. But true, real relationships. I’ve had a bunch of little things, like a few weeks or a couple months [long].”

Were they all sexual relationships? “No.”

Have you had relationships in which sex wasn’t important? “Yeah, actually.”

Did the sexual relationships last longer than the ones that weren’t? “Sex is an important thing, but it’s not like that’s what we rely on for our relationship.”

How can sex improve a relationship? “You just become closer, of course. After the person’s first time with the other person, you’re more open with that other person, more comfortable. You’ve seen her naked, obviously, so it’s, like, you’re not worried about hiding yourself.”

How can sex damage a relationship? “Say the girl is a virgin and you had sex with her and

you guys end up having a horrible breakup. That can be one thing that leads to girls goin’ crazy.”

How often do you have sex nowadays? “Um, a couple times a

week.”

Where is the most common place you have sex? “A bed. That’s probably everyone’s common spot.”

What type of contraceptives do you use?

“Trojan. Condoms and birth control.”

Have you ever gotten anyone pregnant or received an STD? “No.”

What are your parents’ feelings about your sexual activity? “I have

no idea. My dad basically said, ‘You can do everything except put your dick in it.’ And that was our sex talk, so I don’t know.”

What are your thoughts about waiting till marriage to have sex? “I don’t think it is as cracked up as everyone says. I think you have sex before you’re married. I think it can improve your relationship....”

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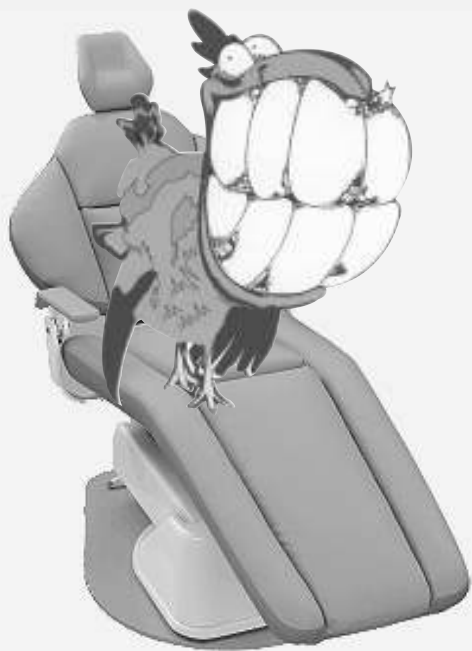
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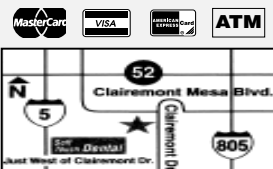
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In what way does American society need to change its perception of sex? "I think everyone should be open about it. It's not, like, a sin. You're not going to hell. It is a natural thing, and I think it is a beautiful thing."

What would you tell your kids about sex, and what age would you tell them? "Just 'be careful,' I think. There are so many different things going around, disease-wise. You don't want to have a kid when you're still a kid. I'd say wait as long as you can till you find the right girl and then pursue that. Just be careful about it. [Tell them] around 13. When they start getting big."

Dorian, 21, an SDSU student, is attracted to Angelina Jolie. "She has that look to her, with the big pouty lips. And those curves...and every time she looks it's like she's lookin' at you."

How old were you and where did you lose your virginity? "It's kinda complicated, because when I was littler, like, grade school, I technically lost my virginity with a friend from the neighborhood, but I don't really count that. So I would have really lost my virginity sophomore year of high school in my room right before I went and saw South Park. So, about 15 or 16."

How many times did you have sex with that same girl? "Quite a few times."

Was it the first time for her? "Yeah."

Did the influence of drugs or peer pressure lead you to have sex? "No...if I'm drunk I tend not to do it."

Did you become more confident with women after losing your virginity? "I did, actually. It makes you feel more in control, like you know everything about them."

What do girls appreciate most: money, flattering words, or respect? "I don't have a lot of money. But every time I



Dorian

date someone, they know everything I have is theirs, and I think that's more security [for them]. So I'd say security."

How many girls have you had sex with since your first? "Um, about eight."

How many girlfriends have you had? "I'd say somewhere around nine."

Were they all sexual relationships? "No. Just two."

Have you had relationships in which sex wasn't important? "Yes, for a while. After a certain amount of time, it does become important."

Did the sexual relationships last longer than the ones that weren't? "Yes; the two longest girlfriends I've had were the two I've had sex with."

How can sex improve a relationship? "I think it can just because you feel more open with each other."

How can sex damage a relationship? "When it becomes compulsive."

How often do you have sex nowadays? "Lately, not very much. Since the beginning of this year it's been scarce."

Where is the most common place you have sex? "This year it's been the shower. Usually it's pretty standard: beds, showers, stuff like that. Nothing too unusual...well, we did do it one time with our friends in the same room, and they didn't know [until] I took the condom wrapper and threw it, hit my friend in the head, and it rolled in the trash can."

What type of contraceptives do you use? "It changes. Most of the time it's usually condoms. Now my girl-

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friend is on the ring. It's like a rubber ring, it lets out the birth control every so often."

Have you ever gotten anyone pregnant or received an STD? "Not to my knowledge. What I mean by that is one of my girlfriends says she was pregnant — one of the ones I did have sex with, but she was also cheating on me at the time, and it was during the time that it was probably his. But when she went and got the abortion, she put my names on the papers because I was underage and her other boyfriend was overage so it would have been statutory rape.... An STD, not from a girl I've had sex with. This one girl borrowed some of my clothes apparently, and I didn't know. And I got... a big rash."

What are your parents' feelings about your sexual activity? "I try to have an open relationship. It's more, like, 'I'm sexually active with this person,' and they're, like, 'Okay.' And that's about the end of the conversation."

What are your thoughts about waiting till marriage to have sex? "Well, personally, I think it's like test-driving a car. Because you are going to be with that car for a long time."

In what way does American society need to change its perception of sex? "They make [sex] seem [like] this thing you can buy or find or get. It's something that you work on. It seems like, 'if I buy this beer, I'll be sexy,' or, 'if I wear this cologne, girls will fall all over me'; it's not that — it's you and this other person connecting on a deeper level."

What would you tell your kids about sex, and what age would you tell them? "I'd tell them just as they're entering junior high. And just tell them that it's something reserved for someone you have feelings for and not to be taken lightly." ■

— Matt de Lira
Point Loma HS,
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WHY SCI-FI?

If there is such a thing as a literary allergy — which I define as a kind of writing you have a severely negative reaction to — I have one. And mine is to nearly any kind of science fiction. I'm talking sci-fi novels and short stories here, not films, which I seem to be able to tolerate in moderate doses — though I checked out after the first *Star Trek*, the first *Star Wars*, and didn't even make the first *Matrix*. I've had this — let me call it what it really is — prejudice for many years now, since I turned away from the literary idols of my teenage years — Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke, Robert

John Updike, Sylvia Plath, and Joan Didion (the women included were evidence of my maturing gender neutrality). Sci-fi was for kids, and though I'm not a religious person, I firmly agreed with the wisdom of 1 Corinthians 13: "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

I remained comfortable in this blissfully uninformed mindset until recently when I had a long conversation with Stephen Potts, who teaches science fiction classes at both UCSD and SDSU. Potts is a man I respect, and he talks about sci-fi with great enthusiasm and energy. If a person as obviously intelligent and informed as Potts could take science fiction seriously, maybe I was missing something. I asked Steve how science fiction had changed since the so-called "golden age" writers I mentioned had given way to several other generations. He responded by

I COULDN'T TALK TO ANYONE

ABOUT SCI-FI IN SAN DIEGO WITHOUT BRIN AND

Heinlein, Fredrick Sturgeon, and Isaac Asimov — for more "serious" literary masters such as William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, Ralph Ellison, Philip Roth, Saul Bellow,

VINGE COMING INTO THE CONVERSATION.

bringing me up-to-date with a five-minute university course on the history of recent science fiction.

"The primary differences between the Golden Age of science fiction — the period that culminated in the 1950s with Asimov, Bradbury, Clarke, Heinlein, and Sturgeon —



and later science fiction are twofold: first, technology is much more obviously a part of our lives today than it was in the mid-20th Century, so pure techno-scientific extrapolation is not as central to sci-fi as it may have been then; second, the New Wave and then cyberpunk happened — science fiction exploring the possibilities of new electronic media — placing greater emphasis on literary, psychological, and sociological factors. In short, American sci-fi aspired to literature." (The genres had never been as separate in the U.K., due to the lingering influence of Wells.)

"At the same time, science fiction has broken out of the ghetto, especially in film and TV, so there has been pressure in the other direction as well toward pop marketing. That doesn't necessarily mean dumbing down,

but a lot of what is unique to science fiction — the thoughtful extrapolation of technological, scientific, and societal principles — tends to get lost in the Hollywood product. SF in the electronic media often falls back on horror and action-thriller motifs."

Potts told me that thematically, '40s and '50s science fiction in America focused on atomic power (for better or worse), space travel, and robots — all technologies that seemed promising (or threatening) at the end of World War II. Atomic power remained an issue through the Cold War; space travel was achieved, and robots gave way to computers and artificial intelligence. The New Wave science fiction of the '60s and '70s shared with other movements of the time a blend of idealism and pessimism about

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human potential and skepticism about technology. Not surprisingly the ecological disaster novel rose to the fore as a significant subgenre.

In the 1980s cyberpunk extrapolated the social consequences of the personal computer revolution, which led in the '90s to a fascination with virtual reality (a theme that dominated movie and TV sci-fi by 1999), alongside genetic engineering, another burgeoning technology of the era.

Another thread that has risen to the fore in the last 20 years has been alternative history. Because we have accumulated more doubts about the future, writers have turned to changing the present by altering the past. Gregory

Benford toyed with the notion in his novel *Timescape* (1980); Harry Turtledove built an entire career on alternate histories; and Kim Stanley Robinson recently published *Years of Rice and Salt*, which imagines 700 years of world history following the death of European civilization with the Plague.

Potts succinctly summarized a key distinction between "traditional" and contemporary sci-fi: "Science fiction was always more about the present than the future. Now sci-fi writers do not disguise that fact."

I told Potts I had heard that San Diego was a hotbed of activity for science fiction writers and fans. "Well, 'hotbed' may be a little exaggerated," he replied,



David Brin

"but several major conventions are held here, and over the years a lot of writers have either lived here or passed through. San Diego is part of Southern California's regional science fiction community. Los Angeles has many more writers in the field — Harlan Ellison, Larry Niven, and Harry Turtledove come immediately to mind;

Orange and Riverside Counties have others. UC Riverside's library boasts the J. Lloyd Eaton Collection, a vast gathering of science fiction and related genre books. The proximity of Hollywood also means the input of the film and screenwriters community, especially at annual fan conventions such as San Diego's Comic-Con [held

every July or August] and Los Angeles' LosCon [every Thanksgiving weekend]. Other cities that have some sci-fi centers are Lawrence, Kansas — believe it or not — where author and academic James Gunn established the first college courses in the field, and the University of Florida, which hosts an annual conference devoted to the study of fantastic literatures, where the World Fantasy award is announced."

Potts told me the two most highly regarded science fiction writers currently living in San Diego are Vernor Vinge and David Brin. Both have repeatedly won Hugo awards, the highest honor the science fiction community bestows on writers. Although both are what might be called

"technological optimists," they are very different kinds of writers. Vinge, who recently retired after teaching for many years at San Diego State University, manages to combine the classic feel of space opera with cutting-edge notions of technology. His 1981 novella *True Names* is said to have "opened the cyberspace frontier" and predicted the widespread use of the Internet while introducing concepts like virtual reality and instant messaging. Brin, an optimist in the mode of the Golden Age writers, continues to see technology and human nature as solving more problems than they create. Potts sees him as our heir to Isaac Asimov, which coming from a sci-fi enthusiast is very

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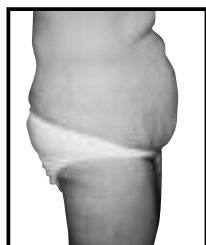


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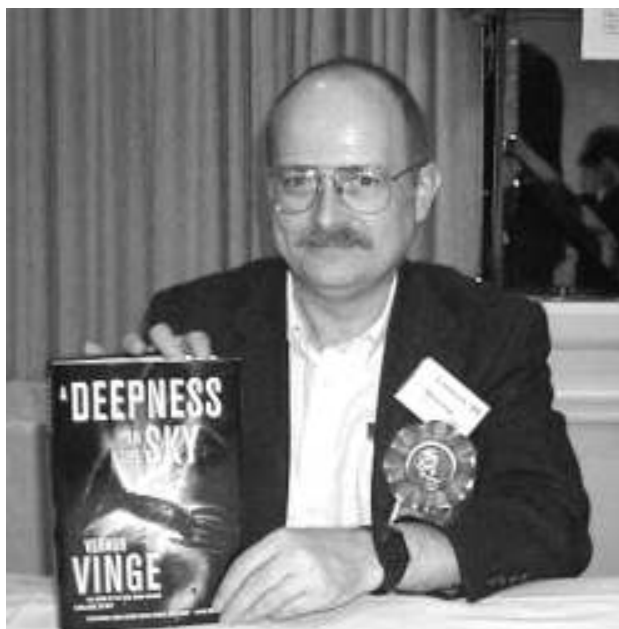
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high praise. Brin's most characteristic books are his first real "uplift novel" — *Startide Rising* — and his "social problem" novels *The Postman* (made into a disastrous Kevin Costner film) and *Earth*. Brin is comfortable writing both fiction and nonfiction, and he has published several collections of short stories and essays, where he often treats the same subjects in both fiction and nonfiction.

Potts suggested I attend the ConDor science fiction convention, which was about to be held in San Diego just a week or so after our talk. He said both Brin and Vinge would be there, and I could get a sense of the deep connection between science fiction writers and their fans. That connection distin-

guishes sci-fi — and its cousin, fantasy — from other genres, although romance, mystery, and horror fiction now have newsletters, websites, and conventions of their own. None, however, have as much history as sci-fi fandom, which has produced a close-knit subculture — almost a cult. Potts also ventured that some of my stereotypes about who reads science fiction and why might be challenged if not shattered at the convention.

I followed through on his suggestion and ten days later found myself in the lobby of the Doubletree Hotel in Del Mar for ConDor X, San Diego's tenth annual sci-fi convention. The place was abuzz with activity and only looked a



Vernor Vinge

little like the famous Space Bar in *Star Wars*, where inhabitants of various galaxies gather to imbibe the trendiest new interstellar cocktails. That is, there were some people milling about

in Darth Vader costumes or with Vulcan ears, but for the most part I was struck by the "normality" of the crowd — apart from the smattering of exotic costumes, it could have been

a convention for appliance salespersons. (Okay, I was a bit distracted by a slinky tall blonde wearing a paisley silk bra, a midriff top, and a long silk skirt that clung to her lean form as if it had been manufactured on her body. I secretly hoped she came from a nearby solar system.) The conventioners were, for the most part, older than I had anticipated — most, I would say, in their 30s and 40s. There were also many more women there than I would have expected; I have always thought of sci-fi as primarily a male genre. So right away, some of my preconceptions were beginning to crumble.

I registered for the convention and spent the morning taking in a few panel discussions. The first

was on the nature of evil in science fiction television and movies; a second was a discussion of sexuality in sci-fi, which asked if sex in sci-fi novels was "frosting or a foundation." Looking over the program, I saw that the panels seemed equally divided between those designed for practitioners of sci-fi and those designed for fans. For every workshop dealing with some thematic subject ("The Future of Non-Western Civilization") there was one dealing with the sheer mechanics of writing a book ("Bad Writing Habits and What to Do About Them"). Those I attended were thoughtful, generally interesting, and animated. But as a long-suffering attendee at conventions of the Modern Language Asso-

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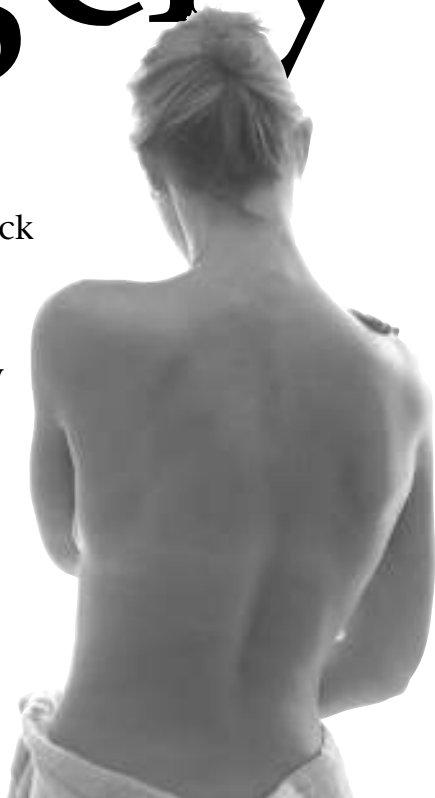
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ciation, I have a limited tolerance for conference papers and panels, so I wandered around the various exhibits looking for fans I might talk to for a truer sense of this genre's enduring lure.

I spotted a woman in her late 20s staffing a table beneath a sign that said "Conjecture Two." Reading some of the handouts on the table, I discovered that "Conjecture Two" is a San Diego conference in October on the history of time travel in sci-fi. The woman, whose badge read "Kathy," told me that time travel was one of the most fascinating aspects of sci-fi for her; she was here to promote the upcoming conference. I asked Kathy how she got interested in science fiction and if my own observation — that there were quite a few women at this conference — was accurate.

"It's hard to say. I see a lot of women at the conventions, and I guess I never quite fit into the woman cookie-cutter mold anyway. I'm a programmer, so I've always been kind of into the science fiction techi-geeky stuff. I read basically everything I could get my hands on when I was a kid. And that included some science fiction. What really got me hooked was Ray Bradbury's work."

"Interesting," I said, "Ray Bradbury got me reading sci-fi when I was a kid...and I'm nearly three times your age." It was nice to discover there are some continuities in this fractured post-postmodern world.

Kathy said her dad had an omnipresent anthology that included a lot of Bradbury stories, and that led her to seek out more of Bradbury's work. "From there I moved to reading some Isaac Asimov stuff and then into some of the more modern writers. Recently I finished the second volume of the *Collected Stories* of Theodore Sturgeon, and I've just started the second book of a trilogy by Zilpha Keatley Snyder, *The Green Sky*

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Trilogy. Those were written in the late '70s or early '80s, somewhere around there. And I'm working on the first book of a trilogy by Jodie Lynn Nye, *The Dreamland Trilogy*." (I'm not sure why, but a lot of science fiction writers seem to think in terms of "trilogies." I think it has something to do with developing a market for a series of ongoing characters.)

"I also recently read David Brin's novel *Kiln People*. It's about a technology that I'd certainly like to have. Brin envisions a kind of cheap temporary cloning. People are able to create clay individuals at different-quality levels so you can have help just for doing your housework, your drudge work. They're really simple stuff. It doesn't have to be a really accurate copy. You have others that are specialized in other ways. Some are just all intellect; others can only experience and respond to physical

sensations. So one can do your income taxes and another can fix your plumbing. It's neat, because these 'ditto' people are disposable. They do the work you need them to do, and then you can toss them. Brin's a local writer, you know."

"Yes, I've heard he and Vernor Vinge are the leading San Diego sci-fi writers."

"That's probably true," said Kathy. "Vernor's won several awards. His stuff is hard sci-fi, harder than Brin's, I think."

I asked Kathy how she differentiated between "hard" science fiction and — what? — soft sci-fi?

"Hard SF is very techie and has bigger or wilder societal themes. It's primarily interested in the impact of technology on society as opposed to stuff that's a little more character-driven. Like, you get science fiction mysteries. You get science fiction westerns. Anything you can get in any other genre, you can

get in science fiction. You can get science fiction romances, everything. Hard science fiction is focused on the science itself — on the technology, on the future time travel, on the mechanics of space travel, on the possibilities of artificial intelligence, and so on. But I don't want to sell Vernor short. He writes wonderful characters as well. That's not true of every hard SF writer."

"That's always been one of the real drawbacks of sci-fi for me — weak characterization," I offer. "Most sci-fi writers are more interested in ideas rather than individual people, so the books tend to elaborate on those ideas rather than develop the interior of a character. Anyway, I need to talk to some others here, but tell me a little bit about this Conjecture thing you're promoting at this table."

"Conjecture is one of the two San Diego science

fiction conventions. And this is the other one, ConDor. Conjecture happens in October. Our guest of honor last year was Steven Brust, a fantasy writer, and this year we have Robert Charles Wilson, who has done a lot of time-travel-related stories. And the theme of the conference this year is the history of time travel, as it appears in science fiction and as it exists as a scientific possibility."

"Alternate history and time travel are related because alternate history is what you get when you say, 'What if it had happened that way instead?' And sometimes the way it happened that way is because somebody traveled back in time and made it happen that way. It's a kind of 'what if' genre."

That idea triggered an old memory. "There's a famous Ray Bradbury story about this," I said. "Isn't it where this guy goes back in

time, steps on a butterfly, comes back, and everything is different because of the death of a single butterfly?"

"Yes," Kathy agreed. "I still remember that from my childhood reading. That was a very powerful story about the dangers of time travel, long before chaos theory was even an idea. It's something you hear about a lot in mathematical and science circles in the past 10 to 15 years. You know, chaos theory and the old 'Butterfly flaps its wings in China and it rains in Alaska,' because everything is interrelated, even if chaotically. That's really the same phenomenon that Bradbury was examining in that story long before it was discussed in scientific circles. So, science fiction can predict — it usually doesn't predict the technical developments in science, but the basic ideas are there. Of course, it doesn't always get the pre-

dictions right, but science fiction is sometimes prophetic in unexpected ways."

"For example, someone like William Gibson was talking about cyberspace long before anyone else was, and if you want to read a prophetic story about the Internet that appeared years before anyone knew what its potential was, check out Vernor Vinge's novella, *True Names*. I think that predates Gibson by several years. [*Neuromancer*, the book where Gibson first uses the term "cyberspace," appeared in 1984; *True Names* was originally published in 1981.] It's a more accurate prediction of how things work online. I saw both of those books on the Mysterious Galaxy table."

"Mysterious Galaxy?"

"Yes, it's over there," said Kathy, pointing to an open door down the hallway. "I think it's the only bookstore in San Diego

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that is exclusively science fiction — well, not exclusively, but primarily — science fiction, fantasy, horror, and mystery. It's located in Clairemont Mesa, near the Family Fun Center, but the owner, Patrick, has a table there."

I thanked Kathy for the tip and the information and moved along to continue my sci-fi education. I felt as if I could use one of Brin's Kiln people to read a bunch of these books for me so this article might be more authoritative, but I was gradually getting informed. I now had some sense of the progression of sci-fi from the '50s until now, and I knew the names of important writers and books I had not heard of before speaking to Potts and Kathy. I knew something about San Diego's contribution to the sci-fi scene and about the diversity of people who attend this sort of convention. And I was heading to a table where I would learn something about what sci-fi books were hot right now.

"Patrick" is Patrick Heffernan of the Mysterious Galaxy Bookstore. He was arranging books on a long rectangular table in the display area.

"Most of these are signing stock," he told me. "Science fiction fans love signed books. A lot of them personally know the authors."

"What is really hot in science fiction today? Are there books and writers that are particularly attracting a lot of readers today?"

"Well, it's all over the place. The media tie-ins seem to be doing pretty well these days. After the vampires there are angel books. They do very well for us. And *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*, of course. But we are more in tune with hard science fiction and fantasy — original stuff. We have a lot of local people here. A lot of local authors who are really popular, award winners — Vernor Vinge, David Brin. They're local. They both won Nebulas and Hugos. Very smart guys. Scary smart sometimes."

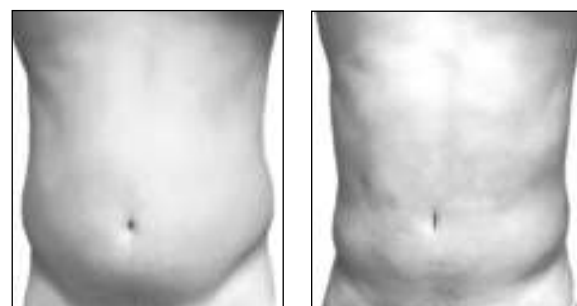
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I was beginning to feel I knew them personally. I couldn't talk to anyone about sci-fi in San Diego without Brin and Vinge coming into the conversation. I asked Heffernan what books he would recommend that I buy to get a feel for contemporary sci-fi.

“Well, Neal Stephenson's *Snow Crash* is like a bible for most of these guys who are really into the cyber culture, wired culture. And Robert Jordan and George R. Martin are very popular these days, but they're really fantasy writers more than sci-fi. Fantasy is more connected with mythology — mythical worlds. In some ways it's Dungeons & Dragons kind of stuff...but of course great fantasy — like Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, for example — has a huge appeal. Brin's *Otherness* will give you a great sense of his interests — it's a collection of his stories; and Vinge's *Fire upon the Deep* won a Hugo the year it was published. His *True Names*, of course, is an absolute classic. You know, he invented the Internet, not Al Gore. He also wrote a book set in San Diego called *Fast Times at Fairmont High*.” (Vinge's book should not be confused with the 1982 film *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, based on the book of the same name by Cameron Crowe, who grew up in Ocean Beach.)

A lot of this was beginning to sound very familiar, so I thought I ought to go directly to the horse's mouth and set out looking for Vernor Vinge and David Brin. Both of them were participating in a panel discussion that was just winding up called “Effect of the Internet and Wireless Communication on Social Behavior.” I had meant to catch that session, but Kathy and Patrick had distracted me. It was probably best to talk with at least one of them personally. I stood in the back of the room as the panel finished up. The two seemed to me a study in contrasts. Brin is balding, tanned, in

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his early 50s, and sports a trim salt-and-pepper beard. He speaks rapidly with great energy and enthusiasm. Vinge is also balding, wears aviator glasses, is pale, and speaks softly and deliberately. He has a bit of a Mr. Peepers air about him. When the panel ended, Brin hastily disappeared from the room, while Vinge lounged around talking to fans and others in the audience. I told him I was writing an article about sci-fi and asked if we could talk a bit. We sat in a courtyard area of the Doubletree, and Vinge, the writer the Web magazine *Salon* called an “online prophet” in its review of his most recent novel, told me how he got to be one.

“As a child I wanted to be a great scientist, and I also was very interested in science fiction. I was slow to learn to read. My parents claim that the first book I really read wasn’t until the second or third

grade, and that was a science fiction book. In fact, it was *Between Planets*, by Robert Heinlein. So I was into science fiction right from the beginning, and as it became evident that I was not going to be a great scientist, the hobby of the writing of the science fiction came to be. I was relatively successful rather early along, so it came to occupy a rather large background slot in my existence. It was a very natural progression. I had a full-time job at San Diego State, and I took that very seriously as a full-time job, academic-year job, but the science fiction actually helped with the teaching, and, certainly, the teaching of computer science and math helped with the type of science fiction that I wrote. But science fiction has changed over the years.

“One change I detect, as a child — we are talking about the 1950s — it was a great surprising pleasure

to me where I came across a story where the world was different at the end of the story than at the beginning. I didn’t have any bibliographical search knowledge at the time, but I found those kinds of stories to be extraordinarily rare in the 1950s. There was a cheater type of story that you would

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read, where the world appeared to be different, but you find that it was all a dream, and then you would wake up and it was all the same. That was fairly common. I probably noticed early on that ‘science fiction’ was the term that was most often associated with those stories

where the world was different at the end than it was at the beginning. And that served to loft me into that. A change in our time, early 21st Century, the idea that the world will be different at the end of the story, is a much more widely held expectation on the part of average readers.

ent, but often it’s worse, not better.”

“Yes, because there are very dark visions of the future in some science fiction writers. But there are optimistic visions as well. There are utopias and dystopias. There are hellish worlds and paradisaical ones. It may be that those which show the world worse at the end than it was at the beginning are more common. Actually, I suspect that the most common of dark stuff would be that it was dark from beginning to end, like *1984*. But a science fiction writer who shows the world getting better is a rare bird indeed.”

“What about your own science fiction?” I asked. “When did you begin writing? You have written an awful lot of material. Everybody’s told me that I should read *True Names* and, what is it, *Fast Times at Fairmont High*.”

“Yeah. Those are both novellas that I am quite

proud of. *True Names* is from 1981. *Fast Times* is a story that I just did last year or the year before. I’ve been writing for a very long time, so if you stack it all up, there is a fair amount. Twelve to fifteen short stories and six or seven or eight novels. But that is not really very much for a writing career. That is consistent with the fact that I actually had a job. And I would like to think that now that I have retired from State that production will go up. But even in the third grade, I started writing a science fiction story that I never finished. It was about the first mission to the moon.

“The wonderful thing about science fiction, both now and then, is its openness to people just walking in off the street and trying to sell something. I can’t think of any other kind of writing that is as open to that. Magazines really do look at unsolicited

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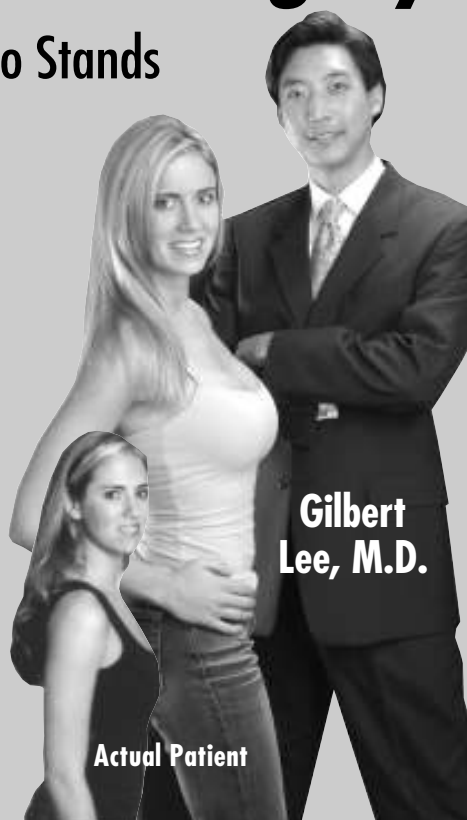
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manuscripts, and they really do buy them, and it is a foot in the door to be able to sell novels. Nowadays, I think the general publishing industry is not as open to new, unknown people walking in with knowledge, unless they have some other cachet. Like, if they were an ex-CIA agent or something like that. But science fiction, right now, I think is something you can get into the way I did. Writing short stories is a wonderful way to get into writing, period, because of the turnaround time. If you grant that there are going to be a lot of failures before the initial successes, it's nice if the successes don't take you four or five years."

"So, you began selling short stories when — in the '70s?"

"The first story I sold was in '64 or '65. I really could not figure out how to write things that were novel length. The first novel I ever wrote — and this gave me a rather unrealistic view of the business — was solicited. I had sold a, not a short story, but a novella, 17 to 20,000 words, and the fellow who bought it, Damon Knight, published it in an anthology. And he wrote me a few months later and said, 'I am now the science fiction book editor at Berkeley Books' — which is now merged in various ways — and he says, 'If you write me a page where you tell me what you are going to do with this to make it a novel, I can get you a contract for a novel.' And that was so easy. It wasn't so easy to write. I basically just wrote another novella and tried to stretch it out. It didn't work that well, but the proposal was easy. And so the novel after that I thought I could do the same thing. I eventually sold that novel, but I had to write the whole thing, and even after I wrote the whole thing I think I had a hard time selling it anywhere. So I just had extraordinarily good luck on that first novel. Ah, and at that time when I sold the first novel I probably already had eight short-story sales."

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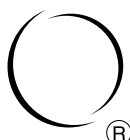
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“Is there a kind of thematic continuity in your books or your stories?” I asked. “What are you most interested in as a science fiction writer?”

“Oh, astronomy and space flight and then computers and the implication of computers and implications of computer networks. But in terms of subject matter that’s intriguing, I think that what I have to say about computer networks is the most important thing to my readers — largely because of *True Names* — and secondarily some of the stuff about space flight.”

“Yes, someone told me that Al Gore didn’t invent the Internet, you did.”

“Neither is true, of course. But it is true that the story *True Names* came out relatively early, and it had a lot of prophetic qualities. If you were to read *True Names* now there are a few things we don’t have, but they’re almost window

clothing. There’s only one thing in the story that we seriously don’t have at all. Almost all the rest of the stuff are things that have come to pass and are perfectly ordinary.

“I actually lucked out with that story in many ways. Initially, except in one sense, it came out a little bit too early. At the time it came out there were some people who really, really liked it, but it was not meaningful to enough people. And then in the late ’80s I think a lot of people were intrigued by certain aspects of it. I think one of the most flattering things about it was that I was talking to some researchers in the middle ’90s, and they were talking about it and telling me how they were impressed with the veracity of the story. I realized they were happy with things in the story that had not been things that people had really thought about too much and were happy

about it earlier. Things that had seemed really far-fetched, like virtual reality, had virtually become real.

“There was basically a publishing problem with *True Names*: it’s only about 30,000 words long. So it has been published as a stand-alone book. But that

“IN TERMS OF THE SURVIVAL OF THE HUMAN RACE, SPACE EXPLORATION IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL.”

short a book is hard to market. And so I’m very grateful that a number of people that I admire very much agreed to contribute essays and in one or two cases other stories. I think the new edition makes a fine book. The most recent novel I’ve written is *A Deepness in the Sky*, which is quite

long, and in some ways it’s the most conventional writing I’ve done, and also the best thing I’ve written.”

While I was hesitant to do so, I told Vinge my major reservation about science fiction: that the characters are often wooden or one-dimensional. Because it’s idea-driven lit-

erature, compared to some mainstream fiction, there’s not a lot of time spent on characterization. In fact, in the new edition of *True Names*, some of the essays included in the book convey a more actual sense of the possibilities and pitfalls of the Internet than the fiction does, and I

believe that nonfiction prose is a better vehicle for speculative ideas than fiction is. The essays do not require that the ideas be embedded in representative characters, nor do they require a plot line to be manipulated to serve the ideas. I think fiction can only give us insights about life when we believe that it’s about real things that can happen to real people.

Vinge didn’t hesitate. “Well, if this were 1980 and we were talking, I would have an extended riff on that because I would say, ‘Yes, that’s right.’ English professors were bitching about that then. It’s the English lit people who complain about this, and basically their complaints are all true, but they are irrelevant. There are simply other standards of quality at work here. And in the last 30 years, a significant number of writers emerged who have relatively good to very good conventional

standards of literary quality. So I think that this character-versus-ideas argument is still there, but there are people out there who are both dealing with intriguing ideas and creating interesting characters.

“Actually,” Vinge continued, “science fiction writers have to contend with some complicated problems that conventional writers don’t. Some issues of rhetoric that have to be different. For instance, if you’re writing a conventional story and you choose to write something inept but colorful, like you say people are camping out on the desert and in the morning ‘the sun exploded over the horizon.’ That’s okay in a conventional fiction. You can’t say that in a science fiction story unless you somehow in some subtle way have established that you don’t mean that literally. Because in science fiction, the impossible becomes possible, the improbable, probable.

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“When I’m writing this stuff, and sometimes I just have to go back over the rhetoric and I realize I can’t say this or this or this unless somehow I establish the context of what the reality is. And nowadays the rule is that you are supposed to do that in such a way that you can’t tell that it’s been done. Which makes it even harder.”

I asked Vinge about his novella, *Fast Times at Fairmont High*, which is set in the San Diego area and deals with some provocative questions concerning education in the 21st Century.

“Part of it takes place around Fallbrook, stretching from Camp Pendleton up toward the Poway Indian reservation. It takes place about 20 years in the future, and most of the action takes place in Torrey Pines Park at night. Basically I wanted to write a near-future story about what networking would be like on that sort

of time scale. It’s about the semester final exam that the students — they’re actually junior high school students — are taking. At issue is what amounts to cheating these days and in the near future. For instance, if you are totally connected up and can find answers to complex questions immediately, is that cheating? The idea is that the adults in the story are people that would be 10 or 15 now, and they are aware of using keyboards and PDAs and consulting the Internet that way. And these new kids grow up using a newer technology — one that is personally portable and can be built into clothing and even your body. If I were one of them, I might be wearing a jacket that can retrieve data, and I would have learned how to use it growing up. The jacket would have trained me, and I would have trained the jacket, suited it to my needs. I’m also get-

ting input because of the contact lenses that I am wearing. Such a child could max almost any IQ test and be very strange to deal with. Because the adults who are testing him/her have not grown up with this technology and are suspicious of it.”

I told Vinge that I found this a really interesting question. What is cheating when you have access to this information on your personal body? Are these things “extensions” of our brains? In my own teaching experience, I’ve discovered that today’s students have a very different sense of research and writing than I had when I went to college. They often simply cut and paste things from the Internet and think they’ve written something. They think it’s theirs. (Whether this is a willed naïveté or an actual personal belief, I’m not sure.) They don’t have a sense of not having done any think-

ing of your own. It’s an odd kind of configuration.

Vinge agreed. “I think it’s a major problem, and in this story there are some tests you have to take where you are allowed to wear your gear. I don’t think there were any tests where you couldn’t have your gear. But there were some tests where you were not allowed to use the Net.”

“These are 21st-century versions of open- and closed-book exams, only there’s a much vaster amount of information available,” I said.

“Yes, it is up to the instructor to come up with questions that consider how much memory you have — to come up with questions that require the student to do ‘local thinking.’ At the beginning of the story students are talking about a math test they took. It was part of the final, and they were allowed to wear all their stuff, but they weren’t allowed to use the Net. And an instructor — actually, her grandmother or her mother — was a Hungarian refugee in the 1950s. And in their attic she found some mimeographed math exams that Eastern Europeans have always had; exams like our Putnam exam but heavier. These were really hard questions, given usually to people about 18 to 22. And she dug these things up. These kids in my story, because of the software they have — this software actually exists — cannot only do math, number crunching, it can also do the symbolic stuff. Symbolic manipulations like you see in science fiction stories where all these mathematical symbols go together. And so what they learn in school is a more extreme version of what is happening in good schools now, and that is not just learning how to think, but learning how to use these tools.

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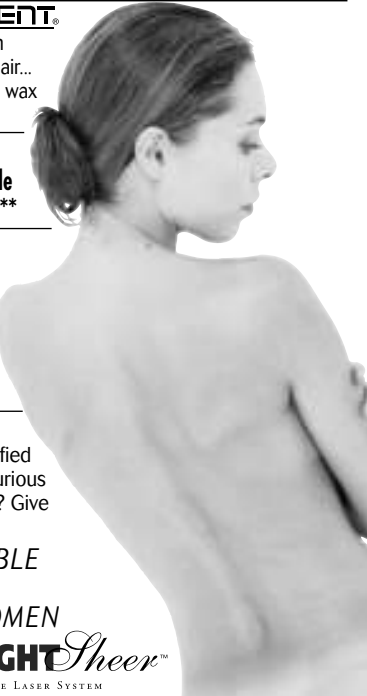
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winistic changes — you can get them culturally over a period of a mere 30 or 40 years. Nowadays, people who have to think about things have entirely different strategies than we had when we were young. And I'm not talking about computers yet. I'm just talking about having to work in a white-collar world with good access to information. They have an entirely different emphasis on how to make success, and it means they are much better at patterning things and symbolic reasoning things. In *Fast Times at Fairmont High*, I'm going a step beyond that and saying, 'What if they were also good at using these tools?' That puts them in a situation where they are substantially better than their parents, and things are moving so fast that the generation after them will be significantly better. And I'm assuming that this plasticity can't happen within

an individual. In other words, culturally it can happen, but once a person has learned how to, say, do it one way, it's much harder to learn how to do it another way."

I mentioned that I was struck by what someone on the panel said: he was talking about the language of instant messaging among kids and showed how they virtually created a whole language that's real short-hand and very clear to them, and one would look at it, and it's totally different from standard English or any other modern language.

"Yes, I'd like to see some descriptive linguistic types go after that. It should be relatively easy to do because their domain of discourse is so much smaller. I don't mean that as a down-putting thing, but their life experience is limited. Having a descriptive linguist go over it and then try to find some other equivalently aged group that is

not connected somehow with the first or has a different focus of what their context of description is — it'd be real interesting to be able to look at how these dialects and languages develop."

It was getting late, and so far we had only really discussed one of Vinge's main fictional themes: computers and the Internet. The other is space travel, and I asked him how he felt about that as an important science fiction topic these days, given the *Challenger* disaster, cutbacks in NASA, and no exciting manned outer-space adventures since the moon landing or the development of space stations.

Vinge was unequivocal. "I think in terms of the survival of the human race that space exploration is absolutely essential. And it's interesting to me; there's sort of a mirror-image argument here. I was at a party once where there was a guy telling me he was essentially hostile to all this talk about colonizing other

worlds and stuff because it distracted people from the fact that we are stuck on this world, and we have serious problems. We may kill ourselves, become extinct, and it is very important to realize we have this one place, and we need to get it right. There is nothing I disagree with factually there. In fact, I would say it stronger: the metaphor of the 20th and 21st Century is a bunch of strangers — and not necessarily strangers — chained together in an unlit closet, and all of them have knives, and some of them have submachine guns, and several of them have hand grenades. And some of them really hate each other. It's very unlikely that that group is going to get things sorted out before they all kill one another. And so to me it's possible that we will get through the next century, but it's likely enough that no matter how good we are at mending our fences and taking care of the earth, it's still very likely we will not get out of it

alive. And that makes it all the more important that we get some sort of self-sustaining thing off the planet. And it's also entirely possible that we are the only place in the universe that has this opportunity.

"Science fiction is affected by what happens in science," Vinge continued. "It's a mirror of the present, as everybody says, and one aspect of present science is we are getting better and better evidence of just how apparently sterile of intelligent life the neighborhood is. In some ways we are getting evidence that there may not be anything. We may be the first and the last. Jonathan Schell wrote about this in *The Fate of the Earth*. It's a very moving book. And I'm not even sure whether he made the point that it is even more moving when you realize that death is forever and everywhere, and this earth we live on may be the only place in the universe where there wasn't death to begin with."

That thought startled me, and I'm still not sure whether I see it as optimistic or pessimistic. But the conversations with Potts, Kathy, Heffernan, and Vinge — a scholar, a fan, a bookseller, and a writer — had given me a new and greater appreciation of a genre I had dismissed as "childish." I don't know that I'll turn into a devotee, but I will get through this pile of books I've accumulated in writing this story. William Gibson's *Neuromancer*, David Brin's *Kiln People* and *Otherness*, Vernor Vinge's *True Names* and *A Fire Upon the Deep*, and a few others. I'll even look into Robert Silverberg's *Science Fiction 101: Where to Start Reading and Writing Science Fiction*. Who knows? After that I may sit down at my computer and write, "Mars was closer than ever tonight. Francis McMarcus saw its glowing red mystery framed in his bedroom's window and longed to be there..." ■

— Fred Moramarco

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LETTERS

continued from page 1

to him? Not bloody likely.

Dinosaurs are widely known for becoming extinct. California is a very competitive state for doing business. Many don't survive. In my opinion, the union is only too happy to take your dues money and spend it, but when push comes to shove, you *will* be out of a job. The union will be in the counting-house, like the king, counting all the money. General Dynamics Convair employed 30,000 people in the late 1980s in San Diego, most of them union. How many of those jobs were saved? Zero. The plant on Pacific Highway has been replaced by a parking lot. Wake up, Mr. Carlson, and anyone else who is a member of a union in California.

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South Bay Terraces

Salad Irritation

What's even more irritating than a Greek restaurant that serves tabbouleh and thinks that gringos won't know that tabbouleh isn't Greek food is a restaurant writer who describes tabbouleh as a couscous salad ("Tin Fork," December 24). If your writer really doesn't know that couscous is Moroccan, not Greek, and that tabbouleh's main ingredient is bulgur wheat, maybe he should spend a few minutes learning the basics before he misinforms the public. After all, tabbouleh is sold all over San Diego and is not considered esoteric eats.

Sue Persaud
via e-mail

Ed Bedford replies: Oops. The reader is right. Tabbouleh is made with bulgur wheat.

Disgusting Negativity

I'm writing regarding the article about the band Double Clutch written in the "Blurt" section (December 24), though the article is hardly about the band. I understand that the column runs on gossip about the San Diego music scene, yet I don't understand why an article would be aimed at negatively portraying local talent. Not only did I read the article about Double Clutch, but I read a number

of Ken Leighton's other articles. One of which also negatively portrays the activity of members of the San Diego music scene. I think that these articles are wasting time portraying the unimportant side of music journalism and those involved in the music scene, while they should focus on the music. The way that this section of the *Reader* is conducted is repulsive, a segment that pays readers to send in tips about the gossip in the music scene and then writes articles with inaccurate sources is ridiculous.

The article disturbed me because it was based on allegations and information from an illegitimate source who doesn't know anything about the band or about music in general, for that matter. It strikes me as odd that none of the members of the band have ever heard of or met Todd Griffiths, yet he knows so much about the band and their conduct. As a writer for *www.losangelespunk.com* as well as an involved member of the San Diego music scene for the past seven years, I have seen how difficult it is for bands to

make it out there. Some of my favorite bands from San Diego will never see fame or be able to make a living out of their talent because they do not have the monetary funds to do so.

This article demoralizes the members of the band for choosing to take the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to follow through with their dreams. That dream was given to them by a manager who wants to help these guys succeed in the thing that they are good at. I know each one of the members of Double Clutch is extremely talented and possesses the drive, de-

termination, and skills to succeed in the difficult industry of music. I have seen these guys work their asses off, more than any other band I know. Some people can be talented and not have the means to step up higher. Why discourage a good opportunity?

Music is about music, not about how much money you spend to make good music. It disgusts me that such an article would be written, relaying no information whatsoever on the band or the music they play. If the journalism of the San Diego music scene contin-

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ues to use such negativity and focus on the scene, I will be ashamed to be a writer in the music scene. Offering cash allowances to those who tip off the gossip is distasteful; perhaps one should attempt to go out and find their own news rather than paying people to give them inaccurate tips. I hope that this letter can change something or at least the mind of someone in regards to the type of articles and judgment going on within the paper.

Katie Plourd
via e-mail

Ken Leighton responds: This story did not arise from a \$25 tip. The manager of Double Clutch did know who Grif-fitts was.

Small Angels

"Headbreaker." English for *rompicapo*. The Italian means literally "headbreaker," when a problem is so tough that it breaks your head (in Spanish, *rompecabeza*). This letter is in response to Ross Starr's "Pasta Puzzles" letter in the December 18 *Reader*.

Question: Why are these

small ravioli/tortellini called *agnolotti*?

Answer: Small lambs? No, no, that would be *agnolletti* in Italian, and the dialect would transform it into, if anything, *agnollotti*, with two *ls*. Rather: SMALL ANGELS, namely *angeletti*, also *angioletti* (also true Italian), which the dialect (more or less any Italian regional dialect) would later transform into *agnolotti*.

The shape of this filled pasta reminds you of small angels, as two small wings of pasta dough are protruding from the side of the folds around the filled area. Reminds you of priests' hats (those ridiculous three-winged black stiff caps that look like Spanish militia)? Yes, possible, as those priests' hats have also kind of small wings (however, which angel do you know with three wings?). And why refer to something that looks like something that looks like something. Therefore, no priests' hats, just small angels; they taste better.

Agnolotti: basta, e mangia!
Johan Wallen
Hillcrest

I Cry For Her

This letter is pertaining to last month's Thanksgiving issue, wherein 100 San Diegans were asked, "What are you grateful for this year?" ("100 Grateful San Diegans," November 26).

I loved that story. I loved hearing what people had to say about their own personal lives.

There was one response, however, that seemed to resonate deep within me. It was from Victoria Lazos, a single parent in National City. She told us, "Life is hard...my father died this year, a neighbor around the corner died...[drugs have] affected my son so horribly."

I was so moved by her response and her willingness to share her life's difficulties with us. I cut out her article, and I keep it in my wallet. I think about her, her son, her troubles. I cry for her, I wish her well, and I pray for her.

Cassie Benavidez

Confucius say, "You're a year older and a year wiser."

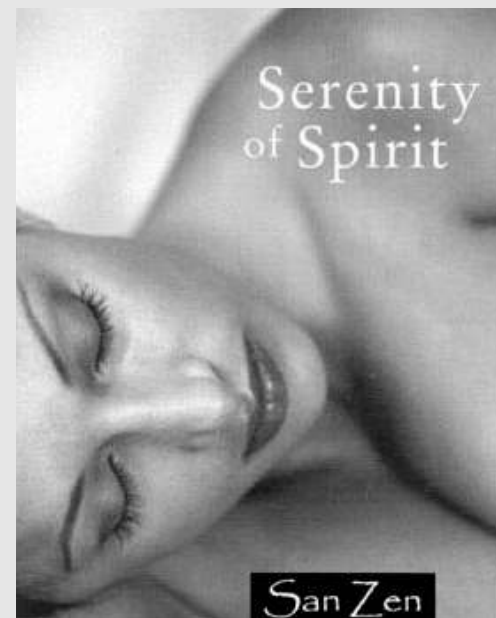
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Calendar

Chatterbox Café

Politics and Religion Discussion Group

Affirmative Action: Served Its Purpose or Barely Served?

"Lawsuits Today: Protecting the Victims or Legalized Extortion?"

"Iraq: Long, Short, or No Occupation Policy?"

"World Trade Organization Protest: What's It All About?"

"The Mideast and U.S. Policy: Doomed to Disaster?"

Looking at a list of daunting topics planned for the weekly discussion group at a Hillcrest coffeehouse, one

LOCAL EVENTS

can't help but think of another question to pose to participants. It

pertains to the group's founder and moderator, Gary Grine of Chula Vista:

"Gary Grine: Glutton for Punishment or on to Something?"

Grine says P&R stands for "politics and religion." He didn't want to name the group that outright, however. "It's because my first fear was we'd get a lot of religious diatribe going on. We had one topic, 'Fundamentalist Religions: Predictor or Cause of the Apocalypse?' I was anticipating people getting violent, actually. But it was a very good discussion. We decided you can't really blame fundamentalist religions. It's politicians using them that's the trouble."

The group is seven months old. In the beginning, Grine picked the topics himself. Now he asks people to submit suggestions. The list of future topics is chosen and publicized in advance.

Grine has learned what tends to go over best. "Questions about war and culture, society and history, I don't get a big turnout for. The biggest turnouts are for specific philosophical discussions." The weeks that featured existentialism and Friedrich Nietzsche, he says, brought out 20 or 25 people.

For the one titled "*Lord of the Rings*: Messages for a Modern World?" he got exactly two takers. Even the regulars — a core of seven — weren't set on fire by that one.

Grine is 50. The average age of the group is "about 40," he guesses. Are they mostly men? "We have several ladies," Grine replies, adding, "We get a lot of first-generation people. A Russian lady shows up and is very interested. Another lady, who said she couldn't afford college, says she is sitting there just to learn. We have an older gentleman who comes in, and he's one of the most well-read people I've ever



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE ALLEN

Living Room discussion group

known. We also have our Socialist hard core that show up and sneak in that class struggle any time they can squeeze it into anything."

Like many organizers of meetings and groups today, Grine says he wishes he could attract more young people. "When I was in college, we discussed these things on an everyday basis."

Grine seems genuinely to want to know what young people think. "What is the philosophy of today?" he asks. For a discussion about Islam in December, Grine says, "We had a young man heading out for Iraq who had studied the Koran. We learned a lot from him about what his fellow sailors on the ship think. Christianity going down, Islam going up. People are looking for something to base their lives upon."

Grine sees his group as part of an old tradition. "In Europe and in the Middle East, you have these café societies. People get together face-to-face, not on computers, and discuss these topics. That's how they shape their ideas." Hosting such groups has classically been the job of a coffeehouse, says Grine, a business broker by

profession, who sold this coffeehouse to its present owner.

The discussions are "at a fairly high level," says Grine. Like the older gentleman, "most people who come to the group are readers." Often, participants have certain basic texts in common as reference points, even though they weren't "assigned" beforehand.

The Socratic method is employed. Grine gives its definition: "When someone comes up with an argument that they can't really substantiate, we question them until we find the basis of the argument. It's a dialectic thing. It makes everybody think."

Like lurkers in chat rooms, some group members merely listen. "And that's okay."

If, by contrast, anyone tries to monopolize, Grine doesn't shut them up. "I just let them speak their piece and then politely jump in there and put the question to other people."

People do sometimes come with an agenda, says Grine. And that's okay, too. "We don't tell people they're wrong. We want people to believe

whatever they want to believe. We don't close anyone out."

The agenda types are invariably one-timers. "If anybody says something they don't agree with, they don't show up again."

What else is going on at the coffeehouse while these discussions take place? Grine is asked. "It's very crowded at night. A knitting group meets there. Once we met while another group was in there talking about investments. Last week, there was a Common Cause group. It's a great atmosphere. Everyone's talking. If you wanted to, you could just drift from group to group."

— Jeanne Schinto

P&R (Politics and Religion) Discussion Group:
"Affirmative Action: Served Its Purpose or Barely Served?"
Wednesday, January 7
(new topic every Wednesday)
7:00 p.m.
The Living Room Coffeehouse,
1417 University Avenue, Hillcrest
Free
619-295-7911

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS



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Events that are underlined occur after January 8.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER EVENTS, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

BAJA

You're Getting Sleepy, hypnotist Taurus do Brazil performs from Monday, January 5, through Saturday, January 31, at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Performances begin at 6 and 9 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, 5 and 8 p.m. on Sundays. \$5 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9600. (TIJUANA)

Rodin in Mexico, sculptures on display through January 19, at Tijuana Cultural Center, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. 011-52-664-687-9600. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Gray Whale Migration off San Diego County's coast peaks this month. The best view spots from land are high points close to the surf. Aside from the whale-watching overlook at Cabrillo National Monument, try Sunset Cliffs, the vest-pocket parks and dead-end streets from Pacific Beach to Scripps Park in La Jolla, various ocean overlooks on the trail system at Torrey Pines State Reserve, the cliffs opposite Carmel Valley Road south of Del Mar, overlooks opposite Lomas Santa Fe Drive in Solana Beach, and various cliff-top viewpoints and beach access stair-

ways in Encinitas and Leucadia. Scan the ocean a few hundred yards to a couple of miles out using high-power binoculars. Best times for viewing are about 9 a.m. to noon.

Saturn Is at Opposition to the sun as the year begins. This means that Saturn rises at sunset, sets at sunrise, and hovers high overhead near midnight. Saturn is currently as bright as it ever gets, since Saturn's ring system is now maximally tilted to our line of sight. Saturn is more luminous now than it has been in the last 30 years, and it will not be this bright again for another 30 years.

Of Warblers, Wrens, and Woodpeckers! Beginner's birding hike, Friday, January 2, 8 a.m., in Blue Sky Ecological Reserve (on Espola Road, one-half mile north of Lake Poway Road). All levels

welcome. 858-679-5469. Free. Rain cancels. (POWAY)

Clean Up! Learn the difference between native plants and weeds and help clean up around Buena Audubon Nature Center, Saturday, January 3, 8 to 10 a.m. Bring weeding tools, water. Free. Find the center at 2202 South Coast Highway;760-439-2473.(OCEANSIDE)

"Hawk Watch," Wildlife Research Institute leads raptor-spotting hikes every Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, through February 28. Walks are led by biologist, along with a trained falconer. The Ramona grasslands are prime raptor territory; 19 species of raptors have been recorded at the spot.

Wear hiking or walking boots. Bring binoculars or spotting scopes if you have them. Only heavy rain cancels trips. Wildlife Research Institute headquarters, 18030 Highland Valley Road (near

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Rangeland). Free. 760-789-3992. (RAMONA)

Guided Nature Walk, Saturday, January 3, 9:30 a.m., in Marian Bear Memorial Park. Trail guide Don Wetzel leads nature lovers through oak and sycamore trees, chaparral in search of birds and wildlife. Take Regents Road exit off Highway 52, look for parking lot and restroom on west side of Regents Road. 858-581-9961. Free. Bring binoculars, drinking water. (CLAIREMONT)

Rescuing Wild Animals in Trouble is job of Wildlife Assist volunteers. Orientation on Saturday, January 3, at Clairemont Community Service Center in Clairemont Town Square (behind Vons, at 4731 Clairemont Drive). On Sunday, January 4, head to Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). 2 p.m.

619-921-6044. Free. (CLAIREMONT, ENCINITAS)

Ven Explora la Naturaleza Conmigo, Chula Vista Nature Center hosts bilingual nature walk, Sunday, January 4, 1 p.m. Led by a Spanish-speaking interpretive guide, walks introduce visitors to Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and the nature center. Free. Find center at 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive; 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

The Quadrantid Meteor Shower, delivering a brief and sometimes intense display of “shooting stars,” is best seen this year shortly before dawn on the morning of Sunday, January 4. Only those observers situated far

from city lights are likely to see meteors in abundance. Because the moon sets around 4:30 a.m., the best viewing time this year is between 4:30 and 5:40 a.m. After 5:40 or so, the sky becomes too bright.

The Moon Is Full on Wednesday, January 7, rising impressively as a yellowish orb from the eastern horizon just after the time of sunset. Several hours later the moon will gleam high overhead in the sky, the cold quality of its white light accurately conveyed by some of the folk names for January full moons: Chaste Moon, Cold Moon, Snow Moon, and Wolf Moon.

Architectural Heritage Tours offered by Committee of 100,

first Wednesday of each month, including January 7. Walks begin at 9:30 a.m. in front of visitor information center, in Plaza de Panama. Free. 619-239-0512. (BALBOA PARK)

Support Your Local Parks, volunteer trail guides wanted in Mission Trails Regional Park. Ten-week training course starts Saturday, January 10. Details: 619-668-3279. No experience necessary. (MISSION GORGE)

DANCE

“**Mothers**,” choreographed by Gina Angelique, “honors the capacity to nurture and cultivate

growth in the face of extraordinary challenges.” This Eveoke Dance Theatre production opens on Friday, January 2. *Camila’s Story*, choreographed by Elizabeth Licea and performed by Riccardo Peralta Danza Performa, opens on Thursday, January 8.

See *Mothers* on Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. and at

8:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. *Camila’s Story* presented Thursdays at 8 p.m. and at 7 p.m. on weekends. Sushi Performance and Visual Art, 320 11th Avenue. Through Sunday, February 1. Tickets: \$18 general (“pay what you can” one hour before performances Wednesday, Thurs-

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

day, Sunday). 858-386-5101. (DOWNTOWN)

New Year's Master Classes, Steven Sofia leads a theater dance master class, Friday, January 2, 3 p.m.; Wilson Mendieta leads a modern master class on Saturday, January 3, 1:30 p.m. Culture Shock Dance Center, 2110 Hancock Street. \$15 per class. 619-299-2110. (OLD TOWN)

Calling All Jitterbugs, swing dance on Friday, January 2, at YMCA Firehouse Community Center (7877 Herschel Avenue). Swing lesson at 8:15 p.m., open dancing 9 p.m. to midnight. \$8 general. 858-395-6060. (LA JOLLA)

Jump to Dance when Jump Fingers make the music and Steve Barlow calls for contradance, Fri-

day, January 2, at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Dancing begins at 8 p.m., following beginners' instruction at 7:45 p.m. Admission: \$6. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

"Bellydancing Fusion," Urban Tribal Dance Company performs Saturday, January 3, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m., at Gargoyle Gallery (1845 India Street). Cover: \$5. 619-234-1344. (LITTLE ITALY)

Friendship Set to Music, learn modern square dancing with Rufles 'n Beaus Square Dance Club at beginners' class, Sunday, January 4, 6 to 7:45 p.m., in room 207 of Casa del Prado. First class is free, \$3 thereafter. Partners not required. 619-469-4865. Open enrollment continues through January 25. (BALBOA PARK)

Learn Basic Belly Dancing Moves when Natasha leads classes on four Mondays starting January 5, 6:30 p.m., at Lawrence

Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). \$40. Registration: 858-362-1340. (LA JOLLA)

FILM

The Documentary *Uncovered: The Whole Truth About the Iraq War* hosted by North County Forum, Friday, January 2, at Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (1600 Buena Vista Drive). Social hour: 6 p.m., film at 7 p.m., discussion at 8 p.m. Free. 760-758-2410. (VISTA)

Up for a "Moody Moral Fable of Sin and Second Chances"? See *Levity* — starring Billy Bob Thornton, Morgan Freeman, Kirsten Dunst, Holly Hunter — when it's shown for Sunday Matinee, January 4, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

See *Lovely and Amazing* when Nicole Holofcener's 2002 film with Brenda Blethyn, Catherine Keener, and Emily Mortimer screens for

Film Forum, Monday, January 5, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk* (through Sunday, January 4), *Australia: Land Beyond Time, Bugs!* Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

Composting Mini-Seminars offered on first Saturday of each month, including January 3, 11 a.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Free. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Why Do Stinkhorns Stink? Why do bird's nest fungi have little eggs? Find out when Elio Schaechter presents slide-illustrated "What Is a Mushroom?" for San Diego Mycological Society on Monday, January 5, 6:30 p.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Schaechter is author of *In the Company of Mushrooms*. Free. 760-753-0273. (BALBOA PARK)

"Mt. McKinley — A Climb to Remember," climber Jackie Paulson presents slide-illustrated lecture at Adventure 16 shops this week. She'll appear on Monday,



Poinsettia Display in Botanical Building through January 7 (see Special)

January 5, at 143 South Cedros (858-755-7662); at 4620 Alvarado Canyon Road (619-283-2374) on Tuesday, January 6; and Wednesday, January 7, at 2002 South Coast Highway 101 (760-966-1700). Free. Talks start at 7 p.m. (SOLANA BEACH, MISSION VALLEY, OCEANSIDE)

Sailing Fundamentals, Flotilla 16-03 of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers seven-week course beginning Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m. through February 23, in County Mental Health Building (3851 Rosecrans Street). "Modest charge for materials." Registration: 619-446-2245. (MIDWAY)

He's the Father of a Marine killed in Iraq, and on Wednesday,

January 7, Fernando Suarez del Solar will discuss his recent trip to Iraq when North County Coalition for Peace and Justice meets at 7 p.m. at Pilgrim United Church of Christ (2020 Chestnut Street). 760-753-2654. Free. (CARLSBAD)

"Affirmative Action — Served Its Purpose or Barely Served?" Discuss the topic, Wednesday, January 7, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

Tour the Night Sky during "The Sky Tonight" planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, January 7. After show, view real sky through telescopes set up by Fleet Center staff and San Diego Astronomy Association (weather permitting). 619-238-1233. \$6.75 general. (BALBOA PARK)

What Does "Going Bankrupt" Really Mean? Attorney Mark L. Miller conducts an educational seminar on many facets of bankruptcy, Wednesday, January 7, 6:30 p.m., Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Free. 858-573-5007. (MISSION VALLEY)

Tune Up, REI shop technicians offer basic bicycle maintenance clinic Wednesday, January 7, 6:30 p.m. Essentials of fixing flats, brake and derailleur adjustment, more. Find REI at 5556 Copley

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“Earthquake Country — Los Angeles,” this video in the “Written in Stone” series premieres Wednesday, January 7, 7 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Pat Abbott moderates discussion of 1994 Northridge earthquake. \$8. 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

“Hearing and Enjoying Great Music” is subject when conductor, teacher, and musicologist Charles D. Yates presents lecture-demonstration for “History Alive at Lee” series on Thursday, January 8, for Lemon Grove Historical Society. \$2. Program starts at 7 p.m. in H. Lee House (3205 Olive). 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Chinese and Asian Cooking Class offered by Lucille Cheng. Eight-week course starts Thursday, January 8, 6 p.m., in room 500 at Helix High School (7323 University Avenue). Fee: \$37, includes all food costs. Registration: 619-644-8218. (LA MESA)

Freelance Editor and proofreader Laurie Gibson presents “Proof-reading Power — In Just One Hour,” Thursday, January 8, 7 p.m., at Book Garden (4496 Park Boulevard). \$5. 858-539-0508. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

“Four Hands Fantastique,” piano duetists Barbara and Gerhard Suhrtstedt perform music by composers Bizet, Debussy, Fauré, and Ravel along with slides of paintings by Degas, Gauguin, Monet, and Renoir in performances on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, at San Diego Museum of Art.

These “Meet the Masters” lecture/concerts begin at 11 a.m. (\$20 for nonmembers, or \$38 with lunch) and 6 p.m. (\$20 for nonmembers). Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Be a Clown! Annual beginning clown classes — covering all facets of clowning — offered by San Diego All-Star Clown Club every Tuesday and Thursday, January 13 through April 1, at Congregation Beth El (8660 Gilman Drive). \$85. 858-450-1533. (LA JOLLA)

Get Outside — And Enjoy It! Wilderness ethics, first aid, equipment, water filtration, nutrition, map and compass — all of these subjects and more covered when Sierra Club offers its annual “Wilderness Basics Courses.” Classes continue for ten weeks, with lectures and outings.

The North County group offers courses every Tuesday, January 20 through March 23, 7 to 9:30 p.m., at San Pasqual High School (3300 Bear Valley Parkway). \$95. 760-728-8220. (ESCONDIDO)

Greater San Diego chapter offers course that also begins Tuesday, January 27, 7 to 9:30 p.m., at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del Rio South). \$95. 858-272-9229. (MISSION VALLEY)

IN PERSON

Vienna’s Famed New Year’s Concert is recreated in “Salute to Vienna,” Thursday, January 1. Cast of over 75 professional musicians, singers, dancers. Performers include Austrian soprano Elisabeth Lang, Viennese tenor Alois Haselbacher, members of Hungarian National Ballet, Strauss Symphony of America led by Gerhard Track. Events begin at 2:30 p.m. in Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B



San Diego Boat Show at San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Marina, January 8–11 (see Special)

Street. Tickets range from \$35 to \$75, available by calling 619-235-0804 and through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

The Good Sax saxophone quartet performs Saturday, January 3, 1 p.m., at Museum of Making Music (5790 Armada Drive). Free. 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

“Native American Traditions and Medicine Wheel Traditions” explored by author and psychologist Masa Goetz and poet Kathleen Gilroy, Sunday, January 4, 3 p.m., at Open Door Books (4761 Cass Street). 858-270-8642. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Author Trudi Alexy discusses *The Marrago Legacy. A Contemporary Crypto-Jewish Priest Reveals Secrets of His Double Life* on Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Book is sequel to *The Mezuzah in the Madonna’s Foot*. \$8. Reservations: 858-362-1174. (LA JOLLA)

Twelfth Night Light and Sound Variety Show, Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls’ Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard, at Chatsworth). Main theme: “Let There Be Light.” Expect costumes, light and sound effects, classical and popular music,

audience participation. Performers include harpsichordist/organist Robert Thompson, Scott Paulson, tenor Patrick Biggs, soprano Cheryl Brown, pianist Ken Herman, and the band Brass, Key, and Wind. 619-223-6394. \$5 donation. (POINT LOMA)

The Guitarist and Cellist, Richard Smith (guitar) and Julie Adams (cello) perform for Grossmont Community Concert Association, Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., at East County Performing Arts Center (210 East Main Street). Tickets: 619-440-1706. (EL CAJON)

First Wednesday, the Bra d’Or Brass Quintet performs for series, January 7, 4 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Admission is free, available on a first-come, first-served basis. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

“The Great Guitars of Jazz” showcased during Jazz in the Park concert with performances by Mundell Lowe, John Pisano, Howard Alden, Wednesday, January 7, 5:30 p.m., San Diego Museum of Art. Tickets: \$17 general. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Poetry Unlimited — featuring poet Kali Ligman reading from her new book, *Falling Into Grace*, music by Rob Atesalp and Francis Teller — convenes Wednesday, January 7, 6:30 p.m., at La Jolla Recreation Center (615 Prospect Street). Open readings follow. Free. 858-552-1658. (LA JOLLA)

Sixth Annual Winter Poetry Slam hosted by Full Moon Poets on Wednesday, January 7, at La Paloma Theatre (471 South Coast Highway 101). “Poets call” at 6 p.m., slamming at 7 p.m. Emcee is Robert Nanninga. Free. 760-944-6027. (ENCINITAS)

Book Launch and Signing for locals Rudolph A. Johnson III and Lorraine R. Johnson, authors of *Cracking Up: The True Story of One Family’s Recovery from the Devastation of Crack Cocaine*, Thursday, January 8, 6 p.m., at Tubman/Chavez Multicultural Center (415 Euclid Avenue). Free. 619-698-0523. (SAN DIEGO)

Jazz Tenor Saxophonist Joe Marillo performs Thursday, January 8, 7 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Free. 858-573-5007. (MISSION VALLEY)

“Edgar Allan Poe — Once Upon a Midnight” presented by John Astin, Saturday, January 10, 8 p.m., at Poway Center for Performing Arts (15498 Espola Road). The one-person play based on life of Poe “blends the historical with the supernatural” to journey through Poe’s imagination. Tickets: 858-748-0505. (POWAY)

Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A Two-Woman Show, comedienne Vicki Lawrence entertains Sunday, January 18, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). \$40, \$50. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Black Ambition Tour, immensely talented comic Chris Rock performs Thursday, January 22, at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$39.50 to \$59.50, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

One of the Greatest Living Guitarists? Innovative and influential flamenco guitarist Paco de Lucia performs in concert, Saturday, January 31, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$42 to \$52. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS

New Year’s Day Race hosted by San Diego Yacht Club, starts at noon on Thursday, January 1. No entry fee for the 9.7-nautical-mile jaunt around San Diego Bay. Start line is located near east end of Harbor Island, down bay to point near Coronado Bridge, back up to finish. 619-221-8400. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Gulls Hockey Continues, the Idaho Steelheads arrive for ice hockey at San Diego Sports Arena on Friday, January 2, 7:35 p.m. The Gulls host Las Vegas Wranglers on Saturday, January 3, at 7:05 p.m., and the Texas Wildcaters on Tuesday, January 6, at 7:05 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$25, available by calling 619-224-4625 x7. Games are broadcast on KSDO (AM 1130). (SPORTS ARENA)

Run or Walk, Fifty-Plus Fitness Association hosts a run/walk, Saturday, January 3. Four-mile outing starts 8:30 a.m. at 15th Street and Ocean Avenue, lasts one hour along the beach. Wear good running or walking shoes; all levels of ability welcome. 619-276-2216. (DEL MAR)

Open House and Self-Defense Demonstrations at Kung Fu Academy (3388 30th Street) on Saturday, January 3. Children: 10 a.m., adults: 11:30 a.m. Free. 619-297-0424. (NORTH PARK)

National Scholastic Surfing Association open season #6 competition, Saturday and Sunday, January 3 and 4, 7 a.m. to evening, on south side of Ocean-side Pier. 714-536-0445. Free for spectators. (OCEANSIDE)

The San Diego Sockers host Dallas Sidekicks, Sunday, January 4, 5 p.m., at San Diego Sports Arena. Tickets range from \$12 to \$25, available through Ticketmaster, 619-220-TIXS). Listen to the games on KSDO (1130 AM). (SPORTS ARENA)

Ice Skating Outdoors! The ice rink is open for skating daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. through Monday, January 19, at Horton Plaza (225 Broadway). Admission: \$6, skate rentals: \$2. 619-234-1031. (DOWNTOWN)

Smucker’s Stars on Ice, 2004 cast members are joined by guest skaters Kristi Yamaguchi, Scott Hamilton, Oksana Baiul, Ekaterina Gordeeva, Paul Wylie, Kurt Brown-ing in performance on Friday, January 16, 2004, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Sports Arena. Tickets: \$27 to \$82, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

2004 San Diego Marathon events are set for January 17 and 18. Races start and finish at Plaza Camino Real (at Highway 78 and I-5). Saturday: San Diego Competitive Mile at 8 a.m.; kids’ marathon mile at 9:30 a.m.; All About Fitness Expo, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday: marathon walk at 5:30 a.m.; early marathon start at 6:30 a.m.; half-marathon start 7 a.m.; marathon wheelchair start

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

at 7:25 a.m.; marathon start at 7:30 a.m. 858-792-2900. (CARLSBAD)

SPECIAL

New Year's Day Kite Fly hosted by San Diego Kite Club, with guests Dave and Susan Gomborg from Oregon, Thursday, January 1, 10 a.m. to dusk, at Mariner's Point. Potluck lunch (bring food to share or monetary contribution) and one-, two-, and multi-line flying for all. Free. 619-546-4244. (MISSION BEACH)

Book Sale, San Carlos branch library hosts book sale, Saturday, January 3, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Paperbacks and hardbacks of all types offered. The library is found at 7265 Jackson Drive; 619-527-3430. (SAN CARLOS)

The Light Time of Year, organizers of Holiday of Lights at Del Mar Fairgrounds boast of "the largest...display of seasonal festive lights in San Diego," with holiday-themed displays on view through Sunday, January 4.

Hours are 5:30 to 10 p.m. Thursday and Sunday; 5:30 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Admission: \$11 per vehicle (up to five people), \$16 per vehicle with six or more people. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (619-220-

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A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond • By Jerry Schad

Wilderness Gardens Preserve, a 676-acre jewel of county parkland near Pala in north inland San Diego County, encompasses the grounds of an old ranch — the former retreat of Manchester Boddy, owner of a Los Angeles newspaper and developer of the renowned Descanso Gardens in Pasadena. As the years go by, the property looks less like a botanical showplace and more like the wilderness that its name suggests. Intermixed with live-oak woodland and sycamores lining the San Luis Rey River



floodplain are surviving exotics such as eucalyptus, camellias, roses, holly, bottle-brush, pyracantha, and oleander.

You'll find the entrance to Wilderness Gardens on the south side of Highway 76, approximately ten miles east of Interstate 15. The park is currently open only on weekends, and there's a small charge for parking your vehicle there.

Picnic tables and benches abound in the park, both near the parking area and at several other shady locales. No more than three miles of walking suffices for a satisfying reconnaissance of the whole place. By following a gravel road past the ranger station (old ranch buildings), you'll reach a string of five shallow depressions, the first and largest of which stays filled through the dry summer season. Over 140 species of birds have been logged in the area.

From the main pond, you can head west along a looping path, less than one mile around, through a canopy of live oaks festooned with wild grapevines. Then, from the south shore of the pond, you can walk uphill on the Meadows Trail. This rock-lined path ascends along a shady ravine, swings



Early morning at Wilderness Gardens

across a sunny slope to skirt a hillside meadow, and finally descends toward your starting point, the parking area. You can look forward to witnessing a reawakening of the native and nonnative vegetation during the next four months, as the expected near-normal winter rainfall and early spring sunshine brings forth a profusion of new growth and flowering in the preserve.

TIKS). Information: 858-793-5555. (DEL MAR)

Living History in San Pasqual, cannon-firing drills, demonstrations of crafts and skills from the 1800s, history lectures, entertainment, volunteers in period attire, and authentic food for sale at San Pasqual History Days, Sunday,

January 4, 10 a.m. to 2\!s>p.m., San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park (15808 San Pasqual Valley Road). Free. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego International Auto Show continues through Sunday, January 4. New models, preproduction vehicles and concept cars

from over 30 manufacturers featured at San Diego Convention Center (111 West Harbor Drive). Hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday (kids' day), 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. \$10; \$5 for children 12 and under. 619-525-5000. (DOWNTOWN)

Everything Photographic — from vintage to modern equipment — on offer during Bargain Camera Show, Sunday, January 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Al Bahr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). General admission: \$4; students and seniors, \$3; children under 12

and active military free. 310-578-7446. (KEARNY MESA)

"The Dr. Seuss You Never Knew," an exhibit in celebration of 100th birthday anniversary year of author Theodore "Seuss" Geisel, opens on Monday, January 5, at UCSD's Geisel Library. The show features early work from Geisel's school days at Dartmouth and Oxford, advertising and magazine work from the 1920s and 1930s, and illustration work for other authors. Through Saturday, March 27. 858-534-2533. (LA JOLLA)

The 1915 Wood Lath Botanical Building is site for 17th annual poinsettia display through Wednesday, January 7. Nearly 300 poinsettia plants decorate the historic building, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays through Wednesdays. Free. 619-239-0512 or 619-235-1100. (BALBOA PARK)

The 16th Annual San Diego Boat Show, featuring in-water and on-land displays, boating lessons, seminars, kids' activities, "Women at the Helm" exhibit, Twigg the water-skiing squirrel, more than 300 boats and luxury yachts to peruse. January 8-11, at San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Marina.

Show hours: noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. (Marina portion closes at 6 p.m. each night.) Admission: \$9 general; \$4 children (under six free). 858-274-9924. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

Caught between Feuding Families, William Shakespeare's young, star-crossed lovers *Romeo and Juliet* may be seen in the next production by San Diego Junior Theatre, January 2-18.

Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Fridays, at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in Casa del Prado Theater. January 17 performance is American sign language interpreted. Tickets: \$10 to \$12 adults, \$7 to \$9 seniors and children 13 and under. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (BALBOA PARK)

"Jack and the Bean Stalk" performed by Big Joe Productions Friday through Sunday, January 2-4,



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Genevieve recently appeared in commercials for Coles Carpets and Mossy Nissan.



Jeff has appeared in commercials for Viejas Casino and Sharp Hospital.



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READING

The Strange Hours Travelers Keep



August Kleinzahler

*Farrar, Straus, & Giroux;
November 2003; 98 pages; \$22*

Poems have a life of their own, like the more intense forms of sexual love. It is no coincidence that both find themselves associated with particular gods in classical antiquity. Both transcend the ordinary human realm where situation, character, will, and intellect play a determining role. When entering into this otherworldly realm, one is tapping into a large, usually destructive force that mocks our needs and wishes, as well as whatever notions we have of what is real or good or true. It is ordinarily not to one's advantage to enter into this realm. Literature and mythology

are full of cautionary tales: Western, Eastern, African, Amerindian, you name it. They're certainly not going to teach you about it in college, nor are you likely to hear it discussed on NPR or the network news or Fox. Perhaps on one of the less-visited cable channels... All of which means: none of it is any good for you but is quite the thrill, regardless.

I dislike writing about my poetry, much as I dislike talking about sex, except in the abstract. Besides, that's what they pay professors and graduate students for, and the former are getting paid far too much for what, in retrospect, has been a shameful track record in appraising contemporary poetry. In part, this is because the more serious academic critics are adhering to historical models that are no longer relevant, nor have they been for a generation, if ever. In part, it's a result of the academy's isolation from the street, where poetry, historically, has always gone to reinvigorate itself, tapping into the cadences, syntax, diction, and tonalities of English as it is spoken by ordinary men and women. The music of poetry dwells somewhere between heightened speech and the looser forms of song structure with its repeated motifs and various kinds of closure.

The larger problem, as I see it — at least in the immediate, localized context — is that American poetry has been subsumed by the Creative Writing Corporation of America, a \$250 million business operating along the lines of a pyramid scheme and based on the notion that anyone can write a poem if they only enroll in an *accredited professional program* and achieve an MFA degree. It's all a bit like those magazine ads I remember from many years ago (perhaps they're still out there), where a square-jawed business type points aggressively at the reader,

with a caption underneath reading: "Yes, you *too* can become a millionaire!" Now, it so happens that there are thousands, perhaps tens of thousands of millionaires in America. There aren't a dozen poets now writing whose work will be read 50 years from now, if anyone is still reading.

Here's the deal: Poetry no longer exists as a vital branch of culture in this country, as it does, say, in Ireland or Japan. When you see a poem in *The New Yorker*, to give one example, it's there: (1) to break up the page; and (2) as a gesture, a sop to those who associate the idea of poetry with highbrow culture and class.

Therefore, nature being what it is, the best and brightest are not going to be writing poetry or about poetry. They may, in a few instances, be writing about the novel or, more likely, movies, but likelier still not writing at all, at least beyond the functional, e-mail-style prose of the moment. You will probably find the talent that used to go into poetry, among other arts, in an area where culture, art, and politics (and almost always a denatured, capsulized version of each) interface with commerce. Most, I suspect, are now drawn to the Internet, where these kinds of interfaces proliferate and institutional constraints and conventions are at a minimum, for good or ill.

I'm not sure how many neurosurgeons there are now actively practicing in the United States. Surely thousands, perhaps a number equivalent to those millionaires currently knocking around. I suspect it must be very demanding to become a neurosurgeon. There's university, usually involving a demanding pre-med curriculum. There's medical school, no picnic no matter how abysmal its reputation. There's internship and res-

at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Puppet Express presents *The Three Wishes: The Silly Story*, January 7-11.

Performances begin at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday through Friday; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find theater near Aerospace Center. Admission: \$3 for adults, \$2 for children under 12. 619-685-5990. (BALBOA PARK)

"A Living Still Life," it's the theme for Free-for-All Family Day activities on Sunday, January 4, at Museum of Contemporary Art

San Diego, La Jolla (700 Prospect Street). Participants will create a still life using an assortment of materials in conjunction with Manny Farber exhibit. Free. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Dive Into the "World of Water" when Ms. Frizzle and the Magic School Bus lead adventures on Sunday, January 4, 11:45 a.m., 12:45, and 1:45 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Fee is \$2 for nonmember kids, in addition to regular museum admission. 619-232-3821 x203. (BALBOA PARK)

Quail Trail, head to Quail Botanical Gardens for tour of the gardens oriented for kids (aged three to six), Tuesday, January 6, 10:30 a.m. Meet at visitors' center located directly north of parking lot, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. Free. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

World Festival of Plays for Children offered in various locations within the San Diego State University Performing Arts Plaza. Plays, music, mimes, jugglers, clowns, face painting. Program includes Theatre for Youth touring production *Fire and Mist* and *Carnival de Calaveras*, among many others.

Festival opens with performances on Friday, January 23, at 6 p.m., continues all day on Saturday, January 24. Tickets: \$6; all-day passes \$20; family passes \$50. 619-594-6884. (SDSU)

Busytown, hands-on, bilingual exhibit based on Richard Scarry's books and TV series comes to Reuben H. Fleet Science Center (1875 El Prado) on Saturday, January 31. Exhibit includes a grocery store, factory, shipyard, power

plant and construction area for visitors aged 2 through 6 to explore, play and learn through Sunday, May 9. Adults \$6.75, kids \$5.50. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

MUSEUMS

(Art museums are listed in the Reader's Guide to Art.)

Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found at 9050 Memory Lane; 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

California Surf Museum, "Early California Surfriders, 1900-1940" honors Doc John Heath Ball, the first surf documentarian, telling stories of those pioneering

surfers in photographs by Ball and text.

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.J." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and enjoy the xerophytic gardens.

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Sta-

tion or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Computer Museum of America, "Secrets, Lies, and Teletypes: A History of Cryptology" explores the development of cryptology and code breaking from ancient times to the present, focusing on the role of machines and computers. The National Cryptologic Museum has loaned the German Air Force Enigma Machine; the three-rotor Enigma was used by the Nazis in World War II to secure messaging. Also on view, the M-209, a U.S. Army Signal Corps machine used by American troops to send and receive encrypted messages. Learn about the use of semaphore, punch card equipment, teletypes, and other machines.

Ongoing exhibits include vintage video games like Pong and Space Invaders, punch cards, a rare "millionaire calculator," and a Hectotron, described as "a 1970s vacuum-tube, sound-responsive electronic kaleidoscope." Find the museum at 640 C Street (at Seventh Avenue). 619-235-8222. (DOWNTOWN)

Flying Leatherneck Museum, dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Ma-

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idency. Then there are the years of developing as a doctor, a diagnostician, a surgeon. Ninety percent of neurosurgeons are only adequate, or less than adequate, at what they do; that is, if they're like any other profession.

If you pick up a saxophone and try to play it, you'll find that you're unable to get any sound out of it other than something like a cross between a baby's burble and a fart. If you purchase a how-to book or, better still, get hold of a teacher, in a week or two you may be able to play a tolerable version of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." You can practice 10 hours a day for 30 years, and you might arrive at a journeyman's skill on the instrument; good enough to maybe sit in with a second-rate band playing dinner clubs out in the suburbs. The odds of your becoming a Sonny Rollins or John Coltrane are one in tens of millions. You'd have a better chance of winning the lottery, getting struck by lightning, and being elected President of the United States in the same day.

Imagine, for a moment, if we took American poetry as

seriously as we take college and professional football; if we applied the same standards to poets and scholars that we apply to NFL and Division I players and coaches. Half the slobs who phone up sports radio know more about defensive schemes and personnel adjustments on any given weekend that your average MFA knows about not just poetry and literature, but about anything at all.

So why persist at all? Why pour one's best energies into it when the art seems to be in such terrible decline, when the traditionally small readership of a few hundred or so has been reduced to perhaps a few dozen?

Because it's a thrill. When all the cylinders are firing, it's better than sex, even very good sex, and writing a poem resembles nothing else in nature so much as sex, which is why Eros and the creative act have been complicit since people have been falling madly in love and struggling to express their exhilaration and despair. Poets tend to be addicted to Eros, an especially destructive and wasting addiction. Bear in mind, Eros is quite a different thing from sex: Eros is sexual love. An addiction to sex is, I suspect, inconvenient, embarrassing, time-consuming, expensive — a nuisance. An addiction to Eros and poetry is a good deal more than a nuisance.

After such grand and lofty pronouncements, these two poems will probably, almost certainly, seem like paltry stuff. I apologize. They were written in San Diego a few years ago

when I was on assignment for the *Reader*. I was suffering from a bad bout of flu at the time, so it shouldn't be too surprising that one poem, a dream, is dead peculiar, and the other, a meditation of sorts, is rather grumpy and bleak.

I am stimulated by different environments. Coronado, for instance, was exotic to me. Had I lived there for ten years, or even two months, it would have ceased to be exotic. The poems in this most recent collection involve quite a few different locales. I was traveling a fair bit during the five years the book was written, here in the States and in Europe. I was in London and Berlin, to a lesser extent in Paris, Ireland, Italy, and Montreal. But all of these places, once passed through the solution of the imagination, become, well, as imaginary as the many purely imaginary places I visit in these poems. The literary detective or psychologist will not have to dig terribly deep in order to find that, however far flung and exotic the ports of call, at the heart of these poems is, and will always be, a provincial New Jersey boy, awonder at it all.

— August Kleinzahler

rine Corps Air Station Miramar. 858-693-1723. (MIRAMAR)

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Heritage Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway's past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 14134 Midland Road; 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic

(4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C. to A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Heritage Walk Museum, the museum includes the restored Victorian House, the city's original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working

blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park, at 321 North Broadway; 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, it is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include orig-

inal telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, restored 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Museum of History and Art, art quilts with Coronado themes are showcased in "The Fiber of Coronado," continuing through Saturday, January 31. Quilt San Diego/Quilt Visions members were invited to submit quilts for the show. Many of the quilts feature hand-dyed fabrics and are

embellished by hand, with others quilted by sewing machine.

Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. Find the museum at 1100 Orange Avenue. Call 619-435-7242 for further information. (CORONADO)

Museum of Making Music, the past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

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TWO POEMS BY AUGUST KLEINZAHLER

Christmastime in Coronado

The attack jets come in low
over the ocean
past the tennis courts and the Duchess’s
cottage,
in tandem
low over the Navy golf course
headed for the North Island airstrip
then wheel to the left
out over the water again,
the afternoon’s last light
making a movie set of the offshore islands
around and back once more
past the grand old wooden hotel and its
cupolas
with a series of watery, high-pitched *whups*
as they cut back their engines
and disappear over the ridge

The town seems very still, almost empty,
rich.
Christmas displays in store windows.
A goodly stream of cars.
The traffic lights make a sound too, bird-like.
I often get confused.
The roaring overhead. The traffic noise.
There is no place to go.

Out on the Silver Strand

the joggers and sweethearts take in the sunset
the air overhead as busy as war
Skyhawks, Vigilantes, Intruders
the cargo and surveillance planes
sub hunters, gunships
Phantom, Tomcat, Cobra...
It must have given the late President
great succor out there in his compound
those long troubled evenings in San
Clemente
to see the lights
and track the arc of the distant thunder
as he sat, with a drink, looking
out that enormous window at the sea, the
stars
a blur of light from the distant pier

I have read, of the late President
From those who have been close to him,
through it all
That he had in him a reflective
One might even say philosophical cast of
mind.
I wouldn’t know to say it wasn’t true.
I wouldn’t know to say.
But I myself have been thinking constantly of
America.
Only of late, only here
with the might of the nation roaring
overhead

around the clock
spewing vapor from their strokes
going fucking nowhere
and noisily coming back.

The Visit

She was wearing a beard,
which, of itself, did not seem odd
nor in any way
diminished my longing

It was a fine full beard
grizzled in places
and rather nicely answered
the sweep of her hair

which was as I remembered
She was 19, still,
and spoke terribly fast.
I hurried after her remarks,

so delicious and filled
with wit, invention:
a launderer’s shop, a taxi’s bray,
became a revelation.

How she’d flourished in New York.
I knew she would.
After each fresh burst of talk
I made her say again

the last few words or phrase
so as not to lose a thing.
How I adored her, still,
And treasured these visits,

her incarnations too,
always herself, but different,
my heart rushing out to her,
my adored.

And always slipping away,
in a crowd, on a platform -
like grasping at shadows,
always the same.

This time a hotel room,
littered, filthy,
the owner tromping through,
my finger cut badly,

Spotting the carpet with blood
as I tear around
looking for a phone book, an address,
I am not clear,

Except that we are done.
I know that well.
I know that deep.
But not her ways, or when she’ll come.

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women’s clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop

and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex. Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

San Diego County Sheriff’s Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff’s department is highlighted at the museum, which is located “just feet away” from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the

organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Model Railroad Museum, what’s more fun than model trains? How about Legos and model trains? The “Lego City Exhibit” features skyscrapers, bridges, people, parks, and operating model trains created by the Southern California Lego Train Club. Through January.

The museum celebrates Ameri-

can railroads with “the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit” in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the “San Diego County Relief Map” exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading.

The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

Serra Museum, “Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum”

is said to “remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum” on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a “visit back in time to 1929.” The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego’s history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It’s located at the site of the West Coast’s first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (PRESIDIO PARK)

Stephen Birch Aquarium-Museum, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. Look for 33 tanks containing marine life of the Pacific Northwest, the California coastline, Mexico’s Sea of Cortés, and the South Pacific. One highlight is the La Jolla Kelp Tank, a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, nurse, and wobbegong sharks. The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

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Where's the Big Picture?

...a total freedom that would be total chaos...

The La Jolla Music Society's admirable "Discovery Series," which takes a chance on young, more-or-less unknown musicians, has had its ups and downs. The recital by cellist Tahirah Whittington was, all in all, one of the downs.

A tall, cool, slim beauty, Whittington made a striking figure on the stage of Sherwood Auditorium, with her white gown and white turban. She was also impressive as a technician. She produced a robust and supple tone. Her intonation was impeccable. None of the daunting demands for fast and accurate playing on her challenging program ruffled her air of aloof confidence. She also showed a flair for a certain mode of graceful, lyrical expression, which she pleasingly demonstrated in a brief set of pieces arranged for cello from songs by Fauré and Tchernin and from a little piano work by Scriabin. These performances were shapely and touching.

But they lasted only a few minutes *in toto*. The greater part of Whittington's recital was devoted to music of a very different sort, and there her indisputable talent seemed to come up against insuperable barriers. The tone was set by the opening work, Elliott Carter's Sonata for Violoncello and Piano.

Carter is one of the major musical innovators of the 20th Century (and of the 21st: he is now 95 years old and still composing with authority). His distinctive style — developed after an initial period of pleasing, conservative, illustrative compositions (*Pocahontas*, *The Minotaur*) — represents a profound and decisive break with the traditions of Western music in the Classical and Romantic periods. Instead of developing melodic themes through a dramatic series of harmonic changes, Carter's music relies for its constitutive elements on gestures, textures, and tone colors. The participating instruments are given independent characters, which often makes them seem to be existing in private — and mutually hostile — worlds. A chief focus is on the energy of conflicting and seemingly uncoordi-

nated metrical patterns of bewildering complexity. Overall structure derives not from principles of musical logic but from the composer's boundlessly imaginative inventiveness. There is a sense — in such works as the breakthrough Double Concerto for Harpsichord & Piano with Two Chamber Orchestras (1961), the Piano Concerto (1965), the Concerto for Orchestra (1969), and the much later *Symphonia: Sum Fluxae Pretium Spei* (1996) — that total freedom reigns, a total freedom that would be total chaos except for the composer's magisterial instinct for creating excitement and beauty out of such unpromising material.

These characteristics are already present, although in a much less radical manner, in the Cello Sonata of 1948. There are distinct tunes, expressive qualities occasionally reminiscent of cello music by Kodály and even — *gasp!* — Rachmaninov, a pervasive neo-Baroque atmosphere (both in the rhythmic drive and in the vigorous counterpoint), and even a tribute to that arch-Romantic device, cyclical form (with the end of the final movement reflecting the beginning of the first). But underneath all this, we are perceptibly in the unique universe of Elliott Carter. Things do not hang together the way they used to. If you are listening for Bach or Bloch or César Franck, you will be titillated by all the retrograde hints, but ultimately you will be disappointed, because Carter is following his own muse, and in everything that counts she is leading him into outer space.

Because of his utterly idiosyncratic vision of what music can be, Carter is one of the hardest composers to perform, and this is almost as true of the early Cello Sonata as of a supremely mature work like the Clarinet Concerto (written in Carter's 88th year). An inept, amateur performance of a Haydn string quartet cannot injure the score's integrity; but with Carter, if you don't have the particular sort of musicianship his works call for, everything falls apart, and the listener cannot fathom why such a piece should exist at all.

Whittington's performance of the Cello Sonata, I'm sorry to say, was of that sort.

Every passage, every episode, was played with intelligence and assiduity; but the cellist somehow failed to connect the dots. The impression of an overriding consciousness and intention was missing. It was just one damn thing after another, without a sense of movement and structure building up in the listener's mind.

Carter himself, admittedly, makes it hard for his performers, here as everywhere in his *oeuvre*. But there is no point playing the Cello Sonata unless you can transcend its willful disappointment of conventional expectations. It can, indeed, be done, as Joel Krosnick and Paul Jacobs show in their recording of the work. Whittington, in contrast, was simply out of her league — and the result was that much of the Sherwood audience found this terrific sonata ugly and boring.

The big piece after the intermission, a sort of counterweight to the Carter Sonata, was Beethoven's final Cello Sonata, the Opus 102, No. 2. Here was a musical language that — on the surface — was less alien to the audience. But once



Tahirah Whittington, cello; Noreen Cassidy-Polera, piano
Sherwood Auditorium (La Jolla Music Society)

Carter, Sonata for Violoncello and Piano; Fauré, Après une rêve; Scriabin, Poème, Opus 32, No. 1; Tchernin, Georgian Song; Perkinson, Lamentations; Beethoven, Sonata for Piano and Cello in D, Opus 102, No. 2; Bartók, First Rhapsody

again Whittington had chosen a composition urgently demanding the long view, and it is in long views (and only there) that this young artist's playing is defective. The D major is the quirkiest of Beethoven's cello sonatas, belonging to that uncomfortable transitional period (it dates from 1815) when the composer had moved away from his "heroic" style and had not yet quite arrived at his amazing late style (which itself poses im-

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Calendar

CLASSICAL MUSIC

mense problems, for both performers and listeners). It is a great work, but it does not explain itself easily. Like the Carter Sonata, it tends to fall into episodes whose interconnections are murky; its swift emotional changes seem governed by whim, or by some secret scenario in the composer's soul (secret, perhaps, even from himself).

Whittington did better with the Beethoven than with the Carter. She was greatly helped by the strong performance by her pianist collaborator, the always-reliable Noreen Cassidy-Polera. But all their efforts were not enough to give the Beethoven score its full due — that is, to draw the listeners into its inner life and to make us feel (even if we could not explain it) the music's direction and coherence.

Another work on Whittington's program — *Lamentations: Black Folk Song Suite for Unaccompanied Cello* by the distinguished contemporary American composer, Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson (yes, proofreader, that's his name) — posed the same kind of problems. This sounded like an interesting, and often successful, attempt to fuse folksong materials with the technique and (partially) the structure of J.S. Bach's Cello Suites. But it is not easy music, and it would have required a far more eloquent advocate than Whittington to clarify its complex discourse and to provide a comprehensive view of its meaning. Once more, Whittington was brilliant over the short range yet indifferent to

the shape of the work as a whole.

The concert's final item brought out the cellist's abilities more gratifyingly. This was Bartók's First Rhapsody, a simple, colorful work (slow *lassú*, fast *friss*), which she played with considerable fire. The trouble is that the First Rhapsody is essentially a violin piece (it was originally composed for violin and piano, and is often heard in its later arrangement for violin and orchestra). Yes, Bartók himself was responsible for the cello-and-piano version; but the music is thoroughly violinistic, and many of its virtues are dulled when it is transferred to the less idiomatic voice of the cello, however vividly played (as it was here). Whittington at least was consistent: talented cellist, ill-chosen program, virtually from start to finish. ■

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after January 8.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number (including area code), and a phone number for public information to **READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.**

Vienna's Famed New Year's Concert is recreated in "Salute to Vienna," Thursday, January 1. Cast of over 75 professional musicians, singers, dancers. Performers include Austrian soprano Elisabeth

Lang, Viennese tenor Alois Haselbacher, members of Hungarian National Ballet, Strauss Symphony of America led by Gerhard Track.

Events begin at 2:30 p.m. in Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. Tickets range from \$35 to \$75, available by calling 619-235-0804 and through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

Showcase and Ovation Concerts presented by San Diego Youth Symphony on Sunday, January 4, at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). The concert beginning at 1 p.m. includes the organization's wind ensembles and concert string ensemble. Tickets: \$13-\$18.

The concert at 4 p.m. includes German's "Three Dances from Henry VIII," Tchaikovsky's "Cossack Dance from *Mazeppa*," the *Romeo and Juliet* overture, and "1812 Overture." Tickets: \$13-\$23. 619-233-3232. (DOWNTOWN)

Christmastide Concert, the Cathedral Choristers, St. Cecilia Choir, and Cathedral Choir present "festive celebration of the season," Sunday, January 4, 5 p.m., at Saint Paul's Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue, at Fifth and Nutmeg). 619-298-7261. Offering. (MIDTOWN)

Civic Organist Carol Williams presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, January 4, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Twelfth Night Light and Sound Variety Show, Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls' Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard, at Chatsworth). Main theme: "Let There Be Light." Expect costumes, light and sound effects, classical and popular music, audience participation. Performers include harpsichordist/organist Robert Thompson, Scott Paulson, tenor Patrick Biggs, soprano Cheryl Brown, pianist Ken Herman, and the band Brass, Key, and Wind. 619-223-6394. \$5 donation. (POINT LOMA)

First Wednesday, the Bra d'Or Brass Quintet performs for series, January 7, 4 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Admission is free, available on a

first-come, first-served basis. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Strings in the Galleries, Italian-born classical guitarist Aniello Desiderio performs on Thursday, January 8, 7 p.m., San Diego Museum of Art. The pianist has won 18 first-place international awards. 619-696-9169. \$20. (BALBOA PARK)

"Four Hands Fantastique," piano duetists Barbara and Gerhardt Suhrstedt perform music by composers Bizet, Debussy, Fauré, and Ravel along with slides of paintings by Degas, Gauguin, Monet, and Renoir in performances on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, at San Diego Museum of Art.

These "Meet the Masters" lecture/concerts begin at 11 a.m. (\$20 for nonmembers, or \$38 with lunch) and 6 p.m. (\$20 for nonmembers). Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Violin Virtuoso Itzhak Perlman in concert, Tuesday, January 13, 2004, at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Perlman's latest release is *Classic Perlman: Rhapsody*, with chamber and symphonic music, as well as film themes. Tickets: \$60 to \$75. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

ART LISTINGS

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GALLERIES

"Semblance of Memory," an exhibit of paintings by David Gordon and Teresa Moore, opens with reception on Friday, January 2, 7 p.m., at Gallery Saccade (1702 Kettner Boulevard). 619-546-9169. Through Saturday, February 14. (DOWNTOWN)

ART MUSEUMS

Mingei International Museum of Folk Art, useful and beautiful wooden objects — chairs, tables, benches, cabinets — are on view in "George Nakashima, Woodworker — A Retrospective." The objects are exhibited along with paintings and drawings by Nakashima's friend Ben Shahn. Closes Sunday, May 30.

"Origami Masterworks — Innovative Forms of the Art of Paper Folding," on view through Sunday, February 8, includes more than 150 pieces by 42 artists from across the globe. Most of the objects were created by folding single sheets of paper to make geometrical forms, flowers, trees, people, masks, and a menagerie of animals.

"Mingei of Japan — The Legacy of Its Founders — Soetsu Yanagi, Shoji Hamada, and Kanjiro Kawai," an exhibition of objects from the museum's collection by known and unknown craftsmen from throughout Japan continues until January 25. Included: *tansu* (Japanese chests), pottery, calligraphy, woodblock prints, stencil work, kimono and other textiles, baskets, toys.

The Mingei is located on the square with the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, Los Angeles artist Wendell Gladstone's "Cerca Series" exhibit — through Sunday, January 18 — explores the interaction between abstract sculpture and figurative painting. His canvases hang behind stark minimalist sculptures, bringing the narrative content of the paintings into three dimensions, with an intentionally humorous approach.

"Of the Moment: Recent Acquisitions for the Permanent Collection," on display through Sunday, January 25, showcases new additions to the museum's collection, acquired through "generosity and support of museum members during the last five years."

Find the museum at 1001 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot, adjacent to the America Plaza trolley transfer station. 619-234-1001. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, "Manny Farber: About Face" celebrates the life and work of one of San Diego's most important visual artists, with work from the early 1960s to present. Farber has contributed to American cultural discourse for more than 50 years as both film and art critic and painter. Closes Sunday, January 4.

"Self-Help Graphics and Art: Building Community Through Art," on display through Tuesday, January 6, includes a group of monoprints exploring a wide range of imagery. The works explore "the limitations of print media and techniques."

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, "The Discerning Eye: Southern California Collects" celebrates 20 photograph collectors to commemorate the museum's 20th anniversary; show closes Saturday, January 3. Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado; 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art, 33 original artworks by 20 artists in a variety of media are showcased in "OMA Regional 3," the third juried exhibition of regional artists hosted by the museum. Jury included Mark Quint, Reese Shaw, Tina Yapelli. Show closes Sunday, January 4. Find the museum at 704 Pier View Way; 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art, "Sculpture in Silk: Costumes from Japan's Noh Theater," offers opportunity to examine elegant designs and exquisite workmanship of layered costumes. Display includes more than 40 robes and accessories created during Edo period (1601-1868), as well as 100 modern examples of Noh costumes created using Edo-period designs and techniques. Continues through Sunday, January 25.

"Partners of the Soul: African Art of the Baule" includes 45 objects from the UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History and private collectors. Show explores complex ways in which art functioned in Baule culture and society (Ivory Coast of West Africa) through a display of spirit spouse figures, portrait masks, miniature amulet figures, mouse oracles, wooden strikers. Through Sunday, January 4.

"The Later Mughals: Theaters of Power" presents more than 20 seldom-seen images telling the story of the waning of India's greatest dynasty. Through Sunday, January 25.

For further information, call 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Timken Museum of Art, "Portraiture in Paris Around 1800: Cooper Penrose by Jacques-Louis David" explores "the profound influence" of the French painter (1748-1825). The exhibit features works on loan from L.A. and New York, along with paintings from Paris-based collections "that have never before been seen in the United States." Through Sunday, February 15.

For the 15th year, the 25-foot holiday tree is hung with thousands of ornaments hand-crafted by artist Elizabeth Schlappi and the late Florence Hord. View the adorned tree through Sunday, January 4.

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Calendar THEATER

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Beehive

Those tall cans of AquaNet spray are back in the spotlight. As are the gigantic domes of hair, worn by the “Hives,” in the Theatre in Old Town’s reprise of its 1992 hit show. *Beehive* celebrates the women singers and “girl groups” of the 1960s. But if you caught only the first half hour, you’d swear something’s amiss. The six talented performers parody every song and vocalist. As in melodrama they exaggerate gestures and tones, from Lesley Gore to the Supremes (who break up before our eyes) and Patti LaBelle (who, when she sold her heart to the “Junkman,” was far more serious than this!). Directed by Paula Kalustian, the production aban-

dons its aura of overkill-silly as the ’60s lose innocence. And the second half includes first-rate solos: especially Renae Mitchell as Aretha Franklin, Lisa Payton-Davis as Tina Turner, and Joy Yandell as Janis Joplin. The show captures some of the texture of the era. Jill K. Mesaros’s costumes are a history lesson (the times weren’t the only thing “a-changin’” back then; styles made 180-degree turns about every three years). Jasper Grant’s four-piece band keeps the evening cruising. To the young, however, Nick Reid’s set may require an explanation. Those big black round things all over the place? Phonograph records. The ones with big holes in the center were 45s. And for the generation of the ’60s, they were minted currency.

Worth a try.

THE THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 4; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 5:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

By The Sea, By The Sea, By The Beautiful Sea

Korbett Kompany Productions stages one-acts: Joe Pintauro’s “Dawn”; Lanford Wilson’s “Day”; and Terrance McNally’s “Dusk.” ADAMS AVENUE STUDIO OF THE ARTS, 2804 ADAMS AVENUE (AT IDAHO), NORMAL HEIGHTS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, THROUGH JANUARY 31;

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-584-3593.

Chalk It Up To Murder

In H.I.T. Productions’ dinner-theater mystery, a terrible fire scorched the Cactus Gulch schoolhouse eight years ago. The culprit just broke out of jail. FIRESIDE RESTAURANT, 439 WEST WASHINGTON, ESCONDIDO, OPEN-ENDED RUN; SATURDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-561-8673 OR 888-237-2751.

Chicago

Patrick Swayze heads a touring production of the popular Bob Fosse musical at the Civic. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 202 C STREET, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 4; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 1:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M. 619-231-8995.

Crime Pay\$!

Mystery Cafe’s newest interactive mystery comedy takes place at the Sahara Hotel in Vegas, where “the family” runs more than shows. “A real mob scene!”

IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, BANKER’S HILL, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1664.

Dysfunctional Family Theater

Misfit Productions “puts the fun back into dysfunction” with four one-acts, including *For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls*, Christopher Durang’s parody of *The Glass Menagerie*.



National Comedy Theater

ADAMS AVENUE STUDIO OF THE ARTS, 2804 ADAMS AVENUE (AT IDAHO), NORMAL HEIGHTS, THROUGH JANUARY 3; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-584-3593.

Irish Dance Cabaret

Dublin Square Irish Pub & Grille presents “San Diego’s answer to the Celtic wave,” an evening of contemporary and traditional Irish dancing, music, comedy, and song — and a three-course Irish dinner. DUBLIN SQUARE IRISH PUB & GRILLE, 554 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY, DINNER AT 6:00 P.M., CURTAIN AT 7:30 P.M. 619-239-5818.

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The Laguna Playhouse stages the California premiere of Jason Robert Brown’s “falling in and out of love” musical. Drew Scott Harris directed. LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE, 606 LAGUNA CANYON ROAD, LAGUNA BEACH, THROUGH FEBRUARY 1; TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 949-497-2787.

Late-Night Catechism

Every Monday night, during summer, the Laguna Playhouse stages the popular “interactive adult catechism class,” taught by a sister from the old spare-not-the-rod school. The concept doesn’t sound

like much. The sister is substituting for the regular teacher (it’s his poker night, don’t tell a soul). She used to have the job but was deemed too strict for contemporary students. And the class is just that, part of a course on Catholic doctrine. But the sister’s authoritarianism takes it to unforeseen places (you can hear cries of recognition from the audience, especially when sister brings out a hard ruler and taps her palm). The results, the two times I’ve seen the show: a. an almost nonstop evening of comedy; and b. a thought-provoking look at education, religion, and much more. The sister, it turns out, is not kidding. (Note: the Laguna Playhouse has extended the show’s run four times.)

Worth a try.

LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE, 606 LAGUNA CANYON ROAD, LAGUNA BEACH, THROUGH JANUARY 26; MONDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 949-497-2787.

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Lovers and Executioners
South Coast Repertory Theatre presents John Strand's adaptation of Montfleury's comedy *La Femme juge et partie*, in which Bernard suspects his wife, Julie, is unfaithful, so he sentences her to a remote island. Bill Rauch directed.
SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, THROUGH JANUARY 25; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 714-708-5555.

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National Comedy Theatre
ComedySportz changed its name, but its methods (and madness) remain the same. Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked Priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a "challenge match" against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy,"



Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

atre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a "challenge match" against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy,"

"Shakespeare," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit, rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledged failure, abundantly, then forgot it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.
MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

Nick and Zita's Funny Fat Greek Wedding
Dillstar Productions presents an interactive Greek wedding, à la the movie.
CLARION BAY VIEW HOTEL, 660 K STREET, DOWNTOWN; OPEN-ENDED RUN. 800-944-5939.

San Diego Theatresports
A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but San Diego Theatresports' "game show" is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had "Team Sports" — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and "Gorilla Theatre" — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a "forfeit" (other formats include "Micetro" and "Improv Survivors"). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, has written one of the few brilliant books (*Improv*) I've ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motto:

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SWEDENBORGHIAN THEATRE, 1531 TYLER AVENUE, HILLCREST, FRIDAYS AT 8:00 P.M. 619-465-7469.

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CLARION BAY VIEW HOTEL, 660 K STREET, DOWNTOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy
Hugh Butternutt’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffee-house 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — “Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays ’70s tunes on the pi-ano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh’s anniversary, got stuck in the ’70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They’re “losers,” they ad-



Triple Espresso

mit, but not “ordinary” ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from *Forever Plaid*. There’s also the *Forever Plaid* problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. Another’s a first-rate mime, and the third’s a crackerjack magi-cian. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of dif-ficulties to overcome, you wish

they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)
Worth a try.
HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

The Welk Musical Christmas
The Welk Resort Theatre presents Mary Lou Metzger and Cheryl Baxter’s “Thanks for the Memo-ries” show, celebrating the cen-tennial birthdays of Welk and Bob Hope.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH JANUARY 3; THURSDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATI-NEE THURSDAY AND SATURDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-8501.

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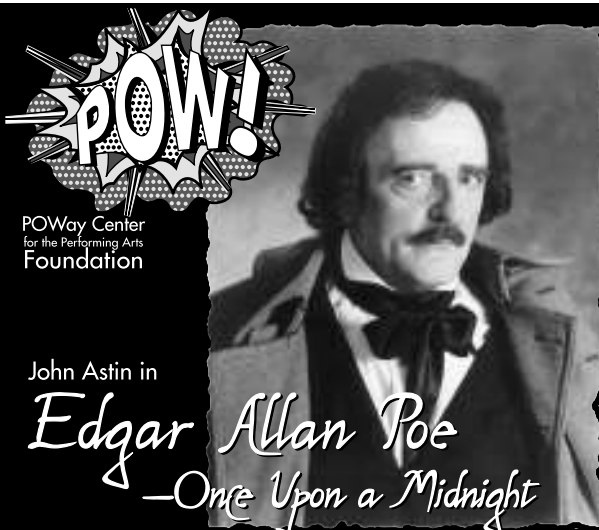
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MUSIC SCENE

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"He has something called DVT," which stands for deep vein thrombosis," said Aaron Kaswell, assistant to Toby Ludwig of New York's 21st Century Artists, about Maxi Priest, whom

who has been playing the Belly Up since 1997, was going to cancel the December 26 date.

Justin Daniels, assistant to Maxi Priest's L.A. agent Val Wolf, said the canceled dates were due to a "blood clot." Daniels said she did not know when the Southern California makeup dates would be rescheduled.

— Ken Leighton

the inside track

blurt

Ludwig manages. "He had flown over 50 hours in one week just prior to that. Flying aggravates DVT.... He is in London now, and he is doing fine."

Priest was to play the Belly Up Tavern last Friday. According to a Belly Up employee, "That show was definitely going to be a sellout."

About ten days before the show, the Belly Up learned that the British reggae star,

Ticketmaster charged two additional fees for fans who bought Maxi Priest tickets from them over the phone. Ticketmaster was refunding the cost of the tickets, but it was keeping its \$3.25 "order processing fee."

The Belly Up offers its own over-the-phone ticket reservation system allowing ticket buyers to use a credit card or bank ATM card. The Belly Up Tavern in Solana Beach charges a flat \$2-per-

ticket convenience fee. In the case of the Belly Up's canceled Maxi Priest show, the Belly Up refunded the \$22.50 cost of the ticket as well as its \$2 convenience fee.

To give you an idea of the difference in price between Ticketmaster and the Belly



POLTZ EXPLAINS THE HIGH PRICE OF TICKETMASTER

Up, a ticket for tonight's show with Steve Poltz and the Rugburns is \$37 if purchased over the phone through the Belly Up box office (\$35 for the ticket and \$2 service charge). The same ticket purchased through Ticketmaster is \$44 (\$35 per ticket, \$5.75 convenience

charge, and a \$3.25 order processing fee). Ticketmaster is charging over four times as much in extra fees. And those fees are not all refundable if the show is canceled.

"They have a lot of expenses," explained Poltz when queried about Ticketmaster charges. "The cost of the paper for a ticket is pretty expensive. Plus, they have a lot of lunches they have to go to."

— Ken Leighton

"We can't get him to practice," said Unwritten Law's Wade Yeoman about the band's lead singer, Scott Russo. "He thinks I'm trying to kick his ass."

The 12-year-old San Diego band's next release is supposed to be out in March on Lava/Atlantic. *Elva*, released in January 2002, spawned the radio and MTV hits "Seeing Red" and "Actress, Model, Dancer."

Yeoman says Unwritten Law can't even get together to record.

"I'm trying to keep the band together, but I can't get Scott to go to practice."

Yeoman said Russo is preoccupied with former Elektra artist Amy Allen, whom Russo has taken under

his wing. "He thinks Amy is the next Kurt Cobain. Amy thinks she's Sid Vicious reincarnated.... She broke Scott's gold record. She broke

in the world, all the equipment we need, we live in the raddest city you can be in; we have everything other bands would die for — I'm



UNWRITTEN LAW DISTRACTED BY MARRIAGE

it over her knee. There were also five finger paintings that we made that appeared on the *Elva* album. She sliced one of them with a knife."

Regarding the other three members of Unwritten Law, Yeomen said they too are distracted.

"They are into other things like getting married and stuff."

Yeomen says he's frustrated because though "we have a gnarly studio, we have the phattest record deal

at the point of imploding.... I need to have an album coming out, or I'm gonna blow up like an atom bomb."

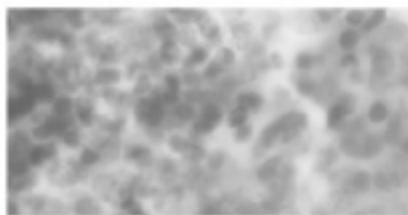
Although Yeoman and Russo are famous for their on- and offstage confrontations, Yeoman says of Russo, "I love the guy."

Yeoman admits, however, he is weighing options. "I am looking at side projects with members who have quit other bands."

— Ken Leighton

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

blurt

continued

"People want to have that small act that they saw at a small coffee shop for themselves, but they don't want anybody else to see him," says Pete Thurston, longtime friend and sound engineer for Jason Mraz. "In San Diego right now it's cool to not like his music."

Mraz, 26, was signed to Elektra Records immediately after leaving the local coffeehouse circuit and now tours the world in support of his first major-label album, *Waiting for My Rocket to Come*. Two months ago it went gold (certified sales of 500,000).

Thurston, 23, still plays in San Diego. The singer/songwriter/guitarist plays with the band She Blonde Swede. Thurston recalls one Texas gig in the summer of 2001 that never happened.

"Jason was doing a side-stage gig opening for James Taylor in San Antonio. On our drive out there, we got pulled over for speeding. They looked in the car and found a small amount of

grandma's glaucoma medicine."

In California, marijuana possession may get you a ticket. Not in Texas, Thurston learned.

"They don't even have to read you your rights in Texas. They had a blast with us: they caught two punk kids from California. They asked us what we were doing in Texas. We told them, but they completely didn't believe us. They called the venue we were playing. They said, 'Oh wow! We'll try to get you out in



91X'S SINGING MOVIE PREVIEWER PETE

PHOTOGRAPH BY RYAN LOVCO

time.' "

But they didn't.

"We missed the James Taylor gig. I'm sure he was not happy."

Last week Thurston

became the singing movie reviewer for the *Brand X* morning show on 91X.

"I see a sneak preview of the movie, and I have a week to write a song about it. I come on the show on the release date and review the movie and sing the song."

He is not paid for the weekly segment.

"I'm just doing it for fun."

Pete Thurston

(www.petethurston.com) appears with She Blonde Swede January 10 at Café 828 downtown and solo on January 15 at Twiggs in University Heights.

— Ken Leighton

"If this works right, we'll be doing it more often. If they screw it up, it's possible we won't do it anymore."

John Clingan, CEO of the Chula Vista Boys and Girls Club, understands the social and financial benefits of hosting live rock shows at his facilities. That's why he gave the green light to a skate-and-rock show February 20 at the Len Moore Boys and Girls Club Skatepark. The skate park on Oleander Avenue was opened in October.

"We have to play bingo and host golf tournaments to raise money," said Clingan. "Hopefully this will help us out."

The skate park would host its own "mini-Warped Tour," with kids paying \$10 to see live band and skaters in an

alcohol-free environment. Half the proceeds benefit the Boys and Girls Club. The park's 1100 capacity is double the capacity of the Epicentre on Mira Mesa Boulevard and eight times that of the all-age Ché Café at UCSD.

Clingan signed off on the



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK.COM

CHURDER WARPS CHULA VISTA

rock-and-skate plan, which was conceived by the skate park's director, Aaron Churder.

"I used to be on the Warped Tour," said Churder, 25, who said he was a featured rollerblader on the 1999, 2000, and 2001 Warped Tours. "[Warped Tour founder] Kevin Lyman is my old manager. He helps me out now with advice."

Churder said he helped the Len Moore skate park get built.

"This skate park is my dream."

Churder said for the first rock event, he hooked up with local promoters Todd

Egan of Oceanside and Willie Carter of Escondido. Carter prematurely sent out an e-mail announcing that Pepper would headline the February 20 show.

"They decided to do 'Canes instead," said Carter. Egan said he is now

scrambling to locate a different big-name headliner.

Churder said the deal he cut with the two promoters was that they would cover the expenses and that the proceeds would be split 50-50. "The money we make will go to pay for a new van and to pay the staff."

Churder said everyone agreed that the opening bands would be given seventy \$10 tickets for which they would pay \$500. Carter said those opening bands included his own band the Drapes, as well as Straitaway, the Epitome, and the Great Awakening.

But Egan said the unavailability of Pepper may

cause him to postpone the show until he gets another headliner.

Churder, on the other hand, said the series will roll on no matter what.

— Ken Leighton

"This is music?" asked my companion as strange electronic sounds rang out in the dark room while two fellows hunched over keyboards, drum machines, and other noise-making devices.

"Eye of the beholder," I reminded her.

Saturday, December 20, was a multimedia exhibit dubbed "Hotels/Motels" at the Travelodge, downtown on Tenth Avenue. For the second year, 30 rooms were being used as installations and "alternative performance spaces." There were supposed to be some bands here, but I was having a hard time finding them.

"I'm sending a message about communication," a woman told us in her room/exhibit space; the walls were lined with small paintings of telephones, each one alike but in different colors, Warhol-esque. "I want people to put my paintings next to their phone jacks."

I ran into a few people I knew — one told me he'd stopped writing poetry and was now dabbling in photography, but for 99 cents he'd still read a poem;

"...For myself, I can only say that I am astonished and somewhat terrified at the results of this evening's experiment — astonished at the wonderful power you have developed, and terrified at the thought that so much hideous and bad music may be put on record forever. But all the same, I think it is the most wonderful thing that I have ever experienced, and I congratulate you with all my heart on this wonderful discovery."

— Transcript of a message from Arthur Sullivan of the famous Gilbert & Sullivan writing duo to Thomas Edison upon introduction to the phonograph

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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

another said he'd come here and paid the \$5 admission because he'd read the event was going to be like Burning



PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

MOTEL MUSIC FOR THE GUY IN DIAPERS

Man; he also wanted to see the band Preteen Porn Star that was supposed to play here.

"Really," he went on, "the nerve, the gall, for a band to call itself that."

"When are they supposed to go on?" I asked.

"Got no idea. So what do you think? Doesn't seem very Burning Man-like at all, eh?"

"How about the room with the guy dressed in diapers and spanking himself?" I asked.

"Tame, too tame; been there, done that."

— Michael Hemmingson

One of the favorite hangouts of San Diego's teenage runaways these past few years is Horton Plaza, especially the east side on Fourth Avenue between Broadway and G Street. They kick back against the walls, solo or in groups, insulting or panhandling money from people who walk by. One of them, who calls herself Tessandra, 16 and five foot one, with baggy jeans, a white tank top, and tattoos on her skinny arms, spends several hours a day singing solitary with a loud, harrowing voice. She picks a spot along Fourth and begins with either well-known pop songs or lyrics of her own.

Small crowds stop and listen.

"Why do you do this?" someone from the crowd asks. "All that change can't amount to much for all that effort."

"At least I don't sell my body, like some do," Tessandra says with an attitude. There's a lot of angry energy about her, the way she stands there with hands on her hips. "And I don't just beg for money," she goes on, "I give something in return."

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: DOWNTOWN TJ

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



I ask her to sing a song. "What do you want to hear?"

"Something original," I say.

She smiles and looks away and, for a moment, appears bashful. She closes her eyes, chin up, and begins to sing in a deep tone about the necessity of slashing one's flesh with razor blades. People stop to listen. Fellow street kids cheer her on.

I give her a \$5 bill when she finishes.

"Thanks," she says, quickly pocketing the bill.

"Got any more cash to hand out?" one of the kids asks me.

I wave him away.

"I'll sell you my metabolism," the kid says, seriously.

"Leave him alone,"

Tessandra says, and when the kid saunters off with a scowl, she says to me, "Sorry."

I ask her what bands or singers she likes.

"I'm into PJ Harvey," she says, "Pink, Gwen Stefani, and Nancy Sinatra, of course."

She continues to sing. A guy in his 20s with bushy brown hair walks by and says, "Shut up already! You suck!"

Tessandra stops and glares at him. "What did you say!?"

"I said, 'You suck, bitch!'"

"Who you calling bitch?"

Who you says sucks?! You suck!! You're the bitch!!!"

She's screaming, following him, raising her fists, cursing him; he's walking away but she keeps after him, past the entrance of the Golden West Hotel. A patrol car stops and

two officers get out at the corner of G and Fourth. They want to know what the commotion is all about.

"He threatened me!" Tessandra says. "He tried to molest me!"

"She's lying," the guy with the bushy brown hair says. "I just told her she can't sing for crap is all."

The cops run the guy's ID through the system and find that he has a bench warrant for failing to appear for something. They handcuff him and lead him to the car.

Needless to say, the fellow is flabbergasted and keeps uttering, "This is bullshit; this is total bullshit."

Tessandra has a smirk on her face.

"You, missy," one cop says to her, "go on home."

Doesn't this cop know she has no home? That she's a runaway? That they're all runaways this side of Horton Plaza?

The police cruiser drives away and Tessandra jumps up and down and she says to her fellow street kids, "Did you see that? I got that asshole! That'll teach him for dissing me!"

They all laugh until someone behind me says, "Now that's just cold."

"Hey, you do what you gotta do," someone else says.

— Michael Hemmingson

CONTRIBUTORS

Jennifer Ball (editor), Josh Board, Edwin Decker, Dave Good, Randy Hoffman, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Mary Montgomery, Derek Plank, Jay Allen Sanford

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Band in a Box

"I was skiing when it crashed — maybe that had something to do with it."

Scott Williams recently left his job as an engineer to pursue a career in music. The 34-year-old Pacific Beach resident specializes in playing an ancient instrument known as the hammered dulcimer. Besides recording, Williams performs at North County malls, Seaport Village, and "any Renaissance fair within a 50-mile radius of here." He owns an Archos Jukebox.

DOWNLOADS DAVE GOOD

SPECIFICATIONS: 20-gigabyte hard drive
DOWNLOADS: "Not too much. I mostly burn my own CDs and transfer them onto the player."
MUSIC PREFERENCES: Reggae, down-tempo lounge, classical, medieval, Renaissance
PLAYLIST CHANGES: Williams has 400 songs loaded onto the player and rarely changes their order

"I've owned the Archos Jukebox for over a year," says Williams. "I bought it last year in preparation for a trip to France. I bought mine off the Internet. I used to download off the Internet when Napster was alive and well. [Williams says he hasn't yet checked out the new Napster.] MP3.com shut down [recently]. They're no longer, but they say they're going to have a new service up and running in January. Why? They

were bought out by another company called CNET Download.com. I'm glad in a way that MP3 shut down because it forces me to pull my own music back onto my own website." Williams had previously made his recorded work available via MP3.com.

"This is interesting — with the shutdown of MP3, I've been converting more of my own CDs onto Music Match, which is the software that converts songs into MP3 files. I've been transferring all of the music I use for background music during my performances onto this thing [the Archos]. Right now I'm using mini discs. If I want Christmas backgrounds, I have to put in the Christmas disc. If I want Celtic, I have to put in the Celtic disc. With the Archos, it's like putting my entire backing band on MP3. It's my band in a box. It's a lot easier, and I don't have to worry about losing mini discs, which I have done in the past. I'll plug the MP3 player into my mixing board and *bam!*

"I can make a playlist. I can arrange my background music into sets by creating file folders. For example, I can make an entire folder for Ren fairs, one for Christmas shows, and so on." Williams says he's considering getting another MP3 player. "I use it for both work and play. But



Scott Williams

I'm not real happy with some of the features. It takes a long time to boot up, and it crashes sometimes. But I was skiing when it crashed — maybe that had something to do with it."

Scott Williams's top-ten list:

1. Damian Marley — "More Justice"
2. Incubus — "11 a.m."

3. No Doubt — "Keep on Dancing"
4. Thievery Corporation — "Focus on Sight"
5. Thievery Corporation — "Lebanese Blonde"
6. Keller Williams — "Breathe"
7. Loreena McKennitt — "The Mummers' Dance"
8. Midnight Oil — "Redneck Wonderland"
9. Midnight Oil — "Luritja Way"
10. Coldplay — "Clocks" ■

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Press the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4000 for this week's concerts).

At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

EXTENSION 4000

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY

Steve Poltz [815] and the **Rugburns** [263]: Belly Up Tavern,

Wednesday, December 31, 9 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

"SOMA New Year's Eve" featuring **Taking Back Sunday**, **Me First & the Gimme Gimmes**, **Yellowcard**, **Sugarcult** [421], **Strung Out**, **Rufio** [411], **Rise Against**, **Avenged Sevenfold**, **Noise Ratchet** [241], **Early Times**, **Offset**, **Underminded** [272], **Buckfast Superbee** [119], and more: San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, December 31, 7 p.m., 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

"New Year's Hoot" with **Guided by Voices** [120] and **Year of the Rabbit**: 4th & B, Wednesday, December 31, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

The Dragons [115] and **Sin Sin 77**: The Casbah, Wednesday, December 31, 8:30 p.m., 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-220-8497 or 619-232-4355.

The B-Side Players [649]: Canes Bar and Grill, Wednesday, December 31, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

THURSDAY

Reverend Horton Heat [163] and **Split Lip Rayfield**: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, January 1, 8:30 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

FRIDAY

The Psychedelic Furs: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, January 2, 9:15 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

You really want to like **Jim Heath**, even if his head is planted in the '50s. As the **Reverend Horton Heat**, Heath's on- and off-stage alter ego, he is mouthy and braggadocio in the way of more than a few Texans. His ribald persona makes the hosts of *The Man Show* look like bed-wetters. But Heath doesn't just worship the '50s, he wears them and he drives them. He posted the following ad on his website last year: "I hate to do it, but I've got to sell my beautiful 1950 Ford" (featured in the video "One Time for Me" and also photographed for *Rolling Stone* magazine). "Friends, if there's one thing I've learned from this car thing is that what you own, actually owns you. I love being owned by this car. I've been owned by this car for ten years give or take. The reason for

selling? I've got another old car project that I now must see through."

Heat's gig is ancient, but there's a place for it. If pressed, his music could be called rockabilly, but it's really not. The components are there, but Heat has revved up the action in more or less the same way he customized his Ford: he dropped in a big-block Chevy and dumped jet fuel into its carburetors. Heat does pretty much the same thing to the polite rockabilly of old. He cranks the energy and tempo to meltdown levels, punks up the drums and bass, and does burnouts with each song for about three minutes or so. It's a great show, one that's full of acrobatics and sweat. "If you listen to the band's catalog," Heat once told an interviewer, "you might say there are a few recurring themes found in our songs: beer, gin and tonic, whiskey, cocaine, tequila, martinis, marijuana, cigarettes, cars, more beer, pretty women, sermons, cats and dogs, the devil,



REVEREND HORTON HEAT

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Split Lip Rayfield opens.

(To hear a sample of the **Reverend Horton Heat**, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4215.)

REVEREND HORTON HEAT, Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, January 1, 8:30 p.m. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140. \$20.

Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

SATURDAY

Macy Gray [911]: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Saturday, January 3, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

EXTENSION 4001

UPCOMING CONCERTS

JANUARY

"Dave Matthews & Friends" with **Trey Anastasio**, **Brady Blade**, **Tony Hall**, **Ray Paczkowski**, **Tim Reynolds**, **Emmylou Harris**, and **Spyboy**: Cox Arena, Wednesday, January 14, 7 p.m., SDSU campus,

College Area. 619-220-8497 or 619-594-0429.

The Temptations [937]: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Wednesday, January 14, 8 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-445-6002, x1139.

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Eric Johnson *[458]* and **Tony Furtado**: 4th & B, Wednesday, January 14, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Rascal Flatts: Pechanga Theater, Thursday, January 15, Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula. 888-732-4264.

Gaelic Storm: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, January 17, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Peter Case *[613]*: Normal Heights United Methodist Church, Saturday, January 17, 7:30 p.m., 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

“Fiftieth Anniversary: Rock Around the Clock” with **Bill Haley’s Original Comets** and **Wanda Jackson** *[773]*: East County Performing Arts Center, Sunday, January 18, 210 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2277.

Jordan Knight and **Jai-Da**: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, January 21, 8 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Jay Farrar and **Canyon** *[145]*: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, January 21, 8 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Maceo Parker *[673]*: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, January 22, 8 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Lizz Wright: Mandeville Auditorium, Thursday, January 22, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497 or 619-220-8497.

Hank Williams III *[775]*: The Casbah, Friday, January 23, 8:30 p.m., 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-220-8497 or 619-232-4355.

Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen: Normal Heights United Methodist Church, Saturday, January 24, 7:30 p.m., 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Hilary Duff: Cox Arena, Sunday, January 25, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-220-8497 or 619-594-0429.

“Big Night San Diego” with **Cracker** *[466]*, the **Gin Blossoms** *[604]*, **Agent 51**, **Wonka Bar**, and **Adam Webb**: Qualcomm Stadium, Saturday, January 31, 9449 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 800-457-4463.

Paco de Lucía: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, January 31, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Travis: Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, January 31, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500 or 619-220-8497.

FEBRUARY

Josh Groban: Copley Symphony Hall, Monday, February 2, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804 or 619-220-8497.

B.B. King *[927]*: 4th & B, Tuesday, February 3, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band *[707]*: East County Performing Arts Center, Tuesday, February 3, 7:30 p.m., 210 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2277.

Leahy: Mandeville Auditorium, Wednesday, February 4, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497 or 619-220-8497.

Lee Ritenour *[674]*: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, February 5, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-445-6002, x1139.

Olivia Newton-John: Pechanga Theater, Sunday, February 8, Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula. 888-732-4264.

Lisle Ellis *[525]* and **Mike Wofford**: San Diego Museum of Art, Wednesday, February 11, 7 p.m., 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park. Tickets, 619-220-8497; information, 619-298-5255.

Erykah Badu *[931]* and **Floetry**: 4th & B, Thursday, February 12, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Sting *[431]*: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, February 13, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804 or 619-220-8497.

Ralph Stanley & the Lonesome River Band *[784]*: East County Performing Arts Center, Friday, February 13, 210 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2277.

Sara Evans: California Center for the Arts, Friday, February 13, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

“San Diego Brazil Carnaval 2004”: 4th & B, Saturday, February 14, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

The Temptations *[937]*: Pechanga Theater, Sunday, February 15, Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula. 888-732-4264.

Olivia Newton-John: East County Performing Arts Center, Monday, February 16, 210 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2277.

“Bob Marley Day Festival”: San Diego Sports Arena, Monday, February 16, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

Linkin Park, **P.O.D.**, **Hoobastank** *[440]*, and **Story of the Year**: Cox Arena, Tuesday, February 17, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-220-8497 or 619-594-0429.

Bette Midler: San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, February 18, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

George Jones: East County Performing Arts Center, Wednesday, February 18, 210 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2277.

Micky Finn: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, February 19, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-445-6002, x1139.

The Kennedys: Normal Heights United Methodist Church, Friday, February 20, 7:30 p.m., 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Daryl Hall & John Oates *[483]*: Pechanga Theater, Sunday, February 22, Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula. 888-732-4264.

Fais Do Do: Mandeville Auditorium, Sunday, February 22, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497 or 619-220-8497.

Jack Williams: Normal Heights United Methodist Church, Sunday, February 22, 7:30 p.m., 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Rufus Wainwright *[811]*: 4th & B, Sunday, February 29, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Ellis Paul *[819]* and **Vance Gilbert**: Normal Heights United Methodist Church, Sunday, February 29, 7:30 p.m., 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

MARCH

Britney Spears *[603]*: San Diego Sports Arena, Tuesday, March 2, 7:30 p.m., 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

Big Head Todd & the Monsters *[417]*: 4th & B, Wednesday, March 17, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

APRIL

Boney James: Pechanga Theater, Sunday, April 11, Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula. 888-732-4264.

Cheap Trick: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, April 22, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-445-6002, x1139.

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Press the the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4002 for alternative rock). At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

EXTENSION 4002

ALTERNATIVE

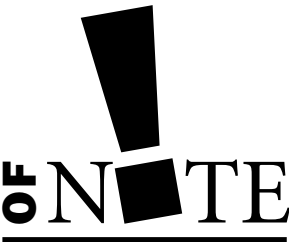
- Avenged Sevenfold:** Soma
Avocado Moon: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Bad Credit: Soma
Buckfast Superbee [119]: Soma
Chapter 13: Bub's Whiskey Dive
Cheap Sex: Soma
Concord: 'Canes
Deadbolt [114]: The Kensington Club
Decompression: 'Canes
Defiance: Soma
Divided by Zero: 'Canes
Downspell: Dream Street
Dr. Chunk: Dream Street
The Dragons [115]: The Casbah
Early Times: Soma
Earthless: The Casbah
Electrocrypt: Scolari's Office
The Enchanted [220]: Lestat's Coffeehouse
The Furious IV [107]: The Casbah
Gish: 'Canes

- Guided by Voices [120]:** 4th & B
Hair of the Dog: Dream Street
Heinous: Dream Street
His Irate Life: Dream Street
Invidia: Dream Street
Jett: Soma
Larger Than Leon: Blarney Stone Pub
The Lower-Class Brats: Soma
Me First & the Gimme Gimmes: Soma
Missouri Loves Company: The Kensington Club
Mower [239]: Blind Melons
Offset: Soma
Reeve Oliver: Soma
Phantom Planet: 4th & B
Plural: Java Joe's
Pocket: Humphrey's
The Psychedelic Furs: Belly Up Tavern
Red Llama Dog: Winstons
Red with Envy: Dream Street
Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine: 'Canes
Rise Against: Soma
Roosevelt: 'Canes
The Rugburns [263]: Belly Up Tavern
Sin Sin 77: The Casbah
6 Ft. Death Trap: Dream Street
Slewfoot: Sham Rocks Shack, Dream Street
Spell Toronto: Soma
Split Lip Rayfield: Belly Up Tavern
Strung Out: Soma
Surf Report [319]: Tiki House
Taking Back Sunday: Soma
Ten Twenty Kill: 'Canes
Torpedo Betty: Blind Melons
The Transit War: Soma
The Ultra Prix: Scolari's Office
Underminded [272]: Soma
Verb: Blind Melons
Vertibird [169]: Java Joe's
Year of the Rabbit: 4th & B
Yellowcard: Soma

EXTENSION 4003

ROCK

- The Abuse [441]:** Dream Street
Alice Unchained: 'Canes
Black Berry Smoke: Winstons



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

On the cover of her most recent album there's a photo of **Macy Gray** crouching in an alley somewhere, her wild hair standing in for her wild-woman reputation, her eyes a little downcast in melancholy self-reflection. She looks like a cross between Whitney Houston and Courtney Love. The problem is that Whitney Houston and Courtney Love have done a good job of resembling each other in recent years. Take a look around: We probably don't need another dangerously unhinged woman in rock or R&B right now. When her debut album *On How Life Is* came along in 1999, Gray was a breath of fresh air precisely because she wasn't one of

the so-called divas who dominate the R&B charts. She didn't have the range to pull off Mariah Carey-like vocal acrobatics so instead she used her unique raspy voice to inhabit her songs. Those songs, performed by a real band, not a bunch of samples, sounded like classics, not disposable star vehicles. In further contrast to the hard-working queens of pop, it was said that Gray (born Natalie McIntyre of Canton, Ohio) fell into music almost by accident. Somewhere along the way, she became more famous for blowing the words to the national anthem than for "I Try." Since then, she's played up her public persona by writing songs about herself and how crazy she is. Her latest album is called *The Trouble with Being Myself*. It's unclear if the madwoman image is really herself, but there is trouble in the air. Still, when she holds back and lets the music do the talk-



MACY GRAY

ing, she can do great things. (To hear a sample of **Macy Gray**, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4911.)

MACY GRAY, Viejas Casino Dream-Catcher Show Room, Saturday, January 3, 8 p.m. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

- Blind Date:** The Manhattan Lounge
Blind Luck: Second Wind (San Carlos)
Bordertown: Coyote Bar and Grill
Brain Bucket: Tiki House, Winstons
The Bullet Train to Vegas: The Kensington Club
Tommy Castro: Belly Up Tavern
Creeping Death: 'Canes
The Detroit Underground: Humphrey's
DJ Beer: Di-mond Jim's Nightclub
DJ Frances: Martini Ranch (Encinitas)
DJ Jalil: Martini Ranch (Encinitas)
DJ T: Di-mond Jim's Nightclub
DJ Tone Capone: Martini Ranch (Encinitas)
DJ Tony A: Martini Ranch (Encinitas)
The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
The Evil Twins: Di-mond Jim's Nightclub
427: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)
Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub
Hera's Olive [461]: Dick's Last Resort
Jiggawatt: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)
Jivewire: The Casbah
Jumpstart: Island Sports & Spirits

- King Dub:** On The Rocks
The Late Late Show: Coyote Bar and Grill
Loss of Control: On The Rocks
Billy Midnight [414]: The Ould Sod
The Millionaires [416]: The Kensington Club
Mystery Train: Tio Leo's Lounge
Nadro John: Dick's Last Resort
Nectarine [457]: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
The Offbeats: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Plato Soul: The Kraken
The Pop Rocks: Tio Leo's Lounge
Private Domain [489]: Dick's Last Resort
The Purple Haze Experience: Bub's Whiskey Dive
The Restless Natives: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Reventlos: Tiki House
The Rock Trio: Java Joe's
Rufio [411]: Soma
Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee)
6 One 9: Second Wind (San Carlos)
Smooth Unit: On The Rocks
Streethart: Di-mond Jim's Nightclub
Sugarcult [421]: Soma

- Tapwater:** Blind Melons
3 Against 1 [456]: 'Canes
34 Below [437]: Java Joe's
Tubby: Blind Melons
20 Miles South: Winstons
Ungoverned State: Dream Street
Wag the Dog: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Y3K: Cannibal Bar
Zone 4 [499]: Fannie's, El Cajon Grand Cocktail Lounge

EXTENSION 4004

POP / TOP 40

- B Natural:** Bahia Belle Cruise
The 80z Allstars: Rock Bottom (Gaslamp)
Leviticus: La Valencia Hotel
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Makai: Humphrey's
The New Breed Band: The Alley, Dick's Last Resort
Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel
Jack Pollack: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge
Rising Star: Humphrey's
Peter Robberecht/Pianoman [622]: Dakota Grill and Spirits

- The Superfreaks:** Jimmy Love's
X-Cel: Viejas Casino

EXTENSION 4005

JAZZ / BIG BAND

- Joseph Angelastro:** The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe
The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar
The B-Side Players [649]: 'Canes
The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies
Beat.itude: Dizzy's
Blue Largo [636]: Patrick's II
Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
John Cain [703]: Hotel del Coronado
The Jorge Camberos Quintet: Croce's Jazz Bar
Carribean Breeze: Sevilla
A.J. Croce: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille
Jo Dark: The German-American Societies
The David Patrone Quartet [647]: Croce's Jazz Bar, Martini Ranch (Gaslamp)
The Aubrey Fay Band: Redfields Lounge & Bistro

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FRIDAY • JANUARY 9 THE HEARTACHES THE GLOSSINES THE RED ONIONS THE WEEKEND BLACKS THE VEXORS	WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 14 THE WEARY BOYS DUSTY 45'S 7TH DAY BUSKERS	THURSDAY • JANUARY 22 HANDSOME FAMILY RICHARD BUCKNER
	THURSDAY • JANUARY 15 URGE OVERKILL	FRIDAY • JANUARY 23 HANK WILLIAMS III
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Macy Gray January 3 Jonny Lang January 15 Jimmy Buffett January 24 Hilary Duff January 25 Travis January 31 Josh Groban February 2 B.B. King February 3 Erykah Badu February 12 Sting February 13 Bob Marley Day Festival February 16	BRITNEY SPEARS March 2
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**TOMMY
CASTRO**



KID RAMOS
SAT 01/03 9:15PM \$15

**COMMON
SENSE**



STRANGER
FRI 01/09 9:15PM \$12

**B-SIDE
PLAYERS**



**THE GROOVE
ENSEMBLE**
SAT 01/10 9:15PM \$10

**JORDAN
KNIGHT**



JAI-DA
WED 01/14 8:00PM \$15

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THE PEAK SHOW
FRI 01/16 9:15PM \$10

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**ROBBEN
FORD**



SAT 01/17 7:00PM \$17

AN EVENING WITH
WILLIE K



SAT 01/17 10:00PM \$13

**JAY
FARRAR**



CANYON
OPENING & BACKING JAY
WED 01/21 8:00PM \$17

**MACEO
PARKER**



RICKY FANTE
THU 01/22 8:00PM \$21

**ROGER CLYNE
& THE PEACEMAKERS**



KEVIN MAX
SAT 01/24 9:15PM \$13

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1/3



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(Metallica tribute)



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(Alice in Chains tribute)

GISH

(Smashing Pumpkins tribute)

Fri.
1/9

M.C. FUNK

(Funk tribute)

ALFRED HOWARD & K23 ORCHESTRA

Sat.
1/10

WHICH ONE'S PINK

(Pink Floyd tribute)

LED-ZEPAGAIN

(Led Zeppelin tribute)

Sat.
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Mon.
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Calendar BANDS

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Press the the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4002 for alternative rock).

At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

EXTENSION 4005

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Larry Fogel: Moray's Lounge

Forward Funk: Galoka

Ingratatz: Over the Border

Daniel Jackson: Hotel del Coronado

Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado

La Vagancia: Moondoggies

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

The Ira Liss Big Band Jazz Machine: Dizzy's

Joe Marillo [645]: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge

Sean McVicker: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge

Jerry Melnick: Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet [660]: Hotel del Coronado, Croce's Jazz Bar

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Nostalgia: Kalahari Cafe

The Orbitz: Carvers

Sue Palmer [641]: Caffè Calabria

Primo: Croce's Jazz Bar

Quiet Storm [682]: Humphrey's

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel, Moray's Lounge, Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge

The San Diego Concert Jazz Band: The Inn Suites

Dave Scott: Croce's Jazz Bar

Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time: Jimmy Love's, Coyote Bar and Grill

Stellita: The Wyndham Emerald Plaza

The Swingin' EZ Big Band: Viejas Casino

Joe Tarrantino: The Wyndham Emerald Plaza

The Barry Allen Trio: Pasquale on Prospect

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Marriott Hotel

Walter II y Rumbaney: Sevilla

Jason Weber: Humphrey's

Yavaz: Croce's Jazz Bar

EXTENSION 4006

REGGAE / SKA

NZ Rough: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

Psydecar [740]: Winstons

Semisi & Fulabula [747]: Surf N'Saddle

The Toasters: Winstons

The Tribe of Kings: Galoka, Martini Ranch (Gaslamp)

Vegetation: Winstons

Warsaw: Winstons

EXTENSION 4007

COUNTRY

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Chess Set: Don's Cocktail Lounge

Coyote Moon: Renegade Inn

Emerald River: Mulvaney's

George James: Don's Cocktail Lounge

Nitro Express: Island Sports & Spirits

EXTENSION 4008

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Sara Bancroft: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub

The Celtic Ensemble: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Tony Cummins: Blarney Stone Pub

Dehra Dun: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Elijah Jack: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

John Foltz: Miracles Cafe

Jenn Grinels: Blarney Stone Pub

The Hatchet Brothers: The Ould Sod

Josiah: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Brian Karscig: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Kovo: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Marlow & Stratton: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Mundaka: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Steve Poltz [815]: Belly Up Tavern

Tristan Prettyman: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Tommy Price: Java Joe's

Ron's Garage: Dick's Last Resort

Jose Sinatra & the Troy Dante Inferno [861]: Java Joe's

Snow on Roses: Lestat's Coffeehouse

3 Simple Words: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

Anna Troy: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Renata Youngblood: Lestat's Coffeehouse

EXTENSION 4009

BLUES / SOUL

Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz: Patrick's II

The Bayou Brothers [948]: Patrick's II

Blue Four [943]: Patrick's II

Blue Rockit [955]: Tio Leo's Lounge

The Blues Brokers: The Kraken, Patrick's II

The Blues Pharaohs: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Boogiemen: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

Tommy Budd & Windy City [957]: Island Sports & Spirits

Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters [932]: Shooters Bar and Grill, Chateau Orleans

The Dailey Blues: Tio Leo's Lounge

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen [912]: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Macy Gray [911]: Viejas Casino

Gumboyaya: Coyote Bar and Grill

Johnny "B" Blues: Coyote Bar and Grill

Michele Lundeen [952]: Tio Leo's Lounge

The Bill Magee Blues Band [947]: Patrick's II, The Kraken

Kymberlee Maxine: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge

Nite Life [934]: Pal Joey's

The Nude Blues: Bahia Belle Cruise

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

Stevi Lynn & Deja Voodoo: Patrick's II

EXTENSION 4010

EVERYTHING ELSE

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

Sammy Dale Canonidado: Cafe LaMaze

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel

Vicki Eriqat: Edelweiss Restaurant

Kjell Holmes [994]: Edelweiss Restaurant

Gordon Kohl [983]: Edelweiss Restaurant

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

Kippy Lee Scott: Hotel del Coronado



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and
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tues
2/3

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B.B. KING



thurs
2/12

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sat
2/14

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sun
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Saturday, January 3

**CHRIS JAMES
& BLUE FOUR**

"Back from Chicago"

Sunday, January 4 • No Cover

BLUE LARGO

"Large Blues"

Monday, January 5 • No Cover

**STEVY LYNN &
DEJA VOODOO**

"Who Do Blues"

Tuesday, January 6 • No Cover



BAYOU BROS.

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Calendar CLUBS

DJ EVENTS

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or fax information to 619-881-2401 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Bottoms Up: Fridays, good vibes, house, breaks, drum 'n' bass, hip-hop. 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tivolis, corner of Sixth Avenue and Island Street, Gaslamp. 619-232-6754.

Brown Sugar: Fridays, black, white, Latino, and Asian get down to the urban sounds of DJ Myxzlplix; 21 and up. The Brass Rail, 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

Cask 'N' Cleaver: Sundays, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., DJ Doctor Swing spins the best dance music from the '40s, '50s, and '60s. 3757 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. 760-451-8805.

Club '80s: Thursdays, DJs Bryan P, Muckley, and Adam Z spin '80s, new wave, synthpop, and new romantic. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, San Diego. 619-574-0744. Information, 619-465-5827.

Club 911: Fridays and Saturdays, Top 40, hip-hop, house, and trance featuring "Goliath," a monster sound system. 18 and up. Red Mill Entertainment Complex, 1340 Broadway, El Cajon. Information, 619-441-1800.

Darkwave Garden: Wednesdays, the best of ethereal-electro-gothic-darkwave. Free entry. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500. Information, 619-465-5827.

Dub Dynamite: Mondays, reggae in a dub style — roots, stepper, and UK with Kid Natty and Lionel Judah. No cover. Bar Dynamite, 1808 Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

Fusion Young Adult Laser Dance Club: Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Eve jam 2004. Thursday, New Year's Day all-night party. Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Dizzy D spins hip-hop and R&B; DJ Battles features underground hip-hop and B-boy showdown on the patio. High school and college students admitted. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-9393.

Galileo 101: Fridays, DJ ALA spins soulful funky house, hip-hop, and R&B with weekly guests. Saturdays, *Xposed Saturdays* featuring DJs from around the globe. 100 Harbor Drive, Suite 101, downtown. 619-702-7101.

Heaven: Sundays, DJs Infinity, Golden Boy Mike, Garrett S., and more spin house, progressive, and trance. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, midtown. 619-294-9590.

Hi-Fi: Every third Saturday of the month, the best in imports, '80s, and indie with DJs BCZAR!, Richard D, and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Roseary Room, corner of Tenth and E Street (next to Pokez), downtown. 619-296-6789.

Locals Only: Tuesdays, '70s, '80s, and dance music, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The



Album Name: *Across the Room (self-titled)* (2003)

Artist: Across the Room

Label: Convertible Fly Records

Songs: 1) Enough 2) Take That Road 3) Shades of Gray 4) Down 5) Walls 6) Seven Wishes 7) She Makes My Day 8) Rain 9) Numb 10) Stay

Price/Where Available: *amazon.com* for \$10.99

Band Members: Steven Cox (vocals, guitars, keyboards), Scotty B (bass guitar), Enrique Platas (drums, percussion)

Extra Info: Across the Room plays their first show of 2004 on Friday, January 16, at the Hot Monkey Love Café (5960 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area) at 9:00 p.m. No cover. Across the Room also showcases other acts at Café Crema in Pacific Beach every Saturday night.

Website: *www.AcrossTheRoom.com*

The band's job, says front-man Steve Cox, is "to make people feel," and the ten tracks of distinctive alternative/emo sound that

>hometown CDs

BY MARY MONTGOMERY

mark the band's self-titled debut album do that. It's impressive for a debut album. This is because it's moody but melodic. The feeling is

mellow despondence and very real.

A number of the tracks, including "Enough," "Shades of Gray," and "Seven Wishes," were recorded live at Brick By Brick. These songs are among the grittier, emphasized by rougher production quality and less-than-hopeful lyricism.

In "Shades of Gray," Cox sings, "I'm guessing someone else holds you tonight / I'm confessing, I need the truth in black and white / Don't make me wade, through shades of gray." As Cox affirms, "The songs aren't always upbeat, nor are they dark. They are truth."

The pairing of weeping guitars and enduring percussion produce a driving, textured sound, though the vocals are not as striking as the instrumentals. His voice crackles with earnest emotion, but Cox is just an aver-



Across the Room

age singer. The overall product is unique, though not as polished as it could be, but the band's sound can only get better with time and experience.

(To hear a sample of Across the Room, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4122.)

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:

Jennifer Ball, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

with DJs D-Skwiz and Enigma. Saturdays, *Saturday Night Mix*, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Enigma, Nick, and Big Dude. No cover. 909 Prospect

Local, 1065 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-4447.

MixLab: Sundays, DJ Dex's eclectic "listening session": jazz 'n' abstract, alt

hip-hop, downtempo sonics, future soul, and ultraglobal vibes. Starts at 8 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover.

Candelas, 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-702-4455.

Moondoggies: Fridays, *The Red Room*, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40

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QUEEN OF ROCKABILLY WANDA
JACKSON & THE CADILLAC ANGELS**

**SUNDAY, JAN. 18, 2004
7:30PM**



In celebration of the 50th anniversary of their first record hit, "Rock Around the Clock," Bill Haley's original Comets are touring, performing their 50's rock and roll hits. At age 65, queen of rockabilly Wanda Jackson is releasing her first studio album in nearly two decades, *Heart Trouble*. "Heart Trouble is a fabulously classy effort by one of the great, grande dames of pop."

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New Year's Eve: Therapy, Underworld, Darkwave Garden, Club '80s and Fashion. Wednesday, December 31. Free entry. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500. Information, 619-465-5827.

Plush Fridays: Room 1: Top 40, hip-hop, and R&B. Room 2: dancehall. Room 3: house, hard house, and progressive. Fridays, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Aubergine, 500 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-232-8100.

The Pompeii Room: Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Eve jam 2004. Thursdays, DJ Stiffy spins dirty South, hip-hop, and reggae. Fridays, hip-hop, reggae, and alternative rock with guest DJs. Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins hip-hop, R&B, reggae, and hot Latin jams. 740 Nordahl Road, San Marcos. 760-737-5040.

Remix: Sundays, real hip-hop with DJs Mike Czech and Myx2plix. No cover; 21 and up. Bar Dynamite, 1808 Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

Sabbat: Saturdays, DJs Adam Atom, DeKay, Lance Boling, and weekly guest DJs. Dark electro, gothic, darkwave, industrial, and fetish. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, San Diego. 619-574-0744. Information, 619-743-1623.

Therapy: Industrial, EBM, electro, ethereal, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard, DeKay, Creep, and guests. First Friday of every month at the Hollywood Star, 1320 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-2102. Remaining Fridays at the Flame, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., 3780 Park Boulevard, San Diego. 619-295-4163; 21 and up. Information, 619-465-5827.

Thrust: First Friday of the month. Two rooms, Club '80s upstairs, Club Therapy downstairs; 21 and up. Hollywood Star, 1320 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-2102. Information, 619-465-5827.

Transport: First and third Saturdays of the month, the best in Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), Golden Hill. 619-284-6784.

Underworld: Sundays, pre-'99 gothic and industrial. 21 and up. Free entry. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500. Information, 619-465-5827.

Unleashed/Unlabeled: Every second Saturday of the month. DJ Joy spins alternative '80s inside; DJ Josh spins trance, lounge, and electronic outside. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Six Degrees, 3175 India Street, uptown. 619-296-6789.

Verb: Sundays, house, breaks, and hip-hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844.

CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Upcoming concerts, DJ events, or performances that are not at a club should be directed to 619-235-3000, ext. 261; e-mailed to sellis@nethere.com; or faxed to 619-881-2401.

NORTH COUNTY

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Friday and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, Top 40/pop. Wednesday, *the New Breed Band*, pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Bóeach. 858-481-9022. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 9 p.m., *Steve Poltz and The Rugburns and Mariachi Aventureros*. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., *Reverend Horton Heat and Split Lip Rayfield*, country rock. Friday, 9:15 p.m., *Psychedelic Furs*, rock. Saturday, 9:15 p.m., *Tommy Castro*, rock.

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Calendar CLUBS

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Uptown Groove*, jazz/pop. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., *Joseph Angelastro*, jazz.

Bub's Whiskey Dive, 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-BUBS. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *the Purple Haze Experience*, rock. Saturday, *Chapter 13*, alternative.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *the Orbitz*, jazz.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Blues Pharaohs*, blues, 9 p.m., *the Restless Natives*, rock/reggae. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Late Late Show*, classic rock. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Bordertown*, rock/blues/folk. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Gumboyaya*, New Orleans funk and blues. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Saturday, 427, rock.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Wednesday, *Blues Brokers*, blues. Friday, *Bill Magee Blues Band*, blues. Saturday, *Plato Soul*, soul/rock.

Martini Ranch, 485 South Coast Highway (at "D" Street), Encinitas. 760-943-9101. Saturday, *DJ Tony A*. Monday, *DJ Jalil* and *DJ Tone Capone*, rock.

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, *the California Rangers*, country.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Thursday and Monday, Dixieland jazz. Saturday, *Avocado Moon*, rock/blues. Wednesday, open mike.

Miracles Cafe, 1953 San Elijo Avenue, Cardiff. 760-943-7924. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *John Foltz*, acoustic folk/rock.

Neimans Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, call club for information. Friday, 9:30 p.m., hip-hop. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., rock, hip-hop. Sunday, 9:30 p.m., rock en Espanol. Monday, 8:30 p.m., swing.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant: Friday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., and Monday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

Squid Joe's, 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-4996. Call club for information.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, *Semisi & Fulabula*, reggae.

BEACHES

Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844.

Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Mower*, alternative rock. Thursday, hip-hop/house/break beats. Friday, *Tubby* and *Tapwater*, rock. Saturday, call club for information. Sunday, *Verb*, hip-hop. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, *Torpedo Betty*, alternative.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine* and *B-Side Players*. Friday, *Ten Twenty Kill*, *Divided by Zero*, *3 Against 1*, and *Decompression*. Saturday, *Creeping Death*, *Alice Unchained*, and *Gish*. Wednesday, *Concord* and *Roosevelt*.

SEVILLA NEW YEAR'S EVE 2004

RESTAURANT & TAPAS BAR

Live Entertainment in the Tapas Bar starting at 7 PM

PICASSO SEATING before 6 PM

4-course Dinner
\$49 per guest

MIRÓ SEATING at 7 PM

5-course Dinner
\$89 per guest

DALI SEATING at 9 PM

5-course dinner, midnight celebration with party favors, champagne toast, and access to Club Sevilla after midnight for guests 21 and older.

\$129 per guest

FLAMENCO DINNER SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA

6 PM Seating ▶ 4-course Dinner & Flamenco Show
\$69 per guest

8 PM Seating ▶ 5-course Dinner, Flamenco Show, dance party with DJ Joe Guerrero & midnight celebration with champagne toast and party favors.
\$149 per guest

Call for reservations and information.
Tax & gratuity not included.

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Friday & Saturday, January 2 & 3 **Avalanche**

Sundays **Sunday Night Blues**
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Tuesdays **Open Jam**
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Thursday, January 8 **Misty & The Mobys**

Friday & Saturday, January 9 & 10 **Point Blank**

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DECEMBER 31, 2003



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Doors Open 6 pm with \$1.75 drinks 6-9 pm.

\$15 cover charge/
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Wednesday, December 31	NEW YEAR'S EVIL • Metal HEINOUS THE ABUSE DOWNSPELL INVIDIA "His Irate Life"	Wednesday, January 7	Emerging Artists Showcase BEDLAM ON CRELA
Thursday, January 1	HAIR OF THE DOG Early Metal Show Doors open at 7 pm SLEWFOOT 6 FT. DEATH TRAP DR. CHUNK RED WITH ENVY	Friday, January 9	Rock DEFURIA THE HESH FLOOD THE SKY STELLAR
Friday, January 2	Rock STATIC HALO COLPORTER UNGOVERNED STATE	Saturday, January 10	THE WASTRELS AND GUESTS TBA
Saturday, January 3	Alternative Rock JAKE GLU PIECE OF MIND JOHN MARTIN	Upcoming	January 16: BATTLE OF THE BANDS 1ST ROUND AWALL TALL MIDGET DIRT BIKE TIM RALDO
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Calendar

CLUBS

Cannibal Bar, at the Catamaran Hotel, 3999 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-488-1081. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, Y3K, classic rock.

Chateau Orleans, 926 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach. 858-488-6744. Thursday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters*, blues.

Coaster Saloon, 744 Ventura Place, Mission Beach. 858-488-4437. Call club for information.

Dream Street, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Heinous, The Abuse, Downspell, Invidia, and His Irate Life*, metal. Thursday, *Hair of the Dog, Slewoff, 6 Ft. Death Trap, Dr. Chunk*, and *Red with Envy*, metal/rock. Friday, *Static Halo, Ungoverned State*, and guests, rock.

Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge (atop the Hotel La Jolla), 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Music is blues/jazz unless otherwise noted. Friday, *Jack Pollack*, piano and vocals. Saturday, 8 pm to 11 pm, and Wednesday, 7 pm to 10 pm, *Rick Ross*, jazz piano, saxophone, and vocals. Tuesday, *Sean McVicker*, jazz.

Galoka, 5660 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla. 858-551-8610. Thursday, *the Tribe of Kings*, reggae. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, *Foward Funk*.

Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla), 909 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-7625. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, live rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Jiggawatt*, rock. Friday, *Elijah Jack*, acoustic. Saturday, *NZ Rough*, reggae. Tuesday, open mike. Wednesday, *3 Simple Words*, acoustic.

Il Forno Mediterranean Bistro, 909 Prospect Street (next to the Hard Rock Cafe), La Jolla. 858-459-5010. The Room: Call club for information.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., also, Sunday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Rick Ross*, pop/jazz, piano, saxophone, vocals. Also, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Leviticus*, pop, jazz.

Moondoggies, 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550. Friday, *La Vagancia*, Latin jazz/blues.

Moray's Lounge, at the Catamaran Hotel, 3999 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-488-1081. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., and Friday, 9 pm, *Rick Ross*, jazz, piano, saxophone, and vocals. Saturday, call club for information. Sunday through Tuesday, *Larry Fogel*, singer, pianist.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill, 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278. Call club for information.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-509-8900. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Barry Allen Cohen Trio*, jazz.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Friday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters*, blues.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Brain Bucket*, rock. Friday, *the Fremonts*, blues. Saturday, *the Reventlos and Surf Report*, rock. Sunday, Chris Kelly's open acoustic night.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Vegetation*, reggae. Friday, *20 Miles South*, rock. Saturday, *The Toasters* and *Warsaw*, ska. Saturday, *Red Llama Dog and Psydecar*, funk/reggae. Sunday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., *Brain Bucket*. Monday, *Electric Waste Band*, rock. Tuesday, *Black Berry Smoke*, rock and roll. Wednesday, call club for information.

SAN DIEGO

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departs 6:30 p.m. Friday, *B Natural*, pop. Saturday, *the Nude Blues*.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Friday and Saturday, *Tony Cummins*, Irish folk. Sunday, open mike. Monday, *Jenn Grinels*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, *Larger Than Leon*, alternative.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Call club for information.

Caffe Calabria, 3933 30th Street, North Park. 619-291-1759. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Sue Palmer*, jazz.



NightSpotting

GALOKA
5662 La Jolla Blvd.
La Jolla
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www.galoka.com

MUSIC: jazz, fusion, reggae, classical, Brazilian (DJs play R&B, funk, soul, and reggae)
SPECIAL NIGHTS: Thursday is always reggae; Friday is always an "acoustic showcase" from 7:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. (a DJ after that); different events on holidays (New Year's Eve is a \$15 vegan buffet with the band Forward Funk)

CLIENTELE: average age late 20s; 60% female; 70% Caucasian, 15% Asian, 15% Indian

COVER: some events free, but most average \$5; folk/blues singer Mama Christy was \$7

HOURS: only open Thursday–Sunday from 5:00 p.m.–2:00 a.m.; dinner until 10:00 p.m.; late-night menu until midnight

DRINKS: no happy hour or drink specials. (Owner says, "I'm not

trying to attract the 'drink special' type of crowd. My drinks aren't expensive. Most of them are \$5, and the martinis are between \$6 and \$8.") They have no taps, but owner says they're putting in three; an Indian beer called Himalayan Blue is \$7 for 22 oz. (and an Indian guy there told me it was great, made with spring water).

FOOD: It's all vegan (unless specified "dairy"); 50% are Indian dishes (but they have American, Chinese, Ethiopian, Japanese, and Thai dishes); I noticed lots of tofu, curry, and vegetable dishes averaging \$9.95; other restaurants nearby

ACCESS: south La Jolla (from Pacific Beach take Grand or Garnet and go north at Mission); no parking lot but lots of street parking on La Jolla

The Filling Station, 9522 Miramar Road (corner of Black Mountain Road), San Diego. 619-578-0757. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also, Friday and Saturday, live rock and roll.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *the Boogiemen*, R&B.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. The Backstage Lounge:

Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Quiet Storm* and *Rising Star*, jazz/pop/disco. Friday, 9:30 p.m., *Makai*, Top 40. Saturday, *The Detroit Underground*, rock/soul. Sunday, *Jason Weber*, smooth jazz. Tuesday, *Pocket*, acid jazz. Wednesday, *Quiet Storm*, jazz.

The Inn Suites, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-296-2101. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., workshop/concert with *the San Diego Concert Jazz Band*.

Boulevard and Bird Rock (cross street)
DRESS: casual (though there were no T-shirts or shorts)
DANCE FLOOR: 25' by 25'

FIRE EXITS: three – two doors that open to La Jolla Boulevard and another that exits from the kitchen

BATHROOMS: men's had one toilet and one sink; women's had one toilet, one sink, and one telephone that didn't work

CAPACITY: 120

SPECIAL AREAS: patio in front has five tables; they have art all over the walls that is for sale (their menu and canopy lists this place as "restaurant/art gallery/jazz scene")

FURNISHINGS: 15 seats at the bar, seven tables (that will hold eight); dining room has white tablecloths and artwork, but you can't see the band from the dining room, though you can hear them through the sound system; small water fountain out front

DECIBEL LEVEL: 103 when DJ

Leroy was spinning some R&B; 89 last week at Pampas Argentine Grill
WEIRDEST BAND NAME IN LAST MONTH: Poor Man's Platinum

QUOTABLE: "I dated a crazy vegan once. This would've been the perfect place to take her."

The first time I was here, I heard some weird electronic music with a good female vocalist. However, the bar is so dark, you can't see the faces of the musicians. The owner said, "We like to have a lot of world music. International stuff. On the first Friday of each month, we have a 'Six Degrees Records' event. They have a lot of that type of music." The last Six Degrees show had a Middle Eastern dance troupe, which was free.

The owner also admitted, "I like the fact that we aren't located in the middle of La Jolla or in Pacific Beach with all those other clubs. We can create our own identity here."


–Josh Board

Java Joe's, 6344 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area. 619-286-0400. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Jose Sinatra & the Troy Dante Inferno*, lounge-o-rama. Thursday, *Vertibird* and *Plural*, alternative. Friday, *the Rock Trio*. Saturday, *34 Below*, rock. Tuesday, open mike. Wednesday, *Tommy Price*, acoustic.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is alternative. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Deadbolt*

and *The Millionaires*. Saturday, *Missouri Loves Company*, *Goodbye Blue Monday*, *Alta Vox*, and *Bullet Train* to Vegas.

Lestat's Coffeehouse, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday, acoustic jam. Friday, *Dehra Dun* and *Snow on Roses*. Saturday, *Kovo* and *Renata Youngblood*. Sunday, *Marlow & Stratton*. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, *Anna Troy*, *Dehra Dun*, and *the Enchanted*.



La Jolla YMCA
All ages!


Saturday, January 3

THE HANK SHOW
A TRIBUTE TO HANK WILLIAMS
COUNTRY MUSIC PIONEER
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Appearing On
Saturday, January 10

DEBRA LIV JOHNSON
8 PM
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EARL THOMAS



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Dance '03
away till 5 am!
LIVE MUSIC
ORQUESTA LA BAMBA
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\$25 advance tix
\$10 additional for dinner
\$40 at the door
\$10 additional for dinner
Doors open at 7:30
This is a formal event –
dress code will be enforced!
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mall. Look for the searchlights.
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Only \$10 pp
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DJ
11 pm-2 am

909 PROSPECT ST.
Info: 858-454-5101
www.hardrock.com

Marriott Hotel, 333 West Harbor Drive, San Diego. 619-230-8909. Molly's: Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo*.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Nectarine*, rock. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, *Wag the Dog*, rock.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., *the Hatchet Brothers*. Friday, *Joe Byrnes*, Irish folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, *the Hatchet Brothers*, folk.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also, Friday and Saturday, *Nite Life*, blues/swing.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock and blues.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Electrocrypt* and *the Ultra Prix*, alternative.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Music starts at 9 p.m. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Blind Luck*, classic rock. Friday and Saturday, *6 One 9*, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (1/2 block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Call club for information.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is

alternative/heavy. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Taking Back Sunday*, *Me First & the Gimme Gimmes*, *Yellowcard*, *Strung Out*, *Sugarcult*, *Rise Against*, *Rufio*, *Avenged Sevenfold*, *Early Times*, *Offset*, *Underminded*, *The Transit War*, *Jett*, *Buckfast Superbee*, *Spell Toronto*, *Reeve Oliver*, and *Bad Credit*. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *Slick Shoes*, *Fairview*, *Ember Sky*, and *No Way Out*. Saturday, 7:30 p.m., *Pensive*, *Undershade*, *Legends Die*, *Double Clutch*, *Morman in the Middle*, and *Edesin*.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Pop Rocks*. Friday, *Mystery Train*, rockabilly. Saturday, *Blue Rockit*, *Michele Lundeen*, and *Dailey Blues*, blues. Monday swing, tango. Tuesday, zydeco blues.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Sara Bancroft* and *Josiah*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Tristan Prettyman*, *Brian Karscig*, and

Mundaka. Sunday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., *the Celtic Ensemble*. Wednesday, open mike.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *The Dragons*, *Furious IV*, and *Sin Sin 77*. Friday, *Jivewire*. Saturday, *Earthless* and *Sugarrush Railroad Inc*.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 619-418-8858. Call club for information.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the David Patrone Jazz Quartet*. Friday, *Yavaz*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the*

Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, *the Jorge Camberos Quintet*.

Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 8:30 p.m., *A.J. Croce*, jazz, and *Fuzzy & the Bluesmen*, blues.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-

5554. Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Peter Robberecht/Pianoman*, pop/Top 40.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also, Thursday and Friday, *Private Domain*, rock and roll. Saturday, *Nadra John*,

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ROCK INTO THE NEW YEAR!
WED., DECEMBER 31
featuring
POP ROCKS!
'80s Dance Music

\$15 advance tickets
Party favors
Champagne at midnight

THURS., JANUARY 1
CLOSED

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
FRI., JANUARY 2
MYSTERY TRAIN

SAT., JANUARY 3
BLUE ROCKIT WITH
MICHELE LUNDEEN
DAILEY BLUES

UPCOMING:
1/8: ELVIS B-DAY SHOW:
HRL, BANDITS
1/9: BILLY WATSON
1/10: THE FLYING POTOS

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www.tioleos.com

Online Club Coupons!

The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the *Reader's* website.
Ⓢ indicates North County.

Blind Melons	<u>2 for 1 cover</u>
Brick By Brick	<u>2 for 1 admission</u>
Cafe Sevilla	<u>\$2 off Club VIP</u>
California Express VIP Card	<u>\$25 off 2003</u>
Cannibal Bar	<u>\$2 off admission</u>
Casa Picante	<u>20% off drinks</u>
Club Caribe	<u>\$5 off cover</u>
Club Montage	<u>No cover</u>
Coaster Saloon	<u>\$2 off pitcher of beer</u>
Croce's	<u>Free cover with dinner</u>
4th & B	<u>2 free comedy tickets</u>
Ⓢ McCabe's Beach Club	<u>\$2 off admission</u>
P.B. Bar & Grill	<u>2 for 1 entrée</u>
Patricks II	<u>2 for 1 cover</u>
Rix Bar & Grill	<u>\$5.50 Angus burger & fries</u>
The Room	<u>No cover with e-mail</u>
Rosie O'Grady's	<u>1/2 off Rosie Blaster</u>
Second Wind Navajo	<u>No cover</u>
Sham Rocks Shack	<u>1/2 off cheeseburger combo</u>
6MinuteMatch.com	<u>\$5 off event</u>
Ⓢ Squid Joe's	<u>\$2 off pitcher of beer</u>
Tio Leo's Lounge	<u>\$1 off club admission</u>

SanDiegoReader.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2003

with
DEADBOLT
THE MILLIONAIRES

Friday, January 2
CAMPAIGN FOR QUIET
3 MINUTE MIRACLE

Saturday, January 3
GOODBYE BLUE MONDAY
ALTA VOX
MISSOURI LOVES COMPANY
BULLET TRAIN TO VEGAS

Friday, January 9
AGUA DULCE

Saturday, January 10
WATCH IT BURN

4079 Adams Ave.
next to the Ken Theatre
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JAZZ SCENE

21 & Up
Serving Dinner 5-10 pm Thurs.-Sun.
For a detailed listing of events, menu & directions see www.galoka.com.

Thursday
Every Thursday 10 pm • Hi-Grade Thursdays
Featuring
TRIBE OF KINGS HOST SELECTA DASH EYE

Friday, January 2
7:30-9:30 pm
SIMEON FLICK
(WWW.SIMEONFLICK.COM)
10 pm
SIX DEGREES RECORDS EVENT
(WWW.SIXDEGREESRECORDS.COM)

Saturday, January 3
NEW YEAR'S PARTY with FORWARD FUNK

Please see
WWW.GALOKA.COM
for detailed event info, bios & MP3.

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2004 Golden Tee Golf
Free Buffet after 4 pm

Entertainment 7 Nights a Week • Call for latest line-up

New Year's Eve 2003
Delicious Buffet • Live Music • Dancing
Party Favors • Champagne Toast at Midnight
\$10 Cover • Military FREE w/ID

Monday Night Football!
\$5 Domestic Pitchers
Big-Screen TV
Free Raffle for Team T-Shirts

Saturday Night Retro Dance Party!
Every Saturday DJ Levi spins all your '80s & '90s favorites

Wednesdays • 9 pm
Kamikaze Karaoke
with *LEVI*
\$2.50 Kamikazes

Thursday Is
Customer Appreciation Night
\$5 Domestic Pitchers • \$1.50 Pints
Free Pool 7 pm-Close

SPORTS ARENA

NEW YEARS EVE
18 BANDS • 3 STAGES

TAKING BACK SUNDAY
WE FIRST AND THE
GIMME GIMMES
YELLOWCARD
STRUNG OUT
SUGARCULT
RISE AGAINST
RUFIO
AVENGED SEVENFOLD
NOISE RATCHET
EARLY TIMES
OFFSET
UNDERMINDED
REEVE OLIVER
★ **BAD CREDIT**
THE TRANSIT WAR
JETT
SPELL TORONTO
BUCKFAST SUPER BEE
NO ASSIGNED SEATS
ONLY \$24 - 6:30
NO SERVICE CHARGE
SOMA BOX OFFICE
MUSIC TRADER-LOU'S
BLUE MEANIE
ALSO AT
TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
★ **BAR WITH I.D.**

FRI. JAN 2
SLICK SHOES
FAIRVIEW
EMBER SKY
NO WAY OUT
\$8 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 3
PENSIVE
UNDERSHADE
LEGENDS DIE
DOUBLE CLUTCH
NORMAN IN THE MIDDLE
EDESIN
\$7 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

FRI. JAN 9
NETZER
BLACKLETTER DAYS
LODUS
ALL PRIDE ASIDE
NOWHERESVILLE
MAGNUSON
\$8 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

FRI. JAN 10
THE CHEMISTRY
EARLY TIMES
LANCES HERO
YESTERDAYS RISING
LOWER DEFINITION
\$8 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 17
THE ADOLESCENTS
Plus Guests
\$10 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 24
COULED AND CANDIDA
VAUX
Jamison Parker
BEAR VS SHARK
★ ON SALE: 12/18
\$12 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

SUN. FEB 15
BOUNCING SOULS
HOT WATER MUSIC
Plus Guests
\$12 - 7PM - LUNATIKS
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ALL AGES
3350 SPORTS ARENA
619 226 7662

Calendar CLUBS

rock. Sunday, *Hera's Olive*, rock. Tuesday, *Ron's Garage*, acoustic rock. Wednesday, *the New Breed Band*, pop, jazz.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Beat.itude*, jazz. Sunday, 7 p.m., *the Ira Liss Big Band Jazz Machine*.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Wednesday, 9 p.m., live Irish music.

5fith Qtr., 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Saturday, *the Disco Pimps*.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Guided by Voices*, *Year of the Rabbit*, and *Phantom Planet*, alternative.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., *the Superfreaks*, pop. Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Superfreaks*. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time*, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz, funk, R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, Top 40.

Kalahari Cafe, 729 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-234-5555. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Nostalgia*, jazz.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Sunday, *the Tribe of Kings*, reggae. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *the David Patrone Quartet*, jazz.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues unless otherwise noted. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz*. Thursday, *Bill Magee Blues*. Friday, *Blues Brokers*. Saturday, *Blue Four*. Sunday, *Blue Largo*. Monday, *Stevi Lynn & Deja Voodoo*.

Tuesday, *Bayou Brothers*. Wednesday, *Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz*.

Redfields Lounge, at Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, One Market Place, downtown. 619-232-1234. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Aubrey Fay Band*, jazz, R&B.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *the 80z Allstars*, pop rock. Friday and Saturday, live pop.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Tuesday, *Caribbean Breeze*, salsa. Wednesday, *Walter II y Rumbaney*, salsa.

U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway, downtown. 619-232-3121. Lounge: Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, pianist.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., *Fran Loskota*, piano and vocals. Sunday and Monday, *Julio de la Huerta*, guitar and vocals. Tuesday and Wednesday, *Faith Page*, piano and vocals.

The Wyndham Emerald Plaza, 400 West Broadway, downtown. 619-239-4500. The Sidebar Lounge: Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Joe Tarrantino*, jazz piano, solo. Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Stellita* and *Joe Tarrantino*, pop.

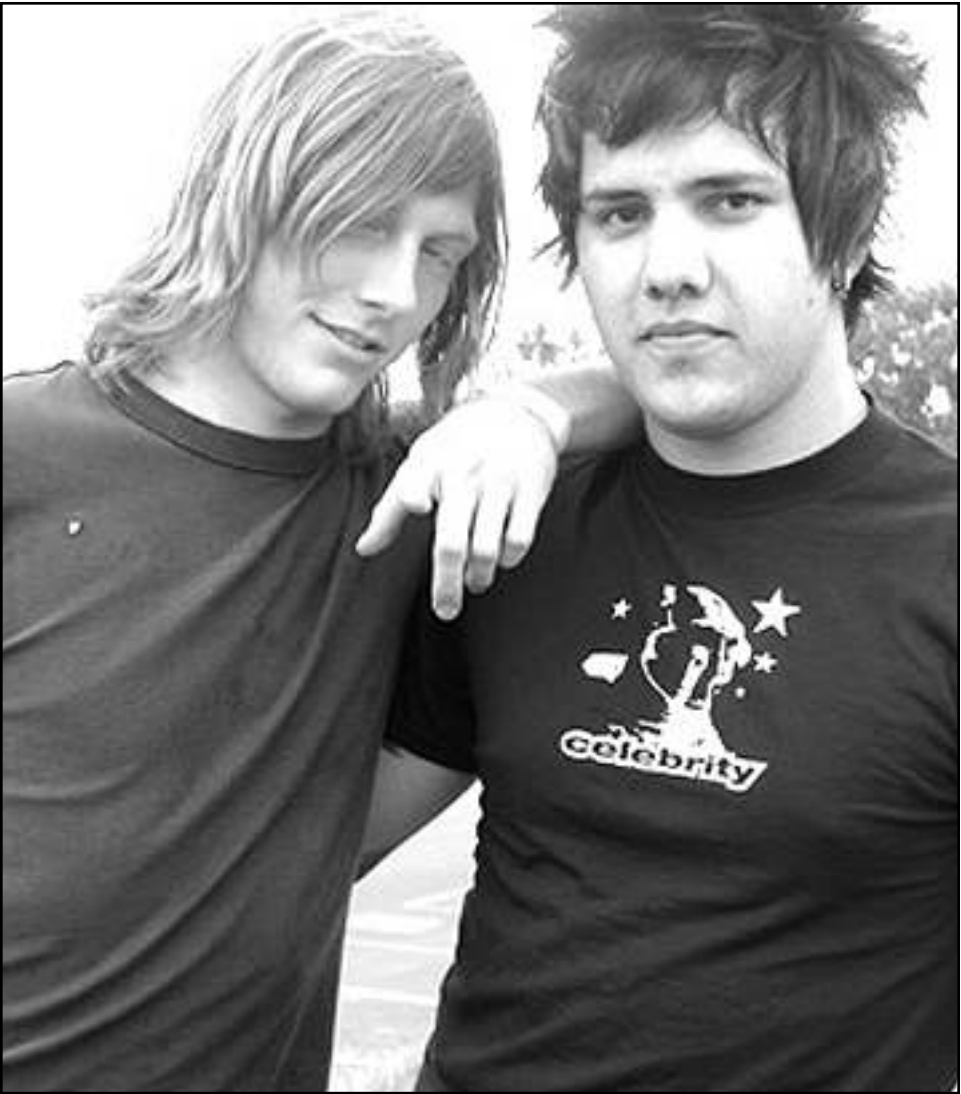
SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, piano bar, featuring *Sandy Chappel*, *Sammy Canonizado*, and *Burnett Anderson*.

Club Caribe, 5080 Bonita Road, Bonita. Call club for information.

Di-mond Jim's Nightclub, 773 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-585-7323. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *the Evil Twins*, rock. Thursday, *DJ T* and *DJ Beer*, rock. Friday and Saturday, *Streethart*, classic rock.

Edelweiss Restaurant, 230 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-426-5172.



Noise Ratchet, December 31, San Diego Sports Arena

Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m., *Gordon Kohl*, *Kjell Holmes*, or *Vicki Eriqat*, European and ethnic accordion.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday, Sunday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Barbara Jamerson*, jazz. Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Ray Briz*. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West*. Monday through Wednesday,

6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *John Cain*. Prince of Wales: Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Friday through Sunday, and Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Daniel Jackson*, jazz. Crown Room: Thursday, noon to 7 p.m., *Kippy Lee Scott*, harpist. Ballroom: Thursday, noon to 7 p.m., *Ray Briz*, pianist.

Island Sports & Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Jumpstart*, classic rock. Friday, *Tommy*

Budd & Windy City, blues. Saturday, *Nitro Express*, country.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *the Offbeats*, rock.

The Manhattan Lounge, 400 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-422-6641. Friday and Saturday, *Blind Date*, classic rock.

Over the Border, 3008 Main Street, Chula Vista. 619-427-5889.

Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Ingratoz*, Latin.

EAST COUNTY

Casa Picante, 10757 Woodside Avenue, Santee. 619-258-5557. Call club for information.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also, Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Chess Set*, country. Friday and Saturday, *George James*, country.

El Cajon Grand Cocktail Lounge, 437 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-444-0949. Saturday, *Zone 4*, rock.

Fannie's, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Zone 4*, rock.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Mollison Avenue, El Cajon. 858-273-7283. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *the Ray Barrie 12-Piece Big Band* featuring *Jo Dark*.

Mulvaney's, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8550. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Emerald River*, country. Friday and Saturday, live country music.

On the Rocks, 518 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-579-3537. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *King Dub*, rock and roll. Friday, *Loss of Control*, rock. Saturday, *Smooth Unit*, rock.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Olde Highway 80, (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, *Coyote Moon*, country. Friday and Saturday, live country.

Rix Bar & Grill, 7353 El Cajon Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-460-7499. Saturday and Wednesday, live '80s rock.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Wednesday, New Year's Eve, also, Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Viejas Casino, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-445-5400. Friday, 9 p.m., *X-Cel*, pop. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Macy Gray*, alternative. Sunday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Swingin' EZ Big Band*.

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January 2 & 3

DOUBLE DRAGON

Two Free Nights of Beats & Bass. Thanks for all your support. Now we're giving back!!!

Friday, January 2
**B-SIDE • KEMEK & BASSPLUGGER (LA) • SKUTECH
KNOTTYBOY (V.E.) • LEVI 5 • COLLEEN • THE MESSENGER**

Saturday, January 3
**ORIGIN & PHEAR (45psi) • PROBABLE CAUSE & WALLKRAWLER (Deep)
JASON & LARGEHUMAN (Delete) • KINETEK & SYSTEM FREEZE
OO & CHAOSTICA (Search) • MCs XYZ (45psi) & SKYLER MIC (Deep)**

10 pm-4 am • 21 & up • \$1 sake shots • Free all night! • Early arrival suggested

Wednesday, January 7
**THE NERVOUS
SWAY • IVYLVYIL**

Thursday, January 8
**ILL PREPARED
HEAVING GROOVES**

Saturday, January 10
**THE ABUSE
DOWNSPELL • ONE THEORY**

Saturday, January 17
“BITCHES THAT ROCK”
One Year Anniversary
**EROTOMANIA
BOOBIE TRAP
LOWER LIP
BRAGDOLL**
Prizes & Giveaways!!!

1/9 **Bumbklatt • Dorado Gold •** 1/16 **Spoken Gun • Bargain Music • Griswold**
2/14 **Acts of Aggression • 2/26 Melissa Ferrick**

1130 Buenos Ave.
(off Morena Blvd.)

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BAR & GRILL

“It’s nothing to be worried about.”

Check out our new selection of merchandise—perfect gifts for your favorite liar.

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TUESDAY NIGHTS
\$2 You-Call-It Drinks from 8-11 pm (excluding Belgian beers, big bottles and some super premiums)
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Local Beer Night with \$2.50 San Diego Drafts including cask-conditioned ales. 1/2: Ballast Point Calico Copper
SUNDAYS (Through Playoffs)
NFL Satellite Package, Premium Beer and Drink Specials • \$5.95 Breakfast Buffet from 9 am-12 pm (with beverage purchase)
WEEKDAYS 4-7 PM & SUNDAY NIGHTS 9 PM-12 AM
Happy Hour with \$2 Appetizers, Well Drinks, & X-Port Red Drafts

Start Your Party Here New Year's Eve with Music, Great Food and Drink Specials!

THE LIARS' CLUB
3844 Mission Blvd. • Mission Beach
858.488.2340

all ages! all the time!!!

Friday, January 9
Crawspace/1000 Knives present
Curl Up and Die • Bury Your Dead Embrace Today
Premonitions of War
With All Sincerity • Glasgow Smile

Friday, January 23
HOB presents
Shai Hulud • Over My Dead Body
With Honor • Still Crossed

Wednesday, January 28
RSP Events presents
Pulley • Fighting Jacks
Hot Like a Robot
Edison • Drifter

Saturday, January 31
Battle of the Bands Finals
featuring **Best Interest**
Stripped Down Hollywood
Cue Dorian & more!

Thursday, February 12
HOB presents
Star Sailor • Tim Burgess

Saturday, February 14
HOB presents
The Tooth and Nail Tour 2004
featuring **Further Seems Forever**
Anberlin • Mewithoutyou
Watashi Wa • Emery

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Vesuvio's

(North Park)

Happy Hour 4-7 pm
Drink and Appetizer
Specials

Monday and Tuesday
\$2 Wells

99¢ Domestic Drafts

Wednesday
1/2 off

Premium Drinks and
Imported Drafts

Thursday
Martini Night
\$3 Martinis
(Premiums \$1 extra)

Vesuvio's

3025 El Cajon Blvd. (at 30th St.)
North Park
619-282-3636

Since 1947

20 beers on tap

Monday
Happy Hour
2 pm-2 am

Tuesday
Pitcher Night
\$6 Domestic
\$10 Micros/Imports

Wednesday
Sake Tumi Night
(Sake & Red Bull Shooters)
\$1.50 small • \$2.50 large

Thursday
Liquid Crank Night
(Los Cabos Shooters)
\$1 small • \$2 large

Friday & Saturday
Beer Special Night

Sunday
Happy Hour
12:30 pm-close

Happy Hour Every Day 2-7 pm

3365 India Street
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Ripe Nectar

Just mention free-range, wild, and organic, and I'm there, drawn like a cat to a bowlful of Bumblebee. Those were the very words that grabbed me in Nectar's opening ads. I don't really expect restaurants to cook healthy — restaurant food is mainly recreational. But those terms signal that the ingredients will probably be fresh and imbued with noticeably fuller flavors than the bland factory poultry and the "previously frozen" seafood at run-of-the-mill eateries.

Tall, slim Kay, blue-eyed and chic, wanted me to meet her new beau, Walter. The timing couldn't have been better. "Nectar!" we both said in unison. I'd already scouted it and told Kay it was ripe for review. That night, Kay wore a cranberry cashmere sweater and a narrow black skirt. I wore a cranberry shawl, a black cashmere sweater and black pants. The hostess wore black and cranberry, too. The stars were obviously in alignment.

Nectar has taken over most of the former lobby of the Prava Hotel. The attractive restaurant is built around the lobby's huge centerpiece chandelier. Some tables have leather booths; some just have wood-framed armchairs. Since Walter is only free on weekends, we arrived on a Saturday night to find a nearly full house — but to my great relief, the sound of our fellow diners was merely a gentle, blurry hum, thanks to the plushy lobbyish floral carpet. The lighting, though, is so romantic, I wished I'd brought a flashlight to read the menu and see the food.

Kay promptly danced off to do the grand tour, with Walter following in her wake as she zoomed in on some coral-colored segment of the far wall, seeking inspiration for her never-ending condo-rededecoration project. When they returned, their menus just lay there unopened as Walter witticized and Kay bubbled about the color schemes swirling through her head. (Film buffs and late-night TV addicts, think *The Front Page* with Rosalind Russell's Hildy as Kay, and Cary Grant's Walter as Walter.) The waiters were attentive but patient. They've actually eaten all the dishes and sipped plenty of the wines and actively help to make your dinner a feast.

Even as we dawdled over the order, we nibbled on a tasty original. Instead of butter, *bagna*, or hummus, it's a coral-pink artichoke and cream cheese dip, slightly spicy from hot Hungarian paprika and just a whiff of cayenne, to spread on



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Upperline hearty sourdough bread and crisp lavosh crackers. We were so enchanted by the dip, we went through at least two refills while discussing which appetizers to choose.

The duck spring rolls were exemplary. They were filled with crunchy vegetables, shredded duck confit, and shiitake mushrooms, with a hint of curry spices. These airy, greaseless prodigies came with a spicy ponzu dip, along with a rather puzzling compote of seedless black grapes that seemed too bashful to converse with the duck.

Walter chose the tempura calamari, and he wouldn't let us forget it. Fried seafood's a fitting choice for a New Englander sporting a vintage Harris tweed jacket. (He didn't buy it vintage — he's had it long enough for it to become retro-chic.) "Remember, I ordered that," he said, when the squid proved to be featherweights, so lightly battered and so perfectly cooked, they never lost their crisp-soft texture as they cooled. They came with a tangy yogurt-gar-

lic sauce, a lemongrass and garlic oil dip with chives, and a suave, mild Chinese mustard sauce.

Local black mussels — every one of them open, fresh, and tender — were steamed in a garlicky broth of white wine and the mussels' own salty juices, along with a handful of capers. Streaks of lemon crème fraîche gilded the shells. The rewarding combination was embellished with the taste of fresh cilantro providing a faintly exotic touch amid the Mediterranean flavors. Pan-seared sea scallops were satiny, too, atop light golden-brown, fluffy potato pancakes, garnished with an apricot-cilantro sour cream with a fruitiness so shy, none of us actually perceived the apricot. Unfortunately, the scallop meats had the blunted flavor of ordinary dry-pack rather than dayboat or diver scallops, but chef Matthew Herter is already searching for a reliable source for the latter.

The house lobster bisque knocked my socks off, with its creamy texture, gently spicy kick, and

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

Nectar ★★★½ (Very good to excellent)

Prava Hotel, 911 Fifth Avenue (between E and Broadway), Gaslamp District, 619-615-3146.

HOURS: Open daily three meals, 6:30–10:30 a.m., 11:30–2:30 p.m., 5:30–10:00 p.m. weekdays, until 11:00 weekends.

PRICES: Appetizers, \$6–\$14; pastas, \$15–\$22; entrées \$19–\$32.

CUISINE & BEVERAGES: Clean-flavored Cal cuisine, emphasizing wild fish, free-range meats, organic produce. Modest wine mark-ups with numerous interesting possibilities under \$30; two by-the-glass choices for the most popular grapes. Microbrewery house ale; full bar.

PICK HITS: Tempura Calamari, Duck Spring Rolls, Lobster Bisque, Blue Crab Salad, Roast Quail.

NEED TO KNOW: Valet parking \$10, \$15 on weekends. Easy walk from Horton Plaza garage. Slightly spiffy garb. Filtered tap water. Restrooms downstairs, accessible by elevator.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambiance, and service with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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load of lobster chunks. The killer application is a toasted sourdough crouton floating on top, spread with melted Maytag bleu cheese. The lobster-bleu combination is a "Why didn't I think of that?" miracle match. Need I say more?

I was disappointed, though, with a Maine lobster and blue crab cocktail, an edible tower of Babel layered with diced mango and avocado and guava mustard, teetering atop a grassy knoll of naked watercress. There were too many flavors all talking

(continued on page 104)

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"Best Ravioli" - San Diego Reader 2003 • Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2003

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(continued from page 103)

at once, with the mustard fomenting arguments between them. And the soup du jour, a fennel purée with a Stilton and walnut garnish, brought to mind an algae-covered pond, dark-green in color and taste. Kay, a fennel lover, fairly swam in it, but the rest of us barely waded.

We all decided that a salad would furnish a clear taste of the advertised organic veggies. The skillful waiter offered to bring it as a separate course after the appetizers. That, I remembered, is how Chez Panisse in Berkeley serves salad at all its prix-fixe dinners, for some very sound reasons besides French tradition. It's a great break for people who eat slowly and talk a lot between bites. It's also a break for the waiters, standing there anxiously pondering when to tell the chef to fire up the entrées: Start too soon and there's a risk of overcooking or overcooling; start too late and there'll be a long gap between courses. But adding a salad course sets everyone in rhythm again. So salad isn't just good for our health, it's also good for our entrées, and my New Year's resolution is to order a course of it whenever I can.

And what a salad it was! The "Blue Crab Signature Salad" offered crisp romaine garnished with shiitake slivers, roasted tomato, and heaps and blobs of moist, sweet crabmeat, tasting like it had just leaped from the ocean into the cookpot. It wore a cream-smoothed dressing flavored with caramelized-garlic and minced hazelnuts. Another evening, I tried a warm spinach and butter lettuce salad in a shiitake vinaigrette, which had similarly high-quality greens but offered slightly more maple-cured diced bacon than I actually wanted.

Most entrées at Nectar are simple but clever, with a few clear, resonant flavors interacting cooperatively. There's intelligence in the way the dishes are assembled, pragmatic but sensual. Every entrée comes with a side—a garnish, as the French say. Unlike many San Diego restaurants, the accompaniments are specific to the dish and aren't scooped from some one-taste-fits-all common pot (such as that ubiquitous broc-zuke-carrot medley). Instead, there's a manageable stable of about five basic garnishes, which (steak-house style) are also listed as side dishes at the bottom of the menu. The chef decides which side goes best with the entrée and enhances it with some additional touches. And if some diner has his heart set on risotto when his entrée offers polenta, he can have it his way for a small additional price.

Our favorite main dish was a moist, tender trio of roasted quail, their skins rubbed with lemon and rosemary. They rode on a sophisticated heap of soft goat-cheese polenta (in lieu of the conventional mascarpone or Parmesan), dotted with tomato bits to nip back at the goat. A

roasted organic chicken breast is another good bird here, if you like 'em fierce. The breast is flavorful per se (organic ones really taste like *chicken*), and then the chef takes it up a couple of notches. He brines it and then stuffs it under the skin with Manchego cheese, prosciutto, and a bevy of strong, musky fresh sage leaves. The vegetable accompaniment is an astringent escarole salad, its thick, crunchy leaves echoing the bitterness of the sage in another key. Rounding out the array is a cheese-enriched shiitake risotto with a powerful oniony undertone from chopped scallions. Chef Matthew knows his risotto technique: Each rice grain is al dente firm but free from any grittiness at the heart.

Among the cleverest combinations is a gigantic coriander-crusted roasted pork chop, with a slaw of grilled pear slivers. The chef uses these seasonal unripe pears the way Thai cooks use green papaya or East Indians use amchar, green mango—as a blast of crunchiness and acidity. Adding a soothing note is a gooey potato gratin, along with lightly sautéed spinach, still crunchy and seasoned with a load of garlic.

All fish served here are wild-caught, not farmed. A thick fillet of king salmon airlifted from New Zealand benefits from a great Seattle-style treatment: It's roasted on a cedar plank that's first been soaked in water to keep the wood from burning. You don't really taste the cedar, but the soaked wood emits steam, leaving the fish very moist. We asked the waiter how well-done the chef usually cooked it; he said "medium rare," and we said, "a few seconds less than that." The pristine hunk of salmon was done exactly so and fell apart at the touch of a fork. It came with roasted fingerling potatoes and a seasonal roasted vegetable combination including asparagus, baby carrots, and baby zucchini.

A New Zealand striped sea bass, with a meaty quality similar to Baja's baquette bass, was embellished with the bold, bright flavors of a garlicky black olive tapenade glaze. The fish itself, though, was unevenly cooked. "It's like the 'four blind men and the elephant' joke," said Walter, as each of us in turn reported a different experience. I was lucky, receiving the fish last and enjoying the moist center. My considerate companions, starting at the edges, got dry shreds. The well-chosen garnishes included a halved, grilled artichoke, the same roasted veggie array as the salmon, and a "risotto cake." Kay and I thoroughly loved the latter, while the guys weren't so sure about it. "There's something familiar about this," Kay mused. "Aha! It tastes like *kugel*!" (That's a Jewish/German potato casserole.) "What's a *kugel*?" asked her Yankee beau.

A treat that sparked no controversy at all was the ravishing Ravioli de Casa. A fan of velvety duck breast slices (cooked to our order of "rosy") coziered up to thin-skinned pasta filled with sweet butternut squash purée, bathed with a reduced cream

sauce dotted with hazelnuts and slivers of fresh sage. A dish so shamelessly rich and comforting almost makes me welcome winter. I liked it much better than a heftier duck entrée that paired grilled breast with dry-textured leg confit, accompanied by lean chive-mashed potatoes and a roasted reprise of the demure black-grape compote of the spring roll. The first time I ever enjoyed the breast-confit duo was at Ernie's in San Francisco some 15 years ago. What made that rendition memorable was that the Provence-born chef lightly battered the confit legs like pig's trotters and fried them rapidly in their fat until blisteringly crisp. Without this crackly coating, and lacking a brilliant sauce, the duck duet has become such a stultifying commonplace at local restaurants, I expect it'll turn up next at El Pollo (make that *El Pato*) Loco.

Desserts seem like something of an afterthought. Chef Matthew doubles as pastry chef, finding it fun; even so, I don't think sweets are his forte. Some of the choices are clichés: a vanilla bean crème brûlée, a fudgy but unexceptional molten chocolate cake. Others epitomize a "loving hands at home" approach, including a cheesecake with a granola crust on bottom and a peach cobbler with a granola crust on top. When I nibbled these, I suddenly saw myself back in the '70s, in an ankle-length granny dress and steel-rimmed granny glasses, swanning around the kitchen baking godawful "healthy goodies." My butterless whole wheat pie crusts tasted like grout, and my granola cobbler toppings had the mouth-feel of scree. Nectar's granola crusts aren't that bad, but all in all, I'd as soon forego hippie cuisine forevermore. Alternatives include a modest cheese plate and a well-chosen list of dessert wines. By this end of our feast, Kay and Walter seemed joined at the shoulder, snuggling up to a tiny shared glass of aged Port.

With Petco Park nearly built, the Gaslamp restaurant scene has been changing rapidly in response to escalating rents—most often for the worse. As interesting but risky restaurants give way to pubs, steak houses, and border-Mex cantinas, Nectar hopes to turn that trend on its ear. There are towns where hotel restaurants are the last places you would want to eat. It doesn't work that way in San Diego. The Prava is the proof.

ABOUT THE CHEF

When Prava management decided they needed to have a restaurant in the hotel, their first act was to spirit chef Matthew Herter away from the Gaslamp Hilton, where he'd been cooking with an emphasis on organic ingredients. Good move, guys.

"I grew up in Michigan," says Herter. "When I was studying English and psychology at the University of Michigan [Ann Arbor], I got into cooking to help pay my way through college. By the time I was a junior, I figured out that it [cooking] was my real passion, and I wanted to pursue



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it. I subsequently completed my degree and was faced with the decision of whether to go to culinary school on top of having just spent four years in college. Instead, an opportunity came up for me to apprentice under a certified Master Chef, Edward Janos, in Royal Oak [a hip suburb]. I went to work with him for about a year, helped him open one of his restaurants. It was really one of the most fantastic experiences I could ever have imagined. He was obviously fundamental in my development of food knowledge and cooking skills.

"Then I looked at what to do and didn't know if I wanted to go to the East Coast or the West Coast. The girl that I was dating at the time wanted to move to San Diego, and I said, 'The sun would be nice, after 20-some years in the snow and the cold!' I made the decision to move here and have never looked back. When I first came to town, I worked at La Valencia, then worked for American Golf Corporation in their private club sector. Just before Nectar I was opening chef for a New Leaf in the Hilton Gaslamp and worked there for three and a half years.

"I believe in letting the food speak for itself. I'm not one to throw a million ingredients into something. I really want to nuance all the flavors out of the ingredients that are there. I don't want to overly layer flavors so that you end up not tasting 70 percent of the ingredients that are in the dish. I want to reduce down the flavors to their essence.... A lot of the dishes we're doing at Nectar reflect that. They're not overworked. I focus on organic products, free-range meats, and only wild fishes, and I think that helps the flavors along. It exposes people to what food can really taste like in its purest sense.

"I envision changing the menu every four to six weeks. My focus is on changing with the seasons to reflect what's best in the marketplace. It won't be a 100-percent change each time — some dishes stand the test of time — but there are ingredients that are very seasonal on there that we'll be forced to change to maintain our focus on freshness and quality." ■

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Jack Grodzinsky started the first one back in 1949 in Phoenix.

It was the look on her face. "The Del?" Carla said. "The Hotel Del? For my birthday, and New Year's?" "Ya...Yes."

How could I refuse her? Carla's birthday is December 30. She's always suffered from its falling between Christmas and New Year's. Everybody forgets it. Trouble is, I opened my mouth before I did my research. Who could afford the Del? 'Course, I knew we could kiss the Prince of Wales *adieu*. Same with Sheerwater. But the Sun Deck Grill? I decide to do a rekkky. It's around four in the afternoon. Sun Deck looks hopeful, with, like, "charbroiled hamburgers" \$7.50, hot dogs \$6.50. But "Sorry," says the man. "We close at four."

That leaves the Del deli. Down in the dungeons, below the reception area. Perhaps we could grab food and go up with it for the New Year's celebrations. But, oh, man. All they have down there between the chiseled-out concrete walls is a cooler filled with prepacked sandwiches in plastic boxes for \$7.50 each. This is not going to cut the mustard with Ms. Carla.

"You know there's a *real* deli restaurant in the town, at Tenth and Orange?" says a guy outside. "This place is a joke."

And that's how I come to walk into the Miracle Mile 1949 Delicatessen maybe 20 minutes later. Inside, it's cream and maroon, with sparkly colored lights and wild art on the walls and one entire side devoted to chafing dishes piled with deli food — all priced at around the cost of one plastic-packed sandwich at the Del's deli.

The place is pretty new, but it has the old-fashioned feel of those back East cafeterias where you slide your tray along rails toward the cashier. A bunch of chefs stand behind the counter, ready to spoon food onto your plate. And, hey, one guy brandishes a carving knife right behind a brand-new roasted turkey.

I look at the wall menus behind them. Hot sandwiches, cold sandwiches, specialty sandwiches. The hots, like pastrami, corned beef, beef brisket, or barbecued chicken, cost \$7.50, but they come with fries or pasta salad or potato or macaroni salad or coleslaw. The cold sandwiches are mostly \$6.50 and include honey-cured ham, roast beef, and tuna (with same choice of side).

Then they have a list of permanent daily entrées. Thursdays, it's chicken or beef enchiladas with rice and beans (\$7.50), meat loaf (\$8.95 with potato or vegetable, bread and butter), or stuffed

cabbage (\$8.95, same sides). Friday, it's baked fillet of cod, macaroni and cheese, or stuffed cabbage. Other days they have chicken-noodle casserole, corned beef and cabbage, beef stew, and roast chicken.

Me, I am still hankering for that turkey, sitting golden and steaming there. Oh, yeah. There it is at the top of the entrée menu. "Hand-carved roast turkey served Monday to Saturday after 4:00 p.m.," including sides, \$8.95.

So, okay, it costs \$1.50 more than the Del deli's sandos, but it sure sounds as if you get a lot more. I pay first (and add a coffee — \$1.25 with refills), then head for the Master Carver. "White or dark meat?" he says. "White," I say, and, man, he carves off two or three large slices straight from the breast. It is beautiful. This is what a deli should be. Live, lively, fresh, busy. Not like that unsealed tomb in the Del. He adds bread stuffing, mashed potatoes (with their skins on), a bunch of gravy, and another plate with two slices of rye bread and butter.

"Because you're in our early-bird time," says the cashier, "4:00 to 6:00, you get a free dessert pie slice too." Wow. I look down at the dessert cabinet. See carrot cake and chocolate cake (\$3.25 each), then the free pies: apple and lemon meringue. "No contest," I say. "Lemon meringue."

Now the eating starts, and goes on, and

on...the helpings are way generous. Not only that, but when I go back and ask for more gravy, they pour it on without any *tsk-tsking*. And when I ask for cranberry sauce, they whip a little pot straight to me.

I notice people in earnest discussion at the table right ahead of mine. Turns out they're the owners. George and Jill, his wife, talking to staff. "This restaurant was born in Arizona," says George. Jill's father, Jack Grodzinsky, started the first one back in 1949 in Phoenix. He took over a small place and named it after the nickname for the strip it was on, "miracle mile." Half a century later, the family has two 250-seat Miracle Miles back there and opened this smaller one here last May.

Their menu offers some specifically Jewish items, like a kosher salami sandwich, potato knishes, and matzo-ball soup. But mostly it's just good old-fashioned comfort food from back East.

So, I end up sitting back, stuffed to the gills, thinking about the year just gone by. Got to give Carla a better life, so we *can* go to the damned Del and do the Prince of Wales at least once in our lives.

Tonight, I'll bring her back to Miracle Mile, fill up, then amble down to the Del and watch how the rich and the famous do New Year's. Bet they'll all be having champagne and deli sandwiches in plastic boxes. ■

The Place: *Miracle Mile Delicatessen, 980 Orange Avenue, Coronado (619-435-6655)*

Type of Food: *Deli food*

Prices: *Hot sandwiches (e.g., pastrami, corned beef, beef brisket, barbecued chicken), with choice of fries, pasta salad, potato, macaroni salad, coleslaw, \$7.50; cold sandwiches (e.g., honey-cured ham, roast beef, tuna, with same choice of sides), mostly \$6.50; chicken or beef enchiladas with rice and beans, \$7.50; meat loaf, with potato or vegetable, bread and butter, \$8.95; stuffed cabbage, same sides, \$8.95; 1/2 roast chicken, \$8.95; "hand carved" roast turkey, with sides, \$8.95; carrot or chocolate cake, \$3.25*

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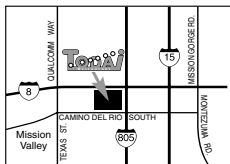
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Cellar Eulogy

"I knew exactly where every bottle was, where I bought it, what I paid for it, and how long I had had it."

After 14 years of working as a high-end wine retailer in Los Angeles, Gene Walder decided he was tired of both retail sales and L.A. He eased himself southward, and in 1989, he started Vintage Cellars. His San Marcos-based wine storage business sold stand-alone units that provided a temperature- and humidity-controlled haven for wine bottles destined for long-term aging. Within a year, he was installing custom cellars in clients' homes. "People grow out of cabinet products and they want the walk-in," he says, noting the cascade effect that so often seems to overtake wine collectors.

The '90s were kind to Vintage Cellars. The economy was booming. Wine interest in San Diego started to pick up steam, to the point where people were ready to dive in before they even got their feet wet. "We had a customer come to us who didn't own a bottle of wine, but he knew he wanted a big cellar — 7500 bottles." And "there was a lot of building going on." After a certain price point, homebuilders began offering wine cellar upgrades as a matter of course. Even the economic bumps of the past two years haven't proved disastrous. "I've got a client in Palm Desert," says Walder. "They're building 630 homes, and for at least half of them they're planning to at least pre-plumb for a wine cellar. From their surveys, that's how many homes they perceive are going to end up with a cellar, and I think that's about the percentage we see everywhere with homes in the higher economic range." And if you want your cellar tricked out and luxurious, Vintage is king of the local hill (and has recently taken its business national).

So it was no great surprise that when zealous wine collector John McDonnell went searching on the Internet for someone to outfit the planned cellar addition to his brand-new home in Rancho Santa Fe, he found Walder and company. The two hit it off and set to work figuring out a design. McDonnell was thinking standard library arrangement — rows and rows of redwood rack-

ing filling the 24'x19' room so as to allow for maximum capacity. But after looking over the list of all-star offerings in McDonnell's collection and considering the size of the space he had to work with, Walder suggested something more aesthetic. They divided the cellar into two rooms, lining the arched passage between the two with shelves of large-format bottles. The racking in the front room was broken up by a midlevel row of display racking, the better to show off the best of the best. And in the back room, what started out as a

center table grew to a full floor-to-ceiling peninsula outfitted with an arched pass-through above a countertop. "We needed to do that to increase the capacity," says Walder. The final plan allowed for 15,355 bottles.

It's not hard to see why McDonnell was so amenable to the proposed niceties: he spent a lot of time in there. "It was a big part of his life. Every time I'd go over, that's where we would go hang out." A ducted system, which carried air from an adjacent room, kept things quiet and cool. A ducted humidifier kept it damp. "He kept a high-end digital thermograph on the counter that registered the temperature and humidity at all times. We were keeping it at 64 percent, which is ideal for everybody we've done cellars for in Southern California. He wanted 75 percent." Hence the ducted humidifier.

Besides that, and besides being insulated to the hilt and (eventually) protected by two backup systems, "His was the most organized cellar I'd ever seen. He really took the time to personalize it — setting everything up geographically. How many collectors are going to line up all their Left Bank Bordeaux, all their Right Bank Bordeaux. You don't see that. A lot of people don't know what's in their cellar."

"The cellar was computerized," says McDonnell. "I knew exactly where every bottle was, where I bought it, what I paid for it, and how long I had had it." Managing the cellar "was part of the fun

of it. One of the more relaxing things I could do when I was in professional life was going into the cellar and just sorting out what had arrived — logging it in, making sure it went to the right place."

It wasn't enough, of course. McDonnell's bottles swelled past the room's capacity, and he had to seek professional storage off-site. And now that he has decided to move — a decision that led him to sell his entire collection at auction — the cellar may be dismantled. Says McDonnell, "We built the shell, and we built it with a mind that if at any stage the person who bought the house didn't want a wine cellar, they could take it out and turn it into a family room or whatever they wanted to do with it." If that happens, it will be a sad day for Walder. He has many happy memories from time spent inside and has often used the cellar as a showcase for prospective clients. He has done larger cellars, including a cavernous, 45,000-bottle job up in Marin County. He had done fancier cellars, featuring overhead bridges of racking that require steel structural reinforcement. But it is McDonnell's cellar that graces the cover of Vintage Cellars' glossy brochure.

Before McDonnell's wine came to auction with Zachys, auctioneer Ursula Hermacinski flew out and hosted a pre-auction tasting at the Pamplemousse Grill. When she addressed the attendees, she gave what may have been the cellar's eulogy, and it was not a bad one: "I've been



John McDonnell's wine cellar (from Vintage Cellars brochure)

doing this for a very, very long time," she said. "I've dealt with a lot of consigners, and I've been in a million cellars, and I've never seen a cellar like this. The wines came into the cellar in perfect condition, and then with Gene's expertise and John's care, they certainly stayed that way. This is without a doubt the best collection that has come up to the New York market in the past year." ■

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

*The Reader's Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of nearly 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$24; **very expensive:** more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.*

NORTH COASTAL

The Armenian Cafe 3126 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. Long ago, Turkish conquerors brought Armenian food to Greece. At this large cottage with a sundeck overlooking Highway 101, some dishes (e.g., gyros) have traveled in the opposite direction, and the menu also translates the Armenian specialties to the more familiar Greek food vocabulary. The gyro meat mixture is made on the premises; other

good choices are Armenian marinated rack of lamb and shish kebab, including kebab-filled breakfast omelets. Music and belly dancing Friday and Saturday evenings. Three meals, Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

Fidel's Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. A sister restaurant to the venerable establishment in Solana Beach, the stars here are *carnitas*; quesadilla with chicken, beef, or pork; tostada *suprema*; and breast of chicken Milanese. Open daily lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

La Especial Norte 604 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic "pond" in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — for instance, the authentic Mexico City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory egg-plant soup includes airy little "croustons" of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to rest rooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (5/02)*

Oceanside Cafe 1938 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place is as "mom and pop" as they get. "Hi honey. You going to have the usual?" That's Shannon. They do lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast's what a lot of folks come for. "Dieter's Downfall," a 3-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato,

Jack, and Cheddar, is wicked. Two other things to try: the "Sausage of the Week" is made next door at the Red and White Market (anything from bockwurst to French apple-chicken sausage). And the dieter's real downfall comes with Marsha's carrot cake or her double chocolate cake — rich, moist, and fresh out of her oven every morning. Breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Potato Shack Cafe 120 West 1 Street (off South Coast Highway 101), Encinitas, 760-436-1282. Check out the cute potato-toon mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud-lovers to load up on portions sized for lumberjacks from The Lumberyard across the street. American fries (served "All you can eat!"), French fries, potato patties, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet reds. If size counts, consider the daunting inch-thick "manhole" pancake that's bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to "deli" sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early weekends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (10/01)*

Ruby's Diner 1 Pierview Way, Oceanside, 760-433-RUBY (7829). One thing about Ruby's: You can build an appetite just getting there. It's at the end of the 1/3 mile-long Oceanside pier. (There's a 50-cent electric wagon, too.) Ruby's is part of a themed "forties diner" chain stretching from LAX to Scottsdale, Arizona. But it's still fun. Shiny Chevy Corvette-style red leatherette and chrome booths, white walls, portholes, old Coca-Cola signs, "Dewey-Warren" presidential buttons, and that view to Hawaii. And pretty

darned good-sized servings too, from omelets to the "Super Burger" with Swiss cheese and avocado on a grilled Parmesan sourdough bun. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/01)*

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub 640 Grand Avenue (at Roosevelt Street), Carlsbad Village, 760-729-7234. Occupying the whole of a handsome, sprawling, block-long Elizabethan-style building, this friendly "small-townish" saloon offers some above-average pub-grub, especially the perfect, moist corned beef with firm-tender cabbage, the huge, lively salads, and the house-baked brown bread. Boxty (Irish "peasant" potato pancakes, rarely found in California) are done up rather doughy rather than crisp to serve as "wraps" for corned beef and other dishes. Live music on holiday evenings and during happy hours. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot offers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late, plus Sunday breakfast/brunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (3/02)*

Trattoria Positano (Cardiff-by-the-Sea) 2171 San Elijo Avenue, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-632-0111. If you're tired of Italian restaurants, you'll be revitalized by this one. Original recipes, wonderful fresh fish, nightly specials, excellent lamb and pastas. Very warm atmosphere. A treasure. Reservations accepted only for parties of six or more; expect a wait at prime dinner hours, especially on weekends. Lunch and dinner six days, Sundays dinner only. Upper moderate. — *E.W. (6/98)*

Vivace Four Seasons Resort Aviara, 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-6999. The well-prepared food is no more expensive than the offerings in any upscale San Diego restaurant,

but it's an experience to dine in such luxurious surroundings. Menus change seasonally. The appetizer list offers unique selections. For entrées try chicken in clay pot or daily fresh fish. The Four Seasons lounge is a great place to visit and listen to live music. Go see the hotel. It's worth the trip. Open nightly, 5:30 to 10:30 p.m., diners only. Expensive. — *E.W.*

NORTH INLAND

Galeon (Escondido) 503 West Mission, Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and *langostino* ("squat lobster," in fishermen's terms) are the house specialties, and are well treated. Also consider an intense little marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish), or the savory *albondigas* soup (lime it up, too). Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive (standard dishes) to moderate (seafood). — *N.W. (6/01)*

Island Boy Grille 10066 Pacific Heights Boulevard (south of Mira Mesa Boulevard, at Carroll Canyon Road), Sorrento Mesa, 858-452-7708. It's the last thing you'd expect up here in Corporate Lunchland, but Pua Macario's Hawaiian food sanctuary is the real thing. Pua ("Flower") serves genuine items like purple *taro poi*, seven-hour cooked *lau-lau* (beef, pork, and fish slow-steamed in taro and banana leaves), rice delivered by the ice-cream scoop, potato salad delivered hot with shrimp and crab in it, and mahi mahi, lots of lovely flame-seared mahi mahi.

Delivered in a standard polystyrene box, eat in or out. And heavy! The Wasa Plate will include, say, two big pieces of mahi mahi, a pile of shredded kalua pig and cabbage, or kahuna shrimp, or teriyaki chicken, plus two scoops of rice, salad and any side dish. If you're a really big kahuna, the Kanaka Plate will deliver three main entrées and three scoops of rice. Sparse decoration: eggshell blue walls with photos of real hula-dancing, and a longboard by Hawaiian Julian Cruz (it's yours for \$450). Warning: only open 11 a.m. to around 2:30 p.m. Always crowded. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/02)*

Pho Hoa Hiep 9910 Mira Mesa Boulevard, #A, 858-578-1468 (also at 6947 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-2406). This *pho* (soup) place of the brothers Hoa and Hiep is a clean, busy eatery near hi-tech offices. It's popular at lunch and dinner, partly because of frequent two-for-one deals. Try the #1, *Dac Biet Xe Lua*, an "extra large bowl" of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done brisket, flank, tendon, and tripe along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast *pho* is "French bread with beef juicy cube soup." They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the *Xam Bo Luong*, a combination of loganberry, black dates, seaweed, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Sand Crab Cafe 222 Micro Place (at Opper, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbe (honest, that's his name) owns this fun, funky dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primordial, preschoolish joy of whacking crabs to pieces with mallets and eating them with your

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hands. (Bibs are optional.) Everybody gets into the party spirit. There's a huge à la carte list of appetizers, soups, snacks, and main courses, often at bargain prices. Entrées include several crab-bucket combos, cooked to a well-seasoned boil with corn, potatoes, and spicy Louisiana sausage. Most of the shellfish were flash-frozen on ship-board, but they're still tasty. The melted non-butter "spread" accompanying them appeals to the area's many health-conscious residents. (Or you can BY-OButter and they'll melt it for you.) Fine tangy housemade key lime pie is a perfect finale. Full bar; not much wine, but good margaritas. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Tong Szechuan 609 North Broadway #E-F, Albertson's Shopping Center, Escondido, 760-480-9438. The "New Style Favorites" of North County Chinese restaurants feature fresh fruits. Tong's has several variants, mainly cornstarch-battered fried proteins in honey-based sweet-and-sour sauce, lightened with loads of seasonal fruit chunks — pineapple, papaya, pear, etc. They're tasty dishes. For the rest, the Szechuan specialties (hot-and-sour soup, *kung pao*, *ma la*, etc.) are better than the old "Chinese-American" standards on the menu. Lunches are big, bargain-priced, and popular. In this quiet, pretty room, you may overhear northern or western Chinese dialects at nearby tables. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive (lunch) to low-moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Vincent's Sirino's 113 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-745-3835. French-born chef-owner Vincent Grumel serves Gallic classics in an intimate, small-town bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing

fine ingredients, such as a huge, flavorful veal chop (no factory calf, that). Mushrooms and vegetables (from local farmers or Grumel's own garden) are the season's best and sensitively treated. Desserts are worth every calorie — save room for the spectacular Bavarian. Full bar, fine wine list. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. (Closed annually from third week of June to third week of July.) Expensive. — *N.W. (6/01)*

GOLD COAST

Barone's Trattoria Del Mare 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-9063. Pleasant interior, 27 pastas, low prices, huge portions of tasty food make this a winner for all bargain seekers. Try the paella, large enough for two. Linguine rustica and chicken Marsala best bets. Lunch, Tuesday through Friday; dinner, Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (1/00)*

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-1321. This beautiful restaurant with its breezy seafront patio is a branch of an upscale beach mini-chain (others are in Dana Point and Laguna Beach). Its main menu features steaks, seafood, and some "Continental" warhorses (lobster thermidor, et al) that are best avoided. The view is even more spectacular from the upstairs "Top of the House" which features pub grub and fish in a lighthouse-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte champagne brunch featuring the standard dishes of the genre plus some less-successful fancied-up ones, with end-

less Freixenet champagne. Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Reserve for a view table or outdoor seating at Sunday brunch. Full bar but few wines. \$2 valet parking. Restrooms accessible by elevator, may be tight fit for wider wheelchairs. Daily brunch/lunch and dinner. "Top of the House" serves until 11 p.m. nightly; "early bird" cut-price dinners weeknights. Brunch moderate, dinner moderate to very expensive. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Charlie's by the Sea 2565 South Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea (a long block south of the stoplight), 760-942-1300. This seaside spot offers a blissful patio right on the breakwater and a terrific, authentic Boston-style clam chowder to match the view — it's light, creamy, and loaded with clams, unpeeled red potato chunks, and bits of honey-cured bacon. The kitchen's good with simple dishes, including fresh raw oysters and the lively "Bayou Burger" with Cajun seasonings and well-made spicy fries. The dinner menu includes more ambitious items, but the weekly main event here is Sunday brunch, with a menu of standard brunch dishes at affordable prices, featuring endless refills of champagne. (Hint: Veuve Clicquot it's not.) Huge wine list, full bar. Free valet parking. Brunch reservations advisable. Open daily, lunch or brunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (9/03)*

J. Taylor's Restaurant L'Auberge Resort and Spa, 1540 Camino Del Mar (at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-793-6406. On lush, lovely grounds, in an airy, country-inn dining room, Executive Chef Tom Atkins offers Northern California-style "comfort" cuisine, with simple, fresh flavors and

prime seasonal ingredients (you'll think you're in the Napa Valley). Execution is expert. Appetizers and desserts are especially appealing, as is a multicourse tasting menu (with matched wines optional) that lets the chefs stretch out and show off a little. In fair weather, you can dine on a patio overlooking the herb garden that's the source of so many flavors on your plate. A rather steep wine list emphasizes California vineyards. Free valet parking at restaurant door. Three meals daily. Expensive. — *N.W. (1/03)*

Samurai Japanese Restaurant 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Lomas Santa Fe Plaza, Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. This restaurant boasts "the largest California sushi bar" as well as a menu of over 100 items. The food is artistically prepared and presented, the sushi uniformly fine. You can easily make a meal from the sushi and appetizers. Seating is available at the sushi bar or the central dining area, which provides capacious booths. A tatami room (with floor-seating on tatami mats, Japanese style) offers special prix fixe feasts (\$60 per person and up), by reservation only. Open daily. Moderate to extremely expensive. — *E.W.*

LA JOLLA

Cuvee 5656 La Jolla Boulevard (at Bird Rock Avenue), La Jolla, 858-551-4090. Also at 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, 858-259-5878. Seasonal if rather underseasoned California-Mediterranean cuisine, designed to accompany an interesting and very affordable wine list. All bottles on the regular list are under \$25 and available by the glass; you can

even get a sip before choosing. A reserve list includes fancier choices, still at minimal markups. Low corkage for BYO, too. Menu suggests apt wine pairings for each dish. Dining rooms are pleasant but quite noisy. Reservations are urged; a few tables on heated garden patio are available to drop-ins. Small parking lot in alley behind La Jolla branch. Dinner 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W. (2/02)*

Fleming's Steak House And Wine Bar 8970 University Center Lane, Aventine Complex, La Jolla, 858-535-0078. Beautiful atmosphere, excellent service, very fine preparations. Very crowded weekends. Steaks and chops first rate. Vegetables à la carte. Open nightly for dinner only. Upper moderate to expensive. — *E.W. (1/00)*

La Taverna 927 Silverado Street (at Girard Avenue), La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Don't look for meatballs and red sauce except at lunch because dinner is Tuscan-style, showcasing pastas with simple, fresh sauces. Highlights include chef-owner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi are a special, just say yes. Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Service is downright endearing on weekends, when Jimmy Vitale (the owner's husband) charmingly plays maitre d'. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Sadaf 613 Pearl Street (at Cuvier), La Jolla, 858-551-0643. You worry — those formal fixtures and black-tux waiters, the gold-encrusted paintings, and the crisp, pink table linens all

scream "expensive!" Actually, prices are easygoing, especially at lunch. The appetizers are free: a basket of *lavash* (unleavened bread), and beside it, butter and a large sliced raw onion. Eating bread with onion makes you hungry, say the Persians. Then try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or *albalou polo* (rice, dried cherries, and chicken). Pistachio-and-rosewater ice cream is a great finale. Nonspecials and evening meals cost more, but at any price this is real Persian food, with typical riotous herbage and sybaritic spicing. Another branch in the Gaslamp turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food's better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (10/00)*

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. You'll do fine if you stay with the simplest dishes: marinated grilled chicken breast on pizza dough, grilled portobello mushrooms, or pasta dishes. Entrées from shores other than Italian don't fare as well. The restaurant is located two flights down and offers an ocean view and patio as well as indoor dining. Elevator located at garage below on Coast Boulevard. Open daily. Moderate (some pastas) to very expensive. — *E.W.*

Tutto Mare 4365 Executive Drive (at Executive Way), Golden Triangle, 858-597-1188. The modern Italian cuisine here emphasizes pasta and fresh seafood from the mesquite grill or oak-fired oven. Lunch hours roar with chic crowds from the surrounding office buildings, but the kitchen is most on its toes then, too. Pastas are mainly house-made, with fresh-tasting sauces, and substantial seafood salads are available. Entrées (whether seafood or meat) may be overcooked by the fierce wood fires,

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Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

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Bahia Café **Prime rib buffet \$16.95**
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Broken Yolk **\$2 off breakfast or lunch**
Caffe Veloce **Free gelato**
Canes' Cantina **50% off entrée**
Chateau Orleans **2 for 1 entrée**
Coaster Saloon
Costa Brava **2 for 1 lunch tapas**
French Gourmet **50% off dinner**
Great Moon Buffet
Gringo's **20% off champagne brunch**
Hanaoka **20% off sushi & hand rolls**
Lahaina Beach House **Free breakfast**
Moondoggies P.B. **50% off lunch**
Ocean Beach Grille **Free appetizer with lunch**
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill
Saska's **2 for 1 entrée**
Surfside Sushi **1/2 price appetizer**
Taylor's Restaurant & Brewery **Free entrée**

La Jolla

Aurora Trattoria **Free dinner entrée**
Beach House Brewery **Free entrée**
Brockton Villa
Cafe Milano **Free tiramisu**
Cody's **Free breakfast or lunch entrée**
French Gourmet @ Elario's
Galoka **1/2 off bottle of wine**
Ginza-Sushi **Sushi dinner for 2 \$15.95•**
India Palace•
Marrakesh **10% off lunch**
Moondoggies LJ **Free appetizer**
Shelby's **\$15 off dinner entrée**
Su Casa **Free entrée**

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Road, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Tierrasanta

Ashoka the Great **50% off lunch or dinner**
China Max **10% off any entrée**
Filling Station **Free appetizer**
Green Tea House **50% off exotic tea**
Pampas Argentine Grill **Free empanada**
Pride of Italy **Italian Feast for 2 \$19.95**
Rosie & Joe's Mexican **Free chips & salsa**
Sipz Fusion Café
Thai Time II & III **Free dessert•**

Downtown

Alambres **Free soup**
Alfiere **Free entrée**
Boathouse **2 for 1 lunch or brunch**
Dancing Dog Deli **\$1 off Egg Scrambles**
Field **Free dessert**
Fifth & Hawthorn **Free dessert**
Nectar
Nutter's
Olé Madrid **2 for 1 brunch**
Rockin' Baja **\$5 off Big Bucket for 2•**
Sevilla **\$10 off salsa dinner show for 2•**
Star of India **50% off entrée•**

Uptown & North Park

Abbey Café **2 for 1 Sunday brunch buffet**
Casa Sanchez **Free appetizer**
DiMille's
Lips **50% off dinner**
Lotus Thai **Early dinner special \$9.95**
Pizza Nova **\$5 off•**
Taste of Italy **1/2 off entrée•**

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

Berta's **New Year's Eve dinner for 2 \$65**
Harney Sushi **20% off entire bill**
Jump Tokyo Sushi House **20% off Happy Hour**
Old Town Mexican Cafe
Paradise Yogurt **Free topping**
Raw Mana **\$5 off hip hop sushi**
Seau's
Shanghai Chinese **\$1 off Mongolian BBQ**
Tio Leo's **Free dessert•**
Todai **10% off lunch or dinner**

North County

Americana **Wednesdays 1/2-price wine**
Axis Martini Bar/Restaurant **2 for 1 dinner entrée**
Calypso
El Callejon
Greek Village **Free saganaki**
Jay's Gourmet **15% off entire bill**
Le Petit Calypso **Free appetizer**
Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi**
Passage to India **50% off dinner•**
Squid Joe's
Taste of India **Dinner for 2 \$29.95**
Wild Note Cafe

East County & State College

Greek Town Buffet **50% off buffet**
Jamar Restaurant **Free 2-lb. burger**

South Bay & Coronado

Barbecue Pit **\$6.99 BBQ beef dinner**
L'Escale at Marriott **25% off entire bill**
Tamales Ancira **Free tamale**

Calendar RESTAURANTS

and most come with minor variations of the same lemon-butter sauce and a one-size-fits-all veggie medley. Full bar, interesting wine list, good Happy Hour nibbles. Complimentary valet parking. Call for careful directions (very hard to find). Extremely noisy. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner weekends. Pastas and salads moderate, entrées expensive. — *N.W.* (10/02)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego's hidden jewels: there's classic American fare (honey-glazed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the "Officers' mess," but better yet is the free buffet Happy Hour — pig heaven weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Selections might

include a "stroganoff" of Polish sausage, veggies, cheese potatoes, nachos, etc. (Of course, you have to buy something — say, a pitcher of Bud for two.) Thursdays and Fridays, the outside "Runway" grill features kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Andres' Patio Restaurant 1235 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hard-to-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is *ropa vieja* ("old clothes"): shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with ever-present rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other interesting dishes include *alcapuria* (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy *yuca con mojo* (yuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Mon-

day through Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (8/01)

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Avenue (at 49th Street), City Heights, 619-283-4352. Ann Nguyen started this back in 1980, and her prices haven't changed — they're incredibly low. But the taste of her sandwiches is up there in French-Vietnamese heaven. The Vietnamese are special at this: they do French better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. The BBQ Pork French sandwich delivers the immediate taste of cilantro, garlicky mayonnaise, sweet barbecue sauce, carrots, onions, cucumber, and lashings of sliced pork, with the occasional heat of a green jalapeño. But above all, it's that crunch of bread — fresh, feathery, and very French — that makes this hard to beat. Add dessert of home-made banana shrimp cake and Vietnamese coffee and — *voilà!* Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/02)

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant Pacific Gateway Plaza, 3709 Convoy Street (at Aero Drive), 1st floor, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Arguably the best Chinese restaurant in the county, here's where local Asians

(of all nations) go for both casual family dinners and special feasts of Hong Kong specialties. When you dig in, you'll know why. Menu (trilingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, and English) emphasizes seafood and gourmet delicacies of the South China coast, plus lunchtime dim sum carts daily. The staff is bilingual and crisply helpful, and the specialties are well worth exploring. Reservations accepted for all meals, including weekend dim sum brunches. Few dishes include MSG; diners can request none in made-to-order dishes. Live fish tanks, full bar, serviceable wine list. Mainly moderate, with moderate splurges like live fish and Peking duck easily balanced by inexpensive down-home dishes (unless you insist on shark fin or bird's nest). Open daily from lunch until midnight or later. — *N.W.* (9/02)

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Drive (at Montgomery Field), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. The Argentine specialties feature grilled grass-fed beef, including a somewhat Americanized version of the *gauchos'* great *parillada mixta* (mixed grill), with a great chorizo but minus any exotic organs. The naturally raised meats are lower fat and lower cholesterol than feed-lot beef but are salted heavily in the kitchen unless

you request otherwise. Specify rare or medium-rare, unless you really like brown cardboard. Lighter fare includes free-range chicken and fresh, well-treated seafood. Beef empanadas are a tasty, authentic starter. Potatoes (fries and mashed) are splendid, salads are exuberant. The full bar features Chilean and Argentine beverages with many affordable South American wines by the glass. Park in lot at restaurant's front door, not the back-door lot. Lunch (mainly sandwiches) on weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.* (4/02)

THE BEACHES

The Fishery 5040 Cass Street (at Opal Street), Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. Half fish market, half fish restaurant — you can buy fresh raw seafood (much of it rather steeply priced). Or you can get cooked seafood ranging from the casual to the elaborate. The menu includes fish and chips, sandwiches, chowders, crab cakes, raw oysters, sushi and sashimi, fusion-style fish entrées and simple shellfish extravaganzas. Short but smart list of sakes. Open daily lunch and dinner. Prices are mainly

moderate but they cover the waterfront, from inexpensive (lunch specials, fish and chips) to downright exorbitant (Maine lobster or live King crab). — *N.W.* (9/02)

Hanaoka 1203 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 959-274-9755. Mr. and Mrs. Hanaoka's Japanese restaurant has the feel of those country inns you read about in a James Michener novel, with a sushi counter, lots of paper lanterns, and sunken tables where you can sit lotus-fashion or drop your legs in the space below. The luncheon specials are a great buy. Try chicken teriyaki and *gyoza*, with rice, salad, and miso soup. "*Hanaoka*" means "honest," and portions are honestly generous. Dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Hawaiian Island Barbecue Pacific Plaza, 1768 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-9830. What do folks really eat in Hawaii? What they serve here: plate lunches. Which means two scoops of rice, one scoop of macaroni salad, and then whatever, like garlic shrimp, mahi mahi or fried shrimp, Hawaiian BBQ chicken, chicken *katsu*, Hawaiian BBQ beef or short ribs, even hamburger steak. But to go all-out Hawaiian, try the chicken *lau lau*

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The Mission Cafe and Coffee House 3795 Mission Boulevard (at San Jose Place), Mission Beach, 858-488-9060. Gourmet and Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pancakes, and roast beef hash with rosemary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins, available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

People's Organic Foods Co-op Deli 4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. This is the land of "organic," "cruelty-free," "environmentally safe," "shade-grown." Vegan Country. People look either disgustingly healthy, disturbingly pasty, or just plain smug. But the food tastes pretty good. And they sell it by the pound so you can mix and match. Course, you have to learn new words, like tempeh (cultured soy which can be made to taste like anything). And dishes have a sensible momsy East Coast feel — garlic eggplant with beet root and onions, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, millet spinach bake, shepherd's pie, "mango madness," tempeh sausage, steamed vegetables, vegan macaroni and cheese. Bottom line: it's guilt-free. Open seven days, breakfast, lunch, dinner (but "serious" breakfasts Saturday and Sunday only). Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/03)*

Society Billiards Cafe 1051 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 619-272-POOL (7665). Okay, this is a pool joint, but a classy one with sidewalk seating and a decent kitchen. It has the normal appetizers — buffalo wings, nachos, potato skins — but also dishes like chicken taquitos and veggie dip, and good salads like teriyaki chicken with French bread or pita. The French connection continues: Marc, the chef, is French and throws a mean Greek, Thai, or New York pizza, or 17 other varieties. His mesquite chicken wrap goes great with one of the many ales. And the great thing is, you can come late: the kitchen's open till 1:30 p.m. every night. Lunch, dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

The Surfside 4527 Mission Boulevard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it's a "scene" here — for good reason. You'll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and "California coastal cuisine," i.e., fun and flavorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half-price during weeknight Happy Hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it'll put you at the head of the line), where the chefs are unusually friendly. They shine on simple, pure Japanese sushi, although they make the usual "party rolls," too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the *toro*, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there's a breezy, informal dining room with large windows looking out on the street, plus a small private dining room for parties. Four Japanese beers, 10 sakes available. Reservations urged for large groups. Parking is tight; just one handicapped slot in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (10/02)*

Sushi Ota 4529 Mission Bay Drive (at Bunker Hill Street), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5670. What becomes a legend most? At its best, this renowned sushi bar offers fish of exceptional quality, perfect tart-sweet rice, tight wraps, and disciplined creativity. These joys don't come easily. First, find the place: Driving south from Balboa, look left, and pull into the mini-mall with the large 7-11 sign (opposite Rubio's). Sit at the sushi bar to snoop on your neighbors' choices, watching for off-menu extravaganzas, e.g., sea snails cooked over flaming sugar or the irresistible "sushi sundae" (*uni, toro*, mountain potatoes, salmon roe). Don't miss the *ama-ebi*, with crisp shrimp heads atypically flash-baked (not batter-fried). Cooked dishes are dull except for *chawan-mushi* (custard broth with ginkgo nuts). Alas, when Ota-san's away, his elves may play — amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a bar seat for an early dinner Wednesdays through Saturdays, when the master is most likely to be present. Disabled access chancy; long, crowded waits unless you've reserved. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Victor's 2702 North Mission Bay Drive (in the De Anza Mission Bay Golf Resort), 858-490-3380. You're in a ranch-style clubhouse here, looking out onto a wonderland of palms and pines surrounding a giant artificial waterfall. Victor's eatery spills out over a concrete patio. Inside, it's easy to fall into conversation with regulars at the cozy bar. You can pay a little (for, say, soup and half a tuna sandwich), or a lot (for the Friday through Sunday prime rib special). Pasta dishes like "Rasta Pasta" (red and green bell peppers and tomato in a cream champagne sauce of penne pasta) are a happy medium. Or their delicious "Victor's Ultimate Burger Grilled," with mushrooms, onion, bacon, and Swiss cheese. Order rare. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*


CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

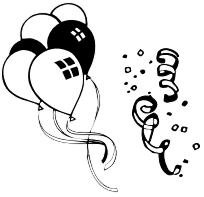
Asia Cafe 4710 Market Street (at 47th Street), Chollas View, 619-527-1917. Maybe Asian San Diego's best-kept secret. You have to look behind the smog shop at this all-Laotian shopping center to find it. The menu's Southeast Asian, but the owner — and most of the conversation around you — is Lao. Lao dishes include the famous *Larb-Kai* (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Good regional alternatives: *Bamee* (egg noodle) roasted pork soup, Crying Tiger (ground beef salad with vegetables), Duck Head BBQ, and *Lard Nar* (seafood, beef, or pork with sloppy wide noodles and vegetables). Closed Tuesdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Los Reyes 2496 Broadway (at 25th), 619-231-0716. If you've ever craved those fabulous Mexican fish soups that can be such energy restorers, these strip-mall Mexican restaurants have a great one. It's *Caldo 7 Mares* (Seven Seas Soup) and it comes as a big bowl of savory red fish soup clunking with giant crab legs, clams, chunks of white fish, shrimp, the pink and purple suckers of octopus, and vegetables. It's also

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

called *Vuelva a la vida*: “Return to life.” On a hot day, their Cocktail Campechana (shrimp and octopus in a light, spicy tomato broth) will return you to life, too. Four brothers and one sister from Michoacan run the place. A very Michoacan dish is *carnitas* — pork shoulders. Or try their gringo lunch deal of a bacon cheeseburger with fries and a can of soda. The prices make this a tightwad’s paradise. Three meals daily, with the Broadway flagship branch open until midnight on weekends; all other branches closing early every evening. (Smaller branches at 47th and Market, 25th and Imperial, and 1270 Picador Boulevard.) Cash only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Phoenicia 3381 Adams Avenue (at 34th Street), Normal Heights, 619-282-4120. To find this tiny restaurant — the longest-running eatery on Adams Avenue — look for a window featuring a cedar tree (the symbol on the Lebanese flag), an American flag, and the word “Phoenicia” written in Arabic and English. The inside is cramped, but they have sidewalk tables, too. Try their baked eggplant stuffed with lamb, pine nuts, onions, and garlic, or the *kafta* kabob, with ground meat, parsley, onions, and pita bread. The real treat is the *kibbeh neyeh*, raw lamb with cracked wheat, onions, and seasonings, but you’ll need to call 24 hours ahead to get it. Homemade rose juice and Lebanese coffees are delicious, too. Breakfast through very early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-284-4215 or 619-284-4288. You’re in a big glass palace here. It’s especially good on Sundays, when three- or four-generation Vietnamese families gather for lunch. Gaggles of waiters hover a glance away, but take your time. The menu has over 250 items on it. Default choice: *pho*, the famous, filling soup-meal of Vietnam

where beef cooks in the soup. Another safe bet is stir-fried crispy or soft egg noodle with seafood and assorted vegetables. “33” Vietnamese beer is on hand to make Saigon lovers sentimental. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Trieu Chau Restaurant 4653 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-4204. This is as near as you’ll come to eating breakfast in Phnom Penh or lunch in Vientiane. Cambodians come in the morning to talk politics and play Cambodian chess. At lunch, Laotians replace them. Maps of “Kampuchea” decorate the walls, as well as long-distance telephone ads. The menu includes Chinese, Khmer, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for “*djak kvai coffay dok ko*” — fried bread with Cambodian coffee, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Later in the day, you might try pan-fried noodles with broccoli and beef or shrimp and gravy (“*koitiow bahat sai kho*”). If in doubt, ask for Kathy, who speaks Chinese, Khmer, Lao — and English. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Turf Supper Club 1116 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-234-6363. At this cozy saloon (a landmark since 1950, “re-established” in 1998), if your meat’s done wrong, it’s your own fault. Every night’s an indoor cook-out, as patrons huddle by the communal fire-pit tending their steaks (a choice of three ritzy cuts, well-marinated in garlic and olive oil), burgers, chicken breasts, or portobello mushrooms; others choose the veggie kabobs or teriyaki skewers of beef, chicken, or fish. And that’s the menu. The only side dish is a simple salad — not even fries. But the meat’s a treat, especially the huge, juicy Delmonico rib eye. If you’re an utterly hopeless cook, a staffer will mind your meal for you, but you’d miss half the fun. Full bar, no reservations. Open nightly. Inexpensive to barely moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

EAST COUNTY & STATE COLLEGE

La Mesa Ocean Grille And Seafood Market 5465 Lake Murray Boulevard (at Maryland Street), La Mesa, 619-463-1548. This spot speaks seafood in several accents — Italian, Mexican, Cajun, and “Continental.” One part of its menu is devoted to basic fare, such as seafood sandwiches, tacos, and various simple fish preparations (fried, blackened, “wraps”). Then there are the more elaborately sauced-and-garnished seafood dinner entrées, most with pasta accompaniment. Fisheschewers will find chicken and veal in classic Italian treatments (scaloppini, *piccata*, etc.), plus nightly specials. Seafood here is very fresh and properly cooked, although there are occasional missteps — too much salt in the blackening, a hollandaise that tastes of lemony mayo. Salads are fresh but iceberg-standard; hot rolls are delicious sourdough, and the halibut ceviche is a treat — cool, refreshing, and slightly tart. Baked Maryland-style crab cakes in a thick red-pepper sauce are goeey-rich and tasty. The ambience, too, is a mixture of styles — from the encyclopedic fish posters of a basic fish house, to the lace curtains and tablecloths of an old-style seafood restaurant, to the slightly hip modernity of charcoal-gray track-lighting and black-background fish-design upholstery. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *A.M. (5/01)*

Lucky Star Seafood Restaurant 3983 54th Street (at University Avenue, in Kmart Shopping Mall), College Area, 619-229-8228. The Cantonese and Mandarin menu runs to 225 dishes, not to mention the dim sum lunches from roving carts bearing goodies. The huge room is perfect for large parties (call ahead to reserve) or banquets. Not to be missed are lobster dishes, steamed whole fish, Dungeness crab in special sauce, and frog’s legs. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to upper moderate. — *E.W. (9/99)*

May Day Cafe 1860 Joe Crosson Drive, El Cajon, 619-448-2707. Talk about hidden jewels: This place is in a hangar at Gillespie Field next to a road hardly anybody uses. Yet go early for

breakfast and TV news, country music, and a relay from Gillespie tower make it feel like Grand Central Station. Then you’ll notice most everyone else there is talking planes. This is a fliers’ hangout. The menu is simple, and cheap. Eggs and toast a couple of bucks, “May Day Melts” (sourdough bread with eggs, cheese, ham), not much more. For lunch, it’s hot pastrami or a grilled ham and cheese sandwich. But what you’re really here for is the talk. Take-off’s, landings, getting lost. Breakfast and lunch. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Sunny Garden Cuisine Of China 5500 Grossmont Center Drive (next to Target), La Mesa, 619-464-2288. Decent Chinese food, in East County, in a mall? Yes. Fans of fried goodness will of course swoon over tempura shrimp — panko-crusted, huge and tender — but they might also start with the smoked chicken: smoky meat swaddled in an orangey fried coat, served atop a deeply munchable bed of salty-sour fried mustard greens. The menu is typically broad. Chicken, shrimp, beef and pork are all given the *mu-shu* treatment — mixed with bamboo shoots, bean sprouts, and thin, chewy mushrooms and wrapped tableside (if you like) in papery pancakes. *Yu-hsiang* (with shrimp, beef, or pork) includes vegetables that are flavorful (not afterthoughts) in a refreshingly non-sweet vinegar sauce. Specialties include Peking duck and fried noodle nests filled with either seafood or beef. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/02)*

Valley House Restaurant 10767 Woodside Avenue, Santee, 619-562-7878. This is for Cornbelt folks, plus wannabes who enjoy plain-speaking, plenty-of-it Iowan food. Take the morning special, “Iowa Breakfast”: breaded pork tenderloin, two eggs, and hash browns, fries, or grits, plus a choice of biscuits, muffins, or toast — it’s delicious. Lunch or dinnertime you can’t go wrong ordering the signature “Iowa Porker” hot sandwich (breaded pork tenderloin in a bun with soup, potato salad, or steak fries) or the “Iowa Beefers” (seasoned ground beef simmered in chicken broth, piled into a

burger bun). Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/01)*

FAR EAST

Burning Tree Native American Grill 40080 Old Highway 80 (at the end of Highway 94), Boulevard, 619-766-3442. This place feels like someone’s baronial country retreat. Since 1917 it has sat under a grove of California live oaks 60 miles east of downtown. It once housed the Chateau Basque restaurant. Elk heads, dark timbers, mottled yellow windows — you start wishing you’d brought your tie. But don’t worry. Jim Buel and his family keep prices reasonable and attitudes casual. They collected Native American recipes throughout the Southwest to create an interesting fusion of American Indian recipes. Try Comanche fried frogs’ legs in a cornmeal crust, or hunter’s stew with venison and rabbit, sirloin of buffalo, or “Skokomish Huckleberry glazed duck.” Open Wednesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to expensive. — *E.B. (9/01)*

Dulzura Cafe Highway 94 at Dulzura, 619-468-9591. Think *Grapes of Wrath*, Okies, the 1930s. Dulzura Café is the real thing, serving big, hot meals to weary westerners since 1910. The walls are cluttered with license plates, pots, brass cream-separators, corn-shuckers, horse collars, railroad lanterns, ancient egg-beaters, six-foot snake skins, deer antlers, and a seedy stuffed bobcat head. The food’s for filling. Big, juicy hamburgers with lanky home-cut fries, thick slices of meat loaf, or if you arrive early, steak and eggs or a hefty Denver omelet. This is frontier food before slim spelled “success.” Breakfast and lunch Monday through Thursday, three meals on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the “NRA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.” sign, past bows and arrows, dream catchers, lariats, and brass spittoons, and swing into a chair. Hefty anytime-breakfasts include two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee

or eggs with chicken fried steak or a bulging veggie omelet. Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks hereabouts talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks swoon. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Potrero’s Cafe 25125 Highway 94, Potrero, 619-478-2694. Watch for the three great old Live Oak trees. This café sits under them and looks straight out of a 1930s Western movie. Lot of good old boys in ten-gallon hats gather here. The menu’s non-PC. It features rib-sticking food from biscuits and gravy to a mountain of hot cakes, or the famous mushroom-and-onions hamburger with baked beans. Open for breakfast and lunch; closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights, 619-298-8440. The frequently changing menu tries to embrace several disparate styles, and can’t quite get its arms around any of them. The dishes are often ambitious; a few soar, but many falter due to flaws in conception, execution, or both. Largely lo-hum wine list needs selections with enough sweetness to stand up to items featuring Asian spice — where are the Rieslings? Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness: yellow and orange walls, plenty of smiles amid the bustle. Soups receive lavish attention, and sometimes live up to their billing — the blood orange and roasted butternut squash soup is delicious, dark and complex. The generous, marvelous lavender-infused crème brûlée makes this a dessert destination — pause to sniff a spoonful before slipping it between your lips. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/01)*

Bread And Cie 350 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. At least twenty breads emerge daily from this bakery’s 10,000-pound French stone hearth oven. Most are dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the outstanding anise-fig and black olive loaves that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwiches (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the café or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (6/02)*

Cafe On Park 3831 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-293-7275. Okay, it’s trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don’t expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or brie cheese. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hangtown Fry — luscious marinated sautéed oysters scrambled in eggs. Lunch has deals too: the roasted eggplant is cheap and good. Three meals weekdays, only breakfast and lunch (and a line at the door) on weekends. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Cafe Pacifica 2414 San Diego Avenue (next to Old Town graveyard), Old Town, 619-291-6666. The fare here is mainly very fresh seafood, either fusioned up and somewhat chancy, or grilled simply and reliably excellent. Among the highlights are a clean-limned clam chowder, some amusing yellowfin-stuffed wontons, crab-stuffed portobello mushrooms, and luscious mustard-crusted Oregon catfish. On the downside, Mexican pink abalone are tiny, over-breaded, and overpriced. Several good grilled meats are available for fish-scorers. Optional valet parking \$4. Wheelchair lot and ramp behind restaurant (ask valet to direct you). Often very noisy. Serious, rather steep California wine list; full bar.

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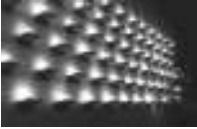
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Daily, dinner only. Upper moderate to expensive. — N.W. (10/02)

Fifth And Hawthorne 515 Hawthorne Street (at Fifth Avenue), Banker's Hill, 619-544-0940. This warm, cozy cottage near Balboa Park offers once-radical dishes that have long since turned into familiar California comfort cuisine. The menu changes only slightly and the kitchen has the dishes down so pat that execution is almost inhumanly flawless. It's a little like an ideal airplane dinner — on the Concorde, say. Highlights include spicy duck soup, tender stuffed chicken breast, melting calamari steaks, and mustard-coated catfish. Most weeknights, couples can opt for a "wine dinner" that includes four courses and a decent bottle of wine — a great bargain. Full bar, reasonable California-dominated wine list. Good pre-theatre dinner spot (near the Old Globe); let server know your curtain time. No wheelchair access to rest rooms. Dinner nightly. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (2/03)

Hamburger Mary's 308 University Avenue (at Third Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-491-0400. All the action is on the patio, under ficus trees, ferns, the *palapa* bar, and white umbrellas. Bougainvillea bursts out of tables. Hamburger Mary's mural comes at you in a Stetson, wild red hair, big blue eyes, and a plump butt. Basically it's a gay rendezvous, but everybody's welcome. The burgers are way-big with funky titles like the "I'm Sooo Bleu" burger with bacon and bleu cheese crumbles, or the "Two Tons Of Fun," a six-inch-high double-burger with mushrooms, bacon, lettuce, cheese, and onions. The kicker is they're all served between wickedly crisp, sweet slabs of golden Hawaiian bread. Open daily until

2 a.m., grill until 11 p.m. Moderate. — E.B. (3/01)

Khyber Pass 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. The room's very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods, with even a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the region). Dinners feature kebabs, tandooris, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly comfortable to the cosmopolitan palate. Among the don't-miss items are the outstanding *aushak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamordd chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Save room for the sexy desserts. Can be noisy inside; small sidewalk patio. Private dining room upstairs bookable for parties. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (9/02)

Liaison 2202 Fourth Avenue (at Ivy Street), uptown, 619-234-5540. This French restaurant with its romantic atmosphere offers an à la carte menu and fixed-price meals. Pleasant food, excellent service. Patio dining, weather permitting. Open Tuesday through Sunday for dinner; closed Monday. Low moderate to expensive. — E.W. (3/00)

Mister Sisters 3805 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-4647. You somehow think "Chicago" when you walk into this cool, dark-woody place. The idea is a kind of social get-together locale "where the food tastes great and is not so good for you," according to the twin sisters and the mister who started it. They are trying to recreate small-town West Virginia, where they're from. The big deal is Happy Hour's "Pint & Pound," a pint of draft beer and a

pound of wings. Sandwiches have Hillcrest-type names: "Stacked Up Sister," "The Queen of Hillcrest," "The Priss," "The Tomboy." If in doubt, check out the Philly cheese steak. It comes with "Whiz" cheese. Lunch, dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/03)

Ono Sushi and Pacific Spice 1236 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0616. If you are searching for huge portions, fresh tasty food and reasonable prices, don't overlook this colorful Japanese/Pacific Rim café. Excellent specialty rolls, entrées, appetizers. Very crowded weekends; lively young crowd. Dinners nightly; open for lunch Saturday and Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W. (11/98)

Rice Jones 3687 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1887; also 6618 Mission Gorge Road, 619-528-8301. It's probably no coincidence that Anglo-Asian families seem to come here. Rice Jones' owner Anh Long had two good ideas: One, to provide rice with just about everything. Interesting rice, usually sautéed with mushrooms and herbs, so customers can fill up without busting the bank, and two, to bridge the taste gap between Vietnam and California. She offers lemongrass chicken next to California bruschetta (sautéed mushrooms and tomatoes on toast). Or, a turkey burger next to a Vietnamese grilled eggplant. Most exotic: "shrimp wrap," a shrimp patty wrapped around a sugarcane stick with rice noodles. It's a cliché, but they treat you like family here, no matter which side of the pond you come from. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/03)

Sassafras 3667 India Street, Mission Hills, 619-295-4745. This restaurant claims to serve "Continental Americana" (whatever that is), but chef-owner Andre Bellard is a son of

Lafayette, Louisiana, and knows his Cajun flavors inside out. He's pioneering a "new" Cajun cooking: kinder, gentler, and more sophisticated. His Acadian seafood gumbo, which includes spicy house-smoked andouille sausage, is one of the best in any town; oysters Bienville feature barely-warmed oysters with a lush spinach topping. Also superb: paper-wrapped shrimp, seafood Evangeline, and crab-corn soup. Among the entrées, the must-try is the signature Sassafras Chicken, stuffed with jambalaya. On Wednesday nights during the season (January to June), there's an exuberant crawfish feast on the enclosed patio, with mudbugs shipped live from Louisiana cooked with andouille and corn in a tasty house-made "boil." Dinner nightly. High moderate. — N.W. (2/02)

Terra 3900 Vermont Street, Uptown Center, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. Co-owner Jeff Rossman, formerly in charge of the front of the house, has moved into the kitchen to serve as chef at this comfortable neighborhood spot, serving venturesome, if uneven, tropical-influenced American cooking. You can settle in a spacious southwest-tinged dining room or people-watch from a sheltered outdoor patio (with smoking permitted). Generously sized tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe's across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather, and special dinners on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Caipirinhas, et al.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends, holidays and special events (e.g., Sunday "blues and barbecue" during the summer). Open daily for lunch or brunch, snacks, dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (6/01)

DOWNTOWN

Assaggio Italian Bakery 835 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-234-6538. Ciao, baby. How's the Vespa? Cool people bop in and out of here like it's their neighborhood café. Maybe it's the free focaccia bread. Or the reasonable Tuscan breakfast (toasted bread, two-egg cheese omelet) with Segafredo Zanetti coffee. Or sandwiches such as the Assaggio (*assaggio* means "the taste") of *ciabatta* bread with turkey breast, Italian sauce, greens, and tomato) or the Parma (prosciutto ham, goat cheese, and arugula on Toscano bread) or, best of all, a *cre-spelle* (crepe stuffed with Gorgonzola cheese, broccoli and béchamel sauce). The Mediterranean salad (chicken, artichokes, and prosciutto) and Spaghetti Bolognese (with bread) are both filling; a slice of pizza is the fallback when you're broke. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/03)

Athens Market 109 West F Street (between First and Front), 619-234-1955. Alex Spanos and lots of local hotshots come here for honest Greek home cookin'. Yes, it's classy — white table cloths, linen napkins — but you can fill up on just a bowl of *fakae*, owner Mary Pappas's "secret recipe" lentil soup, and an appetizer, like *spanakopita* (spinach and cheese pastry pockets). And entrées like *arni psito* — roast leg of lamb — are guaranteed to stuff you. They come with rice, roast potato, a vegetable, soup or salad, and French bread and butter — all at a darned good price. Oh, and don't despise the gyro. Meat flavor's great, and it takes a football player to empty this plate. Lunch Monday through Friday; dinner nightly, to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (2/03)

Blue Point Coastal Cuisine 565 Fifth Avenue (at Market Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-6623. Very classy atmosphere and menu — mostly fish and seafood — to match. You can eat appetizers at the bar, but best bets are nightly fish entrées or steak and crab cakes served with lots of organic vegetables. Dinner only, from 5 p.m. Expensive. — E.W.

Cabo Cafe & Grill 808 West Cedar (near Pacific Coast Highway), Little Italy, 619-595-1618. This miracle restaurant is run by homeless kids from the Monarch School Project next door, with a little help (okay, a lot) from Rubio's and its founder Ralph. He helped



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What the Chef Eats

FRESH BERRIES ON ICE WITH CRÈME ANGLAISE

BY JACQUES AUBER

Owner/chef, Delight of France, Escondido

I made this dessert for my daughter’s wedding. Everybody was surprised and everybody loved it. It’s an easy and colorful dish to serve anytime.

The main things to remember are not to overcook the crème Anglaise and to keep stirring. If you overcook the yolks, it’s over, and you have to make it again. And don’t cook it too fast; you don’t want to have scrambled eggs in your milk. Just keep watching the temperature and keep it moving or you will have a catastrophe.

You can purchase currant juice at Major Market, Whole Foods, Harvest Ranch, and sometimes at Trader Joe’s. Tip Top Meat Market will

have it. The berries are expensive this time of year, but the dessert is so good that it’s worth it.

You can do this for family or friends, whatever, and everybody serves themselves.

I would recommend serving espresso with this dessert.

HOW TO DO IT

Crème Anglaise: Place a mixing bowl in the refrigerator or freezer to chill it. Split the vanilla bean down the middle and scrape out the seeds. Place milk and vanilla bean pod and seeds in a medium-sized saucepan and heat just to boiling. Stir constantly with a whisk or wooden spoon to prevent sticking. Don’t let it boil

over. Remove from heat and set aside.

Place egg yolks and sugar in a bowl and beat on high until the mixture foams. Gradually whisk half of the hot milk mixture into the egg mixture. Then add remaining half. Pour this mixture back into the original pot. Cook on low heat, stirring constantly until it reaches 181 degrees. (Check temperature with a candy thermometer.) Pour immediately through a fine mesh strainer into the cooled mixing bowl and keep mixing for 30 seconds. Cool completely by setting the bowl in an ice-water bath.

Berries: Combine berries with the currant juice, mixing gently so as



not to damage the berries. Place in a bowl over ice until ready to serve.

Invite guests to serve themselves berries with a dollop of crème Anglaise on top. This recipe serves four.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 vanilla bean, split and scraped
- 2½ cups whole milk
- 6 egg yolks
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 cup currant juice
- ½ pint raspberries
- ½ pint blueberries
- ½ pint blackberries
- ½ pint strawberries

higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly “suits” with deep expense-account pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up or downstairs). Reservations urged, but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. — N.W. (12/01)

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their “sleazy bar scene” in *Top Gun*. And it is kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers (“Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man”). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They’re cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long Happy Hour (3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (3/01)

Las Cuatro Milpas 1857 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-234-4460. This isn’t a restaurant, it’s a legend. The same Estudillo family has been serving old-fashioned Mexican food here for three generations — seventy years. Rice, beans, pork tacos (they don’t serve beef), pork tamales, chorizo with eggs — that’s about it. So how come they have lines outside every day? Blame a potent mixture of sentiment and the lard they refuse to abandon. Folks say that lard flavor is the real Mexico. Also famous: their Saturday *menuedo*. Warning: go easy with their deep wine-colored hot sauce. It’s room-rocker strength. The name? From a famous mariachi song, “The Four Cornfields.” Open morning to mid-afternoon, Monday to Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/03)

Pete’s Quality Meats 1742-1/2 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-1684. Pete’s Meats was just a butcher’s shop until Pete’s daughter and sister-in-law got the idea to set up a grill there. Now aficionados line up for Sicilian specialties like Italian-sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches, and especially *spitini* — veal rolled around two cheeses, onions, tomatoes, pine nuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, and breadcrumbs. Pete stuffs all of that into a hot bun with marinara sauce, sautéed peppers, and onions as packing. Nuff said? Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Rei Do Gado Churrascuria 939 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-8464. The meats just keep on coming at a Brazilian *rodizio*: skewer after skewer of *churrasco* (Brazilian barbecue), a near-endless procession of rotisserie-grilled meats and poultry. At each table there’s a wooden cone with one end red and the other end green. Turn the green side up to start the servers parading to your table, offering you tastes cut from long spits of salty, simply seasoned pork, poultry, ribs, sausages, and numerous cuts of beef. Turn the cone red side up to take a break from the protein parade. The gargantuan spread includes a buffet in the front of the restaurant with a changeable array of alluring side dishes, salads, fruit, and such intriguing hot entrées as Brazilian oxtail stew or seafood in coconut milk, with exotic but oddly comfortable flavors. There’s always a pot-

ful of *feijoada*, the national dish — slow-cooked, meaty black beans (in a somewhat bland version, which you can live up with a splash of hot sauce). No matter how often you eat here, you’ll never have the same meal twice. Reservations advisable for weekends. Full bar (have a *Caipirinha*). No doggie-bags. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (considering the food amount); prices higher on weekends. — N.W. (10/02)

The Westgate Gourmet Delicatessen Third Avenue, between Broadway and C Street, downtown, 619-557-3698. This is where you take your respectable Aunt Martha for lunch. The place reeks of gentility. Green carpets, white linen cloths, fresh flowers, chandeliers, giant potted palms. It’s part of the Westgate hotel, and looks like a grocery for the rich who just can’t live without specialty olive oils and expensive wines. But prices for sandwiches, light breakfasts, and lunches are down there with the best Market Street liquor-deli. The Hawaiian chicken salad (with walnuts, pineapple, chutney, fresh seasonal fruits, and non-fat mayo) is filling and healthy. But the best deal is the soup and half-sandwich combo, especially the Friday cioppino: a tomato-based soup filled with fish such as sea bass, shrimp, shark, lobster, and scallops. Open Monday through Friday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

Wildside Cafe & Rebel Juice Bar 1048 Seventh Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-696-1466. Now here’s a place that actually makes healthy food seem cool. Partly it’s the names: “lunatic lentil soup,” sandwiches like “turkey tantrum” (roast turkey with salsa), “tuna scandal” (tuna mushed with egg whites and no-fat mayo), or our two favorites: “veggies on a bike” (cucumbers, spinach leaf, tomatoes, red onion) and “bagel without a cause” (bagel, cream cheese, fresh fruit). Actually, all come with fresh fruit. And do like the local lofties: take your daily shot of fresh-squeezed wheat grass juice with a chaser of strawberries or pineapple chunks. Open Monday through Friday, breakfast to late lunch; Saturday breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Bino’s European Coffees and Crepes 1120 Adella Avenue (just off Orange Avenue), Coronado, 619-522-0612. This little round-the-corner café (south of the Post Office) has to be good: it’s a favorite retreat for local chefs. Bino bakes his own breads and croissants daily and creates great crunchy sandwiches. Try the Brie Fantasy (chicken breast, roasted marinated peppers, double cream Brie cheese) or the roast beef and jack cheese. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with luscious eggplant, and the crepes are delicious and filling too. Bino’s wife is Austrian and makes great Viennese-style coffee. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Island Wok 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food, and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring

SANDIEGOREADER.COM Calendar RESTAURANTS

raise a million dollars to get the school and the restaurant running. Think Starbucks meets Taco Bell (oops, sorry Ralph). The place is like its kid-staff: smart, cheery (they painted all the seals and porpoise murals), with a great fountain-gurgling patio outside. Try the grilled burrito (grilled chicken or steak with guacamole, roasted salsa, sour cream, black beans, Mexican rice, and melted Jack cheese in a warm tortilla) or, as a great filler, the Cabo Maestro Bowl, with marinated grilled chicken or steak in a bowl with black beans, Mexican rice, cheeses, guacamole, and shredded cabbage. And yes, they do make the Rubio fish taco. Daily specials. Open weekdays, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. E.B. — E.B. (5/02)

Candelas 416 Third Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-4455. Don’t look for tacos here — Chef Eduardo Baeza specializes in “la nueva cocina Mexicana,” a luxurious, inventive update of tradi-

tional Mexican fare, combining French techniques and Latin ingredients into a sophisticated new cuisine that you’ve never tasted before. In a romantic Spanish-style dining room with extremely gracious service, the menu emphasizes seafood, including jumbo prawns flamed with three tequilas, sea bass with *huilacoche* (mushroom-like “corn fungus”), and a signature dish of luscious stuffed Maine lobster. Plenty for meat-lovers, too, including a thick veal chop with a rosemary-mole sauce. Reservations advised, slightly dressy. Lunch Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dinner nightly, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Expensive. — N.W. (11/00)

Caparell’s Cuisina 1428 First Avenue (at Ash), downtown, 619-237-8081. This place puts on a good show of being Italian, except Greek flavors keep popping up in items like “Caparell’s Mediterranean Pesto Pizza,” with grilled chicken, tomatoes, onions, kalamata olives, and feta. Confusion? No, fusion: Turns out owner Sam Caparell’s dad is Italian but his mom’s Greek. And there’s plenty Italian. His “Sam’s Calzone,” a fold-over with Canadian bacon, sautéed mushrooms, onions, cheese, pepperoni, and a meatball, is scrumbo, and his half-and-half spaghetti-lasagna

dinner would satisfy the Colossus of Rhodes. Outside is scrubby, waiting for the developer’s ax, but inside it’s smart, varnished wood with low art-deco chrome lamps, and a satisfyingly long bar. Honest Mediterranean food. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (9/03)

Edgewater Grill 861 W. Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, 619-232-7581. An easy walk from the Convention Center, the dining room is spacious and handsome, and the view from the crowded dining terrace is optimal (the bay, the Coronado Bridge, a park, etc.). The menu, though, is convention-centered — like a Howard Johnson’s for the 21st century. The fare features middle-of-the-road faux-fusion salads, seafood, grilled steaks, pastas (most with shellfish), and individual pizzas, plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card in a plastic holder on the table. The lighter dishes are the most successful — this is not a bad place to “graze” on appetizers and a mini-pizza when you’re starved for a view. Difficult wheelchair access to terrace. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Entrées high moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (8/01)

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Highway (at Hawthorne Street), downtown/Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the

Deco “pink palace” at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deliciously smoky campfire flavor. Don’t like beef? You can choose nicely grilled chicken, pork, or salmon, or two vegan pastas (the *puttanesca* is better than the marinara), or scampi. The appetizer list is mainly trite pub-grub, but the fry-cook does a great job with calamari. And in fair weather, the lush garden dining patio is a little piece of Eden. Full bar, rather basic wine list. Casual ambience, above-average wheelchair access from large, free parking lot. Dinner nightly, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (12/02)

Greystone 658 Fifth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lobster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at \$35 to \$50, but roars up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, super-Tuscans and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push

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rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, *kung pao* chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

McDini's 105 East 8th Street, National City, 619-474-6771. A historic, sprawling bar with a diverse, mellow family scene — all ages, all races, chatting, playing pool, cozying up to the all-encompassing jukebox, or smoking under a roofed front "patio." Or chowing down on industrial-grade pub grub, made largely of restaurant-supply products (including the vaunted corn beef, bland as packaged ham). But the fresh vegetables are surprisingly good, so choose something that includes the luscious mashed potatoes and look upon the rest as garnish. No wheelchair bathroom. Open daily, serving to about midnight. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Moonlight on the Sea/Club 13 640 Civic Center Drive (under I-5 at McKinley Avenue), National City, 619-477-2851. Is this what sailors dream of when they're at sea? The little blue under-the-freeway shack has been serving up *cervezas*, BBQ, and burgers to sailors and shipbuilders since 1934, most of the time as "Club 13." Traditionally, Hell's Angels visited it on their north-south tour of California's oldest bars. In 1993, Linda, the latest owner, added the romantic "Moonlight On The Sea" moniker. She prepares and hand-rolls her own *lumpia*, and it shows. It has a nice fresh veggie, marinated-meat taste. And of course the grilled cheese sandwiches, wings, cheeseburgers, and dinnertime doubleburgers fit right into this wonderful throwback bar. Lunch, dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Peohe's The Landing, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. This gorgeous, view-endowed restaurant offers upscale, Hawaiian-inspired fish and gargantuan steaks in a plush tropical-style setting with indoor waterfalls and three separate patios. Given the visual splendor, much of the food is better than it needs to be, featuring top-quality seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, sassy Frangelico-touched macadamia *beurre blanc*. A

chocolate shell filled with macadamia nut ice cream may be worth the calories, too. Full bar. Reservations advised. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Expensive. — *N.W. (3/01)*

Swaddee Thai 1001 C Avenue (10th Street), Coronado, 619-435-8110. Tourists never stray to Swaddee's quiet residential location a block from the bright lights of Orange Avenue. Their loss is the locals' gain. The dining room is a quiet, lovely haven from the hustle; the service is caring and gracious. Even if the long list of Siamese specialties is merely standard, the kitchen, too, is devoted to the art of gently giving pleasure. The peanut sauce accompanying the satay, for instance, is classically balanced; the complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all cares; and the calamari in the many seafood arrays is cleverly knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness along with good looks. Even the jasmine rice is an exceptionally fragrant brand. Unless you specify otherwise, spicy dishes have a nice nip tuned to brave but tender *farang* tastebuds. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (9/00)*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

El Rodeo 1647 Blvd. Salinas, Tijuana, 686-5640. Steak lovers will have a field day here with a variety of cuts, some cooked right at your table. The accompaniments are wonderful: an appetizer and quesadilla, a crisp salad, beans served in their own liquid — even a dessert is included in the price of the entrée. Cheese soup, burritos, and tripe are also available. *Vaquero* decor, wood-paneled rooms. Good value if you like beef. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Take Revolución until it bends to the left to become Agua Caliente; turn left just before the twin high-rise towers, and left again, onto the one-way street, Blvd. Salinas. El Rodeo is on the right side of the street. Highly visible and easy to find. Moderate. — *E.W.*

La Costa 8131 Galeana (Seventh Street between Revolución and Con-

stitución), Tijuana, 685-8494 or 685-3124. An extensive menu, consistently fresh product, and huge portions have made La Costa the reigning seafood house for Americans. Identical lunch and dinner menus offer lobster, shrimp, grilled fish, fish with sauces, squid, abalone, and oysters, all in a variety of preparations. Price of entrées includes soup, salad, rice, dessert, beverage, and after-dinner drink. Almost always crowded. Open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to midnight. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

Los Nortenos Plaza Santa Cecilia (at 2nd Street, opposite McDonald's), Tijuana. Yes, it's a tourist trap, but think of San Diego's Old Town or LA's Olvera Street — by comparison, Plaza Santa Cecilia is the real thing. And Los Nortenos, the café with its stylish pillars and solid terrace seating, is one of the classier places. Their garlic shrimp soup or burrito plate (it comes with refried beans and avocado salad) is great. And the vegetable soup alone will fill you up. It's stuffed with potatoes, carrots, zucchini, chayote, etc. No beer or alcohol, but just watching the world go by as the antique lamps light the evening is a thrill. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Original Ortega's In Puerto Nuevo, next to Casa de la Langosta, on the first street to your left (Calle Principal) after entering town through the entry gate. Open since 1952, this is the original "Lobster Village" restaurant, and not much has changed. Eventually Ortega's grew into an octopus with multiple arms in Puerto Nuevo and Rosarito Beach, all pretty similar. The menu is longer than most, with numerous starters (including a tasty ceviche and an excellent tortilla soup), varied seafood entrées and *antojitos*, desserts, and even fancy coffees (including "Viagra," which features reputedly aphrodisiac Damiana herbal liqueur). The spiny lobsters (once local but now from who-knows-where) are first fried in lard, then finished off on the grill, and served with a greasy-tasting melted "Kitchen Maid" margarine blend, frijoles, rice, tortillas, and salsa. Full bar, English menu, staff marginally bilingual. Moderate to high, but with low-moderate specials. No reservations, cash only. — *N.W. (11/02)*

Rosticería Los Pollos Avenida Constitución, between 6th and 7th Streets, Tijuana. Relatives of prisoners in the Tijuana jail (one block south) come here to buy treats for their locked-up loved ones. The cops come too, for the cinnamon-flavored fried chicken. Think KFC, but a little sweeter. And with more variety: You can eat just chicken necks if you want. (Their meat slips down like salty fried oysters.) Each plate comes with corn tortillas, and a bowl of wicked red salsa. Ask for Alejandro. He brought the idea up from Mexico City. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Taurino Steakhouse 7531 Sixth Avenue (off Revolución), Tijuana, 685-7075. Located in the heart of the old section of Tijuana, three blocks west of Revolución, this restaurant provides superb value in an excellent setting. Basically a steakhouse, it also offers fish, seafood, and fowl. The price of the entrée includes grilled quail, soup or salad, and mammoth amounts of the main course. Almost everyone orders *cabreria*, or try *empapelado*, fish and shrimp cooked in silver foil. Superior service. The menu is printed in Spanish and English, and the maitre d' speaks perfect English. First-rate bargain for high quality. Open daily, noon to midnight. Continuous service. Inexpensive to moderate, except for lobster. — *E.W.*

Tortas la Vuelta 1961-ZC Avenida Revolución, Tijuana. Don't expect atmosphere unless you're into mufflers and transmissions. This place at the top of Revolución sits next to *Transmisiones Continental*. It is not part of the classier La Vuelta restaurant across the street, but it does serve up classy *tortas* (large round buns filled with good things like beef loin), *carne asada*, *pierna* (pork leg), *milanesa* (veal), chicken, ham and cheese, or even vegetarian fillings. There's something about sitting in this little dark recess surrounded by cars and the oily-handed mechanics who service them. La Vuelta also does *hamburguesas* with fries. But no burger matches a *mula* ("mule"), a large folded tortilla with *carne asada*, ham, avocado, and tomatoes. Seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Vallarta Natural 1252 Boulevard Agua Caliente, Tijuana, 686-1560. Vallarta Natural makes travel to Tijuana

really appetizing, serving only the healthiest, freshest ingredients. The kitchen makes its own bread and rolls, soy chorizo, vegetable stock, and gluten daily. Recommended are goblets of fresh juice, *caldito alpeño* soup, *taquitos panzones* (soft tacos) filled with sautéed mushrooms or soy chorizo, and especially *milanesa*. The *milanesa* is made from fresh gluten and is almost indistinguishable from veal — breaded, fried, it is delicious. Cool, clean, pleasant atmosphere. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (9/98)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Buca Di Beppo 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822. Family-style, Southern Italian cooking in a dining room seating 305 people. Food is simple (one sauce fits all), portions huge, and roaring-loud ambiance is child- and teenager-friendly. Go for plain fun, not gourmet dinners. Meatballs and spaghetti the best bet. Dinner nightly, lunch Sundays. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (6/00)*

Bully's East 2401 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. Also at 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla (858-459-2768), and 1404 Camino del Mar, Del Mar (858-755-1660). Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very sixties. For example, dark, woody, plush red booths. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. The "Petite Cut" 8 ounce, their smallest, fills you plenty, with its baked potato and salad. But just once, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It hangs ten over the edges. Or go bonkers and order the 32-ounce cut — just to watch your neighbors' eyes bug out. Not flush? Try the "Bully Burger," French Dip sandwich, or calamari sandwich. Lonely? Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. The price ranges. — *E.B. (2/03)*

El Pollo Loco 2795 Main, Logan Heights, 619-595-0847. Additional locations in College Area, Midway, Carmel Mountain, Chula Vista, El Ca-

jon, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, and more. This Mexican-style chicken chain offers healthier, tastier fast food. The flame-broiled poultry has crisp, richly seasoned, very salty skin; the flesh can vary from barely done to overdone, but usually is just right. The bird (or any assortment of its parts) comes with sage gravy, tortillas, and a choice of side dishes that includes rich, sweet black beans, crisp and clean coleslaw, great gooey-cheesy macaroni, and passable mashed potatoes. Help yourself to salsas (there are four varieties), chopped onions, lemons, cilantro, hot peppers. But stick with the chicks — the taqueria-style choices are barely better than Taco Bell. Check for daily specials, wherein a small amount of cash will buy a huge amount of highly palatable poultry. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/03)*

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits 2333 Highland Avenue (at 24th Street), National City, 619-477-5605; 2210 E. Plaza Boulevard (at Euclid Avenue), National City, 619-470-3002; 3489 Santo Road (at Aero Drive), 858-573-0035; Metropolitan Center, 1737 Euclid Avenue (north of Federal Boulevard), Chollas Creek, 619-527-6565; and 6095 El Cajon Boulevard (at College Avenue), 619-286-3322. This is the one major national chain to cling firmly to a regional American identity: Wherever you go, if you find a Popeye's, you'll be eating Louisiana flavors. But some flavors travel better than others in fast-food translations: The spicy, crisp fried chicken and air-light drop biscuits are fine as can be. The étouffée (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. The gumbo is weird — flavors aren't bad, but it's more like a Creole risotto, with wet rice instead of liquid (where's the soup?). Dirty rice and jambalaya are nasty and dry. Food quality varies subtly from branch to branch, as does the attitude of the counter-persons. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/02)*

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Under the Wire

Whatever else they're about, movies are about movement.

Vagaries of scheduling, and unusual diligence in attending advance screenings, have permitted me the first opportunity in memory to wrap up a movie year within the same actual calendar. I can't pass that up. But nor can I go straight to the laurels. First I must take a zig and a zag.

Hou Hsiao-hsien's *Goodbye South, Goodbye*, shown barely a week ago at the Museum of Contemporary Art, falls under some sort of statute of limitations, or rather falls outside it. I wouldn't want to put a precise figure on what that limit is, but I'm certain it cannot extend more than a year past a movie's release on DVD and video. Even if it were not available in those forms, I would have a great deal of difficulty feeling that a movie was part of the current crop when in fact I first saw it seven years earlier at the Toronto film festival. To mention it in this context is simply to seize another occasion to point out that none of the fifteen titles from one of the foremost filmmakers of our time has yet to receive a commercial run in America's Finest City. I look around town at all those fourteenplexes and

eighteenplexes and twentyplexes, and scratch my head at the narrowness of choices. And yet people today (and movies too: see *Mona Lisa Smile*) have the crust to go on about the conformism of the Eisenhower Era as though it were an affliction that had long since been conquered, like polio.

Steve James's *Stevie* is a different matter, a filmed record of what the documentarist discovered when he looked up the troubled youth to whom he had been a Big Brother back in college. What he discovered was not pretty. I saw the film in April, finally wrote about it in September upon its release on DVD, and still carry it around with me like a weight. The weight of consciousness, the weight of conscience. Which I suppose is not what your huddled masses most want to take away with them from a night at the movies. Which I suppose is why it never opened in America's Finest City. Even so, I can't help but feel there might have been a spot for it for just one week on screen number ten or twenty at this or that multiplex. In any event it merits a mention as a representative of what seems to be a growing

REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD



Mystic River

number of movies that get screened for the press and then never get shown to the public. A waste of the press's time, in most instances, but that's no concern of yours. I myself may say that *Stevie* is the most costly casualty in this disquieting trend. But the larger point is, the rest of you don't have a say.

The ineligibility of those two — to

get down now to cases — leaves Clint Eastwood's *Mystic River* alone at the top, by a head and shoulders. This meditation on violence and its legacy constitutes a major contribution from a major figure in American film, a major evolution, even, into uncharted areas of emotion and conscience. I have watched it three times now, and

could watch it more times if only I had more time. As much as I admire it for where it dares to go, I admire it more for how it goes there — how it *moves*, how gracefully, how self-assuredly, how serenely. Whatever else they're about, movies are about movement.

The rest of the best fall in line at just

2 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS!
BEST ACTRESS - SCARLETT JOHANSSON (DRAMA) BEST ORIGINAL SCORE - ALEXANDRE DESPLAT

"A FILM OF GREAT BEAUTY! 'Girl With A Pearl Earring' Is So Beautifully Rendered It Truly Seems Painted With Light."

Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*

"CAPTIVATING! Colin Firth Is Sexy And Forceful As Johannes Vermeer... Scarlett Johansson Delivers An Intense Performance."

Owen Gleiberman, *Entertainment Weekly*

"★★★★! Mesmerizing! A Gem! Oscar Voters Should Recognize Scarlett Johansson!"

Claudia Puig, *USA Today*

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John Anderson, *Newsday*

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below Eastwood's clavicle. Costa-Gavras's *Amen*, a Holocaust film focussed on Catholics almost to the exclusion of Jews, makes a compelling spectacle of the man of conscience (there's that word again: theme of the year), if it does not make him also into a dinosaur, a figment, a myth, a dream. It played first, if I am remembering right, at the San Diego International Film Festival in the spring (where I missed it) and then, in the nick of time before its issue on DVD, at Madstone's Hazard Center over the summer. I bring up these particulars as an excuse on the one hand to recall the passing of Ruth Baily, the festival's driving force for two decades, and to cross my fingers for its future without her, and on the other hand to hope that Hazard Center's sudden indistinguishability from any other multiplex (*Something's Gotta Give*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Last Samurai*, etc.) is just a passing phase.

If the Coen brothers had intended with *Intolerable Cruelty* to prove they could make a blockbuster, they fell well short of the goal, bless their incorruptible hearts. To reach the blockheads, you've got to stoop a lot lower than this, as demonstrated by Richard Linklater in *The School of Rock*, Jon Favreau in *Elf*, even Terry Zwigoff in *Bad Santa*, on the last of which the Coens ironically are credited as executive producers. One wonders how far the brothers are indeed preceded by their reputation — for verbal comedy, for “smart” comedy, for snooty comedy — even among the blissful star-gazers supposedly in thrall to George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Then, too, there's their besetting sin of “unsympathetic” characters, a sin unabsolvable simply by gorgeous ones. For whatever reason, this rapid-fire social satire was not a movie the vast masses felt they needed to see. Their loss.

Stephen Daldry's *The Hours*, in the eyes of the wider world, belongs of course to the preceding year, though it didn't find its way to our town until January, so here it is: a "women's picture" with literary pedigree. By way of a parlor game, Michael Cunningham's three-ring novel could easily, and entertainingly, be imagined in other directorial hands: Jane Campion's, let's say, or Pedro Almodóvar's, or François Ozon's, or John Sayles's. All in all, we're probably fortunate to have had no strong creative personality to distract us from the strong narrative structure and the strong performances. Nicole Kidman's, with its distracting false nose, took the Oscar, but it was only third best behind Meryl Streep's and Julianne Moore's.

That marks the cutoff for the upper echelon. Next step down, or right about the level of Eastwood's navel, the pickings are less slim. With *Stevie* ruled inadmissible, the best I can do to substantiate the alleged banner year for documentaries would be a grouping of three, Nicolas Philibert's *To Be and To Have*, Jennifer Dworkin's *Love and Diane*, and Angela Christlieb's and Stephen Kijak's *Cinemania*, with a slight edge given to the first-named for its greater sensitivity to cinema. Another threesome seems to suggest itself under the rubric of masculine action adventures in period costume, Ronald F. Maxwell's *Gods and Generals*, Kevin Costner's *Open Range*, and Peter Weir's *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*. I give the edge there again to the first-named, for bravery on the part of the filmmaker over and above that of the heroes.



Intolerable Cruelty

Odds and ends: Sylvain Chomet's one-of-a-kind French cartoon, *The Triplets of Belleville*; Shari Springer Berman's and Robert Pulcini's ode to a real-life oddball by the name of Harvey Pekar, *American Splendor*; the Dardenne brothers' grittily and grip-pingly naturalistic *The Son*; Danièle Thompson's shapely *Jet Lag*; James Ivory's civilized *Le Divorce*; and a couple of canny remakes of half-century-old literary adaptations, not quite enough for another grouping, both of them late arrivals from 2002, Phillip Noyce's *The Quiet American* and Douglas McGrath's *Nicholas Nickleby*.

Individual citations: I am happy to see Sean Penn getting his fair share of attention from the various critics' circles and societies for *Mystic River* as well as for *21 Grams*, and one such bunch, I forget which, appropriately awarded *Mystic River* a prize for "ensemble" performance so as to give due credit to the likes of Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, and Tim Robbins. Ones I have not seen getting their fair share, or for that matter any at all, while Bill Murray unwarrantably snarfs up a lion's share for *Lost in Translation*, are Ulrich Tukur for *Amen*, Stephen Lang for *Gods and Generals*, George Clooney for *Intolerable Cruelty*, and Kurt Russell for *Dark Blue*. The women's ranks, traditionally thin, appear thinner than normal, particularly after the women of *The Hours* have been consigned to the year 2002. Even with my ace in the hole — the French cinema — I can only come up with Juliette Binoche for *Jet Lag*, Emilie Dequenne for *The Housekeeper*, and Charlotte Rampling for *Swimming Pool*. I could perhaps come up with a few more, no less substantial, from the supporting ranks: Holly Hunter in *Thirteen* and in *Levity*, Frances Fisher in *Blue Car*, Chloë Sevigny in *Shat-*

tered Glass. Cinematography: Patrick Blossier for *Amen* (especially) and *Jet Lag*. Musical score: Clint Eastwood, *Mystic River*. (Really Rachel Portman, *Nicholas Nickleby*, but that was technically 2002.) Song: Mary Fahl's "Going Home," in *Gods and Generals*, though it would have fit just as well if not better in *Cold Mountain*.

As always, there were a number of movies for which the widespread and high-flown approbation, coupled with my complete lack of active animosity, caused me to doubt my own mind. Chief among them, *Seabiscuit*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, *Lost in Translation*, *The Station Agent*, *In America*, *The Barbarian Invasions*. But while I might have been a little off in my estimation of these, I cannot convince myself I could have been all that far off. The thought of sitting through any of them a second time, whether for pleasure or for scientific curiosity, makes me dig in my heels. I stand where I stood. Give or take an inch. ■

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Bad Santa — Sick and twisted (and goddam proud of it) Christmas comedy by Terry Zwigoff, whose *Ghost World* instantaneously takes on the appearance of a fluke. It was the characters, even more clearly now than before, who “made” *Ghost World* — them, and their literary or quasi-literary creator, the graphic novelist Daniel Clowes. And although the director maintains his allegiance to misfits and marginals, it’s the characters who unmake *Bad Santa*. One of them is more than

enough: a guzzling, cussing, lusting department-store Santa (Billy Bob Thornton) who puts up with the parade of grasping brats only so that he can crack the office safe on Christmas Eve, with the help of his dwarfish elf (Tony Cox), the brains of the operation. The wonder of it is that, whether wetting himself in the Santa chair or stumbling over the papier-mâché reindeer in an alcoholic fog, he can hold on to his job long enough to pull off the bigger job. A dose of half-apologetic pathos seeps into it in the form of a self-described "dipshit loser," a bullied, runny-nosed fat boy (Brett Kelly) by the name of Thurman Merman, whose devotion to Saint Nick, either the Platonic ideal or this grotesquely flawed facsimile, brands him a borderline imbecile. The tenuous bond between the two ("It made me feel good about myself," glows Santa after beating the boy's teenage tormentor to a pulp) raises the emotional temperature only a degree or two: not enough to alter the one-joke monotony. Bernie Mac, Lauren Graham, John Ritter, Cloris Leachman. 2003.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15;
GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD CENTER 7;
LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13;
MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM
PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO
DEL REY 16; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Barbarian Invasions — Writer-director Denys Arcand's follow-up to his

Decline of the American Empire, albeit following along at too far a distance — seventeen years — to have much meaning for those who never bothered, through follow-up viewings, to commit the predecessor to memory. It may be that this highbrow weepie — the accelerated sunset of a self-described “sensual socialist,” who bears a striking resemblance to Lon Chaney, Jr. — is as smart and sophisticated as advertised, but surely not cinematically. Even theatrically or literarily, the smartness and sophistication are apt to register as a bit precious, a bit unctuous, a bit ostentatious. And the plot mechanics of obtaining a private room on an unoccupied floor of a hospital, plus a sub-rosa supply of heroin in place of the prescribed morphine, are a shade too smart and sophisticated for their own good. A millionaire in the family can make things easier on everyone, especially on a wily, weaselly scriptwriter. With Rémy Girard, Stéphane Rousseau, Marie-Josée Croze, Dorotheé Berryman, Marina Hands. 2003.

Big Fish — Big bore. Tim Burton, to inhibit erosion of his “fan base,” needed to bounce back in a big way from the commercial conservatism of *Planet of the Apes*, and in Daniel Wallace’s slender novel he has found a fund of peculiarity: the sententious and sentimental memoirs of an Alabama fabulist, none of whose tall tales

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★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20)

transformed into a bear himself, to see how the other half lives: blissed out on nature (the moose practice yoga) and communality and oneness — unless you're unlucky enough to



Calendar Girls

● (PALM PROMENADE 24; VOGUE)

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 1/1)

The Cat in the Hat — The untested director Bo Welch, trained as a production designer, tries out the tested formula of *How*

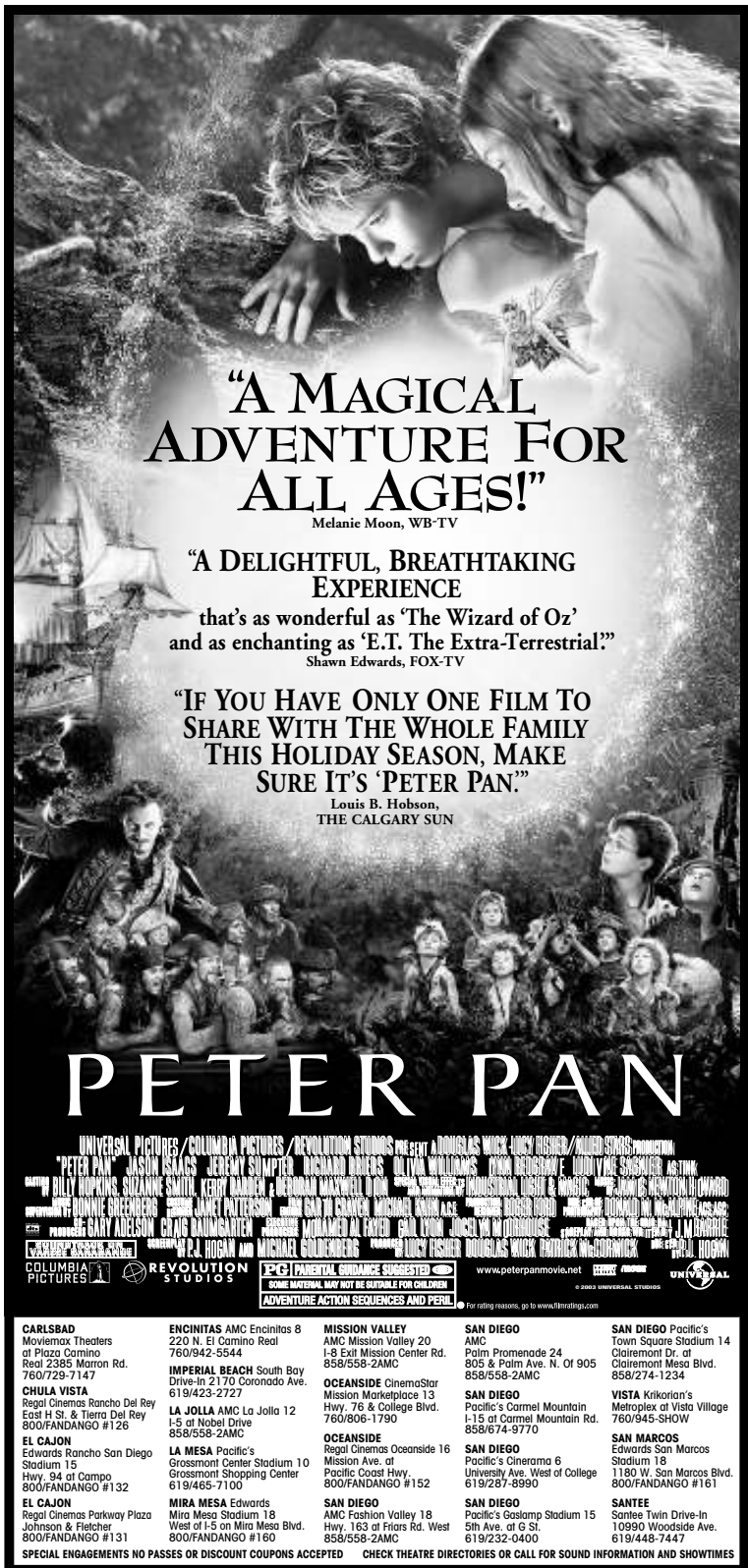
the *Grinch Stole Christmas*: a sententious Dr. Seuss book, a sampling of voice-over recitations from the actual text (“Then something went bump. How that bump made them jump!”), and a major comedy star so impenetrably disguised in the title role that he might as well be doing nothing but dubbing. The major star in this instance is identified as Mike Myers, but if you were told that behind the cat suit, and behind the New Yawk accent, the camping, the burlesquing, was Nathan Lane, you’d be obliged to accept it without a murmur. Myers has occasion to do other accents as well, and the Scottish and Canadian are more recognizably him. The two-note falsetto laugh, on the other hand, might put you more in mind of Pee-wee Herman, helped along by the surrounding dollhouse townscape. Were it to put you in mind specifically of *Pee-wee’s Big Adventure*, you would then have a useful guideline to gauge what’s missing: originality, humanity, charm, modesty, innocence, things like that. With Alec Baldwin, Kelly Preston, Dakota Fanning, Spencer Breslin, and Sean Hayes. 2003.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18;

MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM
PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO
DEL REY 16; VISTA VILLAGE)

Cheaper by the Dozen — Domestic comedy with Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Hilary Duff, Tom Welling, and Piper Perabo, directed by Shawn Levy. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Cold Mountain — The hardships and heartache of the American Civil War, cushioned in the plushness of the production: the crane-happy camera, the spendthrift special effects, the “painterly” washes of color and “dynamic” compositions, the visual poetry and bombast, the chiselled and sanded faces of the A-list romantic leads, Nicole Kidman (with her Orientalized eyes) and Jude Law (blue lagoons). Paying customers will likely feel they are getting a lot for their money, and no doubt they are getting a lot of money for their money. They will also be getting, by way of the prize-winning novel by Charles Frazier, spoils and spoils of storyline, strung out to a slight sag: back and forth in time, from the Siege of Petersburg in 1864 and its immediate aftermath, to the antebellum quietude of the North Carolina hills; and then, after the convergence of the two time lines, back and forth in space only, from the eventful homeward trek of a wounded Confederate deserter, to the struggle of the womenfolk to keep the home fires burning. On both fronts, it’s the gentle sex who bear the heaviest burdens, particularly moral and philosophical ones: “[If] I had my way, they’d take metal altogether out of this world, every gun, every blade.” No doubt, too, the film gains interest as a companion piece to director Anthony Minghella’s earlier *English Patient*, in once again promoting personal priority over general cause, and the lover over the fighter. The large cast has plenty of interest of its own. Renée Zellweger, as an Erskine Caldwell — or even Al Capp — poor white trashy Southerner (strike up the fiddle and banjo), runs rings around Kidman’s well-



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bred belle once she is let loose almost an hour into the film; and there are strong contributions from Eileen Atkins (a backwoods goatherd meticulously realized down to the dirt beneath her fingernails), Kathy Baker, James Gammon, Ray Winstone, Brendan Gleeson, Donald Sutherland, and Natalie Portman. But then again, the cast also has Philip Seymour Hoffman and Giovanni Ribisi in it. 2003. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD CENTER 7; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Cooler — Las Vegas fairy tale, from first-time director Wayne Kramer, full of hand-me-down ideas about the old-school gangster who still believes in busting kneecaps to keep order, the failed showgirl and the tail-for-sale, the poor-man’s Sinatra and “the next Harry Connick, Jr.,” the changing economic landscape: “There comes a time to decide whether you’re running a museum or you’re running a casino.” The title character, tailor-made for William H. Macy, is not so smudgingly marked by fingerprints: such an accursed loser that he is employed by the Golden Shangri-La to contaminate its customers by his mere presence, like the passing vampire who withers the flowers in his path. After one good roll in the hay with a willing cocktail waitress (Maria Bello), he loses his “magic,” however. And suddenly the always empty creamer for his coffee is brimming over, and his flattened hair has acquired some fluff. Completely unacceptable, completely unswallowable from its opening premise to its final outcome (one hates to agree with the hero’s ne’er-do-well son: “It don’t compute”), the textbook script lays tracks for an emotional roller coaster, depressing in its regularity and predictability. Because the film is an “indie,” the sex is smellier than in the mainstream, but the sentiment no less flowery: “You put me up on a pedestal. It sure puts the gutter in perspective.” Alec Baldwin, Shawn Hatosy. 2003. ● (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Eif — Will Ferrell as a human raised by elves, leaving the womb of Santa’s Workshop in full adulthood to track down his biological father, a bottom-line publisher of Kiddie Lit (“He’s on the naughty list”). Directed by Jon Favreau, the film wants to play both sides of the street — to be a True-Spirit-of-Christmas sermon and at the same time be hip, cool, sardonic, and smarty-pants — and it ends up outstaying its welcome. We do, however, get some nicely worked-out detail, a better than average bumpkin-in-Manhattan montage, and a couple of well-played secondary characters: a harried and unwhimsical toy-department manager at Gimbel’s (the hefty Faizon Love) and a self-important top-selling author of children’s books (the pint-sized Peter Dinklage, of *The Station Agent*). With James Caan, Zooey Deschanel, Mary Steenburgen, Bob Newhart, Edward Asner. 2003. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; VOGUE)

Gothika — A whodunit, rather than whodunit, to do with a beautiful prison psychologist (Halle Berry) who is flabbergasted to wake up in a cell herself, with no memory of having chopped up her beefy husband three days earlier, and only a fragmentary memory of having swerved into a ditch on the way home in order to avoid a bloody young blonde standing in the middle of the road and the midst of a downpour, and then bursting into flame at the touch of a hand. The blonde, if she is in any sense “real,” can only be a ghost, and the psychologist and her colleagues do not believe in ghosts. But then: who fogged up the glass in her cell and finger-wrote the words “NOT ALONE” in the frost? And who carved that same message into her

forearm in the shower room? (As unprurient a women-in-prison shower scene, incidentally, as you could ever wish to see, despite the participation in it of Halle Berry and Penelope Cruz.) The mounting sense of dread in the movie has little to do with any terrors that may await, and much to do with the perceived unlikelihood of a satisfactory wrap-up. (“I wouldn’t look for a real-world explanation,” we are warned. “It’s a dream. It’s a delusion.”) The sunglasses-indoors style of photography fosters no confidence in the filmmaker’s — Mathieu Kassovitz’s — interest in elucidation, and indeed the predictable climax falls far short of satisfactory, being both over-obvious as far as it goes and incurious to go any farther. The appearances of the ghost, however, greatly enliven a grind-it-out plot in which the ghost proves to be all but gratuitous. Savor her for herself. With Robert Downey, Jr., Charles S. Dutton, John Carroll Lynch. 2003. ★ (GASLAMP 15; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18)

The Haunted Mansion — Mere months after *Pirates of the Caribbean*, the Disney studio guides us across New Orleans Square (seceded from Frontierland) for another Disneyland ride-turned-movie: a slender thread of storyline — “We have to break the curse!” — on which to hang the special-effects baubles. (When do we make our way to It’s a Small, Small World?) Eddie Murphy, as a type-A real-estate agent in partnership with his wife, comes as close to a pop-eyed Mantan Moreland impersonation as contemporary sensibilities will allow. And as we learned from *The Human Stain*, the use of the word “spook” or “spooky” in any connection is here precluded. Too bad, because it would well suit Terence Stamp as the cadaverous butler with the cavernous eyes and the somnambulist gait. He alone alleviates some of the boredom between the CG effects, but none of the boredom of the effects themselves. With Marsha Thomason, Nathaniel Parker, Jennifer Tilly; directed by Rob Minkoff. 2003. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16)

House of Sand and Fog — The house in question, a modest bungalow within a stone’s throw of the Pacific, has been inherited by a subsistence-level housecleaner currently undergoing drug rehab, who gets evicted through a bureaucratic error and her own neglect to open her mail. It is then bought for a song at auction by a former Iranian colonel currently reduced to road repair in Northern California, who is simply looking to make a quick turn-around on the real-estate market after the construction of an ocean-view deck. A sticky situation, for sure, but the best-selling novel (thank you, Oprah) by Andre Dubus III doesn’t seem to lend itself to playable scenes, with a meager handful of exceptions: the former occupant’s self-injuring attempt to halt construction on the deck, her new boyfriend’s attempt to intimidate the present occupant with his police uniform, and the latter’s extreme expression of paternal love at the climax. The parallel construction, pingponging between the languorous sensuality of Jennifer Connelly and the rigid asceticism of Ben Kingsley, produces little tension and a bit of parallel corn: simultaneous sex scenes. Ponderously directed by a new name, Vadim Perelman; atmospherically photographed by an old hand, Roger Deakins. With Ron Eldard,

Frances Fisher, Kim Dickens. 2003. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; SAN MARCOS 18; VISTA VILLAGE)

In America — The immigrant experience in Manhattan, more precisely the Sheridan Family experience, as revised and related by Irish filmmaker Jim Sheridan (*My Left Foot*, *In the Name of the Father*, etc.). Never a dull moment, it would seem; or anyway never a relaxed, a calm, a common, a mundane, a

prosaic one; instead a gaudy parade of overheated vignettes such as would make late-period Fellini look like a strict neorealist. (E.g., the family’s first look at the lights of Times Square, to the nudging accompaniment of the Lovin’ Spoonful’s “Do You Believe in Magic?,” is more an effect of camera acrobatics than of carefully aimed shots.) The real-life sisters Sarah and Emma Bolger are delightful as the little girls of the family (“Don’t ‘little girl’ me! I’ve been carrying this family on my back for over a year!”). But Paddy Considine, the Jim figure, seems several storeys over the top as

the unemployed head of the family, an aspiring stage actor. His diagnosed “problem” is that he shut down emotionally after the death of his son — “That’s why ya can’t get a job acting, Johnny, because ya can’t *feel* anything!” — and yet he acts offstage like an amalgam of Tim Roth and Gary Oldman: not bits and pieces of each of them, but the totality of *both*. He may not be able to feel, but man, can he ever express! The elder daughter, who believes she has inherited three wishes from her departed brother, addresses the problem touchingly with her third and final one. Samantha

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Morton, Djimon Hounsou. 2003.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4;
GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HILLCREST CINEMAS;
LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Last Samurai — Tom Cruise as “one of the most decorated warriors this nation has ever known,” *circa* 1876, a tormented Civil War vet and Indian fighter who is hired as a mercenary to train the troops of the Japanese emperor to combat a renegade samurai, and who is then taken captive by his new enemy, learns their strange ways, masters in a few lessons their martial arts, and joins them in their hopeless fight against the forces of progress. In short, a sort of *Dances with Akitas*. This glossy, glamorizing, vulgar, overblown, pompous, and presumptuous epic is, in addition to all that, intermittently stimulating. The cornerstone Japanese theme of trampled tradition in the onrush of Westernization is knowledgeably handled. And Ken Watanabe cuts a fine figure as the hidebound samurai. In the last analysis, though, the sprawling, transpacific, two-and-a-half-hour war story is all about Tom. Even as he gives himself up to his fascination with the enemy (who allow him to live only because of their fascination with *him*), it is the fascination itself, and not the objects of it, that rivets the camera: never



The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

mind what’s so fascinating, let’s fix our sights on who’s so fascinated. (Cruise’s head looks about to burst from the effort.) And despite his embrace of Bushido — his

spiritual growth, his embodiment of the lost concept of “honor” — he remains a bit of a dilettante and a poseur. (Where does his humility, his subservience, come into it?) In

the larger view, despite the lip service paid to an alien and ancient culture, despite the stacking of the deck in that culture’s favor, the horning-in hero remains a sterling

representative of the American imperialist, similar to the interlopers and appropriators in such cultural hybrids (highbrow and low) as *The Challenge*, *The Karate Kid*, *Ghost Dog*, *Bulletproof Monk*, and *Kill Bill*. The quest is ultimately not so much for his peace of mind as for his piece of the action. Timothy Spall, Tony Goldwyn, Billy Connolly; directed by Edward Zwick. 2003.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HAZARD CENTER 7; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King — Peter Jackson grinds out the final 200 minutes: “Things are now in motion,” intones Gandalf, “that cannot be undone.” From this promontory, you can look back and see the immensity of the enterprise, indeed so immense — nine hours and two years — that you can barely remember whence you have come, or why. One measure of the immensity, over and above the increasing confusion, is the increasing dependence on the expeditious head shot, a time-saving mainstay of the made-for-TV quickie. Astoundingly enough, the filmmaker manages to crank up some excitement as the end approaches, or maybe it’s only some eager anticipation of relief. Whatever it is, it gets discharged over the last hour and a half or so, when the movie seems to be forever on the verge of ending; and the twenty minutes or so after the conclusion of the hostilities amount to sheer torture. Even at that, there’s no time set aside to get back to Saruman for a reaction from the losers’ locker room. Or for that matter, no time for a pre-game pep talk or a halftime strategy adjustment, either: Christopher Lee is nowhere to be seen. Part Three certainly has its moments: the relay of the signal fires (“Hope is kindled”) across the mountain peaks is really quite thrilling (“And Rohan will answer”); and the giant spider Shelob is a skin-crawling special effect, though not more tingling, in another way, than fat Sam to the rescue. (With this, Sean Astin has his meatiest screen role after *Rudy*.) But the decisive battle is even more interminable than the one in Part Two, and more ruinously cartoonized through computer-generated imagery. Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen, Viggo Mortensen, Orlando Bloom, Liv Tyler, Cate Blanchett. 2003.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD CENTER 7; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA

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Lost in Translation — Sofia Coppola’s sophomore effort marks an advance over *The Virgin Suicides*: a phlegmatic comedy about two American outsiders who fall into an ill-defined relationship in Tokyo, a bond forged of loneliness and misery between an over-the-hill Hollywood action star (a sadsack Bill Murray, who surely should have been written as an over-the-hill comedy star), in town to collect a cool two million for a series of whisky ads, and a neglected young wife (the seductively throaty Scarlett Johansson), who spends a lot of time lolling around her hotel room in transparent pink panties while her photographer husband (the dependably dreadful Giovanni Ribisi) busies himself with work. The “satirical” touch tends to be lighter this time, with perhaps a few exceptions: the suspected anorexic blond starlet (with so many to choose from, couldn’t a better fit have been found for this role than the robust Anna Faris?), the tutti-frutti television host misleadingly labelled “the Johnny Carson of Japan,” the S&M call girl (“Lip my stocking!”), and the imported guitar-and-vocal lounge act billed as “Sausalito.” Truly on the lighter side, however, there are large numbers of points scored, even if easy ones, with the advertising campaign (“For relaxing times, make it Suntori time”), the language difficulties, the faxes and FedExes and phone calls from the all-business wife in California, the exercise machine, the local cuisine, and the inevitable karaoke bar (Murray reverting to *SNL* form for his soup-ladle renditions of Elvis Costello’s “Peace, Love, and Understanding” and Roxy Music’s “More Than This”). And the touring in and around Tokyo is pleasantly relaxed. Coppola’s uncertain visual style, vacillating between a fussy precision and a fumbling offhandedness, could never be mistaken for her father’s. Which, for purposes of independence and the establishment of a separate identity, would be a good thing if only the style could be recognized as distinctively anybody’s. 2003. ★ (HAZARD CENTER 7; LA PALOMA)

Love Actually — A five-week countdown to Christmas Eve, plenty of time and the proper occasion to show how love makes the world go round, or anyhow makes Jolly Old England go round. The writing and directing debut of Richard Curtis, writer only on *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (he herein reminds us by staging, in short order, one wedding and a funeral), it boasts a good-looking image as long as you like your people to look like dolls, a soundtrack chockablock with popular love songs, and a host of rolling-off-a-log performances by such smoothies as Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson, Alan Rickman, Colin Firth, Liam Neeson, Martine McCutcheon, Keira Knightley, Laura Linney, Bill Nighy, and, in a cameo as an exasperatingly punctilious store clerk, Rowan Atkinson. Grant stands out, not as a performance but as a figure of fantasy and even of fairy tale, an informal, unstuffy, lighter-than-Blair Prime Minister who falls for an overweight commoner (at any rate the script says she’s overweight), and who dances solo to a Pointer Sisters toe-tapper when he thinks he’s alone (surefire laugh: he’s alone but for a prim, middle-aged secretary), and who stands up to the bullying United States President (a sanded and shellacked Billy Bob Thornton) at a televised press conference. There’s a fantasy there for almost everyone. But Curtis, upping the ante on the multi-character *Four Weddings*, is juggling too many balls this time. Or more to the point, dropping too many. The particular balls of a couple of porn actors (pun intended) tend to exclude the kiddies from this Christmas party. And possibly their grannies and grampies as well. 2003. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12)

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World — The first screen incarnation of Lucky Jack Aubrey, hero of Patrick O’Brian’s loved and admired series of historical adventure novels, captain of the



Paycheck

British man-of-war, the HMS Surprise. This is preeminently a boys’ story, and as pure and innocent a specimen as you are apt to find anymore, uncorrupted by concerns with democracy or demographics. (The closest you could find to it in the *oeuvre* of its director, Peter Weir, is the curdled Conradism of *The Mosquito Coast*.) There is an actual boy on view, a cherubic curly-topped towhead, but of course boys of all ages want to choose their role models and hero figures from among grown men (as the towhead, for example, has chosen Lord Nelson). Girls have no place here at all. There is but one, brief, silent, almost spectral appearance by a female, a copper-skinned native on whom Lucky Jack allows his gaze to linger — gateway to another world — before he gets back to business. That business would encompass, among other things, the pursuit of a bigger and faster French privateer, the amputation, the flogging, the flagons of rum, the parrot on the shoulder, the typhoon, the man overboard, the seamen’s superstitions (is there a “Jonah” among the crew? is the enemy a “phantom”?), the military stratagems (a makeshift raft, festooned with lanterns, cut adrift as a decoy to throw off the trailing French ship in the dark), the naturalist interlude on the Galápagos (the flightless bird, the amphibian iguana), the Churchillian if not Shakespearean address to the troops on the eve of battle (“Though we be on the far side of the world, this ship is our home. This ship is England”), and most importantly, at the core of it all, the masculine camaraderie, especially that between the Captain and the ship’s surgeon, Dr. Stephen Maturin, whose harmonious friendship, as well as harmonious violin-and-cello duets, sometimes must give way to the traditional testiness between the soldier and the scientist, the man of action and the man of intellect. Russell Crowe, Paul Bettany. 2003. ★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA COSTA 6; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Missing — Women’s Western, concerned with a frontier healer (Cate Blanchett) and her relationship issues, her maternal instincts, her sexual urges. One day her estranged and very strange father (Tommy Lee Jones, as “Mr. Jones”) turns up on her New Mexico homestead, having long ago gone native and converted himself into a subtitle-speaking Chiricahua; and the next day her teenage daughter (Evan Rachel Wood) gets snatched by white-slaver Apaches. Well: as the nearest lawman can

tell her, “It takes an Apache to catch an Apache,” but a Chiricahua adoptee will have to do. A classic Western premise, this, and perfectly watchable in its working-out, but any surviving classicist (or simple common-sensist) is apt to be unhappy when the tracker consents to take along not just Mother Courage but her younger daughter Dot, who justifies the unhappiness by getting her foot caught between two rocks in the rush of a flash flood, and later tipping off the Indians to an ambush by bouncing a sunbeam off her binocular lenses. Still, the classicist can take encouragement from the tight focus of the action. Quite simply: “If they make it to Mexico, your child is lost.” (No chance, then, that this can balloon into an “epic” in the self-conscious manner of *The Searchers*.) Which is not to say that the tightness will fend off inflation and pretension. Director Ron Howard, now an Oscar-winner for *A Beautiful Mind*, has a reputation to keep up. The big innovation here, even if it would not have raised an eyebrow on an old episode of *Wild Wild West*, is the expansion of the weapons arsenal to include colored powders blown up people’s noses and a long-distance voodoo ritual performed on a hairbrush. At such points the scarred and pockmarked antagonist (shudder) seems less a blood brother of Geronimo than of Merlin. With Jenna Boyd, Aaron Eckhart, Val Kilmer, Eric Schweig. 2003. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Modern Times — Charlie Chaplin’s stubbornly delayed adjustment to sound moviemaking (solely for some stomach-growling sound effects and for a little ditty sung in gibberish) offers a slapstick treatment of the Expressionists’ man-versus-machine anxieties. Doing this in 1936 is characteristic of Chaplin’s foot-dragging throughout his career. A few of the “bits,” such as the automatic feeding contraption, belong however in the Best-of-Chaplin anthologies. With Paulette Goddard. ★★★★★ (KEN, THROUGH 1/1)

Mona Lisa Smile — Julia Roberts, her two-ton ego, and her tapering tusklike head, in the part of a “forward-thinker” who travels east from Oakland State to her dream job at Wellesley, there to impart Art History platitudes and feminist fundamentals to the future homemakers in the Class of ’54, and to lock horns with the “traditionalists” who run the place. Nothing marks her as a woman ahead of her time so much as her express desire — already in the autumn of ’53! — “to make a difference.” (The

contractually obligatory line, spoken to her without irony: “You’re so perfect.”) Directed by Mike Newell, who once upon a time directed *Dance with a Stranger*, the movie itself, in its characterization of the straw women and cardboard cutouts who aren’t up to the heroine’s speed, could scarcely be more backward and small-minded. Among the students, Maggie Gyllenhaal earns top marks; Julia Stiles and Kirsten Dunst earn dunce caps. With Dominic West, Marcia Gay Harden, Juliet Stevenson. 2003. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; HAZARD CENTER 7; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION

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Mystic River — Clint Eastwood’s somber meditation on chance, fate, doom; scarred souls and endless repercussions; violence begetting violence. Just as *Unforgiven* was an act of penance for the body counts in his Sergio Leone spaghetti Westerns as well as in his self-directed imitation Leones (*High Plains Drifter*, *The Outlaw Josey Wales*, *Pale Rider*), this can be viewed as an act of penance for the lone-wolf vigilantism of his Dirty Harry urban shoot-’em-ups: a kind of cleansed Harry. (There is no room here for Eastwood the actor, standing aside for the “liberal” casting of Sean Penn and Tim Robbins, and their highly emotional, tearful, unstoical, un-Eastwoody histrionics.) Although formulated as a murder mystery, it is not narrowly focussed on the investigation, but divides its time more or less evenly among three main characters, and expands continuously into the specific milieu, the complex personal relationships, the affected and ongoing lives, in fact life in general, life with a capital “L.” All throughout, it sustains a tone of lamentation, underscored by the churchy musical theme composed by Eastwood himself (albeit orchestrated by his trusted collaborator, Lennie Niehaus). The retributive anger never supplants the sorrow; the release never comes. Admittedly, the outcome of the case depends upon a fortuitous coincidence that reeks of mystery-making for its own sake: a previously unrevealed second murder on the same night as the first. Yet the solution to the original murder is not overly tricky, is perhaps even overly obvious; and the mood of the moment in any case is not one of parlor games and “gotcha.” The honest — the aggrieved — the penitent — emotionalism of the film makes up for either the fortuitousness or the obviousness, as necessary. Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, Laura Linney, Marcia Gay Harden. 2003. ★★★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14)

Paycheck — Not exactly a time-travel thriller, more correctly a “time-viewing” thriller (i.e., a science-fictional crystal ball), but it has all the same illogicalities. And not exactly an amnesia thriller, either, but rather

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the bizarrerie of the visual detail: e.g., the stomach-dragging Bruno dutifully waddling his way up a twisting staircase, right on schedule, to bark at every passing elevated train outside the bedroom window. And yet when three competitors in the Tour de France, including the now grown-up adopted child (calves the size of Popeye’s forearms), are abducted in mid-race for unknown reasons by a pair of black rectangular gangsters and shipped across the Atlantic (beautifully drawn vessel, an axe blade balanced on its cutting edge) with grandma and dog in hot pursuit on a hydrocycle — when, in short, the routine is forsaken in favor of a fantastical adventure — the movie loses its moorings. All that heightening, that distortion, etc., piled atop a spongy base of whimsy, seem somehow less marvelous. One kind of marvel takes away from the other. And the



Something’s Gotta Give

bullets-flying climactic car chase is tiresome. Still, the wit and imagination never relent (Bruno finds new trains to bark at in the

New World), and the whole of it is communicated with a clarity that renders words unnecessary. Or at any rate, unused.

An unobtrusive poster of Jacques Tati’s *M. Hulot’s Holiday* pays proper *hommage* in that regard. 2003.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

21 Grams — The first English-language feature from Mexican filmmaker Alejandro González Iñárritu brings together disparate characters by the same matchmaking method of his *Amores Perros*: by car accident. Benicio Del Toro, a born-again ex-con, runs over the husband and two daughters of Naomi Watts, and the husband’s heart is transplanted anonymously into Sean Penn, a teacher of mathematics and probability, and therefore a deep appreciator of his good fortune, who tracks down and begins to court the widow without, so to speak, baring his chest. (The widow’s reaction, when finally told, will echo that of the crap-detecting spectator: “How dare you!”) It takes a while for all of this to come clear, inasmuch as the information is doled out in nonsequential fragments that leave it to the audience to arrange in order: a participatory form of

storytelling. You eventually get your bearings, and the jumps between lifelines and time zones seem to diminish in distance, closing in toward a climax. Out of the jumble, a unifying point can be perceived: a shattered narrative for shattered lives, a kind of cinematic cubism which enables us to see the before and the after, side by side. To put every puzzle-piece into its proper place is not the principal task. Simply to observe that they belong to the same picture will suffice. The total experience might have been more satisfying if the picture *per se* were better to look at. Great pains have been taken to achieve a feeling of reality in the people and the places, yet the bloodless, bleached-out color and the shaky, earthquaky camera are but fashionable affectations. Charlotte Gainsbourg, Melissa Leo, Clea DuVall. 2003.

★★ (GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HILLCREST CINEMAS; MIRA MESA 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18)

(R) Thu. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **Elf** (PG) Thu. 1:15, 6:00; **The Haunted Mansion** (PG) Thu. 3:45, 8:15, 10:30; **The Last Samurai** (R) Thu. 10:30 (2:00) 5:15, 8:30; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu. 11:00 (12:00, 3:15) 5:15, 7:30, 9:30; **Mona Lisa Smile** (PG-13) Thu. 11:00 (1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00; **Paycheck** (PG-13) Thu. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; **Peter Pan** (PG) Thu. 10:45 (1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45; **Something’s Gotta Give** (PG-13) Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:00) 7:15, 10:15

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)
21 Grams (R) Thu. (1:10, 4:20) 7:25, 10:25; Fri.-Mon. (4:20) 7:25, 10:25; **Bad Santa** (R) Thu.-Mon. 8:10, 10:35; **Brother Bear** (G) Thu.-Mon. (10:55); **Calendar Girls** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (10:50, 1:40, 4:20) 7:10, 9:50; **Cheaper by the Dozen** (PG) Thu.-Mon. (10:00, 12:25, 2:50, 5:10) 7:35, 9:55; **Cold Mountain** (R) Thu.-Mon. (12:00, 3:30) 7:00, 7:55, 10:30, 11:25; **The Cat in the Hat** (PG) Thu.-Mon. (10:10, 12:20, 2:40); **Elf** (PG) Thu.-Mon. (11:30, 2:05, 4:35); **The Haunted Mansion** (PG) Thu. (10:45); Fri.-Mon. (10:45, 1:10); **Honey** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. 7:05; **House of Sand and Fog** (R) Thu.-Mon. (10:30, 1:35, 4:40) 7:40, 10:40; **The Last Samurai** (R) Thu.-Mon. (12:00, 3:30) 7:05, 10:30; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (10:20, 10:50, 11:20, 11:50, 2:40, 3:10, 3:40, 4:10) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:30, 11:20; **Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (5:00); **Mona Lisa Smile** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (10:25, 1:20, 4:15) 7:10, 10:05; **Paycheck** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (11:05, 2:00, 4:55) 7:45, 10:40; **Peter Pan** (PG) Thu.-Mon. (10:10, 11:30, 1:10, 2:15, 4:05, 5:10) 6:55, 9:45; **Something’s Gotta Give** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (10:05, 1:05, 4:15) 7:20, 10:20; **Stuck On You** (PG-13) Thu.-Mon. (1:40, 4:35) 7:25, 10:20

VISTA

Vista Village 15
Hwy. 78 at Vista Village Drive, Vista (760-945-7469)
Call theater for program information
Calendar Girls; **Cold Mountain**; **Paycheck**; **Cheaper by the Dozen**; **Peter Pan**; **House of Sand and Fog**; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King**; **Mona Lisa Smile**; **Something’s Gotta Give**; **Stuck on You**; **The Last Samurai**; **The Cat in the Hat**; **Elf**

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Cinemas 4
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7147)
Cheaper by the Dozen (PG) Thu. 10:00, 12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:50; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu. 11:30, 3:20, 7:10; **Peter Pan** (PG) Thu. 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45; **Something’s Gotta Give** (PG-13) Thu. 10:45, 1:20, 3:55, 6:30, 9:00

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
Cheaper by the Dozen (PG) Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Elf** (PG) Thu. 10:00 (12:15) 5:45; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu. 11:00

(12:00, 3:15) 5:15, 7:30, 9:30; **Mona Lisa Smile** (PG-13) Thu. 10:45 (1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:15; **Paycheck** (PG-13) Thu. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; **Peter Pan** (PG) Thu. 10:45 (1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45; **Something’s Gotta**

Give (PG-13) Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **Stuck On You** (PG-13) Thu. 2:45, 8:15, 10:45

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
Cold Mountain (R) Thu. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **House of Sand and Fog** (R) Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **In America**

(PG-13) Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **The Last Samurai** (R) Thu. 10:15 (1:45, 4:15) 5:15, 8:30

ENCINITAS

Encinitas 8
220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544)
Cheaper by the Dozen (PG) Thu. (12:20, 2:55, 5:25) 8:10, 10:40; **Cold Mountain** (R) Thu. (12:15, 3:30) 7:05, 10:25; **The Last Samurai** (R) Thu. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00, 10:15; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu. (12:00, 4:15) 8:30; **Mona Lisa Smile** (PG-13) Thu. (1:10, 4:40) 7:30, 10:10; **Paycheck** (PG-13) Thu. (1:20, 4:50) 7:45, 10:40; **Peter Pan** (PG) Thu. (12:05, 2:50, 5:35) 8:15, 10:50; **Something’s Gotta Give** (PG-13) Thu. (1:00, 4:00) 7:15, 10:20

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
Lost In Translation (R) Thu. 6:40, 9:00

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
Cheaper by the Dozen (PG) Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **House of Sand and Fog** (R) Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Last Samurai** (R) Thu. 10:15 (1:45) 5:15, 8:30; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** (PG-13) Thu. 11:00 (3:15) 7:30; **Mona Lisa Smile** (PG-13) Thu. 11:15 (2:00, 4:45) 7:45, 10:30; **Something’s Gotta Give** (PG-13) Thu. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)
Call theater for program information
Cold Mountain; **Paycheck**; **Cheaper by the Dozen**; **Peter Pan**; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King**; **Mona Lisa Smile**; **Something’s Gotta Give**; **Stuck on You**; **Love Don’t Cost a Thing**; **The Last Samurai**; **The Haunted Mansion**; **Bad Santa**; **Elf**

Oceanside 16
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information
Calendar Girls; **Cold Mountain**; **Paycheck**; **Cheaper by the Dozen**; **Peter Pan**; **House of Sand and Fog**; **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King**; **Mona Lisa Smile**; **Something’s Gotta Give**; **Stuck on You**; **Love Don’t Cost a Thing**; **The Last Samurai**; **Honey**; **Elf**; **The Cat in the Hat**; **Gothika**; **Bad Santa**; **The Haunted Mansion**

2

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS

BEST ACTOR

COMEDY

Jack Nicholson

BEST ACTRESS

COMEDY

Diane Keaton

“The architecture of a fabulous romantic comedy to be built of bricks by writer-director Nancy Meyers. ...I loved it. Diane Keaton, an Oscar® nomination, she could go all the way. The film is that good, it is that much fun.”

Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

“...‘Give’ gives Keaton her best role since 1977’s ‘Annie Hall’ won her an Oscar®...it may be the role of her career.”

Mike Clark, USA TODAY

“Jack Nicholson has never been so tender or heartfelt. His comic timing is a marvel. ...movies as wise and fun as ‘Something’s Gotta Give’ have always been rare. It’s a comedy with hilarious moments, and yet with an essential seriousness at its core...”

Mick LaSalle, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

“Nicholson is a treasure. Like great wine he just keeps getting better with age.”

Louis B. Hobson, THE CALGARY SUN

W I N N E R

NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

Best Actress

DIANE KEATON

W I N N E R

BROADCAST FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION

CRITICS’ CHOICE AWARD NOMINATION

BEST ACTRESS - DIANE KEATON

COLUMBIA PICTURES AND WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENT A WAVERLY FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY NANCY MEYERS STARRING JACK NICHOLSON DIANE KEATON “SOMETHING’S GOTTA GIVE” KEANU REEVES FRANCES McDORMAND AMANDA PEET JON FAVREAU MUSIC BY HANS ZIMMER PRODUCED BY BRUCE A. BLOCK WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY NANCY MEYERS

SOUNDTRACK INCLUDES RECORDINGS BY LOUIS ARMSTRONG STEVE TYRELL THE FLAMINGOS ASTROD GILBERTO

NOW PLAYING

PACIFIC THEATRES CARMEL MOUNTAIN 12

I-15 at Carmel Mountain Road 619/674-9770

ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA

Broadway Between H & I 619/338-4214

PACIFIC THEATRES CINERAMA 6

University Avenue West of College 619/287-8990

ULTRASTAR DEL MAR HIGHLANDS

El Camino Real/Del Mar Heights 858/646-9420

AMC ENCINITAS 8

220 N. El Camino Real 760/942-5544

AMC FASHION VALLEY 18

Hwy. 163 at Friars Rd. West 858/558-24MC

PACIFIC THEATRES GROSSMONT CENTER STADIUM 10

Grossmont Shopping Center 619/465-7100

MADSTONE HAZARD CENTER 7

Friars Road & Highway 163 619/299-4500

UNITED ARTISTS HORTON PLAZA 14

475 Horton Plaza 619/444-FILM #076

ULTRASTAR LA COSTA

Corner of El Camino Real & Aviara/Alga 760/599-8221

AMC LA JOLLA 12

I-5 at Nobel 858/558-24MC

EDWARDS CINEMAS MIRA MESA STADIUM 18

W. of I-15 on Mira Mesa Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #160

AMC MISSION VALLEY 20

I-8 Exit Mission Center Road 858/558-24MC

REGAL CINEMAS OCEANSIDE CINEMA 16

Mission Ave @ Pacific Ave 800-FANDANGO #152

AMC PALM PROMENADE 24

805 & Palm Ave. 858/558-24MC

REGAL CINEMAS PARKWAY PLAZA 18

Parkway Plaza Mall 800-FANDANGO #131

ULTRASTAR POWAY

Poway Road at Community 858/646-9423

REGAL CINEMAS RANCHO DEL REY 16

East H Street & Tierra Del Rey 800-FANDANGO #126

EDWARDS CINEMAS EDWARDS SAN DIEGO STADIUM CINEMA

Hwy 94 at Campo 800-FANDANGO #132

EDWARDS CINEMAS SAN MARCOS STADIUM 18

1180 W. San Marcos Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #161

SOUTH BAY DRIVE-IN

2170 Coronado Avenue 619/423-2727

REGAL TEMECULA STADIUM 15

40750 Winchester Road 909-FADANGO #167

PACIFIC THEATRES TOWN SQUARE

STADIUM 14 Clairemont Dr. at Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 619/274-1234

KRIKORIAN’S VISTA VILLAGE METROPLEX 15

25 Main St. 760/945-7469

Visit Showtimes.SonyPictures.com

OR CHECK YOUR LOCAL LISTINGS

124 San Diego Reader January 1, 2004

HELP WANTED

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE. Cal Coast Mortgage Corporation is expanding its production team and hiring experienced Wholesale Account Executives. Candidates should have a minimum of 1 year industry experience and a solid funding record. Medical, dental, 401(k). Cal Coast has been San Diego's premier multi-state direct lender for over 27 years. Offering unbeatable service and a wide range of products including, A, A-, B, Portfolio, Jumbo, any Government; you can count on having your best years with us. For an immediate interview, fax resume to Aurora at 619-725-2664 or e-mail: aurora@calcoastmortgage.com. Visit us at: www.calcoastmortgage.com.

ACCOUNTANT needed. Also, Light Industrial, Electronic Assembler and Telemarketers. www.volt.com. VOLT Services Group, 858-578-0920.

ACCOUNTANTS. QuickBooks, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable. Immediate openings, long and short-term assignments. Work for East County's premier companies! EOE. jobs.Volt.com. Call VOLT today, 619-401-1524.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE. Accounting Advantage has immediate openings. 2-3 years experience. North County. Also, bilingual Accounts Payable candidate for Chula Vista. Submit resume in word format: sandiego@actadv.com or 858-530-9806.

ACTIVISM. Campaign jobs with Greenpeace and the Sierra Club. Protect our national forests and fight pollution. Career opportunities and benefits available. Call Dana, 619-297-5512.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/Executive Assistant. Pay \$11-\$16. Must have experience. If you are interested, please contact us at our Poway Branch, 1260 Sabre Springs Parkway, #205. Phone 866-705-0828.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/Receptionist. \$10-\$15/hour. Must have office experience. Downtown/La Jolla/Sorrento/Del Mar. Ultimate Staffing Services. Call 858-625-2025. Fax 858-625-2026. E-mail: laajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, entry level. Carlsbad. 2 years experience as receptionist or other clerical position. Responsible for typing correspondence, answering phones, report generation, filing. Proficiency in Word, Excel, Outlook. Fax resume, attention: Recruiter, 760-966-5990.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT with at least 6 months experience answering phones, word processing, scheduling/calendering. MSWord, Excel. Professional, excellent verbal and written communication skills. \$10-\$12/hour. Resume required. Remedy Staffing. Email to: carolsi@remedystaff.com; 619-702-0731 or sashar@remedystaff.com, 858-455-5204.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Construction firm seeks experienced Administrative Assistant/Project Coordinator. Fast-paced office. Please fax resume to: 858-268-9959.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Skin care clinic looking for full time, well-organized, some marketing skills, light phones/typing. Please fax attention: Cindy at 619-757-1478.

ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT needed at a growing private school. We use L. Ron Hubbard's Study Technology. \$8/hour to start. Full time. Some training. Call Dina-Marie at 858-454-1972.

AGENTS/PROCESSORS: Earn \$3500/month helping the United States federal government file paid mortgage insurance refunds. No experience necessary, training provided. 858-492-8091.

AIDE, WEEKEND wanted for female in North County. Spanish speaking preferred in exchange for salary, and benefits. Call Merari: 1-888-811-8851.

AIDE, WEEKEND wanted for female in Carlsbad area 6-8 hours per day in exchange for salary and benefits. Call Julie: 760-293-0809.

AIDE. Disabled person seeking computer literate person to work in and around the house in exchange for housing. Call between 10am-7pm, 619-479-4212.

APPOINTMENT SETTERS. We pay weekly, timely, honestly. Located in Miramar. Work Sunday-Thursday, 5pm-9pm. No selling. Call Rick 12-9pm Monday-Friday: 858-578-7914.

APPOINTMENT SETTERS. Experienced and motivated phone closers. No selling needed. AM and PM shifts available. Ask for Adrian, 858-974-0054.

AQUARIUM TECHNICIANS. Service aquariums throughout San Diego County. Competitive pay rates, benefits. Health insurance when full time. Full or part time. www.westcoastaquarium.com. Fax resume: 858-571-0234. Call 858-571-3474.

ASSEMBLY, PRODUCTION, Machine Operator needed in the North County. Entry level with the ability to follow written and oral instructions in English. All shifts: 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Call Ultimate Staffing Services, 760-431-4333.

ASSEMBLY. Immediate openings in Oceanside! Production Workers for assembly of reverse osmosis (RO) water treatment units. Product assembly, inspect materials to assure proper quality standards and maintain documentation. Lift up to 45 pounds throughout the shift. Good math skills required. Must be able to stand the entire shift. Drug test and criminal background check required. 1st, 2nd and 3rd shifts; \$7.70-\$8.80/hour. EOE. www.volt.com. Call VOLT today, 760-729-8916.

ASSEMBLY. Machine Operators, Soldering and Shipping and Receiving positions. Temporary and temp to hire. www.volt.com. Volt Services Group, 858-578-0920.

ASSISTANT /EXECUTIVE. Marketing, Sales, detail oriented. Multitasking individual; fast paced office (graphic/web design, plus). Full /Part time. Salary based on experience. Fax: 619-225-8760. In

person Monday-Thursday 5-9pm; 3333 Midway Drive #206 (Sports Arena area).

AUDIT TAX SENIOR needed for downtown firm. Minimum 2 years experience in CPA firm. E-mail: jlambeth@westfinancialstaffing.com; call: 619-702-7301; or fax: 619-615-5389.

BAKERS. Night shift. Experience preferred. Artisan breads. Good pay and benefits. Se habla espanol. Fax resume: 619-718-9533 or apply in person: Upper Crust, 1340 G Street, San Diego 92101.

BAKERY ASSISTANT. Experience required. Mornings, Monday-Friday. Wholesale bakery in Kearny Mesa. Call 858-571-0100.

BANKING. San Diego National Bank seeks qualified individuals for various banking positions in their Downtown, Central San Diego, East County, North County Offices. DOWNTOWN: Senior Vice President Commercial Real Estate, Senior Vice President Credit Administration, Vice President Real Estate Construction Lending, Commercial Leading Loan Assistant, Community Leading Loan As-

sistant, Branch Support Specialist, Compliance Officer, Operations Specialist; CENTRAL SAN DIEGO: Customer Service Supervisors, Relationship Bankers, Tellers; EAST COUNTY: Customer Service Supervisors, Relationship Bankers (New Accounts); NORTH COUNTY: Branch Support Specialist, Branch Manager, Assistant Branch Manager, Senior Relationship Bankers, Relationship Banker/Customer Service Representative. EOE/M/F/D/V. Visit www.sdnb.com for details and job qualifications. Send resume to: careers@sdnb.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

BARISTA. Happy, outgoing coffee lover needed to dazzle customers at this Clairemont medical center cart. Experience not necessary, but integrity and reliability are! 619-300-8716.

BARISTAS. Part time. Searching for 2 motivated, friendly, honest morning people. Have fun, serve coffee and drink lattes. Carlsbad area. E-mail resumes

betterbuzzcoffee@sbcglobal.net or call 760-929-0497.

BELL/FRONT DESK PERSON. Hotel La Jolla is seeking a full time, energetic, people person. \$7-\$9 per hour. Fax: 858-459-7649. E-mail: hr@hotellajolla.com.

BIKE CAB DRIVER. The tourists are here! Fresh air, sunshine! Lease the cab, keep the money. Male, female. Full/part time. Driver's license. 641 17th Street. 619-595-0211.

BOAT RENTAL COMPANY. Seaforth Boat Rentals is hiring Boat Rental Manager/Assistant Manager positions. Must have customer service/supervisory experience. Advancement potential. Fax resume with salary history: 619-223-9588, or email: daveb@seaforthboatrental.com.

BODY AND SPA products, 25%-50% commissions. Sell body butters, spa scrubs, facial and makeup products direct from the Body Shop. \$185 initial investment. 760-591-0278. boscia1@adelphia.net.

BOOKKEEPERS, FULL CHARGE. (3) positions available. Permanent/part time.

Must know QuickBooks. E-mail: jlambeth@westfinancialstaffing.com; call: 619-702-7301; or fax: 619-615-5389.

CALL CENTER REPS We need 50(!) Outbound calling. \$8-\$11/hour plus bonuses. 6am-2:45pm. Fun work environment. Call to schedule interview: 858-784-3676.

CALL CENTER. Inbound. High volume. Afternoon shift. \$8/hour plus bonuses. Great opportunity for strong closers. Minimum 2 years experience. Fax resume, attention Greg: 619-353-5039.

CALL TAKERS. Greater San Diego Transportation Network is looking for full time Call Takers to work in 24/7 taxi call center. \$7.25 per hour or \$7.75 if bilingual in Spanish. Pre-employment physical, drug and background check. EOE/drug free workplace. You may apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 639 13th Street or call 619-239-8061 x748.

CANVASSING/TELEMARKETING. Home-improvement pros, are you tired of just cold calls? Inbound/outbound, salary plus bonuses to realistic \$1000/week.

Full-time hours. Call Mr. Cash, 858-452-5804.

CAREER FAIR. Hotel Del Coronado, Monday, January 5, 9am-4pm, Grande Hall. Positions available: Guest Services, Restaurants, Recreation, Housekeeping, Beverage, Retail Management, Concessions, Reservations, Banquets, Culinary, Spa. Full and part time and on-call openings available. Professional attire is recommended. Interviews will be conducted for most positions. Self-parking will be validated. The Del is an equal opportunity employer. M/F/V/D with a drug-free work environment. 1500 Orange Avenue. Jobline: 619-522-8158. www.hoteldel.com/employment.

CAREGIVER. Part time needed for 53-year-old female with MS. Incontinence care, transferring, cooking, cleaning, laundry, errands, assistance with medication. 858-274-4175.

CAREGIVER/COMPANION for busy male quad. Fun, as well as work, sharing interests in art, theater, politics. Good driving record a must! Experience in personal care preferred, but not required. Salary, room and board. Call for interview, 619-697-1806.

CAREGIVERS. Excellent pay. Flexible schedules. Serving San Diego since 1991. Affordable Home Care, Inc. 3900 5th Avenue, #140, San Diego, CA 92103, 619-297-8115; North County: 760-730-0323; East County: 619-443-0500.

CAREGIVERS. Live-ins/hourly. Cheerful, compassionate companions/HHAs/CNAs/Aides to assist seniors with light/full care. Experience required. Benefits. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881.

CAREGIVERS: Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Companions (\$100-\$115/day), CNAs, HHAs, Caregivers (\$10-\$11/hour). 3 years' experience required. Overtime for holidays. Apply in person 10am-3pm Tuesday-Thursday: 2333 1st Avenue, Suite 205, San Diego, CA 92101. Or call for an appointment: 619-231-0151 or 760-434-4393.

CAREGIVERS: Full time and part time positions. Flexible schedules. For assisted living and dementia residents. Provide direct resident care, assist with meals, housekeeping and activities. Experience preferred. To apply in person, take 15 to Poway Road East to Sabre Springs Parkway North to 13075 Evening Creek Drive South, San Diego, CA 92128; or fax resume to 858-486-3540. Belmont Village.

CAREGIVERS. Cheerful, compassionate, experienced Aides to assist Seniors with light/full care. Full time/part time. Flexible schedules. \$10/hour to start. Located in Alpine. Fax resume Darlene 619-445-4755.

CASHIER/PARKING ATTENDANT. Full time—San Ysidro, Downtown; part time—Kearny Mesa, Hillcrest, Downtown and La Jolla. Shifts available all days and times. \$8 per hour. Please apply at www.sunsetparking.com or call 760-753-4004 x333.

CHESS INSTRUCTORS. Teach after-school chess programs to K-6 students. Weekday afternoons. \$20-\$30 per 1-hour class. Experience required. Schoolhouse Chess, 858-505-4880.

CHILD CARE WORKERS, overnight, needed in a residential group home located in Point Loma area. Full time, part time and weekends positions available. Very flexible schedules from 11pm-7am. Minimum requirement, A.A. degree. Residential experience preferred. Fax resume to attention: Rolanda, 619-523-0249 or mail to 3485 Kenyon Street, San Diego CA 92110.

CHILD CARE WORKER needed for adolescent residential treatment center located in Chula Vista. B.A. degree required in related field. Pay dependent on experience. Fax resume to Matt, 619-656-1429.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT Counselors to work in a therapeutic setting with SED Children. \$9.50/hour. Merit raises, benefits. Fax New Alternatives, attention Dana, 619-421-7742.

CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE. Doctor's right arm needed two blocks from the ocean in La Jolla. www.jobmermaid.com.

CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, Lakeside. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.14+/hour to start, depending on experience. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply, weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

COMMUNICATIONS. Love to help people? Are you a good listener? We want to meet you! www.jobmermaid.com.

COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist. \$8.38/hour to start, depending on experience. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120. E-Mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax 619-281-0453. www.vistahill.org.

CONSTRUCTION. Tile Setters, Finish Carpenters, Electricians needed part and full time for home remodeling company. 8-10 years experience. Own tools/vehicle required. Call 619-291-1730/619-293-7102.

CONSTRUCTION. Appliance Installer. Experienced Tech skilled in plumbing, electric, carpentry, counter mod. Earn \$2600-\$4400/month gross plus medical insurance. Truck and tools required. Full time, Tuesdays-Saturdays. El Cajon. Call J at MAIE, 619-448-7500.

CONTROLLER needed with nonprofit experience. Never a fee to the applicant. E-mail: jlambeth@westfinancialstaffing.com; fax: 619-615-5389; or call: 619-702-7301.

CONVENTION ASSISTANTS to \$10/hour. Part-time positions begin 1/17/04. Call AtWork Staffing today. atworkstaffing.com. Fax: 619-234-9678; call 619-234-WORK.

SANDIEGOREADER.COM

CLASSIFIED ADS

BUSINESS ADS

BUSINESSES include paid services or functions, rentals, and profit-making enterprises. For rates and discounts call (619) 235-8200.

DEADLINES: Business classifieds are accepted until 6pm Tuesday, two days prior to the issue. Call by Friday for early-placement discounts. Ads may be placed by phone using a credit

card (619-235-8200) or in person (1703 India Street, Downtown). Hours are 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday, and until 6pm Tuesday.

PLEASE NOTE: The *Reader* will not be financially responsible for failure to run an ad or for errors in an ad, except, if at fault, to the extent of the cost of the first insertion of the ad.

FREE ADS BY MAIL OR INTERNET

ONE FREE CLASSIFIED ad per week is available to private parties and nonprofit organizations that do not charge for their services.

MAIL: Ads must be printed clearly on 3x5 cards or postcards and are limited to 25 words. Additional words cost 60¢ each. Ads must arrive at our P.O. Box by 7am, Monday. Mail all ads to

Reader Free Classifieds, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

INTERNET: Free ads can also be placed online at SanDiegoReader.com. Free ads placed online appear *only* on the *Reader's* website. The deadline is 6pm Monday. See below for instructions on placing online ads that also appear in the paper.

\$8 ADS BY INTERNET, FAX OR IN PERSON

QUICK, EASY, AND CHEAP! \$8 ads are available to private parties only. Ads are limited to 25 words. Cash, check or credit cards are accepted. (Services, rentals, lessons or any other profit-making enterprises do not qualify for \$8 ads. See instructions for business ads above. Other rules apply to Roommates and Matches ads.)

BY INTERNET: Go to SanDiegoReader.com and click on the link to place an online classified ad. Fill out the form and remember to check the box for your preferred billing method.

BY FAX: Complete the form below, photocopy it, and then fax it

to us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at (619) 233-7907. Payment is with Visa, Discover, or MasterCard.

IN PERSON: To place an ad with cash or check, fill out the form below and bring it to our office at 1703 India Street (at Date), Downtown. The deadline is 6pm Monday.

REALLY, REALLY LATE ADS: Private parties that have missed the 6pm Monday deadline may still place ads until 6pm Tuesday. Either come to the above address or call (619) 235-8200. The cost for these late ads is \$16 for 25 words, plus 60¢ per extra word.

Deadline: 6pm Monday

Write your ad below, listing the item for sale first, followed by its description (including price) and ending with the phone number. Each phone number counts as one word; ads over 25 words

will be edited. Refer to the Table of Contents to determine the classified category you want. If you are unsure, the appropriate category will be assigned. No cancellations accepted. No refunds.

NAME:

DAYTIME PHONE:



CARD NUMBER:

EXP. DATE:

CATEGORY:

SIGNATURE:

This form is for \$8 ads only.

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The *Reader* will not be responsible for failure to run an ad or for errors in an ad except to the extent of the cost of the ad.

RED MEAT

wriggling humbug larvae

from the secret files of
Max cannon

Hi, Karen. How was your holiday?

It was awful.

All of my presents got melted after one of 'em caught on fire.

That's a shame. I guess you probably didn't get to open the ornament I made for you.

You mean that round thing made of little sticks I found under the pile of burnt and melted presents?

Those weren't sticks, exactly. I glued a few boxes of wooden matches into a ball. You didn't shake the sandpaper-lined box that I wrapped it in, did you?

©2003 MAX CANNON WWW.REDMEAT.COM

COPY OPERATOR. Legal Reprographics, Inc., offers litigation photocopying, document imaging and graphics to law firms. We are seeking positive, energetic and detail-oriented individuals to join our team. 2nd and 3rd shift openings. Great benefits and growth opportunities available! Please fax resume to 619-234-0668 or visit our website at www.legalrepro.com.

COUNSELOR, Child Development. Full/part-time positions available in Point Loma area. B.A. degree in related (psychology) field preferred. Fax resume to attention: Robert, 619-523-0249 or mail: 3485 Kenyon Street, San Diego CA 92110.

COUNSELOR/CHILD CARE Worker. Work with SED children, ages 6-12, East County Rehabilitation Training Center. B.A. Degree/senior status required. Various full-/part-time available. Training. Benefits. EOE. Fax resume: NAI#17, attention Kristi, 619-447-5386.

COUNTER ATTENDANTS and Managers. Subway Sandwiches. Full or part time.

Day, evening shifts. Detail-oriented, good customer service skills. Competitive wages. Paid vacations. Apply in person. Mission Valley: 5608 Mission Center Road; 619-497-0971. Point Loma: 3760 Gaines Street (off I-8 at Rosecrans); 619-574-0906. La Jolla: 7514 Girard Avenue; 858-454-0357. Management applicants; fax resume to: 619-688-9291.

CREDIT ADMINISTRATION/SENIOR VP. San Diego National Bank seeks a qualified individual that possess these qualifications: B.S. Degree in Finance Business and Business Administration preferred. Three to five years' experience, at Senior Vice President level in Credit Administration, preferable with a large bank. Extensive, progressive managerial experience in credit policy, analysis and regulatory practice in, Real Estate, Commercial and SBA Lending. Excellent communication and presentation skills. Strong managerial skills. Team oriented. EOE/M/F/D/V. Send resume to: careers@sdba.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. Security Customer Service. Immediate Placements! San Diego, Escondido, Temecula, Hemet. We invite you to apply with the largest, most respected security company in the world! County wide positions available: Security Management, Patrol Drivers, Security Customer Service Reps, Security Officers, and Security Receptionists. Up to \$12 per hour, Medical/Dental & 401(k), Paid vacation, excellent

working environment, monetary incentives, Guard Card assistance, uniforms provided. EOE/drug free. Must have Guard Card for immediate placement. Locations in Escondido 760-746-7792, Temecula 909-676-3954, San Diego 619-641-0049.

CUSTOMER SERVICE, \$9-\$10/hourly, call center in and out positions. La Jolla/Sorrento Valley/Downtown/Mira Mesa. Ultimate Staffing Services. Call 858-625-2025. Fax 858-625-2026. E-mail: laajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES/Loan Agents. No real estate license required. Leave message 24 hours a day for return call, 888-313-7226. Fax resume: 858-454-2437.

CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR. San Diego National Bank seeks qualified Customer Service Supervisors for their CENTRAL SAN DIEGO and EAST COUNTY locations. Qualifications: Highly motivated individual with exceptional communication and customer service skills. A minimum of one (1) year previous banking experience in addition to holding the position of Vault Teller for at least three (3) months. Cross-trained in New Accounts for a minimum of (3) months. A Strong knowledge of banking regulations, policies and procedures along with Back Office responsibilities, knowledge of rejects, RDI's, reports, etc. for a minimum of three (3) months. EOE/M/F/D/V. For more information and other positions visit www.sdnb.com. Send resume to careers@sdnb.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Top guns make \$1,000/week! Earn up to \$12/hour. AM/PM shifts. Full or part time. Paid training. Medical, dental. Call today, start today! Oceanside, 760-630-2323. San Diego, 619-687-0070.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Experienced, full time. Bilingual/computer a must! Professional and friendly required. San Diego and National City locations. Fax resume: 619-516-7034 or call: 619-516-5377.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Part-time. Tropical Smoothie Cafe is looking for great team members, for our Harbor Drive location. Flexible hours, fast-paced fun environment, advancement opportunities Please call 619-884-7640.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Ultimate Staffing currently has Customer Service call center openings in the Poway area. Ideal candidates must have a customer service background or office experience. First shift, Monday through Friday. If you are a proven customer service rep and enjoy customer interaction, Ultimate Staffing has the job for you! If interested, contact us in our Poway Branch, 12650 Sabre Springs Parkway, Suite 205. Phone: 866-705-0828.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: 100+ positions! Hiring immediately—apply today, work tomorrow! All shifts available, full time and part time. \$8-\$10/hour base pay depending on experience Must type 20-25wpm. Interviewing 8am-2pm Monday-Friday. Abcow Staffing, 2525 Camino Del Rio South #125, San Diego, CA 92108. Call 800-690-8367; webber@abcow.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE— WINTER BREAK Work. Part-time work. Paid weekly. \$18 base/appointment. Customer service/sales. Flexible schedule. Fun work environment. 1-5 temp positions available as well as permanent. North County/La Jolla: 760-942-1223; San Diego: 619-583-5609; Chula Vista: 619-476-1354. www.workforstudents.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. Friendly/courteous. Sorrento Valley. Previous phone experience and up-selling a plus. Employee oriented company offers training and financial growth. \$10-\$13/hour, benefits. April, 858-578-4437.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. Various positions, locations, shifts available. Minimum 6 months call center experience. Windows, 35wpm required. For information, contact AppleOne, Mission Valley, 619-542-0016. Visit [website: appleone.com](http://website.appleone.com).

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. Advanced. Professional, friendly, fast paced environment. Handle inbound calls, problem solving, positive attitude for Auto Finance Company. 6 months call center experience, able to handle high call volume, work independently. \$10-\$12/hour, depending on experience. 858-490-6470.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Sales/Telemarketing. Inbound/Outbound Representatives. Must have excellent phone skills. \$9-\$11/hour, depending on experience. Medical, dental, vision available after 8 hours of work. E-mail resume to carolsi@remedystaff.com or call 619-702-0731, or sasha@remedystaff.com, 858-455-5204.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES. Fit men wanted for San Diego company. Part time or full time. Must have physically fit appearance.

HELP WANTED

Westfield

SHOPPINGTOWNS

2 DAY
JOB FAIR!

Seeking part time & full time
SHOPPING CONCIERGE!

CONCIERGE CANDIDATES

- Approachable, friendly, action oriented, and customer focused
- Proactively seeks to create memorable customer interactions
- Possess strong verbal skills, multilingual a plus
- Offer gift suggestions, store locations and services
- Become a retail expert (answer questions on services, products, promotions and events)
- Work flexible schedules (night, weekends, holidays)
- Utilize previous experience in hotels, tourism or customer service.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8 • 11AM–6PM
Westfield Shoppingtown North County,
Community Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 • 11AM–6PM
Westfield Shoppingtown UTC,
Forum Hall

Set up an appointment time by calling
Debbie at (760) 489-0631

westfield.com

Westfield

SHOPPINGTOWNS

Horton Plaza • Mission Valley • North County • Parkway • Plaza Bonita • Plaza Camino Real • UTC



Rookie Managers!!

\$30K+ Starting

Cross Training:

- Front Office • Sales/Marketing
- General Warehouse • Team Development
- Leadership

Bonuses and incentives

No experience necessary

All positions are full-time

★Not an agency/No telemarketing

Call Susana Jordan in HR:

619-427-8110



Start the New Year with a New Career!

Now Hiring Reservation Agents

\$1400 LOYALTY BONUS

- Top Reps earn over \$30/hour • No selling involved
- Paid training • PM shift • Medical, dental, life insurance
- Paid holidays • 401(k) • Great location (close to trolley)

No experience necessary for motivated individuals.

To schedule an interview, call (619) 624-2888
or e-mail mwilliams@welkgroup.com

Or apply in person 11 am-4 pm, Monday-Friday at:

Soleil Communications, Inc.

A DIVISION OF THE WELK RESORT

6150 Mission Gorge Road #140, San Diego, CA 92120

Hourly
plus bonus
& weekly pay

Apply today,
start
tomorrow!

126 San Diego Reader January 1, 2004

pearance, confidence, good verbal and Internet skills. Call 619-222-4208.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Burns Drugs in La Jolla is looking for a cashier with pharmacy experience. Full-and part-time shift. Must be dependable and a team players. Apply in person: 7824 Girard Avenue.

DATA ENTRY. Full time. \$10-\$12/hour. 10,000 kph. Must have experience. Downtown/Mira Mesa/Sorrento Valley. Ultimate Staffing Services. Call 858-625-2025. Fax 858-625-2026. E-mail: lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

DELIVERY DRIVERS. 50 needed, full/part time. Your own mini pickup/economy car. \$390-\$500/week starting; overtime available. Advancement opportunity. Start right away. 619-571-1070, 858-578-7812, 760-639-5400.

DELIVERY DRIVERS. Good pay, medical. Downtown bread bakery. Clean DMV. 3am-11:30am shift. Deliveries to restaurants, hotels, markets. Experience preferred. Apply: 1340 G Street, San Diego 92101. Fax resume to: 619-718-9533.

DEMONSTRATORS. Part time for home shows, health fairs, special events. Not selling! Experience a plus, but will train. Hourly plus bonus. Fun job! 858-279-9896.

DISPATCHER/ROUTER. Next-day delivery service. Knowledge of San Diego, good communication and people skills. Good benefits, 401(k) and paid vacation. Golden State Overnight, 800-743-1139. Fax resume, 858-622-0316.

DIVER, CERTIFIED/BOAT BOTTOM CLEANER: Long term. Physically demanding. Full time. Monday-Friday. Must have own truck/SUV. Fax resume and letter of introduction: 619-424-9058.

DRIVERS needed immediately for large reprographics company. Full and part time. Drive our vehicles. Bring current DMV printout. Full benefits. Apply in person at: 7584 Metropolitan Drive, San Diego, 92108. 619-297-8300.

DRIVERS, full time, all shifts. Requires Class B or C license, clean background and DMV. 20-40+ hours/week. \$10.40-\$10.90/hour. We provide: Firearms training, profit sharing, security training, medical benefits, life insurance, holiday and vacation pay, savings investment plan, tuition assistance, company-paid pension program, advancement opportunities. Brink's, 4520 Federal Boulevard, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92102. 619-263-6615.

DRIVERS, part time, for restaurant delivery throughout San Diego County. All shifts available. \$10+/hour average. Must have own vehicle, clean DMV and insurance. 858-490-3930.

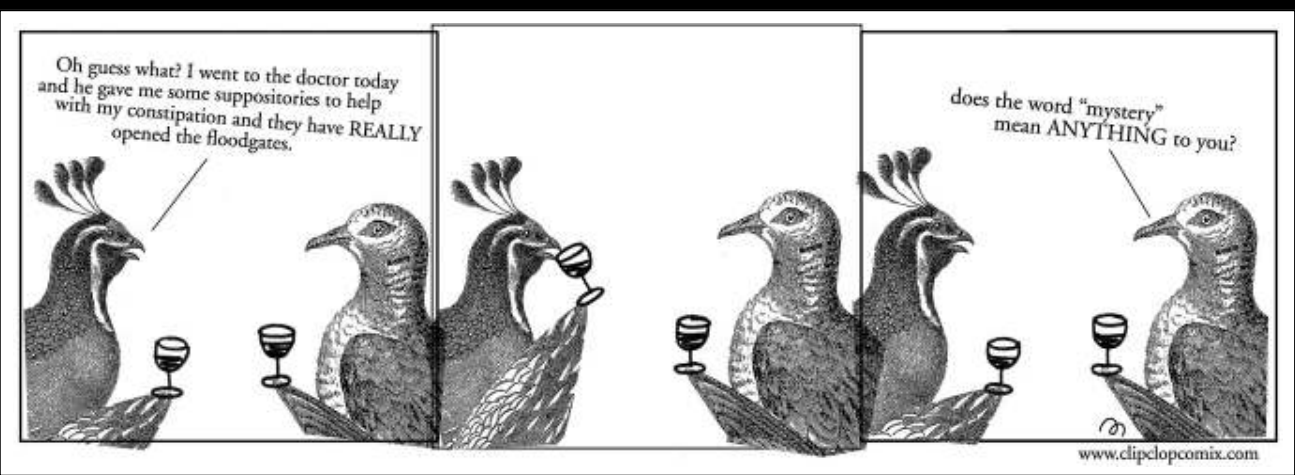
DRIVERS. Day/night shifts. Experienced/inexperienced. All welcomed. We train. North County/San Diego City. North City Cab Company, 4896 Voltaire. Call 24 hours, 619-260-0100.

DRIVERS. Full time/part time for next-day delivery service. Must have pickup with shell or a van. Excellent benefits. Will train. Please call 800-743-1139.

DRIVERS. Growing wholesale bakery needs drivers for early morning deliveries. Part time, early mornings. Hourly pay. Clean DMV printout required. Apply in person: Le Chef Bakery, 4896-A Ruffner Street, San Diego. (No phone calls, please.)

DRIVERS. Laidlaw Transit Services is looking for caring and compassionate people for paratransit driving positions. Must meet DOT requirements, pass a pre-employment drug screen and physical. Our drivers enjoy paid CDL training, full-time positions, good benefits and wages starting at \$8.25 hourly (\$8.75 after 90 days). For an immediate interview, bring current H-6 Monday-Friday to: 544 Vernon Way, El Cajon.

CLIP CLOP



DRIVERS/RESTAURANT Pizza delivery drivers and cooks. Full and part time; day and night shifts. Apply 1125 6th Avenue (between D & C, downtown). 619-531-0955.

DRIVERS/HELPERS. Class A/B/C license, moving experience preferred, clean DMV, alcohol/drug-free workplace. Apply in person 3110 Hancock Street, Sports Arena area. 619-234-6683.

EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE. Earn up to \$1000/week! Software of the Month Club

now hiring. Base salary, commissions, cash bonuses. Weekly pay. Management opportunities. E-mail: hr@somc.com. To schedule interview, call Monday-Friday, 1pm-5pm: 858-609-1179.

ELECTRICIANS: Residential, commercial, custom homes. Top pay for California state certified Electricians. Full time with benefits. Training available for uncertified Electricians. Tools, work truck and drug test required. Fax resume to 619-283-0205; apply online at jamarelectric.com;

or call us 8am-5pm Monday-Friday at 619-283-5723.

ELECTRICIANS for swimming pools. Journey-men and Apprentices. Clean DMV and hand tools required. Set appointment, 619-444-9464.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/MARKETING. Fast paced magazine, radio, events. Strong sales personality. Mature and extremely organized. Very savvy, flexible. Resume/cover letter with salary history: marketing252@yahoo.com.

HELP WANTED

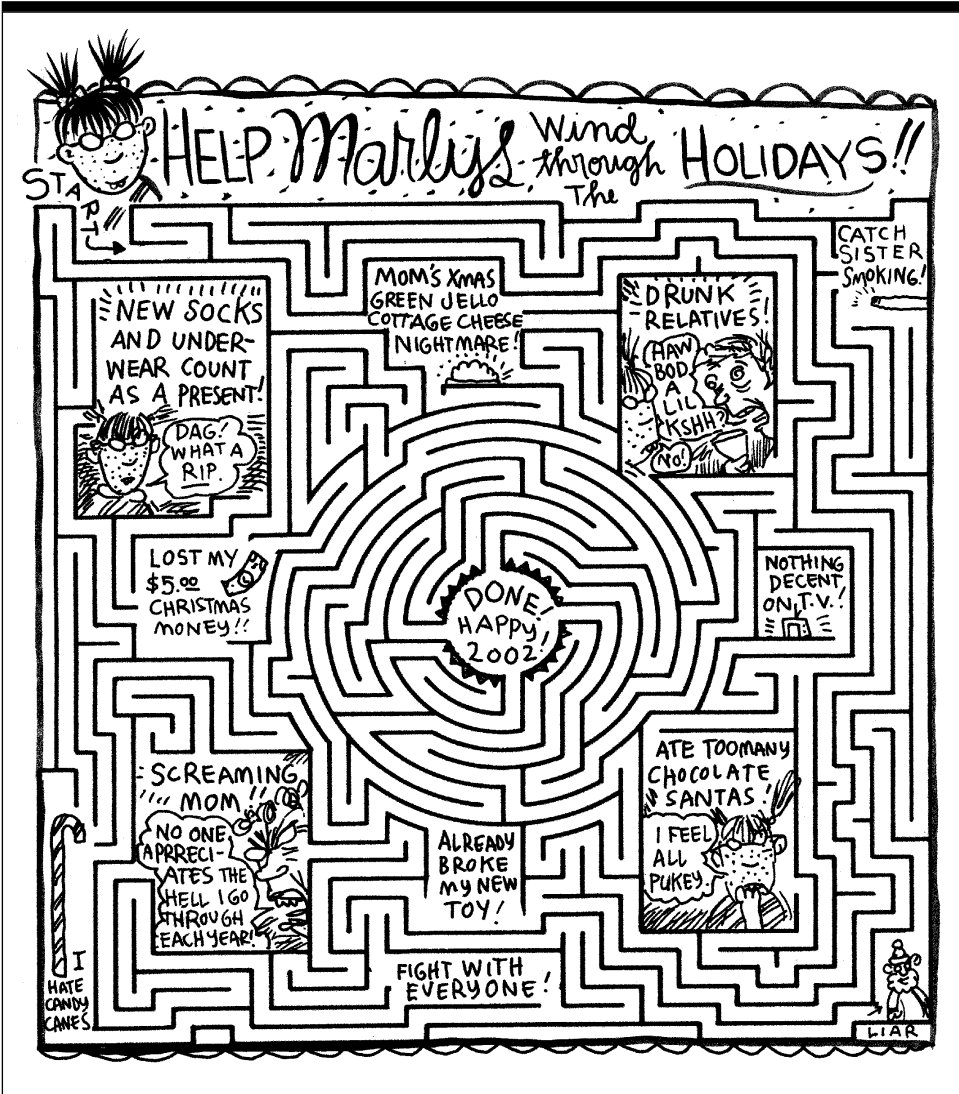


The Sports Season Is in Full Swing... Is Your Career?



Locally based international advertising company servicing the sports, nonprofit, and entertainment industry is looking to fill 15 FT positions immediately. What we need ...Team players with good people skills, professional image and a strong work ethic. Come work with our list of blue chip and Fortune 500 companies/clients.

Call Leslie Baker at: 858-495-0624



HELP WANTED

FAMILY CAREGIVERS. Childcare, Elder-care. New-hire bonus! Provide nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, and disabled. New 12-and 24-hour shifts!

Benefits, retirement, childcare, dependent care. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@ayhs.cncdsc.com. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

FANTASTIC SALES OPPORTUNITY. Full time/part time. Work from home and make 25% commission with your telephone and a computer. Join our team. 619-285-1542.

FINANCIAL AID/Student Service Representative needed for The College of Oceanengineering. Salary \$27,000. Please fax resume to: 619-563-7294.

FINANCIAL. Take control of your future and your income! Be your own boss in a highly profitable career! Comprehensive training as an Insurance and Financial Agency Owner if you qualify. Maintain current employment while in training; 2-year subsidy plan after your training program. Property, Casualty and Life licenses a plus. Series 6 and 63 a plus. Farmers Insurance Group. www.farmers84.com. E-mail: Marilyn@district84.com. Call 619-465-6071 or 800-306-7722.

FITNESS TRAINERS. North County mobile fitness company looking for part-time, caring Fitness Trainers. Growing our business with energetic, industry certified professionals. Advancement opportunities. E-mail resume: Tiffany@gotfitnessonthemove.com.

FITNESS TRAINERS. Degree in Exercise Science or related field preferred; not required. Knowledge of weight training/exercise physiology. \$12-\$17 per hour starting. Understanding of key nutritional/health issues. Del Mar. 858-481-2255.

FITNESS. Manager position at the "Boxing Club." Experience in sales and management a must. Need enthusiastic and energetic person to join our growing team. Fax resume: 858-456-3424.

FOOD SERVICES. Sodexho at Children's Hospital has several Food Service positions available. Please apply in person at 3020 Children's Way, San Diego. EOE. M/F/D/V.

FUNDRAISERS WANTED. Average \$24 per hour, 100% no selling involved, easy work. Full-time and part-time available. Fax one page application/resume to 866-363-6106 or ripfortfun@yahoo.com.

FUNDRAISING for Democratic Party and national charities. Paid training. Medical, dental. Hourly plus bonuses, regular raises. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer, 2221 Camino del Rio South, Suite 201, San Diego 92108. 619-497-5600.

GAS TURBINE MECHANICS and Warehouse Workers with forklift experience sought by VOLT Services Group. For more information, please contact the San Diego Branch at 858-576-3140.

GENERAL LABOR. Housekeeping/Janitorial and Packaging. Immediate openings, long and short-term assignments. Work for East County's premier companies! Other assignments always available.

EOE. jobs.Volt.com. Call VOLT today, 619-401-1524.

GENERAL LABOR/WEKEND work/part time work. Pay \$8. If you are interested, please contact us at our Poway Branch, 1260 Sabre Springs Parkway, #205. Phone 866-705-0828.

GENERAL LABOR/WAREHOUSE. From \$8/hour. Short- and long-term positions. casandiego@westaff.com. Apply at Westaff, 4411 Mercury Street #207, San Diego 92111. Fax resume: 858-576-0121. Call 858-576-1001.

GENERAL OFFICE. Up to \$12/hour. Proficiency in MSWord and MSeXcel. Call At-Work Staffing today. atworkstaffing.com. Fax: 619-234-9678; call 619-234-WORK.

GENERAL. Residential positions. Make more than a living. Make a difference in someone's life by teaching daily living skills to adults with developmental disabilities. No experience necessary. Training provided. Full time, nights. Part time, evening/weekend shifts available. \$7.21/hour. Pacific Beach and Santee. Valid California driver's license, 2 years driving experience, clean criminal background. The Arc of San Diego, 1550 Hotel Circle N #410, San Diego 92108. EOE. Contact: 619-574-7575. Fax: 619-574-5353, e-mail: cls@arc-sd.com.

GENERAL. Travel USA Publication Sales Company now hiring 18 sharp, enthusiastic, individuals free to travel the entire U.S. Paid travel, training, lodging, and transportation furnished. Return guaranteed. Start today! 1-800-530-7278.

GUARDS, SECURITY. All shifts. Transit/Trolley, Manufacturing, Corporations, High Rise, and more. Heritage Security, call 1-800-679-0319. For Rancho Bernardo, call 858-942-4714. www.heritagesecurity.com

HAIR CARE PROFESSIONALS. Licensed stylists and managers needed for busy salons. Guaranteed pay and commissions, career advancement opportunities, full-and part-time positions. Flexible hours. Call now, 619-602-3533.

HAIR SALON. Hair stations available for brand new upscale studio in Downtown San Diego. Please fax resume: 619-702-5119. Or call Laura 619-702-6486.

HAIRDRESSERS. The Electric Chair is looking for motivated and talented individuals. 19-chair funky Ocean Beach salon, tons of walk-ins, great income, easy-to-build clientele, education. Experienced only. Paul, 619-223-1112.

HAIRSTYLISTS. Licensed. Guaranteed base wage! Full and part time, wanted at a new Great Clips for Hair salon in Rancho Penasquitos. Paid benefits, vacation, bonuses. Contact Julie at 858-395-9175.

HAIRSTYLIST. A very busy salon in Poway. Full benefits. Great pay. Base guaranteed. Growing business needs additional stylists. Potential to advance. Call 858-336-7860.

HAIRSTYLISTS needed for beautiful salon in Hillcrest. Full time. Booth rental and

commission. Must have some clientele and walk-ins. Free parking. Call Judy: 619-291-1190.

HAIRSTYLIST needed full time for beautiful, upscale salon. Low, low booth rent or commission. Full time esthetician also needed. Mission Valley. Call Mark, 858-829-2782.

HEALTH CARE. No experience necessary! Care for Developmentally disabled adults. Part-and full-time positions up to \$8.20/hour or staffing pool positions (up to 32 hours per week) at \$8.50 per hour. Must be at least 18 with High School Diploma/GED, California Driver's License. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 9am-3:30pm, Home of Guiding Hands, 10025 Los Ranchitos Road, Lakeside, CA, 92040 or apply online at www.guidinghands.org. 24-hour Job Line, 619-448-3700.

HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES. Want to own your company? Join La Jolla Nurses! Per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments in all areas. Employee-owned agency—you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits. 401(k) plan, referral business. In business since 1977. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

HEALTHCARE. Full and part time. Flexible hours. Behavioral coaches needed to work with SED children and adolescents in homes and programs. Excellent salary with benefits. Must have a B.A. degree and 1 year of experience with SED population a must. Call 619-615-0701, or fax resume, attention: Director, 619-615-0705.

HEALTHCARE: LVN. New assisted living community seeks a high energy LVN to join our team. Full-time and per diem positions available. Medical administration with minimal charting. Lots of positive interaction with residents. To apply in person, take 15 to Poway Road East to Sabre Springs Parkway North to 13075 Evening Creek Drive South, San Diego, CA 92128; or fax resume to 858-486-3540. Belmont Village.

HEALTHCARE: Home care office in Mission Valley has immediate openings Caregivers, CNAs and Live-Ins. Sign-On Bonus! Flexible schedule, 12-hour shifts. Serving San Diego since 1977. Please apply in person 9am-4pm Monday-Thursday at 6950 Friars Road, Suite 200 (across the street from Fashion Valley Mall). 888-299-4858; or visit us at www.frontporchhomecare.com.

HOTEL HOUSEKEEPER. Experience preferred. Benefits. Apply: Aztec Inn, 6050 El Cajon Boulevard, or fax resume to 619-582-4573.

HOTEL OPERATORS wanted. Come join our new team in the Serra Mesa area. Enjoy a fun job in a relaxed atmosphere. Work part time hours with full time pay. Fluent English a must. \$8/hour plus commission, \$100 sign on bonus, amazing

Sales

13456789101112131415161718192021222324252627282930313233343536373839404142434445464748495051525354555657585960616263646566676869707172737475767778798081828384858687888990919293949596979899100

High-Performance Sales Careers

The GEICO Sales Team has always been a driving force behind our company's profitability and rapid growth. Now the Team itself is growing with opportunities for motivated professionals seeking a product and a company they can believe in. GEICO currently has day & night shift positions available.

PROFESSIONAL SALES AGENTS

Daytime Agents

\$29,000-\$31,000/year to start, plus bonuses!

Your leads come to you! GEICO Sales Agents are supported by a highly effective product marketing campaign and a dynamic staff of insurance industry professionals.

- Top Agents earn \$50K+!
- Monthly incentives up to \$500.
- Rapid advancement! On average, GEICO Sales Agents earn three promotions in the first five years.

- Comprehensive industry training paid!
- Excellent opportunities to advance into mentoring and supervisory roles.

We invite you to come join us at the following Job Fair and speak with a Hiring Representative about your future at GEICO Direct!

As one of San Diego's most stable and successful employers, GEICO Direct has your current and future needs covered with health and 401(k) benefits that start the same day you do, plus pension AND profit sharing plans. Can't attend the Career Fair? Forward your resume to: GEICO Hiring Team, JobCode: SDR0101SA, 14111 Danielson St., Poway, CA 92064; Fax: 858-513-5775; Email: R4careers@geico.com; Jobline: 858-513 JOBS. JOB CODE MUST BE INCLUDED TO BE CONSIDERED. Walk-ins welcome.

GEICO DIRECT

Onsite Job Fair

Tuesday, January 6th.

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

14111 Danielson Street,

Poway, CA 92064

GEICO DIRECT

www.geico.com

EOE. M/F/D/V

PLANET MORTGAGE

Ready for success?
Do you have what it takes?
Here's your chance!

- Sales Executives
- Telesales Professionals
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Unlimited Income Potential

Top producers make \$70K-\$90K per month!
Earn six figures your first year!
We offer full paid training, big-time spiffs,
great benefits, and a fun, competitive,
high-energy work environment.

CONTACT US TODAY!

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HOTEL RELIEF NIGHT AUDITOR. Experience preferred. Apply: Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Suites, 6474 El Cajon Boulevard, or fax resume 619-582-6873.

HOUSE CLEANERS. Part time and full time. Must speak and read English, have own vehicle and proof of insurance. East County. Good pay and bonuses. Ace of Maids, 619-390-6399.

HOUSE PARENTS for residential/educational campus in Escondido. San Pasqual Academy serves foster teens 14-18 years old. Eight students per home. House Parent units have separate entry, bedrooms, private bath and kitchenette. Ideal candidates will have experience with adolescents, a degree in Human Services or related field and demonstrated commitment to serving youth. Fax resume to Barbara: 760-233-6017.

HOUSECLEANERS. \$500 sign-up bonus! No nights, weekends, holidays. Paid training. Benefits. Weekly paychecks. Paid mileage. Car needed, proof of insurance. English speaking. Merry Maids, El Cajon, 619-579-9205.

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HOUSECLEANERS. Flexible hours. Must have car. Immediate work. English speaking. Maid in America Agency. 619-291-5000, 760-434-5150.

HOUSECLEANERS \$75 hiring bonus. Must speak both English/Spanish. California driver's license required. Car/uniforms provided. Weekdays. Paid holidays/vacations. Paid weekly. 858-576-0777.

HOUSECLEANERS wanted. Must have reliable vehicle, answering machine, speak fluent English, previous cleaning experience, and love to clean. Flexible schedule. Art Of Clean Agency. 858-270-8874.

HOUSEKEEPER/CAREGIVER needed to cook dinner approximately 1:30-4pm Saturdays and Sundays. North County area. Call for application. Leave message, 760-739-1632.

HR GENERALIST. North County. 3 years experience in Human Resources. Responsible for recruiting, benefits, employee relations, payroll for 150 employees. Strong knowledge of California Labor Laws/Federal Labor Laws. Salary depending on experience. E-mail resume: cruiz@ain1.com.

INSIDE SALES. Prime Time Entertainment Group, #1 leader in the entertainment industry, needs motivated Inside Sales Reps. No experience required, will train. Full and part time, all shifts available. Oceanside office. Earn \$150-\$250/day plus daily cash spiffs. Call Tracy at 760-809-6742 or 760-543-1380 x302.

INSIDE SALES. Ultimate Staffing Services is hiring for Student Loan Consolidation Center, Inside Sales Positions! We are currently searching for star candidates for immediate openings with SLCC located in the Sorrento Valley area. Candidates must be flexible to work an 11am-7pm shift. Positions are temp-to-hire with tremendous opportunity for growth. \$35,000-\$65,000. If you are a self-motivated individual looking for a great opportunity, Ultimate Staffing has the job for you! Please call 858-625-2025 or e-mail lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

INSIDE SALES. \$65,000 plus, inbound/outbound sales, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Clairemont Mesa area. Fax resume to: 858-569-0787.

INSIDE SALES for high-volume, inbound call center. Make \$100,000 first year potential. \$200,000 potential second year. Great career opportunity for a strong closer with minimum 2+ years experience. Residuals, residuals, residuals! Fax resume, attention Greg: 858-268-7342.

INSTALLERS. Local water heater company is seeking experienced installers with own tools and good DMV. Good pay! Flexible hours. Call Shawn toll free, 800-727-0977.

INSTRUCTORS: Cooking, Musical Theater, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Hip-Hop. Kids 3-12, beginning levels. Experience required. Mobile gym program. Part time, afternoons. North County. \$15-\$35/class. 760-917-4800.

INSTRUCTOR. Boxing and/or Kick Boxing for a fitness club. Must be experienced, enthusiastic, and energetic. Numerous gyms throughout San Diego. Apply in person: 4164 Convoy Street, San Diego. 858-576-9509.

INSURANCE. Experienced P&C Licensed Agent. Full time. Bilingual (English/Spanish)/computer a plus. San Diego and National City offices. Fax resume: 619-516-7034, or call 619-516-5377.

INTERNET SALES. Work from home. International Company Security. Risk free opportunity! \$25-\$75/hour, part or full time. Full training. Free information online at www.pioneeredsuccess.com.

JANITORIAL. Sodexo at Children's Hospital has several Housekeeping positions available. Some are week-end only positions. Please apply in person at 3020 Children's Way, San Diego. EOE. M/F/D/V.

JOB FAIR/GUEST SERVICES! Monday, 1/05, 12-8pm. 100+ part-time positions! All shifts. San Diego's finest Guest Service/Security Team at the San Diego Convention Center. Conventions, Trade Shows and Special Events. Must be 18+/clean criminal background and have good communication skills, great attitude. 505 West Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101 (behind Convention Center). Meter parking at Embarcadero South. 619-544-1774. EOE.

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1st and 2nd shift, \$8.50/hour. 3rd shift, \$9.44/hour.

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1st and 2nd shift, \$9-\$10.75/hour. 3rd shift, \$9.99-\$11.93/hour.

• DATA ENTRY OPERATORS

Warehouse setting. 1st shift, \$10/hour. 8,000 keystrokes/hour.

Candidates must bring 2 references, photo IDs, and proof of right to work in the U.S.

Must have 80% ability to speak, read, and comprehend English.

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Temporary Technical/Supervisory positions only:

Fax résumé to 858-635-3236



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The City of Chula Vista, San Diego County's second-largest city, is currently recruiting for the following positions for the new Communication Center.

Fire Dispatcher	\$3207-\$3898 per mo.
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Police Dispatcher	\$3527-\$4288 per mo.
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ERUPTING PASSION MADE THEM DISPEENSE WITH THEIR PUPPETS...

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BUT LET'S NOT GET ALL WORKED UP ABOUT IT... THEY WERE JUST PUPPETS.

STORY BY BRIAN JENKINS
LAY@WAYLAX.COM

LEGAL SECRETARY/PARALEGAL. Novation Legal Placement Services looking for Temporary Personnel for holiday/January coverage. 2 years experience, excellent administrative skills. Send resume in MSWord format: novation@novation-legal.com or fax: 619-233-4321.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL positions. North County. Immediate openings. Full time, temp-hire! EOE. Call VOLT Services Group at 760-471-0800.

LIVE-IN ASSISTANT/Roommate. Female seeking paid roommate to live in North County. Spanish speaking preferred. In return, ILC, Inc. Offers good salary/benefits. Call Merari: 1-888-811-8851.

LIVE-IN ASSISTANT/Roommate wanted. Female looking for a paid roommate to move into a two-bedroom apartment in North Park. Good salary/benefits. Call ILC, Inc.: 1-888-811-8851.

LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS. Experienced only! 24-hour live ins, 3 or 4 days/week. Good pay, always on time! Bonus pay. Extra pay for holidays. Christmas bonus. SHS, 619-582-7381.

LIVE-IN SUPPORT PERSON/Community Support Facilitator positions. Innovative supported living agency seeking creative individuals to provide direct support to adults with developmental disabilities in their own homes and communities. Part time, days, evenings, weekends and overnights. \$8.50 per hour. Call 619-594-8924 or fax resume to 619-594-3677, at-

tention: Creative Support Alternatives, SDSU Foundation.

LOAN OFFICER. Guaranteed salary to start. Minimum 1 year's experience. Direct lender. Medical, dental, 401(k). E-mail: donvan@eq1lenders.com. Fax resume: 858-457-5455. Call Jim, Equity 1, 858-558-5455 x340.

LOAN OFFICER. Work from your own home. One year experience preferred. Training available, bring your own leads. Some license necessary. Training available. Call 619-741-3549.

LOAN OFFICERS. Looking for ambitious self-starters. Will train. Must be comfortable using telephone. Part-time afternoons, evenings. Potential income \$10,000 per month. Call Tito at 858-536-5100 x102.

LOAN OFFICER. Guaranteed salary to start. Minimum 1 year's experience. Direct lender. Medical, dental, 401(k). E-mail: donvan@eq1lenders.com. Fax resume: 858-457-5455. Call Jim, Equity 1, 858-558-5455 x340.

LOAN OFFICER. Full or part time, experienced, up to 90% commission, leads available. Work at home or at office. Call Dean 619-507-4874. E-mail: deans@cashout.com.

LOAN OFFICERS. Wanted for Clairemont Mesa office, work from home or in office. Please call 858-751-5770 Extension 10 or e-mail jobs@sdrefi.com.

MACHINE OPERATOR. Soft Gelatin Encapsulation Machine Operator (nutritional supplement manufacturer). Carlsbad. 3 years experience. Setup, operating, troubleshooting, sanitation of equipment/parts. 7:30am-4pm. \$12-\$15/hour depending on experience. Medical, dental, 401(k). VOLT, 760-729-8916. E-mail resume: carlsbad@volt.com. Fax: 760-720-7341.

MAID SERVICES. To \$300 weekly. No nights, weekends, holidays. \$500 Hiring and Performance Bonus! Paid training. Weekly paychecks. Insured car required. Mileage paid. Merry Maids, El Cajon. 619-579-9205.

MAID SERVICES. \$500 Hiring and Performance Bonus! No nights, weekends, holidays. Up to \$300 weekly! Paid training. Insured car required. Mileage paid. Merry Maids. South Coast/all south areas only. 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

MAINTENANCE for growing, local, property management company. Must have knowledge of electrical and plumbing. Need own tools and reliable transportation. Full time. Start immediately! Call 619-804-8711. Fax resume: 760-434-0534.

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MANAGEMENT TRAINEE. Hippies with the flow. National art company. Several positions available. If you like music, beer, working with opposite sex. \$500/week. 858-622-9575 x7.

MANAGER, FRONT DESK HAIR SALON Must be multitasking, computer-literate, friendly with happy attitude. We offer salary, benefits, paid vacation, paid education. Call 760-634-3689.

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MARKET RESEARCH Phone Interviewers. No selling. Dependable, good communication skills, type 20wpm. \$8-\$10+/hour, medical benefits. Advancement opportunities. Ongoing bonuses. www.luthresearch.com. Apply in person at 1365 Fourth Avenue, downtown. Job Hotline: 619-243-8045.

MARKETING RESEARCH. Phone Interviewers, outbound calling only. Westfall, 4411 Mercury Street #207, San Diego 92111. casandiego@westfall.com. Fax resume to 858-576-0121.

MARKETING RESEARCH ANALYST. Create Nielsen quantitative analysis/presentations using qualitative research tools. Create/execute on-air and on-site promotions for local/national accounts. Will create print promotional materials. Must have knowledge of Nielsen, TV Scan, Scarborough, CMR, R.L. Polk, Global Insights, Photoshop and other research/marketing tools. Extensive knowledge of Hispanic market, fluency in written/spoken Spanish required. BBA in marketing or equivalent. Fax resume: Entravision Communications, 858-715-2986, or e-mail: jmendoza@entravision.com.

MARKETING. \$500 weekly! We have immediate full-time openings in Sales and Marketing, Customer Service, Public Relations, and Project Management. No experience necessary. Will train. Call Leslie Baker at 858-495-0624.

MARKETING. Christmas rush! \$400-\$500 weekly to start! Promotional advertising company working with children's entertainment product has reached its busiest time of the year. Rapid advancement for motivated individuals. All positions permanent and full time. Will train in: Customer Service, Inventory Control, Sales and Marketing, Entry-level Marketing. Please call Molly Hamilton or Roxanne, 619-427-3708.

MASSAGE THERAPIST with esthetician license needed in Encinitas. Must be enthusiastic, team player, with desire to serve. We offer benefits, paid vacation/education. Call 760-634-3689.

MECHANICAL ASSEMBLERS, Material Operators, Forklift Operators and Data

Entry Operators. Now accepting applications Monday-Thursday, January 5-8, 8am-2pm and Friday, 1/9/04, 8am-noon: 8400 Miramar Road, #270, San Diego. Remedy Intelligent Staffing invites you to register for upcoming hiring season for these temporary positions. Mechanical Assemblers: 1st shift, \$8.50/hour. Material Operators: 1st and 2nd shifts, \$8.50/hour; 3rd shift, \$9.44/hour. Forklift Operators: 1st and 2nd shift, \$9-\$10.75/hour; 3rd shift, \$9.99-\$11.93/hour. Data Entry Operators: warehouse setting; 1st shift, \$10/hour; 8,000 keystrokes/hour. Bring proof of right to work in the U.S., photo ID, 2 references. Pre-employment criminal background check and drug screening required. Call 858-635-3239. Temporary Technical/Supervisory positions only: Fax resume to 858-635-3236.

MEDICAL CLAIMS/Medical Biller. Must have medical claims or medical billing experience. \$10-\$14/hourly. Ultimate Staffing Services. Call 858-625-2025. Fax 858-625-2026. E-mail: lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

MEDICAL OFFICE. Entry level position 25 hours per week. Data entry, medical records. Basic office and computer skills a must. Fax resume to Angie 619-223-6928.

MORTGAGE COMPANY. Sales Executives, Telesales Professionals, Management opportunities. Top producers make \$70K-\$90K per month. We offer paid training, great benefits, and a fun, competitive work environment. Planet Mortgage. California Department of Real Estate license #01345960. Fax resume, 800-430-5042 or email, jdelgato@planetmortgagecorp.com.

MYSTERY SHOPPER. Get paid to shop! Mystery Shoppers needed to pose as customer in local businesses. Must have Internet access, flexible hours. Call toll-free, 1-800-599-2781.

MYSTERY SHOPPER. Get paid to shop! Mystery shoppers needed in your area. Part/full time. Make your own schedule and hours. Call 619-528-4357

NIGHT AUDITOR. Hotel La Jolla is seeking a part-time Night Auditor. Computer literate, basic accounting knowledge and experience necessary. Fax: 858-459-7649 or e-mail: hr@hotellajolla.com.

NURSING/NORTH COUNTY. CNA's, LVN's, Live-ins, Caregivers. Flexible schedules, top pay/benefits. The Experienced Home Care Registry, 110 Escondido Avenue, #207, Vista. For directions: 760-724-0880.

OFFICE MANAGER, full time, for children's entertainment company. San Diego area. Busy phones, errands, scheduling, training. Dependable, very organized applicants, call 858-279-2908; fax resume: 858-279-1852.

OFFICE TO GENERAL LABOR. Immediate openings. Administrative, Customer Service, Accounting -Machine Operators, Warehouse. Weekly pay, benefits, holiday pay. Temporary and permanent. Express Personnel: 858-784-3676.

PART TIME. La Jolla Playhouse is seeking individuals with telephone sales experience for their 2004 Subscription Campaign. \$8.50/hour plus commission, cash bonuses and comps to see the shows. Evenings, 5:30pm-9pm. 858-550-1020 x5007.

PART-TIME SECURITY. Immediate Placements! With valid CA Guard Card, see office for details. San Diego, Escondido, Temecula, Hemet. We invite you to apply with the largest, most respected security company in the world! Countywide positions available: Security Management, Patrol Drivers, Security Customer Service Reps, Security Officers, and Security Receptionists. Competitive wages, Medical/Dental & 401(k), Life Insurance, excellent working environment, monetary incentives, Guard Card assistance, uniforms provided. EOE/drug free. Must have Guard Card for immediate placement. Locations in Escondido: 760-746-7792, Temecula 909-676-3954, San Diego 619-641-0049.

PART-TIME OFFICE/PERSONAL ASSISTANT for online boutique. Must be dependable, have reliable transportation and flexible availability. Varied responsibilities include organization, light computer, errands. Will train. E-mail resume/pertinent information: ragewear@san.rr.com.

PART-TIME CUSTOMER SERVICE. 6:45-10:45am. \$9-\$11/hour. Sorrento Valley. Ultimate Staffing. Call 858-625-2025. Fax 858-625-2026. E-mail: lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

PART-TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT. 20 hours/week. Data entry, customer service, light bookkeeping, phones. Smoke free office. Medical insurance available. Will sponsor immigration. Kearny Mesa. 858-576-1346.

PART-TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT. Experienced. Monday-Friday, 12noon-5pm. Requires thorough knowledge of computers, good driving record. Call Alex after 5pm weekdays, call anytime weekends. 619-297-3335.

PART-TIME PET SITTER. Permanent. 7 days. Split shift plus holidays. Infrequent traveler, bonded, positive minded, ethical. Reliable car. 619-685-7979.

PART-TIME. Candle lover? Need a flexible job? Part-time making full-time money! Sell candles/accessories. No investment, no boss, no risk. Great opportunity! 909-677-9871.

PART-TIME/SIGN TWIRLER. Weekend Work. Starting at \$9.50 per hour. 714-832-7334 x311.

PHARMACEUTICAL TELESALLES. Entry level. \$30K plus commission. Carmel Mountain Ranch location. Please fax resumes to 858-675-9380.

POLICE/FIRE DISPATCHER. The City of Chula Vista is currently recruiting for the following positions for the new Communication Center: Fire Dispatcher, \$3207-\$3893/month. Fire Dispatcher Supervisor, \$3686-\$4483/month. Police Dispatcher Trainee, \$3207-\$3893/month. Police Dispatcher, \$3527-\$4289/month. Police Dispatcher Supervisor, \$4057-\$4931/month.

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or
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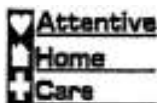
Overtime for Holidays

Apply in person 10 am-3 pm Tues.-Thurs.:

2333 1st Ave., Ste. 205, San Diego, CA 92101

Or call for an appointment:

(619) 231-0151 or (760) 434-4393



Visit: www.ci.chula-vista.ca.us or call Job Hotline: 619-691-5095.

PRINTING PRESSMAN. AB DICK 360/ITEK 3985 experienced only. Quality and speed oriented. Clean DMV record required. Part time/full time. 858-456-2882.

PROBATION. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. U.S. citizen or process of becoming a citizen. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. High school diploma or GED. 21 years. No felonies. No drugs. Good physical condition. \$30,888-\$39,416. Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Maximum 85 applicants. Test date: January 10, 2004, 8am. County Administration Center (south entrance), 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101. Jobline, 858-514-8558.

PRODUCTION WORKER with golf manufacturing experience needed. Telemarketing positions also available. Other temporary and temp-to-hire positions. Email: scrippsrancho@volt.com. www.volt.com. VOLT Services Group, 858-578-0920.

PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE. Established Carlsbad company. Long-term, weekdays, North County. Front Desk, multiline experience. Pay \$10-\$13/hour. E-mail: 1539@kellyservices.com, or call 760-736-4831.

PRODUCTION. Jobs in Oceanside. Look for defects in plastic, place labels, count parts and pack in boxes. Immediate openings. 1st, 2nd and 3rd shifts. \$7-\$7.65/hour. Overtime available. EOE. www.volt.com. Call VOLT today! 760-729-8916.

REAL ESTATE SALES. Century 21 Award. Unlimited income! There has never been a better time than now to start your career in Real Estate! Take the first step toward a career that offers independence, flexible hours and investment opportunities. Century21Award.com. For information about our free weekly career seminars and top-notch Real Estate licensing school, call 800-480-5529.

REAL ESTATE/SENIOR VP (Commercial). San Diego National Bank seeks qualified individuals that possess these qualifications: B.S. Degree in a business related field, business administration preferred. Ten or more years of experience, with progressively greater responsibilities in commercial real estate lending environment. Thorough understanding of loan underwriting and documentation for complex Real Estate transactions. Excellent communication, management, analytical and interpersonal skills. Solid knowledge of commercial real estate lending policies and procedures. Proven organizational and public relations skills. Previous experience in leadership and management of senior level officers. EOE/M/F/D/V. Send resume to: careers@sdna.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

REAL ESTATE/SENIOR VP (Commercial). San Diego National Bank (Downtown location) seeks qualified individuals that possess these qualifications: B.S. Degree in a business related field, business administration preferred. Ten or more years of experience, with progressively greater responsibilities in commercial real estate lending environment. Thorough understanding of loan underwriting and documentation for complex Real Estate transactions. Excellent communication, management, analytical and interpersonal skills. Solid knowledge of commercial real estate lending policies and procedures. Proven organizational and public relations skills. Previous experience in leadership and management of senior level officers. EOE/M/F/D/V. Send resume to: careers@sdna.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

REAL ESTATE/SENIOR VP-Construction Leading. San Diego National Bank (Downtown location) seeks qualified individuals that possess these qualifications: B.S. Degree in a Business or Finance. Three to five years' experience in Commercial Real Estate Lending. Extensive knowledge of Real Estate underwriting. Exceptional Business Development skills. EOE/M/F/D/V. Send resume to: careers@sdna.com; fax: 619-744-2110; mail, Attention: Human Resources, 1420 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92101-4232.

REAL ESTATE LICENSE. Obtain your Real Estate license with our Quick PACE Program. Real Estate Principals course, 2-1/2 weeks. first year income potential over \$100K with national brand. For a confidential interview call Susan or Justin 858-245-7880 or 800-319-1031.

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RECEPTIONIST/GENERAL CLERK. \$13-\$16. Must have experience. If you are looking to start a career, we have the job for you! Poway, Rancho Bernardo, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa and Clairemont. 12650 Sabre Springs Parkway, #205. Phone 866-705-0828.

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Any and all types of experienced performers: interactive show hosts, singers who play acoustic guitar, strolling musicians, specialty acts, variety acts, musical stage acts/Caribbean acts, hip-hop dance teams, and Stomp groups.

Audition Dates:

**Saturday,
January 10
12 noon to 4 pm**

**Tuesday,
January 13
6 to 9 pm**

Interactive Show Host – Be prepared to read provided scripts and dress to move.

Singers Who Play Acoustic Guitar/Strolling Musicians/Musical Stage Acts/Caribbean Acts – Prepare two minutes of upbeat music to perform and incorporate audience interaction. Acts performed in character are encouraged. You must provide your own instrument.

Specialty Acts/Variety Acts/Hip-Hop Dance Teams/Stomp Groups – Prepare two minutes of your best stuff to perform.

AUDITION LOCATION:

SeaWorld
Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute
2595 Ingraham St., San Diego, CA 92109
Intersection of Ingraham and Perez Cove Way

Call the SeaWorld audition hotline for additional information:
(619) 226-3607

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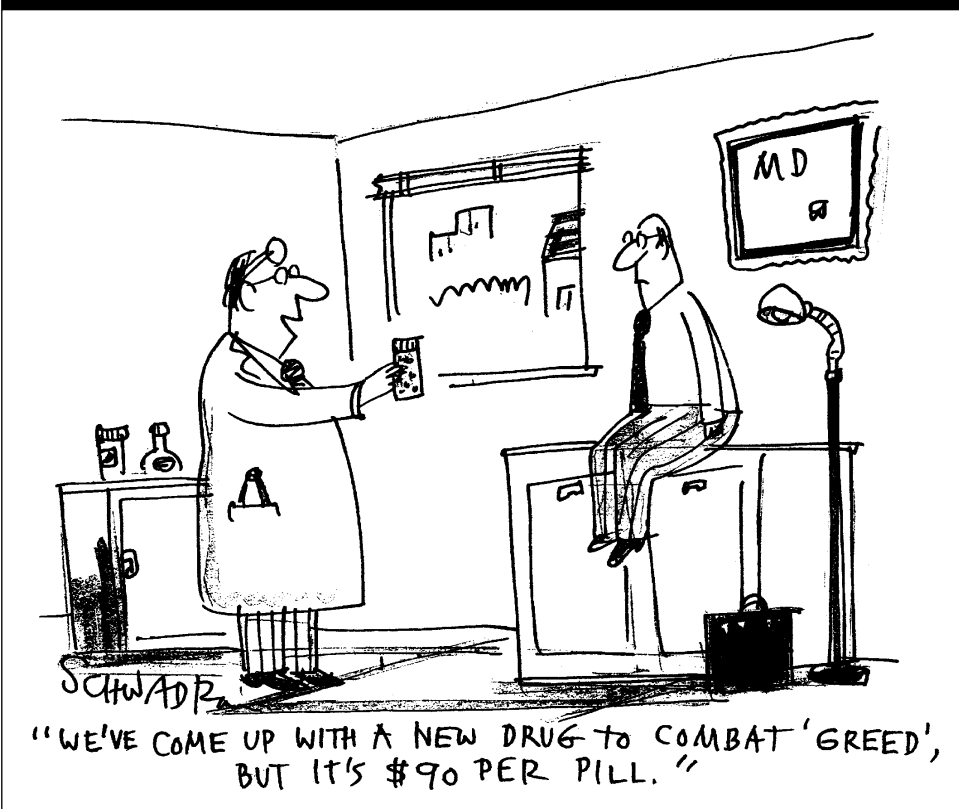
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EOE



RECEPTIONISTS needed for Central San Diego positions. Must know basic MS Word and Excel, excellent communication skills. 5 plus lines. \$9-\$11/hour, depending on experience. Email resume to carolsi@remedystaff.com or call 619-702-0731 or sashar@remedystaff.com, 858-455-5204.

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SALES (INSIDE). North County pharmacy is seeking an inside telemarketing specialist with an aggressive style and excellent phone skills. Ability to gain rapport with clients a must. This individual will have high energy, be a self-starter and be motivated towards success. Fax resume: 888-562-6509.

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SHOPPING CONCIERGE. Part time/full time. Experience preferred in hotels, tourism or customer service. Multilingual a plus. Westfield Shoppingtowns. For appointment at Job Fair, 1/8-1/9, call Debbie, 760-489-0631.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Classroom Aide positions working with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. EOE. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista or Lakeside. Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.14+/hour to start, depending on experience. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply in person, weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Employment Specialist. Providing job development, placement and on-the-job support for adults with developmental disabilities. Bachelor's or 3 years related experience. EOE. Fax resume and salary history to Janet, 858-549-8781.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Multiple employment opportunities with Supported/Independent Living agency working with persons with developmental disabilities. Live-in Personal Attendant for woman in Poway area, salary plus benefits, most weekends off. Weekend respite for man in Lakeside area, \$700/month plus benefits, one weekend off per month. Part-time/Full-time Supported-Living coach in San Diego and North County areas, flexible scheduling. EOE. Fax resume, 858-549-8663 or call Janet, 858-549-6200.

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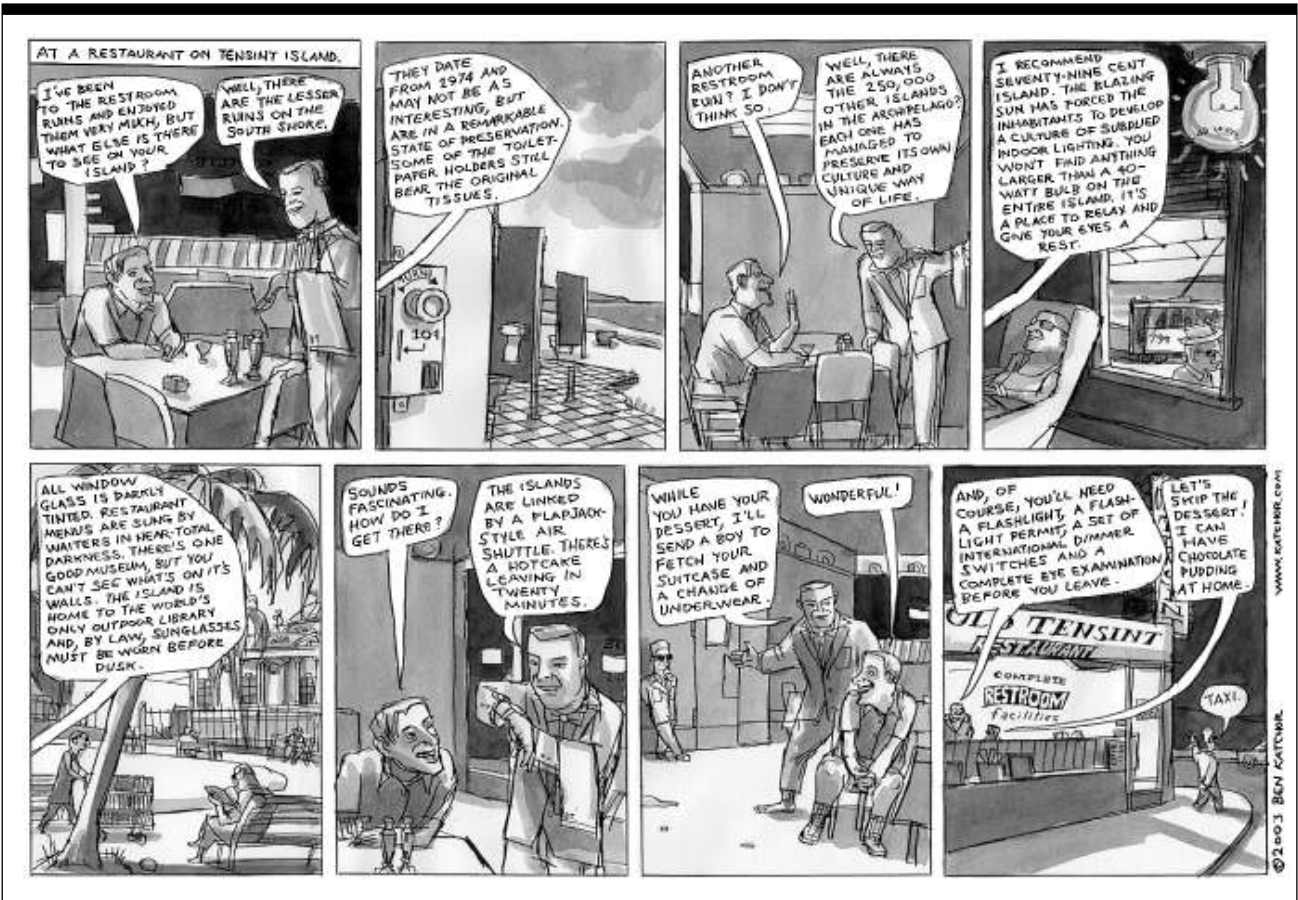
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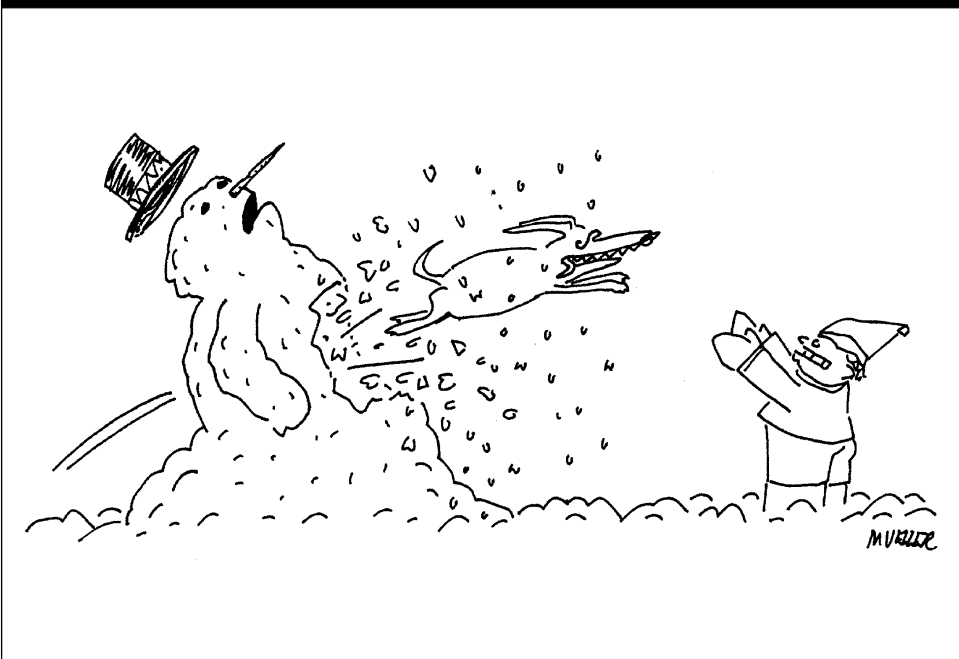
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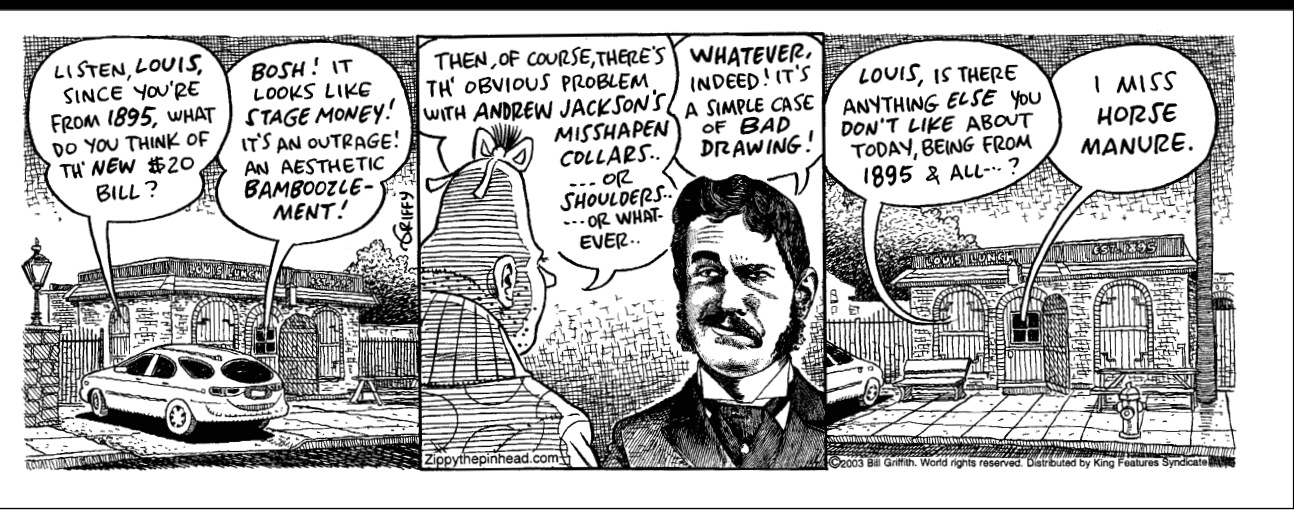
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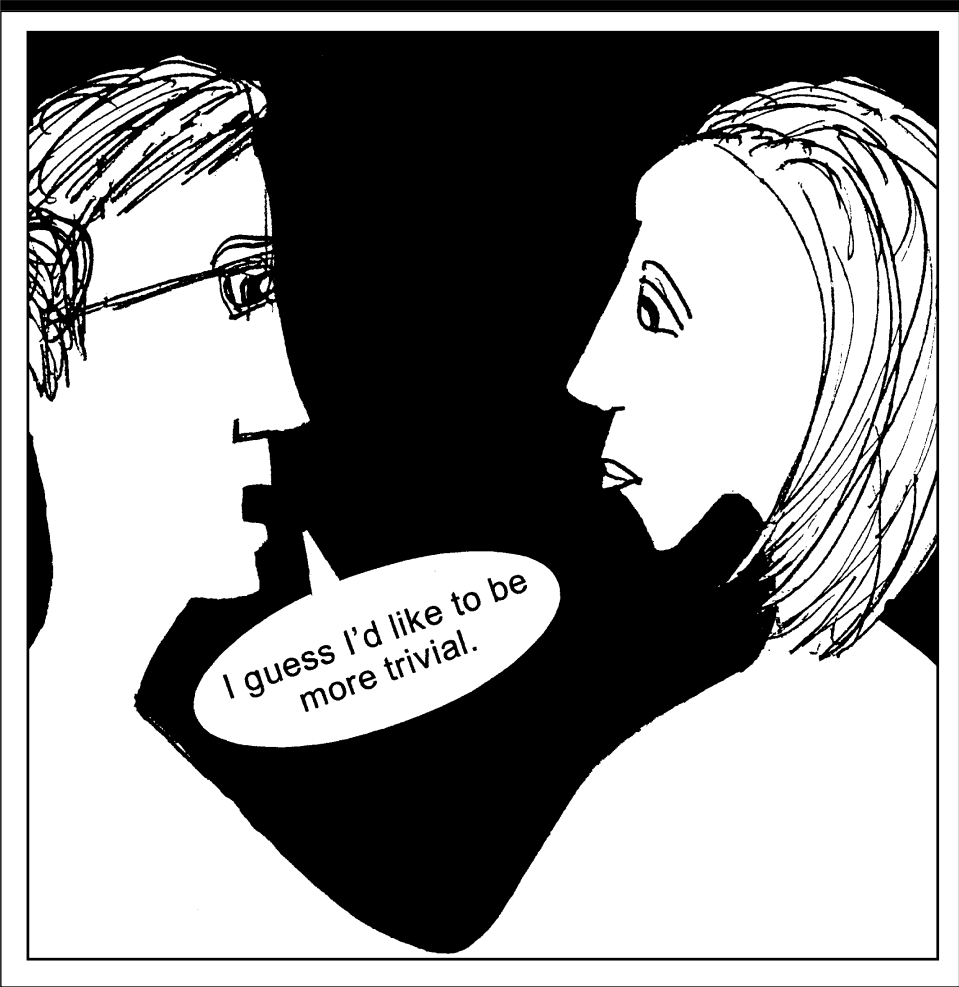
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AUDITIONS. Director Jeff Gastauer will audition actors for "Burke," January 11-12, 7pm at OnStage Playhouse, 291 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista. Need 3 men (20-60) and 1 woman (30s). 619-422-7787.

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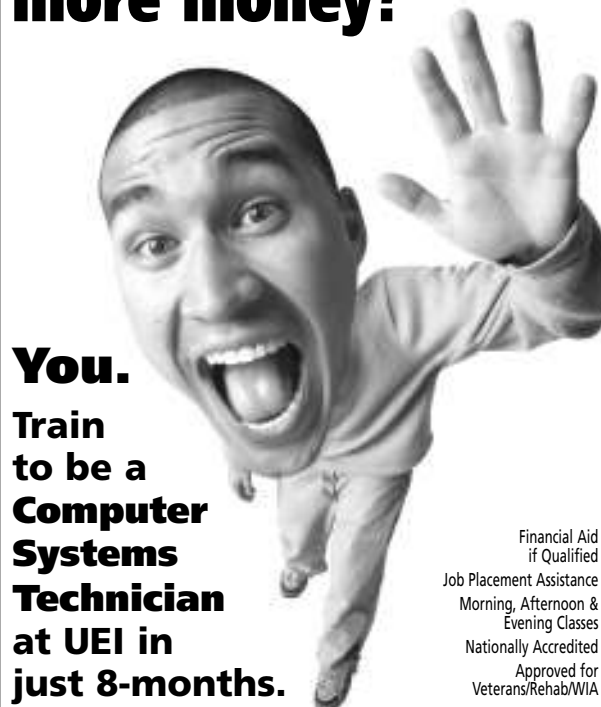
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Matt Gilpin

Musician

San Diego

I fucking love *The OC*. The best part is that Ryan wears V-neck shirts. He's the main character, the kid from Chino whose life is about being at the wrong place at the wrong time. We know he's a nice kid. Yeah, he returned a stolen car for his brother and his brother is in jail and his brother would have been shot if Ryan didn't do it. It's not like his girlfriend Marissa. She's gorgeous, but so far on the show, she's overdosed on drugs, she was drunk while Ryan got pulled over and had an open container of vodka in the car and got Ryan in trouble. It's all stuff that we've all done when we were younger but don't elaborate on. You gotta love Seth. He's celebrated Christma-ka because he's half Jewish and half Christian. *The OC* is a Christma-ka miracle.



Jill Bergman

Social Worker

Mission Hills

Sex in the City is my favorite show. I love the sex, the fashion, and the hot guys that Carrie dates. Samantha has taught me a few tricks. I feel like a mix of the three women, but I have to say that I like to see what Carrie wears. She always dresses funky, and her shoe collection is great. Charlotte teaches good etiquette for dating, Miranda is good for her bluntness, and then there's the sexual craziness of Samantha. I have a *Sex and the City* text message that sends me quotes from the show every day. My favorite quote is "I like my money just where I can see it, hanging in my closet."



Mark Breudo

Entrepreneur

La Jolla Shores

My favorite TV show is 24. Each episode is one hour of a 24-hour day. It's intense and it builds hour by hour. It's the first show in real time, so that makes it interesting. Kiefer Sutherland never sleeps in the show. He recovers well from torture; it's always an intensively long day. It's really about the plot twists and how it all comes out in one day. You're constantly thinking, "What's gonna happen?" I figure if you miss an episode, you would be pretty lost, but I would never know because I never miss an episode.



Mirgam Veen

Psychologist

Netherlands

I like *Will and Grace*. No other show compares with it because it is so different. I don't think it's stereotypical of America because in Holland, we have more gay people than in America. In Holland, gay marriages are allowed, but here in California with Arnold Schwarzenegger, it won't happen. It's a great show and a lot of people watch it, but I don't get together with my friends and ask them, "Did you see it last night?" I like that homosexuality seems so normal within the show, but I don't feel like it represents America for the large part.



Jane Doe

Optometrist

La Jolla

My favorite show is *Friends*. I think it's really funny and I'm sad that it's ending after nine seasons, but I guess they're going out on the top. My favorite character is Rachel, probably because she's funny, but she can also sound smart. Out of the guys, I would date Chandler because he's not as silly as Ross. Joey's cute, of course, but he's a bit of a player. My favorite episode was when Rachel was giving birth. Three women gave birth during Rachel's labor, and at one point, Joey picks a ring off the ground, and since he's down on his knee, Rachel says "yes."



Justin Roberts

Math Professor

North Park

I don't actually have a TV. I think I'm one of the few people who don't, and I'm proud of that fact. I used to have a TV, and my favorite show was *Northern Exposure*. I loved that show, and I used to watch it every night in repeats. It was a good thing to watch before you go to bed. It had a subtle, almost profound aspect to it, and it was a good thing to go to sleep on, especially after a few beers. Chris was my favorite character, and I think he's the only actor who went on to have a career after the show. The show was charming and funny in sort of a low-key way.

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BISEXUAL FORUM, North County. 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:30-9:30pm, North County Center, 370 Mulberry, San Marcos. Discussion, social group. Open to all. ncbiforum@yahoo.com.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT (Association Cannabis Therapeutics), nonprofit. Free legal, medical referrals. Proposition 215, local guidelines, pound, 24 indoor plants. No to hard drugs. Ombhanghi. 619-819-6421.

CATHOLIC COMRADES for single Catholics of all ages wishing to meet others who share the same beliefs and interests. Write: Catholic Comrades, PO Box 131555, Carlsbad 92013.

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FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 1/5, 2/2, 3/1, 4/5 by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4305 Gesner #200. 858-509-7582.

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HERPES (HSV) OR HUMAN Papillomavirus (HPV). San Diego City HELP is a self-help support group. We offer accurate medical information. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org. Call for recorded message, 619-491-1194.

MEDIUM SEEKS donated space for free weekly meetings. Messages from deceased loved ones and angels, healing energy, entity removal, higher-self alignment. Leave message, 619-364-6647.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching a movie every 2 weeks and discussing it afterwards (like book clubs)? Please call 858-272-8727 or 619-934-2602.

NATIVE AMERICAN COUNCIL Progress, Incorporated. Nonprofit. Seeking donated musical instruments, records, art supplies, sewing machines, places for sweats, teachings. Can pick up. ohgoat4@yahoo.com or 619-528-0907.

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NICK K. Nick K. Nick K. Call home. Urgent! WI WI WI.


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
THANK YOU Holy Spirit for prayers answered. All.

THANKS to St. Jude and all the deities for graces granted.


MATCHES


SHARED INTERESTS

BLACK FEMALE IS HERE and dependable. If you are black or Hispanic and have got your act together (work, school, car, men, money), let's chat! (1/7)  90277

FEMALE JOGGING PARTNER wanted. Let's train together for 1/2 and full marathon. Me: female, 30's, fit, single. Approximately five or more miles each. It's fun! (1/14)  20301

FEMALE SEEKS PLATONIC gal pals for conversation, movies, shopping, walking, music, TV. Must be nice/sincere. Everyone has moved! I'll call back! Age 39. (1/7)  20278


FRIENDSHIP. Early 40's woman seeks fun person, for weekend activities, like dining, music, movies, walking, hiking, badminton. (1/14)  20316


SINGLES. New to San Diego singles scene. 31, female seeking other females, 30-35, to meet guys with and compare notes. Married women just don't understand. (1/7)  20259


VIENNESE WALTZ PARTNER! 30's-40's female sought by gentleman for Viennese Ball 1/31-04. Intermediate level preferred. Dedicated practice required. (1/14)  20302


MATCHES

WOMEN SEEKING MEN


DOCTOR, BEAUTIFUL, passionate, 39, 5'5", 125lbs., loving, loyal, and fit. Likes to travel. Seeking a very successful, well-educated, loving, sportive, adventurous, monogamous man. (1/14)  90739

斯LENDER, ATTRACTIVE Brunette, youthful 50, ready to explore Europe, indefinite time! You are active, healthy lifestyle, nonsmoker, have time and money for us to play. (1/7)  90703

WOMAN OF COLOR WITH swell personality, two left feet, and a beautiful evening gown. Seeking escort for Vienna Ball in January. Race, age unimportant. (1/14)  90724


VOLUPTUOUS, DREADLOCKED beauty, free spirited, intellectual, perceptive, and sensual. Nice eyes, and smile. You are handsome, healthy, good spirited, and intelligent. Be kind, and generous. (1/7)  90717

GENTLEMAN OVER 45 for companionship. No drugs or alcohol. I'm 46, never married. I am disabled, loving and affectionate. (1/7)  90712


CARING, FUN LOVING, ASIAN seeks friendship with healthy, happy, successful, 56-60, decent, witty guy, for movies, dining out, dancing, beach walks, and talks! Great catch! (1/14)  90721


GREEN EYES, 44, ATTRACTIVE, kind, nonmaterialistic, outdoorsy, Project Wildlife volunteer. Looking for handsome, yet humble honest man with a great sense of humor. (1/7)  90704

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE. I am a black, 22-year old, voluptuous female. Wanted: older, successful gentleman for fun. (1/14)  90730

NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNINGS. Let's spend it together! Me: 47, sweet, affectionate, cuddly, love the ocean, new age though, my cats. Looking for my soulmate. (1/14)  90728


CATHOLIC, GREAT COOK, 50, look 38, medical field. Enjoy simple to eclectic, romantic, full figured, but worth your attention. Make me laugh! (1/7)  90708


PRETTY BLACK WOMAN. Mom of 2, 35. Interests: friendly dating, nothing serious, friends, companionship. No freaks/drugs! Take me out, show me a good time! (1/7)  90709

BEAUTIFUL ASIAN, 5'5", 117lbs., pretty. Seeking gentleman, 38-50, financially/emotionally secure, nonsmoker, no drugs. (1/14)  90734


PRETTY TEACHER, blonde/blue, 41, 5'8", bikini looks, two teens home part-time, one at college. Seeking fun loving, successful, nonsmoker, Christian, Republican, 32-53. (1/14)  90733


TRUTH IN ADVERTISING. Attractive brunette, 38, 5'6", 125lbs., very fit, great sense of humor. Looking for outdoorsy, athletic, positive professional, between 34-44. Relationship/family oriented. (1/7)  90705

ATTRACTIVE, OUTGOING, unforgettable, honest, 44. Seeking fun, attractive, male. Love outdoors, beaches, cooking. Must have great sense of humor. I am adventurous, love travel, more. (1/14)  90725

STOP HERE, you found her. 28, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'6", 125lbs. I love animals, cooking, rock music, concerts, surfing. Seeking 25-33 male for relationship. (1/7)  90715

CUTE, FUN, SOCIAL, professional girl near the coast line looking for a fun, professional, good looking gentleman in great shape. (1/7)  90711

BLACK FEMALE, 47, seeks serious relationship with white male, 32-55. Please, no games. Let's start the new year together. laughing, sharing, caring, finding love. (1/14)  90731

ASTUTE, 56, COLLEGE EDUCATED, energetic, in excellent physical/emotional health, nonsmoker, nondrinker. Enjoy all the performing arts, travel. Seeking healthy man who likes women! (1/14)  90736


EXTRAORDINARY FIND, attractive Scottish redhead, 48, (mild herpes, otherwise healthy), fit, cute personality, stylish. Seeking tall, attractive, fit, independent, black, 45-50ish. Friendship, dating, possible romance. (1/7)  90707

EBONY BEAUTY SEEKS attractive Mr. Right, nice guy, romantic, down to earth. Like salsa dancing, movies, theater, walks, dining out, someone fun to be with. (1/14)  90722

MIDWESTERN GIRL, 34, seeks deep relationship. Healthy, fit, intelligent, condo owner. No smoking, drinking or drugs. You? Tall, adventurous, affectionate, playful, kind, confident, well rounded. (1/14)  90719

NEW YEAR'S CHARMER, 35, intelligent, free-spirited, attractive, artistic woman. Seeking educated, conscious, handsome musician into exploring the mountains, beach, and urban culture, comedy clubs. (1/14)  90720

CITY GIRL WITH COUNTRY roots. Love outdoors, and city fun too. Seeking adventurous, child-free, nonsmoking man, 37-49 for lighthearted exploration, fun. Motorcycle a plus. (1/14)  90727

VERY ATTRACTIVE, BLACK female, sleepless in Tacoma Washington, transplant from San Diego. Seeking very attractive, white male. Will give more information about myself, if interested. (1/14)  90735

PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



Barney Vandersteen, manager of the Hotel Del Mar, 1929. The place began drawing Hollywood luminaries in 1937, after the Del Mar Racetrack opened. Bing Crosby, Jimmy Durante, Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Abbot and Costello, and Mickey Rooney stayed there.

The hotel closed down on the last day of 1963's racing season. The manager at the time, a former vaudevillian dancer of Greek descent by the name of Pierre Charisse, resumed living there with his wife Renee. Four years later, the resort met the wrecking ball.

According to *North County Times* columnist Wendy Haskett, "When the hotel was finally demolished it went out in a blaze

of glory. On Sunday August 27th, 1967, Del Mar's chamber of commerce spent almost all the money in their checking account on the 'Farewell Fiesta.' For 50 cents anyone who came...was treated to a buffet, dancing, a display of horseless carriages and an auction of hotel mementos. One of the big draws was the fact that if you bought something like a door knob, an illustrious former guest such as Prince Aly Kahn or Clark Gable might possibly have turned that knob."

The \$40-million-plus L' Auberge Del Mar occupies the land where the Hotel Del Mar once stood.


— by Robert Mizrachi


ATTRACTIVE, BLACK FEMALE, 52, enjoys movies, dining out, plays, music, walks, concerts. Seeking honest, sincere, caring, black male, 38-55, for friendship, dating, monogamous relationship. (1/14)  90738

LOVER/BOYFRIEND WANTED by plus size brunette. Nonsmoker. Seeking long-term relationship. Very loving and sincere. Let's go for it, big boy! (1/14)  90723


PLAIN JANE, 68, shy, educated, bookworm, likes people, music, art, and chocolate. Also, bagels and geography. (1/14)  90732


SEXY, EUROPEAN EDUCATED, gorgeous, petite. Seeking successful, truth-

ful, generous, educated, anti-war, stylish, monogamous, (com)passionate, no baggage, friendship, sportive. No previous kids, spiritual/nonreligious, 37-48, 5'9"+. (1/7)  90713

ZEST FOR LIFE! Curvaceous, sexy, white, 44, seeking passionate, sensitive man; share laughter, commitment, excitement, dreams. Captivating energy to invigorate your soul. Embrace the journey. (1/7)  90714

STOP! GREAT LADY, widowed. Looking for my special man. I'm 59, Caucasian, country attitude. You: great personality, time, monogamous, 58+, smoker. Like lunches out, weekends, coffee and talks. (1/14)  90737

BEAUTIFUL, SLIM BRUNETTE with upbeat, and pleasant personality. Seeking my very best friend for romance and TLC, 50-60 years old. A Libra would be nice. (1/7)  90718

54, 5'2", HONEST, WARM, affectionate. Seeking someone to spend time with, 50+, easygoing man who enjoys life. I enjoy travel, dancing, cooking, sharing. (1/7)  90716

SEEKING LIFE'S LOVE. Professional, petite, brunette/green eyes, forties, musician, very athletic, fun, funny. Seeking same to go out, biking, blading, dancing, great times. (1/14)  90726

LET'S STOP BUSH! Foxy, attractive, liberal, adventurous, compassionate/pas-

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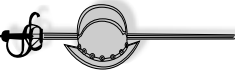
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sionate, smart. Love life, nature, theatre. 5'6", 130lbs. Need 49+ together guy. Share life! E-mailers, leave phone#. (1/7) ☎90710

I AM LOOKING FOR a gentle distraction. I'm black, 6'1", attractive, working on working out. You: at least 6'2", 30-55, love children, genuine, emotionally available. (1/14 ☎90729

SOS. NEED TEDDY BEAR to cuddle with, warm and caring, with good sense of humor. Interested in long-term monogamous relationship. (1/7) ☎90706

MATCHES

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HISPANIC, 53, 5'8", SLIM and fit, easy-going, faithful. Enjoy camping, cooking, desert, movies, dining, Sunday drives. Seeking lady with same interests, long-term relationship/marriage. (1/14) ☎20300

NICE GUY LOOKING FOR nice girl, 25-35. Are you into exercise, gardening, cooking, arts, church and traveling? I could be the one for you! (1/7) ☎20274

BLACK MALE, 48, CHRISTIAN, educated. Seeking a woman of any race, 25-50, of same similarities. No drugs or mind games please. Thank you. (1/14) ☎20293

HIGHLY EDUCATED, WHITE MALE, bachelor, global/political activist. Seeking open-minded, healthy, caucasian female, lover, friend, blue/green/hazel-eyed blonde. (1/14) ☎20317

YOU DON'T HAVE TO look like Twiggy. Warm, nice guy, employed, even-tempered, 6'2", 200lbs. Seeking 45+ lady, any height, for committed relationship, and fun. (1/7) ☎20288

DIVORCED, WHITE, PROFESSIONAL male, 6', 190lbs., fit. Seeking white female, North County coastal, for dining, music, conversation. Prefer degreed, happy, unencumbered partner. (1/14) ☎20307

OFFICER AND GENTLEMAN looks like Ernest Hemingway, visiting scholar, likes music, dancing, nature, dining, fast cars,

3

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SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

sports, Vegas, travel, passion. Start the New Year right! (1/7) ☎20261

HEAVEN CAN WAIT and so can I. This 73 year old still enjoys dancing through this wonderful life. Join me the rest of the way. (1/7) ☎20256

GORGEOUS LATINO MALE, fit, slim, 5'8", educated, homeowner. Seeking woman with sweet personality, 23-43, 53+-. (1/14) ☎20297

YOUNG-LOOKING, TALL, handsome, healthy, very financially secure, retired, successful businessman, widower, homeowner. Seeking attractive, affectionate lady, 50-65. Dates, friendship, trips, fun, romance, dancing, laughs. (1/7) ☎20290

SEEKING ASIAN YOUNG LADY: I am new in town. Caucasian male, professional. Looking for friendship, dating, possibly more. I am secure and have no baggage. (1/7) ☎20281

MARATHON MAN, Blue eyes, gray, 5'11", 170lbs., 59. Seeking attractive, athletic female with same interests. Outdoors, movies, dinners, adventures. No smokers please. (1/14) ☎20296

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, romantic nonsmoker seeking serious relationship. Has brown eyes/hair, clean cut. Enjoys surfing, cycling, dancing, music. Seeking 21-34, without children. (1/7) ☎20272

SERIOUS, NO GAMES, ready for love! Well groomed, tall, black, 34, male, seeks serious Spanish or white, slim woman for real and true love down? (1/7) ☎20249

LOTS TO OFFER, professional, balanced, unencumbered athletic, solvent, attractive, romantic, 53, homeowner, spontaneous, midwest values, educated. Seeks compatible/chemical relationship with proportioned, outgoing woman. (1/7) ☎20248

ASIAN LADY REQUESTED by gentleman, because you are honest, bright, slim, sensual, happy, jazz lover, a sense of humor. Please call me. Thank you. Ciao. (1/14) ☎20315

HANDSOME, SEXY, SUCCESSFUL executive, 59, trim, 5'10", blond, green eyes, clean, caring, considerate, romantic. Seeking pretty lady, 40's, for travel, fun, exciting, committed happy relationship. (1/14) ☎20294

DESERT, RIVER, MISSION BAY. That is where you will find me when I am not working. 48-year old male, fit, active, and searching. (1/14) ☎20309

FINE GENTLEMAN, good natured, outgoing, slim, 5'8". Seeks mature senior woman, 69 plus, joyful in spirit, aging gracefully. (1/7) ☎20247

HEY, I'M NEW IN TOWN. 6', 30, blue/brown, good looking, honest, funny. You: honest, sexy, reliable, funny, available for San Diego, movies, dancing, whatever? (1/7) ☎20284

JEWISH, KIND, down to earth, successful. Enjoy hiking, travel, cultural events. Seeking attractive, honest, intelligent, 20-30s, for friendship leading to long-term relationship. (1/14) ☎20305

MALE, 50S, DIVORCED, romantic man, likes cuddling, walks on beach, spontaneous, easygoing, honest, dining out, movies, very nice, affectionate, laughter, looking for his princess. (1/14) ☎20306

GREAT LOOKING, 38, 6'1", 195lbs., has everything but you, slim beauty, 28-40. Golden personality, gracious values, comical humor, chiseled body, a package to please. (1/14) ☎20299

ATTRACTIVE, AFFLUENT, independent bachelor wishes to share life and beautiful home with 30-something female counterpart. Me: Caucasian, trim, childless. You: the same! North County. (1/7) ☎20267

TWO GUYS LOOKING FOR two women under 45 years. Good sense of humor, responsible professionals, fit, intelligent, successful, sincere, nonsmokers. (1/7) ☎20287

CHARMING, BLACK MALE, athletic, emotionally/financially secure, fun, travel, romantic, sensitive. Seeking attractive, intelligent, sensuous, growth-oriented positive lady, 50-60, nonsmoker, no games, race open. (1/14) ☎20292

MARRIAGE-MINDED JEWISH MAN, 59, seeks Jewish woman, 35-50's for friendship, possibly long-term relationship. Interests: tennis, hiking, concerts, music, live theatre. (1/14) ☎20303

AMERICAN/ITALIAN, 49, 182lbs., athletic, professional seeking Filipina, 34-47, very attractive, athletic, biking, tennis, hiking, films, comedy clubs, metaphysics, for relationship. (1/7) ☎20255

MONOGAMOUS, LONG-TERM relationship, nature, Democrat, soft spoken, hiking, city activities, midwesterner, mid-40's, honesty, sensual, young at heart, no night clubbing. Want slender, sexy woman. (1/14) ☎20318

GOOD-LOOKING, SMART, STABLE, successful, unencumbered, nice guy, approximately 6', 180lbs., 46. Seeking slender, single, highly educated, nurturing beauty, 35-43, for balanced, long-term relationship. (1/14) ☎20298

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, SLENDER, 50, fit, witty, fun, sense of humor, intelligent, kind, loves dinner, walks, movies, kisses, holding hands, hugs. Seeking relationship with attractive woman. (1/14) ☎20312

SHAKE IT LIKE A polaroid picture! White, 31, fit, educated, funny, career. Seeking Nubian queen for fun, nights out, conversation, laughs. Not average white boy. (1/7) ☎20285

TALL, ATHLETIC, professional, 42, 6'1", brown/blue, healthy lifestyle seeking thick, athletic lady, 30-48 for biking, tennis, sailing, hiking, etc. Thick legs a plus! (1/7) ☎20254

WHITE MALE, 61, East County, slightly handicapped, no hiking. Seeking friendship with romance, home life, barbecues, quiet evenings filled with hugs. Interested? Race open. (1/7) ☎20263

BLACK MALE, 48, great physique, ambitious and charming musician with discerning sensibilities and a flair for the humorous. Seeking an emotionally free woman. Race open. (1/7) ☎20257

HILLBILLY, REDNECK, TALL, comedy, humor, two stepper, country, oldies, Marshall Tucker, Skynard. Seeking slender, country girl, or tomboy. Movies, barbecues, concerts, dancing, horses, romance. (1/7) ☎20286

ASIAN BEAUTY, 40-55, North County Coastal? Slim, loving, happy, financially stable, educated who wants a loving, physically fit, Robert Redford man (without the wrinkles). (1/7) ☎20273

SURF, BLADES, PLAYS GUITAR, restaurants, theater, movies, 37, 5'11", physically fit, North County Coastal. You: enjoy the outdoors, quiet evenings at home, time to date. (1/14) ☎20310

Try online placement for your Reader Matches Ad!

Meet Your Match. Get a free ad in the *Reader* and on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com, and a free voice mailbox for recording and receiving messages. Questions? Call 619-235-8200, ext. 416.

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OPTIONAL HEADLINE: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized; abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is \$12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4
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PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25/FREE	26	27	28	29	30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday

Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 **Fax:** (619) 233-7907
Online: SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday

Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Phone:** (619) 235-8200

Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego *Reader* does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego *Reader* as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego *Reader* and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

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Choose One:

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☐ Woman seeking a man

☐ Man seeking a woman

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San Diego Reader January 1, 2004 149

ASIAN LADY DESIRED. White male, 44, healthy, fit, highly educated, 6', 200lbs., professional. Loves: music, ethnic foods, giving long back rubs, history, technology. (1/7) ☎20275

EBONY LADY BE MY GIFT from Santa. All I want is an attractive, honest, proportionate, nonmaterialistic lady, 35-45, under my tree. Me: tall, white, attractive. (1/7) ☎20252

PLAYMATE WANTED. Want to have some fun this New Years? I'm tall, attractive, athletic, black, 40-something, searching for intimacy and fun. Prefer interracial dating. (1/7) ☎20269

WHITE GUY, BLACK GIRL. I'm very cute with blue eyes, and a great kisser. Open to ages. Trust me. I won't let you down. (1/14) ☎20295

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN. Teacher/performer, handsome, 6'1", 170lbs., 51, red/blue, swing dancer, bicycle racer, nonsmoker/drinker/drugs. Child free seeks someone with right chemistry/connection. (1/7) ☎20264

BLACK MALE, 41, LOOKING for full figured, red haired, white woman to watch the sunset, conversations, music, dancing, honesty, long term relationship. Age between 35-55. (1/7) ☎20250

52-YEAR OLD, handsome, Christian man. Looking for marriage-minded, slim to medium, God-loving lady to help decorate new mountain home with beautiful view. (1/14) ☎20314

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6:30 event begins

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Group 2: Ages 25-35

8:30 check-in

8:45 event begins

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- How to avoid rejection
- How to flirt successfully
- Speed dating techniques
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Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.

SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

LET'S LAUGH, LIVE, LOVE. Young, 57, La Costa professional, 5'9", sensitive, honest, successful, great sense humor, sensual, passionate, enjoys travel, sunsets, and appreciation for life. (1/7) ☎20265

46, WHITE MALE, Oceanside, seeking lady who enjoys hugs, kisses and have a man to love you the way you need and want. Call me. (1/7) ☎20251

LONELY OLD "GEEZER", widower, is looking for senior cute "chick", retired, without excess baggage, who loves music, cruises, tours, trips, for hugs, kisses, long relationship. (1/7) ☎20262

DEL MAR. Handsome, charming, romantic, executive, 60, centered, spiritual, jeans to tux, 5'8", eclectic. Seeking classy, sophisticated, stylish, sensual, well educated, fit, professional lady, 35-60. (1/14) ☎20313

EAST COUNTY, RETIRED, 70, 5'6", likes travel, movies, walks, healthy, active, trim. Looking for quality time with nice lady. (1/7) ☎20276

QUIET BAD BOY will make you smile. He's 35 with brown eyes, curly hair, Jewish brains and Spanish passion. Let's be friends and lovers. Call. (1/7) ☎20282

BE MY ONLY BAD HABIT. Be adventurous, nice, affectionate, slim, happy, wise, fun, frisky. Kids are great, I have none. Must like the beach. (1/7) ☎20271

TROPICAL FRUIT LOVER? 10 acre ranch, Bonita. Artist. Independent. Gardening. Fresh foods. Great cook. Tender care. Relaxation. Peaceful. Kind. Compassionate. Thoughtful. Giver. 40s. Easygoing. Happy. (1/7) ☎20258

BE MY TICKET TO A wonderful time together. 54, Caucasian, humorous, caring,

considerate, romantic. Let's spend some fun times together, maybe more. Call or e-mail. (1/7) ☎20283

BLACK,HANDSOME, 30, seeks serious, mature and honest woman for friendship and conversation, maybe more. Race open. 130-180lbs., under 40. Receptive to love, children, marriage. (1/7) ☎20270

TALL, HANDSOME, HEALTHY, very fit, 42, clean cut, athletic, hunk, seeking beautiful, fit and trim nonsmoker under 40. Let's bike, tailgate, dine and gym together. (1/7) ☎20279

BLACK FEMALE! Sean Connery look-alike, tall, educated, financially comfortable, communicative, health conscious, sensual, passionate, monogamous, 60. Seeking physically fit, attractive, equal for emotional intimacy. (1/14) ☎20291

TALL, SLENDER, FIT, 51, mannered, father, degreed, sincere, humorous seeks 40-50 lady, bright, trim, attractive, nonsmoker, inland North County for movies, dance, drives, warmth, tenderness. (1/7) ☎20253

TALL, FIT, HANDSOME, confident, personable, fun loving, 45. Looking for that special lady for romantic, and lasting relationship. Passionate, affectionate, responsible. Healthy, slender, pretty. Nonsmoker. (1/7) ☎20289

EMOTIONALLY AVAILABLE, 52, 6'4", sincere, secure, spiritual, sensuous, sensual, passionate, compassionate, well educated, open minded, creative soul mate. Sailing, skiing, dining, dancing, candlelight romance. (1/7) ☎20268

MATCH MADE IN THE READER? 49, 6', 225lbs., hair thin, artist, spiritual being. Seeking associate, mate, friend, for further adventures in life. (1/14) ☎20311

SEEKING A WOMAN interested in a relationship. Lived in Turkey, Germany, Okinawa, Aleutians (Shemya), throughout the

U.S. on behalf of the United States Air Force. (1/14) ☎20319

EXOTIC DIVA, 35-45 SOUGHT by very handsome, intelligent, successful entrepreneur. I'm sportive, entertaining, funny, thoughtful, generous, dependable, and monogamous. Chemistry and looks essential. Spontaneous traveler! (1/14) ☎20304

ITALIAN MAN, 40, 6'1", honest, sincere, enjoys movies, walks on beach, easygoing, home oriented. Seeking slender attractive woman for meaningful relationship. No drugs, smoking, games. (1/7) ☎20266

YOU ARE: 5'-5'6", 49-50's, slender, medium build, nonsmoker, nondrinker, sensuous, affectionate, cuddly. Me: same, plus beaches, homeowner, humorous, lovable, educated, music, retired teacher, coach. (1/14) ☎20308

SPIRITUAL, METAPHYSICAL, growth oriented, interested in holistic healing on all levels. Seeking intuitive, compassionate female of like mind for friendship/relationship of mutual support. 5'5". (1/7) ☎20280

ROOMMATES

ALLIED GARDENS. \$685 plus deposit, utilities included. Spacious bedroom/bath with private entrance and patio, walk-in closet in 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Spa, parking, washer/dryer, gated. 619-640-2210.

BAY PARK. \$750 includes utilities. Own room and bath in condo. Lots of amenities. Close to USD. Call Sara, 858-699-8471.

BAY PARK. \$550, 1/2 utilities. Bedroom/bathroom plus office in house. 1/2 garage plus parking. Washer/dryer. Have cat, no more pets. \$375 deposit. 619-275-1549.

BAY PARK. \$585/month. Short-term lease, January and February. 1 large bedroom in 4 bedroom house. Lots of space. 619-276-4842.

CARDIFF. \$675, 1/2 utilities. Nonsmoking female or male, share 2 bedroom apartment. Have own bathroom, washer/dryer, fireplace, gym, pool. No pets. Available 1/15/04. Casey, 760-436-8411.

CARDIFF. Private bath, \$575/garden entrance, \$550, plus deposits. Community living with privacy. Vegetarian kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry, distilled water, nonsmoker, no dogs. 760-753-0321.

CARDIFF/ENCINITAS. \$585 plus 1/4 utilities. Extra large room in large house and yard. Fireplace, hardwood floors, washer/dryer. Near all. Nonsmoker/drugs. 858-279-7730 x311.

CARLSBAD, SOUTH. \$650/month, utilities included. In beautiful Rancho Carillo. Large bedroom in new 3 bedroom townhouse. Cable Internet, pool, spa, washer/dryer. Nonsmoker preferred. Chris, 760-420-9385; 760-438-9911.

CARLSBAD, NORTH. \$550/month (\$400 for January), cable, utilities included. Nice room, furnished? Bath, for female in smokeless, sunny, quiet home with dog, cat. 760-533-3640.

CARLSBAD. \$675, 1/3 utilities. Pool, spa, gated community, fireplace. Share 3 bedroom house. Close to beach. Cable included. Washer/dryer. No smoking. 619-279-3154.

CARLSBAD. \$825 plus security deposit, 1/2 utilities. Share beautiful 2 bedroom on bluff overlooking ocean. Newly remodeled, tile floors. All amenities. No smoking/pets. 760-802-3180.

CARLSBAD. \$550, share utilities. House. Freeway/beach close. Washer/dryer, hot tub, fenced front/backyard, fireplace, outside patio/barbecue. \$200 deposit. Available now. Tom, 619-235-2415, x27582.

CARLSBAD. \$650, 1/2 utilities. Near beach and shopping. Refurnished private, spacious room/bath. New appliances. Carport. Community tennis, pool, spa. Secure gate. Call Doug, 760-730-9442.

CARLSBAD. Negotiable. Male to share 2 master bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. Office, washer/dryer, pool, spa, pool table, Foosball, Pong, beach close. Available now. Mike, 619-235-2415, x20639.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$700 and \$625. Roommates wanted to share nice large house with pool, spa, balcony, ocean view. No drugs. References required. 760-930-1269.

CARMEL VALLEY/DEL MAR. \$750, 1/2 utilities. New, sunny, quiet, clean 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Canyon view, washer/dryer, fireplace, balcony, cable, gym, pools, jacuzzis. Female only. No pets. Available after 1/12/04. 858-755-8122.

CARMEL VALLEY/TORREY Highlands. \$650, 1/2 utilities, 1 bedroom; or 2 bedrooms, \$750, 1/2 utilities. Off Hwy. 56. New 4 bedroom townhome built 11/3. Private bath, 1/2 garage. matuza@prusd.com. Leave message, 858-720-7719.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$665, 1/2 utilities, \$250 deposit. 1 room available in 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Archstone apartment. Female only. Washer/dryer, pool, spa, fitness center. Nonsmoking/pets. Available immediately. Shannon, 858-603-7614.

CHULA VISTA. \$650 includes utilities. Bedroom available. Phone and computer hookups. Jacuzzi. 4 bedroom house near I-805. Prefer no pets, no smoking, no drinking. 619-235-2415, x32550.

CHULA VISTA. \$850/month or could be shared by 2 people. Roommate(s) wanted for guest suite, private bath, private entrance. Laundry, park in garage, much more! Nonsmoking. 619-941-1446; 619-227-7691.

CLAIREMONT. \$550, utilities, deposit. Share 2 bedroom with female, have cats. Great location. Street parking, storage. Close to I-5/shopping. Available 1/1/04. Pam, 858-483-4226.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$850, plus utilities. Share spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Nice, secure neighborhood. Community pool/spa. Minutes to park, beach, I-5. 858-270-6146.

CLAIREMONT. \$650. Share 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath quiet townhome. Garage, washer/dryer, private balcony, pool. No pets/smoking. 858-279-2625.

CLAIREMONT, SOUTH. \$450/month, \$100 deposit. Newly painted/carpeted room. 2 bedroom remodeled home. Quiet neighborhood. Share utilities. All privileges including weight leverage gym. 619-276-6030.

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CLAIREMONT. \$550, 1/3 utilities in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Washer/dryer, 2-car garage, beautiful backyard with oriental garden. Pets OK. \$300 deposit. 858-560-6852.

CLAIREMONT, NORTH. \$750, 1/2 utilities, deposit. 2 rooms and private bath available in 4 bedroom home. Yard, laundry, spa. Female, nonsmoking, no drinking. 858-274-6558; 619-235-2415, x18180.

CLAIREMONT. \$525, 1/3 utilities. Own bedroom, share bath, close to shopping, buses. Convenient to downtown, La Jolla. Pool, jacuzzi. Cable, TV, Internet. Many amenities. 619-206-6038.

CLAIREMONT. \$700, \$400 deposit. Bedroom/own bath available in 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Washer/dryer in unit, pool, tennis, gym. Great location! 1/15/04. 858-254-1293.

CLAIREMONT. \$540, 1/2 utilities. Seeking a roommate to share a 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment close to Mesa College. Abel, 858-278-6423.

COLLEGE AREA. \$450/month, utilities included. Share bathroom. Large yard. 4 bedroom house. All amenities. Available now. Giovanni, 619-210-5724.

COLLEGE AREA. \$550 and \$600. 2 rooms available 1/15/04. Female only. No smoking/pets. Jacuzzi, washer/dryer, huge yard. Clean, quiet. Near I-8/94. 858-337-7417.

CORONADO. \$675/month. Female roommate wanted as soon as possible. Nonsmoker. 619-750-1555.

DEL MAR, EAST. \$695, 1/2 utilities. Digital cable, high-speed Internet, laundry, pool, jacuzzi, sauna, tennis courts. Close to beach. Female preferred. 858-509-4894; 619-235-2415, x32697.

DEL MAR, HEIGHTS. \$600 plus 1/2 utility. Share furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Close to beach, swimming pool. No pets. Available 1/20. Call 858-481-5373.

DEL MAR. \$875. Furnished master bedroom/private bath. Luxury room. Second bedroom available, share bath, \$500, 1/3 utilities. Washer/dryer. View, pool, gym, fireplace. Easy access freeway/shopping/beach 5 minutes. No smoke/pets/drink/drugs. 619-972-4344.

DEL MAR. \$550, 1/3 utilities, \$500 deposit. Furnished bedroom. 3 bedroom townhouse. Shared bathroom. Washer/dryer. Nonsmoking/pets. Near beach. Quiet area. Month to month. 619-235-2415, x10032.

DEL MAR. \$850/month. 2 bedroom apartment on beach, own ocean view room. Quiet. Female preferred. Available now. 858-350-1123.

DEL MAR/RANCHO SANTA FE. \$650 plus 1/2 utilities. Furnished bedroom and bath in peaceful, spacious home. Pool, jacuzzi, laundry. Prefer female. Available 1/1/04. 858-759-7305; 619-235-2415, x15063.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. \$550. West of I-5. Spacious bedrooms. Free cable, Internet. Share kitchen and utilities. Pool, jacuzzi, washer/dryer, dishwasher. No smoking. 760-420-8452.

DOWNTOWN. Penthouse. Walk to Gaslamp. Rent bedroom in 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo. Concierge, on-site security, gated entry, underground garage, 3 decks, granite countertop, stainless appliances, ocean views, 20' ceilings, swimming pool,

jacuzzi. 619-501-0480, www.byronhunt.com.

EL CAJON. 3000-square-foot, all wood/glass, mountain-top house. Master bedroom suite with adjacent bedroom and office. Pool, jacuzzi, sauna, pool table. Andy, 619-742-9932.

ENCINITAS. \$1000, 1/2 utilities, deposit. 2 rooms/own bath. One occupant wanted, share quiet 4 bedroom home with owner. Private bath, phone line, washer/dryer, housekeeper, satellite TV, DSL connection. No smoking/drugs/pets. Available. Sheri, 760-635-1554; 760-473-3087; sheniburk@msn.com.

ENCINITAS. \$600, 1 room. \$1100, 2 rooms. Quiet, modern house, beautiful neighborhood. Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges, phone line available. Deposit. Won't last long! 760-753-1686; 619-235-2415, x13547.

ENCINITAS. \$650/month. Share 2 bedroom, with 2 private baths, big closets, fully furnished except bedroom. Garden setting. Pool, spa, laundry, barbecue. Garages available. No smoking/pets. Prefer male. 760-632-5602.

ENCINITAS. \$525/month, 1/3 utilities and cable. Master bedroom in historic secluded house. Large yard, walk to beach. Near shopping/freeway. Available 1/5. 760-214-6499; 760-942-2861.

ENCINITAS. \$500 plus 1/2 utilities. Share 2 bedroom, private bath. Pool, spa, parking space. Available immediately. Furnished room optional. Female preferred, nonsmoking, no drugs. Lynn, 619-888-9386.

ENCINITAS/LA COSTA. \$545, utilities included. Beautiful home with great yard, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer. Quiet, safe neighborhood. Female preferred. No smoking, no pets. 760-931-7878.

ENCINITAS/CARDIFF. \$600. Room with shared balcony/bath. Share nice house on 1-1/2 acres with 3 people. All amenities, jacuzzi. Available now. No dogs. 619-804-8377.

ESCONDIDO. \$650 plus. Spacious, clean, quiet home. Vaulted ceilings, mirrors, fireplace, central air, full privileges. Nonsmoking, pet negotiable. Virtual tour, <http://members.cox.net/pix4paxguy/>. 760-741-7949.

ESCONDIDO. \$450/month, 1/3 utilities. Share 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, quiet home in excellent neighborhood. For more information, Bryan, 760-580-0074 or Tom, 858-231-8585; 619-235-2415, x28579.

FASHION VALLEY. \$650/monthly. Unfurnished room, private bath, parking, pool/jacuzzi, washer/dryer, cable, utilities, kitchen privileges. Near bus and trolley. No smoking/drugs. 619-297-8258.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$475. Share spacious 2 bedroom apartment. Nicely furnished except room. Laundry, DSL, parking, quiet area. Close to everything. Available now. Allen, 619-294-9990.

FASHION VALLEY. \$575. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Dishwasher, washer/dryer, balcony, garage, heated olympic pool, jacuzzi, sauna, recreation room. Clean, quiet. Available now. 858-573-1944.

GOLDEN HILL. \$485 plus deposit. Room with private entrance and bath. Includes utilities. No smoking, no pets. Credit check. 619-239-6988.

GOLDEN HILL. \$500/month. Small bedroom in beautiful Victorian home. Shared kitchen/downstairs. Centrally located downtown/Balboa Park. Wood floors, fireplace, garden. Nancy, 619-238-0789; 858-414-1773; 619-235-2415, x22046.

HILLCREST. \$600, 1/2 utilities, \$600 deposit. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No smoking, pets or drugs. Monthly lease. Available now. Furniture welcome. Maria, 760-481-5274; 619-235-2415, x22148.

HILLCREST. \$460. Master bedroom in gated apartment available immediately. Near Park Boulevard. Fireplace, laundry, patio. Share with 2 males. No smoking/drugs/pets. 619-298-2238 or 602-750-4763.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$491/month. 1 bedroom in 3 bedroom duplex. Great location! Available short sublet or longer term. 619-297-4880.

KEARNY MESA. \$450, 1/2 utilities, \$200 deposit. Bedroom/bathroom available in 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Own phone line. Outdoor patio. Laundry facilities, pool. 858-560-1047; 619-235-2415, x19207.

Call the free Roommate Hotline! 235-2415

Soon after advertisers place their ads, their spoken introductions go on the Roommate Hotline. This lets you **hear listings before they're printed in the Reader.** Call 24 hours/day & choose option two. Select listings by gender, price and area. Listings updated daily.

KENSINGTON. \$450/bedroom. Share 3 bedroom house with 2 other people. Recently remodeled, furnished except for bedrooms. Good location, parking. No drugs. Some dogs OK. Male or female. Available mid-January. 619-528-8585.

KENSINGTON. \$875-\$2200. All/part first floor (3 bedrooms). 2-story, 5 bedroom home. Canyon view, pool, patio, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces. Nonsmoker seeks same. Home, 619-283-9600.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$775/month. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Private bath. Includes gas/electric. Pool, washer/dryer. No deposit. Female only. Brigitte, 760-402-5781.

LA JOLLA SHORES. \$990, 1/2 utilities, 1 month deposit. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath beach cottage, washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplaces, patio, yard, parking, fully furnished. Beach 2 blocks. 517-980-2548.

LA JOLLA, SOUTH/Pacific Beach North. \$725, 1/2 utilities, deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Parking, jacuzzi, pool,

washer/dryer, I-5, beach close. 858-254-7838; 858-531-8111.

LA JOLLA. \$595. Walk to beach. Small furnished room, private entrance, patio. No house privileges. Share bathroom. Available now. \$300 deposit. Nice, private space. 858-454-6294; 619-235-2415, x22900.

LA JOLLA. \$850 includes utilities plus deposit. Female. Own master bedroom, bath. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Balcony, pool, covered parking. Laundry facility. 1 block to beach. 6-month minimum. No pets. Available 1/15. 858-344-8168.

LA JOLLA. \$650. Room and own bathroom in large clean house. No smoking in the house and no pets. 858-459-0972.

LA JOLLA. \$950. Share large house with 1 other person, private bedroom/bath. No lease. Month to month, deposit, no credit check. Available 1/1/04. 858-531-5461.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Large, spacious bedroom. Washer/dryer, garage. Great location. Pool and jacuzzi on premises. \$455/month plus utilities. Ask for Drew, 858-457-4793.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$750 plus 1/2 utilities, deposit. Furnished room in large 3 bedroom condo. Owner occupied. Fireplace washer/dryer, balcony, underground parking, tennis, pool, jacuzzi. No smoking, drugs, pets. Walk to shopping, movies. Near UCSD. 858-558-1737.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. beach, \$725 includes utilities. Fully furnished bedroom, shared bath. Private entrance in house. Quiet. Near UCSD. Nonsmoker, no pets. 858-459-3089; 619-235-2415, x12137.

LA MESA, WEST/SDSU. \$540. Share amazing house with view. Private bedroom, garage, laundry, fireplace, home theater, jacuzzi, air conditioning, garden and more. Available now. 619-235-2415, x17171.

LA MESA. \$500 plus utilities. Female only. Room in 3 bedroom home with pool and jacuzzi. Shared bathroom. No smoking, no pets. 619-254-4129.

LA MESA. \$475, share utilities. Share bath. Washer/dryer, cable. No smoking, no pets, no drugs. Bright room, partially furnished. \$200 deposit. Available 1/5/04. 619-235-2415, x20829.

LA MESA. \$475, \$100 deposit. Clean room, shared bathroom, street parking. Female preferred. No drugs, no pets. Smoking OK. Near SDSU. 619-337-0288.

LA MESA. \$600/month. Bedrooms available. Family room, stone fireplace, huge kitchen, washer/dryer, parking, cable, large patio, 2 bathrooms. Ocean view. Close to SDSU. Credit check required. Available now. No pets/smoking. 619-464-3050.

LA MESA. \$650. Beautifully furnished, master bedroom/bath. Share duplex with smoker. Includes utilities, long distance, DSL, computer/printer use. Private patio entrance. Available now. 619-462-0142.

LEMON GROVE. \$425 plus utilities, \$500 deposit. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Hardwood floors, clean. No pets. No smoking inside. Available 1/1/04. 619-235-2415, x17325.

LEMON GROVE. 1 bedroom, share 1-1/2 bath. Washer/dryer, kitchen privileges, pet OK. Near 94. \$550, first, last, 1/2 utilities. Available now. 619-465-8197.

LINDA VISTA/USD. \$485/month, \$150 deposit, \$35 utilities, except phone. Female

only. Share house with shared bathroom. Nonsmoker/drugs. Near beaches, shopping, freeways. 858-560-6714; 619-235-2415, x29944.

LITTLE ITALY. \$800, 1/2 utilities (cable, Internet, phone, all Cox, and electric/gas, about \$160). Share dual-master style, 2-story condo. Unit includes refrigerator, dishwasher and washer/dryer. Clean place. Female roommate preferred. Ask for Jin Song, 619-885-1215.

MIRA MESA. \$525. Share large house. Master or single rooms available. Cable and phone in room. New carpet/bathroom. Quiet neighborhood, good location. 619-871-4582.

MIRA MESA. \$550 includes utilities for room. 3 miles from highways 15/163. Large home. Full washer/dryer, dishwasher, cable, spa, pool table, fireplace and 1 lovable dog. Have 3 rooms available. Kim, 619-203-2682.

MIRA MESA. \$500 plus deposit, includes utilities, cable, DSL. 3 females seek female roommate. Close to stores and bus line. Contact Diane at 858-537-9061.

MIRA MESA. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2 single rooms to share bath, \$650 plus deposit. 1 large master bedroom with bathroom, \$800 plus deposit. 1 large upper loft with fireplace, \$950 plus deposit. Includes laundry, utilities, barbecue area, gardener and maintenance for house. All rooms unfurnished but can help with furniture if needed. No pets or drugs. Call 619-275-1822.

MIRA MESA. \$500/month, \$250 deposit. Seeking male or female roommate. Own furnished room, own private bath. Washer/dryer, light cooking. Clean. Nonsmoking/pets. 858-566-9315.

MIRA MESA. \$515, 1/3 utilities. Share house with 2 roommates. We have 2 dogs. Washer/dryer, all appliances. No smoking, no drugs. Call 858-336-3877.

MIRA MESA. \$500/month, 1/3 utilities. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with garage, storage, laundry, pools, parking in clean, quiet neighborhood. 858-566-0070.

MIRA MESA. \$700 plus deposit. Share great 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with 2 others. Rent room. Includes utilities, cable (HBO), phone jack, high-speed Internet, closet, storage. Easy highway access. 858-663-0010.

MIRA MESA. \$400-\$600. Female preferred. Master with private bath, private entrance available. Pool, big kitchen, Internet. Available now and other 1/1. 858-549-3197.

MISSION BEACH. \$500, 1/5 utilities. 1 bedroom available, 6-month rental. Share with 4 males. Own bathroom. 500 feet to beach. Spa on roof. 909-515-6510.

MISSION BEACH. \$650 includes utilities. Share beautiful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace. Female preferred. No pets. 858-488-2616.

MISSION BEACH. \$600. Room in 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. View of ocean and bay. Close to all. No pets. Available January 1. 858-488-3338.

MISSION BEACH, BAY SIDE. \$550, 1/2 utilities, first/last. Share parking. Cozy room in 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets. Clean. Available now. 619-235-2415, x24020.

MISSION HILLS. \$575 includes cable, Internet, electricity, \$500 deposit. Female share 3 bedroom home with 2 women, dog. Non-

smoker, no drugs. Available January. 619-291-3861.

MISSION HILLS. \$780, no deposit. Room in 3 bedroom home. Incredible panoramic views. Male/female. 2-car garage, close to everything. Pets OK. 619-726-7332.

MISSION VALLEY. \$700 plus deposit, 1/2 utilities. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Office, pool, security, workout, fireplace, washer/dryer, large kitchen, dishwasher, patio with great view. Clean. Male preferred. No pets. 619-988-6161.

MISSION VALLEY. \$625 plus utilities. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, unfurnished, move-in January. Washer/dryer facilities, cable modem, gated, jacuzzi, pool, gym, parking. rfrey2@san.rr.com. 619-250-5542.

MISSION VALLEY. \$625. New luxury 2-story, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Pool, tennis, gym, fenced yard, washer/dryer, exquisite furnishings. Includes parking. 619-583-5955.

MISSION VALLEY/USD. \$500. Safe, clean, nonsmoking, no pets. Furnished, new carpet. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with patio or 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 619-295-5980.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$425, 1/2 utilities. Shared bath, secure building in nice neighborhood. Coin operated laundry on site. No lease. Nonsmoker preferred. 619-235-2415, x19884.

NORTH PARK. \$650, \$500 deposit, 1/3 utilities, cable. Large, private room/bath, walk-in closet. New 3 bedroom condo. Phone and internet included. No pets/smoking. 619-253-2723.

NORTH PARK. \$600 includes utilities. Quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Big screen, DSL, off-street parking, washer/dryer. No smoking/pets. Available now. 619-281-3645.

NORTH PARK. \$460, 1/3 electric, \$460 deposit. Modern 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Covered parking. No drugs/pets. Washer/dryer, quiet street. Available 1/2/04. 619-583-7355; 619-235-2415, x15188.

OCEAN BEACH. \$645 includes utilities. Apartment, upstairs unit, very near cliffs. Extra-large master bedroom with own bath and double closet space. Will consider 2 people or short-term rental. 619-222-4166.

OCEAN BEACH. \$700. Room for rent for 1 or 2 roommates. Beach 2 blocks. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Walking in closets, balcony, washer/dryer, parking. Move in 2/1/04. Please call Monika, 805-698-6092 or Nicole, 619-885-5554.

OCEAN BEACH. \$625, utilities, \$300 deposit. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. West Point Loma/Ebers Street. Have 2 dogs, small/medium pet OK. 619-226-4038.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$750+. Spectacular ocean view home on cliffs. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Washer/dryer, fireplace, garage, den, large yard. Maid, gardener. 619-218-5843.

OCEAN BEACH. \$625, 1/3 utilities, deposit. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. Washer/dryer, patio, driveway, beach 1 block, shops 3 blocks. No pets. Available ASAP. 619-223-1149.

OCEAN BEACH. \$825-\$750. 2 rooms in like-new 3 bedroom townhouse. Ocean view sun deck, beach 3 blocks, laundry. Nonsmoking, pets, drugs, excessive drinking. 619-246-8560; 619-235-2415, x19490.

Place your Reader roommate ad *today* and get responses *tomorrow!*

Call (619) 235-2415 day or night.

For just \$20 per week, you receive:

- A 25-word printed ad in the *Reader*
- Use of a 24-hour voice mailbox service
- Placement on the Roommate Hotline

1. Pay with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, check or cash.

The cost is \$20. No matter which payment option you choose, you must first call (619) 235-2415 to place your ad.

2. Write your 25-word Roommate ad on the following worksheet and be ready to dictate it when requested. You will have one minute of recording time. Begin with the neighborhood, then describe the property and list the rent. After dictating 25 words for your printed ad, continue to further describe your available roommate situation. When you are finished recording, press 2.

3. Your print ad may not describe you or the person you are seeking.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

4. The system dictates a mailbox number and security code.

MAILBOX NUMBER	SECURITY CODE
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5. To retrieve your messages call (619) 235-2415. You may get responses on the Hotline before your ad is printed, so call frequently. Messages are erased after you hear them, so have pen and paper ready. Your mailbox will expire at midnight Wednesday, six days after publication.

6. The deadline for placing voice mail ads is Monday at 6 pm; however, print-only ads can be placed until Tuesday at 6 pm by calling (619) 235-8200. All voice mail ads will be placed on the Hotline within 24 hours. So call today! No cancellations accepted.

7. Renew your mailbox and ad

if you don't need to make any changes in your ad copy or mailbox recording. Call (619) 235-2415 and choose the renewal option. You may renew your mailbox any time Thursday through 6 pm Monday.

8. Advertisers are responsible for checking their Roommate ads for accuracy and reporting errors by 6 pm Monday, following publication. Call (619) 235-8200.

Mail-in payment: Reader Roommate Line P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186

Walk-in payment: 1703 India (at Date), Downtown San Diego

For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200, x265.

OCEAN BEACH/LOMA PORTAL. \$575, 1/2 utilities and deposit. Female to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath, secure, quiet condo. Parking, laundry, pool. No smoking. 858-453-1896.

OCEANSIDE. \$650 plus deposit, 1/2 utilities. Room for rent in 3 bedroom house. Private, newly remodeled bath/bedroom. 1/2 garage available. Community pool/jacuzzi. Washer/dryer. Near Mira Costa College and Camp Pendleton. Dog OK. 760-945-9432; 858-232-7201.

OCEANSIDE. \$650 includes utilities, \$650 deposit. Roommate wanted, master bedroom/own bathroom. Neat, clean, 3 bedroom home, very nice. Quiet neighborhood. Available now. Jerry, 760-757-0866.

OCEANSIDE. \$475, 1/3 utilities, \$165 refundable deposit. 2 rooms available, 1 bedroom available now, the other on January 22. No drugs or smoking. 619-235-2415, x10830.

OCEANSIDE. \$450/month. Large room in house with private bath. Off-street parking. Female preferred. I have 2 cats. 760-631-5715.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$380/month plus deposit. Second floor. Share rooms. 4502 Cass at Garnet. Passport/ID required. Walk to beach, restaurants, pubs, entertainment. 858-274-4325.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$575. Available 1/1/04. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, parking spot. 6 blocks to beach. Walk to everything. \$150 deposit. 858-270-4798.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$583/month, \$333 deposit. Need 1 roommate to share 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Laundry, garage, close to everything. Nonsmoker. Available 1/1. feet@netzero.net.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$568.75, 1/4 utilities, deposit. Female preferred. 4 bedroom, 1 bath house. Blocks to bay. Driveway, yard, laundry facilities. Nonsmoking. Quiet neighborhood. 858-490-8075; 858-483-3743.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$700 includes utilities. 2 rooms. Share bath. Big screen Direct TV. Nice home. Private yard, washer/dryer. Females. 4344 Noyes. Jim, 858-581-3481.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$650. Room available in 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Storage, fireplace, roomy, coin laundry, parking. Art, 858-699-2345.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$675 includes all utilities/cable (TV/computer). Furnished room with private bath. No pets. 3 month minimum stay. Prefer nonsmoking male. 858-270-9278.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. Room with private bath in newly-built condo. 20 yards to beach. Marble countertops, Travertine floors/showers. Patio, barbecue, new furniture, wireless Internet. 2 rooms available, 1 has own entrance and ocean view. In-garage parking \$50 extra. No pets. You will be amazed when you see this place! Available 2/1/04, perfect for summer. Drive by 641 Chalcedony. Kurt, 858-405-5878.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$600/month includes cable/utilities. Male wants to share quiet 2 bedroom. Alcohol/drug/smoke

free environment. 3 blocks from beach, laundry facilities. Matt, 858-270-7741.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$730. Beach 2 blocks. Share new 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Private room, bathroom, carport. Gated patio, new paint and carpet. 858-272-0325.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$740 each. 2 rooms available in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on 1/3 acre corner lot. Laundry, dishwasher, Internet, cable, parking, huge yard, quiet street. Close to beach. 858-354-8908.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800/month plus utilities. 2 room addition in house. Private entrance, private bathroom, high-speed Internet, laundry, backyard. Available now! No pets, no smoking. 858-274-5569.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. Share 3 bedroom, 2 bath deluxe house. Quiet, parking, laundry, garage, yard, jacuzzi, deck, hardwood floors. 1327 Opal. 858-488-8489.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. Seeking nonsmoker to share luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath at Avalon at Mission Bay. Gated community, reserved parking, hot tub, volleyball, tennis, lap-swim pool, fitness center, laundry. Greg, 858-483-7578.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$500/month plus utilities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Short term 2-3 months. Females roommate wanted to share apartment with male. Available 2/1. 4751 Mission Blvd. #5. 858-581-0585.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$650 plus 1/3 utilities. Great area, block from bay. Large 3 bedroom townhouse, private bath, spare room, well furnished, washer/dryer, good parking, wireless DSL. Available now. 858-270-5532.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$600. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom available on January 8. Share apartment with 3 females, located near the bay. Contact Mandi, 619-857-9070.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750. Room with own private bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Bright, roomy. Will consider 2 people sharing room. Available now. Pete, 858-273-5391; 619-235-2415, x29263.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$650, 1/2 utilities. Female preferred, share lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, laundry, pool, gym, jacuzzi. Beach 1 block. No drugs/pets. Available now. 858-270-2309; 619-318-6460.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750. Your own floor with private entrance/enormous bath. Beautiful home with bay view, washer/dryer, pool room. Bay 1 block. Amanda, 858-272-5574; 619-235-2415, x24784.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$640. Great location! 1 bedroom available in 2 bedroom house. Laundry on site. Driveway parking spot. Near beach/bay. Gretchen, 858-717-2785 or 858-272-9590; 619-235-2415, x24491.

POINT LOMA. \$650/month, freshly painted furnished room with private 1/2 bath. View, TV, cable, phone, off-street parking, laundry, privileges in 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home. 1/4 utilities. Male nonsmoker only. Pet OK. 619-884-2594; 619-222-2371.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$750, utilities included. Master bedroom in 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, spacious condo. Female only. Washer/dryer, parking, pool, spa, fire-

place, gym, freeway access. No smoking/pets. 619-838-8735.

SAN CARLOS/MISSION VALLEY. Near SDSU. \$469, utilities included. Own bedroom/bath. Pool, jacuzzi. Very clean, nice, quiet area. Female preferred. No smoking/drugs. 619-204-9959.

SAN CARLOS. \$600 plus deposit, utilities/cable included. Private, furnished room with bath, own phone, secure trilevel townhome. Nonsmoking/drugs. Washer/dryer, pool, jacuzzi. 619-287-9434; 619-235-2415, x19683.

SAN MARCOS. \$550, utilities included. CSUSM/Palomar area. Share large, luxurious, sunny, bright home. Nonsmoker. Fireplace, jacuzzi. Garage available. No pets. 858-361-5500.

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SAN MARCOS. \$460, utilities included. Home close to CSUSM. Off Twin Oaks. No drugs, alcohol or smoking. Call Tony, 760-715-1861; 619-235-2415, x31057.

SANTEE/LAKESIDE. \$570 including utilities. Share 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Close to everything. Looking for 4 people immediately. Adella, 619-251-9473, perez_adella@hotmail.com.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$575, includes housekeeper, utilities, cable. Bedroom in quiet townhome. Share bathroom, kitchen, laundry. Street parking. Convenient to freeway. Female only. Nonsmoking/pets. 858-566-3152.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$595 includes utilities, cable, housekeeper, private room/bath. Beautiful, large home. Month to month. Female only. No smoking/pets. Available now. 858-486-3585; 619-235-2415, x32023.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$600. Share nice 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Washer/dryer, pool. Have cat and dog. Available now. 619-675-1802.

SDSU AREA. \$600/month plus utilities. Apartment to share. Private bed/bath, gated underground parking. 5540 Lindo Paseo. Call Andrea, 925-360-4103.

SERRA MESA. \$675, utilities included. 3 rooms available in large house with pool. Heart of Mission Valley. Near SDSU. No smoking, no drugs, no alcohol. 619-871-8315.

SERRA MESA. \$440 and \$450, 1/3 utilities. 2 rooms available. Large house near stadium. Call and leave a message at 858-243-1039.

SPRING VALLEY/LA MESA. \$430/month, \$275 deposit. Mobile home, furnished. TV, air, pool. Utilities included. Own entrance. Smoker. 619-698-6190.

SPRING VALLEY. \$300/month, \$150 deposit, utilities/cable included. Small room. Furnished. Male preferred. No smoking, drugs, pets. 619-256-1411.

TIERRASANTA. \$495, deposit. Female nonsmoker share with females/felines. Peaceful, clean, spacious, artsy ambiance. Cozy newly furnished bedroom, share bath. Laundry, cable, utilities, gym. 858-279-1280.

TIERRASANTA. \$750 includes utilities. Unfurnished bedroom suite. Private bath, laundry, cable, phone, kitchen privileges. Quiet cul-de-sac, off-street parking, storage area. 858-565-1206; 619-235-2415, x17794.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Third roommate needed to share Spanish charmer. Available January 15. \$533 plus utilities. Evenings. 619-284-0514.

UTC. \$645, 1/2 utilities plus deposit. Female to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer, fireplace, gated, underground parking. No pets/smoking. Available January. 619-850-0581.

UTC. \$700. Furnished (twin bed, desk), master bedroom, attached bathroom. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Utilities included. Near UCSD, bus line. Female. Pool, gym. 858-550-0424.

UTC. \$850/month plus 1/2 utilities. Looking for nonsmoker to share my apartment. I have 1 cat and 1 dog. References. 505-239-1487.

VISTA, SHADOWRIDGE. \$625 includes utilities, cable, internet, plus deposit. 3 rooms available. Large 3000-square-foot home. Share bath. All amenities. Short-term rental. 760-727-2041.

WANTED: Space for my RV on your property. I live in RV, can pay \$350/month plus utilities. Leave message, 858-204-8525.

ROOMMATE SERVICES

SAN DIEGO'S ONLY ROOMMATE Service. 100s looking, 100s available. Personalized service. Less than the UT! 619-574-6876. www.roommatesandiego.com.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

PACIFIC BEACH. Workspace available now in newly refurbished holistic health

facility. Great for massage, acupuncture, etc. Share reception area, kitchen and restroom. Utilities included. 858-272-3112.

LA MESA MOBILE SPACE available. Clean and quiet park. Maximum 8'x 40'. Please call 619-466-4322.

BEAUTY SALON FOR LEASE. Located in large upscale apartment community near Shelter Island, San Diego Yacht Club. Hairstylist/manicurist stations, full spa facilities. Salon equipment available for purchase. 619-223-2221.

DOWNTOWN ARTIST STUDIOS. \$125 and up. In the heart of the Gaslamp Quarter. Historical building, built in the 1890s. Studios, 100-1000 square feet. Work space only, non-residential. Attractive glass front entry, high ceilings. Excellent neighborhood. Available immediately. 4th/Market. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639. To view photos, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1032.

PACIFIC BEACH. 4077-75 Sequoia, spacious garage for storage only \$130. 858-270-5500

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. In small commercial building. 7759 Herschel Avenue. 830 square feet. 3 offices plus reception. 2 parking spaces. \$1900 plus utilities. Available now. 858-274-6856. www.sandiegorealestatemanagement.com.

TREATMENT ROOM/Work Space in large yoga/healing center. Private entrance. Located Turquoise/Cass. Includes free yoga classes/utilities. Ceiling fan/skylight. \$450-\$550/month. Parimal, 858-488-7774.

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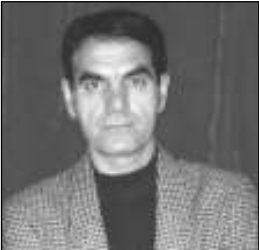
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NAME This Place

Q. You're west of planes and east of brains, linked by this single spanner some have called Jacob's ladder.

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a *Reader* T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to *Reader*, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name, address, and shirt size. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)

Last week's place: Ocean Beach's Farmers Market on Newport, near Ocean Beach International Hostel. Farmers have been coming to town to sell produce Wednesday afternoons at this location for 11 years. Jim Graham's llamas are one of its most popular attractions. (Last week's winners: Dr. Robert Buka, Jim Johnson, Dan McFadzean, Lauren Keltz, Katie Dudnick)

GOLDEN HILL. Pets welcome. Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom duplex. Gorgeous inside, all new appliances. Parking. \$1375/month. 2632 E Street. Section 8 OK. 619-232-6360.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1195. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 1-car garage, private yard, view. Pets negotiable. Available January. 619-303-0229.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1475. Historic townhome. 1000 square feet, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, living room, parking, large private yard. Renovated. Washer/dryer. No pets. Location, charm, yard! 619-435-5767.

GOLDEN HILL. \$425. Upstairs furnished room in Victorian home. Includes utilities and cable. Shared kitchen and bath. No pets. Nonsmoking. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$300 off. Move-In Bonus! 2528 C Street, #10. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$850. Available now. app@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-847-9978.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1600. Huge contemporary 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Approximately 1600 square feet. Beautiful wood floors in great living and dining space. Built-ins with fireplace. Utilities included. 2930 C Street. 619-593-6263.

GOLDEN HILL. \$775. Secluded 1 bedroom in small building. Tiled kitchen with breakfast bar, new appliances. Huge yard with off-street parking. On-site washer, dryer. 2930 C Street. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Large walk-in closet, tile throughout. Tiffany lighting, jacuzzi tub. Must see. 619-840-7175.

GOLDEN HILL. \$795. 1 bedroom. Beautiful courtyard, laundry, gated. Near Balboa Park. 1231 25th Street. 619-234-1995.

HILLCREST, EAST. Great view. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath. Dining area, fireplace, washer/dryer, refrigerator, microwave, 2 parking spaces, spa, barbeque, deck. \$1325/month. \$800 security deposit. 4790 Arizona #316. 858-292-1773.

HILLCREST. \$950. Studio in Park View Towers. 3563 6th Avenue. Extra large designer studio with pool and off-street parking. Just completed a \$15K renovation. Ceramic tile, crown moldings, new appliances, ceiling fans, new windows and carpet. 619-725-3642 or 619-298-5602.

HILLCREST. \$1800. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2-car garage. Lots of storage, vaulted ceiling, skylights, large kitchen, fireplace, washer/dryer. Bright and sunny. Victorian style five-unit building. Recent construction. Very private, in quiet secluded neighborhood, 2 blocks north of Mercy Hospital. Pets OK. 4203 Fifth Avenue. Norm, 619-295-0742.

HILLCREST. \$825. 1 bedroom, near the park. Refrigerator, stove, garbage disposal, coin laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 4659 North. 619-222-9463.

HILLCREST. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Near park. Spacious. Secured building. No pets. 619-543-9786.

HILLCREST. Like charm, convenience? See these San Francisco-style, spacious 1 bedroom apartments with hardwood floors, high ceilings, \$875. Studios \$675. Laundry/community room, controlled access, near all. Come home to historic Casa Grande at 1751 University Avenue. Cat accepted. Call 619-299-7727. See website: www.sreader.com/rent/1015.

HILLCREST. From \$860. Large sunny, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, small cozy community. Off street parking. Indoor cat OK. No dogs. Available now. 3932 9th Avenue. 619-297-7859.

HILLCREST. \$875. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Near Mercy Hospital. Verticals. No pets. Available now. 4045 Eighth Avenue. 619-269-5879.

HILLCREST. \$925. 1 bedroom condo, top floor. New kitchen appliances. New windows/blinds. Security building. Pool, sauna, laundry. Cat OK. 1907 Robinson. Available 1/15/04. 619-692-4168.

HILLCREST. \$825. Studio. Very large, separate kitchen, wood floors, vaulted ceiling, lots of charm. 619-962-1887.

HILLCREST. Uptown! \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upgrades! Washer/dryer, refrigerator included! 858-449-8333. www.twhmc.com

HILLCREST. \$925. Premium 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Balcony. Small, newer building. Perfect location. Available soon. Call for immediate appointment. Must see. 3989 Richmond Street. 619-299-8952.

HILLCREST. \$1300. Sunny, quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, great location. Hardwood floors, laundry. Indoor cat welcome. Organic garden, fruit trees. Vermont/Pennsylvania. No smoking. 619-269-4843.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath in 4-unit complex. Laundry, parking. Quiet. 1-1/2 blocks to Uptown Shopping Center. Call Robert, 858-273-3121.

HILLCREST. \$1200-\$1250 per month. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Lower unit with fireplace, carpets, stove, ceiling fan. Immediate move-in. Walk to downtown. A must see. Call for appointment, 858-581-3918.

HILLCREST. Seniors from 62 years. \$875/up. 1 bedroom. Air conditioning. Gated parking. Intercom entry. Elevator. Patio. Cat OK. Villa Pacifica, 3630 Sixth Avenue. 619-294-3234.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month's rent! \$795-\$1225. Completely renovated studio and 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2-story townhome in beautiful Hillcrest. Walk to Balboa Park, on-site laundry, dishwasher, and pool. 3650 Florida. 858-270-5500.

HILLCREST. 1/2 off first month's rent! \$795. Spacious studio in beautiful Hillcrest. Full kitchen, walk-in closet and much more! 3967 Centre Street. 619-299-4666.

HILLCREST. \$1325. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer included, vaulted ceilings and fireplace. An immaculate community with off-street parking close to medical facilities. 4119 Front Street. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom. Air conditioning, microwave, carpet, laundry, barbeque, assigned parking. Near Scripps Hospital. No pets. Hillcrest Palms. 4077 Third Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Parking available. Laundry room. 3962 First Avenue, between Washington and University. Available 12/15. Boone Properties, 858-274-6856. 619-296-4572. www.sandiegorealestatemanagement.com.

HILLCREST. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Ground floor with patio. Parking and laundry. Stop by 3966 Ninth Avenue. If interested call, 619-226-7368 x3.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom duplex cottage, small quiet complex, laundry. 1 block to Balboa Park. Sorry, no pets. 619-296-2787.

HILLCREST. \$895. 1 bedroom house, pet ok. Fenced yard. Bay and city view! Laundry room and extra room big enough for desk and chair. Stove, refrigerator. Water paid. Agent, 619-223-2524.

HILLCREST. \$775, rent. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom duplex. No pets, at 3855 First Avenue. 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. \$1095. Newly renovated 2 bedrooms in well-maintained complex. New carpet and designer paints. Attractive courtyard. On-site laundry. Xlarent.com, 619-883-7638.

HILLCREST. \$725. Large studio is classic 1920s building. Front upper floor unit with large windows. 2 closets. On site laundry. 3939 7th Avenue. Xlarent.com. 619-683-7638.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 1 bedroom. Approximately 900-square-feet. Stove, refrigerator. Formal dining room. Garage. Hardwood floors. Entry system. Cat OK. Available 12/15. 1632 Upas. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Cat OK with additional deposit. Available 1/20. Deposit \$700. 3935 Centre Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$1450. 2 bedroom house, newer appliances, blinds, air conditioning, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookups, 1 car garage plus off street parking, near all. 619-886-3146.

HILLCREST. \$925. Unfurnished, large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$1125, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garden view. Newly refurbished. Laundry facilities. Assigned parking. Convenient location. 619-980-6290.

HILLCREST. \$1295. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in gated 6-unit with detached garage. Tiled kitchen and bath. Dining area. Laundry. Cat OK. Agent, 619-234-9553.

HILLCREST. \$1100. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Deposit \$1000. Stove, refrigerator,

hook-ups. Large fenced yard. Storage area. 3833 Herbert Street. 858-598-1111 x192. www.utopiamanagement.com.

HILLCREST. Spanish charmer. 1 bedroom, \$825. Garage, tall beamed ceilings, faux fireplace, new ceramic tiles in bathroom. Laundry facilities. No pets. agent, 619-296-3189. www.willingproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$750. Serene 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with off-street parking. Neat garden setting. No pets/smoking. 3687 Florida Street. Agent, 619-685-3960.

HILLCREST. \$975/month. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit in quiet, friendly building. Private entry, gas stove, laundry. Walk to park/shops. Available 1/1. 619-696-6611 or 619-990-4628.

HILLCREST. Cute, cozy studios, \$795. 1 bedroom, \$895, 2 bedrooms, \$1295-\$1375. In the heart of Hillcrest with canyon views, huge pool, laundry rooms, assigned parking, community barbeque. Near Mercy Hospital and bus. No dogs. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue. Centre City Property Management. Call manager, 619-298-1059.

HILLCREST. \$1995. Unique 3-level 3 bedroom, 3 bath house. Bonus rooms, sun decks, hookups, water paid. 1010 Essex. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. \$825. Clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, pool, laundry, parking, gated entrance, no pets. 1810 Cypress. Agent, 619-295-6005.

HILLCREST. \$995. 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer hookups, private yard, near bus line. Sorry no dogs. 3308 Reynard. Agent, 619-298-7232.

HILLCREST. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Pets OK on approval. Available 1/1. Parking, laundry, close to everything. 3969 Normal Street. www.geocities.com/normalapartments/. Brian, 858-442-7873.

HILLCREST. \$2200. Heart of Hillcrest! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Den, all new appliances, washer/dryer, hardwood floors, 2-car garage, jacuzzi, large fenced yard. 619-886-7379.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Set in clean, quiet courtyard. Beautiful landscaping. 3718 Park Boulevard #3724. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

HILLCREST. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit. Beautiful, gated, quiet, and clean complex. Garage available for \$75 per month. Available 1/1/04. 3634 Park Boulevard. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

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HILLCREST. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet, gated, and clean. Laundry on site. 3714 Park Boulevard #2. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

HILLCREST. \$300 Move-In Special! Extra large studio, \$775. Full kitchen/bath, storage, garden window, laundry. Near all. No pets. 515 Pennsylvania. Agent. Gina, 619-231-2727 x215.

HILLCREST. \$1095. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper front unit, newer carpeting, large closets, extra storage, common laundry, parking. 4469 North Avenue/Meade. 619-982-0385.

HILLCREST. \$875. 1 bedroom. Small complex. No pets. Available now. Move-in special! 3626 First Avenue. Call 858-483-5111.

HILLCREST. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Beautiful wood floors and fenced backyard! Detached garage plus extra bedroom at yard. Gardener included. Don't miss out! 4022 Center. Cogan Properties, 619-279-2183.

HILLCREST. \$875. 3588 First Avenue #3. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Private setting. Parking. Laundry in complex. Clean, well maintained. Available 1/8/04. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

HILLCREST. Huge, bright 1 bedroom with garage. \$975. Newer carpet, paint, microwave, dishwasher, ice maker, separate storage closet on patio, mirrored closet doors. No smoking/pets. 4021 Richmond Street. 619-280-4693.

HILLCREST. Studio, \$745. 1 bedroom, \$855. Great location in quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868.

HILLCREST. \$695. Studio. Holiday special -\$300 off first month! Great area in quiet complex. Walk to shopping. 3685 7th Avenue. 619-692-1004.

HILLCREST. \$965. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spanish style complex in heart of Hillcrest. Gated entry, laundry. 3936 8th Avenue. 619-298-2069.

HILLCREST. \$850. Ask about special! Bright, upstairs corner unit, 1 bedroom. Newly remodeled. Hardwood floors, tile, new appliances, laundry. Cat OK. Non-smoking. 4170 Park Boulevard #12. 619-299-4034.

HILLCREST. \$795. Spacious studio. Old Spanish charm. Controlled entry building. Full kitchen. Newly remodeled. No pets. Walk to shopping and bus. 3824 4th Avenue. 619-297-6659.

HILLCREST. Large studio, \$760. Quiet Banker's Hill location. Full kitchen, bath, new carpet, upstairs unit. Laundry and storage. 119 W. Walnut Avenue. No pets. 858-454-2803.

HILLCREST. From \$795. Studios and 1 bedrooms in the heart of Hillcrest. Newly renovated to capture your distinguished taste, style. Controlled access. Hot tub. Barbecue, picnic area. Dedicated, efficient management. Don't miss out on Hillcrest living at its best! Near bus, shopping, freeways. Nightingale Apartments. EHO. 619-295-4351. www.sdreader.com/rent/2014.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom apartment Nature lover's delight. canyon view, large private patio, quiet neighborhood, 500 square feet, \$950. 4530-1/2 Maryland Street. 619-298-5066.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$775. Move in special! Large studio. Gas/electric included, built in 1920s. Quiet park-like setting. Hardwood floors. Laundry. Nonsmoking. 4554 North Avenue #2. 619-269-4314.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$925. Extra large 1 bedroom, 800 square feet. Hospital area. Security building/elevator. Huge private balcony, Parking, laundry, quiet. 619-255-7649.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1305. Completely remodeled, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gourmet kitchen. All new washer/dryer, large patio yard, off-street parking, gated. Available 12/20/2003. No pets. 4650 Florida Street. 858-597-6100 x315.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$1245. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 3782 First

Avenue. \$1245, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 3509 State Street. No dogs, please. 858-273-6429.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. Pets welcome. 1-4 bedrooms. \$750+. 100% pet-friendly rentals. Low fee with money back guarantee. Landlords list free. Listings available online. www.petrent.net.

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HILLCREST/BANKER'S HILL. \$725. Nice studio. Great view of bay. Hardwood floors, laundry. Nonsmoking. Cat OK. 610 West Laurel Street. Frank, 619-295-4270.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$4600/month. Ocean-front penthouse. Best location, 2500 square feet. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Designer kitchen, formal dining and living room, laundry room, fireplace, den. Spectacular views from every window and wrap-around deck. Secured underground parking, elevator. 14 miles to downtown San Diego. Year lease. Available February 1. 858-551-4325.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$895. Sunny 1 bedroom. Live at beach, steps to sand. Recently renovated, in small private complex, laundry, parking. 1003 Ocean Lane. Agent, 619-423-9632.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$750. New refrigerator, stove, carpet. Clean, quiet, secure. All utilities paid! Won't last! 1135 Hollister. Owner, Jeff, 619-291-1044 x128.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Large modern 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Secure parking, washer/dryer hookups, balcony. \$975; garage, extra \$50. 1070 Georgia Street. 619-454-6534.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome with washer/dryer hookups, garage, secure parking, 1300 square feet. \$1350. Available 1/15. 1070 Georgia Street. 619-454-6534.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1950. Large 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Nice neighborhood. Hardwood flooring, large kitchen, back patio, large fenced yard, 2-car garage. 858-815-7368; sandiegobestrentals.com.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Beachfront. Furnished or Unfurnished. \$950. 1 bedroom. \$1450. 2 bedroom cottage with fenced yard on sand. Pet OK. 1060 Seacoast. 619-424-9233.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$825-\$900. 1 and 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. New carpet. Off-street parking. Near beach. Laundry. No pets. Available now. 429 Palm Avenue. Agent, 619-426-3699; 619-585-8715.

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KENSINGTON. \$1395. Tudor house. 2 bedroom. Fireplace. Dining room. Hard-

wood floors. Washer/dryer. Refrigerator. French doors. Fenced yard. Available now. Truly charming. 4690 Biona Drive. 858-569-9390.

KENSINGTON. \$1195. Very nice, large 2 bedroom, 2 bath with garage. Great location in the heart of the village. Walk-in closet, security gated. Must see. Available now! Move-in special \$500 off 1st month's rent O.A.C. 4101 Park Place #5. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

LA COSTA. Townhome, 1308 square feet, with 2 master bedroom suites, 2-1/2 baths. Fireplace, air conditioning, 2-car garage, patio, pool, jacuzzi, tennis, gated. \$1750. 760-420-4204.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$1500. 2 Master bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story townhouse, double attached garage, washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, deck, gated, pool, jacuzzi, tennis. 858-549-9822.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath view unit in beautiful newer complex above golf course. Washer/dryer. Air conditioning. Fireplace. Pool. Spa. No pets. Rental office open 7 days. 2385 Caringa Way. Manager, 760-431-7575.

LA JOLLA COLONY/UTC. \$1950. Beautiful newer Las Palmas townhome. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2-car garage. New washer, dryer, refrigerator included. Pool, spa, cdbray, patio. Walk to all. 858-442-5797; cdbray@cox.net.

LA JOLLA COVE Vintage, panoramic coastal views, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1700 square feet, Fireplace, wood floors, 2-car garage, all appliances, gardener. \$3500. 858-486-7697.

LA JOLLA COVE. Amalfi Street vintage guesthouse studio. Panoramic coastal views, Murphy bed. Fireplace, 1-car garage, all appliances, private back street entrance. \$1750. 858-486-7697.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. Studio, Living room, bath, kitchen-appliances. Walk-in closet, dresser drawers/shelves, laundry. Walk to beach, bus, restaurants. \$1095-\$1375, includes utilities. 619-645-8082.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. Charming studios from \$900. \$250 off first month's rent! Pool, laundry, elevator. Walk to La Jolla Cove. Dining and shops, nightlife. No pets. 7621 Eads Avenue. 858-459-8254, www.casalindaapartments.com.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. \$1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in excellent location. Upper unit. Coin laundry. 1-car garage. No pets. 7427 Herschel. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

LA JOLLA. In Village. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo-quality apartment in garden courtyard. Washer/dryer. 2 parking. No pets. 7601 Eads Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

LA JOLLA. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 1 (new) bath townhouse. New hardwood floors/cabinets/appliances. Washer/dryer. Garage. Close to UCSD. Large covered deck. Balcony. Clubhouse/spa, more. 619-429-0394.

LA JOLLA. \$1350. 1 month free! Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Walk to UCSD, shops, park. Balcony. Garden window. No pets. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive #11. 858-457-4509.

LA JOLLA. \$2100. Gorgeous oceanfront condo, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Patio, fireplace, covered parking, laundry on site. Beautiful ocean view! 760-720-1400 or 760-613-1350.

LA JOLLA. \$1650, includes utilities/cable. Upper 1 bedroom condo in oceanfront building. Recently remodeled. Garden setting. Walk to village. Underground parking. No pets. 858-342-2610.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, charming, stylish, secluded garden house, 3 blocks to beach. Skylights, washer/dryer, fireplace. New carpeting/paint/kitchen. \$2100. No pets. 619-379-0518.

LA JOLLA. \$1795. Near UCSD. Spacious 2' bedroom, 2' bath, 2-car attached garage. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. 619-244-5789.

LA JOLLA. \$1150. Spacious 1 bedroom, upper end unit/balcony, new appliances, pool/spa, fitness center, laundry. Minutes to UCSD, shopping, beaches. Available January. 858-414-0724.

LA JOLLA. \$3300. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, hardwood floors. Pets OK. Close to beaches and village. Studio with separate entrance also available. 858-454-8857 x328.

LA JOLLA. After holly deals! Nice 1 bedrooms, \$1139/up. 1/2 block to ocean! Tropical, laundry, pool. No pets. Welcome home! 858-454-7509; 858-536-1900.

LA JOLLA. \$895. Studio condo. Murphy bed. Laundry room. Dishwasher. Parking space. Community pool. Patio. Storage. 8628-B Via Mallorca. McKee, 619-435-2700.

LA JOLLA. Spacious 1 bedroom in newly remodeled community. Ample closet

space, dishwasher, laundry and more. Fully gated! 363 Playa del Sur #36. 858-456-3902.

LA JOLLA. \$3100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Ocean view. Some furniture available. Walk to Bird Rock village. Available 1/1/04. 5372 Chelsea Street. Boone Properties, 858-274-6856. www.sandiegorealestatemanagement.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1200. Furnished studio with ocean view, utilities included. \$1150. 1 bedroom. Pool. Steps to beach. Laundry. Parking. 6655 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-775-0387. 858-756-9941.

LA JOLLA. \$950. Small 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Bird Rock area. Stove, refrigerator, microwave, garage. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional deposit. Available 1/28. Deposit \$900. 415 Colima Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

LA JOLLA. Near Windansea. \$1175. Remodeled, upstairs 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Garage. Coin laundry. Quiet 5-plex. Available 1/15. 6235 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1395, \$300 off! 2 bedroom, 2 bath in village. Intercom entry. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Laundry. Underground parking. No pets. 7575 Eads. \$975-1350. 1 and 2 bedrooms in village. 7555 Herschel. 858-459-1102.

LA JOLLA. \$1250, lease. Unfurnished/furnished 1 bedroom. Fireplace, washer/dryer, vaulted ceilings, large patio, private parking. 8340 Via Sonoma (off Gilman). 858-270-7571.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath second floor, 3 blocks from ocean, 1 parking space, coin laundry, balcony, newly renovated. Off La Jolla Boulevard. 858-459-3753.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, great ocean views, \$1690. Laundry on site, underground parking. Available mid-January. Call 858-454-8857 x326.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Windansea Beach. New carpets, paint, fixtures. Available now. No pets. \$1500/month plus deposit. Quiet, professional complex. 858-459-1065.

LA JOLLA. Condo off Gilman, walk to restaurants, shopping, UCSD. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, pool, security. Appliances, water, garbage included. \$1800/month. Available 1/04. 619-654-9573.

LA JOLLA. \$1250-\$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in great location, close to beach and village. Laundry, parking. 525 Marine Street. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

LA JOLLA. \$1690. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Walk to UCSD, shopping, restaurants, theater. Clean, quiet, elegant. Fireplace, patio, appliances. Tennis, pool. Pets OK. 858-736-4266.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Near campus, shopping center. Convenient to freeways. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo/townhome, attached garage with full-sized washer/dryer. Pool, quiet. \$1500/month. Available now. Heidi Dorman, agent, 858-459-0501 x231; 858-449-8015.

LA JOLLA/BIRDROCK. \$2750. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Fireplace, washer/dryer, fenced backyard, carport garage ocean view 2 blocks to beach. 760-415-7892. 760-747-1474.

LA JOLLA/BIRDROCK. \$1850 plus security. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry facility, underground parking. Walk to ocean and shops. 858-488-7863.

LA JOLLA/BIRD ROCK. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Panoramic ocean view. Balcony. Coin laundry. 2 parking. No pets. 5530 La Jolla Boulevard. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Stylish Italian sophistication! Courtyards, 4 resort style pools, spas, sun decks. High tech fitness center. Full time activities director. \$1160-\$1995. Studios, 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Full size washer/dryer. The Villas of Renaissance, 5280 Fiore Terrace. Open daily until 6pm. 888-218-0377. rental-living.com, visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/1051.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Next to Hyatt. Furnished condo including washer/dryer. Underground parking. Gated community. Great location: close to freeways, UCSD, markets, gyms. \$1695. Call 619-885-9999.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$2795. 4 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. 1472 square feet, appliances, 2-car carport, patio. No smoking/pets. Near pool, picnic, park area. 619-422-8428.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1200. Large 1 bedroom condo, large walk-in closet, automatic garage, overlooking canyon, 2 blocks from UTC, 1/2 from bus. utcrentals@aol.com, 858-578-3392.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1650+. Large 3 bedroom condos available now and on con-

tinual basis. Near UCSD and bus line. utcrentals@aol.com, 858-578-3392.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Sunny, spacious remodeled studio. Corner unit. Top floor, near UCSD, newer carpet, ceramic tile, upgraded appliances. Pool, gym. Carport. No pets. 858-320-2945.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. Two units available. \$890 studio. 1 bedroom \$975. Laundry on site, quiet building. Nonsmoking, no pets. 1-year lease. Manager, 858-395-9944.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$1595. 1 bedroom apartment. Ocean view, garage, newly remodeled throughout! Laundry on site. Discount with 6-month lease. 858-692-6196.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$1850. Townhouse, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet, fireplace, fenced yard, garage, washer/dryer. No pets/smoking. 2-unit complex. 619-281-5131; kwendrew@yahoo.com.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$1390. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in beautiful garden setting. 1 block to beach. 1 parking. Coin laundry. No pets. 344 Rosemont. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

LA MESA. \$1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 100% remodelled, wood floors, tiles, fireplace, private backyard with deck and pool. No pets. Available 1/15. 619-698-8883.

LA MESA. downtown. Historical 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Large enclosed yard. All amenities. \$1650. 619-337-4222.

LA MESA. \$920. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Small quiet complex. Air conditioning, ceiling fans, balcony, on-site laundry, pool. 5065 Thorne Drive. Owner, 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. \$775. Quiet 1 bedroom. Upper unit, extra closet space, on-site laundry, off street parking. Walk to village, shopping. 8288 Orchard Avenue. 619-697-7841.

LA MESA. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs. 1000 square feet plus. Carport. Air conditioning. End unit. 8761 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368.

LA MESA. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Outstanding value. First month moves you in! Newly remodeled, hardwood floors, walk-in closet. Near SDSU. Available now. 4932 68th Street. Sunriseliving.com. 858-571-1970.

LA MESA. \$950. Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath with large common yard. Garage and washer/dryer hook-ups. Move-in special! 1/2 off first month's rent! Call 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

LA MESA. \$1875. 3 bedroom plus den, 2 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, dishwasher, air conditioner. Pool, yard, balcony/patio. 6170 Broadmoor. 858-598-1111 x192. www.utopiamanagement.com.

LA MESA. \$1250. Deposit \$500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large spacious unit. Pool. Laundry and parking on site. Close to shops and freeways. Available now. 8600 Lemon Avenue. Al and Rose, 619-466-1532.

LA MESA. \$990. Deposit \$500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious upstairs corner unit. Laundry and parking on site. Available now. 7656 Normal Street. Bob Cota Realty, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. \$895. Deposit \$500. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious downstairs corner unit by pool, saunas. Laundry on site. Close to all. Available 1/1. 4515 3rd Street. Glenna, 619-469-5010.

LA MESA. \$925 plus move-in special! Spacious 1 bedroom. Newly renovated community. Air conditioning. Patio/balcony. New appliances. Large closets. Berber carpet. Wood flooring. Fitness center. Pool. Spa. Saunas. Laundry, Near trolley, Grossmont Mall, SDSU, 32nd Street, Miramar. Cat friendly. Model open! Villas at La Mesa, 8515 Chloe Avenue. 619-460-7955. www.sdreader.com/rent/2054.

LA MESA. \$895/month, \$700 security. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool, parking, new ownership. 7629 Normal Avenue. 858-245-9747.

LA MESA. \$1350. 5500 Lake Murray Boulevard. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage, fenced, landscaped yard, laundry, dishwasher, covered patio, security lights. No pets. 619-222-8181.

LA MESA. \$900. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath courtyard apartment. Top notch condition, great location. Laundry, parking. No pets. 3717 69th Street. Manager, 619-583-0575.

LA MESA. \$995, deposit \$800. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Off-street parking, on-site laundry, stove, refrigerator. Quiet. 6004 Lake Murray Boulevard #B. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA. \$800. 1 bedroom lower unit in lovely, landscaped courtyard. Hardwood floors, new appliances and decor. Walk to

shops/trolley. No pets. Available now. 7932 La Mesa Boulevard. 619-460-6003.

LA MESA. 1 bedrooms from \$780. Air conditioning, balcony, on-site laundry, off street parking. 1 bedroom with garage \$850. 4751 Jessie Avenue. Owner, 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, \$920. 2 bedroom, \$1150. Move-in special! Resort-style living. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Gym. Patio or balcony. Parking. Clubhouse, pool, spa, sauna. 8633 La Mesa Boulevard. www.sdreader.com/rent/1002_619-462-1633.

LA MESA. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Very nice! Second floor community pool, rec room. Washer dryer hookups, dishwasher, stove refrigerator, air conditioning, carport. 7780 Parkway Drive. No pets. 619-440-4607.

LA MESA. Meticulously remodeled apartments in a serene setting invite you into this full service community. Studio at \$750. 1 bedrooms at \$895. No pets. Call 619-884-7900. www.thejohncollinscompany.com.

LA MESA. North of I-8 near Costco. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 979 square feet. Remodeled apartment, includes separate storage room. Central air/heat, swimming pool, grills. www.SanDiegoApartments.com. Cat OK. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802.

LA MESA. Rent to own! 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$2,600/month, \$15K down. No bank prequalify. Call for homes in other areas. Darren 858-243-4090.

LA MESA. Spacious and private 1 bedroom apartments. Some units feature: view, carport, balcony, Lush landscaping. Sparkling pool. Starting at \$750/month. 1/2 off first month's rent move in bonus with six month and one-year lease. Call for details. Pets welcome. Near SDSU

ing. 12718 Mapleview Street #6. www. cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

LEMON GROVE. \$750/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently remodeled, new paint, carpet, linoleum, blinds. Appliances. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 619-280-2658.

LEMON GROVE. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Large fenced yard, hardwood floors. Pets on approval. 2159 El Dora. \$1500. Call 619-269-6031; 619-269-4208.

LEMON GROVE. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse. Quiet end unit. Air, appliances. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Garage, yard, patio. No pets. 619-263-7579.

LEMON GROVE. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Fee. Rent Ready, 858-505-4848.

LEMON GROVE. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1050. New carpet, paint, verticals, microwave, ceiling fans, mirrored closet doors. Includes air, off-street parking, private patio with small yard. No smoking/pets. 7525 Pacific Avenue. 619-280-4693.

LEUCADIA, \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath second floor of triplex near Grandview. Fantastic sunset view. Large yard. Pets ok. 760-470-6220.

LEUCADIA. \$800. Studio in triplex. 1 bath. No pets. 500 square feet. 261-C Hillcrest. Agent, 858-755-1139. www.scuba-rentals.com.

LINDA VISTA. \$675, studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. No pets. 2285 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-277-4213.

LINDA VISTA. Now renting! Beautiful senior garden community! 62 and up! Starting at \$675. Ask manager about our super move-in special! \$445 first month's rent. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Patios. Recreation room and laundry on site. On call maintenance. Close to shopping/free-ways. No pets. 7720 Belden Street. www.sunriseliving.com, call now, 858-560-5707.

LINDA VISTA. \$895, deposit \$945. 2 bedroom, 1 bath remodeled downstairs unit. Laundry on site, street parking. Near USD. 5766 Lauretta Street. Available now. No pets! Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7433.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$845-\$945. Convenient location, fenced backyards, assigned parking. No pets. Office at 2451 Ulric Street. Please call for appointment at 858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA/USD. \$2100. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house with parking, storage. Large yard, fruit trees, patio, spa, remodeled interior. Pets OK! Available 1/10/2004. 619-993-5408.

LINDA VISTA/MESA COLLEGE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cozy home, completely remodeled, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, fenced yard. \$1300, utilities included. Available. 760-231-9802.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$775/month. Rehabilitated 1 bedroom apartment, Franklin Avenue. Se habla Espanol. 619-584-5900.

MID-CITY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story townhouse. Totally remodeled. New wood floors. Private canyon setting. \$999. 4485 Quince, #7. 619-236-1186.

MIDDLETOWN. \$875. 1 bedroom. Holiday special -\$300 off first month! Walk to Little Italy and more! 2270 Union Street. 619-297-1483 x100.

MIRA MESA. \$1850. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Upgraded, remodeled, 1900 square feet, all appliances included, community pool/club. Small pet ok. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

MIRA MESA. \$1050. 1 bedroom at Mirabella. Immaculate. Granite countertop, new wood floors, carpet, paint and appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, reserved gated parking. Pool, spa, gym. Elizabeth, 858-361-7033.

MIRA MESA. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Lovely, spacious, newly remodeled. All appliances. Pool, spa. Great location. No smoking/pets. 8458C Summerdale Road. 858-243-4263.

MIRA MESA. \$825, deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 8767 Mira Mesa #3. 619-804-3325.

MIRA MESA/SORRENTO VALLEY. \$1050-\$1150. Newer 1 bedroom condo. Furnished or unfurnished. Nice carpet, has full appliances/amenities. Pets OK with deposit. Alex, 858-578-8090.

MIRA MESA/SORRENTO VALLEY. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Ready to move in! Washer/dryer, covered parking space. Nice neighborhood. Pet OK with deposit. 619-244-4212.

MISSION BAY/BAY PARK. \$500 off move-in special! Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$1200! Great location. Near beaches, bay, freeway, shopping, and restaurants! Quiet complex. Balconies/patios. Pools. 6 laundry rooms. Lush landscaping. Garages, storage. Cats OK. Villa Pacific Apartments, 2905

THE READER PUZZLE

Across

- Inventors' cries
- Physics particle
- Miracle Whip maker
- Frist's predecessor as Senate majority leader
- Feminine ending
- Johnny Carson, by birth
- Stores of information
- French Revolution figure
- Lesson that, in a way, begins with 18th century chemist Joseph Priestly?
- Spaniard's "that"
- "Ich bin ____ Berliner"
- Press conference announcement about an unpublished Isaac Asimov story?
- Cut glass
- British P.M.'s house number
- Regarded to be
- Singing syllables
- Human Genome Project topic
- Mentor of Eminem
- Letter signoff
- 1961 Literature Nobelst Andric
- Tea leaf reader
- Reincarnation?
- Collected splinters, so to speak
- "Give ____ break!"
- Offerings from Direct TV and others (20-, 24- and 45-Across included)
- Butler's companion?
- Like some academic programs
- One-named New Age musician
- Polish site
- Within: Prefix
- Disinfectant brand
- Uzbekistan's ____ Sea
- Limitless quantities

Down

- Designer Gucci
- Put-on
- One who's practicing: Abbr.
- Doe's mate
- Isn't kidding
- Like SAT answer choices before the proctor says "begin"
- "That's ____ haven't heard"
- Household seen in "The Untouchables"
- Traditionally-dressed Japanese, at times
- Expression of pride?
- Out of whack
- Org. that keeps an eye on pilots
- Demolition stuff
- Chili con carne ingredient

- Quirks
- Former East German secret police
- Musical staff sign
- "____ my doubts"
- Bellybutton type
- Recto's opposite
- Rear-____ (certain accident)
- Kind of carnival show
- 1914 battle line
- Airline to Israel
- Establishes the going price?
- Mass recitation
- Coin of Iran
- Ainmeba feature
- Volcano in E. Sicily
- Bake sale offering
- Fires
- River spanned by the Ponte Vecchio
- Prescription place: Abbr.
- Passing comments?
- Wilder of many Mel Brooks films
- "I could ____ horse!"
- Some low-budget hotels, for short
- Popeye's Olive ____
- Manger contents

RULES OF THE GAME

- The prize for solving the *Reader* Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.
- All entries in the *Reader* Puzzle contest must be received by the *Reader* by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- One entry per person.

marble fireplace, all appliances, washer/dryer, 2 garages, no pets. 619-885-6560.

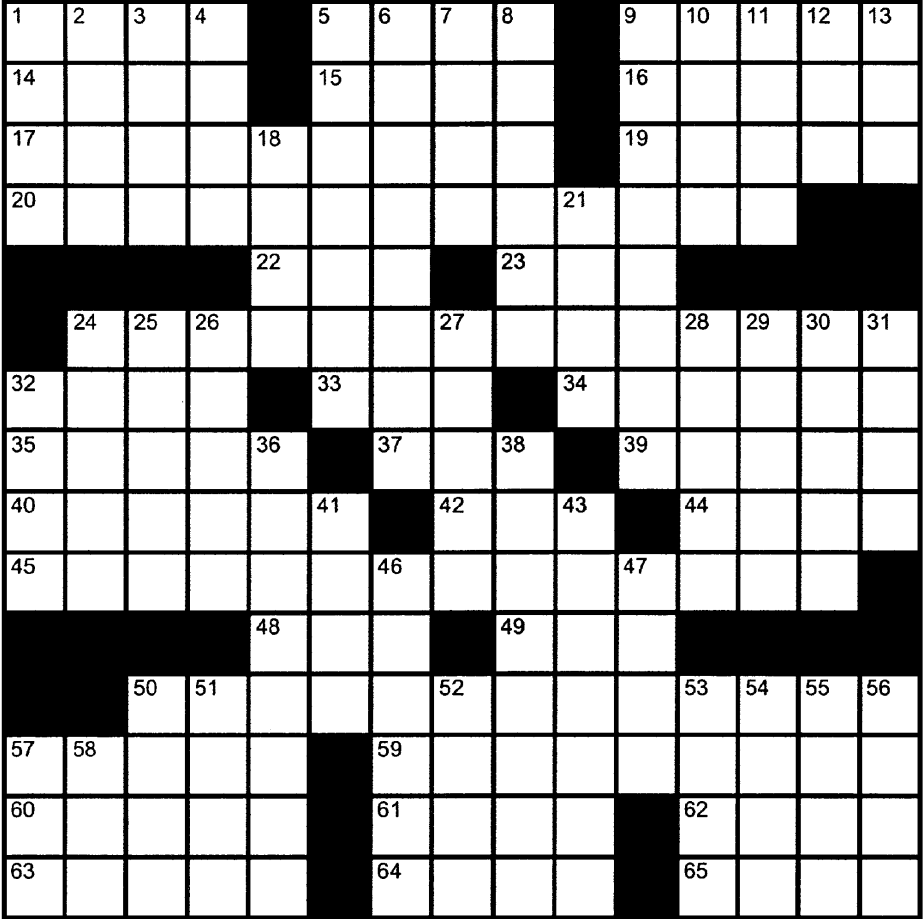
MISSION BEACH. Large studio. All utilities paid. Steps to ocean. \$895. 619-234-7572.

MISSION BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Hardwood, tile, remodeled. Second floor. Parking. Laundry. No smokers. 3314 Mission Boulevard, #4. Martha, 619-224-0985.

MISSION BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Located in South Mission Beach on 814 Cohasset Court, bay side. Parking space, laundry, patio area with barbecue. Available January 1. Call 619-654-9302.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with garage. Year lease. Shared yard. Quiet court. No pets. 815 Dover Court. Available 1/15. www.cairnx.com, 858-490-1450.

MISSION BEACH, NORTH. \$2395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Unfurnished. Great deal! Year-round. Share garage. Laundry. No pets. 3709 Oceanfront Walk. Cairncross Rentals, 858-490-1450. www.cairnx.com.



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SEVENTEENACROSS
EVE TIA TRUE
LETO CREATE ITA
FROMLEFTTORIGHT
ARDUA TOUT
YOUNG LGA DITSY
MAHI EDNAS
CROSSWORDANSWER
ASH ARNESS OOLA
OBIE TAE NFC
YOUJUSTSOLVEDME
ULNA TWA LINEAR
MACY SOX YEARN S

Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 12/24/03.

Of the 42 entrants, 40 were correct. The winners are:

- Mickey Herman, *San Diego*
- Judith Pierce, *San Marcos*
- Steve Tino, *El Cajon*
- George Lane, *San Diego*
- R.T. Glynn, *San Diego*

MISSION BEACH. \$2495. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. New carpet/paint. Attached garage. Washer/dryer. Unfurnished. Fireplace. Deck. 819 Isthmus Court. Cairncross Rentals, 858-490-1450. www.cairnx.com.

MISSION BEACH/Z, SOUTH. \$1100. Third-floor condo. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. Year-round. No pets. 2990 Mission Boulevard. Cairncross Rentals, 858-490-1450. www.cairnx.com.

MISSION BEACH. We have several 2 bedroom apartments in Mission Beach, ranging from \$1295-\$1800 per month. Call for more information, Bill Luther Realty 858-488-1580.

MISSION BEACH. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, view. Steps to ocean and bay. Dishwasher, laundry, balcony. Agent, 619-254-8703.

MISSION BEACH. \$855. Nice, remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. No pets. Bay-side. New carpet, appliances. Quiet. 817-1/2 Ormond Court. Available now. Agent, 619-275-3455.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Available 1/10. Deposit \$900. 731 Ensenada Court. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$800. Studio. Close to beach. Parking. Laundry. 715 El Carmel. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

MISSION BEACH. \$2600. Large 3 bedroom, 3 bath newer townhome. Washer/dryer, fireplace, deck, double garage. Located on quiet bayside court. Recently redecorated. 808 Monterey Court. 858-488-3539.

MISSION BEACH. Available now. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, 1 garage. 1 Block to beach, shops, restaurants, bars. \$1,215/month. 817 Island Court. Call/email Ernie. 619-347-0236 or ernie@outlampsch.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to beach/bay. Private balcony, deck, bay view. Parking. No pets. Available early January. 3708 Bayside Lane. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1 block to bay, refrigerator, stove. Low fee. Free guest search at: www.sdr rentals.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$1395. Beautiful hardwood floors. New deco bathroom. Charming 2 bedroom unit, in nonsmoking building, on very quiet street. Laundry room. No dogs please. 619-299-4769.

MISSION HILLS. Gorgeous new home near Little Italy, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car, fantastic kitchen, split level, huge master, deck, quiet cul-de-sac, water view. \$2450. 619-804-6840; colleen@mysandiegoagent.com.

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MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. New apartment homes and lofts. 1 and 2 bedrooms. Underground gated parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Full-size washer/dryer. High-speed Internet. Elevator, fitness center. Great location, near all! Lease. Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons, 4021 Falcon Street. www.MissionHillsCommons.com, 1-866-579-6028. www.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

MISSION HILLS. \$997. 1 bedroom house. Some bay views. New paint, hardwood floors. 1 upgrade of your choice! Rustic, quiet area. Small pet OK. 760-943-9686.

MISSION HILLS, NORTH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Approximately 800 square feet. Close to village. Lease required. 1224 West Arbor. Paula, Coldwell Banker, 619-574-5128.

MISSION HILLS. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Quiet neighborhood location. New appliances, tile. Gated community. Laundry. Underground parking. Cat OK. Robert, 619-531-0826. www.floft.com.

MISSION HILLS. From \$950-\$995. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment. Balcony. Very modern, all appliances. Quiet neighborhood, on-site laundry. Underground garage parking. 619-297-3511. www.floft.com.

MISSION HILLS. Move-in special! 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$1050-\$1175. Pool. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Close to downtown and shopping. 3505 Reynard. www.sunriseliving.com; 619-683-9239.

MISSION HILLS. \$1995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-story, 2 fireplaces, wood floors, 1320-square-feet, washer/dryer. 4361 Hawk Street. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fourplex. \$1050; 1/2 month free. Serene, private setting. Parking and laundry. 801 Torrance Street, near Washington/Goldfinch. 619-459-1781.

MISSION HILLS. Charming and very private 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, courtyard, parking. Near all! Available now. Small pet OK. \$865 plus deposit. 619-602-1519.

MISSION HILLS. 1 bedroom apartment, \$650 upper unit with view of Downtown, adjacent to I-5. Clean. Central location. Off-street parking. 619-980-6290.

MISSION HILLS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Spectacular views, balconies, all amenities, off-street parking, laundry, hardwood floors, no pets. 1874 Titus Street. 619-464-1652.

MISSION HILLS. \$1125. Charming 2 bedroom. Quiet neighborhood, nice area. Water, trash, electric paid. Garage, laundry facilities, nice yard. 619-234-7572.

MISSION HILLS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New Berber carpet, dishwasher. 3695 Reynard Way, San Diego. \$1200. 619-683-2698; 619-804-1742.

MISSION HILLS. \$725. Upper bright studio. Laundry room, pool, carport. Near market/bus. No pets please. 4039 Brant Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. \$795, studio with garage. \$1150, large 1 bedroom with dining room/hardwood floors. Laundry room. No pets please. 4141 Ingalls. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, private like a house, 2 levels, balcony, 3767 Dove. No dogs. Available now. 858-272-3113, 619-295-1160.

MISSION HILLS. Brand-new, never lived in, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, garage, granite countertops, washer/

dryer, patio, close to Downtown/USD/ballpark/airport. \$1995. 619-300-2663.

MISSION HILLS. \$1225-\$1325. Two 2 bedroom units available. 1 with garage, small complex, hardwood floors, large yard, city view, laundry. Quiet street. No pets. Nonsmoking. Available now. 619-275-2681. Cell, 619-518-4116.

MISSION HILLS. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, ground floor condo. Utility room for extra storage with 2 free washers and dryers. 1 block to bus, train and trolley. Available immediately. 3830 Kettner Blvd. 619-507-4172.

MISSION HILLS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in newer controlled access building near UCSD Medical Center. Gated parking, laundry. No pets. 4022 Albattross. Resident manager, 619-293-0373.

MISSION HILLS. \$675. Deposit \$600. Studio with stove and refrigerator. Off-street parking. 340 University Place #C. Call 619-804-3325.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large living room, dining room, laundry hookup, hardwood floors, miniblinds, off-street parking. 620 West Maple. 619-295-0694.

MISSION VALLEY/SDSU/San Carlos. Low \$350-\$450 deposits! From \$1270. 1, 2 bedrooms. Luxury gated community. Spectacular views! Lush landscaping. Sparkling pool, spa. Play center. Built-in computer niche. Large closets. Washer/dryer. Fitness, business centers. Garages available. Cat on approval. Canyon View Apartments, 7149 Navajo Road. 619-464-4144. www.sdreader.com/rent/2011.

MISSION VALLEY. 1 month free rent! \$99 deposit special! 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1125. Tennis courts. Lap pool, spa. Basketball court. Central air conditioning. Private patios/balconies. Fitness, recreation centers. Washer/dryer in units. Pets welcome. Available now! Club River Run, 10041 Rio San Diego Drive. 800-476-9561. www.sdreader.com/rent/2022.

MISSION VALLEY. \$99 deposit special! First month free rent! Starting from \$1538 for spacious 2 bedrooms. Patio/balcony. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Microwave. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Courtyard. Pool. Spa. Fitness center. Underground parking. Pets welcome. Close to trolley, shopping, restaurants. River Front, 750 Camino de la Reina. 800-476-9570. www.sdreader.com/rent/2072.

MISSION VALLEY. 1/2 off first month! 2 bedroom, 2 bath from \$1225. 3 bedroom, 2 bath from \$1600. Tropical ambience. Dishwasher. Microwave. Intercom. Pool. Spa. Sauna. Fitness center. Central air/heat. Balcony/patio. Garage, parking. Laundry. Cat OK. Mission Pacific, 4424 44th Street. Toll free: 1-866-813-5684. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1010.

MISSION VALLEY/USD. Studios. \$700. Bright and airy. Private. Gated. Nonsmoking. No pets. 5411 Linda Vista Road (near Mildred Street). www.info101.net. 619-294-4376.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool, spa, dishwasher, parking, balcony. 6151 Rancho Mission Road. No pets! Call for appointment, 619-231-2727 x223.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1170. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Spacious quiet, corner unit. Pool, spa, sauna. Ample parking. Pets OK. Available now. 6394 Rancho Mission Road. 858-735-8667.

MISSION VALLEY. High-end 3 bedroom, 2 bath with loft. 2 parking spaces, pool, spa, and gym, no smoking, no pet. \$2,950. Agent, 619-294-8571.

MISSION VALLEY/SERRA MESA. \$915. Cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in

quiet complex. New ceramic tile, floors, carpet and paint. Newer appliances including microhood. Large enclosed patio. Bedrooms feature mirrored closet doors. Easy access to freeways and Costco Center. On-site laundry. Ready by 1/15/04. 2669 Mission Village Drive. Manager, 858-560-5780.

MISSION VALLEY. \$920. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Lots of upgrades. Pool, tennis courts, exercise room. Close to trolley and stadium. Rancho Mission Villas. Agent, 619-284-9514.

MISSION VALLEY. \$985. Nice 1 bedroom, plus den, condo in Friars Pointe. Downstairs, new carpeting, carport. Pool, spa. Cat OK. 6354 Rancho Mission Road #501. Agent 619-469-7790.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2150. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath. Brand new! 3-story. 2-car attached garage. All appliances. Luxury pool, spa 858-539-4403.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1300/month. 2 bedroom loft condo in Mission Verde. New paint/carpet. Vaulted ceilings. Great view, coin laundry, pool, spa, covered parking. 619-708-9233.

MISSION VALLEY. Condo. \$1690. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, top floor, view, balcony, upgraded, washer/dryer, fireplace, alarm, pool, spa, gym. Prime location. 619-297-4621.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1100. Large 1 bedroom condo with carport. Water included. Small pet OK with deposit. Ground floor with patio and fountain view. Available now. 619-583-7879.

MISSION VALLEY, WEST. \$1350. Large condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, balcony, pool, spa, fitness center. Gated community, underground parking. Near shopping. 858-349-2492.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1375. Very nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath with view. All amenities. Secure building. 2 parking spaces. No pets, nonsmoking. Great location. 10250 Caminito Cuervo #16. 619-944-7732.

MISSION VALLEY. \$800, Junior, \$935, 1 bedroom, 1050, 2 bedroom. Walking distance to Cowles Mountain and Mission Trails Park. Large kitchen. Pool. Spa. Gym/recreation room. Patio or balcony. Air conditioning. Extra storage available. Villa De Flores Apartments. 7707 Mission Gorge Road. www.sdreader.com/rent/1008. 619-583-0821.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2695. Beautiful townhome with all the extras. 1900 square feet, designer kitchen, security system, 2 fireplaces, patio, 2-car garage, tile throughout kitchen and bathrooms, side by side refrigerator, washer/dryer, vaulted ceilings, ceiling fans, lush landscaping, community pool, spa, clubhouse, gated entry. Agent, 619-269-4596.

MISSION VALLEY. \$995 plus deposit. Includes basic cable, water, trash. Spacious 1 bedroom condo. Balcony, laundry, pool/spa, covered parking. Near trolley, shopping, restaurants. 619-420-4626.

MORLEY FIELD. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 875 square feet. Carpet, ceiling fan, laundry hookups, garage, stove, refrigerator. No pets. 3181 Thorn Street. 619-298-7724.

MURRIETA/TEMECULA. \$1895. Beautiful, new single-level 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, granite kitchen, large yard/patio. 1/1/04. 37793 Rushing Wind Court, Murrieta. Gardener included. Call, 619-392-7074.

NATIONAL CITY. \$695/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDG&E deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NATIONAL CITY. \$995. 2 bedroom house. New paint, fenced yard. Pets OK. Fee. Rent Ready, 858-505-4848.

NATIONAL CITY. \$690-\$725. Large 1 bedroom, quiet, laundry on site, assigned parking. Gated complex. No pets. Move-in special. 315 East 30th. 858-483-5111.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950. Newer, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, parking space, air conditioning. Laundry room, security building. 4743 Hawley, near Adams Avenue. 760-796-7685.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath attached home, large rooms, private patio, new paint, carpets, appliances. Steps to central Normal Heights amenities. Small pet OK. 3266-B Adams (gate is beside 3266 Adams). 619-236-4846.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Small gated complex near Adams. Refurbished, including kitchen. Hardwood floors. Courtyard. Laundry on site. MG Realty. 619-229-0231.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Large, newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. \$795. 4440 32nd Street #2. Available 1/1/04. Call Victoria at 619-417-5400. www.coastpm.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1000. Very large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. 3726 Madison. Call 619-528-8224.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$760. Large 1 bedroom. Downstairs. Air conditioning. Garden setting. Gated. Parking. Laundry. \$300 deposit. No pets. Available 12/31. 4730 32nd Street. 619-584-7790.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1000. Spacious 2 bedroom with hardwood floors, laundry facility and community backyard. 3916 Madison. 858-270-5500.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom apartment in a four-plex. Single car garage. 4737 West Mountain View. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. Spacious 1 bedroom. Fireplace, air conditioning, laundry. Off-street parking. No pets. 4525 Idaho Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$895. 2 bedroom near Adams Avenue. 2 parking spaces. Laundry on site. Gated. Storage. No pets. 4678 Ohio Street #2. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1250. Pride of Normal Heights! Totally remodeled, extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath with 3 closets (one walk-in) plus linen closet and storage closet and pantry. Private fenced patio. Newer carpet and ceramic tile flooring, refrigerator, dishwasher and stove. Huge pool and jacuzzi. Off-street parking, laundry room. 1 block below Adams on Madison Avenue with easy access to I-805 and I-15. 858-695-1663.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. Spacious 1 bedroom. Recently remodeled. Gated courtyard with pool. Laundry. Off-street parking. Near Adams. 4637 34th Street. Sandra, 619-563-1310.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$700. 1 bedroom apartment. New carpet/paint. Range/refrigerator. Air conditioning. Off-street parking. No pets. For appointment, Joe 619-286-9540.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$850. Near Adams. Lovely remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Appliances. 619-280-5177.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Ask about move-in special! \$950, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$965, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Deposit \$1000. Quiet, gated complex. Fireplace. Balcony. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hookups. No pets. Good credit a must! 4638 Ohio Street. www.jesselproperties.com, 619-282-3583 or evenings and weekends, 619-255-8389.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. 4476 32nd between Adams/Meade. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 4-unit building. Remodeled. Second floor. No laundry. 1 off-street parking. 619-992-9927.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Mint condition, in quiet courtyard setting. Laundry, off-street parking. No pets/smoking. 3030 Monroe Avenue. Agent, 619-685-3960.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Mirrored dining wall, private patio, laundry. Close to transportation. No pets/smoking. Available immediately. 4443 Kansas Street. Agent, 619-685-3960.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1200. House. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled, hardwoods, 1-car garage, huge closets, laundry, secure, fenced, park 1/2 block. Available now. No pets/smoking. Year lease. 619-994-5877.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1095. 2 bedroom house, newly remodeled bath, tiled kitchen, newer carpet. 4365 Cherokee Avenue. Call 858-272-1234.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825-\$1100. Free December rent! 1 and 2 bedrooms available. Parking. Laundry on site. Storage. 4840 West Mountain View Drive. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1350. Unique 1927 Cape Cod style, 2 bedroom, 1 bath attached home with private yard. Washer/dryer, garage. Pet OK on approval. 3483 Arthur Avenue. Available January 1st. 619-572-1894.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1400. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New tile, hardwood floors, recessed lighting, ceiling fans. Huge closets! 2 covered parking, pool/spa. 619-708-9452.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking and laundry, gated, quiet. 4511 35th Street #2, #4. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Clean, quiet. Parking, gated, laundry. 4382 Utah Street #4. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$800. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 619-246-2645.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom house. Newly remodeled. Yard, parking. No pets or smoking. 3419 Adams Avenue. 619-281-4698.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1650. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with family room and separate unit. All appliances, secured parking, fenced yard. Gardener/water included. Available now. Small pet considered. 3069 Walton Place. 619-281-4698.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1095. 2 bedroom house. Covered patio, fenced yard. Pets OK. Fee. Rent Ready, 858-505-4848.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$650. Large studio for rent. Utilities included. 1 block south of Adams. Quiet. 619-813-7076.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775. Deposit \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, new carpet and paint. Off-street parking, on-site laundry. 4625 35th Street #13. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom. Spacious. Quiet, gated community. No dogs. 4530 40th Street. 619-284-8575.

NORTH PARK. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Newly painted in and out. New carpet. View of Balboa Park. Visit www.homes4rent.com Trident Pacific, 619-435-9442.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, recently remodeled. Tiled living room, kitchen, bathroom. Elevator, on-site laundry, security building. 619-280-2658.

NORTH PARK. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Huge upstairs unit. Laundry.

Nice quiet neighborhood. Parking. Close to all. 4464-1/2 Oregon Street. Agent, 619-260-1368.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with balcony, \$1500/month. 1 bedroom with deck, \$800. Available mid-January. Beautiful landmark highrise. Call Palisades Pointe, 619-297-3600.

NORTH PARK. \$1350/month. Unique craftsman home, new hardwood floors, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace, upgraded kitchen, gardener, washer/dryer. No pets. 760-749-7671.

NORTH PARK. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Nice carpet. Tile countertops, dishwasher, French doors, enclosed patio, small gated complex, quiet. Won't last. 619-698-8735.

NORTH PARK. \$950-\$1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet and paint, gated parking, laundry on-site. 858-362-8701.

NORTH PARK. Brand-new 2 bedroom, 1 bath custom home. Garage, large private yard/patio. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. No smoking. \$1475. 3024 Olive Street. 619-948-1666.

NORTH PARK. Have it all. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath \$1045. Includes pool, air conditioning and garage. Near Morley Field. Tuscany Villas. 3330 30th Street. Call 619-295-4583.

NORTH PARK. \$700 up. Extremely large, deluxe 1 and 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartments. Brand new paint and carpeting. Quiet, nice location. Controlled entry, air, Parking. Near bus/shops. 619-461-9415.

NORTH PARK. \$1250 plus utilities. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Washer/dryer, fire-place, tile flooring, attached garage, parking, clean unit. 619-886-6100 or 619-248-4555.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Great condition. Close to all. No pets. 619-482-9479.

NORTH PARK. \$695 first month's rent special! \$795. Charming 1 bedroom, handcrafted cottage-style duplex. Lush "secret garden" with fountain and artistic touches. Gated. Laundry. Squeaky clean! No pets/smoking. 4146 Utah. 858-454-2024.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom cottage. Carpeted, new appliances, new paint. Laundry facilities on premises. Gated. 619-284-8678 or 619-888-6604.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom. Totally remodeled! Holiday move-in special! Parking space. 619-563-7937.

NORTH PARK. \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath extra large apartment. Gated building, courtyard, upper, close to all. Available 1/1/04. 4245 34th Street. Call to see, John A. Reis and company, Inc. 858-272-1348.

NORTH PARK. \$845. 1 bedroom and den. Small. 4378 Utah Street. Quiet area. No pets. 619-298-9237.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. Huge 1 bedroom, \$775. Gated garden complex, pool, laundry facilities, off-street parking. No pets. Close to all. 3722 Alabama. 619-299-1699.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom apartments starting \$760. Beautiful community with pool, spa. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Close to freeways. Sorry, no pets. 4841 West Mountain View Drive. 619-282-6440. www.sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. \$575. Studio. Great area. Hardwood floors, lush landscaping. No pets. 4038-1/2 Hamilton Street (between Arizona and Oregon Streets). 858-272-1550.

NORTH PARK. 1/2 off first month's rent! \$750, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garden setting. New carpet/paint. Assigned parking and

duce our feed bill. Excellent training, trail horse. \$500. Can e-mail pictures: 619-473-2083.

KITTEN. Tortie, 4 months old, she's short-haired and very busy but sweet. Leukemia/FIV negative, has most shots, spayed, flealess. Donation. 619-236-0026.

PACIFIC ANIMAL WELFARE Society, known as PAWS, of Coronado, a 501(c)3 nonprofit group. For pet adoptions log onto www.PAWSofCoronado.org or call 619-435-8247.

PET FRIENDLY RENTALS. Tired of hearing "No pets allowed"? Listings for houses, townhouses, duplexes, condominiums and apartments throughout entire county that will accept pets. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Please visit our Web-site today at: www.Pet-Friendly-Rentals.com or call us at: 858-502-9878 or e-mail us at: petrent@san.rr.com.

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PUPPY. 6-week-old male Chihuahua, loving and active, needs good home. I can't afford to keep him. 619-233-0557.

PUPPY. Yorkie, 12-weeks old, AKC, shots, paper trained, adorable! Comes with food, treats, and crate. Ready to go! \$1200. Call 508-776-5839 or e-mail: kaykay1103@yahoo.com.

WANTED: Need loving person/home for my Jack Russell terrier for approximately 2 weeks in late January/early February while I'm on vacation. devildroptuned@yahoo.com or 619-379-1635.

PET CENTRAL

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!

ADOPTME2000.COM is dedicated to helping homeless animals find loving homes. For pet adoptions, animals rescue group information, or to volunteer go to www.AdoptMe2000.com.

AQUARIUM SALE at Octopuss' Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Petroom skimmers.

Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopuss' Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUM, 10 gallon on black wrought iron stand, includes gravel, plants, Aqua-Clear filter, heater, thermometer, ornaments, vacuum, fish, and more, \$75. 858-278-9057.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter corporate stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom 619-224-2841.

CAGE, ideal for cat or small dog, sturdy plastic with metal screen door, paid

\$29.95, sell for only \$10. City Heights (East San Diego), leave message, 619-283-1767.

CAT. Himalayan sealpoint, white fluff ball, 2 years old, light gray ears, paws, tail, blue eyes, neutered, very affectionate, great gift. \$300 to loving home only. 619-281-1234.

CAT. Orange tabby, 3-year-old male, neutered, all shots. Doesn't get along with my other cat. Very loving to people. 619-222-4861.

CAT. Orange and white male, neutered, first shots, born April 1. Moving and new apartment will not allow pets. Free to loving home. 858-220-2468.

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NORTH PARK. \$750. Spacious 1 bedroom in great location. Parking on site, laundry facility. 4176 Oregon Street #7. 619-255-0426.

NORTH PARK. \$750. Cozy 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to shops and library. Offers washer/dryer hook-ups. Newly remodeled. Very clean. 3766 31st Street. 858-571-1970. www.sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Outstanding value. Newly remodeled. On bus lines. On-site laundry. 4128 Iowa Street. Available 1/22. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious. Nonsmoking apartment home. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. Secluded with lush landscaping. Move-in special! One month's free rent! 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious apartment home for \$750. Gated community with on-site laundry and off-street parking. A nonsmoking home, surrounded by lush landscaping. 3167 Landis Street. Call 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. \$685. Move-in special! 1 month free rent! Spacious studio. New carpet. Close to shopping. Nonsmoking. 3967 Mississippi Street. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. Huge 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$900. \$1010 with washer/dryer hook-ups. Gated immaculate community with lush landscaping. Off-street parking and on-site laundry. No pets. Close to bus lines and shopping. 4075 Florida Street. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK/MORELY FIELD. \$995. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Intercom entry. Off-street parking for 2 cars. Laundry on site. 3711 Arnold Avenue. 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath for \$975. Complex has a pool, parking, controlled access and 3 laundry rooms on site. Clean and quiet. Units have dishwashers and ceiling fans. Pets OK. Available now. 4133 Kansas Street. Viewing by appointment. Call 619-640-0112 between 8am and 6pm.

NORTH PARK. \$710. West Hollywood charm, North Park convenience! 1 bedroom. Spanish-style bungalows. Gated entrance. Serene courtyard. Mirrored closets. Laundry. Small pets considered. Cross street Adams Avenue. 4651 Iowa Street. 619-281-3243.

NORTH PARK, SOUTH. \$1385. 3 bedroom house, garage, workshop, fenced yard, pet ok. Very large with hardwood floors. Large formal dining room. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer hookups. Agent, no fee. 619-223-2524.

NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Small complex, off-street parking, laundry facility. Call 7am-2pm, 619-561-8992.

NORTH PARK. \$710. 1 bedroom duplex with private patio. Cat OK. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer hookups. Water paid. Agent, 619-223-2524.

NORTH PARK. \$790. Nice 1 bedroom apartment in small, quiet complex. Upstairs, gated entry, skylights, balcony, storage. No pets. 4045 Mississippi Street. Agent, 619-469-7790.

NORTH PARK. \$750. Nice 1 bedroom apartment. Upstairs, newer carpet, blinds, stove. Off-street parking. Coin laundry. No pets. 4136 Iowa Street. Agent, 619-469-7790.

NORTH PARK. \$700. rent, \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment. No pets. Open daily, 10am-5pm, at 4222 Alabama #15. 619-299-0951.

NORTH PARK. \$775. rent, \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom duplex with fenced deck. No pets. At 3812 Pershing Avenue. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$725. rent, \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom cottage. 1 off-street parking spot. No pets. At 3986 Kansas Street. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$625. rent, \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom duplex. Parking lot. No pets. At 3033 Monroe. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$595. Cozy downstairs studio apartment in small complex. Stove, refrigerator and on-site laundry. Close to bus line. 619-683-7638. Xilarent.com.

NORTH PARK. \$925. Great 1 bedroom apartment with beautiful hardwood floors. Lots of windows for natural lighting. Shared yard. On-site laundry. Pets negotiable. 619-683-7638. Xilarent.com.

NORTH PARK. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Exquisite, extremely well-maintained. Newly remodeled. Dishwasher. Refrigerator and microwave. On-site laundry. Intercom access. No pets! Off-street parking. 4035 Utah. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Laundry. Small quaint property. 619-296-2787.

NORTH PARK/BURLINGAME. \$1795. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath Spanish-style home with detached garage. Decorative fireplace. Separate storage room. Dining area. Yard. Gardner included. Agent, 619-234-9553.

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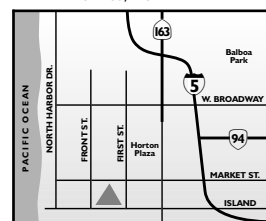
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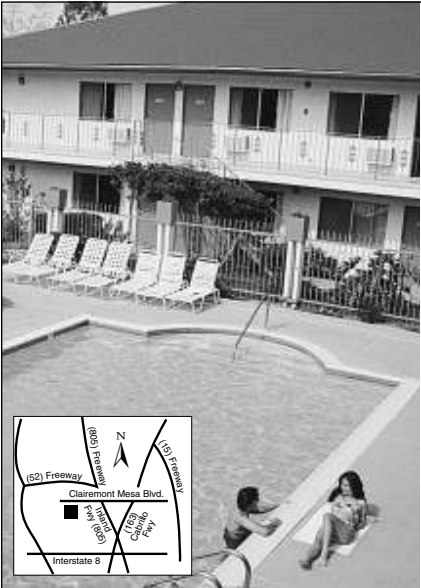


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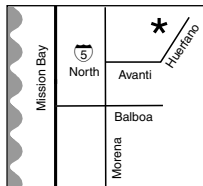
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PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$950-\$1350. Large 1 and 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Parking. Laundry facilities. Quiet. Close to all. 1650 Emerald. 858-273-1724.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, washer and dryer, small patio, wardrobe mirrors, fireplace. No pets. Available January. No pets. 619-444-2039.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Upstairs, private deck. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Appliances. 1 car garage and assigned parking space. Coin laundry. Broker. 858-565-7300.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ask about our Manager's Special! Gated. Lush tropical courtyard. 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1050. Pool. Spa. Sauna. Fitness center. Barbecues. Clubhouse. Covered, garage parking. Bike trail. Near bay, beach, freeway, La Jolla. Cat friendly! Pacific at Mission Bay, 2636 Grand Ave. Toll free: 1-866-815-6570. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1049.

Mission Valley Area \$99 Deposit Special!



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Amenities Include:

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- Wood-burning fireplaces
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- Fountains & courtyards
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$695. studio, furnished or unfurnished. No pets. Non-smoking. Off-street parking. Open house. See at 4160 Ingraham Street. 858-274-4344.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2300. Great 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Fireplace. Garage. Patio. Washer/dryer. Close to ocean. Westbourne Realtors. 858-488-4800.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250-\$1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Quiet complex, patios. One with view. Available 12/15-12/22. 1707 Chaldecony. Call 858-270-6404.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath spacious 1100-square-foot apartment, 1-year lease, 1 parking spot, no

dogs, cat OK. \$1450/month, \$1000/deposit. 3820 Haines. Available 1/5/04. 858-837-0364.

PACIFIC BEACH. Plaza Condos. 2 bedroom, 2 bath (2 master suites), view balcony, gym, billiards, pools, spas, tennis, gated community, 2 parking (gated). \$1600. 619-846-7156.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. Free month's rent with lease. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Newly remodeled. 3 blocks to beach. Refrigerator, dishwasher, ceiling fans. Laundry. Street parking. No pets. Nonsmoking building. Available now. 1061 Hornblend. 858-692-3983.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1400. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Under-

ground parking. Laundry facilities. Balcony. Close to bay. 4205 Lamont. 858-274-9124.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1800. 2 bedroom condo, plus den. Carport only. Alarm system, washer/dryer, deck. No pets. 1711 #C Hornblend Street, available immediately. 626-676-3580.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ask about our free rent! Resort-style living. Studios, 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at \$795, \$1060, \$1395. Heated pool, jacuzzis, saunas, weight rooms, tennis, basketball, aerobics, clubhouse with large screen tv, gas barbecue area, play area, laundry facilities, heat/air. Cat ok. Great location. 888-759-7435.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT \$1295. Garage included! Immaculate 2 bedroom apartment near bay. Brand new interior. Hardwood floors in living room, new carpet in bedrooms. All appliances, including new dishwasher and range. Large pool, courtyard and laundry room. Off-street parking. Will consider cat. Rent plus \$700 moves you in. Remodeling now (1472-1/4, 1464 Pacific Beach Drive.) Available mid-January and mid-February. Also \$1275, 2 bedroom, 1 bath available December. 1470 Pacific Drive. Move-in special: Take occupancy by 1/2/04 and receive \$200 off first month's rent! Crown Management, 858-454-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT \$995. Garage included! Immaculate 1 bedroom apartment near bay. Brand new interior. Hardwood floors in living room, new carpet in bedroom. All appliances, including new dishwasher and range. Large pool, courtyard and laundry room. Off-street parking. Will consider cat. Rent plus \$600 moves you in. Crown Management, 858-454-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT \$1995. Garage included! Immaculate 3 bedroom apartment near bay. Brand new interior. Hardwood floors in living room, new carpet in bedrooms. All appliances, including new dishwasher and stainless steel range. Large pool, courtyard and laundry room. Off-street parking. Will consider cat. Rent plus \$900 moves you in. Remodeling now. 1472-1/2 Pacific Beach Drive. Available February. Crown Management, 858-454-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$995, all utilities, cable, laundry included. Cute studio. 5 blocks to beach. Free-standing fireplace, large private patio. No pets/smoking. 858-581-1123.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, new carpet, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 1532 Missouri Street. Agent, 858-597-6100 x315.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2095. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, 1500 square feet, near beach, full-size washer/dryer. Garage. Gated. 1457 Felspar Street. Agent. 858-597-6100 x315.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. 2 bedroom upstairs end unit. Quiet. Gated building. Laundry. Near bay/bike trail. 2618 Figueroa Boulevard. No dogs. Lease. 858-454-3841.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Available now! Fireplace, new Pergo flooring and carpet throughout. New vinyl windows throughout. Completely remodeled bathroom. New paint inside and outside. Large kitchen with dishwasher, gas stove, refrigerator. Garage with washer/dryer. Private fenced rear patio. Must see to appreciate! Located in prestigious North Pacific Beach. Walking distance to all including the beach. For more information, contact: 858-270-7833.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$795. 1 bedroom apartment. Hardwood floors. Walk to Mission Bay. Quiet. Laundry. Near I-5. Available 12/27. Cat OK. 3440 Del Rey Street. 619-222-9308.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2050. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Off-street parking, new appliances, rehabbed building. No pets. Available mid-December. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. Large 2 bedroom, ground floor. Small complex, triplex. Near bay, quiet. Do not disturb tenants. Indoor cat ok with deposit. 425-A Noyes Street. Available 1/15. John A. Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. Large 2 bedroom rear apartment. Ground level, shared yard,

ground parking. Laundry facilities. Balcony. Close to bay. 4205 Lamont. 858-274-9124.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, parking, dishwasher. Also, 1 bedroom plus den, \$975. No pets, 6-month lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage, plus 1. Washer/dryer, refrigerator, oven, dishwasher. 3 blocks to bay. Available 12/15/03. \$1575/month, includes water/trash. Alan, 858-717-0446; albcoble@delyme.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautifully remodeled, quiet, luxury apartment. Intercom entry, pleasant garden setting, heated pool. Imported tile, dishwasher. 1633 Diamond Street. By appointment. www.sandiegoapartments.com. Year lease. 858-272-4398.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2600. Townhouse. Beautifully remodeled, triple level, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. View, 2-car garage, fireplace. No pets. Lease. 3972 Riviera. 619-518-1160; 619-421-6202.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Private front yard. Side yard for small pet. Parking for 2 cars. Central location. 2135 Grand Avenue. 619-260-0752.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in a garden setting with fireplace and small backyard. No pets. Street parking. IPMG, 760-967-4764.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, split-level house. Tiled, wood floors, washer/dryer, fenced yard, off-street parking. No pets. 1938 Hornblend. 858-483-8784.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1875. 2 bedroom house, garage, washer/dryer. Big corner lot, available immediately. 619-307-0386 or 619-987-6686.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath beach condo. View. Quiet. New, beautiful plush carpet, freshly painted. Laundry. Parking. Pool. 4944 Cass Street. 858-220-6422.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150 and \$1200. North Pacific Beach. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Parking, laundry. Quiet. Call Robert, 858-273-3121.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom, North Pacific Beach. 1-1/2 blocks to the beach. Parking, laundry. Quiet. Call Robert, 858-273-3121.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, month to month. 858-552-2550 x335.

PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA. Ocean/bay views! Studios, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$875. Low deposits! 2 blocks to beach. Assigned garage parking. Security. Laundries. Balconies. Pool. Spa. Fitness room. Dishwashers. Near shopping, restaurants! La Jolla Pacific Apartments, 840 Turquoise Street. Call toll free: 1-866-813-5680. www.pacificliving.com, or visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/1066.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$800-\$1060. Call for move-in specials! Studios and 1 bedrooms. Cedar Shores Apartments. 858-274-9680. www.sunriseliving.com

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250, deposit \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice downstairs end unit. Hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking. 1570 Reed Street. Available now. No pets! Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7433.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, gas stove, dishwasher. 2 blocks to ocean. 2 parking spaces. 5244 La Jolla Mesa Drive. 619-338-8138.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Parking. Beamed ceilings. Upstairs. Gas stove. 1 block to bay. 1220 Pacific Beach Drive #4. 619-338-8138.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. Sublease spacious studio until 7/31. Private, lush courtyard, pool, parking, laundry. Beach 4 blocks, bay across street. Available immediately. 858-272-2305.

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1-car garage included. Available 1/1/04. 1048 Turquoise. Call to see. John A. Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, parking, dishwasher. Also, 1 bedroom plus den, \$975. No pets, 6-month lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath beach condo. View. Quiet. New, beautiful plush carpet, freshly painted. Laundry. Parking. Pool. 4944 Cass Street. 858-220-6422.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150 and \$1200. North Pacific Beach. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Parking, laundry. Quiet. Call Robert, 858-273-3121.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom, North Pacific Beach. 1-1/2 blocks to the beach. Parking, laundry. Quiet. Call Robert, 858-273-3121.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, month to month. 858-552-2550 x335.

PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA. Ocean/bay views! Studios, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$875. Low deposits! 2 blocks to beach. Assigned garage parking. Security. Laundries. Balconies. Pool. Spa. Fitness room. Dishwashers. Near shopping, restaurants! La Jolla Pacific Apartments, 840 Turquoise Street. Call toll free: 1-866-813-5680. www.pacificliving.com, or visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/1066.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, large rooms, dishwasher. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Parking and laundry. Call Robert, 858-2732-3121.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800-\$1060. Call for move-in specials! Studios and 1 bedrooms. Cedar Shores Apartments. 858-274-9680. www.sunriseliving.com

PACIFIC BEACH. After holiday deals! Big studios! Tropical, laundry, pool, parking. \$749 and up. No pets. Welcome home! 858-536-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250, deposit \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice downstairs end unit. Hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking. 1570 Reed Street. Available now. No pets! Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7433.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, gas stove, dishwasher. 2 blocks to ocean. 2 parking spaces. 5244 La Jolla Mesa Drive. 619-338-8138.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Parking. Beamed ceilings. Upstairs. Gas stove. 1 block to bay. 1220 Pacific Beach Drive #4. 619-338-8138.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. Sublease spacious studio until 7/31. Private, lush courtyard, pool, parking, laundry. Beach 4 blocks, bay across street. Available immediately. 858-272-2305.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850/\$1395. Studio and 2 bedroom. Just steps to bay! Very spacious with parking and laundry facilities. 1327-1335 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-274-2894.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ask about move-in special! \$925. Outstanding 1 bedroom in warm garden setting, walk to bay. On-site parking. 1542-1/2 and 1546-1/2 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-5500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, parking, dishwasher. Also, 1 bedroom plus den, \$975. No pets, 6-month lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. Super spacious, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1 block to beach. Garage, laundry facility, balcony. \$1495. 4321 Cass #10. 858-270-5500.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2395. Quiet neighborhood. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1 large bath. Private entrance in large home. Huge kitchen. Attached living room. Private large yard, patio. Includes washer/dryer. Dishwasher, cable, HBO, water, gardener, housekeeping. No smoking. Available 2/1. 858-270-2922.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated access. Block to beach. Close to shopping and dining. Available now! 853 Thomas Avenue. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1075. Sunny, upstairs 1 bedroom duplex. Private garage. Appliances. Laundry. Close to bay and park. 3722 Ingraham. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA. \$2295. Charming spacious 3 bedroom duplex. Fireplace, appliances, laundry hook-ups, 2 parking spaces. Incredible outdoor patio, short stroll to best sandy beaches. 4981-1/2 Crystal. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. Sparkling 1 bedroom apartment in fabulous location, just steps to the best beach. Includes appliances. Parking. 726 Emerald Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. Roomy 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment. All appliances. Walk-in closet. Private patio. Parking. Excellent central location. 1827B Missouri Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1750. Charming 2 bedroom house. Private garage, laundry hookups. Appliances. Fenced yard. Steps to bay and park. 1733 La Playa. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Available now! Near beach and Bay. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 off-street parking spots. Laundry on site. 1134 Thomas #A. 858-272-5402.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, garage. 1 of 3 quiet units behind 1852. Available 12/1. 1854 Chaldecony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1225. Upstairs 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Quiet building. Available 12/15. 1768 Thomas Avenue. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, balcony, coin laundry. Parking. Available 12/20. 2018 Reed Avenue. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1175. Large, upstairs 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, vaulted ceiling. Coin laundry. Parking. Cat OK with additional deposit. Available 12/24. 2152-1/2 Reed. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$895. Upstairs, large

4111-1/2 Ingraham Street. Pacific Crown Villas. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 2 bedroom. \$1200. First floor. Off-street parking. No pets. Laundry. Available 1/16. 4021 Lamont Street. Manager, 858-274-8351; 858-967-9966; e-mail: andrew@ohanafinance.com

PACIFIC BEACH. \$650. Studio. Includes laundry and utilities. Furnished/unfurnished. Peaceful garden setting. Available immediately. 858-483-4372.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. Large one bedroom apartment in quiet, intimate complex. First floor. Laundry facilities. 2125 Reed Avenue. 858-273-2623.

PACIFIC BEACH. One week free! 1 bedroom, upstairs. Laundry on site, 1 parking space. 619-435-7393 or 619-435-3830.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Quiet neighborhood. Private patio. Wetbar. Washer/dryer. 2 fireplaces. Appliances. 1932 Missouri #5. 619-697-1660.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Upstairs 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Garage, laundry, jacuzzi, dishwasher, fireplace. Credit check required. Available mid-January. Move-in special: \$100 off first month's rent! 1770 Grand Avenue. 858-274-8644.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath large house, electric garage, large park-like yard, fireplace, washer/dryer, workshop. 4 blocks to beach. \$2300. 1140 Diamond. 619-665-1474.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395, 2 bedroom. All new. Prime upstairs laundry. Parking. No pets. Nonsmoking. Available now. Call 619-275-2681 or 619-518-4116.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2200. Large 3 bedroom, 1 bath across from ocean. Views. Steps to beach. Laundry room. Available January 1. 760-634-1746 or 858-270-2407.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath condo. Fully equipped kitchen. Private patio, 2 parking spaces, pool. No pets. 4647 Pico #105. 619-276-4060.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1175 plus \$1175 deposit. Huge 2 bedroom, balcony. Parking, laundry, water/gardener paid. No dogs. 2130 Grand #8. Open house Sunday, 1/4, 2-3pm. 619-224-7583.

PACIFIC BEACH. Newly painted and landscaped building, laundry on site, minutes to beach, pets OK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1325. Call 858-454-8857 x301.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2495. Townhouse, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-car garage plus large storage area. Fireplace, hardwood floors. Gorgeous! No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management. 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1280. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment. Near bay. Fireplace, patio, parking, quiet. No pets. 2114 Thomas Avenue. 858-270-1243.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. Nonsmoking. Must see! 2003 Emerald Street #4. 619-226-0393.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. Stunning 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Sits on sand. Hardwood floors, fully upgraded, large balcony, bay view, parking, laundry, cat OK. 4007 Everts Street. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint. Parking. Gated complex. Walk to bay. Laundry. No pets. 3895 Riviera Drive. K & R Properties. 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. Studio. Fully furnished. Microwave. Patio, parking. Cat OK. Available early January. 4038 Promontory Street. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$895, \$450 deposit. 1 bedroom with parking. No pets. 6-month minimum lease. 1541 Oliver Avenue. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studios \$625-\$695 includes utilities. Kitchen with stove, refrigerator. Blinds, carpet, parking, laundry room. Near Mission Bay Park. Freeway access. 858-272-2689.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2000. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Washer/dryer. Yard. Parking. Close to beach. Available approximately 1/12. 1404 Thomas Avenue. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath ground floor apartment with garage space. Laundry on site. Available now. 3728 Ingraham Street. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$699-\$750. Studio. Utilities included. Newly refurbished, laundry on site, parking. Available now! 3755 Ingraham Street. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to bay, laundry on site. Quiet location. Available early January. 3925 Haines Street. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$900-\$1250. 1 and 2 bedrooms. Includes microwave, dishwasher, off-street parking, laundry facility, water and trash. No pets. 1792 Missouri. Call 858-344-3600.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and garage! Hardwood floors, near bay/Crown Point. Available now! 3769 Promontory Street. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$775. Studio. New kitchen and new appliances. Laundry on site. Walk to the bay. Quiet. 3919 Haines Street. Available approximately 1/12/04. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1100. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Carport, storage, laundry, rooftop deck. 2 blocks bay. Small complex. Cat OK. Available now. 858-204-8116.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. Great 1 bedroom apartment, upstairs with hardwood floors, street parking, laundry on site, beach/bay and freeway close. 4555 Bond Street #L. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$900. Large 1 bedroom, new bathroom, new carpet. Security building, parking. No smoking. No pets. 1645 Emerald. Available 1/1/04. Excellent credit only. 858-483-0357.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2800. 4 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Off-street parking. Laundry. Balcony. Across from bay. 3945 Gresham. 858-273-4820 or 619-203-6433.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750. studio apartment. Off-street parking. No pets. 6-month lease on approved credit. Available 1/2/04. 4220 Noyes. 858-274-2723. 909-769-9303.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs unit in very well-maintained complex. Great easy access location. Laundry, parking. No pets. 1919 Hornblend Street. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. Upstairs, behind home. Small fenced yard. Large kitchen. 3 blocks from ocean. No pets/smoking. Agent, 619-234-9553.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in small complex. Great location near Crown Point. Coin Laundry. 1 covered parking. 1811 Pacific Beach Drive. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit in excellent location. One block to Henry's Market and Garnet shops. Coin laundry. No pets. 1236 Felspar. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs, quiet. Small complex. Close to beach. No pets. Available now. 2121 Thomas #1. Move-in special! 858-483-5111.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in small complex. Upper unit. No laundry or off-street parking. 1 car garage available. 2009 Thomas. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. "Entertainer's Dream." 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo with 2-car garage. Granite kitchen countertops and bar with GE Monogram built-in refrigerator and 32 bottle wine cooler. Beautiful pool table and patio jacuzzi included. Hardwood floors, dishwasher, washer/dryer. \$2600/monthly. 619-884-8794.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$900. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath with pool, parking and laundry. No pets. Close to Crown Point Shores. 3860 Haines. Manager, 858-272-9635.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$895-\$925. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 blocks to Crown Point Shores. Parking, pool, laundry. Very well-maintained property. 3883 Jewell Street. Resident manager, 858-272-0068.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in garden setting. Easy access location. Pool, recreation room, laundry. No pets. 2710 Grand Avenue. Resident manager, 858-273-8657.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large 1 bedroom condo in oceanfront building. 10'x30' patio, underground parking, pool, sauna. \$1250 includes cable. 800-432-9004.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. Ocean view! 860 Missouri, Apartment D. Studio. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Utilities included. Clean, well maintained. Available 1/10/04. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1925. 946 Opal Street, #1. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Off-street parking. Laundry in complex. Blocks to beach. Available 12/27. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$740, utilities paid. Studio. Refrigerator, stove. Low fee. Free guest search at: www.sdrentals.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Will consider small pet. Stove, dishwasher, microwave. Low fee. Free guest search at: www.sdrentals.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment at 1025 Sapphire Street. \$945. Close to beach! Agent, 619-229-2440.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$930. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage-style, fenced yard, stove, refrigerator, blocks to beach. 2027 Grand Avenue. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1200. 2 bedroom. Just 2 blocks to bay! Parking, on site laundry. Cat Okay. 2073-1/2 Oliver Street. Manager, 858-483-6190.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse with bay and ocean view! Light and airy! Block to Sail Bay. Vaulted ceilings. Skylight. Ceiling fan. Fabulous sundeck! Laundry and garage available. \$1695. 858-270-2787.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Walk to beach. 4751 Mission Blvd #7. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Deposit \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, off-street parking, on-site laundry, new carpet. Blocks to Mission Bay. 1480 Fortuna #2. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1400. Deposit \$1300. 2 bedroom 1 bath with stove, refrigerator, on-site laundry. Located 4402 Daves, 4 blocks to ocean. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Small 2 bedroom house with fenced rear yard. Gas appliances. Storage shed. Consider pet. 2660 Magnolia Avenue. Shore Management. 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Small 2 bedroom house with fenced rear yard. Gas appliances. Storage shed. Consider pet. 2660 Magnolia Avenue. Shore Management. 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 2 parking spaces. Gas appliances. New carpet and paint. Excellent condition. No pets. 1445 Chalcedony Street. Shore Management. 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath duplex near bay! Large eat-in kitchen, 2-car off-street parking. January occupancy. 1522 Reed. 619-997-8614.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home. 1/2 block to beach. Fully furnished, hardwood floors, yard. Washer/dryer. No pets/smoking. Quiet. Available now. 858-483-5151.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Private setting. Fireplace, dishwasher. Off-street parking. Clean, well maintained. 1747 Hornblend, #D. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

PARADISE HILLS/BONITA, north. Move-in special! 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$925-\$1135. Beautiful gated community with pool, spa. Gated parking. Tennis courts. Fitness center and Fireplaces. Close to shopping,

bus lines and more! www.sunriseliving.com. 2835 Alta View Drive. 619-267-2843.

PARADISE HILLS. \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage, enclosed patio. 2735 Keen Drive. Agent, 619-423-9150.

PARADISE HILLS. \$1200. 2 story, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage, private park, pool. New kitchen and carpet. Close to I-54 and I-805. Section 8. 619-426-3340.

POINT LOMA. \$500 off! Ask about manager special! 2 bedroom, 1 bath single-level homes. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2-story townhomes from \$1220. Private patios, fenced yards available! 8 pools, spa, fitness center, volleyball, basketball courts. Pet friendly! Close to beaches, freeways, shopping. 888-777-1280 or lpa@american-assets.com. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2082.

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. \$600. Room in luxury building. Panoramic ocean view. All amenities. Microwave, refrigerator, parking, laundry. Available now. 619-226-4010.

POINT LOMA. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony. Quiet street, dishwasher. No pets. Off street parking. 4467 Valeta #5. 619-225-2372; 858-488-4919; 619-297-5100.

POINT LOMA. \$895 plus utilities, cable/internet. Guest quarters: Living/eating area bedroom, computer room, bathroom. New refrigerator. Furnished. Small enclosed yard, off-street parking. Near Sub Base, PLNU. Quiet. Nonsmoker. Available January 1 or before. 619-222-8489.

POINT LOMA. Large, newly renovated apartments with private patios. 1 bedrooms at \$895, 2 bedrooms at \$1185. A must see, convenient to I-5 and I-8. No pets. Call 619-987-5700. www.thejohncollinscompany.com.

POINT LOMA. \$725. 1 bedroom, upper, new carpet, paint, laundry. Near downtown, Point Loma. Available 12/15. 2830 Keats Street #H. 619-222-9308.

POINT LOMA. \$1500. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, wet bar. Washer/dryer. Private balcony, gated underground parking, in village. Walk to Shelter Island. Call to see! 1312 Locust Street. Selected pets considered with deposit. Available 1/1/2004. John A. Reis and Company, Inc. 858-272-1348.

POINT LOMA. From \$1075. Beautifully appointed 1 and 2 bedroom apartment homes. Pool, spa, view deck, fitness center, media room, gated parking. Gorgeous gated community. 3950 Leland. 619-223-1390.

POINT LOMA. \$1995. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. Washer/dryer hook-ups, dishwasher, fireplace, community pool, garage. 2314 Caminito Recordo. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

POINT LOMA. Nice area, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, new carpet, cable TV. Patio, near airport, parks, upstairs. \$850. \$300 deposit. Available 1/8/2004. Lorenzo, 619-523-1015.

POINT LOMA. \$1995. Bay view, 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Garage plus large storage area, laundry hookups. Gardener. Pet considered. 619-225-0046.

POINT LOMA. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, stove, refrigerator, parking, laundry. 3033-1/2 Hugo Street. Call today, Real Properties, 619-223-2244.

POINT LOMA. 2 weeks free rent move-in special! \$850, 1 bedroom. Very clean! New carpet and appliances. Pool. Select pets welcome. Garages available. Good credit a must! Monterey Apartments, 2551 Worden Street. 619-224-8806.

POINT LOMA. \$1195. 2 bedroom duplex, utilities paid. Cat ok, near Shelter Island. Garage, stove, refrigerator. Laundry hookups. Water/gardener paid. Agent, no fee. 619-223-2524.

POINT LOMA. \$1300 rent. \$800 deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Bay, ocean, Sea World view, 2 parking spots. Fireplace, microwave, balcony. No pets. 3823 Nipomia Place. 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA. \$750 rent. \$500 deposit. Upper 1 bedroom. No pets. At 1651 Scott Street. 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA. \$825 rent. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment. No pets. Open daily 10am-5pm at 2625 Camulos #5. 619-523-1453.

POINT LOMA. \$1025 rent. \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. New carpet. 1 off-street parking spot. No pets, at 2836 Avenida De Portugal (West of Shelter Island Drive). 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA. \$2400. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Wooded area. Near Point Loma College. Yard. Pets on approval. 717 Silvergate. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

POINT LOMA. \$995. 1 bedroom second floor unit in a beautiful gated community. Air conditioner, pool, tennis courts. On-site laundry. Holiday special! 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

POINT LOMA. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath at Point Loma Tennis Courts. Pool/spa, recreation room, volleyball and tennis courts. On-site laundry. 619-291-5555 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

POINT LOMA. \$1375. Refurbished 1200-square-foot 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse apartment. Imported ceramic tile floors in entry hall, kitchen/breakfast room and baths. Private patio. Pool. Saunas. No pets. Digital cable, high-speed Internet available. bsrtrr@earthlink.net; 619-226-8158.

POINT LOMA. 1/2 off first month! Studios. \$725 and up with utilities. Pool, spa, laundry, business center, underground parking. Indoor cats OK. Near Shelter Island. The Pointe at La Playa, 1021 Scott Street. 619-223-2221.

POINT LOMA. \$1675. Nonsmoking, no pets. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 garage/parking, laundry, appliances, balcony. Private, spacious. Fireplace, loft, storage. January. Chatsworth. Terrie, 619-223-8537.

POINT LOMA. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony. Quiet street, dishwasher. No pets. Off street parking. 4467 Valeta #5. 619-225-2372; 858-488-4919; 619-297-5100.

POINT LOMA. \$2200. 3 bedroom Spanish-style house, hardwood floors, large rooms, fireplace, basement with washer/dryer hookups, fenced backyard, off street parking, available 1/1/04. 3046 Fenelon Street. 619-222-0541.

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POINT LOMA. Million dollar view! Magnificent duplex. 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit, 2-car garage, \$2800. 1 bedroom unit, \$1400. Gardener. Gina, 619-231-2727.

POINT LOMA. Much desired Park Point Loma condo, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage, fireplace, covered patio, 3 pools, spa. Available 2/1. \$2200. 619-889-5554.

POINT LOMA. \$925, deposit \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace, vaulted ceiling, on-site laundry, underground parking. 2833 Cadiz #7. 619-223-0047.

POINT LOMA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, bright sunny condo with balcony. Heated pool, tennis, gym, jacuzzi, security, reserved parking. Available 1/1. \$975/month. 619-523-4356.

POWAY. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Huge den, washer/dryer. Yard, large fenced pool, jacuzzi. Cable ready. Everything close. Quiet. \$1850. Pets OK. 858-679-0614; 858-231-3511; 858-231-3416.

POWAY. Now available. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit for \$890. 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit for \$990. Beautiful community with pool, spa. Laundry facility and close to shopping and more. www.sunriseliving.com. For more information, call 858-748-9092.

POWAY/SABRE SPRINGS. \$1200/month plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Balcony, washer/dryer, refrigerator, fireplace, covered parking, pool, spa. Available 1/1. Scott, 858-442-7268.

RAMONA. \$2000. Newer San Diego Country Estates. Quiet country living. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, 3-car garage, nice fenced yard. No pets. 815-269-1902.

RANCHO BERNARDO. Move in in December, no rent until February. The Villas at Camino Bernardo, village estate nestled in a park-like setting offering: 1 bedrooms from \$1010. 2 bedroom from \$1245. Quality customer service. Heated pools/spa, tennis courts, easy freeway access. Near shopping/golf course. 1-866-578-6766. www.sdreader.com/rent/2085.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$1300. Large, private 2 bedroom, 2 bath end unit condo. Newly remodeled. Patio, golf view, assigned parking, laundry. Club, pools. Water paid. 858-613-9243.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$2100/month. Luxury gated community. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2-car, gardener, fireplace, hardwoods. Amazing facilities with pool. Must see. Available 2/1. 858-549-1222.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$1650. December rent free! 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Gated community. Tennis courts, pool, washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator, garage, recreation area. 858-485-8588, x14.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$1425. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, 1-car garage. 11390 Matinal Circle. Agent, 619-300-1020; 619-528-4200.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 1650 square feet. Lots of upgrades, gardener included. Pet ok. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Newer carpet/paint. Garage, pool. 619-347-4527; 619-528-4200.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1995. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, single-story detached home. Remodeled, light, neutral. New kitchen appliances. Pictures at www.ilovedelmar.com. Alison Blake, 858-755-8580 x9.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, all appliances, dishwasher, washer/dryer, spa, tennis, balconies, view, carport. No pets. 2908 Alanwood Court. 619-698-6911.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1000 square feet, covered parking, all appliances, fireplace. Available now. Call Joe, 619-342-5580.

ROLANDO. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage. Washer/dryer. Gated

\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

community. 4165 Mandarin Terrace. 619-640-7530.

SABRE SPRINGS. La Cresta Townhome. \$1700. 2 bedrooms and loft (or 3 bedrooms), 2-1/2 baths, 2-car garage, all appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, air conditioning, small backyard, pool, spa. 858-673-7319.

SABRE SPRINGS. \$1250. Upper bright 2 bedroom. Fireplace, air conditioning, pool. No pets please. 10905 Sabre Hill Drive. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

SAN CARLOS. 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, fireplace, huge backyard, air conditioning, remodeled kitchen/bath, cul-de-sac, non-smoking. \$1895. Available now! 619-255-3288.

SAN CARLOS. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Balcony with view, newer tiled bathrooms, pool/spa. Great for roommates! No pets. Available now. 619-807-8278.

SAN CARLOS. 1 bedroom, \$975. 2 bedroom, \$1250/up. Spacious rooms. Near golf. Pool. Spa. Air conditioning. Recreation room. Sauna. San Carlos Townhome Apartments. 619-460-8343.

SAN DIEGO, SOUTH. \$850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$700, 1 bedroom. Clean, new carpet, tile, and blinds. Laundry room on premises. 2818 Clay Avenue. 619-233-4182.

SAN DIEGO., SOUTH. \$1125. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large unit apartment. Gated. Laundry facilities parking. \$1125. 1/2 off first month. Hilltop Drive/Fremont. 619-584-5900.

SAN DIEGO. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with garage and huge backyard. \$1,100/month, \$1,000 security deposit. No pets please. Call 619-795-3682.

SAN DIEGO/Chollas View. \$1395. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with hardwood floors, 1-car garage, fenced yard and spa. Centrally located to Highway 94. 5528 Fredonia Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

SAN MARCOS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper-level, private end unit. Great western views, pool, spa, tennis court. Near CSUSM, Lake San Marcos. 760-599-9889.

SAN MARCOS. \$850. New Year special, \$200 off! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Like new, view balcony. Extra storage. No pets. 228 North Las Flores Drive. 760-599-0989.

SAN MARCOS. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Attached garage, patio, pet ok. Refrigerator, dishwasher/washer included. Pool and playground. Available 1/15/04. 858-503-6920.

SAN MARCOS. \$1575. San Elijo Hills Community. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Full kitchen, washer/dryer, refrigerator, garage, pool/spa. 858-204-4046.

SANTEE. \$1200. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly redone, near park, very nice. Quiet complex. Appliances including washer/dryer. Quick to San Diego and SDSU. Pet possible. Daniel, 619-546-9644.

SCRIPPS RANCH. Why would you live any place else? No more laundry room; washer/dryer included! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1225 and up. \$500 deposit. Please ask for our move-in special. Cats welcome. Call now, 858-549-8036.

SERRA MESA. \$1700/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Swimming pool, beautiful complex, new paint. Upstairs unit with balcony. Section 8 accepted and approved. Please call 858-531-4668.

SERRA MESA. \$1199, \$1000 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath condo. Appliances, air conditioning, laundry, pool, spa, carport. Quiet complex. No pets. Section 8 OK. 858-974-1361.

SERRA MESA. 2100 square foot home, living/dining room, large family room with fireplace. 3 large bedrooms, central air conditioning/heat, garage, large backyard. 858-277-6240.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS/GOLDEN HILL. \$650. 1 bedrooms. Beautiful senior building. Gated building, underground parking. Near new ballpark. 2030 Island. See manager, #1. 619-584-5900.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS. \$800, 1 bedroom cottage. \$1200, 2 bedroom refurbished cottage. Street parking. Near bus/downtown. 2231 L Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, cul-de-sac. Laundry. Finished double garage. Skylights. Terraced patio garden. Nonsmoking. Pets negotiable. Near beach. Available now. 858-793-7115.

SOLANA BEACH. \$3500. Ocean view. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath cliffside condo. Fully remodeled and furnished (contemporary) includes: private jacuzzi, fireplace, private 2-car garage and storage. Private access to beach. Available immediately. 858-481-8709. simypearson@yahoo.com.

SOLANA BEACH. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath nice house. Laundry, fireplace, dining, hardwood floors, covered patio, large yard, garage. Great neighborhood! Pets OK. References. 619-236-1836.

SOLANA BEACH. Studios. Location, location, location! Steps from the beach and Cedros Design District. Full kitchen and bath, breakfast bar, ceramic tile, patios, balconies. \$985/up. Terrific move-in special! Please call for appointment, 858-755-1466.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1900. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Pet OK. 1363 square feet, 2-car garage, 818 Viva Court, Agent, 858-755-1139, www.scuba-rentals.com.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. Garage, appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace. No smoking/pets. 858-354-6032.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1595, lease. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2-story, attractive duplex. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, nice patio/yard, balcony. Garages. Cul-de-sac. 841 Mola Vista. 858-755-1819.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1500. Bright 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet/paint. Garage, steps to Del Mar Shores beach. Walk to restaurants and stores. 858-481-8276.

SORRENTO VALLEY. 2-story home. Quiet cul-de-sac neighborhood. 3 bedroom plus office. 2.5 bath. 2-car garage. Furnished or unfurnished. Gardener. Pets upon approval. \$1950. 858-587-2841.

SORRENTO VALLEY. \$1700. 2 bedroom, 2-1/4 bath. Dishwasher, washer/dryer, air conditioning, private patio, fireplace. Parking. Amenities included. 7345 Calle Cristobal. Available now. K & R Properties, 858-490-1600. www.kandrproperties.com.

SOUTH PARK. \$775. Bright 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, yard, large kitchen, stove, refrigerator, on canyon, quiet, no pets/smoking. 858-279-4320.

SOUTH PARK/GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom cottage. Very cute. Great location! Hardwood floors, built-ins, breakfast nook, washer/dryer. 1912 Fern Street. Cat OK. \$1250. 619-379-2642.

SPRING VALLEY. New home! 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Huge lot. Luxury gated community. 2800 square feet. 3-car garage, pool, gardener. Incredible view! Pets OK. \$2200. 1/6/04. 619-274-2977.

SPRING VALLEY. Casa de Oro. \$300 off Move-in specials! From \$795, 1 and 2 bedrooms. Pool. Laundry. Parking. 3536 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard. 619-670-5910.

SPRING VALLEY/RANCHO San Diego. \$2100/month. Beautiful 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Nice area with pool, tennis, basketball court. 619-670-6097.

SPRING VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$975/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150. Air conditioning, new carpet, new paint, upgrades throughout. Off-street assigned parking. Upstairs units. Gated or security camera. No dogs. 2 locations to choose from. Call 619-440-4607.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1485. Large 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2 story. Fenced yard, garage, family room. All new carpet, paint, kitchen, stove, dishwasher, refrigerator. See it, you'll want it! 2810 Rosedale Place. Agent, 619-855-0244.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1250. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New paint, carpet, spa. Fee. Rent Ready. 858-505-4848.

SPRING VALLEY. 2 bedroom condo with loft, \$1400. Fireplace, attached garage, new carpet, patio. 619-300-1020; 619-528-4200.

TALMADGE. \$825. Move-in special! 1/2 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool. Gated community. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 4555 51st Street. Call Alfredo at 619-583-0427. 858-571-1970, Sunriseliving.com.

TALMADGE. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Available now. Gated, quiet, carport, patio, landscaped, all utilities included. 4630 Altadena Avenue. 858-245-4558.

TALMADGE. \$725. 1 bedroom. Quiet. Laundry facilities. Near bus. 4441 52nd Street #5. 619-528-8224.

TALMADGE. Move-in special, first month's rent moves you in! \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated community. Immaculate. Beautiful landscaping. On-site laundry. Garage included. 4447 49th Street. 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

TALMADGE. \$1075. Modern, airy, upstairs 2 bedroom/2 bath in small, appealing building with new paint and refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, carpeting, balcony. Laundry facilities. 2 covered parking spaces. Perfect for roommates. On 49th Street above El Cajon Boulevard with easy access to I-8, Fairmount and SDSU. 858-695-1663.

TALMADGE. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Laundry on site. Garage. Pets negotiable. \$750 deposit/\$500 pet deposit. 4469 Euclid Avenue, at Monroe. Drive by first. 858-273-0344.

TALMADGE. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper with beautiful wood floors in small,

clean complex. Laundry onsite. 4533 Contour Boulevard #7. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

TALMADGE. \$725. 1 bedroom, new carpet, new paint, new floors, new vinyl floors, new window coverings. Gated complex, assigned parking. Available now. 4424 51st. 858-483-5111.

TALMADGE/KENSINGTON. \$1595. 1400 square feet. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car, laundry room, security alarm, hardwood floors, fenced yard. Tile kitchen and bath. Quiet neighborhood. Beautiful home. Plenty of parking. 4579 50th Street. Available 2/1. 619-269-0186; 619-696-6745.

TIERRASANTA. \$720-\$800. Senior only. 1 bedroom. Laundry room, recreation room, parking. Near bus/market. 4906 La Cuenta Drive. Centre City Property Management, 858-278-4910.

TIERRASANTA. 10476 Orozco Road. 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath house plus bonus room, 2-car garage. Available now. No pets. \$1975/month. Agent, 858-292-3957.

UNIVERSITY CITY. \$1900. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Upgrades, remodeled, airy, view, immaculate, quiet, 2 car, fireplace, gardener. No pets. Available January 5. 858-453-0871; 714-893-4879.

UNIVERSITY CITY. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, The Park Condos. Private patio and deck. Pool, garage, laundry on site. 6182 Atee Street, unit #203. 858-488-9611.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS/Mission Valley View. Condo. Top floor, gated building, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, new washer/dryer, balcony, spa, 2 parking. \$1325/month; \$1000 security. 4790 Arizona Street #316. 858-292-1773.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Cottage, \$950. 1 bedroom, mint condition, garage, hardwood floors, lots of charm, on-site laundry. Available 1/1/04. 4543 North Avenue. 619-778-8888.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint and carpet. Fee. Rent Ready, 858-505-4848.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment in a small, quiet complex. Unit features newer appliances, ceramic tile countertops, new bathroom fixtures, new vinyl kitchen and bath. Bedroom has mirrored closet doors and ceiling fan. On-site laundry and off-street parking. Available 1/1/04. 4568 Idaho Street. 619-725-3648 or 619-846-6615.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$700. 1 bedroom. Small, unique, unit. Available 1/5. 4656 Park Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$795. Excellent 1 bedroom upstairs and newly remodeled. Great gated community with private parking and on-site laundry. Call 858-382-9600. www.4525Texas.com

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. 1 bedroom apartment. Close to all. Laundry room. Parking. 4533 North Avenue. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeeccompany.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1095. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Lots of personality. Our community is filled with mature, beautiful landscaping and our apartment homes are filled with amenities. Available mid January. Uptown Gardens. 1624 Adams Avenue. Call 619-295-5778 or 858-571-1970. Sunriseliving.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$850. This amazing community features apartment homes with hardwood flooring or new carpet! Gated access and off-street parking for privacy. Select units feature private patios. Cat friendly! Please call us at 619-282-3308. Suncrest Apartments, 3060 Suncrest Drive. We are looking forward to meeting you! Sunriseliving.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$765. Large 1 bedroom, upper. New carpet. Bright and sparkling clean! Parking, laundry. Owner on site. Available. Credit check required. No smoking. 619-280-8832.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Studio, \$650. Upstairs. Older building in great neighborhood. Off street parking. Laundry, 1834 Mission Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. New carpet. Appliances included. Clean. Bright. Close to Adams. Available first week of January. 4526 Ohio. 619-995-9995.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1275. Cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, new paint, great floor plan, situated in a clean, quiet complex. Washer/dryer hookups. Available now! 4632 North Avenue. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1000. 3 bedroom, 1 bedroom. Upper unit in small complex. Laundry and parking. 1919 Mission Avenue #1923-1/2. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Air conditioning. Walk-in closets. Laundry. Assigned parking. Small pets OK. Available now. 2405 Adams Avenue. 619-297-0269.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Very quiet. Laundry. No pets/smoking. Great location. Available now. 1548 Monroe Avenue. Agent, 619-685-3960.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS/HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 full bath, sunny unit with 2 balconies. Walk-in closet. Approximately 1000 square feet, treetop view. Corner unit. 2 secure parking spaces. Call 619-282-4102.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1300. Nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer, fireplace, 1-car garage. Nice, quiet neighborhood. No pets. 619-583-8147.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$725. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs, assigned parking,

24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 125.

laundry on site, quiet. Available now. 4525 Kansas Street. 858-483-5111.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$795, deposit \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, quiet. Off-street parking, on-site laundry, stove, refrigerator. Cats ok. 4452 Louisiana Street #4. 619-804-3325.

UTC. \$2095 includes water, gas. 3 bedroom, 2 bath luxury penthouse. New Berber carpet, blinds. Washer/dryer, pool, tennis, 2-car garage, security building. 858-405-2829.

UTC. \$2400. Lovely spacious 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome in Renaissance with fireplace, garage, patio, washer, dryer, refrigerator, pool, spa. Close to shopping. No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management. 858-488-2228.

VISTA. \$2295. New subdivision. 5 bedroom, 3 full bath, 2422 square feet, 3-car garage, fireplace, phone/cable each room. Hilltop view. No smoking/pets. 858-663-8999.

VISTA. \$700 first month specials! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet/paint, air conditioner, ceiling fan, dishwasher, balcony with storage room, 2 parking spaces, laundry room, jacuzzi. 760-414-1011.

VISTA. \$850, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1000, 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. New carpet/paint, ceiling fan, patio, carport with storage, spa. 760-726-4560.

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ARIZONA. Bull Head City. Near Laughlin. Big 2 bedroom mobile home on big 60'x120' lot, only \$2000 down, \$300/month. By owner, 702-642-5951.

ATTENTION SELLERS! We'll buy your house in 11 days or pay you \$500 cash! 24 hour information: 800-398-8864, box 305.

BANK ACCOUNTS DON'T PAY 19-26% Interest. Victory Valley, High Desert real estate does (October 2002-October 2003). Call John at Prudential Tri Cities Realty, 760-217-0199.

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COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, trust deeds, mobile home notes purchased in 30 days or less. Leads/referrals honored and paid for upon closing of note. Anphi, 619-519-3498.

COUNTY PROPERTIES & Foreclosures, Inc. Don't wait! Homes available in San Diego and Riverside counties. Call your real estate agent, Melanie 760-613-6393. www.Melanie4Homes.com.

DEL CERRO, near SDSU! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo. Recently upgraded. Balcony, convenient parking, 2 pools/jacuzzis. \$239,000. Prudential California Realty, agent J.R. Sullivan, 858-735-5462.

DEL MAR 1 BEDROOM CONDO. All amenities, pool/jacuzzi, washer/dryer in-unit, 3 miles to beach, perfect condition, \$260K-\$270K, won't last! 100% financing. Agent, 858-504-5646

DOWNTOWN. Gorgeous condo in City Front Terrace. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Stated income, 10% down. \$2910/month P&I. www.C21HomesFirst.com. Call Grant, Century 21 Homes First, 760-510-1600, x303.

ENCINITAS. Highly desirable Village Park Condo. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 1459 square feet of living space, attached 2-car garage, end unit facing very large greenbelt. \$400,000. 858-722-3302.

ESCONDIDO/SAN MARCOS and Vista. 12 detached homes under \$300,000. www.C21HomesFirst.com. Call Grant at Century 21 Homes First, 760-510-1600, x303.

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LOWEST PRICED HOME in Point Loma. Extra large lot. 100% financing possible, self-employed, shaky credit workable. Quick, easy prequalification over phone. Lender/agent, 858-513-7837.

MISSION VALLEY CONDO, a desirable place to live. Only \$5940 down! P&I \$973 at 4-1/2% ARM, 4.75 APR. Agent Carole, 619-892-2018.

MOBILE HOME. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet, deck, patio, pool. Washer/dryer hookups. View. Secure. DeAnza Resort, Mission Bay. \$16,000/best. Owner, 858-490-9073.

NORTH COUNTY. Beach home, custom manufactured house, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 800 square feet. 1/2 block to ocean. Small park. Low

Professional attitude, fast learner, good reader, vocals. Giggling situations only, female, 40s. No drugs. 619-749-4797.

BASSIST NEEDED. We're melodic, heavy, grooving. Incubus, Tool, Janes. Pre demo, A&R interest, radio play, ready to blow up. Check us out: www.madhabit.com, band@madhabit.com.

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CD DUPLICATION AT STEVE Steadham's Sound Laboratory, location #1 Santee, #2 El Cajon Blvd. Steve has really lost his mind, went kookoo, gone crazy, and definitely flipped his wig! Does anyone have a straight jacket? CD's 50 cents each. 100 full-color package \$169.99, 100 black/white \$139.99. Video, DVD, mastering, professional graphics available. We guarantee the lowest prices! Open 24/7, 12-hour turnaround. 619-258-5515.

CD REPLICATION: Best price-outstanding service-finest quality. Complete package specials. Ask for Brian, 858-513-0496.

DA'BLUES. Lyric writer looking for collaborator. Blues. Tom, 619-401-0501.

DEDICATED VOCALIST looking for drummer, guitarist, bass to revive grunge. Heavily influenced by Kurt Cobain between '88-25. Only dedicated apply. Adam, 619-818-9996.

DJ SUPPLIES AND RECORDS. Singles, LPs-hip hop, house, breakbeat, drums and bass, reggae, battle breaks. Listening stations. Equipment rental/repair. Clothes-Tribal, DrunknMunky, LRG, Puma, Guerilla Union, Rocawear. 2229 Morena, 619-276-8828.

DJ, SOUND, LIGHTING and video warehouse. Sales, rentals, installations, and DJ services. Financing available. Boogie Nights, 744 Design Court #211, Chula Vista. 619-216-4770. www.boogienightsent.com.

DRUM GEAR, Remo 13" piccolo snare and stand, paid \$180, sell \$130. Sound Percussion throne, paid \$90, sell \$50. Like new. Tim, 858-974-9976 or 619-405-9161.

DRUM KIT, 5 piece with beautiful gray/blue wrap, Zildjian and Paiste cymbals, stands, bass case. \$600. 619-277-3505.

DRUM LESSONS. Learn to groove, read. Play along with a drum machine, CDs. All ages welcome. 619-296-3772.

DRUMMER NEEDED for pop-punk band. Must play Fat Wreck style punk, tour. Under 24. We have CDs, studio, gear, funding. Songs: www.pensivepunk.com. 619-561-7622.

DRUMMER WANTED FOR original rock band. Influences: Jane's, Alice, STP. Chops, dedication a must. Listen at: www.episoderock.com. Call Teri, 619-851-8130.

DRUMMER WANTED FOR foot stomping rock and roll band. Dave at day, 760-591-3644 and night, 909-302-9098.

DRUMMER WANTED. 3-piece band. Cure to Blonde Redhead, Joy Division to Fugazi, Slowdive to Interpol, Can to Do Make Say Think. www.lowcloudcover.com, 619-692-4277, lowcloudcover@yahoo.com.

DRUMMER WANTED. Varied styles, beats including blues, jazz, funk, soul, swing, Latin. Mostly originals. Female vocal lead. Sample tunes www.

VelvetCrumble.com/audio.html. Play for fun. Reliable. 858-337-9980.

DRUMMER WANTED. Heavy, loud, 3 piece. Good gear, single bass preferred. Oversize bass drum a plus. Kyuss, Sabbath, High on Fire, Motorhead. 858-456-2342.

DRUMMER WANTED. All-original rock, blues band looking for serious drummer who can maintain a steady beat. 858-503-5908.

DRUMMER WITH GREAT experience seeks working or close to working group. I play many styles: rock, funk, Latin, R&B. Covers, originals, multiple genres. Roger, 858-453-3699

DRUMS AS LOW AS \$169. End of Year Sale! Everything must go! Sunlite and Yamaha. Centre City Music, 1033 Sixth Avenue. Call 619-338-9033.

DRUMS, CONGAS, TIMBALES, bongos. First lesson free! Study rock, fusion, Latin, jazz, and classical. 619-295-7062.

DRUMS, Pearl Session Custom professional maple drums, look and sound beautiful, 1 year old, 22" kick, 10, 12, 14 toms plus arms, list \$2200, sell \$850. 858-272-5569.

DRUMS: Professional Yamaha Big Rock kit with all hardware. Excellent honey maple finish. 13, 14, 18, 24. No snare or cymbals. \$600/best. 619-846-6378.

ELECTRIC GUITAR, Yamaha, RGX620Z with tremolo, flame maple top, blue, \$200. Ibanez Soundgear 4 string bass, blue, gig bag, \$150. Both excellent condition. Ron, 760-930-0913.

EQUIPMENT. Black Fender Tornado, \$400. Marshall 4x12, 1960A cab, \$400. Sovtek Mig60 head, \$250. Everything in excellent condition. Call 619-300-5936.

EQUIPMENT. Sunn 115BH speaker cabinet, 15" Electrovoice speaker EVM-15B rated 400 watts, \$300. Ampeg SVT Classic 410HLF 4x10" speakers and a 1" tweeter, \$450. 858-573-8694.

EQUIPMENT. Yamaha TX-802, \$170. Digitech Twin Tube GFX-1, \$150. Alesis MicroLimiter, \$60. Alesis Microverb II, \$65. Roland MT-32, \$110. 858-453-3340.

EQUIPMENT. Early 1970s Kustom Tuck 'n Roll 1x15 bass amp, all original, \$250. Anvil case for 4x12 cabinet, \$200. DOD tuner, \$40. Hush IIB, \$40. 619-523-1169.

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Clutch Special \$195 from Includes: throwout bearing, pilot bearing bushings, disc, clutch cover. Most vehicles. Front-wheel drive extra. With ad. Limited time offer.

Cooling System Special \$29.95 Includes: flush radiator and up to one gallon of coolant. Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

Free Oil Change with Tune-up 4-cyl. \$29.95 6-cyl. \$35.95 8-cyl. \$44.95 Includes new plugs, inspection of parts, cap, carburetor and rotor. Most vehicles. Platinum plugs extra. With ad. Limited time offer.

Transmission Service from \$44.95 Most cars and light trucks. With ad. Limited time offer.

Air Conditioning Service \$19.95 Freon extra. Most cars and light trucks. With ad. Limited time offer.

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CLUTCH SPECIAL \$195.00

FROM

Includes: throwout bearing, pilot bearing bushings, disk, clutch cover. Most vehicles. Limited time offer. Front wheel drive extra.

FREE OIL CHANGE WITH TUNE-UP TUNE-UPS 4-CYL. \$29.95 6-CYL. \$35.95 8-CYL. \$44.95

Includes: new plugs, inspection of parts, cap, carburetor and rotor (both locations). Most vehicles to 1995. Platinum plugs extra.

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Plus parts Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

30,000 MILE SERVICE SPECIAL

Service includes:

- Maintenance tune-up
 - Oil and filter change
 - Lube chassis
 - Radiator coolant change
 - Air filter replacement
 - Fuel injection cleaning
 - Check brakes & suspension
- Most vehicles

\$179.95 4-cyl. FROM

TRANSMISSION SERVICE \$44.95

Drain & fill.

FROM

Most cars and light trucks

FULL SYSTEM FLUSH AVAILABLE.

Call for price.

LUBE • OIL FILTER \$17.95

FROM

Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.

C.V. BOOT \$39.95

FROM

Includes: boot, parts, labor, grease. 1/2 price for the 2nd boot on same axle. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE \$49.95

FROM

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SKATEBOARD RAMP. \$450 or best offer. Call 760-730-3219.

SKI RACK. Yakima/Thule holds snow-boards, locking, \$150. Barrecreater ski rack, \$50. Thule bike rack, \$150. Basket attachment, \$50. Raingutter rack, \$75. 619-226-2372.

SKI, Head Curve 15 side-cut, 170cm, Marker 5.1 bindings, Nordica Exopower FX boots, size 10. Used 2 seasons only. All for \$140. 760-944-3572.

SKIS/BOOTS. Dynastar Cobra 170 skis with Salomon bindings, Nordica NS800 boots, size 8/8.5, good condition, \$75/best. Pick up in Vista or Carlsbad, 760-598-1815.

SNOW SKIS, 190 Rossignols 750 series, Marker bindings (used once), men's 10 boots, just tuned, waxed, carrying bag and poles, everything for \$50. 619-334-7112.

SNOWBOARD, boots, bindings. Body Glove 159cm team carbon, \$160. Burton Ruler SL, 10-1/2, with Burton clip-in bind-ings, \$270. 1 hour of use, all perfect con-dition. 858-270-2157.

SNOWBOARDS BLOWOUT SALE! All new boards, boots, and bindings 25-50% off. Boards from \$125, boots from \$60, bind-

ings start at \$45. Lots of used gear on sale too. Trade in your used sporting goods for even more discount. Play It Again Sports, 1401 Garnet, 858-490-0222; College Area, 7006 University, 619-667-9499. www.playitagainsd.com.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE needs 1 partial or complete team for men's slo-pitch. Ly-man, leave message, 619-517-5791.

SOFTBALL TEAM needs a shortstop, left fielder, and first baseman for men's slo-pitch. Tom, 619-295-0385.

SURF SHOP SALE! Long boards form \$395. Full suits from \$89.95, All shorts 20% off. Limited to stock on hand. Leuca-dia Surfshop, 760-632-1010.

SURF SHOP— The best surf video selec-tion in the world is right here in San Diego County. All the rare stuff from the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s, and now. Grotto. 760-634-1920.

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SURFBOARDS WANTED! Get more cash for surfboards! Consignment/trade also. Skateboards, wetsuits, boogie boards. New and used for sale. Play It Again Sports. Pacific Beach, 858-490-0222. College Area, 619-667-9499. www.playitagainsd.com.

TENNIS ANYONE? Meet your match at the Tennis Exchange! Socials six days weekly. Seven locations. All levels. Clin-ics/lessons. Visit us online: http://sdtennisexchange.com. 619-588-8434.

TENNIS LEAGUE SAN DIEGO. Join San Diego's #1 tennis league! Year round. All skill levels. Men's and women's singles. Competitive weekly matches. 858-794-1800. www.tennisleague.com

TENNIS NETWORK. Adult mixers: Mon-day, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday nights. First visit is free. See website: www.Tennis-SanDiego.com. Call Rich for more information, 760-445-5269.

WET SUITS— FACTORY DIRECT. Full 3/2 superstretch from \$99. www.bozwetsuits.com. 858-569-6786.

\$8 CLASSIFIEDS! 24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 125.

PHOTO

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ARE YOU A PHOTO ENTHUSIAST? Post-cards and magazines want your images. Digital or film. For review call Jack War-ren, Photography For Fun, since 1991. 858-535-0787.

BUY, SELL, TRADE, CONSIGN. Nice se-lection of classic box cameras. Priced from \$15. All in good working condition. Nelson Photo. 1909 India Street. 619-234-6621.

CAMERA SHOW. Buy and sell everything photographic— used and new. Thou-sands of bargains! All equipment guaran-teed! Free appraisals. Sunday, January 4, 10am-3pm. \$4. Al Bahr Shrine Auditor-ium, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego. Information, 310-578-7446.

CAMERA SYSTEM, Hasselblad, 500C/M body with 45 prism, 50mm and 80mm lenses, A12 and A24 backs. Cost \$3500, will sell for \$2000. 858-566-0070.

CAMERA, new Sinar F 4x5, 90mm f:5.6 Schneider, 150mm Polaroid, extension

rails, bellows, holders. \$2000/best. Com-plete list available. E-mail: timw109@cox.net; 619-318-5045.

CAMERA, Nikon 6006 SLR, Tamron 28-200 zoom lens, Nikon SB25 speedlight flash and a magic lantern guide for \$275. 858-487-6520.

COMPLETE DARKROOM, \$195. Makes great gift. Includes Omega enlarger, lens, negative carrier, timer, safelight, easel, trays and tongs. With warranty. Camera Exposure, 619-640-5300.

PENTAX KX 35mm film camera. Lenses: Pentax 50mm f/1.4, 135mm f/2.5, 50mm f/4 macro. Tamron 28mm f/2.8, Vivitar flash, all good condition, \$525. Joe, 619-948-5370.

COMPUTERS

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!

APPLE POWERMAC G4 with 17" Cinema display, 733MHz, 256MB RAM, 60GB HD, combo drive, Airport, expensive soft-

ware, paid \$5200, yours for only \$1895. 858-481-5969.

ASK COMPUTER DOCTOR ON CALL. Have a tech onsite; low as \$35. We'll fix any PC problem. Upgrades, custom-built PCs. Competitive network setup/adminis-tration. 619-887-2409.

COMPUTER DESK, whitewashed work-station, like new, file drawer, printer stor-age, keyboard shelf, 30"Hx24"Dx60"W. 858-485-1453.

COMPUTER HELP? One-on-one, fast, friendly, reliable. Repairs, upgrades, training, cable/DSL, networks. Onsite or drop off, \$30/hour. Also music recording. 858-735-6680.

COMPUTER, new, in unopened box, 56K modem, 128MB memory, HD, keyboard, mouse, Linux OS, no monitor, \$145. 760-433-9166.

EXCELLENT HOLIDAY SPECIALS now on brand new computer systems, built especially for your needs. Why pay more for a name brand computer that's out-dated as soon as you turn it on, and will be twice as much to upgrade? You can get P4-2GHz, 256 DDR-RAM, 40G HDD, 128MB, graphics card, CD burner, USB, LAN, keyboard and mouse, 17" monitor, 1-year warranty... \$625. Call or e-mail now to place your order or ask about other systems. Social Computer Solu-tions, 619-572-2750 or e-mail, michaelp@socialcomputersolutions.com.

INTEL PENTIUM 4, 1500MHz, 17" View-sonic monitor, 256MB RAM, CD Writer, DVD player, Windows XP, speakers, mo-dem, ethernet card. \$475. 858-344-9308.

LAPTOP CLEARANCE. New and refurb-ished Toshiba, IBM, Compaq, HP and more. Sales, service and rentals. Call

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Axles **\$45⁹⁵**
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While you wait [45 minutes]
Plus labor (most cars). Offer expires 2/2/04.

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Free clutch inspection & adjustment while you wait!
Highest quality work at fair, competitive prices!

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GOOD YEAR TIRES 165/65R13 4 FOR **\$99*** plus tax. Many other sizes available. Call for prices.

SHOCKS/STRUTS 10% OFF Call for special price.

HEAD GASKET SPECIAL starting at **\$199*** Labor only.

CLUTCH SPECIAL starting at **\$199*** Rear wheel.

TIMING BELT starting at **\$99*** 4-cyl.

COOLING SYSTEM WATER PUMP starting at **\$129*** 4-cyl.

"Check engine" light on? FREE* diagnostic with shop repair.

REBUILT TRANSMISSION Parts extra. **\$699***

JAPANESE ENGINE REPLACEMENT starting at **\$1025*** 6-cyl., 8-cyl. extra. Call for details.

30K/60K/90K FACTORY SERVICE starting at **\$129*** 4-cyl.
• Install new plugs • Replace engine oil & filter • Check timing • Inspect air filter • Drain & refill radiator fluid • Rotate tires • Inspect brake system & adjust brakes • Replenish all fluids

BRAKE SPECIAL starting at **\$35*** Labor only.

ENGINE REBUILD starting at **\$750*** Parts extra. Most import & domestic vehicles.

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7030 Carroll Rd.
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800-208-4722
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*All offers most cars. Parts extra. Expires 1/15/04. † With repair. Call for details.

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BRAKES
Includes:
✓ Replace Pads or Shoes
✓ Check Hardware
✓ Check Wheel Cylinders
✓ Check Lines, Hoses and Seals
Semi-Metallic Extra. Ceramic Pads Available.
4x4s, Lt. Trucks and 4-Wheel Disc Extra.
Lifetime Warranty Available.

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION (Most Cars)
AS LOW AS **\$59⁹⁵**

Timing Belt **\$79⁹⁵** Most Cars.
Plus Parts. A/C Extra. Recommended Every 60,000 Miles to Avoid Costly Repairs.

New Radiator AS LOW AS **\$159** PLUS LABOR Most Cars.

CV Boot Special **\$49⁹⁵** Most Cars.
Includes Boot and Labor.

Fuel Injection Service **\$39⁹⁵** Chemically Cleaned. Most Cars.

30, 60, 90K MILE SERVICE 4-cyl. **\$139⁹⁵**
✓ Install New Spark Plugs
✓ Change Engine Oil
✓ Lubricate Chassis
✓ Inspect Fuel Filter
✓ Inspect Air Filter
✓ Rotate 4 Tires
✓ Balance 4 Tires
✓ Check Suspension
✓ Tighten and Inspect Belts
✓ Check Ignition System and Timing
✓ Clean Battery Terminals

✓ Flush Brake System
✓ Adjust Emergency Brake
✓ Inspect and Adjust Brakes
✓ Check All Hoses, Radiator and Radiator Cap
✓ Drain & Refill Cooling System
✓ Inspect Differential Fluid
✓ Check Manual Transmission Fluid
✓ Adjust Idle to Factory Specs
✓ Road-Test Vehicle

Does Not Include Timing Belt, Air/Fuel Filters, or Platinum Spark Plugs. 4-cylinder 8-plug Engines Extra. Automatic Transmission Kit Extra if Required. Most Cars & Light Trucks. Some Trucks & 4x4 Slightly Higher.

Complete Axles AS LOW AS **\$99⁹⁵**
Lifetime Warranty. Plus Labor. Most Cars.

Maintenance Tune-up AS LOW AS **\$24⁹⁵** 4-cyl.
Install New Plugs, Adjust Idle Speed*, Set Timing*, Check Filters, Check Under-Hood Components. Most Cars/Light Trucks. Transverse V-6 and Vans Extra. *Where Applicable. Additional Parts and Service Extra.

Clutch Most RWD Cars. Parts & Labor. FWD and 4WD Extra. **\$239**

Shock & Strut Special BUY THREE, GET THE FOURTH **FREE** KYB MONROE

Prices subject to change without notice.
Monday-Friday 8 am-6 pm • Saturday 8 am-5 pm
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Joe and his son, Nick, invite you to try our quality service and great prices.

Authorized Repair Facility for All Extended Warranties!
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Brakes \$39*

Labor only

- Resurface drums or rotors
- Replace pads or shoes
- Clean & service brake hardware
- Clean & repack wheel bearings
- Inspect master cylinder
- Inspect brake hoses
- Clean caliper guides
- Test-drive your vehicle

Most cars & light trucks. Add \$30 for semi-metallic. Ask about our lifetime brakes.

Oil Change & 32-pt. Inspection \$9.95*

Up to 5 quarts 10W-30. New oil filter. Most cars & light trucks.

San Diego's Most Complete 30K/60K/90K Major Service

Looking for quality? There is a difference. Compare our service with other shops.

\$139.95* 4-cyl. **\$149.95*** 6-cyl. **\$159.95*** 8-cyl.

Includes:

- Maintenance tune-up
- Drain & refill radiator
- Change air filter
- Install spark plugs (premium plugs extra)
- Inspect brakes
- Adjust rear brakes
- Change engine oil
- Change oil filter
- Change master cylinder brake fluid
- Check suspension
- Top off fluids
- Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
- Lubricate chassis
- Inspect fuel filter
- Check differential fluid
- Check manual transmission fluid
- Clean battery terminals
- Check & tighten all belts
- Rotate four tires
- Adjust tire air pressure

Most cars and light trucks. We also honor extended warranties. We follow manufacturer's service schedule on inspection. Timing belt extra. Removal of plenum, injectors, etc. extra if necessary. Platinum plugs additional.

30K • 60K • 90K Standard Service '89*

(Compare to \$99 elsewhere)

- Maintenance tune-up
- Oil & filter change
- Top off all fluids
- Radiator service
- Tire rotation
- Suspension inspection
- Brake inspection
- Inspect air and fuel filters

\$10 OFF Any 60K- or 80K-Mile Tires

4-Wheel Computerized Alignment '39*

Inspect shocks & struts, computerized printout upon request, inspect steering linkage, inspect suspension, inspect tires, inflate tires to manufacturer's specs. Most cars.

Tune-Up '24.95* 4-cyl. **\$34.95*** 6-cyl. **\$44.95*** 8-cyl.

Replace spark plugs, inspect timing, inspect ignition components for maintenance or needed replacement, top off fluids. Most cars and light trucks. Premium plugs extra.

Mufflers from '39* With ad. Plus labor. Performance exhaust systems available. Call for prices.

Performance Exhaust from \$139*

DYNOMAX, BORLA & FLOWMASTER AVAILABLE

Catalytic Converters As low as \$119*

Installed. 6-cyl. add \$20. 8-cyl. add \$30. Trucks and vans add \$40.

Fuel Injection Service

With ad. **\$34.95***

Radiator Service

Drain & Refill

Up to 1 gallon of coolant. **\$24.95***

Pre-Purchase Inspection \$25*

Axles \$85* From Plus labor. With ad.

Battery

60-month warranty. **\$34.95***

Balance & Rotation

Mag and large tires extra. **\$19.95***

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*Offers expire 1/19/04. All offers most cars.

**Within 5-mile radius.

Most cars, with any major service.



Laptops Plus Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm, Saturdays, 10am-5pm. 760-431-9114.

LAPTOP. Compaq M700 P3-1GHz, 20GB, 256 RAM, DVD@color:D drive, floppy, 56KB modem, 100MB built-in Ethernet, laptop bag, Office 2000 included. \$650. 858-382-6355.

LAPTOP. Dell Latitude notebook, Pentium III, 750MHz, 256MB RAM, 20GB HD, DVD/CD drive, swappable FD, 14.1" TFT, 56K, Windows XP, Office XP. \$595. 858-663-8915.

LAPTOP. Excellent Gateway Solo, 12" screen, 160MB RAM, CD, network car, small business software, fast, with all the goodies. \$500/best. 760-942-1754; californiadreaming003@yahoo.com.

MONITOR. Sybervision 17", \$25. View-Sonic A90 19", \$35. 2 towers, no HD. \$10. UMAX Astra 1220P scanner, \$25. Sofa chair, \$20. 858-658-0216.

PENTIUM II SYSTEM, VGA color monitor, printer, stereo speakers, Internet, \$125. 760-480-9108.

PENTIUM III 500 computer, 6.4GB HD, 128MB, CD drive, USB, sound ports, Ethernet, \$135. 17" monitor, \$35. 19" monitor, \$45. 619-368-3309.

PENTIUM II, 400MHz, 128MB RAM, 6.4GB HD, 3-D sound, CD ROM, FD, 17" monitor, keyboard, mouse, speakers, \$175. NEC 21" monitor, \$120; 17", \$45; 15", \$25. 619-887-7627.

PRINTERS. Panasonic quiet printing KX-P2123, Can Bubble Jets. BJ-200e and BJ-200ex. HP Laserjet series II. \$40 all. 619-892-2788.

BICYCLES

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BMX DYNO "BLAZE 20." Candy apple red, used condition with new tires and a Haro seat. Front brakes are missing. \$45. Carlsbad. 619-890-9600.

CERVELLO TRIATHOLON, like new, carbon blade fork, Shimano, Aero rims and spokes, shoes, clips and helmet included. Must sell. \$800/best. Scott, 858-722-6604.

GT DYNO, VFR BMX bike with 20" wheels, bike is chrome and in excellent condition. New \$275, sell for \$100. David, 858-679-6818.

HI-TECHBIKES.COM. Happy New Year to all and have we got some great deals! Save up to 50% on hi-end road bikes: Specialized, Litespeed, Merlin, Seven, Pinerello, Merckx, Moser, Carrera, Quintana Roo, Independent Fabrications, Kestrel and Look. 6162 Mission Gorge Road, suite G, behind Washington Mutual. 619-696-1311.

INTENSE M1 downhill bike frame with Chris King headset, MRP chainguide, Shimano XTR cranks, \$1350/best. Tom, 858-278-4240.

ROAD BIKE, Columbus frame, Shimano Ultegra STI, fits 5'-5'4", perfect bike for shorter wife/girlfriend, all top-level parts, \$450. 619-444-5776.

SPECIALIZED, FSR XC comp, 2001, medium, Shimano XTR/XT components, Rockshocks SID SL, fox Float, carbon bars and seatpost. Mint. Retail \$2700, sell \$800. 619-475-7323.

TRACK BIKE, Bianchi team bike, 51cm, mint green, great condition, \$300 firm. Also, new rollers, \$100. Both for \$350. 858-270-5041.

WANTED: Folding bike work stand. 858-449-5570.

WHEELS, American Classic, still in sealed box, carbon 58mm tubular, silver spokes, 650c. New \$1198, now \$780. 858-483-2122.

WHEELSET and pedals. Mavic Cosmos, new, \$250. Speedplay frog pedals, \$80. Look carbon pro pedals, \$60. Trek 5200 52cm, \$1100. All prices negotiable. 619-461-9769.

ZENTAL TANDEM beach cruiser, multi-speed, new components, Bell, front storage pack, great fun, \$600. Tim, leave message, 619-660-9779.

WANTED

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FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wood lures, reels, and miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 858-565-1756.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS/ARTIFACTS. Must be authentic. Call Steve at 619-222-8562.

MILITARY MEDALS. Many old military medals are worth hundreds of dollars. I have \$3000 cash to spend. Other old military items also wanted, especially USMC. 619-280-8089.

OLD TOYS AND TRAINS. Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, Aurora, Corgi, Dinky, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, slot cars. Buddy-L, Smith-Miller, Structo, Tonka. Old plastic vehicles: Pyro, Renwal. Dave, 858-756-2411.

SPACE TO RENT for a small trailer (8'x15'). Contact Michael, 619-896-4643.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

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ALL ANTIQUES WANTED! Cash paid. Antiques/collectibles. Also quality furniture, pianos, 1 piece or houseful. Cash paid. Same day pickup. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965. 1-800-840-4447.

OUR SERVICE IS GUARANTEED 12 MONTHS/12,000 MILES NATIONWIDE!



We Also Do:

- Brake Service
- Diagnostics
- Fuel Injector Cleaning
- Scheduled Maintenance
- Tune-up
- Radiator Service
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3 locations:

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**1191 East Main
(Between 1st and 2nd Streets)
(619) 441-8888**

**Open Sunday
9 am-3 pm**

Kearny Mesa

**8027 Balboa Ave.
(Between 163 and 805)
(858) 569-1111**

Miramar

**6594 Miramar Rd.
(At Camino Santa Fe)
(858) 450-6677**

All coupons valid at El Cajon, Balboa and Miramar locations only. Coupons must be presented at time of service.

Super \$aver

OIL CHANGE



Most vehicles. At participating locations. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Not valid for prior service. See manager for details. Exp. 2/1/04.

\$10.95 **BASIC**

Includes up to 5 qts. 10W-30 oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

\$17.95 **PREMIUM**

Basic service plus top off fluids and maintenance inspection.

\$22.95 **PREMIUM PLUS**

Premium service plus tire rotation, check and adjust tire pressure, and brake inspection.

SMOG CHECK



\$18.95

Most vehicles

Present coupon. Plus \$8.25 Cert. Bring DMV renewal slip plus \$2 transmission fee.

PASS OR RETEST FREE

Free retest when we do the repairs

Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 2/1/04.

BRAKE SERVICE



We'll replace pads or shoes, resurface drums/rotors and repack wheel bearings as needed. Lubricate backing plate and caliper anchor, top off brake fluid and inspect your brake system.

\$25 OFF

We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicle's requirements are different.

SEMI-METALLIC PARTS EXTRA

Precision Tune Auto Care

See manager for details. Extra cost may be substantial. Exp. 2/1/04.

FUEL SYSTEM SERVICE



This service can restore power and performance to your vehicle's engine while reducing emissions and increasing gas mileage.

\$59.95

Most vehicles

At participating locations. Not good with any other offer or discount. See manager for details. Exp. 2/1/04.

Precision Tune Auto Care

Attention: Honda/Acura Owners

Guess what? There is a new automotive repair shop in town. NO, REALLY—WE ARE DIFFERENT THAN MOST OTHERS!

We are a family-owned and -operated general auto repair business. Our goal is to provide top-quality, good, honest auto repair. We are not into games. We are not into trying to sell you items or services you really don't need. We just tell you like it is.

Jerry Sample, Jr. (Owner/Head Mechanic) has 12 years' automotive experience. **The last 5 years were spent working as a top mechanic at a well-known Acura dealership.**

Throughout his career, Jerry has really made a name for himself. He already has several loyal customers who will only take their cars to him. Jerry is an **ASE Master Technician**. He is **ACURA/HONDA factory trained**. However, he will tackle any car.

• Free Towing (with major repair) • 12-Month/12,000-Mile Warranty

Free Brake Inspection • Import & Domestic

Feel free to get feedback from some of our customers!

Justin Oyo

U.S. Navy

619-795-6746

Deena Hernandez

Retail Supervisor

619-517-1023

Allisandra Lee

Customer Service

858-349-4881

Ryan Salazar

Dental Lab Owner

858-603-2184

OIL & FILTER CHANGE \$16.99

With coupon. Most cars. Plus hazardous waste fee.

30K • 60K • 90K FACTORY SERVICE \$149.95

4-cyl.

Includes:

- Change spark plugs • Maintenance tune-up
- Drain & refill radiator
- Change air filter • Inspect brakes
- 4-tire rotation • Inspect suspension
- Change engine oil & filter
- Transmission drain & refill
- Install PCV valve (if applicable)
- Inspect fuel filter • Top off all fluids
- Clean battery terminals • Check & tighten all belts
- Free 38-point inspection

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Oil change \$15.99

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Brake special \$79

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Convoy Auto Repair
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Precision Tune Auto Care
\$10.95 oil change

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\$100 off camper shell

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Thao Automotive
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DESK, antique, student, 24"x41", 4 drawers, with glass top, good shape, \$100. 619-461-1946.

DINING TABLE, antique mahogany, 2 pedestals, \$275. Large antique leaded window, English, very nice, \$750. 619-423-8005.

DOWNSIZING. Wonderful antique china, stemware, sterling silver dresser set, silver boxes, containers. Vintage clothing, fabric, lace, jewelry, and more! Dealers welcome. Call for directions, 760-436-1131.

GHETTOPOLY, \$80. Star Wars Monopoly, 20th Anniversary, 1977-1997, limited collector's edition, includes numbered/dated game board and brass coins, \$35. Delivered. Leave message, 858-578-0936.

JUKEBOX, Wurlitzer, good condition, holds 45rpm records, \$1900. 619-698-8549.

LA JOLLA-PUBLIC AUCTION. Arts, antiques, Persian rugs. Everything goes! Bargain prices! 1/1/04, 1:00pm. 1/2/04, 5:00pm. 1/3/04, 1:00pm. 1/4/04, 1:00pm. 1044 Wall Street, entrance on Herschel by Dansk.

WANTED: Big game fishing reels by Vom Hofe, Meek, Milam, Kovalosky, Seamaster, Fin Nor, Zwarg, Bogdan, Hardy, Coxo. Also, pre-1960 shotgun shell boxes. Private collector. 858-496-0033.

GARAGE SALES

SanDiegoReader.com has hundreds of classified ads not printed here. Free ads can also be placed online!

EL CAJON, Big garage sale. 7:30am-noon, Saturdas, 1/10. Everything must go. Computers, electronics, clothes, and more. 501 Terra Lane (92019).

ENCINITAS. Yard sale. 7am, Saturday, 1/3. Side by side refrigerator/freezer, sofa beds, oak kitchen island, clothes, tools, antiques, kitchen stuff. 2037 Countrywood Way, 760-436-6139.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. Moving sale. 10am-3pm, Sunday, 1/4. Full size bed, dressers, bookshelf, futon, rolling closet, entertainment center, dishes, flatware. 1627 29th Street. 619-889-0799.

LA JOLLA-PUBLIC AUCTION. Arts, antiques, Persian rugs. Everything goes! Bargain prices! 1/1/04, 1:00pm. 1/2/04, 5:00pm. 1/3/04, 1:00pm. 1/4/04, 1:00pm. 1044 Wall Street, entrance on Herschel by Dansk.

FOR SALE

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APPLIANCES. Frost-clear refrigerator, good condition, \$100. Heavy-duty washer, \$100. Sunray apartment-size stove, \$100. Montgomery Ward air conditioner, window size, \$100. 619-417-7521.

APPLIANCES. Apartment-size stove, white, \$100. O'Keefe & Merritt gas stove, \$100. Admiral refrigerator, almond, \$100. Electric stove with top microwave oven, \$150. 619-341-3810.

APPLIANCES, brand new white Maytag, never been used, available 1/3. Gas cooktop, electric oven, dishwasher, microwave/hood. Retailers over \$2000, asking \$1500. 858-794-4929.

APLIANCES. All sizes refrigerator, frost free, 2 door, energy saver. Stove, washer/dryer, \$135 each. Can deliver free! Leon's Appliances. Pickup, delivery, repairs. 619-702-3270; 619-208-2210.

ARMOIRE DRESSER, pine, Swedish, unfinished solid wood valued at over \$600, sacrifice for \$300/best. 858-623-9046.

ARMOIRE entertainment center, solid oak, like new, top quality and condition, cost \$1500, must sell, \$750. 858-233-9947.

BAR STOOLS, high quality, swivel, green tops, like-new condition, 24"H, \$50/best for each. 619-944-3300.

BED \$120 A BABY-LIKE FEEL. Simmons, Sealy, Spring Air. New pillowtop mattress sets. All in plastic with warranty. Other brands available. Full from \$120, queen from \$125. 858-824-0560.

BED \$125 A QUEEN PILLOWTOP mattress set. Brand new, in plastic, with warranty. Must sell, \$125. Can deliver. San Diego: 858-688-2781. North County: 760-840-0516.

BED \$125 A BABY-LIKE FEEL. Simmons, Sealy, Spring Air. New pillowtop mattress sets. All in plastic with warranty. Other brands available. Queen from \$125, king from \$215. 858-824-0442.

BED \$139 A ORTHO-PILLOW Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. Also King, \$219. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420.

BED \$139 A BARGAIN! ORTHO-PILLOW Orthopedic mattress/box, new in plastic with warranty. Queen \$139. King \$219. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Please call 800-464-6420.

BED \$149 A CHERRY SLEIGH, beautiful solid wood, complete set, new in package. Can deliver. Credit Cards accepted. Please call 800-464-6420.

BED \$199 A BARGAIN! Orthopedic, awesome pillowtop mattress/box. New, packaged, 20-year written warranty. Can deliver. Credit cards accepted. Queen, \$199. King \$289. 619-204-0448.

BED \$199, A NEW PILLOWTOP mattress set, \$800 originally. Luxurious, extra thick, orthopedic, still in original plastic, 15-year warranty. Fast delivery. No gimmicks. 619-934-4141.

BED \$210 KING PILLOWTOP mattress set. Brand new, in plastic, with warranty. Must sell, \$210. Can deliver. San Diego:

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 - Install PCV valve (if applicable)
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Smog Check We repair failed smog and gross polluters. **\$12⁹⁵** 4-cyl. Valid with DMV paperwork. Most cars. Trucks, SUVs & vans extra.

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- 6-CYL. **\$34⁹⁵**
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LEAD STORY

— Dutch artist Iepe created the sport of chess boxing, which began in Amsterdam in November with several matches of six four-minute chess rounds alternating with five two-minute boxing rounds, with victory coming by knockout, check-mate, or, if the match goes the distance, judges’ scoring of rounds. Both the Dutch Chess Federation (KNSB) and the Dutch Boxing Federation (NBB) have endorsed the sport, and matches have been scheduled for Berlin and Moscow.

Recent Alarming Headlines

— “Mentally Disabled Taught How to Vote” — a *Mainichi Daily News* report on how employees at a nursing home in Yokkaichi, Japan, have for years instructed residents how to print out names of their favorite candidates on ballots (November). ... “Woman Gets Probation for Chasing Kids with Dildo” — Pennsylvania’s *Pottstown Mercury* reported that Linda Schultz, 36, engaged in inexplicable conduct in front of three small children and was referred for psychological counseling (October).

Great Art!

— In October, San Francisco artist Jonathon Keats, 32, registered his brain as a sculpture and began selling futures contracts on its six billion neurons, offering buyers the rights to any creative products it might produce if science learns how to keep it alive after his death. He also wrote a prospectus for investors, with MRI scans showing the idea-fertility of various brain areas. For now, he is selling inexpensive options (\$10) to buy a million neurons for \$10,000 when he dies; he sold 71 the first day.

— California lieutenant governor Cruz Bustamante (runner-up to Arnold Schwarzenegger in the October recall election) is not the family’s only public figure. As the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported in September, his sister Nao Bustamante, 39, is a prominent performance artist whose work includes (1) wearing a strap-on burrito for men to kneel before and bite in order to absolve themselves of “500 years of white man’s guilt” and (2) sticking her head into a plastic bag filled

with water and tying it around her neck to resemble a Houdini stunt, to create “an urgent situation to respond to.”

Government in Action

— According to an October *Boston Globe* profile, New Bedford, Mass., city-council candidate Raimundo Delgado is a charismatic politician despite his freely disclosed bipolar disorder, which has resulted twice in his involuntary hospitalization during the campaign. Among his proposals: to create a “city underwater”; to “free the dogs, the sheep, the goats”; to grow a tropical forest in place of local Route 18; and to give \$10,000 raises to numerous city employees that he has met. He lost the council election and an earlier mayoral election, though he did outpoll an opponent with schizophrenia.

— Norway Is Different: Lena Skarning, 33, who calls herself a witch, won a government startup grant of the equivalent of \$7400 for her Oslo-based Forest Witch Magic Consulting business (but conditioned on her refraining from casting evil spells). Said the modest Skarning in October, “I’m [just] an ordinary witch who came up with an original business idea.” ... In November, a Norwegian court ordered the government to buy a 22-year-old, 4-foot-2 man a car because of his severe anxiety about riding public transportation due to his size, which has made him the subject of taunts ever since he was a child.

— George Duncan was fired by the New York Department of Corrections in November after having taken 744 “sick” days in 15 years (for spikes of high blood pressure), none of which were ever authenticated by doctors. ... A week before that, the city of Vicksburg, Miss., took a step to alleviate its own problem with employees’ illnesses: henceforth, city workers will be expected to give 48 hours’ notice before taking sick days.

— In a November report, *The New York Times* revealed that the highly touted Houston school district (praised as exemplary by President Bush and the district’s former superintendent Rod Paige, who is now U.S. secretary of education) used apparently highly stylized statistics to show its widely admired low dropout rates and campus

crime rates. A subsequent school district audit found that “thousands” of dropouts had been left out of the earlier record, and the *Times* further found that the district’s principals had reported only 761 campus assaults in four years while the schools’ own police officers reported 3091.

— In a September story, the *Spokesman Review* reported that putting a stop sign at the Spokane, Wash., junction of Havana Street and Eighth Avenue is tricky because the intersection is subject to the jurisdiction of three different entities. West of the center line of Havana is regulated by the city of Spokane, and east of it by Spokane County, and to stop Eighth Avenue traffic heading west, permission is also needed from incorporated Spokane Valley, which controls land up to the edge of Eighth Avenue. Said resident Ed Weilep, “You get a real thrill going through that intersection.”

Update

— “News of the Weird” reported in 2001 that Dr. Stuart Meloy had inadvertently discovered a side effect of an electrical implant whose purpose is to block spinal pain: it also taps into the nerve that produces orgasms in women. By November 2003, Meloy had Food and Drug Administration approval for clinical tests of this “side effect,” but said he was having trouble attracting volunteers at his clinic in Winston-Salem, N.C. He said the only volunteer up to that point had had a terrific experience, but that at least eight more women were needed.

Extreme Piercings

— A 14-year-old boy has made a nearly full recovery after a pal slung a steel rebar rod at his face; it penetrated six inches, between his nose and lip, knocking out two teeth and piercing his tongue (Spokane, Wash., September). ... A man survived a fall from a ladder onto an 18-inch-long auger bit locked into his drill, penetrating his right eye, nudging his brain, and exiting above his ear (Truckee, Calif., August).

Politics As Usual

— (1) Sheriff John Maspero (Williamson County, Texas) said he would run for re-election in March

2004 despite being stopped in November by Georgetown, Texas, police for being drunk in public. During a previous drinking binge, according to the county attorney, Maspero was spotted crawling on all fours like a dog, barking and biting. ... (2) Recent research in an American Sociological Association publication, citing high crime rates, laws against felons voting, and felons’ political preferences, concluded that if all felons could vote, Al Gore would have won Florida by 30,000 votes in 2000.

God’s Will

— Brian Lawrence, 38, died of a heart attack five days before he was due in court to answer the charge that he and his girlfriend had had sex in New York City’s St. Patrick’s Cathedral in August 2002 as part of a radio station’s stunt (September). ... Eight people on a 16-day sight-seeing tour sponsored by their First Baptist Church of Eldorado, Texas, were killed when their bus slammed into a tractor-trailer (Tallulah, La., October). ... At least 39 Hindu pilgrims were killed in a stampede of people while waiting to bathe their sins away in the holy Godavari River in western India (August).

In the Past Month...

— A TV station reported that a state historical fund gave \$210,000 to a landlord to renovate a building whose only tenant happens to be a sex club for gay men (Denver). ... A 41-year-old California mayor who was cited for having illegally tinted car windows filed a complaint against the ticketing officer for continually referring to him as “dude” (Arvin, Calif.). ... Three 19-year-olds, who said they were bored, allegedly hacked into an Internet auction account and bought \$160 million worth of goods (including industrial machinery and airplanes) in a two-hour period (Limburg, Germany).

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to newsweird@aol.com

858-688-2781. North County: 760-840-0516.

BED \$595 BEAUTIFUL 6-PIECE set. New in box. Must sell \$595. Call 858-824-0442.

BED A CHERRY SLEIGH \$349. All-wood headboard, footboard, frame, queen orthopedic mattress/box. Brand new, sell \$349. Can deliver. San Diego: 858-688-2781. North County: 760-840-0516.

BED ALL DISCOUNT. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom, Latex, 100% organic cotton and pure wool beds and TempurPedic style memory foam beds. Our prices are

lower than department stores or chain stores. We will beat any store’s advertised price on any mattress set we carry. Careful, some classified ads seem to be from private parties but are really just low quality or reconditioned used beds. We discount high quality beds and offer a legitimate warranty. We are a member of the Better Business Bureau. Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.sandiegobeds.com or e-mail to: info@davisworld.com. Call 619-260-8000.

BED FRAME, adjusts to different bed sizes, all metal, \$18. Also, Aquarius com-

puter and game system, built-in Basic, game cartridge, never used, \$25. 858-772-2077.

BED, queen, with iron head/footboard, \$150. Sleeper sofa, \$50. Sofa, \$30. 858-457-5296.

BED, twin mattress, box spring, frame, allergy covers, 6 sets of sheets, bed skirt, only 3 years old, great condition, must sell, \$150/best. 760-639-6313.

BED. Natural wood frame with mattress. Great Sealy-Posturepedic double mattress, only 2 years old. Slight damage on

footboard. Asking \$250. After 4pm or weekends, 619-227-6281.

BEDROOM \$495. Brand-new 6-piece bedroom set, includes: queen mattress set, dresser, nightstand, bed. Can deliver. 858-688-2781.

BEDROOM FURNITURE. Bassette Company, ladies’ dresser with mirror, chest of drawers, full-size headboard, \$300. 858-270-2420.

BEDROOM. A BARGAIN! Beautiful cherrywood complete set: Sleigh Bed, Dresser/Mirror, 2 Nightstands, new in

package. Save 50%-80%. Can deliver. Credit cards accepted. 800-464-6420.

BREAKFAST NOOK, solid maple. Dimensions: L-shaped bench 52” and 67”Lx29”D; table 30”x51”, extra picnic table bench, great condition, \$250. 858-748-0242.

BUNK BED, twin, wood frame, with 1 mattress. Great condition. 760-433-3694.

CAR LUGGAGE RACK. Thule, one set mount with two 58” squarebars, two key locks, and four towers. Asking \$100/best. Contact for pictures: mteigen@pacbell.net or 858-273-2372.

CHAIRS, 4 swivel, baby blue Naugahyde, custom made, \$100. Can deliver. 858-273-7144.

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\$99^{95*}

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Prices valid for most cars. Call for price on your model.

Brakes

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION. Front or rear. Includes labor, new parts and semi-metallic pads. Machine rotors or drums. Inspect calipers, hydraulics, seals, rotors or drums. Most cars and light trucks.

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Replace clicking axles before they break. Most cars.

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CLOTHING. Women's tweed coat, brown, with leather collar, size 12-14, like new, never worn, paid \$59.95, sell for \$10. 858-549-8970.

COCKTAIL GLASSES, six 10oz. size, \$75. 619-296-7185.

COFFEE TABLE with matching end table, glass top with black metal base, modern style, \$95 both. Also, area rug, bright colors, \$45. 858-733-0343 or 858-780-8746.

COFFEE TABLE, 36" round ogee glass, beautiful, \$40. Heavy dress store standing rack from store, 2 arms, \$15. Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3397.

COMPUTER DESK with hutch, solid wood, 2 drawers and file drawer, 29"x50", includes hutch 63"H, excellent condition, \$60. 858-748-0242.

CONSIGNMENT CLASSICS! Great bargains and gently used furniture. Consign with us. Located at: 1895 Hancock Street, 619-491-0700. Also 201-D South El Camino Real, Encinitas. 760-635-0730.

COUCH AND LOVESEAT LEATHER. Italian leather. Brand new. Still in original wrapper. Sacrifice \$795. Can deliver. 858-688-2781.

\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

24-hour Internet
or fax for private
parties. See form
on page 125.

COUCH AND LOVE SEAT. Awesome, never used, in original packaging. Must see! Can deliver. Both only \$295. 619-204-0448.

COUCH. \$300. Excellent condition. Nice, cream colored couch with double size pull-out bed. Like new. 619-851-0145.

DINING TABLE, pine with extra wing, perfect condition, includes 6 chairs. Moving, must sell. \$500/best. 760-727-2041.

DINING TABLE/CHAIRS. Beautiful cherrywood, rectangle table with leaf, lightly used. Sitting for 6 with overstuffed chairs on wheels. Comfortable. \$250. After 4pm/weekends, 619-227-6281.

DIRECTV SYSTEM. Free 3-room, including installation! Free 3-month HBO (7

movie channels) with subscription. Access 225+ TV channels. Digital quality picture/sound. Limited offer. Details, 1-800-877-1251. (AAN CAN)

DRESSER and matching 2-drawer nightstand, walnut finish, 9 drawer with mirror attached, great condition, 6'Wx18x30, \$195. 760-944-7345.

DRESSER, 60Hx30Wx16D, rustic but beautiful, \$450. Picture at readerad@aol. John, 619-218-4044.

DRYER, Kenmore, gas, automatic dry, wrinkle guard and multicycle, different fabric selections, very new look, \$195/best. 858-549-2918.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, black, 2 pillars with glass doors/shelves, holds up to 61" TV. Great condition. \$1000 new, \$400/best. 619-843-6540.

FENCE, vinyl-coated chain link, 6'Hx140'L, top rail, tension wire, fittings,

corner, end, and regular posts, gate, \$700. Delivery available. 760-510-8344.

FIREPLACE SET, screen, Federal-style andrions, 5-piece tool set, old brass, appraised \$300, yours for \$150/best. Hillcrest, 619-299-7578.

FIREWOOD, pine, lowest price in town, \$60 for generous 3/4 cord. You pick up and load. 858-748-6030.

FIREWOOD. Mixed hard and soft, seasoned, split, and delivered. \$85, 1/2 cord. 619-563-6772.

FLAG POLE, white, 21'Hx2-3/8" diameter, galvanized, new, with all accessories except flag, \$230. Installed. Steve, 858-279-0492.

FREEZER, great for extra storage in garage, white, opens from the top, moving and must sell, \$100/best. 760-940-2388.

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An Eight-BMW Family

Mike Neciuk, pastor of El Rentador church in Imperial Valley, has a passion for BMWs. He tells me it started when his daughters grew up and moved to San Diego. "They were always on the road. At first I had them in Nissans, but I worried. That's a pancake of a car. With them in BMWs I can sleep."

Now he, his wife Esperanza, all three daughters, two sons-in-law, and his brother drive BMWs.

In my Corolla on the way to Brawley, I'd felt belittled by SUVs, motorhomes, and semis. So I said, "Lots of people would sleep better if their family all drove BMWs, but who can afford them?"

"Almost anybody in San Diego," Mike says, "because the area has more BMWs per capita than any other place, so you can find good deals on the old ones. See, most people look at the

mileage. But miles don't mean anything to me; what matters is the maintenance. When we bought Nadia's, the 325i, that one had 224,000 miles, but it still doesn't use a quart of oil between oil changes. The original owner worked in La Jolla and lived in Orange County, so it's all highway miles. You can pick up a car like that for a thousand, fifteen hundred.

"The big one, the '94 740iL, we paid \$10,000 for, from my wife's cousin in L.A. But it's a big V-8 with all the toys, \$79,000 new.

"I bought one in Alpine, on Tavern Road, where there's always cars parked for sale. Nadia's I found in the San Diego paper. Roseanna's we paid \$2500 for. That one had 127,000 miles. Michelle's had 211,000. I bought it at the wrecking yard, but it wasn't wrecked. A guy got stopped, and he had an open container or something, so they towed it and he didn't claim it. And because it was in

the wrecking yard, it has a salvaged title. We paid a thousand.

"Over in El Cajon, Autobahn has good deals. The other day they had a '91 500 series, with a salvaged title but nothing wrong except a fire burned the rear deck — that's all. For \$3500.

"I check the oil, what it looks like, what it smells like, tastes like. And the water. And what it sounds like, what it drives like.

"Okay, when we were young, by the time a car got 100,000 miles, you had to rebuild it. Today's cars, or the majority of them, American made, Japanese made, if you change the oil, the filters and whatever, you'll get 200,000 or 300,000 out of almost any of them."

"But don't people of modest means go bankrupt from fixing and maintaining their BMWs?"

"Maybe, if they go to the dealer or to a certified mechanic. People think BMWs are complicated and



--- OWNER: MIKE NECIUK
--- CAR: 1991 BMW 740iL
--- BEL-RICK MOTORS, LOS ANGELES, SUMMER 2000
--- PRICE: \$10,000
--- MILEAGE: 169,000

hard to fix. Some are, like the 700 series. I believe it has four different computers, and they talk to each other. Everything's recorded. They can tell me how many times I've opened and closed my window, to warn me that the window motor might wear out soon. But the lower-priced models are basic, just well-built. They don't break down a lot. And if they do, Dose Auto Repair in San Diego or German Motors in Pacific Beach will fix them for not too much."

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T.G.I.F.

It seemed that every few feet I would find some marker of my personal history in San Diego.

By John Brizzolara

I had planned to write about a prayer meeting/revival hall, formerly a laundromat in North Park with the catchy name FOLD. For several Friday nights in a row I had seen the place, well-lighted and exposed to viewing from the street through picture windows that used to frame washers and dryers. Now the location often features well-dressed (mostly) African-Americans (mostly) dancing in place, clapping hands, singing, and in general offering joyful noises to heaven through the ceiling. It had been a long time since I had written about gospel music and found it a great subject for prose. Sentence structure imitated the subject matter, I noticed. Slow-building epiphanies and mounting crescendos were represented by heavy commas and dependent clauses that had become a tangle of fuses smoldering into eruptions of one-word ejaculations that could be almost anything from "Jesus" to "Yes!" to "Washaway!" or "Love!"

But on a recent Friday I showed myself at the door (on which was printed "Prayer Meetings daily 12:00 — 1:00 PM") at high noon and blinked at rows of empty chairs. Almost empty. A man was kneeling, facing backward over the chair, and he emitted a solid stream of prayer like an exorcist challenging an occupying entity to get a word in edgewise. As my eyes adjusted to shadow, I made out the form of a woman some rows of folding chairs over. She too was kneeling on the floor, but facing front and the praying man. She was crying. I had walked in on a tableau that demanded an immediate spin on my heels

and an exit.

I was rescued from a feeling of clumsy embarrassment by the chirping of my cell phone and was pleased to see a friend's name identified as the caller. She had a car stereo and other items stolen out of her car and wanted to see if she could spot the stuff on sale at the swap meet. I didn't point out that this plan was a long shot on the order of Lou Gehrig contracting and actually dying of a disease called Lou Gehrig's disease. I liked her company, and the swap meet seemed just the classless, worldly nonsense to be thought of as an antidote to the scene I had just witnessed.

It had been a year or two since I'd been to Kobey's Swap Meet on Sports Arena Boulevard, but I had the sense I could have walked directly — even blindfolded — to the Julian Apple Pie stand or the sheepskin car-upholstery booth. It seemed that every few feet, in whatever direction I turned, I would find some marker of my personal history in San Diego.

Upon entering, immediately to the left was and still is a concession for the sales of T-shirts and shorts. It was also the locale of an embarrassing public scene with a former girlfriend and one of our many pitched battles over who knows — T-shirts and shorts, possibly. We once fought over a Kleenex. The last one. No kidding. You'd have thought it was the last one on Earth.

In the section for "notions," I suppose you'd call them, I am reminded of the many, now-uncountable moves I have made in 20-plus years in San Diego. Often these moves would be accompanied by pit stops at this (or another like it) small-business kiosk to buy implements to clean the place I was leaving and items like toilet tissue or extension cords to stock the new place.

Bargains on razor blades often triggered a new age in facial architecture for me over two decades. I made a mental note to resurrect my brief, early-1980s look I call the Sean-Connery-in-*The-Man-Who-Would-Be-King* look. It had never caught on, but I was fond of it; I believe it would still appear flamboyantly original, even in these times of every possible beard and/or mustache configuration being up for grabs. (The Abe Lincoln would be the reverse of this look and not for me; the effect is aging Italian/Amish.) Framed posters of bikini-clad chicks, Harley-Davidson and Budweiser Padres and Chargers schedules reminded me of my North Park period, rooming with a friend who caught me up, single-handedly, on everything I had missed by not living in a college dormitory and joining a fraternity.

The aisles to the far side of the entrance my friend and I have dubbed the Useless Crap Section, and we have made several proud purchases here. It would be in this area, where I once found a Chico Marx garlic press (upside down it was a Mark Twain nutcracker), that car-stereo components and her various stolen Christmas presents might — in some faint and foolish dream of justice — be found. Absolutely no luck here, of course, but the SDPD was undoubtedly

working around the clock on superior leads.

Perhaps there was something in the air that day contributing to my nostalgia, or some other factor. The swap meet seemed a kind of subject index of my life here. It might just be a hazard of writing, coming up with similes and metaphors, that accounts for the periodic phenomenon in which everything reminds you of something else, but how to account for this particular one? Here was a visual mirror image of two dovetailing items in my life representing a good part of a year some time ago — a year, I was fairly certain, that would be my last.

I was looking at a futon display. Fifteen years ago I had bought a futon on this spot, though I doubt it was from the same retailer. Next to the futon exhibit, someone was selling a large collection of well-thumbed paperbacks. This immediately put me in mind of 14 months of chemotherapy, during which time it seems I did little else but lie on my swap meet sofa and read (and even reread) the pulpiest and gaudiest novels I could find. It was a memory that dredged mixed emotions.

When I approached the table where swords were offered for sale, of course I stopped. I've always had a fascination with them, and three years ago I bought one for my son, a kind of El Cid job, 14th- or 15th-century Spanish style. That period, around Christmas, marked the last time my son exhibited any friendliness toward me. Was it the divorce? The drinking? Something I wrote that he misread and misunderstood — or something he read and understood too well?

The image of the woman at FOLD came back to me, though I didn't want it to. I decided I'd go back there sometime. Sometime.



Airbrushed T-shirt at Kobey's Swap Meet

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Fighting Trim

I'm never happier than when I'm getting ready to start a new diet. The anticipation, the joy at imagining a thinner, more toned new me. I have been on one diet or another on and off all my life. I went on my first diet 30 years ago when I was 11. That fall, my older sister Anita and I tried out the first Atkins "Revolution." I remember eating grated cheddar cheese and bacon bits rolled up into little balls with full-fat mayonnaise. YUM. I lost 20 pounds that first time.

During high school, I stayed slim by staying active. I ran cross-country. I skied. My senior year of high school, after a period of relative inactivity, I went on Weight Watchers. I lost ten pounds.

My weight has yo-yoed up and down throughout my adult life. I was thin when I got married at 29. With each of my five children, I gained a lot of weight, usually around 60 pounds. Each time, I dieted my weight back down before I got pregnant again.

Last spring, I miscarried my sixth baby at three months. I had been heavy to begin with for this pregnancy, probably 20 pounds heavier than I wanted to be. During that first trimester, my weight had edged up another 15 pounds. When we lost the baby, I let myself mourn and cry and eat whatever I wanted for about a week. Then, at the beginning of the summer, I started working out with my friend Betsy. "It'll be great," I told myself. "I'll stop eating so much junk. I'll work out five days a week. By the end of the summer, I'll be back in fighting trim."

After that first week, I stepped on the scale in my bathroom expecting to have lost at least five pounds. "I've been so good," I thought.

The scale told a different story. "TWO POUNDS?" I shouted. My voice echoed in the small space.

"What is it, Mommy?" Angela asked from outside the bathroom door. "Are you okay?"

"Yes, sweetie," I answered. "I'm all right. Just a little discouraged."

I stuck with the healthy eating for about another two weeks. I lost five more pounds. Then I went to Disneyland for three days with my sister and my three girls Rebecca, Angela, and

Lucy. I ate a lot. "I'll start again when we get home."

In those three days, all seven pounds came back. "AAARRRRGGGHHH!" I shouted at the scale.

"What is it, Mommy?" Angela asked again. "Are you okay?"

"I'm fine, sweetie."
During the next few months, I tried two more diets. Each time, I lost seven pounds, then stopped. I worked out like a dog. When the weight loss stopped, I got discouraged, started eating again, and gained everything back immediately.

"What's wrong?" I asked my doctor at my annual checkup in October. "I'm using all my old weight-loss tricks. They've always worked before. Now, I'm stuck way up around 180."

"Well," Dr. Stewart said, "it could be a couple of things. Number one, you're over 40. As women near menopause, they tend to have a harder time losing weight. Number two, weight gain can be one of the side effects of using Prozac."

In fall of 2002, I suffered a major depression. With my family history of the disease and my own previous bouts with what I call the black beast, my doctor put me on Prozac. The medication worked like a miracle. My life changed. My family's life changed. I was able to enjoy life and enjoy my children instead of constantly warding off despair.

I looked at Dr. Stewart. "So I can be sane

or I can be thin, but not both?"

The corners of his mouth turned up in a resigned smile. "Definitely keep working out," he said. "Your blood pressure is nice and low, and your pulse is slow. You're healthy. Just keep plugging away at the weight."

I'm afraid I haven't plugged as hard as I might have. I slacked off on the workouts. During the holidays, I ate enough fudge and Christmas cookies to sink a small boat. As of the last week of December, I weighed 192 pounds. According to the weight charts, I should be about 6'7" tall. I'm only a foot too short. My face is round and broad. My stomach jiggles when I walk. Lately my ass has become so large than I misjudge the size of spaces I can squeeze through and find myself bumping into door jams and the like. I'm not depressed. I just find myself at least a couple of times a day filled with self-loathing.

So when the kids go back to school in January, I'm going on a new diet. I'll eat better. The whole family will benefit. I'll be more active. For Christmas, my husband Jack got me ten sessions with my favorite trainer at 24-Hour Fitness. Last night, I sat on the couch beside the Christmas tree after the kids had gone to bed. I paged through my new diet book reading the recipes and meal plans and success stories. I closed my eyes and imagined myself thinner and more toned. I pictured myself fitting into all my old clothes. I liked what I saw.

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