

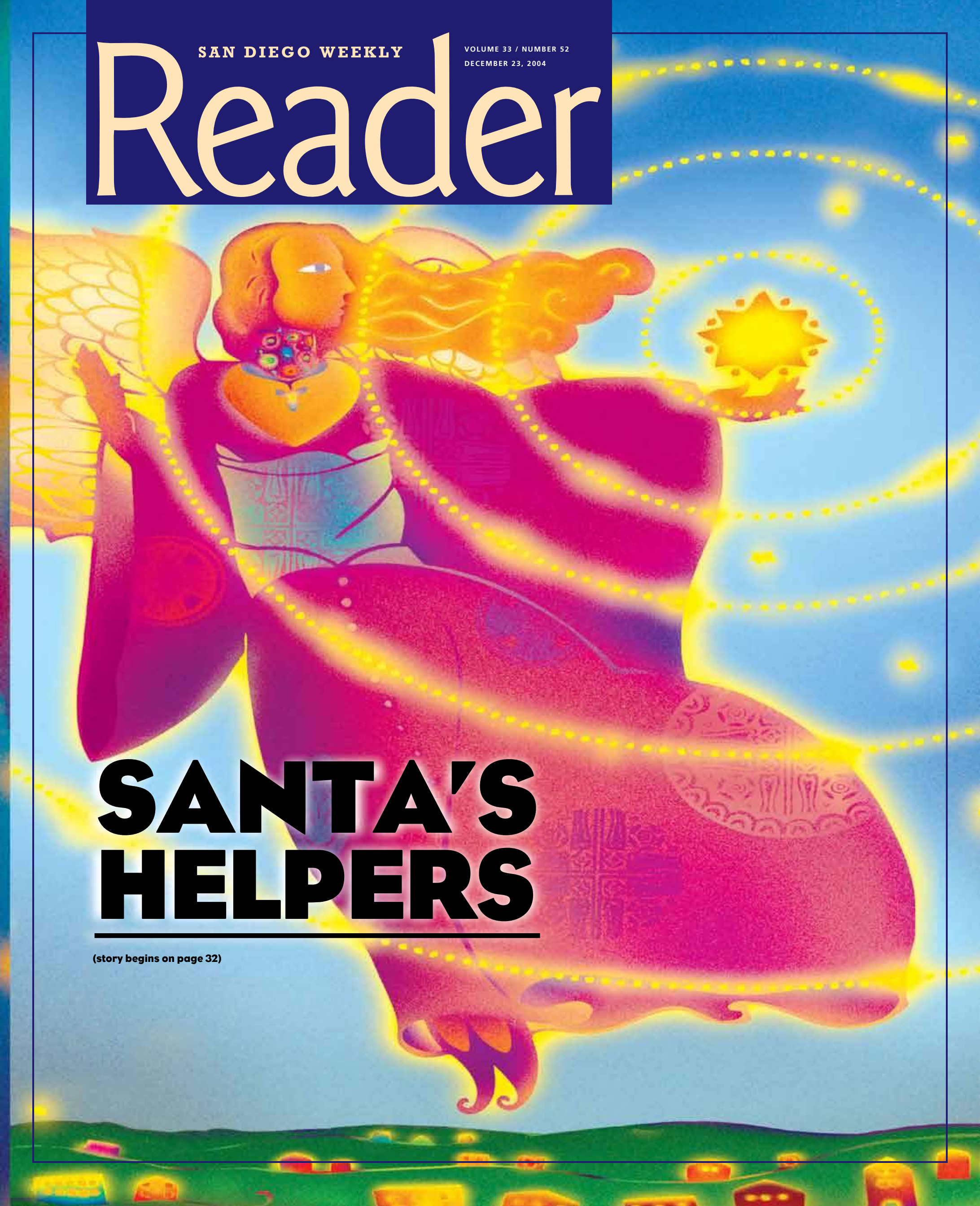
SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 33 / NUMBER 52
DECEMBER 23, 2004

Reader

SANTA'S HELPERS

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LETTERS

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

Forget Me Not

I'm the owner of Four Seasons Candy, and I read your article on Candy Direct and found it very interesting ("Candy Man," December 16). But my name was never mentioned anywhere. I am the one that helped Stephen Traino get in that business. I was definitely involved. Several employees of Four Seasons Candy and I were involved with him getting started. We have one of the largest selections of nostalgic candy in Southern California. I started in the candy business in 1971.

Annette Ferris

Oddly Provincial

Having lived in both El Paso and San Diego, I was happy to see Geoff Bouvier's comparison of the two places ("On the Bus From Rosa's Cantina," December 9). These are the two largest metropolitan areas on the U.S.-Mexico border, and though there is little communication back and forth, they have a lot to learn from each other. El Paso, for instance, has managed to make an asset of its border location and has created a truly international atmosphere in most aspects of daily life, whereas San Diego comes across as oddly provincial, despite its proximity to Mexico. On the other hand, San Diego and Tijuana have produced a vibrant interchange in culture and the arts, while El Paso and Ciudad Juárez remain much more divided on that front. Both San Diego and El Paso are preoccupied with their own problems, of course, but they would each profit from a little attention to what the other has been able to do well.

Grant Goodall
La Jolla

Bus Shame

Geoff Bouvier's bus ride from El Paso to San Diego

("On the Bus From Rosa's Cantina," December 9) reminded me of a bus ride I took in Argentina in 1997. A ride that perfectly illustrates why Greyhound will never be able to make a profit. I left Jujuy in the northwest of Argentina about 1:00 p.m. on a 35-hour ride to Buenos Aires. My bus was a "Coche Cama" (bed bus) made by Mercedes. It had two drivers — one served as "stewardess" while the other drove. In the rear was a self-service snack bar with coffee, beer, wine, soda, and candies. We stopped that evening in a small town way out on the pampas, where we were served a pretty decent roasted chicken dinner. Back on the road after it got dark, several small TV sets were slid out of overhead compartments and we were shown two full-length movies — one American flick with Spanish subtitles and one French film also with Spanish subtitles. After the second movie, the "stewardess" came around with blankets and pillows and the seats reclined into beds (hence the "coche cama" name). At daybreak we stopped for an Argentinean breakfast of croissants and espresso. Everything was included for the price of the bus ticket — \$35. My seat companion was a Bolivian woman who, when she learned that I was American and assuming that bus travel in the U.S. must be 100 times better than in poor South America, asked me about it — I was too embarrassed to mention Greyhound!

Of course, there are many more problems with bus service in the United States than just filthy stations, rude employees, and uncomfortable vehicles — in one of Greyhound's many "restructurings" about 15 years ago, the management was able to break the drivers' union, and their service has been in the toilet ever since. Then you have a management with absolutely no vision. Good example of how that failed the company is found in the San Diego to Los Angeles bus service — 15 years ago Greyhound dominated that market. Probably 80 percent of the passengers were Mexicans going to Latino areas of the

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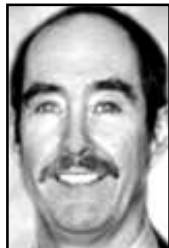
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An archive of City Lights stories can be searched on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com

Case of the disappearing data

The intrigue — not to mention the cost — surrounding the ongoing San Diego city audit and pension-fund scandal continues to grow. The Texas law firm of Susman Godfrey, L.L.P., hired to help sort out the mess, has run up an initial tab of \$250,000, which is almost sure to burgeon. According to its recent contract with the city, the firm's name partner, **Stephen Susman**, travels in style: "Mr. Susman owns his own aircraft. When he flies on it for your case, unless you have agreed otherwise, he will only charge you first-class airfare for himself and any other professionals from the firm who accompany him." But that's just the beginning. The roster of other taxpayer-paid consultants helping to investigate the yet-to-be specified wrongdoing has expanded to include an outfit from Gresham, Oregon, called Breakwater Security Associates, which joined the case last month to "provide computer forensic consulting services" for the in-house investigation. The company's job is trying to recover data somehow erased from the hard drives of city computers. The tab for that gig is \$325 an hour, or a total of \$50,000, which covers development of "specialized software tools" to get to the bottom of the matter. The contract says, "Additional sums may be necessary." Another \$150,000 has been paid to Lexis-Nexis Applied Discovery for "electronic discovery services to assist in additional investigation towards completion of the audit." As with



Charlie Bird

Breakwater, more money may be needed before the job is finished. Meanwhile, a letter to the city from Luce, Forward lawyer **Charlie Bird** spells out what his firm has been doing for one of the city's highest-ranking and best-paid bureaucrats. "By letter agreement of June 9, 2004, we undertook to counsel Deputy City Manager **Bruce Herring** in connection with two federal agencies' inquiries into certain disclosure practices of the City." But for some reason, even though taxpayers are picking up the tab, Herring's superiors, including members of the city council (not to mention the public) are being kept in the dark about exactly what sort of advice Bird is providing. "We understand that in performing our services in the Herring matter, we should report directly to Mr. Herring, who is our client and the holder of the attorney-client privilege in that engagement."

Showbiz Peace Democratic ex-state senator **Steve Peace**, erstwhile B-movie producer and father of the state's ultimately disastrous utility "reforms" of the 1990s, is riding high again as political guru for the San Diego County airport authority and the campaign of incoming assemblywoman **Lori Saldaña**. Some insiders say he's even become a secret advisor to those who want to see **Donna Frye** beat **Dick Murphy** for mayor. The other night Peace and wife **Cheryl** were sighted walking in the Gaslamp with his old Chula Vista pal and convicted ex-port commissioner **David Malcolm** and spouse **Annie**, now

ensconced in a tony downtown condo. A few days later, the couples were seen enjoying dinner at the nearby Athens Market.



George Clooney

But actor **George Clooney**, on the road to promote his new movie *Oceans Twelve*, told CNN that he wasn't a fan of one Peace-produced movie in which Clooney had a starring role back in 1988. "There are some I'd like to take back," he told the network. "Return of the Killer Tomatoes; I'd like to have it back." ... **Jack White**, known for years as the kindly restaurant reviewer on KGTU ("The fried clams were especially delectable, and the portions were ample"), has long since retired and discovered the good life pitching mail-order funeral insurance on cable TV. The "Silver Care plan," an earnest-looking White tells viewers, is "something we'll all someday need" to cover "final expenses."

Legal entanglements Supporters of San Diego city councilwoman Donna Frye's bid to overturn the county registrar of voters' opinion that Dick Murphy should be mayor kicks into high gear in the new year with the "5547 Vote March" from Horton Plaza on January 2. It's sponsored by VOTERR, "Voices for Open and Truthful Election Results and Reform." The event is getting a boost from a mention on ex-Democratic presidential candidate **Howard Dean**'s national website ... Fatcat campaign donors are preparing to be hit up once again by San Diego City Council members **Ralph Inzunza**, **Michael Zucchet**, and Donna Frye, along with Mayor Dick Murphy. Inzunza and Zucchet are facing trial in the Cheetahs scandal and need more money to pay their lawyers. Frye is fighting the county registrar of voters over validating those nonbubbled ballots. Murphy, of course, takes the opposite position. All four are the beneficiaries of a new law passed by the council and recent advice letters by the city's Ethics Commission. Beginning in January, they may set up so-called legal defense funds to collect maximum \$250 contributions from individuals, even those who have already given the maximum to their regular campaign committee. The move is believed sure to set off a reverse gold rush as city hall lobbyists race to fill the newly established coffers ... The son of 81-year-old Mercury 7 astronaut and longtime Rancho Santa Fe denizen **Wally Schirra** has been arraigned on child-sex tourism charges after being busted on November 6 at San Francisco International Airport trying to board a plane for Thailand. Bay Area property manager **Walter Schirra**, 54, is one of the first targets of a new federal law aimed at stopping Americans going abroad to solicit sex from children. Feds allege that a search of Schirra's luggage and residence found candy, sexual devices, and child pornography.

— 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.

Frye's Big Chores

By Don Bauder

Set cynicism aside. The ballot-bubble hubbub may yet bring a happy ending: the swearing-in of a legitimately elected mayor, Donna Frye. This column offers an agenda for Frye's first term. She was not consulted, of course, for it's premature for her to comment, particularly since the le-

spite all you read, it is not clear under state law that a bubble must be marked for a write-in to count. It's clear in one section, but not in others. However, the San Diego charter and



Downtown high-rise

gal picture is still cloudy. However, she has already embraced many of the initiatives suggested here.

Obvious question: Is it possible that our partisan, conservative courts will give Frye the nod? Yes, and here's how: De-

municipal code both state that write-ins will be counted, bubbles be damned.

Former councilmember Bruce Henderson points out that in California election disputes over the past century, when laws conflict, "The court

goes with the law that maximizes the vote." But the court may not even get to that issue, because the California constitution specifically states that election laws for cities such as San Diego always prevail over state law, says Henderson. As others point out, the bubble is only a convenience for vote counters, so a court throwing out ballots with unmarked bubbles would be putting the comfort of registrar employees ahead of the will of the people.

Post-election, public opinion is moving against the current administration. Self-proclaimed mayor Dick Murphy is earning the nickname "Mayor Empty Bubble" with his absurd utterances, such as that ballots with undarkened bubbles are "illegal," and, "I really don't know the voter's intent who wrote in Donna's name and didn't fill in the bubble." Puh-leeze.

Mayor Frye must move quickly. Government's job is "to take care of public health and welfare — not corporate and private welfare," says former councilmember Abbe Wolfsheimer-Stutz. "We have to solve the water- and sewage-treatment problems, and to do that we have to get our back audits completed [2003 and 2004] and restore our credit rating." And then go back to

continued on page 4

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

Neal Obermeyer



We're Not Coming To Get Her

By Ernie Grimm

Tina Chamberlin of La Mesa was happy when her 82-year-old mother Rena Marseli decided to give up driving this past summer. Besides being 82 years old, Mrs. Marseli "had a vision problem," Chamberlin explains. "My father, by that time, had already stopped driving."

Chamberlin assumed her mother (her father passed away shortly after her mother quit driving) would have plenty of options when it came to getting to the store, the bank, the doctor, and the hairdresser. She found otherwise. "Transportation became an issue immediately. We discovered that Dial-A-Ride no

longer exists. So my husband called the La Mesa Senior Center, and they were very little help. They gave him two phone numbers for taxi companies and one individual who didn't even do the senior rides anymore. They also gave us the number of Jewish Family Services, but my mother doesn't [financially] qualify for that, and even if she did, it would be inappropriate; she isn't Jewish."

Rachel Hurst, from the city of La Mesa's planning and development depart-

ment, says the city receives calls from people like Chamberlin and Marseli who want to know what seniors can do for transportation. It's a question she used to have an answer for. "La Mesa had a Dial-A-Ride program for many, many years," Hurst says. "It was funded with money that used to come to local governments from the state and federal government that now goes to [the Metropolitan Transit Development Board]."

An El Cajon city official told the same story. "We used to have a Dial-A-Ride program, but that no longer exists here in El Cajon. Have you contacted the Metropolitan Transit Development Board? They are kind of in charge of the transportation situation."

Officials from both cities say, barring an unexpected windfall from the federal or



El Cajon Transit Center

state government, they won't be able to offer transportation services to seniors in the foreseeable future.

"We have discontinued some services in some areas: El Cajon, Spring Valley, La Mesa — most of East County," says Gonzalo López, public information officer at MTDB. "We've been doing this since 2000 until November of last year, 2003. So it has been a process of about three years that we have been cutting down on the services. Starting in 2000 we started to cut some services because of what we call productivity issues."

Productivity issues is a nice way to say the services cost more money than they brought in. The \$4 to \$7 charged per trip for the door-to-door service never came close to covering the costs of buying, maintaining, insuring, fueling, and driving a fleet of vans. "The subsidies were tremendous," López explains. "It was something like \$37 per passenger that we were subsidizing, per trip."

Combined with decreased transportation grants from state and federal governments over the past half decade, the subsidy proved unaffordable. "We get our funds from the state and from the federal government," López explains, "and both of those budgets have been cut. This year we are facing a \$30 million budget deficit, so we need to make adjustments."

Dial-A-Ride, explains López, was a logical candidate for cutting. "We were given the choice of cutting some of the fixed routes or doing this,"

López says. "And since these are less used by people, then we had to make that choice. That doesn't mean that some people are not affected by this, because many people are."

But, López adds, "People do have choices. If you have a certified Americans with Disabilities Act disability, you receive complimentary transit service. And if they live within three quarters of a mile of a bus stop, that is probably an area that they can get to and use the fixed transit system."

The Metropolitan Transit Development Board will also



Vadim Frolov

counsel anyone who calls on what bus and trolley routes to use to get from A to B. But Rena Marseli lives two hilly miles from the nearest bus stop and further from the nearest trolley station. So, Chamberlin says, "I told her, 'Well, Mom, luckily you're financially able to afford taxis.' She was uncomfortable with that because she wasn't familiar with taxis. And, having been so independent, this to her seemed difficult."

Chamberlin convinced her mother to test out the taxi

idea. "So, of course," she recalls, "we started with the big one: Yellow Cab. She called Yellow Cab, and they came within a very reasonable amount of time, right to the house. All she wanted to do on this test day was go about three or four miles to her bank in Casa de Oro. So he took her to the bank, and she asked him to wait for her. He said he could not wait, even though she said she was willing to let the meter run. He told her, 'Just call Yellow Cab again when you're ready to leave. They'll send somebody.' So she went from her bank on one side of the street across the street to Albertsons, did a little shopping, and right there inside Albertsons they actually have a phone specifically for calling Yellow Cab. She used it when she was ready to leave. They said they'd be there in a little while. They never came. She was standing outside of Albertsons in the September heat waiting and waiting. Coincidentally, there was an elderly couple there registering voters. They saw her standing there waiting, and they convinced her to call again. Yellow Cab said they were on their way. She waited about another 30 minutes; this is after already waiting about 20 to 25 minutes. Yellow Cab never came. Finally, this gentleman said, 'Let me call for you.' So he called for her, on his personal cell phone, and their answer was, 'To tell you the truth, we don't have anybody, and we are not coming to get her.' This is after a good hour or more. So this gentleman

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Frye's big chores

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the bond market for the money to fix neglected infrastructure.

In the interim, to keep the

city running, "We must get renewal of the short-term credit from the Bank of America," or some other financial institution, says Mel Shapiro, civic activist.

The critical priorities, in order, are "financial recovery, fi-

nancial recovery, financial recovery," says Carl DeMaio, president of the Performance Institute, a private think tank specializing in government efficiency. "It's mea culpa time. We can't deny the problem," as councilmembers Jim Madaf-

fer and Scott Peters did on KPBS radio last week, arguing that political scaremongering created a perception of a problem that doesn't exist.

Accounting firms will not give anything but a hedged, qualified audit until the fed-

eral government has completed its investigations of the city putting misinformation in bond prospectuses. Newly elected city attorney Mike Aguirre has launched his own investigation and pledged co-

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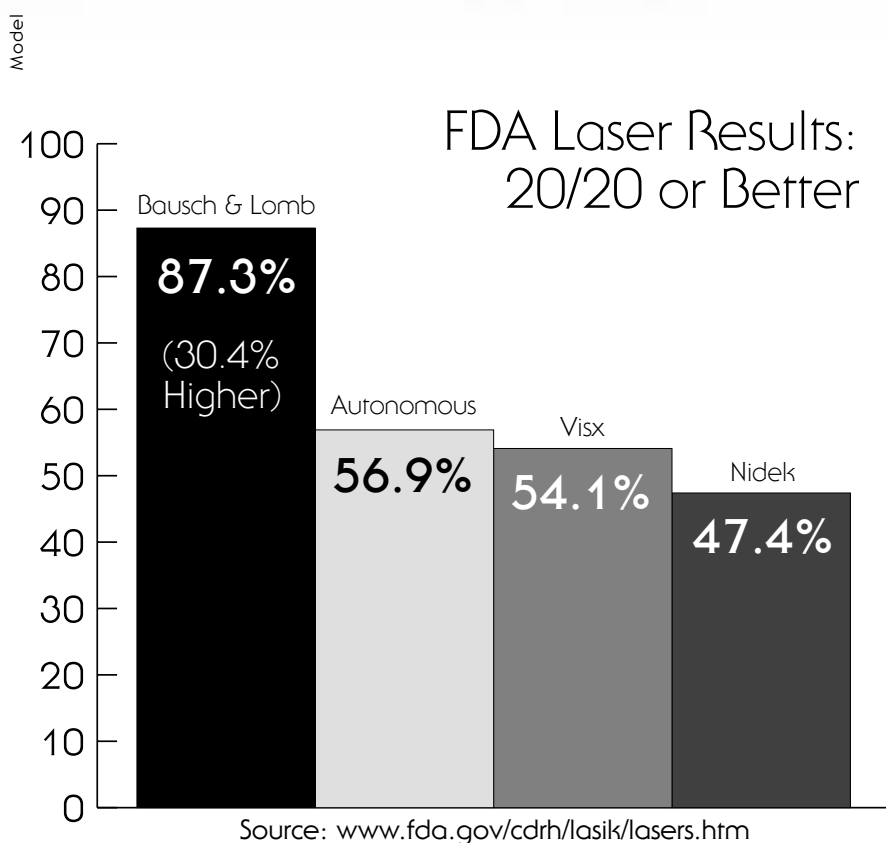
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Frye's big chores

continued from page 4

operation with federal probers. Aguirre should be named the "sole elected official" to get the audits completed, spearhead

the cooperation with federal investigators, and probe possible culpability of city employees, says DeMaio.

"The council should have a separate financial recovery docket, and it should focus on that docket at every single

meeting," says DeMaio. "None of this can be done in closed session. It must be open to the public." Establishing openness, long a Frye priority, is essential, say all who were interviewed. Tuesday's unprecedented open council

meeting on the city's ailing finances was a good first step, indicating Frye's influence is already taking hold.

The council should examine numerous cost-saving items, such as reducing employment and bidding out cer-

tain services, DeMaio says. A balanced-budget initiative should be put before voters. "We would strongly suggest some sort of balanced-budget accountability trigger, so if the budget gets out of balance, re-balancing moves will be made

every quarter," DeMaio adds.

"The city auditor should be independent, not beholden to politicians, not protecting the politicians," says Norma Damashek, vice president of the League of Women Voters. DeMaio thinks a city comptroller, in charge of all auditing, should be elected, not appointed.

The near-\$2 billion pension and health-care deficits are front and center. Last week's slimy move to eliminate whistle-blower Diann Shipione from the city pension board makes several steps essential. Anybody involved — whether a staff member, board member, or city government employee — should be disciplined or fired if they made material false representations. Last week, Aguirre, alarmed at what the board might be trying to do in closed session and wanting to preserve documents for his investigation, took over the retirement system's legal affairs and demanded that files be placed under lock and key. The pension board fought back, claiming Aguirre did not have the authority. It will require a Mayor Frye to help Aguirre smash San Diego's culture of secrecy.

The next step is meaningful pension reform. Among many things, Shipione says that the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (which permits employees to double their pay in their last five years and walk off with both a monthly retirement check as well as a lump sum) must be dropped because it's not being funded. Also, some members of the retirement board are voting on benefits they receive. "People who stand to gain should not be on the board," she says. And the accounting system is lax; it must go conservative.

"To get the numbers they want, the board now tells the actuary how to adjust his assumptions," says Shipione. The actuary should produce independent numbers. Back in the bull market, the board was skimming money from winning investments and using it to pay health-care benefits. That's lunacy, says Shipione, and the Vinson & Elkins report, funded by the city, agrees.

As I have said many times, city employees' pay is well above the earnings of average San Diegans. In addition, the employees get the generous

continued on page 8

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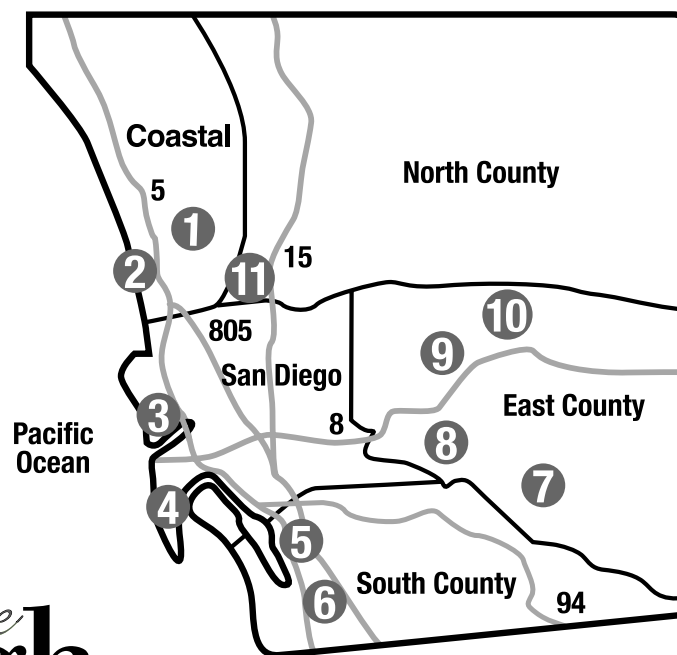


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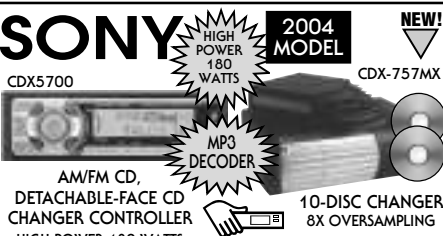
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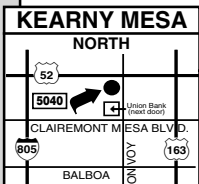
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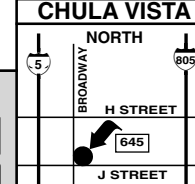


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Not coming

continued from page 8

she got real shaky."

Nervous though she was, Marceli agreed to give taxis another try. But the next attempt wasn't much better than the first. "We thought maybe we should use a taxi company that was a little more local," Chamberlin says. "So we called White Cab, which is in El Cajon, owned by a Russian fellow. I explained what had happened with Yellow Cab, and I asked him, 'Do you take people on short trips? Will you come and pick her up?' 'No problem, lady, that is what we do; that's our business. We'll be there.' It wasn't two or three days later, she calls them in the morning because she had a doctor's appointment over in Rancho San Diego. She called White Cab and they told her, 'We don't do short trips like that.' Now, to give them the benefit of the doubt, this is an 82-year-old lady talking to them on the phone. I am not quite sure if she was getting her message across. There was a pretty thick language barrier. So she calls me on my cell phone as I am driving to work, and she was so upset that she was crying on the phone, telling me, 'I thought we had this all settled. I thought I could get out, be independent. Now I'm stuck here. I am going to die here.' I said, 'Give me their phone number.' I called and said, 'I just talked to you three days ago, and you assured me you were in business for taking people even on short trips.' And he said, 'Okay, we'll do it; we'll do it.' And I said, 'I'm feeling like you are doing me a special favor. I need to know that you are reliable and will do this every single time she calls, not just because I am on the phone making a scene.' And I was. He said, 'No, no, no, you have her call me right back, and we will take care of her.' Well, actually, from then on they have taken care of her."

Reached by phone, three East County cab company owners, Maria Tellez of Another Cab Company, Johnny Hakim of Mr. Taxi Cab, and Vadim Frolov of White Cab (the "Russian fellow" Chamberlin spoke to) all said they are happy to pick up seniors at their homes, even for the

shortest of trips. But, Frolov explained, East County cab drivers are sometimes loath to bring passengers to destinations within the San Diego city limits because Metropolitan Transit, which regulates taxis, won't allow them to

pick up fares inside of the city limits, not even the person they took there to begin with. "If I pick them up, I risk a \$1500 fine," Frolov explains. "And many East County residents shop and get their medical care in San Diego.

For example, a lot of people in Fletcher Hills and Lake Murray shop at Vons on Baltimore and Lake Murray. But that is actually in San Diego. So if I bring an old lady, I can't bring her back."

Availability aside, taxis are

not cheap. "A couple of days ago," Chamberlin says, "she did take the taxi to Vons on La Mesa Boulevard where there is also a little Supercuts, so she figured it up, and her taxi was \$12 one way and \$12 the way back. The haircut was

\$17 or something like that, and she tipped the driver. So her whole little morning out was, like, \$45, for a haircut. Like I said, she can afford it. But not every senior citizen in East County can afford that." ■

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



The Alices took a vote last week, and the majority favored canceling Christmas...or holiday, or whatever it's called now. But of course the elves didn't fill in the bubbles, and in the recount, Grandma's 12 votes won in a landslide. So we've been scrambling to stuff everybody's stockings at the last minute. Grandma wants a copy of *The Fear Factor Cookbook*. For Ma Alice, we want one of those house-invading, space-trading, room-makeover TV shows to come and build an armoire around Pa Alice and his TV and lounge chair and paint it up in some nice coordinated color. That way, we can just shut the doors on him if we have company. Grandma did some fancy calculations based on the number of TV hours available to fill versus the latest figures for new-housing starts, and she figures they're bound to get around to our house pretty soon, just through the sheer statistics of the situation. So when they're finished at your place, would you send them over here? As usual, the elves want SUVs.

Anyway, we haven't had much time to assemble our usual thought-provoking year-end quiz; and if Grandma gets her cookbook, we might not be around to grade them, anyway. So this year the quiz will be open-book. I can't think of a book you could open that would help you, but that's not my problem. And instead of grading them ourselves, we'll be complying with recent requests from the FBI to send them any random information we think they might be able to misconstrue as actionable by the Department of Homeland Security. They'll take it from there. Don't worry. It's our government. I'm sure they're on our side, as long as we don't ask Rumsfeld any tricky questions too early in the morning.

- In groundbreaking pigeon research, Canadian scientists used a neck brace and a treadmill to finally prove:
 - Pigeons can walk without bobbing their heads back and forth
 - If you want a neck brace to fit a pigeon, you'll have to make one yourself
 - There are no limits to the scientific imagination when it comes to designing a research study to answer pointless questions
- In Louisiana you can get 40 years in the slam for:
 - Finally admitting you hate gumbo
 - Theft of Mardi Gras beads
 - Calling your brother from your cell to ask him to contact the housekeeper of the judge that put you there to ask her to get some of the judge's hair so you can make a voodoo doll and put a curse on him. Your attorney will recommend that you cop a plea.
- In a question about the scientific basis for déjà vu, we established that:
 - We had answered the question before
 - We think maybe we had answered the question before
 - We had this vague, eerie feeling that we had answered the question before
- The ugliest revelation about the Alice family this year was:
 - Cousin Alice Alice's shocking appearance on Maury Povich's show, which we detailed in our rundown on lunatics who populate daytime TV trashfests
 - Ma Alice's rap sheet, which came up during a discussion of the history of skyjacking
 - Pa Alice's cholesterol level, offered into evidence in an answer to a question about extracting and recycling industrial fats
- Once again this year, Matthew Alice didn't answer my question because:
 - Matthew Alice is a very busy person with many, many other things to deal with
 - Matthew Alice is a very busy person with many, many other things to deal with than my stupid question, which I knew was stupid when I sent it in, but I figured if it's stupid, Matthew Alice is actually more likely to answer it; but as usual, I was wrong.
 - Answer B is correct
- Essay: Select one of the following facts and use it to illustrate how Matthew Alice, year after year, continues to make your life richer and more fulfilled. (a) All car taillights are the same shade of red because of a series of very complicated federal government regulations. (b) It's legal to sell opium poppy seeds but not legal to grow opium poppies. (c) Farting has been considered rude since at least the first century B.C.

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

Got a question you need answered? Send an *email* to heymatt@cts.com or *fax* to 619-231-0489 or *mail* to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.



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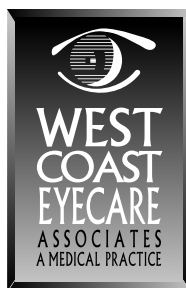
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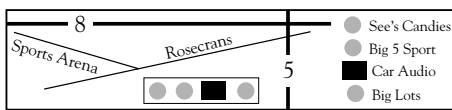
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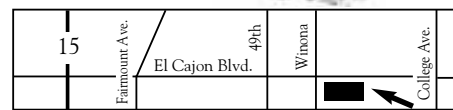
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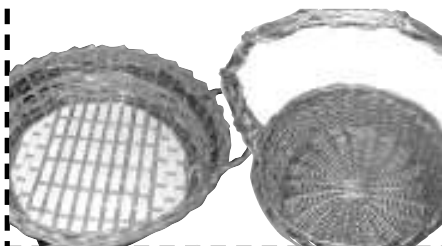
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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

Christmas Column

'Son-of-a-bitch! Son-of-a-bitchin' jackhammers!' This is December 24, 1980, in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. I'm working off a class-B hangover and getting my ass kicked by an 80-pound jackhammer. Self, hangover, and jackhammer are struggling at the base of GC-1, a BP Alaska gathering center, one of nine that separate oil from gas and water in preparation for pumping — every day — two million gallons of black muck 798 miles down the Trans Alaskan Pipeline to the Port of Valdez.

The sun has not been seen in these parts for 34 days. Thirty-three more days will pass before it rises again. The temperature is -32 degrees, not inhumanly cold; it rarely gets under 40 below in Prudhoe Bay, but a west wind is pumping at 25, 30 mph, which makes the wind chill -75 degrees. At that temperature the world implodes, and there is existence without any light or heat or God whatsoever.

This morning, my foreman, a 60-year-old alcoholic by the name of Rod Vernon, walked into the warm-up shack, face flushed, adrenalin pumping — the superintendent must have been on his ass — talking about some emergency. Had to find this big electric trunk line, which was thought to be buried underneath one of four pillars holding up the south end of the GC-1. "You men grab some gear and get on over there. Stay with it until it's done."

The "men" asshole is referring to is Frank Huber and me. We dress (sweaters, wool gloves, arctic gloves, arctic pants, wool cap, bunny boots, parka) and schlep outside to the yard. I trust it's the yard although I can't see it due to the combination of deep-space darkness and blowing snow. We lean hard into the wind, walk along the side of the parts warehouse, root around snow banks, find a generator, jackhammer, air compressor, space heater, and plenty of visquine. I hook up air compressor to the trailer hitch and drive the Chevy crew cab through a near white-out to GC-1 on A MISSION.

One wishes, always, to avoid working A MISSION. When you are on A MISSION, every lard-ass boss who can command a pickup truck waddles his fat butt out to its warm front seat and drives over to look at "The Job."

Frank's voice sounds over the jackhammer. "Hey, mellow down, it's Christmas."
"Fuck Christmas."

Now comes Rod Vernon, wearing cowboy boots and a light-winter puff-blue jacket. "Okay, shut her down," Vernon whines. "They figured

another way; they don't need it," and then the puke actually hops back to his toasty-warm pickup truck. Six months from now, I'll steal that truck and purposefully drive it into the main channel of the Kaparuk River.

The compressor wheezes to a stop. Ice, entwined and hanging from my beard, is a half-inch thick and two inches long. I grunt.

Frank grunts back, "What did you say?"

"Never mind. Did you get the beer chilled?"

Even though Prudhoe Bay is leased state land, leased primarily by BP and ARCO — who ban drugs, booze, and unmarried couples sharing rooms — there was, during the course of any given year, 1 to 8000 construction workers in residence, which meant there was plenty of drugs and booze and a lamentable lack of sex. Alcohol came up by the ton as private baggage in the cargo bays of Wein Air Alaska and Alaska Airlines.

Home is CC-2 (Construction Camp 2), one of four BP-owned residential camps built on the west side of Prudhoe Bay. Camps are modular, slapped-together units with two-man rooms. CC-2 houses 500 men, maybe 20 women.

Routine is: ride the yellow work bus home from the Sohio yard, slog to my room, pour a double shot of Jim Beam, crank on the tape deck, crank it louder, pop a beer, look at the wall. Retrieve sandals and bathrobe from the standing closet, walk down the hallway to the bathroom, shower, smoke a cigarette while in the shower, retrace steps to room, sit on bed, look at the wall.

Soon, too soon, there's a tap on my door and one, two, three men enter. Each man pulls a beer from the room's one civilian artifact, an enormous, 200-quart ice chest. Job talk commences. This was a pastime I discouraged but could never squelch.

On this 1980 Christmas Eve I was tired due to the ugly experience of jackhammer, so this was going to be an early night. After a couple hours of whiskey and beer, two guests drift off to the dining hall. I look over, realize Frank is drunk, which is unusual. I call out, "Hey, big guy. Take it home. We must be about our duties on the first tide."

Frank struggles to his feet, lurches toward the door, wheels around, fishes another beer from the cooler, leaves.

I pour the last shot of Beam, strip naked, sit on the edge of the bed, light a Winston, look at the wall. Christmas Eve. Not a bad place to spend it.

Merry Christmas to all participants. Sports will return in January

The Vegas Line

NFL - Week 16 (Home Team in CAPS)

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| | Friday | | |
| | Saturday | | |
| KANSAS CITY | 7 ½ | 58 | Oakland |
| Denver | 3 ½ | 51 | TENNESSEE |
| | Sunday | | |
| PITTSBURGH | 6 | 34 ½ | Baltimore |
| DETROIT | 6 ½ | 37 | Chicago |
| CINCINNATI | 6 | 44 | N.Y. Giants |
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA)

Address: 5075 Campanile Drive, San Diego, 619-582-8433

Founded locally: 1995

Senior pastor: Reverend Dr. Chris Lenocker
Congregation size: 255

Staff size: 8

Sunday school enrollment: 50

Annual budget: \$500,000

Weekly giving: didn't know

Singles program: no

Dress: dressy casual to dressy

Diversity: white

Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.

Length of reviewed service: 1 hour

Website: www.faithpresbyterianchurch.org

"Faith Presbyterian Church is one of the more liberal churches in the county. We believe there are a lot of folks who want to find a place where the message is one of inclusiveness. Our congregation is really open-minded and are concerned that marginalized people are cared for and loved," Reverend Dr. Chris Lenocker told me.

Faith Presbyterian is in a difficult position as the PCUSA denomination holds debates about the role of homosexuals and homosexuality in their churches. "We have chosen to remain a part of PCUSA and abide by the Book of Order," said Lenocker. "It says that practicing, non-repentant homosexual people cannot be ordained in leadership positions. We follow that. At the same time we want homosexual people to feel welcome here. It is a difficult place of tension for us. We are getting shot at from both sides." This place of tension will continue because Reverend Lenocker sees the denomination as likely to become more conservative.

I asked Reverend Lenocker, "When it comes to difficult issues, such as homosexuality, how do you determine what is true according to the Bible?"

"You hold on one side scripture that says, 'the goats over here and the sheep over here.' And you hold scripture that says, 'Christ came to save all of creation.' We need to hold these two in tension. My way of doing things is to try and educate people on the Bible and let them come to their own decision. I don't pretend to think what I say is the truth. We all get there together on a journey."

Faith Presbyterian Church was created from a merger between two PCUSA churches, College Park and East San Diego. In 1995 the two churches opted to join. They were "failing demographically," said Reverend Lenocker. "When the new church began, the average age was 75. There were two families in the church. Things were not looking good." Lenocker actively sought new members. Attendance has increased.

Faith Presbyterian sits across the street from San Diego State University. The '60s-

style building has a steep pitched roof that covers the red brick exterior walls. The light woods and contemporary interior is a happy contrast to the traditional exterior. A cross of modern design rises from floor to ceiling on the front wall. The cross is built into the wall and includes a metal sculpted center and backlit purple stained glass. A wooden podium and a communion table draped with blue cloth command the sanctuary foreground.

Sunday's service began with the pianist playing "Noel" while the congregation meditated. Next, as the Advent candles were lit, four people rang hand bells. Jill Beadles led the congregation in several responsive readings. Traditional hymns, accompanied by a 40-person choir and piano, were sung. Among the hymns were "The King of Glory," "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee," and "Joy to the World."

Reverend Lenocker's message for the morning was taken from the life of John the Baptist. "John cried out in the wilderness to proclaim the coming of the One who will come and change the world," Lenocker exclaimed. "Often we forget what happened to John. He ended his life in a prison, with his head being removed." Lenocker spoke about the doubt John the Baptist had when Jesus began his ministry. Lenocker concluded that it was for John's doubts as well as ours that Jesus came to provide hope.

After service, people walked to the fellowship hall. The congregation chatted as they ate ice-cream sundaes and listened to music. Tables had been set up to write letters to Congress to encourage U.S. involvement in peace talks in Sudan, Syria, China, and Kosovo. "Congress, up until about three years ago, could have cared less about these issues," said Lenocker. Lenocker told me that many in the congregation are involved in social justice programs.

With Christmas near, I asked Reverend Lenocker what message he had for this season. "We have lost the ability to be awestruck of the wonder of what happened 2000 years ago," Lenocker said. "I don't think people stop and think about the fact the world was transformed by the birth of an infant in a backwater part of the world. We have become so techno-modern, we have lost the ability to have a sense of awe and wonder. We need to have this child grasp our heart and love us to the point where we can't help but love the whole world."

I ended my conversation with Lenocker with the question I ask each week: what happens to a person after he or she dies. Lenocker replied, "We believe a Christian will go to be with God. God knows each person's heart. God's grace is what saves a person. You can't earn your way up the ladder. While we believe in God and Jesus Christ, we are not willing to denigrate someone else's faith and say that this is the only way. We don't know what happens to everyone else."

— Drew E. Goodmansson



REVEREND DR. CHRIS LENOCKER

Faith Presbyterian Church San Diego ★★

Sermon

content★★
delivery★¹/₂

Liturgy

.....★★

Music

congregational★¹/₂

choir★★

Snacks

.....★★¹/₂

Architecture

.....★¹/₂

Friendliness

.....★★

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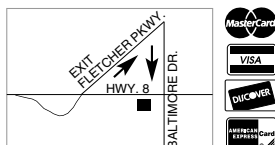
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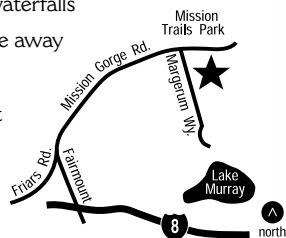
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Dear Saffron,

My husband and I have an old friend I'll call Herb. We've known him forever. He's 75 now but very frisky. In fact, maybe a little too frisky. He insists on kissing everyone he knows hard on the mouth, both in greeting and in parting. This has been going on for years, but as he gets older he gets more insistent about it. He likes to drink quite a bit and the kisses get more intense and sloppier when he's drunk. People who know Herb complain about this and some even avoid him because they find it embarrassing to be grabbed and kissed so forcefully. He gets a grip on your shoulders or face and it's really hard to duck or wriggle out of his grasp. I don't know why he does this. The guy has a very nice wife so it's not like he's starved for physical contact. We have another friend who — God bless him — is close to 90 and Herb has almost knocked him to the ground a couple of times with this effusive kissing routine. My husband, who is very softhearted, feels we should find a way to tell Herb that people are not into his smoochy stuff. He says it pains him to see how Herb is unknowingly humiliating himself. I wonder if this long-standing habit can be broken and if there is any way of broaching this subject without hurting Herb's feelings. I can't think of a way to do it that wouldn't sound mean. Holiday parties approach and I can't bear to think of all the mauling I'll have to endure from Herb. Last New Year's Eve my husband and I were just about to kiss at midnight at a nice celebration when Herb inserted his face between us and hijacked the kiss — meaning he somehow kissed both of us at once and prevented us from kissing each other. Yuck.

**SICK OF THE SUPERSMOOCHER
IN HILLCREST**

Dear Sick,

Herb must be curbed. He has made a habit of leaping on people like an enthusiastic puppy who wildly licks all visitors. And I bet you're right: It's going to take real effort for him to change his ways at this late date. Since your husband is close to Herbie and sympathetic toward him, he can try to talk to him privately. I'm sure he'll do his best to spare Herb's feelings and assure him that he is popular and well loved but that the seizing and kissing should be toned down. In Europe, where people are often more physically demonstrative, Herb's tackling greetings might be considered perfectly acceptable. Americans are a little more standoffish. Also, as people get older and more frail, many just aren't up to the superathletic

embrace. Instead, warm verbal greetings would be appreciated. Herb should be reminded — and this is no reflection on him — that especially during flu season the less kissy physical contact he has with others, the better, if he wants to remain frisky and vigorous rather than bedridden.

Dear Saffron,

I enjoy your column. But my mom just called me with some feedback on your last column. She thinks that the second letter, in which the mother is taking the son-in-law to sporting events, even though they supposedly don't get along, is rather odd. And I have to say my mom seems to be onto something. Why would this mother-in-law suddenly start inviting her son-in-law to games with her when they allegedly don't even like each other? Maybe the real "game" is that they are having an affair and this is strategy to get away with it. Think about it. He is an adult. If he didn't enjoy these events, he would already have thought of an excuse to get out of going. Hell, us men think of every excuse under the sun to not take the trash out or to put off mowing the lawn for another week, yet he's being "tortured" with a mother-in-law whose company he doesn't like. It's all a bit weird. And why didn't the wife who wrote to you complaining about this just say, "Thanks, Mom, for all this free time you give me, but how about this: Babysit our kids while my husband and I have a nice romantic dinner out. That would help more than you taking my husband out alone." Surely her husband would enjoy that company more than an evening with his mean mother-in-law. Didn't the wife wonder why two people that supposedly hate each other all of a sudden go out together repeatedly? It's very suspicious. Or maybe my mom has watched too many soap operas.

B.J. FROM DEL MAR

Write to Saffron c/o the

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BestBuys

— EVE KELLY

My family likes to get into its cups at holiday time. Some of them have deeper cups than others. A few of them stay in them all year round. For those soggy few, the holidays can be a dangerous time, and their troubles become everybody's troubles. Thanks-giving dinner this year was an unmitigated disaster. The cooks labored mightily and produced a triumphant cornucopia of good things to eat — not that anybody noticed much. The meal was an afterthought; the main course was politics, served rotten with a side of conspiracy. Aunt Maria left the table in tears. Uncle George, buzzing and angry, chipped two of Patrick's grandmother's china dessert plates while clearing. Aunt Marla tiptoed out the side door and threw up in the bushes toward evening's end. And all night long, Great-Grandma Moira begged Patrick to cut off George's liquor. "What can I do?" shot back Patrick. "Uncle George is a grown man, and it's not like he's driving anywhere tonight."

I hated to do it, but I decided to make Christmas and New Year's dinners dry this year. I would not have them hijacked with alcohol. I would serve iced tea, water, and soda. And to help distract from the absence of booze, I would serve a jazzy nonalcoholic punch.

I first spoke with Djuana Bryant (619-697-7430, partybydjuana@cox.net). Bryant works for the Pampered Chef, a purveyor of "quality kitchen tools, cookware, and stoneware." She shared her favorite Pampered Chef punch recipe with me: Wild Raspberry Summer Sipper. "Even though it has a summer name, it's great for the holidays as well. It has cranberry juice in it, and 'tis the season — we use cranberries in cranberry sauce and apple-cranberry desserts. Cranberry has a tang; it helps to cut the sweet. This punch has a beautiful cranberry color. And the way it's prepared — soda poured over sherbet — gives it a neat fizz, a frosty look for this time of year."

The recipe is simple: mix three cups of chilled cranraspberry juice with two cups of raspberry sherbet. Place one scoop of raspberry sherbet in each 10-ounce glass. Add one-half cup of chilled juice-sherbet mixture, then add lemon-lime soda until the foam reaches the top of the glass, about one-half cup. Serve immediately.

Patrick suggested I try some caterers. "I bet they have to cater alcohol-free events all the time," he guessed. So I called Andrew Haddock at The French Gourmet Restaurant and Full-Service Catering (800-929-1984). He gave me several suggestions for the punch bowl. "One of our most popular punches is a cranberry-lemonade punch. Make lemonade from frozen concentrate, only use Sprite instead of water. Then add enough cranberry juice cocktail to turn it pink — not red. Maybe two cans of con-

"It's nice to do an ice ring with the punch."

centrate, two-and-a-half liters of Sprite, and one 64-ounce cranberry juice cocktail. Play with the lemonade — some people like it tart, some sweet. Make sure everything is cold. Then add frozen cranberries and orange slices — the cranberries act like ice to keep it chilled."

Haddock also helped me with the "Classic Orange" — it tastes like an orange Cream-sicle. For that, I would do two liters of Sprite to half a can of orange juice concentrate, then add between a teaspoon and a tablespoon of vanilla extract, and maybe a little sugar. Mix it in a punch bowl, and then add big scoops of orange sherbet or vanilla ice cream to the bowl. The scoops help keep it cold."

Haddock finished with a tropical fruit punch. "Mix a can of orange juice and a can of pineapple juice with (if you can find it) mango puree or puree of tropical fruits. Once again, Sprite is the base. Or you could use ginger ale, because it's got a little spice to it. One to two liters. These recipes are suggestions — taste as you go. If you like more pineapple, add more pineapple. And it's nice to do an ice ring with a punch. I use a cake pan. I put in a little bit of water and freeze it. Then I add pineapple, orange slices, and maraschino cherries. Put more water on top and freeze it. Then take it out, add mint or basil leaves, add more water, and freeze it. You get different layers of flavor in the punch as the ice slowly melts. It should be frozen for a couple of days before you use it, so that it's really rock hard."

Carrie Duff of Spectacular Catering & Events (619-229-1864) suggested a nonalcoholic punch with a different kind of kick to it. "Some holiday parties are starting later and going later this year, so they're putting Red Bull in the punch. Get a frozen strawberry punch from the grocery store. Add fresh lemonade like Naked Juice, then two cans of Red Bull, and mix. Fill your punch bowl with ice, and pour the punch over it."

Kimberly Malinowski of Bekkers Catering (619-287-9027) offered something hot to drink. "We do a warm apple cider. Buy apple cider, mix it with orange slices, cinnamon sticks, and cloves, then heat it until it's hot to the touch and serve it in an urn."

Finally, I got this riff from California Cuisine chef Todd Atcheson (619-543-0790): "I think sparkling is the key. You need some effervescence. Try a mock champagne, or some sparkling cider. To make it festive and interesting, put in pomegranate seeds. They'll bleed, and give the punch a rose color. And they'll change the flavor a wee bit. And you'll have a popcorn type of crunch; I think that would be fun. To keep the festive holiday colors going, you could make ice cubes with basil leaves inside them. It would be cool with pomegranate and basil." Cool enough. Now all I have to do is find a way to keep Uncle George from spiking it.

1. Pomegranate
2. Djuana Bryant
3. Punch bowl



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Crasher

TEQUILA MOOD

by Josh Board

I got an invitation to celebrate the 39th anniversary of John Sant's 21st birthday. I don't know what age that makes him. I'm sure it's a simple math problem....

His house was on Mount Soledad. As I walked up, I thought the architecture was incredible. And as I was admiring the beauty of this place, I noticed something rather tacky — a bunch of pink flamingos in the front yard. I didn't count (again, that's math...and I never want to contradict myself; I once told a math teacher "When will we ever need to use this stuff out in the real world?"), but there had to be at least 20 flamingos.

When I met John Sant, the homeowner, I asked if he was a big John Waters fan and what the deal with the flamingos was. He said, "When we moved in here, the neighbors complained because we had our logos on the van. We were running our photography business out of our home. So we put all these tacky flamingos on the lawn as a way of saying 'fuck you' to our neighbors. We like pissing people off. The *Union-Tribune* did a story about how to piss off your neighbors, and they contacted us. A travel magazine did a story and mentioned this house as a



place to see."

I've never thought the phrase "cutting off your nose to spite your face" was ever more appropriate.

John's wife Linda is about 15 years younger than he is. She gave me a tour of the house, and was nice enough to turn on a big-screen TV in her bedroom so I could check the score of a Sunday-night football game.

I noticed a lot of photos on the walls. Linda told me that

"If I drink any more, I'll be sleeping on this pool table."

John had taken them. She said, "He has a photo that's in the Smithsonian, another in the Royal Albert Museum in London, one at the Museum of Man in Balboa Park. They were requested from the museums in



the mid-'80s when he returned from working in the Middle East."

When I saw a photo of a red-and-white '57 Corvette on the refrigerator, I told her that was one of my favorite cars. She

called John over and he took me into the garage to take a peek at it. I told him I would write a lot of nice things about him if he let me take it out for a spin. He said, "I spent a lot of time restoring that. You can buy it



from me for \$60,000."

Any readers out there wanna go halves?

I asked John about the pictures he had of women from the Middle East. "Are you allowed to photograph them?" He responded, "They didn't mind. But a few guys wanted to kill me. I would quickly take a Polaroid and hand it to them. That usually got me out of trouble." He then showed me a photo of a woman breast-feeding her baby. He said, "You'll never see a photo like that. You can see she's smiling, too."

John looked a bit like George Carlin, with longer hair

in the back (in a ponytail) and a handlebar mustache. I told him my stepfather and I had argued about what exactly a handlebar mustache was. I heard it can be the kind like Rollie Fingers's (which John has), or it can be one that points downward and is long. Or it can be long and bushy at the end. He said, "Nope. A handlebar mustache has to be waxed and curl up."

Since I've described John, I won't get hate mail for describing this next guy. He was a tall, good-looking black guy using an upper-class accent as he said, "I just love this pâté." As he was spreading it on a cracker, it broke. I made fun of him. He made fun of me when I asked if something was German chocolate cake. It wasn't.

I had to ask the stereotypical question, "Do you play basketball?" He did. When I told him he looked a little like Karl Malone, we talked about how much we hated him.

This guy is a cameraman for Channel 8 now and used to work in Utah. He told me stories about the Jazz players. He had met a lot of celebrities and said they were all nice. He once spent an entire evening talking with Rosemary Clooney (now probably more well-known as George's aunt). He said, "The

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only star that was ever a jerk was that guy from *Dukes of Hazzard*. The black-haired guy [Tom Wopat]. Usually, I have the camera, so people are nice. They don't want to act mean while I'm filming. The person that usually takes the star up to their room hadn't shown up, and they asked me to do it. I did that and he started snapping his fingers at me, saying, 'I want a *Wall Street Journal*. Now!' I said 'okay' and left."

We talked about growing up playing basketball. I told him I had played with Jud Buechler (formerly of the Bulls) in Poway once, and a few times with Bill Walton and former SDSU star Michael Cage. It didn't sound as much like name-dropping as it does now. He told me, where he grew up in Texas, Spud Webb came into the gym. This was before his NBA career, which was highlighted by winning a slam-dunk contest (and he's only 5'6"). He said, "I was pissed I had to cover him. I said 'Why do I

have to cover the short guy?' He then slam-dunked on me. The next play, he faked me out. I fell down and he slammed it again. I just left in embarrassment."

I didn't want to leave the kitchen, because we were having such a great conversation about hoops. There was lots of homemade Indian food, carrot cake, and other snacks.

I walked by the pool, which was difficult. One table was occupied by a group of people, and there were lots of trees and bushes, which meant if you weren't careful, you'd fall in the pool. One person walking through there said, "You need a machete to get by here." But the view of the lights in P.B. from this high up was spectacular.

There was a bar set up near one side of the backyard. An Asian guy was serving drinks. He told me that, before I could have one, I'd have to sign this bottle of booze they were going to give John.

I glanced over at the

pool table and said, "Won't the felt get ruined from everyone putting their drinks on it?" He responded, "It's an outdoor pool table. It's made for things like dew and different weather conditions. A drink won't damage it."

John came over and was giving everyone shots of tequila. One guy said, "I don't drink." John said, "Then you should be brought behind there and shot."

I ended up having a few shots. John also had this bottle of tequila that he had saved for 20 years. Everyone raved about how good it was. I guess I'm not enough of a connoisseur. I asked one guy to explain to me why it was so good. He said, "Well, it's smooth. You can just tell when you drink a good tequila."

I asked John how much the bottle was when he got it 20 years ago. He said, "Only \$60." Someone else added, "But the event of us drinking it — priceless."

I saw a sign for Focal

Point Productions, the company John owns. One cute young girl, who was his assistant, said, "I can't do another shot, John. If you keep giving me these drinks, I'm going to quit." Another guy said, "I'm a lightweight, John. If I drink any more, I'll be sleeping on this pool table."

There were a few Godzilla items around the house. Somebody said, "I got him a Godzilla for his birthday. He likes those, and flamingos. I'm not sure why. It's just weird pop culture stuff, I guess." I also noticed they had a painting of dogs playing poker.

I did love one of their collections. It was a shelf with old radios and phonographs. I once started collecting those, as well as jukeboxes. Now my collection resides in various friends' garages.

Since there were a few photographers here, that was often the topic of conversation. One guy talked to me about digital cameras, although I felt embarrassed

that I didn't know more about the one I had with me. Another man told me about a photographer who takes pictures that look old. "This person has all the old equipment, and he even did the photos for the movie *Cold Mountain*. There's only a few guys around that do that processing the same way they did in the 1800s." He then said, "Is that an interesting enough story? Do you ever have parties with really lame stories and nothing you can write about?"

I told him people always have interesting things to say. I only had one party, where only three people showed up, that I didn't write about. He said, "Yeah, three's a crowd, but it isn't a party."

John was continuing to drink and hand out shots. He was starting to slur his words. As I was taking a picture of his kids and their friends, he asked me to take a photo of him. I said, "I want to get some pictures of the younger crowd. I have

enough of you." He said, "Are you saying I'm old? Screw you, douche bag!" I laughed. He ended up calling me "douche bag" a few more times in the course of the evening.

I met a guy named Chuck. I told him his name was always my favorite to sing in the "Name Game" song. He said, "My favorite thing is to go up to a woman and say 'try your luck with Chuck.'" I didn't ask him how successful he was with that.

There was a short, good-looking Italian guy with a leather jacket. He had a New York accent, so we talked a bit about life back East (my stepdad is from New York). We then ended up arguing about politics, but he knew a lot about the subject. Then he saw a seven-year-old girl with her mom, and he started laughing. It turns out he was her substitute teacher a few days earlier in Tierrasanta.

I saw a photograph John had taken of Frank

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Zappa, the former San Diego resident and rock hall-of-famer. He said, "Zappa was my favorite musician. I've taken a lot of pictures of him. I worked for the BBC for ten years and took lots of photos. I shot the Who when they played at Leeds [and did that great *Live at Leeds* album]. I partied with the Who, too. I did a pound of coke with Keith Moon [the drummer who died of a drug overdose]. I met three of the Beatles." I asked which one he didn't meet and he said, "John Lennon."

"Do you have any Beatles stories?" I asked.

"No. We were all just talking and hanging out. I can't remember most of the stuff I talked about with any of those guys. I partied with a lot of them. The Rolling Stones, lots of bands."

There were four people talking, and two of them were smoking. Linda asked for a cigarette, and I brought up the fact that she had said earlier that she had quit smoking. She said, "I did. I always quit smoking."

I quit drinking because I knew I'd be driving home soon. I glanced up at the balcony. It looked like some people were up there smoking a J. I listened as two young girls argued. One was telling the other she would drive, the other saying she hadn't even drunk that much.

Somebody spilled a drink on the pool table.

The bartender came back and was serving more drinks and having more partygoers sign the bottle for John. One guy said, "There's no room left on it." The bartender replied, "Keep looking; you'll find a space."

As I left, I stopped to take a photo of the flamigos. Someone asked me what I thought of them, and I mentioned the story about pissing off the neighbors. He said, "The neighbors must have gotten over it. I think a few of them were here at this party." ■

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by Barbarella

Nutso

You enter into a certain amount of madness when you marry a person with pets.

— Nora Ephron

I have a surprise for you,” David said as he opened the door on his way into our hotel room. He had been out scouting places to photograph while I chose to stay back in our temporary abode, overlooking the water at

Morro Bay, to relax and read. He told me to put on my shoes, and I wondered with glee if he had gotten my car detailed. I closed the door behind me, and a quick glance down at my dust-and-dead-bug-covered vehicle — souvenirs of our road trip thus far — shattered that idea. I insisted on driving, even though he was the only one who knew where we were going.

David directed me to Morro Rock, a huge landmass rising up in the bay along California’s central coast.

Maybe it’s a picnic, I thought. We had just been here the day before, and though it was still beautiful, I found nothing surprising about the scenery. I parked the car and followed David to the edge of the water, where most of the sand leading up to the parking area was covered with child-sized boulders. Confused, I looked at David — could this be a weird joke? Was there something very special happening here? Some cosmic realignment of which I remained oblivious?

David pulled a plastic grocery bag from the car, and from the bag, produced a tall glass jar filled with unsalted peanuts. I assumed they were for us to snack on. But when we arrived at the edge where pavement met sand, the place where David had made me

stand motionless and wait, my peripheral radar began to ping as small movements registered all around us. Rodent shapes were emerging from gaps between the rocks. Mentally placing their forms into the right category of order/family/genus, I became moronically ecstatic.

“Squirrels!” I exclaimed, as David handed me the jar. “There are so many of them! And they — they’re coming towards us!” Smiling broadly, David explained how, when he had been here earlier scouting for shots, one of the squirrels attempted to climb up his pant leg. I sat in a spot of sand with a handful of peanuts and watched, wide-eyed and grinning, as they approached me, or more accurately, approached my nut-filled hand.

When those little paws braced themselves on my fingers and those tiny teeth collected peanuts, one by one, to be shoved into the recesses of those adorable cheeks with those itty-bitty human-like hands, I almost lost it. This might have been the cutest thing I had ever seen, and the nearest I might ever be to a real, live, wild squirrel. When surrounded by squirrels or any other furry little creatures (though especially squirrels), I become a dork. A secret cabal of squirrels could be plotting to rob me blind, and I would let them, reveling in the opportunity to see their little paws at work. Cute bastards.

I don’t know exactly when or why my obsession with squirrels (and other live, cute,

and cuddly beasts) began. As a girl, I dreamed of being a veterinarian; think of all the animals I could see in a day! It didn’t matter that I needed allergy shots twice a week just to be able to breathe around our Brittany spaniel, Penny. I had pet hamsters, pet rabbits, pet birds — all of them terrible for my allergies but wonderful for me to look at, touch, and love.

I was still keen on the idea of being a pet doctor until I took my first biology class. There was no way I could cut an animal nor stand to see it suffer. I managed to avoid touching the dead pig fetus during the dissection lab, persuading my classmates to do it for me in exchange for my services as “group documenter” (I filled in our assignment sheets). Maybe I could work at a zoo instead. From my earliest memories, I fantasized about domesticating wild animals. Like Sleeping Beauty or Sheena, Queen of the Jungle, I imagined I could communicate with the wild; that when I was able to catch the eye of an untamed beast, it could read my thoughts.

On more than one occasion, while gazing at a wild animal, I would think hard, trying to project my thoughts. “Hi,” my mind would say. “It’s okay; you can trust me. Come here and I’ll stroke your back and give you a treat; I promise you won’t be harmed.” Too many times, I thought my telepathic communiqué had been heard and understood by whichever creature I had stumbled upon. Hence, my sus-

A secret cabal of squirrels could be plotting to rob me blind, and I would let them, reveling in the opportunity to see their little paws at work.

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ceptibility to every psychic who has told me (and they have) that I have a "special gift" that allows me to speak to our mammalian relatives.

If I can't speak *to* animals, I speak *for* them. For years, my sister Jenny and I assumed the "voices" of pigeons. We'd be waiting for our parents to exit the Navy Exchange and suddenly notice a group of city birds bobbing their heads around the sidewalk in search of crumbs. "Excuse me, Miss, I need you to come with me," I'd say as a larger pigeon approached a regular-sized one. Jenny would assume the voice of the "female" bird, and we'd have an entire conversation, complete with plots and characters inspired by whatever cartoons we had been watching at the time. There was Super Pigeon, Teenage Mutant Ninja Pigeon, and so many more I can't remember.

I tend to anthropomorphize all animals. I have an addiction to Animal Planet, though I only watch it when David's not around. He has little tolerance for *Planet's* *Funniest Animals* marathons, whereas I could sit happily for days watching dogs trip and cats attack cameras. The other day, while David and our friend Ollie were moving furniture and shit down to the garage, I hurried to turn on the TV. By the time they returned, I was emotionally involved in the progress of Ice, a black rottweiler found tied to a chain in the snow, so hungry and weak she couldn't stand up on her own when the animal cops found her.

In addition to worrying and wringing my hands over Ice's chances of recovery, I was glued to the bottom-right corner of the screen, where every two minutes, an advertisement for an upcoming show would appear. The show was called *Pet Stars*, which wasn't what held my attention — it was the realistic-looking squirrel that would rise from the bottom of the screen juggling three acorns. This was so cute that each time it appeared, I'd laugh out loud like a two-year-old seeing a balloon for the first time.

David and Ollie had returned but had yet to catch the squirrel's act. Since this was the best thing ever to be broadcast on television, I insisted, for their own sakes, that they join me on the couch until the image reappeared. Maybe it's because a new show was starting, but it took a lot longer than two minutes for the next talented squirrel to show its whiskers. By the time the boys saw juggling, they were cranky and annoyed with me for making them suffer through the *Crocodile Hunter's* koala rescue. But when they saw my face light up and heard my dopey laugh, their brows relaxed, and they merely remained bewildered that I could be so entertained by a simple graphic.

Jenny told me of a place near Balboa Park where large, fluffy squirrels are domesticated enough to approach humans for nuts. We're going there tomorrow; tonight, I'll sleep about as much as a seven-year-old the night before Christmas. ■

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Ann
80 years old
Lives in La Mesa
Interviewed at
Kohl's Santee

I'm shopping for just my family — my daughter and grandchildren. Our Christmas is Christmas Eve. That is our family tradition. I have been doing this all my life. I grew up with that. I'm from Germany, and always Christmas Eve was the big thing. You go to church and then you have Christmas when you come home from



Ann

church that evening. As a child, I remember the snow, up to my chin. I remember the bustle, the getting ready, the baking, the house smelling so good, and the traditional things you have there. We didn't do the lights outside of the houses. My favorite Christmas carol is "Silent Night," but in German, "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht." My worst Christmases were during the war. Those were bad times. We were bombed, and then we were in the Russian occupation. You don't like to look back to that; you go forward. My fondest Christmas memories were as a child growing up, being with the family. As long as you were with your family, it's a merry Christmas.

Joe
52 years old
Lives in Santee
Interviewed at
Kohl's Santee

I haven't decided how much I am going to spend on Christmas gifts. I don't usually do a firm Christmas budget because I usually end up exceeding whatever I plan anyway. My two boys will get the most expensive gifts this year. When I was growing up in Hartford, Connecticut, the oldest working child in the family bought the Christmas tree. That was his Christmas gift. There were seven kids, my parents, and my grandparents. There weren't a lot of presents — we were pretty poor — but everybody got together and trimmed the tree. The older kids went to Catholic Church on Christmas Eve, the



Joe

younger group went with the folks on Christmas Day. We had presents Christmas morning, a big meal early Christmas afternoon. When I was seven, I got a used bicy-

cle. My father had bought it and repainted it, and that was the best Christmas gift ever. It was really icy. I crashed a lot, but it was great. The one gift I wanted and never received was a motorcycle. At my house we do a lot of decorations: lights, figures, trees, baubles, stuff around the fireplace, the whole thing.

Jeff
27 years old
Lives in Olympia,
Washington
Interviewed at
Kohl's Santee

I plan on spending a couple hundred bucks on Christmas gifts this year. I am a college kid, so I have a limited budget. My nephew gets the most expensive gift. He is two years old, and he is the youngest one in the family. My mom and my aunt both go overboard with decorations. They both probably spend like \$500 to \$600 a year just on new Christmas decorations. We had the traditional Christmas when I was growing up: Christmas tree, going



Jeff

to my aunt and uncle's for Christmas Day. We'd open our gifts early in the morning at our place, and then we'd go to my aunt and uncle's and then open more gifts right around noon or one o'clock and then have Christmas dinner. There was always more food than anybody could actually eat. It could possibly be turkey and ham; my uncle has a farm, so he catches his own turkeys. I was pretty spoiled; I don't remember any gift that I wanted that I didn't get. I remember getting a castle Lego set one year that I really wanted, the big set that they had with the whole castle and the knights. I was probably nine at the time.... My favorite Christmas song is "Frosty the Snowman." The worst Christmas I'd have to say was the year that we had an ice storm, so we had no power. My parents live out in the middle of nowhere. We couldn't even leave because snow had compacted into ice, so when my dad tried to back the car out the wheels were just spinning. We didn't go anywhere that year.

Victor
27 years old
Lives in La Mesa
Interviewed at West-
field Shoppingtown
Parkway

I'm going to spend anywhere from \$1000 to \$1500 on gifts this Christmas. My fiancée will get the most expensive gift. Her gift is half

the budget; it is a necklace.... Big tree, lots of decorations, ornaments — just stuff that I have collected — nice lights, good lighting scheme, and always a real cut tree.... Christmas growing up: gifts, lots of gifts. I was a Navy brat, so we moved around, but we actually had family come out wherever we were for Christmas. My dad would go all out with lights and everything. A couple of years we did reindeer, and then a couple of years we did a



Victor

snowman in the front of the house and lights everywhere. What symbolized Christmas in our household was the food. My mom's Filipino and my father is Mexican, so we had a whole variety of food, a cross section of different stuff. We had a dessert called a *halo-halo*; it is kind of like a slushy ice cream. And we had Filipino cheesecake, which is juicy and sweet. And we had all sorts of adobo — chicken adobo, pork adobo — and of course *pansit*. And then my dad had his tamales,

oh, man.... The GI Joe aircraft carrier, that was the one thing that I always wanted and I never got it. It wasn't because they didn't want to get it for me. Every year, when it came time to buy it, the stores didn't have it. They were sold out. It was huge — it was almost as long as this bench. And every year, my dad tried to get it, and then the last year he even special ordered it, but they messed up the order. But then Hasbro gave me a whole bunch of Destro's commandos. They gave me the whole set for that Christmas. I will never forget that one. We have a Filipino version of the song "Merry Merry Christmas"; it is called "Mali-gayang Pasko." That's my favorite Christmas song. The favorite gift I ever gave was two years ago. I built my friend a PC. He always wanted a gaming PC. I bought the parts, and I put it together. His brother had committed suicide that year, and he was going through a rough time of it. That was what made it so special.

Roy
54 years old
Lives in El Cajon
Interviewed at West-
field Shoppingtown
Parkway

I am budgeting right around \$200, but it looks like it is going to be quite a bit more than that because my daughter wants these video games

Helpers

for her Playstation 2, and they are \$50 a whack. We get the basic tree. We always get a fresh one every year because we like the smell of it. We put stuff on the tree that we've collected over the years. I grew up back in the Midwest, in Kansas, and I remember I think the best Christmas I had. I was five years old. I got the whole set of Tonka trucks that I always wanted. The old stamped metal ones. I think my grandkids are still playing with them. It wasn't a religious holiday, it was just a big family get-together. We had everyone coming over for Christmas dinner: grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles. There were four of us in the house. My mom baked and cooked. She'd start the day before Christmas cooking and end up in



Roy

late afternoon on Christmas, still cooking and baking — tables full of pies and baked goods. Really I can't remember a gift that I wanted and didn't get. I basically got everything that I wanted.

Of course, I didn't want all that much, and then I was pretty well happy with what I did get. Kids today, they want everything they see. My worst Christmas was in 1997 when my ex left the day before Christmas and took my three-year-old daughter with her. That was my worst one.... I wrap my own gifts. I learned by trial and error. What makes me cry at Christmas is how happy the kids are with their Christmas gifts. Tears of joy.

Alexander
18 years old
Lives in Carmel Mountain
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Parkway

Hopefully, I'll spend under 400 bucks this Christmas. My girlfriend gets the most expensive gift, but I've got no idea what I'm going to get her. I like to get big trees, but my mom wants to get a small one because she is tired of cleaning up all the needles. I don't do a tree at my own place — it is too expensive — just at my mom's. It's decorated with things we've collected over the years usually, like baby's-first-Christmas kind of stuff. Lot of theme stuff too, like color-coordinated things.... My favorite Christmas gift, well my grandfather got me these cowboy boots from Mexico when I was three. I wore them for years. They were, like, oversized

boots. I've never really had a bad Christmas, actually. I always go to midnight Mass. We gave gifts on Christmas Eve because we are Spanish. In Spain it is the tradition to do the gifts then



Alexander

or on January 6th, the Three Kings Day. But we don't do that here. We do gifts around 11:00, before we go to midnight Mass. For food, it was either turkey or ham, lot of stuffing. I remember last year my mom cooked saffron rice and chicken — arroz con pollo. My parents taught me how to wrap gifts when I was little because they didn't want to wrap them.... I don't like Christmas music, it is so annoying. I hate it when they start playing it in early November. But if I had to pick a favorite Christmas song it would be "Mele Kalikimaka" because it is just funny.... My grandparents told me Christmas in Cuba or Spain was a lot different. There weren't many presents because presents were usually given on the

Three Kings Day. All you got on Christmas usually was candy.... What makes me cry at Christmas? I've never cried at Christmas.

Michael
42 years old
Lives in Yuma
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Parkway

I'm going to spend about \$2000. I've got half of that right here in this shopping cart. My four grandchildren get the most expensive gifts — mostly LeapFrogs, the electronic learning games, that kind of stuff. My oldest granddaughter, she likes Bratz, so we are spending like \$60 to \$80 a pop on different Bratz play sets. I'm also buying for two adult stepdaughters, their significant others, and of course my wife. Outside at our house we have lights, and on the inside we decorate the living room. Each year we get more and more. The first year that we were in Yuma, we just had one string of lights right around the top of the house. Now we've got them all over. Next year we are going to do some lawn things, like the deer that move their heads, stuff like that. We've got an inflatable Santa that is eight feet tall. We try to do a little bit more each year. We always do our gift opening on Christmas Eve. Christmas Day is relaxation day. My wife has been trying to get me

to go to church, but I feel uncomfortable in a church. It just feels kind of weird.... Christmas Eve, 1994, the engagement ring I gave to my wife, that's my favorite gift given. We play differ-



Michael

ent sorts of music at Christmas. Looking at my dad's picture makes me cry at Christmas. He passed away in '91; he was a really cool guy. This is the time of year I think of him, because he was really big on family stuff and family get-togethers and stuff like that. We always had good Christmases, as far back as I can remember. My dad and stepmom, they always spent \$200 to \$300 per kid. The worst Christmas was in 1999 when I filed bankruptcy.... I can't stand stuffing. I used to love it when I was little, but I don't even like the smell of it now. My stepmom, the one that I grew up with, she was from Chattanooga, Tennessee, so she was a hillbilly. So we ate a lot of cornbread and grits and buttermilk and just you name it. Because they didn't really

celebrate Christmas in the Philippines — not like we do here — my dad didn't really bring any Christmas traditions with him. The one thing I really got passed down from him was his home-made recipe from the Philippines that I sort of Americanized so that it would taste better for us. It is adobo, and if you cook it like they do in the Philippines, it is really gross. It's got fish in it, kind of a stew. But this one, basically it is just water, vinegar, bay leaves, salt and pepper, cloves of garlic, and you can put either chicken or beef in it, or pork — we always do chicken — and just let it simmer.

Ashley
18 years old
Lives in Las Vegas
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Bonita

I plan on spending no more than \$600.... We do a white tree. It's a green tree, but we get it flocked. We do different colored bulbs, everything. We do colored lights on the outside — window trimming and around the house. We



Ashley

buy a couple snowmen. But we don't do it like you drive by and say "Oooooooo, look at that house!" We are not quite there yet.... My favorite gift was whenever I got

the money in the card. My mom, we have different taste, so she just usually gets a couple of gifts that she thinks I would like and then just puts a lot of money in an envelope with a card and says "Merry Christmas." The one gift I've always wanted but never gotten was a Lexus. *That* would be a Christmas gift! Growing up, it was fun just peeping around, trying to look when the adults were wrapping the gifts. We have a Christmas tradition: we all get around the table, say grace, and we do silly things with video cameras. One Christmas, my uncles and aunts brought us outside and we just had a race up the street to see who could run faster. There was a lot of teasing and trash talking like, "Oh, you can't beat me just because I am old or just because I'm a little overweight." It became a little weird tradition for us. We eat well

on Christmas: sweet potato pie, turkey, ham, dressing from scratch, prime rib. We eat greens, homemade macaroni and cheese, four or five different cakes. Of course, we eat like that all year long.... What makes me cry on Christmas? My grandma. The holidays weren't quite the same after Big Mama died in 1998. It's hard. She was the fist of our family. My grandmother would always say that we are blessed, because when she was growing up she didn't have everything that we had. She taught us that we need to appreciate everything, because where she came from, there were a lot of them, and they just had food and family.

Carlos
17 years old
Lives in Woodland Hills
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Bonita



Carlos

My budget is nothing. I'm not going to give anybody any gifts. I already told everybody, "Nobody is getting anything from me," just because I don't feel like buying anything. I told my mom I'm going to give her a card. That's about it. I don't do a Christmas tree either. You are talking to the wrong guy. I just don't do the Christmas thing. I don't even remember Christmas as a kid. The last time I did Christmas was so long ago that I just don't remember anything about it. There was pretty



Darissa

much a point where I decided I wasn't doing Christmas anymore. We don't have Christmas dinner at my mom's. It's kind of become a family tradition to not do Christmas.

Darissa
20 years old
Lives in Chula Vista
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Bonita

Probably \$1000, and my boyfriend will probably get the biggest gift. I got him an outfit, shoes,

clothes, cologne, typical stuff. I like to do the little bits and put it all together. I don't do one big thing. I live with my parents, and we have a very traditional tree. It is just the same thing every year, a basic Christmas tree, probably about an eight-footer. We decorate with ornaments, no tinsel. That is not allowed at my house, too much of a mess. Sometimes we do lights and ribbon, bows and stuff. The ornaments are the ones we have had forever. Probably my favorite gift I ever got was this jean jacket I got from my sister. I wore it everywhere. I was like 15 or 16, and I thought it was the coolest thing ever. I got so many compliments on that thing it was ridiculous. The favorite gift that I have given was a Playstation for my dad. He is into games. Last year I wanted jewelry from my boyfriend, and I didn't get it. I think I am getting it this year,

though.... What makes me cry at Christmastime is watching other people's expressions when they open a gift that you've gotten them, something that you know they are going to love, and they are just so excited. That will make me cry. Do I wrap my own gifts? Yes and no. Sometimes, like if the shops will do it I will let them do it, but more normally I will do it. My mom taught me how to wrap gifts. We used to decorate the outside of our house, but not anymore. We put a bow in front of our gate and we put lights up, that's about it. Nothing too extravagant. I always wanted the moving reindeer, but no. Maybe this year. My mom, she is very nit-picky. She doesn't want anything to be all messy, so she will only decorate the living room. But she is very subtle and neat. If it were my house, I would have more stuff, like the cinnamon smell when

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you walk in and everything. Growing up, we would go to our grandparents' house, and all the nephews and all the kids would go. You bring a present or so for each relative. Then we'd go back home, have Christmas dinner, and open up one gift at night and then the rest in the morning. Christmas morning it is just so wild with the presents. Since there are only two of us, they spoil us; so, yeah, we get a lot of presents. My dad always tells me it is really about celebrating Jesus' birth and not about getting presents. He is not really approving of the whole buy-them-everything approach to Christmas. But my mom is. I am Catholic, and we used to go to midnight Mass and everything but not so much recently. But I want to go to Mass this year. I always say I'm going to go, and then I



Ludy

am tired or I don't want to go, but I am hoping to go this year.

Ludy
48 years old
Lives in Chula Vista
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Bonita

I plan to spend a lot of money on gifts. Probably in the range of \$1000 to maybe \$3000. My immediate family gets the most expensive gifts, my children and my husband. But first of all, we don't celebrate Christmas like



Sonia

many others do, because we don't observe it in our church. We don't celebrate Christmas in our church because every day is a Christmas in the Church of Christ Pentecostal Church. We believe that every day is giving day. But so that our children don't feel left out, we give them what we call Good Boy, Good Girl presents. And then it is also our anniversary, so my husband and I give each other gifts. We just make it a family day. We don't do trees and decorations, nothing like that.



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We do have a special meal, because it is also our anniversary, so we celebrate. I didn't celebrate Christmas growing up because I was born and raised in our church. We went to church, and church is a big celebration for us too. So while everybody else is having their Christmas fun, we socialize at church. We do some of that brotherhood thing, so we really don't feel left out. I grew up in a church community where that is just the norm.

Sonia
28 years old
Lives in Golden Hill
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Bonita

Mostly it is just me and my sisters that are

together for Christmas, because my family is from Chicago. We do just a couple of gifts. It depends on the budget. I'm planning on spending under \$100 for gifts this year. We don't do a tree; there is no room, no kids. We put lights outside — just a few lights on the balcony. I don't wrap my gifts. Christmas is a religious holiday for me. Sometimes I go to church, but I haven't found a church home. I just started going out here in San Diego.... My favorite Christmas song is "Jingle Bells." When I was a kid, I got more presents and I believed in Santa Claus. Most of the time we spent Christmas with family, immediate family: aunts, uncles, mom and dad, other sisters. We opened gifts at



Monica

midnight. My favorite gift ever was a 1970 Olds 442, a Matchbox-type car, a little replica. I like old cars. The favorite gift I ever gave was — my sister had put a watch in a pawnshop and I gave it back to her on Christmas. The one thing I always wanted but never got was a car, a real one, not just a Matchbox. I haven't had a worst



Steve

Christmas. A fondest Christmas memory? They are all pretty good. Growing up, my mom decorated: the tree, the lights on the windows, and then they started putting them outside on the bushes. Eggnog is the only thing that was special on Christmas. In my family, Christmas dinner has never really been that much compared to



Tena

Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was the bigger dinner holiday. On New Year's we had black-eyed peas. It was for good luck, supposedly.

Monica
33 years old
Lives in Redondo Beach
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley

Let's see, I'll spend maybe \$300 to \$400. My mom will get the most expensive gift. I'm going to get her clothing. I don't do a Christmas tree, my mom does. I'm never home, and I have cats, and if I am not home, they are going to destroy it. Santa never wrapped anything at our house. Presents from Mom were wrapped, but not the ones from Santa. And there was always flour — and we knew it was flour — all over the place, with footsteps in it that led to the fireplace and up the chimney. Yeah, you know what was funny was that I knew that it was flour but I just kind of went with it. We always had family over all day the 24th and all day the 25th. We'd have all the parties. Fun? Well, yes and no, because of the cleanup. You'd ship one-half of the family out, clean up, and the next group came in. But now that I think about it, the best part of the season wasn't Christmas. My aunt would come over sometime before Christmas and my mom and she would bake for 24 hours one day, and we would pass out all the cookies around the neighborhood. My mom liked to decorate. Our manger scene would be

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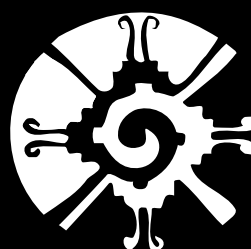
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Patty



Marcella

the first thing to come out. That was kind of when the official decorating began. What makes me cry at Christmastime? I work for UPS at night, and so we have a little gathering, not on Christmas but the week before, and we have kids that come from shelters or orphanages so that we can give them gifts. That makes me cry. My worst Christmas, I don't really have one, but our friends have one. They left Christmas Eve to go to a party, and they came home and their house

was burned. This was when we were growing up. Faulty house wiring... Family Christmas traditions that we have — well, now that we've grown up it has kind of changed, but when we were kids, the tradition was that we would all go next door to our neighbor's house on Christmas Eve. We would have food and see everyone, and then we were sent home to go to bed. The adults stayed at the house, drank a lot, and assembled all of the toys. So the next morning, you

didn't know if you were going to sit on the bike and it was going to fall apart or what. For food, we have a Christmas casserole every year. It is always Christmas morning. That is a tradition. It is basically chunks of sourdough bread, a bunch of cheese, eggs and tomato soup poured over it, more cheese, chunks of sausage, and then you bake it.

Steve
57 years old
Lives in Lemon Grove
Interviewed at Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley

I plan to spend more on Christmas than I would tell you. That is just my nature. I am an impulse shopper and I buy stuff that is cute. I guess my girlfriend is the biggest beneficiary... I've done Santa here and at Fashion Valley. I've done radio shows, I've done

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parties, and I've done SDSU, which is where I work. It is a blast. About 15 years ago, I had a neighbor of mine who did one of the Santa houses and asked me to try it out, and I have been doing Santa ever since. It's very rewarding. I get to listen to kids, and I mean all ages. I've had young girls come in, 18 to 19 years old, that were pregnant and just wanted to talk. And little kids that had their hamster die and wanted to talk about that. I



Bob

grew up in Atlantic City in a family of four girls and myself, and my parents both worked. My feeling as a child



Angel

was that Christmas was great. I remember a ukulele that I was supposed to get, but it broke before I even got



Tabitha

a chance to open it. Someone sat on it. But I remember someone playing it the night before and myself hollering down the stairs to leave my toys alone.... All of the sentimental Christmas movies make me cry. My favorite carol is "Jingle Bells." It's the one that I sing with the

kids. But I like all of them. I buy and wrap all of the gifts in our house, except my own. But sometimes I buy my own. Today I bought a shop vac and drill for myself. I'll take them home and she'll wrap them for me. One tradition in my family is I always send those little Lifesavers books to my girls. I don't know how that tradition got started, but I've been doing it for years.

Tena
56 years old
Lives in Lakeside
Interviewed outside Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley

I started off thinking \$100 per person for

gifts, and then I realized it was 11 people. That is why I am reducing it. My son will get the best gift. He is going to get a golf lesson — going around with the pro golf guy. We already talked about it this morning. So that will probably be about \$120 for that. I don't decorate my house. I don't do a tree. I do a tree at work, so I count that. In fact, I do four trees at work, at Mary Birch hospital. I'm the decorator. I don't do one at home. My son is 30-some years old now, so... My favorite Christmas gift ever was probably a sewing machine I received from my mother when I was about 15 or 16. That was about the best gift ever because I didn't know I was going to get it and I was into sewing. It was just a

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perfect gift. My favorite gift given was a gift to my father, which irritated the whole family so much. My father chewed tobacco. So for his gift I bought him a spittoon. And you know, my mother tried to hide the fact that he chewed tobacco, but I got him this spittoon and I had it specially delivered. And she had a fit. He was very happy. He used that until there was a hole in the bottom. That was the best gift ever. The one gift I always wanted

but never got? Well, let me see. I would say a good husband. That would have been a nice gift. I grew up in Steubenville, Ohio. There were five of us. My mother was totally into decorations. We used the same decorations year after year. My father would go out a couple days before Christmas and get the tree, and we'd decorate it, all of us together, and put our gifts under it. Even when I had left home, all of us went home every year while



Greg and Andrew



George

my parents were still alive. That was a tradition. No matter what, you went to my mother's house for Christmas and Thanksgiving. Our traditional Christmas meal, you'd have your deviled eggs, you'd have your relish tray — that's your deviled eggs, your pickles, your celery filled up with cream cheese, all that stuff. And then my mother would make black walnut cake from scratch. Plus we would have the homemade cinnamon nut rolls.

Everything was home-made from scratch. So we would be up all morning or even the night before fixing all these things.

Patty
38 years old
Lives Downtown
Interviewed at
Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley

You know, I live by myself, and my mother is deceased, and I really don't have anyone that I buy Christmas pre-

sents for. So I think I am going to tuck my money away this year as sort of a gift to myself. I came from a family in Salt Lake City, Utah. I had a very nice upbringing. This time of year, it was like putting on the Ritz in our home. Mom and Dad went all out. I tell you, we kids were spoiled. I am going to be honest with you. Every year, the basement was full of gifts from my mom and dad and from our uncles and our aunts and from

Santa. It was always full. It was usually more than 10 or 12 gifts per child, it really was. I am in a hotel living right now, and I am not too pleased with it. That is why my Christmas present to myself is to save my money and move into a nice apartment or condo. But I am going to decorate my little space. I've made my own little wreath already. A song that puts me in the Christmas mood? Well, I still sing the "Twelve Days of Christmas" and I like "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" and "Jingle Bell Rock." I think my fondest Christmas memory was probably the first year that I was out on my own, away from living in my parents' home. That was my fondest. It had its hardships, being away from the family, but when I look back at it, it was my fondest Christmas. My favorite

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gift I ever got: one year they came out with the Barbie's apartment set. My younger sister had got that one, and I got the Barbie Beauty Salon. It was so cool. My younger sister and I got along for the whole year after that, even when we weren't playing with the set. Before that, we always argued. Christmas is a religious holiday for me. I don't see how it couldn't have a religious aspect to it.

Marcella
20 years old
Lives in La Mesa
Interviewed at
La Mesa Target

I am actually spending \$2000. It is breaking me this year. My father will get the most expensive gift. I'm getting him a \$200 gift certificate to Home

Depot so he can go crazy in there. I do a fake Christmas tree; I don't want to have to clean up any pine needles. My favorite Christmas gift would have to be a kitten in a box. I was eight years old. I wanted actually a crystal ball, but my mom couldn't find a crystal ball for me. So I opened up the box thinking it was a crystal ball, but a kitten popped out, and that was even better. A favorite gift ever given — I actually had gotten an inheritance. A family member had passed away, and I had gotten a whole bunch of money, and I figured, I can't spend it all on myself. That would be too selfish and there are a lot of people that need money. I didn't want it to go to a church, because I am



Erin and Kristen

not really religious. So I figured, a homeless shelter.... The one gift I always wanted but never received? The crystal ball.... I wrap my own gifts; my mom and my grandma taught me. I definitely had to start wrapping when I was young. We have a big family. My dad actually found, seven or eight years back, these huge dinosaur-egg Christmas lights. They are huge, and he insisted on putting them out. They are probably a good two feet wide, each light. And he strings them from one end of the house to the other. Oh, he goes wild.... Favorite Christmas song: I like "Jingle Bell Rock." In '95, my mom died a month before Christmas. Christmas wasn't fun that year. It was

just really sad. Everybody still got together, but it wasn't cheerful at all.

Bob
46 years old
Lives in Del Cerro
Interviewed at
Grossmont Center

I plan on spending, all told, \$600 to \$700. My wife is going to get the most expensive gift, no doubt about it. She has been wanting a laptop computer, so I am finally going to splurge and get her one. My favorite I ever received, it has probably got to be when I was like ten years old and I received a phonograph-AM/FM stereo from my parents for Christmas. It was a big surprise; that is probably why it was so special. A favorite gift given? I gave my wife — we went on a ski trip over to Europe about ten years ago. Her great-grandparents came from Switzerland originally, so we went back to the town that they came from and then went skiing while we were there. Probably Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" is my favorite song. My worst Christmas ever was probably the Christmas after I lost my dad. He died in '86, so it has been quite a while ago now. I would say Christmas is a religious holiday for me, even though I am not real religious.... Growing up, we'd have both natural and artificial trees.

As I remember, we alternated. It was kind of odd, back in the '60s. The big deal was to get one of these aluminum trees and put one of those colored-light things on it. It was like a big pinwheel. It was a circular pane of glass with different pie-piece-shaped colored sections, and it just rotated in front of a bright light. And then the tree itself would rotate. Don't ask me why, but that was the style. I thought it was kind of strange until I went to the houses of a few friends of mine and they all had the same thing. And so for some reason or another, for a few years that tree was it. Maybe it was the space age or something. My wife, she is Swiss-German, so for food we have turkey and ham, sauerkraut and cab-

bage, and then a whole lot of German dishes I can't even pronounce.

Angel
33 years old
Lives in La Mesa
Interviewed at
Grossmont Center

I'm going to spend about \$600 on gifts. Probably my mother is going to get the biggest gift. I just put up my tree today. It is artificial, just for safety's sake, because I like the season to last all month and if I had a real tree I would worry about it catching on fire. I start decorating early, the day after Thanksgiving, though I am pretty subtle with the decorations: a wreath on the door, a couple of outside lights. I grew up in a Christmas house. We moved a lot, so it depended on where we were, but Christmas,

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growing up, it was great. We were a Navy family, so we were separated from our extended family, but my mother and my father, my brother and myself, we would celebrate it every year. We were in Scotland one year, we were in Mississippi another, we were in Tennessee another. We had a white Christmas that year in Tennessee. Favorite gift given? Well, my aunt loves manatees so I got her a membership to a group that protects the manatees in Florida. The thought of people that have less than myself is what makes me cry at Christmas. I wrap my own gifts; my mom taught me how. I remember one year, I think she just kind of threw me to the wolves: "Here you go. Wrap these." And I did a really bad job. I was probably

about eight, and then the next year she taught me how to measure the box, because my boxes weren't all the way covered that first year. My worst Christmas was the first year that I wasn't with my family. I had moved out of my parents' house, my brother had gone away to college, my aunt who had lived with us moved back East. My mom and dad moved to Hawaii, because my dad got relocated there. And I was the only one left here. I stayed, and everyone else moved. It was the worst because my family wasn't around. I still had a tree. I put up a little Christmas tree. I did the best I could. I just called them. I had some friends around, but not my closest ones, and not my family. One Christmas that sticks out as fond is last year. I had my grandmother out from the East. I had my dad — he is a trucker — in from out of



Jennifer and Trevor

town. So I had a lot of family.

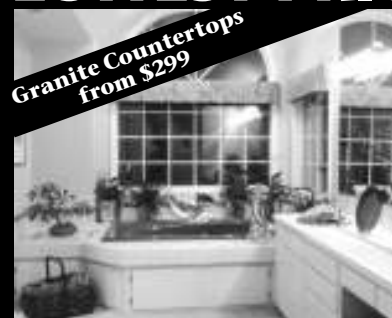
Tabitha 23 years old Lives in Southeast San Diego Interviewed at Grossmont Center

I plan to spend about \$300 on my family. My sisters get the biggest gifts. Every year I have a theme. This year it's lingerie. We do a tree; we put it up about the middle of December. It is mainly decorated with things that

we've collected over the years, an old-school-looking tree. The house is not really heavily decorated. We could do a lot better. The house is small, so if it was bigger, I think they would go all out with it. There were four kids, and we didn't really have a lot of money growing up. So we were really excited about everything that we got. We were really thankful. It was always at our house, here in San Diego — we have lived in the same house. We

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Jesse



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Gregory

opened gifts as soon as we woke up Christmas morning. We usually got a lot of gifts. There was always a lot under the tree, a lot of unwrapping to do. My favorite gift was a dollhouse. It wasn't really nice or anything; it was just this dollhouse that came out of nowhere. It was totally

unexpected, and it was huge. It was about four feet tall and four feet wide. I was like seven years old. Memories make me cry at Christmas — people that I grew up with that I no longer talk to, and also the way things used to be. My favorite Christmas song is "Walking in

a Winter Wonderland." My worst Christmas ever? I can't remember why, but somehow we weren't able to cook. So we had to go eat Chinese food, and that wasn't really fun. I will never forget eating Chinese food for Christmas. So that's got to be the worst. We are real big procrasti-

nators, so the night before we are always wrapping presents. It never fails. Every single year we do it. My family comes over, and my dad is a musician and so is my uncle, so they come over and everybody loves to sing. So we are always on the piano, singing and dancing together and wrapping all the presents. The only thing I have ever heard from my parents and grandparents about their Christmases is how poor they were growing up. That is the only thing I have ever heard; they have never told me anything good.

Christine
25 years old
Lives in Los Angeles
Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

I'm here visiting my mom for the weekend. I'll probably be back at Christmas. I don't know how much I'll spend; it depends on what she wants. She's expensive, ha ha. Probably \$500 or \$600. I think I'm holding my best gift ever — it's a Louis Vuitton purse. Thanks, Mom! My favorite carol is "Deck the Halls"; it's a happy song. When I was little, we'd get together with friends and family for Christmas. Just get together and eat a lot of food. Not really anything traditional — lots of Filipino food. Noodles and egg rolls. We'd also have a turkey or a chicken. It was pretty big; we'd have people sleeping at our house. All us kids grew up and moved away; we kind of had our own things going.

Lisa
22 years old
Lives in Rancho Peñasquitos
Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

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got was a Tiffany's necklace last year — just a Tiffany's cross. The present I want but never got? Maybe an engagement ring? My favorite carol is "Silent Night"; it's soothing, calm, and quiet. I remember going to my grandma's house for Christmas, going to church on Christmas Eve, then hanging around the house on Christmas. Now my grandparents are kind of far away. I've gone

snowboarding with my family at Big Bear for Christmas.

Andrew and Greg Live in Los Angeles Interviewed on Uni- versity Avenue in Hillcrest

Andrew: I don't have a lot of happy childhood memories. Too many expectations, and my family could not live up to them. They were very cynical, kind of crazy alcoholics with

too much money. Drunken parents, Christmas tree knocked over, not a good memory. Now Christmases are fun.

Greg: I was poor; it's all right. For children, Christmases generally are excellent.

Andrew (motioning to Greg): He's the one to ask about carols.

Greg: Do I know a carol?

Andrew: "O Come All Ye Faithful"?

Greg: Oh, that's ridiculous. "White Christmas."

Andrew: I don't know if that's a carol.

Greg: It's better than most; most carols are dull things.

Andrew: I try to get presents wrapped. I'm terrible at it.

Greg: I have a natural flair for wrapping. One time I wrapped everyone's gifts up in Chinese parchment and twine, and then I put Chinese coins in the

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twine. That was good. I really liked that.

Andrew: We don't decorate, because we always leave to go to each of our families'.

Greg: My family makes a halfhearted attempt.

Andrew: My sister is really into decorating. All the boxes are already out.

Greg: The most annoying thing in the world is when people take batting and try to make

it look like snow in Southern California.

There's something about it that's just wrong.

Andrew: We'll go to his family's on Christmas Day for dinner.

Greg: You've got to hear this story. It only happened once. My cousin was courting her now-husband, or he was courting her. We had to do some repair work on him because one Christmas he brought baked Red Hots with rum as his special family contribution to Christmas dinner. It was really alarming; people politely nibbled at it.

**George
Lives in Los Angeles
Interviewed at**

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It's hard to compare your childhood with your adult life. I grew up in Harlem, and it was always make-do at Christmas. Most of the time, we didn't get a tree and we didn't have stockings. Sometimes presents. The best present I ever got back then was a wooden machine gun from my dad. It was a surprise; he was in the Army at the time. The worst Christmas ever was overseas, I'm trying to think if it was the Philippines or Okinawa. I'm a Korean War veteran; I was in the Marine Corps. It was all over, but it was rainy and wet and we

were in the field. We had just got back from Bangkok, Thailand. They'd bring out hot rations in the field on Christmas; they always tried to take care of you. Christmas now is probably much more eventful — grandkids and the wife and son-in-law. Christmas now is really kind of a spectacle. My wife's out there spending lots of money. I'm sitting down, just waiting until they get here. I'm recuperating from heart surgery. I got what I wanted this Christmas — to sit here and breathe. That's a big event.

**Older Gentleman
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall**

I believe in every religious holiday. When I went to school, if the Muslims had a day off, I was in sympathy. I took a day off too. Christmas, I took a day off. Judaism, I took the days off. If the agnostics want to show up, I'll take a day off. I get along with everybody. Think about it!

**Erin and Kristen
Both 23 years old
Live in La Jolla
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall**

Erin: We're roommates and best friends.

Kristen: For 12 years. We'll have a tree, and we'll have a theme — silver. Not shiny, though.

Erin: And red — we're red girls.

Kristen: Maybe red pearls — like cranber-

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ries! White lights, not colored ones. And no tinsel. We have cats; they'd eat it and die.
Erin: They're going to kill our tree, by the way.

Kristen: We like this mall because it's big and it's close to us. We kind of bought a lot for ourselves today.

Erin: I mean, we did buy gifts.

Kristen: Yeah, I bought for my mom and my sister. I'm going to try to keep my spending for Christmas at \$500.
Erin: Mine's more like two grand. Some big-ticket items — cuff links.

Kristen: I haven't decided what I'm going to buy everybody — the biggest will probably be a pair of shoes.

Erin: A purse for me? The best Christmas ever was last year, when all my friends came over to our new apartment and we all drank wine and had a fire and opened presents, and it was so fun — just friends. Or maybe it's when the kids come down — my niece and nephew come down-stairs — and it's like we've spent all night putting together these huge toys for them and they're saying, "Ooooooooh! Aaaaaaah!" I love that.

I love driving around and looking at the lights on the houses.

Kristen: The worst Christmas ever was the year before my parents got a divorce. Everybody was fighting and everybody was yelling and everybody was crying on Christmas Day. It was horrible. I don't necessarily actually cry at Christmas, but it just kind of sucks to have a dysfunctional family and you have to go to like five places to see everybody — you can't have just one place and everybody being together and happy like in the movies, because it's not that way.... I

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remember that everybody would get together on Christmas Eve, and we were all excited because Christmas was tomorrow and we couldn't wait. Setting

out the cookies for Santa.
Erin: And a carrot for the reindeer. My mom and my real dad were great; they used to do a whole bunch of fun

stuff. You put a boot in powdered sugar and stamp it on the hearth so it looks like snow and the kids think it's Santa Claus. It'll be fun when I have kids and

they'll all be happy and I'll get to give them all their stuff.
Kristen: I want my kids to be happy, and so that's why I'm waiting to have kids. I want

them to be excited for Christmas. I'm going to try really hard not to be dysfunctional.

Trevor
23 years old

Lives in Pasadena
Jennifer
22 years old
Lives in La Mesa
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall

Trevor: I'll decorate with exterior lights. Neighborhood peer pressure. Icicle lights are played out. Just something that looks clean.

Jennifer: Just white vintage bulbs, the big ones.

Trevor: The best gift I ever got was when I was eight, a radio-controlled truck. I had it for about four hours. I took it out in the cul-de-sac and crashed it into a truck and it broke. But it was great for those four hours.

Jennifer: Most of my favorite gifts are clothing, and then I usually don't like it after six months. My favorite gift from last Christmas is a

cashmere/wool turtle-neck. I usually get what I want. I have a large family — there are probably about 45 of us — and someone in the family always comes through. The worst Christmas ever was when I was about 12 and my mom got me the entire set of this American Girl doll that I had wanted about three years earlier. That was all of my Christmas gifts. I had everything: the doll, her desk, her clothes, her food, and all of this crap. I was just like, "I wanted this three years ago, and now I'm so over it." I almost cried; I went into my room and sat down with her.

Trevor: My worst was two years ago when I had to work on Christmas at a golf course. A bunch of Asians came.
Jennifer: My favorite carol is "What Child Is This?"

Trevor: I like that one that Adam Sandler did — no, that was

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Hanukkah.

Jesse
14 years old
Interviewed at Wal-Mart Lemon Grove

I'll probably spend something like \$500. I'll probably spend about \$80 on my boyfriend, for a silver bracelet with his name on it. The best gift I ever gave was a big white teddy bear to my sister. I was really young, and she was 17 or 18. We go all out on the tree; it's pretty fancy. It's probably



Sally and Jed

around ten feet tall, with all kinds of ornaments. My favorite is the angel on top. The worst Christmas ever was when we didn't put

up the tree and there was no Christmas. We didn't really do anything. I don't remember why. I was 11. There were gifts, but



Jeff and Jordan

there was no tree.

Colleen
45 years old
Interviewed at Wal-Mart

Lemon Grove

The worst Christmas ever was when we were homeless and living in a Motel 6. We couldn't

afford a Christmas tree. I went down to the local 7-Eleven and bought gifts for my two daughters; they were 8 and 11. This year, I'll probably spend about \$1300. Our tree just happens to be artificial, very full, seven and a half feet tall. We use mostly old-fashioned ornaments or Hall-mark ornaments or a combination, and we have all kinds of lights. My favorite gift? The first time I got a gold chain. My mother gave it to me; I was 16. The best gift I gave was

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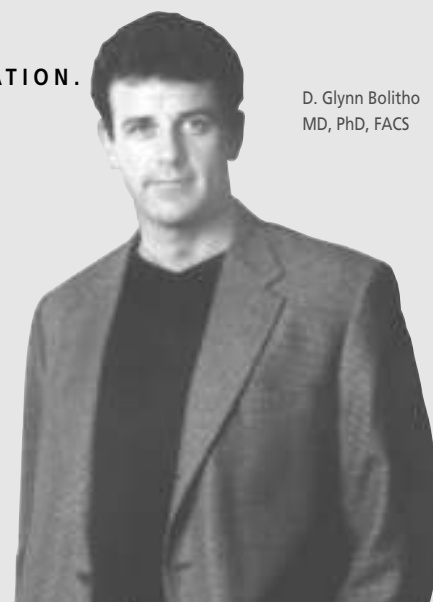
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probably a *Gone with the Wind* doll I got my daughter when she was 12. My mother taught me to wrap presents; I remember I was surprised at how long it actually took. My favorite carol is "Silent Night." I get very senti-

mental just remembering happy times or Christmas songs.

Sheena
Interviewed at
Wal-Mart Lemon
Grove

I can't remember the

name of my favorite carol, and if I sing it, everybody will drop dead over here. It's an old-fashioned one. It's just me this year, and I'm out of a job. When I was younger, my mother bought me a Siamese ring. That was

my favorite gift ever; it was really old. You see how the dolphin ring is made? The Siamese ring was made like that. Once, I bought my mother a coat. It was teal green, with matching gloves and hat, and she enjoyed every bit of

it, right up to the day she died. She always said, "My daughter bought me a coat!" She had a lot of candy canes on her tree, because she loved candy canes. A lot of icicles, a lot of old-fashioned bulbs. She didn't wrap gifts; she

just stuck all the toys and stuff around the tree so that when you woke up you could see everything. I loved her chocolate cake with green icing on it and the Christmas trees on top of it. The gift I always wanted was for God to

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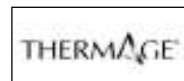


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answer my prayer; I can't tell what it was — it's a secret.

Gregory
21 years old
Lives in La Jolla (UCSD)
Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

I'm Jewish, so I do Hanukkah. I'll probably spend around \$150 — \$40 for a poster from an old movie for my mom. For Christmas, we're going to Vegas — my sister, my mom, and my dad. It's just something we're doing this year because my parents figure it'll be less busy. My dad is going to teach me to play craps.

Dorothy
72 years old
Lives in Sacramento
Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

I'll probably spend \$300 this Christmas. I bought

all these \$12 earrings at an arts and crafts show; \$200 maybe on several items for my son. We won't have turkey for Christmas, that's all I know. My son likes lobster on Christmas, so I guess maybe we'll have lobster. The best gift I ever received was maybe a gift certificate to Nordstrom. When my father was a child, they put candles on the Christmas tree. My mother was very meticulous about hanging icicles. Mine has all Santa Clauses on it, even on top. The worst Christmas was about 40 years ago. I was with the wrong person, who turned over the Christmas tree. Almost everything makes me cry at Christmastime. My favorite carol is "The Little Drummer Boy."

Kyle
15 years old

Lives in Point Loma
Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

The best gift I ever gave was a big makeup-set thing for my sister — for her toes and fingernails. She loved it a lot. The best gift I ever got was my bass guitar. I've never gotten a lot of money for Christmas. The year before last, I didn't get anything I wanted, and I was kind of disappointed. It was just a bunch of little knickknack type things. And I didn't get anything for my parents that year, so I just wrote "and Kyle" on a present. It was from Dad, and I put "Dad and Kyle" on it. I help decorate the tree sometimes, but last year I didn't because I just didn't feel like it.

Andrea
35 years old
With her daughters,

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**Maria, 9; Juliana, 8
Live in Texas
Interviewed on
University Avenue
in Hillcrest**

Oh, my goodness, I definitely won't spend as much this year as I did last year. I have this thing about overconsuming. I'm like, What can I get them that they don't already have? Seriously, everything out there that's the basic stuff, they have. This year, just little things. They're going to choose for the first time. They get to choose one thing.

They're going to get the speech that things are not going to be what makes them happy. Come down to basics about what really matters — not getting ten different things that they want and that they'll use for a week and never see again. My favorite gift was a doll I received when I was eight years old, with a little red pleated dress and black patent leather shoes. Once, I bought them two antique dolls that actually looked like the one I had. It was a big deal getting them —



Eva

I ordered by catalog. I cry at songs that bring certain memories of family gatherings when I was little, the whole family, 30 or 40 people.



Raedell

We're very musical, and my mother would play Christmas songs on the piano and we had a little chorus of six or seven kids. For Christ-

mas dinner, we get together at Mom's. We do the traditional — everybody cooks. We have turkey. I love the creamed peas, and for dessert, White Christmas Coconut Pie with strawberry sauce. *Maria:* My favorite gift was a scooter. My favorite thing about Christmas is we get the Christmas tree. *Andrea:* It's basically children's things on the tree: Disney characters or antique little toys, things like that. *Juliana:* My favorite thing about Christmas

is that Jesus was born. My favorite gifts are dolls. I like the star on top of the tree. I like the eggnog and cookies.

**Muslim Gentleman
Interviewed at
Wal-Mart Lemon
Grove**

On Christmas, I will do something. I'm planning to call my friend that day, and we will have a party that day, dinner or something. I'll stay with my girlfriend that day. No work, no going other places — stay with my

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

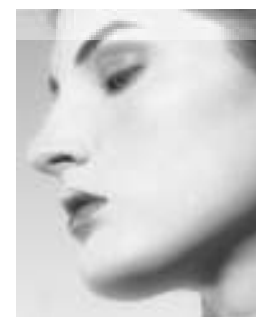
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Jerry and Gail

girlfriend. And I will pray to God.

Jed and Sally Live in Rancho Peñasquitos Interviewed at Fashion Valley Mall

Jed: I grew up in Fargo, North Dakota, so we used to do the traditional thing — both sides of the family just get together and have dinner. We cut our own Christmas tree, and we made strings from cran-

berries and popcorn. We made our own ornaments out of Styro-foam balls by putting different types of fabric on them.

Sally: It's very traditional. I remember spending Christmas there, and everybody opens their gifts one at a time. At my house, we all open them up at the same time. The best gifts I've given have always been experiences rather than materialistic things. I remember tak-

ing Jed to a Prince concert and a Harry Con-nick Jr. concert. And I remember feeling so proud giving him fourth-row seats to *Phantom of the Opera*. This year, we'll probably spend at least \$1000. The least expensive will be kids' toys, anywhere from \$5 to \$10. I know coloring books are really cheap. Playing cards are really cheap; they can go for a dollar at Target, and they're fun for kids. Even games that are on sale could be \$5.99. Our tree is fake this year, about six feet tall and proba-bly modestly decorated. We're both teachers, so sometimes kids make ornaments for you. You hang those up, and those are really nice.

Jed: The better Christ-mases for me are the ones where I still believed in Santa Claus. The magic was still

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more prevalent than the hustle and bustle. I tried to push it as long as I could; I even pretended that he was real, for my parents' sake, until I was about 12. I cry when I hear children singing at Christmas.

Sally: Yeah, you've mentioned that before. I think I cry when I see older people really happy. They see all the kids, and you almost see in their eyes what they've seen, and they're thinking about their children and about when they were kids. I enjoy Christmas because people are so busy in life, and Christmas forces you to actually get together. I'm really good at forgetting all the bad things.

**Jordan and Jeff
Both 14 years old
Live in Pacific
Beach
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall**

Jeff: I'll get my mom a talking turtle for \$19. It's one of those stress singing turtles, because she's stressed. I just put the paper around it and take the roll of tape and roll.

Jordan: He never learned to wrap. My mom taught me.... I remember being a little boy and playing Christmas music and hanging ornaments up on the tree and putting the angel on top. One year, I think I broke one of our ornaments. I sat down on it. It wasn't a special ornament, it was just really old and irreplaceable. But that's okay, it was cool.

Jeff: We'll have a real tree, maybe 10, 12 feet tall, with ornaments. I think a star or an angel on top. We're not really religious at all, so we just have the tree. We'll have a normal dinner, pizza. Nothing special.

Jordan: We'll have turkey.

**Trudy
54 years old**



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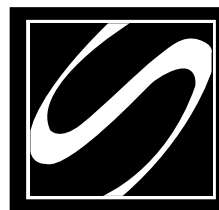
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**With her boyfriend's daughter
Live in Santa Barbara
Interviewed at
Carlsbad Premium
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My parents always had us go to bed early on Christmas Eve, and I can remember distinctly one Christmas when my dad put together a baby bed for my doll. I heard him pounding it that night, and I thought it

was Santa building that crib. When I got up the next morning, I was like, "I heard him building it!" My favorite gift was when I had just met her dad, and he gave me a TV for Christmas. That just really touched

me. I usually get a real Christmas tree, and I have decorations that I've had for years and years. My favorites are the characters from *The Wizard of Oz*. We usually go to my dad's for Christmas, and he just

got married to somebody in the Ukraine. She's Ukrainian, I'm Ukrainian; it's wild. And she has a five-year-old boy, and I've got my boyfriend. It's kind of a wild extended family. We might all end up

together for Christmas. I'll make cabbage rolls — a typical Ukrainian dish.

**Sandy
44 years old
With her daughter
Samantha
Live in Poway
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall**

We usually have a ten-foot tree. Samantha and her dad go pick it out, and then Samantha and I get to decorate it. What do we have that's special, Samantha? We have a lot of heart decorations — and pearls and flashy things. My favorite gift? I would say my first Christmas with my husband — a small diamond bracelet. All the special things for this little one are my favorite things to give. What did Santa bring you last year? A dollhouse. The kids are the most emotional part of Christmas. How they enjoy it, how they look at Santa, how they believe. My worse Christmas ever was the year my girlfriend and I went away on a ski trip because we were the only single girls in our families. We thought it would be a lot more fun just doing our thing, but it wasn't.

**Eva
26 years old**

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**Lives in Banker's
Hill
Interviewed on
University Avenue
in Hillcrest**

There's a tree in my family's house. We have a lot of nieces and nephews, so there are a lot of decorations and lights. I like all the old ornaments my sister and I made in kindergarten. There's a reindeer that Mom always pulls out; it's wooden and it's got colorful Christmas lights attached to it. We've had it for a long time; it's handmade by one of my Mom's friends. I like seeing the nieces and nephews adding on to the family. Probably this is going to be the worst Christmas ever. I have a family fight. I'm probably not going to spend Christmas with my family this year. I'll probably spend it with friends.

**Raedell
18 years old
Lives in New York
City
Interviewed at
Fashion Valley Mall**

I'll probably spend about \$50 this year. I'll spend the most on a sweatshirt for my aunt, and the least on deodorant and shower gel for my brother. We have a fake tree, and it's not very big, but I'm usually the one who decorates it. We have ornaments I made, ornaments we've received, candy canes. We do the popcorn thing. We have a star and an angel for the top, and we alternate years... Purple is my favorite color, and a couple of Christmases ago, my parents just got me a bag full of purple stuff: a blanket, a bathrobe, some slippers, towels — all purple.

**Jerry and Gail
69 and 70 years old
Live in Rancho**

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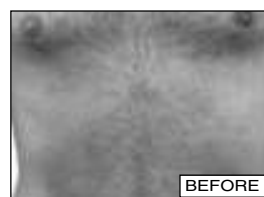
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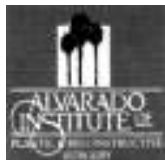
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Bernardo Interviewed at Carlsbad Premium Outlets

Gail: My favorite Christmas carol is called "A Christmas Carol." It's not really popular, but it's beautiful. My son is a singer and he sings in a church choir. He sings it.

Jerry: "Little Drummer Boy" is the only thing that pops into my head right now. I don't know why. The gray is setting in and I have trouble remembering.

Gail: We haven't had much time to think about Christmas; we're celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary next week. We're planning a big party, a combination 50th anniversary and Christmas party. The tree is going to be a pink poodle tree; pink flocking, black-and-white checked flags,

pink poodles, and about as tacky as you can get. We have a different theme every year with our tree — that's our Christmas.

Jerry: I'll cry at most anything at Christmastime.

Gail: Getting maudlin about the past. I think my fondest memories are of when I was little, waking up Christmas morning and having all those toys there. I remember a red tricycle.

Jerry: An electric train.

Gail: My dad didn't have a boy, so I had to get one of those too. Jerry gave me this watch, and I love this watch. That was a good one.

Jerry: That's one out of 50!

Gail: And missing the little ones. They're all grown up now. But they'll all be there for dinner at our place.

Jerry: We have three sons, and they'll bring

their families.

Gail: We'll serve prime rib and maybe ham. And oven-browned potatoes.

Jerry: We normally have popovers with roast beef.

Gail: One year, we went with my parents from Missouri to California to be with my sister. We wanted to spend Christmas together. We all got the flu at the same time, so we were all sick in bed at Christmastime.

Jerry: It was not a thing you want to repeat. But one year, not actually on Christmas Day, we got a lodge up in Big Bear and had the whole family there. That was quite nice — everybody just being there.

Gail: Popcorn and candy and all that stuff, and it snowed the day we left. ■

— *Ernie and*

Mary Grimm,

Deirdre and

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LADY LAZARUS AND LADY LIBERTY



Emma Lazarus

Near the end of the 1942 movie *Saboteur*, one of director Alfred Hitchcock's early American efforts, the heroine, played by Priscilla Lane, catches up with an enemy agent at the top of the Statue of Liberty. Pretending to flirt, she says it's her first time visiting the statue. This must be a big moment for her, the villainous saboteur replies with thin sarcasm. It is, she acknowledges with obvious feeling, and abruptly quotes the best-known lines from Emma Lazarus's poem "The New Colossus," engraved on the statue's pedestal:

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore;
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me...

Without ever ceasing to be a "wrong man" thriller, in which a falsely accused hero must elude capture while tracking down the real culprit on his own, *Saboteur* is also an ode to American freedom, and it reaches its moral zenith here, with a statement of a special national purpose. For many in 1942, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor catapulted the United States into World War II, Lazarus's welcome to the world's displaced marked the difference between the Allied and Axis powers.

Americans tend to take the symbolism of the Statue of Liberty for granted, as if she has always stood in New York Harbor welcoming immigrants. But much of what Lady Liberty stands for came from the poem written only 120 years ago. It gave meaning to the statue — not all at once but over a period of time. W.H. Auden was mistaken when he said that "poetry makes nothing happen," but the making can take years, even decades.

Last year marked the centenary of an event that almost went unnoticed at the time — the May 5, 1903, presentation of a bronze plaque of Lazarus's poem to the War Department post commander on Bedloe's Island. Lazarus had written her most famous poem in 1883 to raise money at an auction to help pay for a pedestal for Frédéric

Auguste Bartholdi's gigantic statue, "Liberty Enlightening the World."

That same year, James Russell Lowell, the elder statesman of American poetry and, at the time, U.S. ambassador to England, had written to Lazarus from London: "I liked your sonnet about the Statue — much better than I like the Statue itself," adding that her poem "gives its subject a *raison d'être* which it wanted before quite as much as it wanted a pedestal." A portfolio of drawings of the statue and manuscripts relating to it, including "The New Colossus," fetched only \$1500, less than the auction planners had hoped, and three more years went by before the statue — formally given by the French people in 1884 — was finally unveiled on its completed pedestal on October 28, 1886.

At the ceremony dedicating the statue, no one read Lazarus's poem or even alluded to its open-armed welcome to immigrants fleeing hunger and persecution. Instead, President Grover Cleveland emphasized the spread of American ideals. The light from the statue's outstretched torch, he said, would "pierce the darkness of ignorance and man's oppression until Liberty shall enlighten the world." The statue was also seen as a monument to fraternal relations between France and the United States.

Lazarus died of cancer in 1887, at age 38. At her death, John Greenleaf Whittier compared her to Robert Browning, and Browning lauded her genius. She was hailed, too, for her political activism. Horrified by reports of bloody pogroms in czarist



Liberty torch in Paris during construction

The light from the statue's outstretched torch, he said, would "pierce the darkness of ignorance and man's oppression until Liberty shall enlighten the world."

Russia in the early 1880s, she had become perhaps the foremost American proponent of what was not yet called Zionism — the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. But, for all the praise, her sonnet had

slipped from view. "The New Colossus" went unmentioned even in her obituaries.

In 1903, following a two-year campaign by her friend Georgina Schuyler, "The New Colossus" plaque was placed on an interior

wall of the statue's pedestal, where it remained virtually ignored for more than a generation. It was not until the 1930s, when Europeans in droves began seeking asylum from Fascist persecution, that the poem was redis-

covered, and with it the growing recognition that it expressed the statue's true intention. Quoted in speeches, set to music by Irving Berlin, it ultimately melded with the statue itself as a source of patriotism

and pride. In 1986, the plaque was moved to an introductory exhibit in the statue's pedestal.

As the editor of a new edition of *The Oxford Book of American Poetry*, I have revisited many poets, includ-

ing some, like Emma Lazarus, who have been left out of the Oxford canon. A fascinating figure and a much more substantial poet than she has been given credit for, Lazarus enjoyed a long correspondence with Emerson, translated Heine and Goethe, and wrote superb sonnets on such subjects as the Long Island Sound and the statue of Venus at the Louvre. She will not be left out of the next edition.

"The New Colossus" is a sonnet in the manner of Percy Bysshe Shelley's masterly "Ozymandias," which describes the ruins of a grandiose monument in Egypt built by an ancient emperor to memorialize his imperial self. The monument's legend reads: "My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings. / Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair." The triumphant epitaph is mocked in the wreckage and the "lone and level" desert sands stretching out on all sides around it.

Where Shelley's sonnet pivots on a boast made hollow by the monument's fate, the legend in Lazarus's poem could be construed as the opposite of a tyrant's imperial vanity. It is not a boast but a vow, and the stress is not on glorification of the self but on the rescue of others.

In Emma Lazarus's poem, the statue is a replacement for the Colossus of

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Rhodes, "the brazen giant of Greek fame." The great bronze monument to the sun god, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, stood in the harbor of Rhodes. (It crumbled in an earthquake in 226 B.C.) Not as a warrior with "conquering limbs" but as a woman with "mild eyes" and "silent lips," the new colossus will stand as tall as the old, honoring not a god but an idea, and it is that idea that will make it a wonder of the modern world.

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed sunset-gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glow world-wide welcome, her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin-cities frame.

"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she,
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore;
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

For many of us who recall, fondly or otherwise, climbing the statue's stairs with a parent or a busload of grade school chums, the peroration is so familiar that we may be immune to its literary excellence. But there is no more memorable statement of this vital aspect of the American dream than the promise of safe haven and a fair shake to people who have known only despotism and terror and danger and despair.

— David Lehman

This article originally ran in the April 2004 issue of *Smithsonian Magazine*.

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A DARK NIGHT IN TIJUANA:

It had been five years since I had toured the bars, discos, strip joints, and dollar-a-dance whore emporiums of Tijuana. I had been writing a novel back then, and I wanted to walk in the footsteps of my character, who was looking for a missing person. The idea this time would be, in a sense, looking for Tijuana itself, or rather the heart of Tijuana's Saturday night.

I had a pocket full of money and a native guide named Fernando Castro who parks cars at the La Valencia Hotel in La Jolla. Fernando is 28. He grew up in TJ, and it was still his favorite place to barhop. Fernando speaks Spanish a lot better than I do, and he's big. About six feet, 200 pounds, close-cropped hair, a neck as thick as a fireplug, and an earring stud in his left ear. Fernando is quiet and not the smiliest guy I've known. Overall, he gives the impression of someone you could hit with a lamppost and it wouldn't ruin his night. I liked these qualities in someone I'd be drinking with at three in the morning in Zona Norte.

Fernando came by my place in North Park about 6:30. To the south, the half-moon hung like a blade in a darkening indigo sky. I threw an overnight bag in the bed of his Toyota truck and hopped in next to him. He had the Pretenders' *Learning to Crawl* on the tape deck. In the headlights of oncoming cars and by the reflected light of the dashboard, he looked grim, as if we were on our way to identify a body instead of checking out nightlife south of the border.

Fernando and I hadn't really talked to each other. We had shared a restaurant booth with some mutual friends one night. Mostly, I had just seen him around, parking cars.

"You married, Fernando?"

"No. I got a kid though, a boy. His name is Fernando



ILLUSTRATION BY JEREMY EATON

One of the men — short, white hair, pale yellow sport shirt over a white T-shirt — was smashed. He didn't let go of his glass of El Presidente brandy, ice, and water while the bartender built him another drink.

You Used to See a Lot of Bras and Panties

too. He's five. I see him on the weekends."

"Yeah. Same with me. So, ah... nobody's gonna miss you, you don't get back 'til 4 a.m. or whatever?"

"Nope."

From the speakers, Chrissie Hynde was singing about how she went back to Ohio, but her city was gone.

At the border, we were waved through. Talking, we missed the *Centro* turnoff and came up on TJ from the west, from the Ensenada road. First Avenue was jammed

with people, as if some huge evacuation was taking place, a sudden, desperate population flow. Of course, that's exactly what's going on any night of the week.

Smoke from the taco carts — vendors frying carne asada and scallions, carnitas, tortillas, pork rinds, tongue, and goat's head — with dust and clouds of exhaust from junk cars burning oil. It all rose skyward toward the gathering cloud layer lit from below by the neon of the strip along Revolución to create a roiling, murky ceiling.

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Tijuana used to be much funkier. The main drag, tourist row — basically, Revolución, from First Avenue to Avenida Agua Caliente — is now a roughly equal balance of slick and sleaze. Just five years ago there was more dust and garbage. The place still has an immediately foreign feel to it — you don't feel like you're just out of town, you definitely know you're out of the country. But in recent years, the impression of TJ being some third-world version of an American city has become more pronounced.

Lately, I haven't had occasion to spend much time in TJ. The changes seemed sudden. I was curious about some of the new joints. They were reminders of time passing at the accelerated rate you become painfully aware of as you approach middle age.

We cruised First Avenue for a hotel room. I told Fernando he was welcome to crash in whatever room I could find. "Okay. Maybe. Thanks."

We drove past Mariachi Square, down First, past El Tony Bar, Cielito Lindo, Hotel San Francisco, the Dragon Rojo Bar, Jockey Club, the Hotel Alaska, the Fantasy Bar. Fernando drove around a few blocks while I tried to find a room. A dozen places were booked up, but on Fourth Avenue, I found a room at the Adelita Hotel. I tossed my overnight bag on one of two single beds with faded roses on the spread and locked the door. Toilet, sink, bed. It was a room.

We parked the truck at the original Tijuana Tillie's on Seventh, the oldest tourist well in town. Four bucks to park all night, another dollar for a tip. It wasn't that long ago that two bucks took care of it. It was about eight o'clock. We walked through TJ Tillie's swinging doors into the saloon, where manic, plodding disco/rap-music blared incongruously in a mostly empty room. Some 45 rpm records hung from the ceiling, along with a few hundred hats. We ordered two

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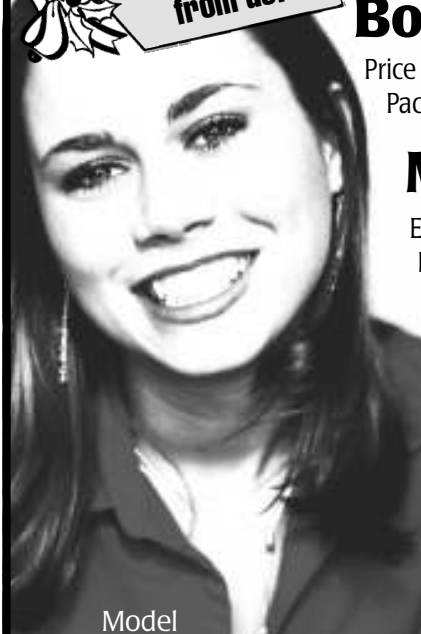
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Dos Equis and looked around at the four American couples, the only other people in the bar. Two were in, say their 50s and seemed to have known each other for a long time. The men leaned against the bar and drank while the women sat at a nearby table. One of the men — short, white hair, pale yellow sport shirt over a white T-shirt — was smashed. He didn't let go of his glass of El Presidente brandy, ice, and water while the bartender built him another drink. The one I figured for his wife kept looking sidelong at him and made exasperated faces at her lady friend. The other man, taller, thin, and bored looking, stared at the silent bank of television sets that had a Cubs baseball game, highlights from the dog races, rock videos, and soccer simultaneously winking and strobing in a dark corner. Were these people retired and traveling? The drunk definitely had that

pickled, lost look seen on plenty of retired Americans down here, puzzling over a long career at some job that maybe didn't add up to much.

The two other couples were younger, sitting 30 feet apart. Both girls were young and blonde. Their dates were young too. Probably from San Diego or L.A. They drank margaritas, though one of the girls had something that looked like pure red dye no. 2 in a small birdbath of a glass.

Fernando told me that you used to be able to place bets with the bartender on the jai alai games next door. Never had to leave your bar stool. Probably still could. He hadn't done it in a while. "If you came in this place with a tie on at one time, the waiter would come over with scissors and cut it off. The other waiters might come over and hold you while the guy cut it off. Then he'd run around all over the place waving the

piece of tie and then pin it somewhere. I never saw them do it with bras and panties, but you used to see a lot of bras and panties hanging up too."

After looking around the room, which had an air of a party to which someone had forgotten to invite

Two waiters stood by, one blowing a whistle, the other sounding an air horn. Another waiter wrapped her mouth with a towel and then proceeded to shake her head like a maraca.

guests. I asked, "Well, what do you say? Crawl on?"

Fernando finished his beer. "Sure."

We left the drunk American and company and went out through the swinging doors. The low clouds and churning smoke from the taco carts shone purple in the reflected glow

of La Vida Disco's mass of aqua and violet neon. Revolución was a river of headlights, taillights, flashing squad car lights flowing between banks of riotous, blinding signs.

"Any suggestions?"

"We could go to La Unicorna." Fernando pointed

stage in the middle of the room. Onstage was a topless dancer, legs spread, swaying huge hips and a red-panty-clad ass in front of some dim shapes I couldn't make out. Her belly protruded as if she were pregnant. One of the dim shapes suddenly stood up, leaned over, and planted his face between the woman's cheeks. She continued to sway, playing her rear end over the old American. He was maybe 60, thinning gray hair, glasses, and a denim work shirt. He stuffed a bill into her panties, and she pulled them to the side to give him better access. She smiled dreamily as if this were quite pleasant. The old American had a mirthless look about him as he nuzzled her energetically. Four young Mexicans at a nearby table hooted and clapped.

"Hey, are all these dancers fat in here?" I was looking at a woman with

hennaed hair in a skin-tight, mock-leopard-skin dress. She had a body like a construction worker who had been unemployed for six months and drank too much beer in front of the television. A Mexican girl with bleached-blond hair; tight, low-cut T-shirt; and blue miniskirt cruised by Fernando.

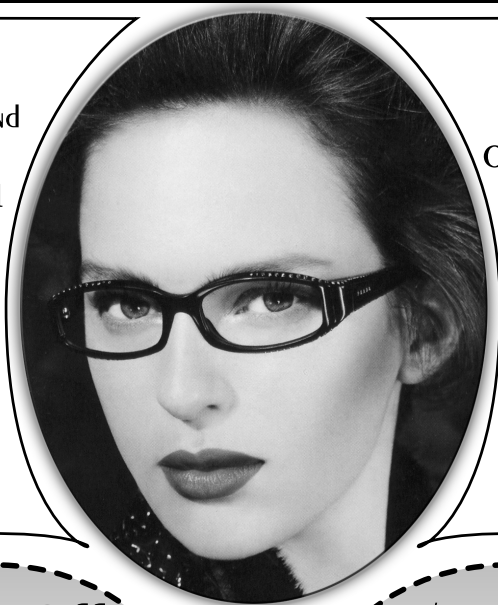
"Buy me a tequila?" she asked. Fernando shook his head. "Two? Three? Four?" Fernando smiled and kept shaking his head. She waved him away and walked on by. Onstage, the woman with the body like an old VW bug was straddling the old gringo, who was now lying on his back on the stage. She squatted over him, swaying, pulled the front of her panties to the side and hunkered down on him. The old guy put both his hands on her small, ski-slope breasts. He still didn't look like he was enjoying himself. His face, when he surfaced, was set with

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determination as if he were performing a damned difficult job that had to get done.

The henna-haired leopard-skin woman came over and asked if we'd buy her a tequila. "Sure," I said before Fernando could cut her off. "Sit down." She collapsed like an avalanche of flesh next to him. She asked for a cigarette, and I gave her one. She called the waiter over, and the girl who had asked for a tequila saw this. She came back and sat down next to me.

"Tequila?"

"Sí. ¿Como no?"

The waiter brought three. Both girls had a finger of Coke in shot glasses as chasers. The tab was \$12. "What's your name?" I asked the blonde next to me.

"Marabella." The other girl introduced herself as Elena.

"Are you going to dance?" I asked Marabella. It might be worth sticking around for. "No," Marabella said. "I don't dance here."

"You dance someplace else?"

"Sure. For fun. I don't like to dance like this for work. Elena dances here." She gestured at the large woman next to Fernando. I wondered how much of Elena's dancing the structural integrity of the building could take.

"But you're working, right?"

She nodded and looked at the winking red light on my tape recorder.

"¿Reportero?"

"Sort of. *Escritor*, si."

"You going to say something bad about me?"

"No. Why would I do that?"

"I don't like that." She pointed at the recorder with her chin. "It's more better you turn it off."

I turned it off, and Marabella told me she would be working all night until about 5:00 a.m. She charged \$40 for "one time." Or more if...she indicated the possibilities of special requests. I said, "Well. I'm working too. Maybe we'll come back later. It was nice to meet you, Marabella,

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Elena." Fernando and I stood, and they both got up without saying anything or looking at us. They went off in two different directions. Elena to the back to change and go onstage and Marabella to wander the shadows behind the boys who had come in while we were talking.

We cruised on down Revolución, pausing at the entrance to Rio Rita's. From the door at the bottom of another set of steps, like the ones at the Unicorn, whistles blew, horns sounded, music pumped deafeningly, and the shouts and wails of dozens of voices in unison rose up the stairwell, "Sounds like some kind of mass exorcism going on in here," I said. Fernando glumly nodded as if to say, "Ah yes, the public exorcisms on Saturday night, a primitive practice of my benighted people."

But what he really said was, "Those are American kids down there."

Rio Rita's is a long, low-ceilinged room that stretches back half a block beneath the building above it. A bar that can seat two dozen people is on the left. Looked like four bartenders back there. The place was packed. Inside, the temperature rose ten degrees and the humidity twice that. The air was dense with teenage sweat.

It looked like maybe 300 eighth graders had liberated a nightclub and were greedily guzzling themselves into oblivion with evil-looking drinks and buckets of ice and beer. These kids weren't that much older than my sixth-grader son. Screams were coming from one group of tables pushed together, where a dozen kids with complexion problems, cracking voices, braces, and homework assignments hanging over their heads were dementedly cheering on a waiter who had grabbed hold of a girl, maybe 16, by the bottom of

her chin. In his other hand, he held a plastic squeeze bottle filled with a foul, brown concoction, and he arced a stream of it into her baby-bird-like mouth. Around her, friends screamed and counted down from ten to zero, con-

ceeded to shake her head like a maraca. The girl's eyes glazed over, closed. The waiter let her go, and she opened her eyes, smiling under the peer pressure.

I asked a passing waiter what was in that squeeze bottle. "Tequila, Coca...yo

Mexican disco heaved and thrust into the room like some fascist, brainwashed Muzak. A woman onstage tottered on high heels and launched bruised, pale thighs over the heads of sailors and Mexican *pollos* marking their time.

fusedly, in both Spanish and English. It took them about 15 seconds to get from ten to two, and the girl sputtered, spraying a few of her friends. Two waiters stood by, one blowing a whistle, the other sounding an air horn. Another waiter wrapped her mouth with a towel and then pro-

ceeded to shake her head like a maraca. The girl's eyes glazed over, closed. The waiter let her go, and she opened her eyes, smiling under the peer pressure. I asked a passing waiter what was in that squeeze bottle. "Tequila, Coca...yo

The U.S. Navy was pretty well represented in Rio Rita's, judging from the haircuts and tattoos. I asked a guy who looked to be in his late 20s, maybe early 30s, sitting with two girls who looked 17 or 18, if I could join them for a while, ask them a couple of questions.

The guy was from Ocean Beach, a remodeler. He had grown up, in part, in Tijuana; and though he wasn't Mexican, his Spanish was excellent. The girls said they were 20 years old. Okay. Both of them were plump with baby fat. Where were they going tonight?

One of the girls said, "We'll hang out here for a while. Then we'll go to Tequila Sunrise down the street. It's great. They have a volleyball court in there." She meant Tequila Circo, not Tequila Sunrise.

And what was she drinking? It was that same chemical red stuff I had seen at TJ Tillie's. "Sex on

the Beach," she said and smiled both proudly and shyly at the same time.

I asked the remodeler where he hung out in TJ these days, besides Rio Rita's.

"This place is changing so fast; there's always a new club every time you come down here. I just walk down the street and whatever's happening..." he shrugged.

Any one place he recommended over another? "Well, since I'm from the old school, Mike's and the Aloha Club. Then there used to be this place, the Long Bar." I remembered the Long Bar very well. It was one of my favorites too. We talked about how the place had become a disco with a slide in it, like a kid's playground with booze. But that was exactly what this place was too. All it needed was a sandbox and some hopscotch squares on the floor.

I rejoined Fernando at the bar and we decided to mosey. We walked south-

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west to the Long Bar, just for the hell of it. Inside, it was renovated in a nouveau-deco style, or whatever you call that sterile, almost menopausal combo of pink, chartreuse, charcoal, and rose. The crowd inside — and there was a crowd — was well-dressed Mexican

coifs, shined shoes (stockings, heels, and skirts on the girls), and tasteful but unapologetically displayed jewelry. They liked to party in classier surroundings than the cat-box atmosphere of Rio Rita's.

We didn't even have a drink; we decided to press

ican men and some hookers. One of the women was sitting in the lap of a black man. Her tank top was rolled down beneath her large, brown nipples, and the black guy was staring at them, uninterestedly. If he looked bored, the woman was positively comatose with ennui. There was something funereal about the atmosphere that reminded me of bars in New York where junkies would hang out drinking Cokes and waiting to score. Something in the dead-fish eyes of the bartender, the hooker, the black man, and the doorman made me immediately numb and depressed. The guy at the door asked me what I wanted, "Pussy?"

"No."

"You go down the street. This place is for Mexicans. Go down there." He pointed vaguely back the way we had come.

"Sure."

The night was already

The idea of being in some third-world bastion of amorality and exoticism, like Cairo or Calcutta, was hard to maintain with the smell of urine and tequila, perfume and cigarette smoke from the almost uniformly chain-smoking hookers.

kids about the same age as their *Norte Americano* counterparts down the street. Instead of straw hats with pastel Corona bands, Corona Beach Club T-shirts, iridescent Bad Boy shorts, or those tight black bicycle pants and Reeboks, these kids all had impeccable

on toward the heart of Saturday night in Tijuana, though I suspected we had stumbled onto it back at the Unicorn.

It was still early, only about 9:30. We toured a few more discos and a dark, nearly empty bar with a few quietly drinking Mex-

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humid, and every time we entered a room, the sweat would stand out on my face and soak my T-shirt. It occurred to me that we might have looked like a couple of cops: Fernando with his hulking form and deadpan resignation — eating something hard to swallow, the look you see on cops too often — and me talking into my little tape recorder like a radio transmitter.

In Mariachi Square the *norteño* music vied with rock and roll coming from the Rincon Bar. It was still too early to head across the street, into the Zona Norte, I figured. The Zona's Indian beggars; the kids darting in and out of barrooms, selling flowers or Chiclets; the drunken *campesinos* in their cowboy hats, stretched out on sidewalks and in doorways; the manic desperation of shop merchants barking insistent invitations to bargains didn't seem festive, exotic, or

charming. Years ago, I saw all this with the eyes of a novelist and drank it in for material. Great stuff. Now I just saw a lot of people trapped in the little box of Coahuila with no way out.

We got in a cab and told the cabbie we wanted to go to Plaza Rio Tijuana, across the traffic rotary from the Tijuana Cultural Center. It's a shopping mall built along the lines of, say, Seaport Village. Very high cuteness quotient. A thousand well-dressed, upper-class Mexicans wandered through the little alleyways, sat at café tables, indoors and outdoors. Shoe boutiques, gift shops, and clothing stores were mostly closed, but the dozen or so cantinas and restaurants were open and doing a brisk trade. Flamenco music, yuppie jazz from Joe Mamas (the keyboard player looked like Neil Simon; the drummer looked like the Hillside Strangler), disco, Greek music, and rock and roll

struck at the air in dissonant competition. Fernando and I weaved through the crowd and sat at a table outside a Spanish restaurant and we ordered coffee. We watched a belly dancer in front of the Greek place, and then a guy came out and danced like Zorba on the sidewalk. He placed a chair on top of a table, then a carafe of water on top of the chair, and proceeded to lift the whole thing, table and all, with his teeth. He spread his arms out and danced gracefully in a small circle. My teeth hurt to watch him.

We milled around for another hour or so, watching the Mexican yuppies, and decided they weren't any more interesting than American yuppies. "Come on, Fernando. Let's go down to Coahuila. What time is it?"

"Eleven."

"Well, the Plaza Río Tijuana ain't the heart of Saturday night in T.J. Maybe Pasadena. I don't even rec-

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ognize this place as Tijuana."

"Yeah, it's pretty nice."

We grabbed another cab, went back to Revolución, and ended up at another topless bar, La Bambi. We didn't have to descend into the place, just push aside some greasy, leather like curtains. Cigarette smoke hung in the air like curdled, gray milk. Music, Mexican disco, heaved and thrust into the room like some fascist, brainwashed Muzak. A woman onstage tottered on high heels and launched bruised, pale thighs over the heads of sailors and Mexican *pollos* marking their time. Doing The Big Wait: like guys doing short time in jail or soldiers on a 24-hour pass in Bangkok or Olongapo. Why did everybody in this town look like he was waiting for something?

The host of the evening, a gray-haired Merry Widower of a Mexican gentleman, ushered

Fernando and me to the very best seats. Raised a little from the tables on the floor, a good view of the dancers, up away from the rabble. "*Tequila y dos cervezas, por favor.*" A hooker named Claudia came over and said she'd like a tequila too. She showed me her breasts. "Very nice," I said. "Sort of globular without being too ponderously pendulous."

"Yeah," she agreed. "Peekshures!" She snapped an imaginary lens up to her eyes with her fingers. "Polaroids. ¿Qué sabe?"

"Yessiree. *Yo sabe.*" I tried to leer appreciatively, gave it up, and drank my tequila.

I saw the Old Gringo. The Old Muff Diver. The same guy from the Unicorn, stuffing bills into the dancer's G-string. He had moved up the street in a progression of joints, still nuzzling, doggedly working his way through the thatches of womanhood

on display in town, on a mission from some joyless demon inside himself.

Claudia left. She heard me when I said I wasn't springing for *Pasión Insatiable*, Polaroids, or "Fucky Sucky." Again \$40.

A couple of guys were seated next to us. Navy, I figured. One guy was a very spiffy dresser. Charcoal jacket and matching shirt buttoned to the throat. "Hi!" I greeted him.

"How's it goin'?"

"Want some of this tequila? I got a bucket of it, but Claudia didn't drink hers, and I'll be blind if I drink all that."

"No. thanks. I don't drink that stuff. Got a beer?"

"Yeah, I got a beer too. But that's mine."

I whipped out the little recorder with the red, stuttering light. "You in the Navy?" I asked him.

"I couldn't say."

"You're not sure?"

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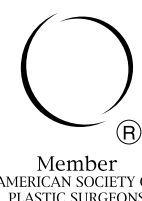
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"None. What's your name?"

"I can't talk to you."

"Why?"

"I'm with CID." Central Intelligence Division.

"Oh. Well, you look like a CID guy. Nice clothes. You'd think the CID would get guys that don't look like...CID guys."

"I look like CID?" He seemed pleased.

"Shit, yeah. No offense, but you definitely got that look."

"Yeah, I guess so. My name's Darryl." He extended his hand.

I shook it and said, "I won't use it. Your name."

"Right. Right. Call me

something else."

"I promise to. Maybe Larry or something."

"Okay. How about Desmond? Could you call me that?"

"No problem. Poof! You're Desmond."

"Good. Good."

I asked Desmond about TJ and how he liked to tour the town on his time off. He ran a commentary on the dancers and how he couldn't talk about the other stuff. Panama and Noriega, sensitive stuff. "That's okay, Des, I'm not interested in that."

"That dancer up there, Lucy. She's nuts about me."

"Yeah, she gives you those looks, man."

"I mean she really likes me. You know? Don't you love it?" He grinned.

"Yeah," I said. "I do." I grinned back, but it wasn't the same grin.

"No, I have no problem. I'm just curious; I'm thinking of writing a book. What kind of stuff do you see on Saturday nights...or any night?"

"Oh, it's a very hard job. Especially Saturday, even the other nights. You know the drunk people fight and use the knives." As if in illustration, two cops guided a handcuffed prisoner to the station door. He was bleeding from cuts on his arms and face. They didn't stop to bargain. He was going in. Period. "You have robberies too."

"Armed robbery?"

"Yes. But knives, not guns. Mexicans like knives better. They're cheaper, more personal. I'm talking about personal robberies."

"Homicides?"

"Of course. Drunk people in the bars. I told you. Somebody gets drunk, they

don't like somebody, they have a knife...." He shrugged.

"How about Zona Norte, Coahuila? Is it dangerous?" His smile was back now. "Yeah. That's where we get our best problems."

* * *

One a.m., and we're heading south again on Revolución. A line stretches for half a block. Mostly young Mexicans. All of them waiting to get into Las Pulgas. It means "the fleas." I had seen more people between the ages of 15 and 25 tonight than I had in a month.

Fernando and I spoke about Tijuana as a Mexican city. "It's not a Mexican city," Fernando was saying. "It's an American city. We call it San Diego's other cheek." He slapped his rump. "This place wouldn't exist at all if it weren't for the

U.S., for San Diego."

Leaning for support against another vendor's cart was a junkie doing that gravity-defying nod only junkies can perform. His clothes were stiff with filth. One hand rested on the edge of the cart, his feet back, his head down as if he were a faith healer trying to heal the taco cart. His knees buckled, he swayed, but he never fell. Fernando was still talking. "Tijuana is basically an American product. Like Chryslers...or Cheez Whiz."

About the popularity of disco in Mexico, Fernando said, "Yeah, it's definitely that or *norteño* or *cumbia*." The latter style is from farther south, around Monterrey. The difference is in the percussion, the number of drums, and whether or not there's an accordion. Accordions are

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Walking over to the police station on Eighth Avenue, Fernando and I threaded our way through squad cars parked at angles in the middle of the street. No traffic could move down that block. The *policia municipal* vehicles composed a herringbone gridlock. Cops leaned against their cars or carried cuffed prisoners up the station stairs. Some cops sat on a bench along the sidewalk, leaning against the station wall or against the columns rising from the edge of the sidewalk. Here, they laughed, played pocket pool, smoked Del Prados or Fiestas while they cut deals with arrestees, prospective inmates.

I walked over to a cop on the sidewalk. He had some scars at the corners of both eyes, probably from boxing. Boxing is very big down here. He was laughing, though. So I introduced myself and asked him if he'd talk to me for a minute. His nameplate said his name was Ray-mundo Guzman.

I asked him what kind of problems he sees down here on Saturday nights. "You got a problem?" His smile disappeared, and he looked much meaner.

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norteño's earmark.

But Fernando had a bizarre scrap of one of TJ's urban legends to recount. It was told about several different discos, depending on who you asked.

"It was around the time of John Travolta, and *Saturday Night Fever*, and all that. It seems there was this guy who looked exactly like Travolta — in that white suit and everything. He was dancing really hot with this girl. They cleared a space around them, just like in the movie. All of a sudden, the girl notices and everybody else sees that this Travolta-type guy has one rooster-claw foot; the other foot is a goat's hoof...and he's not dancing on the floor. He's like up in the air. The girl screams and flips out. She runs away into the bathroom; but when her friends follow her in there, she was gone. No one ever saw her again.

My tongue felt like road kill wrapped in sandpaper, and my head rang like a room full of telephones.

Disappeared. They locked the doors so the guy couldn't get away, but he disappeared too. I heard it was the Aloha Club." Fernando grinned for maybe the third time in the evening.

There are few Americans down in Zona Norte. I didn't see one for the rest of the night. Fernando and I spent the next two hours in the Delicias Bar, Copacabana, La Charrita, and La Adelita.

Basically, Coahuila is where you go if you want to get laid or meet up with a *pollero*. You can dance with the whores for a dollar, though I tried it with one older woman. She looked 50, but she was probably not much older than me. "You go upstairs? Ba-boom? Ba-boom?"

"I just want to dance. I like the music."

"Ahhh...." She looked disgusted and waved me away. No time for dancing. There was no roman-

ticism here. The idea of being in some third-world bastion of amorality and exoticism, like Cairo or Calcutta, was hard to maintain with the smell of urine and tequila, perfume and cigarette smoke from the almost uniformly chain-smoking hookers. It just seemed crowded, desperate, gaudy, and sad. In Richard Rodriguez's book *Mexico's Children*, he calls Tijuana "...a metropolis crouched behind a hootchy-kootch curtain." He adds that "[Tijuana's] history is a matter of matchbook covers and cocktail napkins."

Vincente Fernandez, Mexico's most popular singer, crooned from almost every sound system within blocks. All through the night, the taco vendors worked beneath bright racks of lights, chopping meat, tossing handfuls of onion and cilantro onto folded tortillas fried on portable

Hotel Nelson until 3 a.m. Fernando spoke to me in his low, soft voice about how, two weeks ago, he had broken up with his girlfriend of two years. Ah, that explained the look. But by now I was wearing that look too, only mine came from the parade of poverty and the lingering image of those klieg lights and silhouettes along the border that I could still see when I closed my eyes and held the bottle of beer to them, rotating its cool surface over my forehead.

"She was 19, and she was always on me about hanging out with my friends and stuff. She always was making me promise that I'd be true to her, and I was, man. Absolutely. Now she found some guy." He went on a little about his feelings for her, and I sympathized. I told him I probably couldn't have been true to someone at 19 if I tried. All those hormones. This probably didn't help much. He spoke about his childhood in Tijuana.

"I remember my dad got me a bicycle one time, but my mom wouldn't let me keep it because it would only get stolen in TJ. She made me keep it at my grandma's in San Diego. I didn't get to use it too much.

"Sometimes I would ditch school and go to the border and help the ladies with their bags, groceries and stuff. Help them carry them from the border back into town or whatever. I'd make \$15 or \$20 a day sometimes.

"We used to spy on the prostitutes in the neighborhood. Me and my friends would hang around them, cuz we liked some of them. And then when they'd get some business, you know, they wanted us to go away, but we wouldn't. This one girl next door we really liked. We didn't want her to go away, upstairs with the guy. So she would give us all a kiss on the mouth so we would disappear. We would climb up on the roof in the place next door and open up these wooden windows, like a trapdoor on the roof,

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and we would peek in and watch. Sometimes she'd catch us and yell at us, get all embarrassed, and cry."

His parents worked in a laundry in San Diego. They both had green cards, but when Fernando's

younger brother was born, his mother quit to stay home. "They were gonna take her green card away cuz she wasn't working. They wanted her to get a passport. So we had to move real fast. We moved to

National City, and I didn't like it. Everybody had cars. Nobody walked or rode bikes. It wasn't like being in a neighborhood anymore. Nobody liked me because I was a Tijuano."

Fernando and I parted

company at about 3:30. I crawled back to the Adelita Hotel and fumbled with my key in the lock. Voices, radios, someone arguing, a dog howling outside, and traffic noises, taxi horns all lulled me to sleep. It was just like New York. I didn't even take off my shoes, and I left the light on.

* * *

I woke up at eight o'clock. My tongue felt like roadkill wrapped in sandpaper, and my head rang like a room full of telephones. I stared for a minute at an oil painting print hanging out of its frame, buckled from water damage. It was a snow-covered mountain scene with fallen aspen trees over an icy brook. Other aspen trees stood to one side, their leaves a fire color. It hurt my eyes to look at them. A bare lightbulb, still blazing, glared over me.

After standing under the cold shower for a couple of weeks, I got dressed, left my key at the desk, and walked out into the chaos of Fourth Avenue, under the merciless Baja sun.

I tried some coffee at the Cafe Palacio, but I had trouble chewing it. After listening to a couple of sad Mexican songs on the radio, I got up and followed a flow of people dressed in Sunday finery. They were all heading to the Catedral de Guadalupe on Avenida Ben-

ito Juárez. Next to the vaulting, twin-spined church was the school where Fernando went as a kid, when he wasn't ditching. I walked the steps, through the crowd, and dipped my hand in holy water at the entrance. I crossed myself and entered the church; I hadn't been inside a Catholic church for maybe 20 years. The cloying smell of women's perfume and incense made me nostalgically dizzy.

The church was jammed with people, standing room only in the back. The priest said the Mass in Spanish, and it was close enough to the Latin I remembered to send me further down memory lane. The priest faced the congregation. He held a chalice toward the ceiling. Bells rang at the altar. Everyone stood. I could see fresh flower arrangements at each pillar from front to back. Gold-leaf paint trimmed the rococo work on the columns. Another bell rang and everyone sat. Four young men, acolytes or altar boys with well-combed, fashionable haircuts, passed baskets, and most everyone contributed something.

I swayed on my feet where I stood. The air seemed close and lacking oxygen. At one point, everyone turned to the people nearest them and smiled, shaking hands. I shook hands with several strangers.

This was a new one on me. When did they start doing this? I stayed only a few minutes. I felt like a fraud.

I got in a taxi and told him, "La línea a San Diego, por favor."

He chatted away happily in Spanish that was too fast for me and dropped me off near Colonia Libertad. I walked past shacks with plastic tarp roofs and gutted burned-out junk cars staring sightlessly through broken windshields like the corpses of extinct, metallic saurians. Entering the U.S. through the customs building is like entering some spartan, proletarian shopping mall. I got on the trolley and headed back to San Diego. We passed the Exxon Valdez on our way through the shipyards.

My roommate met me at the door as I shambled past him. "You look like shit. How was Tijuana?"

"Bargains galore," I mumbled. "Everything must go...act now...one size fits all...the sale never ends."

"So what's the angle on TJ? What's the word?" He insisted on knowing.

"Whores," I said and collapsed on my futon. My roommate gave me a puzzled look and closed the door.

— John Brizzolara

This story first appeared in the *Reader* on November 9, 1989.

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LETTERS

continued from page 1

Los Angeles Basin. However, Greyhound would not pick them up at the border — they had to find their way by trolley from San Ysidro to the Greyhound bus station in downtown San Diego. Then they were taken to downtown Los Angeles and dumped there — they had to find their way by local buses to the heavily Latino towns further inland. This disrespect for their customer base allowed Mexican entrepreneurs to move in and clean Greyhound's clock. They started running charter buses from the border directly to the Inland Empire towns (in the Los Angeles area), where the Mexicans lived and worked. And they did it cheaply — and still do. If you want to go from San Diego to Garden Grove, or Torrance, or San Bernardino, don't go to Greyhound, take the trolley to San Ysidro and catch a charter bus directly to where you want to go.

Dale Jennings
Boulevard

McCartney Chuffed

I recently had the pleasure of rediscovering your publication. I had not seen a *Reader* since the early '80s. I enjoyed the article on Rancho Santa Fe in the October 21 issue ("The Curse of the Ranch"), but I have a question. When Paul McCartney says he was "chuffed" to do the gig, what does he mean? My dictionary shows "chuff" means a boor or a churl. I'm so confused!

Jim Fern
Novato CA

"Chuffed" is British slang meaning pleased or happy.
— Editor

Bug In Your Ear

I've been reading *CityBeat*, and it seems to have more local news, local columnists, local flavor as opposed to these long and winding esoteric stories that you guys always seem to have. I think Don Bauder was probably one of the best additions you guys made because as an investigative reporter as well as somebody who focuses on San Diego, he's really refreshing. I'm more interested in seeing local

columnists talk about this year's local — doesn't have to be necessarily political issues, it could be cultural, it could be music, it could be media. So that's really what I'm calling about, just to give you guys maybe a bug in your ear to do a little bit more local stuff and local people.

Greg Spraul
Hillcrest

Horrors!

Ron Roberts's campaign manager cutting a deal with the Fair Political Practices Commission ("Out of Court," "City Lights," December 9) is no surprise. Like other election issues, nothing will come of it, I am sure.

Originally, I feared for American democracy when the fanatic element of the Republican Party, the neo-cons, were dissatisfied with losing the democratic presidential election in 1996 and sought to impeach and remove President Clinton from office for accepting oral sex from an intern rather than preparing for the next election to make an attempt to win the presidency.

Then I was aghast when the five Republican-appointed justices of the Supreme Court stopped the counting of the ballots in 2000 in Florida, virtually appointing George W. Bush to the presidency, contrary to the results of a democratic election.

Next thing I knew, the Republicans were so upset about losing the election for governor of California, they spent millions of dollars to recall the governor who was elected in a democratic election and replaced him with a Republican entertainer devoid of any knowledge of

government. The Republican dislike for democratic elections was becoming obvious.

It was totally disheartening to hear the computer experts warning that the use of Diebold voting machines would preclude assurances of a valid election in the 2004 presidential elections. Diebold Corporation's CEO and board are all Republican and staunch Bush supporters, and the Republican-controlled U.S. Congress even appropriated money for states to buy Diebold voting machines as an election reform (but in the same breath, the Republican Congress refused to make Diebold voting machines that do not leave a paper trail illegal). Coincidentally, the states won by Bush used the vulnerable Diebold voting machines.

Now, in San Diego, where a Democrat, Donna Frye, ran a write-in campaign against two Republican candidates in a nonpartisan election and won, the courts have thrown out her winning votes on a technicality, the write-in bubble wasn't filled in. Horrors! I wonder what would happen if the bubbles for the Republican candidate were filled in outside the lines of the bubbles, since the directions clearly state fill the bubble in, *inside* the bubble.

Ladies and gentlemen, democratic elections do not exist in America anymore. The Republicans have found a way to seize government without winning elections. What do you call a government that rules in spite of losing elections? There is a word for it!

Richard Blankenburg
via e-mail

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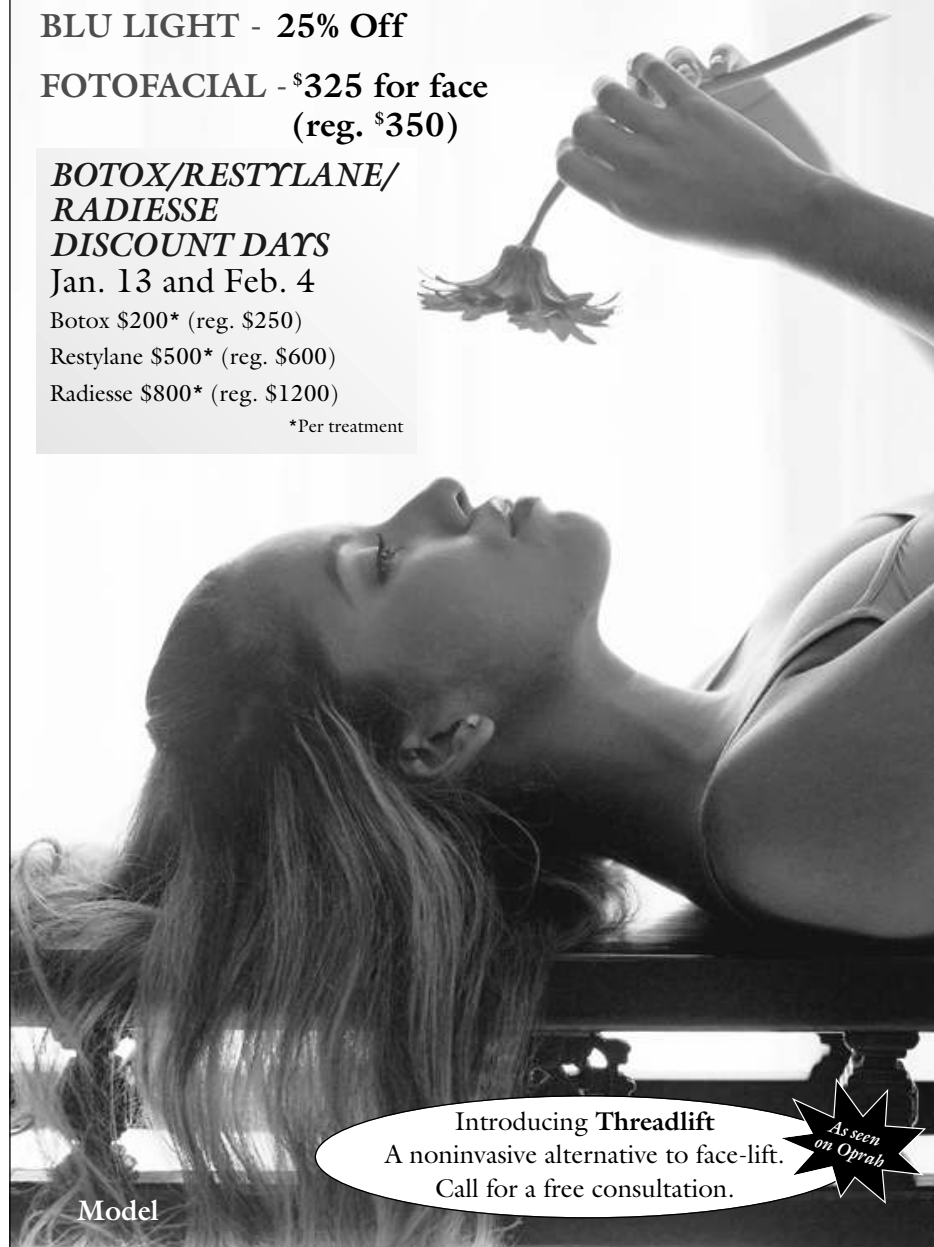
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Calendar

Keep It Smooth

Smiling in a Very Short Time

In contra dancing you get a new partner after each set of dances. During the set, you and your partner dance with another couple for a round — one pair being the active couple. Then the pairs move along a line to dance with other couples. “So you get to dance with everybody in the room,” says Martha Wild. “It’s very social.”

Callers at contra events ease newcomers into the dancing with simpler dances. In square dancing, a close relative of contra, “novices feel bad because they see that the square is having trouble on account of their awkwardness,” observes Wild. “But in contra they are looking worried and

nervous at first, but then smiling in a very short time.”

Wild chairs the contra dancing committee for San Diego Folk Heritage. The organization sponsors weekly contra dances, including one this Christmas night. “People will have eaten and opened their gifts already,” says Wild. SDSU associate professor of dance Graham Hempel will do the calling to live music.

At a contra dance, the caller might only give dancers initial instructions and call for a short time before allowing them to dance on their own. Dancers commonly walk in unison or around each other. They might also use the “buzz step,” which Wild describes as “right foot down, left foot back a little, then down on right and up on left. It can create an up-and-down motion,” she says, “and if you’re doing the swing, you can work up a good speed. Sometimes it feels like you’re stationary and the room is spinning.”

The website www.sdfolkheritage.org describes a number of other contra “figures” (movements of the dancers relative to each other) including do si do, a back-and-forth passing of partners by each other; the hey, making loops to the partner’s side and back; and the allemande, which requires a full-palmed grip of the partner’s hand. Calls are made for allemande lefts or allemande rights, depending on which hands the dancers will use. In regard to the swing, the website advises: “If you’re using a ‘buzz step,’ don’t bob up and down — try to keep it smooth and level.” It recommends lots of eye contact and “giving weight” during the dances. Giving weight is the technique of pulling against your partner in a balanced way to create a greater sense of moving together.

LOCAL EVENTS

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PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE ALLEN

Contra dance

The best music for accompanying contra dancing, according to Wild, “has 32 bars, which allows for 64 steps and for the dancers to move on to the next couple after completing 4 to 8 figures.”

Dave Allen plays fiddle and accordion for the band Au Contraire, which will accompany the dancing on Christmas night. “I sometimes also ‘do feet,’ meaning pounding out the rhythm with my shoes,” he says. Au Contraire draws on Irish, Scottish, and French-Canadian (*Québécois*) music and on a Celtic-influenced New England style. Occasionally they play the southern-Appalachian “old timey,” whose beat is conducive to contra dancing. To create its beat, “old timey uses the ‘clawhammer’ style of banjo playing called ‘frailing,’” says Allen. “It gets its percussive sounds from hitting the strings with the backs of the fingertips.”

As a complement to dancing and calling locally, Professor Hempel has been doing research into the history of contra dancing in the U.S. It grew out of

English country dancing in colonial times and may have derived its name from French corruptions of the word ‘country,’ according to Hempel. “During the Revolutionary War,” he says, “things British became unpopular and people wanted to create dance styles that were strictly American. It got worse after the War of 1812.” George Washington danced an English style that grew out of favor. “But then people remembered liking it, and it came back later as a contra dance called the Virginia reel.

“Somewhere along the line, the contras stopped being done in the South but were preserved in New England,” says Hempel. In “Growth of Contra Dance,” an article published in *Folk Dance Scene* earlier this year, Hempel refers to the growth of “improper” contra dance sets. In these, the man and the woman in the active couples exchange places. “By the mid-19th Century,” writes Hempel, “the preference was for improper dances.

Around 1900 the longway set continues to hang on in New England, but squares start to move west and south.” Today most contra dancing is done in improper sets, he says.

Even in New England, contras lost popularity in the early part of the 20th Century. Nevertheless, Henry Ford published the book *Good Morning* in 1926, recommending, among other things, fifteen contra dances. “Ford attempted,” writes Hempel, “to influence his workers to engage in the wholesome ‘dances of our northern peoples,’ instead of those ‘immoral’ dances of the dance halls.”

— Joe Deegan

Contra Dance
Trinity United Methodist Church
Saturday, December 25
8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
3030 Thorn Street
North Park
Cost: \$6
Info: www.sdfolkheritage.org

Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after December 30.

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. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

BAJA

Moviemaking and Lobster in Rosarito, excursion sponsored by San Diego Natural History Museum on Saturday, January 22, 2005, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., includes Foxploration, the theme park at Fox Studios; lobster lunch, shopping, more; \$89 fee covers meal, park entrance, drinks, bus transportation. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (ROSARITO BEACH)

OUTDOORS

San Diego County's Waterfalls, dry or nearly so for many months this past year, have benefited from this rainy season's early precipitation. With continued rain over the foothill and mountain areas, these natural attractions could be at their very best during the next month or two. Three of the most accessible waterfalls in the county are Green Valley Falls at Cuyamaca Rancho

State Park; the falls below the first palm grove in Borrego Palm Canyon (Anza-Borrego Desert State Park); and the falls at the midpoint of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve — a three-mile walk from either its east or west entrance. Hikers and climbers can explore many other waterfalls (some with heights up to 100 feet) in remote areas of the county.

Saturn is in an ideal position for late-night viewing this December. By 10 p.m. the ringed planet lies

high in the eastern sky, along with several glittery stars of slightly lesser magnitude. To the naked eye, the planet appears starlike and creamy white. Note how it appears to twinkle less than the other stars near it. Small telescopes will easily show the rings, now tilted into view by an angle of about 27 degrees — almost the maximum possible.

December's Full Moon, named the "cold moon," "oak moon," "wolf moon," and "moon of long



Santa vs. The Snowman at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, through January (see Film)

nights" according to the traditions of certain past cultures, rises spectacularly over the eastern horizon a few minutes after the sun sets on Sunday, December 26. The moon's night-long journey will take it nearly to the zenith of the sky by midnight and then down to a setting position over the ocean by dawn on Monday morning.

Fire Recovery, biologist and naturalist Carol Stanford leads moderate to strenuous 4.5-mile hike in Daley Ranch to see gains the plant communities have made since wildfires. Hike starts at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 26, in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

Birding the Marsh, Chula Vista Nature Center hosts guided bird-watching hikes around Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, on Sunday, December 26, 11 a.m. Reservations: 619-409-5903. Free. (CHULA VISTA)

San Diego River Walk led by Walkabout explorers on Sunday, December 26, starts at 1:30 p.m. at Mission Valley trolley station (just west of Sammy's and Starbucks). Explore bird life east and west of trolley station at moderate pace. Free. 619-231-7463. (MISSION VALLEY)

DANCE

Yes, Virginia, There Really Is a Contradance on Saturday, De-

cember 25, with calling by Graham Hempel and music by Au Contraire, at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Dancing begins at 8 p.m., following beginners' instruction at 7:45 p.m.; \$6. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

English Country Dancing "to haunting baroque music" takes place every Sunday, 6 to 9 p.m., at Dance Academy in Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road. Caller on December 26 is Janet Arnold. Beginner's instruction at 6 p.m. \$6 per class; \$20 per month. 858-486-9160. (POWAY)

Keep on Trockin', Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo — the all-male comic ballet company combining technical skill and comic sensibility — pound the boards on Friday, January 14, 2005, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$40, \$50, 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

FILM

The "Madcap Musical Satire" *The Saddest Music in the World*, set in 1933 and starring Isabella Rossellini, screens for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) on Monday, December 27, 6:30 p.m. 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

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Mission San Luis Rey Tours, December 27 (see Special)

bad Library film series during December. See *Calendar Girls*, starring Helen Mirren, on Wednesday, December 29, 6 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott's Documentary *The Corporation* screening hosted by San Diego Green Party on Wednesday, December 29, 5 p.m., in third-floor auditorium at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Film examines "the history of growing corporate dominance in our lives." Free. 619-482-0061. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Roar: Lions of the Kalahari*, *Volcanoes of the Deep Sea*, *Forces of Nature*. See *Santa vs. the Snowman* through Sunday, January 2, 2005. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

Composting Class set for Sunday, December 26, 10 a.m. to noon, at Chula Vista Nature Center (1000 Gunpowder Point Drive). Free. Register: 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

"Understanding Buddhism" is subject on Wednesday, December 29, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

Get to Know Ghost Mountain and the South family during "Marshal South, Ghost Mountain, and the Oceanside Connection," presented Tuesday, January 11, 6 p.m., in community rooms at Oceanside Civic Center (330 North Coast Highway). South was poet laureate of Oceanside 1914-1916, who lived with his family in primitive fashion in Anza-Borrego Desert in 1930s. Program includes slide presentation about family's

desert life, comments by Rider South (eldest son of the poet), and author Diana Lindsay, as well as signing of the new book *Marshal South and the Ghost Mountain Chronicles: An Experiment in Primitive Living*. Free. 760-435-5580. (OCEANSIDE)

Program repeats on Wednesday, January 12, 7 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Free. 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

Wilderness Basics Course with lectures and field trips offered by Sierra Club for 47th year, beginning on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, 7 p.m., at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del Rio South). Subjects include wilderness ethics, first aid, equipment, water filtration, nutrition, map and compass; \$95 before December 31, \$105 thereafter. 858-272-9229. (MISSION VALLEY)

Intermediate Birding Course hosted by San Diego Audubon Society for those who already have some experience in field identification of Southwestern birds starts Saturday, January 29, 2005, 9 a.m. to noon, at San Diego State University. Instructor is the eminent Phil Pryde. Class runs six consecutive Saturdays, including two field trips; \$95. Registration: 619-682-7200. (SAN DIEGO)

IN PERSON

Read Your Poetry, selections by someone else, or just listen during open poetry reading, Monday, December 27, at Twiggs Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard, at Madison). Sign-ups at 8 p.m., open

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

readings 8:15 to 9:30 p.m. Free. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"In Remembrance of Victims of Wars Now Raging, Lest We Forget," this "International Music and Poetry Vigil" is Thursday, December 30, 8 p.m., at *Voz Alta* (1544 Broadway). Program includes poets Alfred Howard, Ali Ashouri; music by Ahmadshah Hassan (Afghanistan), Fardin Karamkhani (Kurdistan), Alex Khalil (Palestine), Abaa Koma (Ghana), and Darvak (Iran). Free. 619-230-1869. (EAST VILLAGE)

You're Invited to a Five-Hour Birthday Party celebrating 90th anniversary of Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Saturday, January 1, 2005. Party hours: noon to 5 p.m. Other guests: Carol Williams, Robert Plimpton, Jared Jacobsen, Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band, San Diego Youth Ballet, Dale Sorensen, Patrick Biggs, Daniel Myers, David Robinson, others. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Salute to Vienna New Year's Day Concert is slated for Saturday, January 1, 2005. Cast of over 75 professional musicians, singers, dancers including Warsaw soprano Katarzyna Dondalska, tenor Otoniel Gonzaga, Vienna Opera Ballet, Strauss Symphony of America, conductor Klaus Arp.

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)

The Yale Glee Club presents concert on Friday, January 7, 2005, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Program promises "broad and eclectic range of great choral music," from 18th-Century fugues by William Billings to contemporary compositions by Libby Larsen, Morten Lauridsen, newly commissioned work by Pulitzer Prize-winner Dominick Argento, folk songs, spirituals, college songs.

Roam-O-Rama

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

The Disneyesque guided hiking tour of lower Tahquitz Canyon, right on the edge of Palm Springs, is a far cry from the scene here in the 1970s and '80s, when scores — sometimes hundreds — of hippies and impromptu squatters occupied the canyon's idyllic glades. Flush with income from casinos and associated businesses, the canyon's owner, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, turned the situation around during the 1990s. After a massive eviction and cleanup effort, the Indians opened a visitor center at the mouth of the canyon and started offering hiking tours up to as far as Tahquitz Falls. These

guided hikes are the only way to visit the canyon today, and they are offered only during the cooler months of the year.

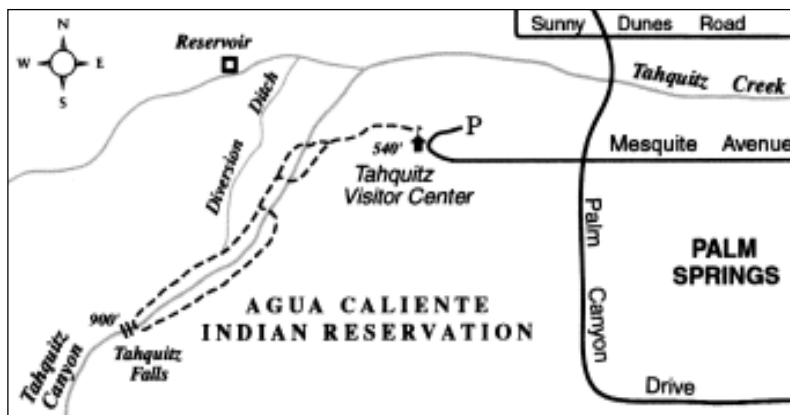
Although "tame" by most hikers' standards, the tour is an excellent introduction to the native riparian and desert flora of the low desert. A great deal of effort has gone into eradicating nonnative invasive vegetation, which had degraded the biological quality of the canyon as much as graffiti and trash had earlier ruined the visual quality of the place.

If enough rainfall arrives this winter season, the 60-foot-high waterfall at the midpoint of the tour could thunder impressively. By

March the canyon could be awash in blooming desert vegetation and annual wildflowers.

The Tahquitz Canyon visitor center, starting point for the hike, is located at the west end of Mesquite Avenue, off Palm Canyon Drive in the southwestern corner of Palm Springs. The two-hour hiking tours, offered between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., depart on the hour (or less often, depending on demand). The cost of admission to the visitor center, which includes a video presentation and the hike, is \$12.50 for adults and \$6 for children.

The route of the tour may vary slightly, but generally covers a figure-eight route along both banks of the perennially flowing canyon stream. Expect to see, sniff, and learn about the Native-American use of several varieties of native vegetation, including the distinctively aromatic creosote bush, yerba santa, and white sage. There's a prehistoric rock-art site along the way, with subtle painted designs and figures. You'll pass a small diversion gate and ditch where water in the canyon stream once flowed northeast toward the valley of Palm Springs. Tahquitz Falls, at the midpoint of the tour, features a shallow pool at its base. With the permission of your guide you may be able to take your shoes off and wade some distance out toward the base of the falls. A hot tip: Store shoes well away from the stream; otherwise they may end up rafting quickly down the canyon.



Tickets: \$15 general. 619-281-3356. (POINT LOMA)

Lots of Laughs! Enjoy comedian Carlos Mencia on Friday, January 14, 2005, 8 p.m., at Spreckels Theater (121 Broadway). Tickets: \$27-\$36, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

"Many Climbs, Many Lessons," legendary alpinist and ice climber Jeff Lowe talks about some of his extraordinary climbs and "lessons he learned along the way" during lectures January 19-21 around the county. His climbing career spans 45 years; symptoms of multiple sclerosis now affect his ability to climb.

Talks are planned at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19, at Adventure 16 (143 South Cedros; 858-755-7662); on Thursday, January 20, at

San Diego Natural History Museum (619-255-0203); and on Friday, January 21, at A-16 located at 2002 South Coast Highway 101 (760-966-1700). Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. (SOLANA BEACH, BALBOA PARK, OCEANSIDE)

Afro-Peruvian Rhythms, soulful *boleros*, Latin rock will be combined when Tania Libertad performs on Wednesday, January 19, 8 p.m., in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium; \$32 general. Information: 858-534-8497; tickets also available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (LA JOLLA)

Lively Vocals and Traditional Instruments! The Chieftains, with more than four decades of performing around the world under their belts and six Grammys, perform Saturday, January 22, 8 p.m., at California Center for the

Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$46, \$56. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Gregorian Chant, Renaissance Motets, Folk Music, jazz, pop, all promised when all-male vocal ensemble Cantus takes stage on Sunday, December 23, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard); \$30. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Comedian Howie Mandel performs Thursday, January 27, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way); \$40. 619-445-6002. (DEHESA)

Performance Artist, Poet, Writer, Musician Laurie Anderson takes stage on Saturday, January 29, 2005, 8 p.m., in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. Tickets:

\$36 general, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (LA JOLLA)

SPORTS

Count the Starbucks along route planned by Knickerbikers bicyclists on Saturday, December 25. The 30-mile ride for intermediates starts at Glen Park (on San Elijo Avenue at Orinda Drive). Free. 619-787-7427. (CARDIFF)

Whale Watching by Kayak led by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego, Saturday and Sunday, December 25 and 26, at 9 a.m. and noon, off La Jolla Shores; \$65 fee includes required equipment, snacks. Reservations: 858-551-9510. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Chargers are in Indianapolis for football against the

Colts on Sunday, December 26, 10 a.m. Tickets for future games: 877-CHARGERS.

Bumble Bee Seafoods Holiday Bowl 5k run steps off Thursday, December 30, at 10 a.m., following course along Harbor Drive. 858-268-1250. (DOWNTOWN)

Take an Oath to Exercise during South Bay New Year's Resolution Run, Friday, December 31. Meet at Southridge Park (corner of Paseo del Rey and East J Street) at noon to be sworn in by retired judge Roy Cazeres. Free. 619-482-4790. (CHULA VISTA)

Fantasy on Ice, the county's "only outside ice rink" is open for skating daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. through Monday, January 17, 2005, at Horton Square (225 Broadway); \$10. 619-234-1031. Closed on Christmas. (DOWNTOWN)

Borrego to the Sea, R&B Bicycle Club hosts events, Saturday, January 8, 2005. Bicyclists choose from two paved road rides, with 50k and 100k distances. The 100k includes a ride to Salton Sea and back to start point at Palm Canyon Resort in Borrego Springs. The 50k is mostly flat, 100k includes "some rolling terrain." Registration: 7:30 a.m., both rides depart at 8:30 a.m. 760-765-2200. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Start Training Now! The 2005 Carlsbad Marathon/Half Marathon (formerly the San Diego Marathon) is Sunday, January 16, 2005, starting and finishing at Westfield Shoppingtown Plaza Camino Real (at Highway 78 and I-5). Starts: marathon walk at 5:30 a.m.; early marathon at 6:30 a.m.; marathon at 7:30 a.m.

Related events on Saturday, January 15, include Carlsbad Marathon Super One Mile at 8:30 a.m. (males) and 8:50 a.m. (females); Keebler Kids' Marathon Mile starts from 9:30 to 10:50 a.m. in a variety of divisions. All About Fitness Expo, January 14-16. 858-792-2900. (CARLSBAD)

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Pet Psychic Sessions by "animal communicator" Suzan Vaughn on December 26 and 28 at Dog Beach Dog Wash (4933

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Voltaire Street). Bring pet, or photo of pet, so Vaughn may "identify issues and challenges people face with their pets." Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Fee: \$15 per 15-minute session. Reservations: 619-523-1700. (OCEAN BEACH)

Behind-the-Scenes Tours offered at Mission San Luis Rey on a selection of Mondays, including December 27, 1:30 p.m. Tours include buildings, grounds, discussion of history of California mission system; \$6. Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Avenue. 760-757-3651. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego International Auto Show takes place Wednesday, December 29, through Sunday, January 2, 2005. New models, pre-production vehicles and concept cars from over 30 manufacturers featured at San Diego Convention Center (111 West Harbor Drive). Hours: are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$10 general, \$5 for children 7-12. 619-525-5000. (DOWNTOWN)

Port of San Diego Big Bay Balloon Parade, Thursday, December 30. Floats, marching bands, and enormous balloons. Parade begins at 10 a.m. on Harbor Drive (along the Embarcadero), proceeds to Seaport Village. Free.

Festivities continue on Broadway Pier immediately following parade. University of California Golden Bears and Texas Tech University Red Raiders marching bands compete in "Battle of the University Bands." Kids' rides, carnival games. 619-283-5808. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

Garden of Lights, ninth annual event at Quail Botanical Gardens boasts gardens decorated with 90,000-plus sparkling lights on plants and trees. Holiday Garden of Lights can be enjoyed December 23, December 26-30. Horse-drawn wagon rides, nutcracker display, marshmallow roasting, holiday music, children's activities, and food for sale. The gardens are located at 230 Quail Gardens Drive. Admission: \$6 for non-members, \$2 for those 3-12. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Vivid Art Banners line the streets of the Gaslamp Quarter through December. Participating merchants offer walking guide brochures featuring artists, banner locations. Free viewing. Banners auctioned on Wednesday, January 19, 2005, at San Diego Gaslamp Marriott (\$10 admission). 619-233-5227. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

year of late Theodor Seuss Geisel continuing through Sunday, January 2, 2005, focuses on how Dr. Seuss and his creations have become commonplace features of American life and imagination. Find exhibit on main floor of Geisel Library at UCSD. Free. 858-534-2533. (LA JOLLA)

Holiday of Lights at Del Mar Fairgrounds is display of seasonal festive lights, with holiday-themed displays and more than 360 "festive scenes" on view through Sunday, January 2, 2005.

Hours are 5:30 to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; 5:30 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Admission: \$12 per vehicle (up to five people), \$17 per vehicle with six or more people. Information: 858-793-5555. (DEL MAR)



San Diego International Auto Show at San Diego Convention Center, December 29-January 2 (see Special)

"Home Sweet Home," exhibitions of gingerbread houses created by local artists are on view through Monday, December 27, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza and through Friday, January 14, 2005, in terminal 2 East at San Diego Lindbergh Field. Viewing is free. 619-277-0132. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

Fasten Your Seatbelt for *Santa's Blast-Off*, presented by Big Joe Productions in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater, Thursday and Sunday, December 23 and 26. Big Joe returns for *Jack and the*

Beanstalk, Wednesday-Friday, December 29-31.

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

"The Wonderful World of Water," Ms. Frizzle and the Magic School Bus lead adventures on Sunday, December 26, 11:45 a.m. and 1:45 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Included in regular museum admission. 619-232-3821 x203. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer," a Kennedy Center family musical, presented on Saturday, January 22, 8 p.m., at Poway Center for Performing Arts (15498 Espola Road). Postshow discussion led by author/humorist Roy Blount Jr. Tickets: \$35 for adults, \$5 for those 18 and younger. 858-748-0505. (POWAY)

MUSEUMS

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

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, the museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agri-

culture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, "Teller Magi Festival" features a collection of over 750 sets of Wise Men from more than 50 countries, on view through Sunday, January 2, 2005.

The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4035 Bonita Road. 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

California Surf Museum, "The Surfer-Shapers," on exhibit through 2005, showcases several surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

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Pet psychic sessions at Dog Beach Dog Wash, December 26 and 28 (see Special)

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)

Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 115 years of American railroad heritage and development through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, “Jim Crow” segregated passenger cars.

Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Railway. Find the depot on Highway

94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum, view artifacts from San Diego’s Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord’s bed, exhibits on Chinese footbinding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall.

The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension showcases “Jade from the Past,” a collection of over 100 nephrite jade sculptures, from amulets to animal and plant designs, on exhibit through March, 2005. Also on view: “Cloisonné: A Perfect Fusion,” with over 35 pieces of animal forms and do-

mestic objects. Find the museum at 404 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original *Star* newspaper building, and relics from the Otago Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. For further information, call 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum, a museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views is found at 10946 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-448-0900 x231. (SANTEE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum, permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore, and cultural significance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages are open every Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. to present the history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. Select cottages open on fourth Tuesday of the month, *Children Around the World* videos are shown in Hall of Nations, fourth Tuesday of every month. 619-538-4069. (BALBOA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886-1915, with "some classics and a concept car."

Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard. 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. Free. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine

CHRISTMAS TREE WITH TOY VILLAGE

Under green limbs, the world before Copernicus: Earth nested at the center of the Cosmos, a shepherd asleep in the lap of a stone. The season's long debate of fire and snow goes on at village windows: the cobbler argues with his wife; a grocer fingers his coins. Outside the gate, an ox-cart shares the road with camels, and a tavern-keeper's spotted dog trots along behind.

Angels, bored with Heaven's airless nights, descend from boughs of spruce to catch a wind that lifts their hair, billows their gowns. Light, not from above but from below, shines on human shoulders, spheres of fruit, and horses' silvered hooves — the Earth itself a great, immovable star, lit from within. Sheep stand, mouths open, listening to a wave break on the shore.

— Mary Cornish

Poetry
Volume CLXXIX, Number 3
December 2001

Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (MIDWAY)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove, "From the Kumeyaay to the Treganzas: Art Across Time," on view through March 2005, honors Lemon Grove's "founding parents." Kumeyaay are depicted in large wall murals and pictographs by museum's artists-in-residence Kathleen Strzelecki and Janne LaValle. Exhibit includes clothing typical of late Stone Age, fossils, utilitarian gourds, items created by members of Treganza family. Companion exhibit traces three decades of modern Lemon Grove history, beginning in 1892. Find

the museum at 3185 Olive Street; 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, "ExploraZone 5," on view through June 5, 2005, explores "what you think you see." The 38 exhibits use visual perception, thought, language, magnetism to test visitor's senses and abilities. Exhibit includes "Hoop Nightmares," "Cheshire Cat," "Black Sand," "Speech Dissector."

Ongoing exhibitions include "Kid City" (designed for preschoolers), "Technovation," "About Faces," "TryScience!" and "Skyscapes II." The permanent exhibitions present a variety of hands-on exhibits illustrating scientific principles. Explore the various methods of transmission and storage and retrieval of information, such as lasers, flashing lights, waveforms, and more. Journey "To Worlds Beyond" in the planetarium show. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center, "The Harris Site Exhibit: San Diego's Place in the Past" showcases traditional Kumeyaay objects complementing artifacts excavated from site, which has yielded important information about prehistory of West. Exhibit continues through January 2005. The museum is dedicated to "curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the public." Find center at 16666 San Pasqual

Valley Road; 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum, "Oldsmobile: Farewell to a Classic," on display through Tuesday, January 25, 2005, offers a sampling of cars from the Brass Age through the Rocket era and beyond. Parent company General Motors shut the company down in the spring. Cars on display include a 1902 Curved Dash, two of the 88s (from 1949, 1957), 1969 Hurst Olds, 1970 442 W-30 convertible.

More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum's permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl; 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, "Shades of Greatness" is a 35-piece art exhibit on loan from Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City, highlighting history, lessons of Negro League baseball. Exhibit includes paintings, statues, other works.

Additional exhibits include "World's Largest Collection of Olympic Medals," featuring medals from as early as 1896. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Historical Society Museum, "From Blueprints to Buildings," an exhibit of San Diego architecture, traces this region's architectural history from early Indian bark houses to modern and postmodern buildings. The exhibit showcases the most significant examples of various architectural styles and types of structures. See the historical artifacts, photographs, and ephemera through December.

"Romp! Children Discover Balboa Park" focuses on why Balboa Park exists, examines the 1915-16 and 1935-36 Expositions, and includes exhibits, attractions, and "marvels that were found in the monumental buildings created to showcase the West." Historic film footage allows visitors to tour the Ford Building as it existed in 1935 and see displays and machinery that were there.

The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum, the museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, including exhibits concerning the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of In-*



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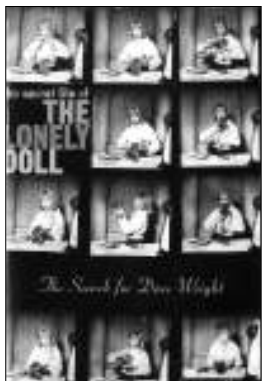
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READING

Books That Help You Survive Christmas



Dust of Snow

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.
— Robert Frost (1874–1963)

On Christmas Day some among us sooner would read than rip at ribbons. We would prefer the voice of Jane Austen to that of shrill Aunt Tillie. Some among us, on 25 Decem-

ber, long only to laze in the old overstuffed armchair and chew on a cold turkey wing. We prefer to fly into a netherworld of printed pages. Below, you will find six titles that might help take you far beyond the cedar tree and its sparkle. — Judith Moore

The Secret Life of the Lonely Doll: The Search for Dare Wright
by Jean Nathan; Henry Holt, 2004; \$25

FROM THE DUST JACKET: In 1957, a children's book called *The Lonely Doll* was published. With its pink-and-white-checked cover and photographs featuring a wide-eyed doll, it captured the imaginations of young girls and made the author, Dare Wright, a household name.

Close to 40 years after its publication, the book was out of print but not forgotten. When the cover image inexplicably came to journalist Jean Nathan one afternoon, she went in search of the book — and ultimately its author. Nathan found Dare Wright

living out her last days in a decrepit public hospital in Queens, New York.

Over the next five years, Nathan pieced together a glamorous life. Blond, beautiful Wright had begun her career as an actress and model and then turned to fashion photography before stumbling upon her role as bestselling author. But there was a dark side to the story: a brother lost in childhood; ill-fated marriage plans; a complicated, controlling mother. Edith Stevenson Wright, herself a successful portrait painter, played such a dominant role in her daughter's life that Dare was never able to find her way into the adult world. Only through her work could she speak for herself: in her books she created the happy family she'd always yearned for, while her self-portraits betrayed an unresolved tension between sexuality and innocence, a desire to belong and painful isolation.

Illustrated with stunning photographs, *The Secret Life of the Lonely Doll* tells the unforgettable story of a woman who, imprisoned by her childhood, sought to set herself free through art.

Zappa: A Biography
by Barry Miles
Grove Press, 2004; \$25

FROM THE DUST JACKET: Ten years after his death, Frank Zappa continues to influence popular culture. With almost one hundred recordings still in print, Zappa remains a classic American icon. Scores of bands have been influenced by Zappa's music, and a talented roster of musicians passed through Zappa's bands. Now comes the definitive biography of Zappa by best-selling author Barry Miles, who knew Zappa personally and was present at the recording of some of his most important albums. Miles follows Zappa from his sickly Italian-American childhood in the 1940s to his youthful pursuit of what was a lifelong dream: becoming a classical composer. Miles brings the many different personalities of this music legend together for the first time: the self-taught musician and composer who gained fame with the "rock" band the Mothers of Invention; the political antagonist who mocked presidents while being invited to represent Czechoslovakia's cultural interests in the United States, and Zappa the family man who was married to the same woman for over 30 years. Rebel, performer, and a true musical visionary, *Zappa* is a brilliant and sweeping portrait of an American legend, written by one of rock music's most respected biographers.

Just the Thing: Selected Letters of James Schuyler 1951–1991
Edited by William Corbett
Turtle Point Press, 2004; \$25

FROM THE DUST JACKET: James Schuyler, recipient of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, belongs with John Ashbery, Barbara Guest, Kenneth Koch, and Frank O'Hara to the first generation of New York School poets. *Just the Thing* makes him the first of that remarkable constellation of poets to have his letters published. Schuyler is the perfect letter writer, one who seeks to amuse and inform, who has a great sense of humor, lively and original opinions, an ear for gossip and the tart tongue to properly serve it, and who is a memorable phrase maker. At a memorial service after Schuyler's death, his friends Kenneth Koch and the painter Jane Freilicher paid tribute to Schuyler by reading aloud from his letters to them. The audience heard the man there in full in each of his sentences.

Editor William Corbett's selection includes roughly a third of the Schuyler letters currently available. There are numerous notes to his great correspondents Ashbery and the painter/writer Joe Brainard, and to Fairfield Porter, Frank O'Hara, John But-ton, Barbara Guest, Harry Mathews, Ron Padgett, Kenward Elmslie, Anne Dunn, Darragh Park, and a who's who of poets and artists central to the downtown New York art scene from the early 1950s until Schuyler's death in 1991. An extraordinarily rich and compelling book, a wonder, James Schuyler's letters provide the perfect companion to his brilliant and memorable poems — hilarious, self-deprecating, insightful, and moving, ever so moving.

Paul Bowles: A Life
by Virginia Spencer Carr
Scribner, 2004; \$35

FROM THE DUST JACKET: Paul Bowles — novelist, composer, expatriate, rebel, and bisexual — is one of the most compelling and mythologized figures in twentieth-century American culture. Born in 1910, Bowles grew up in Jamaica, New York, a precocious child who could read by the age of three and was writing stories within the year. At 18, he embarked on an artistic journey that led him all over the world. Remarkably gifted, Bowles entered the vibrant art and literary world of the late 1920s and

(continued on page 84)

día, the 1898 San Francisco ferry-boat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The H.M.S. *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit. See artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

The museum is located at 1306 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at the corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man, "Cuando Hablan los Santos: Contemporary Santero Traditions from Northern New Mexico" continues through September 26, 2005. Exhibit documents the past, present, and future of this tradition. Highlights include a San Ysidro by José Benito Ortego,

painted images by José Rafael Aragón, contemporary section with work by 13 of New Mexico's *santeros* (saint makers), pieces by 22 children and grandchildren of featured *santeros*.

Historic and symbolic role of weapons from around the globe examined in "Weapons of the World: Art, Technology, and Symbolism," continuing through May 2005. Collection showcases more than 150 weapons of all shapes and sizes, including blades, shields, spears, bows, most from private collection of Joseph Jessop, who purchased the items from collectors and traders.

"Mapuche: Chilean People of the Land," on view through March 2005, includes more than 100 items such as textiles, basketry, modern and vintage photographs, silverwork. The Mapuche — who were never conquered by the Incas or the Spaniards — boast a complex

culture from pre-Hispanic times, speak their own language, earn income through their artwork.

"Inuit: People of the Midnight Sun," through Sunday, January 9, 2005, showcases ways and habits of the Inuit from migration to present day. Exhibit examines close ties and cultural exchanges among circumpolar peoples spanning four countries, including Yupik, Inupiat, Aleu of Alaska, Inuit of Russia, Canada, and Greenland.

Permanent anthropology exhibit "Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution" features "more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine)." 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) dur-

ing the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. The museum is found at 15808 San Pasqual Valley Road. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

Valley Center History Museum, the museum features an educational

exhibition centered around a California grizzly bear, described as "the only one on view in San Diego." Also on view: model of an 1862 settler's cabin, collection of Indian baskets, and aerospace display. Find the museum at 29200 Cole Grade Road. 760-749-2993. (VALLEY CENTER)

Villa Montezuma, built in 1887 for internationally celebrated author and musician Jesse Shepard, serves as both a historical house museum and cultural center. Find the museum at 1925 K Street (at 20th Street). Call

619-239-2211 for more information. (SHERMAN HEIGHTS)

William Heath Davis House Museum, said to be the oldest surviving structure in the new town area of downtown San Diego, the house is a well-preserved example of a pre-framed lumber "salt box" family home shipped from the East Coast to California by boat around Cape Horn in 1850. Find the museum at 410 Island Avenue (at Fourth Avenue); 619-233-4692. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

WORLDWIDE RECALL

Merck & Co., the maker of the prescription drug Vioxx, has issued a worldwide recall because the drug may cause heart attacks and strokes.

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Chula Vista Abortionist Suspended
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Cheryl Solinger

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READING

(continued from page 83)

early '30s as a poet and composer. He studied music with composer Aaron Copland and was a friend of Gertrude Stein, W.H. Auden, Carson McCullers, Gore Vidal, Truman Capote, Ned Rorem, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, Stephen Spender, and Christopher Isherwood (who named his character Sally Bowles after him). Over the course of his career he composed scores for films and innumerable plays, including many works by Tennessee Williams and Orson Welles. It wasn't until after he married Jane Auer that he began writing fiction: *The Delicate Prey*, *The Spider's House*, *Let It Come Down*, and *The Sheltering Sky*, which he wrote after moving to Tangier in 1947, and which was immediately hailed as a classic.

It is Bowles's flamboyant life that most fascinates people — his friendships, his appetites, his controversial marriage, his leftist politics, his voluntary exile to Morocco, and his stature as a countercultural and gay icon. Through ten years of research, 13 trips to Bowles's home in Tangier, extensive interviews with some 200 of Bowles's acquaintances, and her own intimate relationship with Bowles, who died in 1999, Virginia Spencer Carr has gath-



ered a wealth of information about Bowles and has written a masterful, riveting, and definitive account of an extraordinary life.

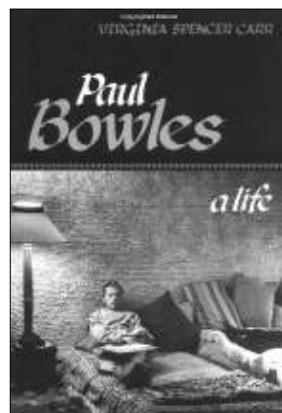
One Matchless Time: A Life of William Faulkner by Jay Parini
HarperCollins, 2004; \$29.95

FROM THE DUST JACKET: *One Matchless Time* is a sympathetic evocation of William Faulkner's life and work. From his birth in 1897 in Mississippi to his death 65 years later, Faulkner spent almost his entire life on this one small patch of land, the "significant soil" from which all his fiction grew. Jay Parini paints an intimate picture of Faulkner's Mississippi world and shows how the artist transformed this raw material into Yoknapatawpha County, a place of pure imagination.



Between 1928 and 1942, during what Faulkner called his "one matchless time," a period of wild inspiration when characters and stories came to him mysteriously and in abundance, he published more than half a dozen masterpieces, including the novels *The Sound and the Fury*; *As I Lay Dying*; *Sanctuary*; *Light in August*; *Absalom, Absalom!*; *The Wild Palms*; *Go Down, Moses*; and *The Hamlet*. This is an astonishing achievement without equal in American literature.

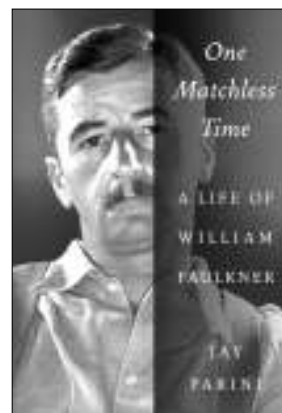
Parini, who has taught Faulkner's work to students for nearly 30 years, vividly brings to life this writer's complex fictional world in the context of his life, using the one to illuminate the other. He uses letters and memoirs unavailable to earlier biographers as well as interviews he had with Faulkner's daughter and several of his lovers. His



William Faulkner is an immensely gifted, obsessive artist plagued by alcoholism and a bad marriage, but someone who rose above his limitations to become a figure of major importance on the stage of world literature.

Striptease: The Untold History of the Girlie Show by Rachel Shteir
Oxford University Press, 2004; \$28

FROM THE DUST JACKET: The fascinating, untold story of the history of undressing: over 50 years of taking it off. *Striptease* combined sexual display and parody, cool eros and wisecracking Bacchanalian humor. *Striptease* could be savage, patriotic, irreverent, vulgar, sophisticated, sentimental, and subversive — sometimes, all at once. In this vital cultural history,



Rachel Shteir traces the ribald art from its 19th-century vaudeville roots, through its long and controversial career, to its decline during the liberated 1960s. The book argues that striptease is an American form of popular entertainment — maybe the most American form of popular entertainment — based on exhaustive research and filled with rare photographs and period illustrations, *Striptease* re-creates the combustible mixture of license, independence, and sexual curiosity that allowed strippers to thrive for nearly a century. Shteir brings to life striptease's Golden Age, the years between the Jazz Age and the Sexual Revolution, when strippers performed around the country, in burlesque theatres, nightclubs, vaudeville houses, carnivals, fairs, and even in glorious palaces on the Great White Way. Taking us behind the scenes, Rachel Shteir introduces us to



a diverse cast of characters that collided on the burlesque stage, from tight-laced political reformers and flamboyant impresarios, to drag queens, shimmy girls, cootch dancers, tit serenaders, and even girls next door, lured into the profession by big-city aspirations. Throughout the book, readers will find essential profiles of famed performers, including Gypsy Rose Lee, "The Literary Stripper"; Lili St. Cyr, the 1950s mistress of exotic striptease; and Blaze Starr, the "human heat wave," who literally set the stage on fire. *Striptease* is an insightful and entertaining portrait of an art form at once reviled and embraced by the American public. Blending careful research and vivid narration, Rachel Shteir captures striptease's combination of sham and seduction while illuminating its surprisingly persistent hold on the American imagination. ■

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Sit Like an Apple

Their flattened, hard-rubbed faces are blunt pictorial vessels for anger and deprivation.

Paul Cézanne was an almost pathologically nonsocial man. He spent many years in his studio in Aix essentially alone, with occasional visits from his wife or other artists. Seeing acquaintances coming down the sidewalk, he crossed the street so as not to have to greet them. In his one famous social motif, the card players, the figures look down at their cards, not at each other or any shared object. His great portraits were essays in obliquity. He was more interested in the construction of physical presence than in psychological revelation. His most frequent sitter, Madame Cézanne, is usually tilted in the frame, her features pulled and blurred. When his dealer Vollard came for a portrait, the artist told him, "You must sit, sit like an apple." His self-portraits are studies in withholding and elusiveness. Their technical adventuring plunges the figure at us, but the character on view is stonily self-contained.

An 1878 self-portrait shows the painter at age 40, heavyset, typically disheveled, neck hidden by a long streaky beard that, like the hair falling behind the high dome of his balding head, is composed of loose strokes of greens and grays. As in all of Cézanne's portraits, we see at once the wholeness of the conception and the incremental building up of the totality, the force of character and the application of pigment that construct it. The small, black, pebbly eyes, embedded in a ruddy face, possess an undistractable

resolve in pursuing what he called his "researches" into form. It's an image of bold ambition boldly painted, but Cézanne presents his personality as a brute fact of nature—he's an old dog watching us, waiting for us to react.

REVIEW

W.S. DI PIERO

This was the first Cézanne self-portrait to enter an American museum. The museum housed the private collection of Duncan Phillips, then and still at 1600 21st Street in Washington, D.C., and the Cézanne is one of many first-rate pictures from the Phillips Collection included in *Renoir to Matisse: The Eye of Duncan Phillips*, on exhibition at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Phillips, an independently wealthy student of art history and sometime art critic (his father was a successful manufacturer, his grandfather a banker and Big Steel tycoon) began acquiring European pictures in the early 1900s and by the 1920s was far along in buying some of the best pictures of the early modern period. He and his family occupied the mansion on 21st Street where the art was hung—the front part was open to visitors—until 1921, when Phillips decided to turn the entire place into a museum. (A much-needed annex was opened in 1960.) But he didn't turn it into what we normally think of as a museum. It was his house and still retains that feeling. The pictures are airily spaced; plentiful windows let in the Chesapeake basin light; the rooms have sofas, tables, and fireplaces. Phillips knew what he wanted: "Instead of the academic

grandeur of marble halls and stairways and miles of chairless spaces, we plan to try the effect of domestic architecture, of rooms small or at least livable, and of such an intimate and attractive atmosphere as we associate with a beautiful home." He intended to make "an American Prado," and he had the eye (and financial means) to make that happen.

Frequent visitors have their favorite paintings. Mine is a small, sizzling picture of wild roses by Marsden Hartley. The painting that usually slays first-timers, though, is Renoir's splashy, ebullient 1880 *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, the poster image for Paris's *belle époque*, those decades following the bloody Commune of 1871 when France felt flush with the prosperity and increased leisure of a growing middle class. If Cézanne was the poet of complex solitudes, Renoir was the high priest of high times, celebrant of simple social harmonies and the life of the appetites, though I have to confess I've never had much taste for Renoir's flagrant fineries, especially his tendency to reduce the body to a series of sentimental painterly gestures (so many bosomy females whisked into shape from frilly pinks and reds).



Self-portrait, 1878, Paul Cézanne

Renoir to Matisse: The Eye of Duncan Phillips
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles
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Calendar

ART

That said, the *Luncheon* is almost heroic in its rendering of adult pleasures, and it's washed through and through with sexual anticipation. Each figure-cluster acts out a combustible flirtatious encounter, all deployed around the picture's center: a table loaded with fruit, wine bottles, and glasses. Renoir paints the blackish-purple wine and grapes so vibrantly that they seem possessed by their deity, Bacchus, whose energy buzzes through the pleasure-seeking crowd like a dark energy that's also the source of giddy surrender to momentary thrills. The only equivalent to this in Cézanne are the pleasurable social interactions, so to speak, among the inanimate things in *Ginger Pot with Pomegranate and Pears*, a still life Phillips acquired in 1939 in which the bunched tablecloth lifts and tips the pomegranate toward the other fruit, as if in coy greeting, and the long stems of pomegranate and pear arc toward each other as if eager to converse.

It took Phillips a while to appreciate Cézanne. Not so Daumier, whom he adored from the start. If Daumier isn't quite the equal to Michelangelo that Phillips thought him to be, he



Luncheon of the Boating Party, 1880, Pierre-Auguste Renoir

expressed political passion and social sympathy (especially for the have-nots) with ferocious immediacy. Though Phillips knew that Daumier's *Uprising* was probably finished by another hand, he considered it the greatest painting in the Collection. The figures in the picture, which was occasioned by the street chaos during the 1848 revolution, aren't specific or detailed. Their flattened, hard-rubbed faces are blunt pictorial vessels for anger, deprivation, and righteousness. A better picture, if not quite as rudely compelling, is Daumier's *Strong*

Man, where the roly-poly central figure, whose great strength seems centralized in his great belly, is the still center of the raw, lunging energies of the sideshow barker and crowd around him.

Phillips collected old master paintings and many superb American pictures by Hartley, Albert Pinkham Ryder, Arthur Dove, and Mark Rothko. *Renoir to Matisse* includes only modern European works, but they show Phillips's catholic sensibility, which he had to work at. As with Cézanne, he didn't take an immediate shine to Van Gogh's work, but he came to admire its



Mystery (undated), Odilon Redon

tactile, febrile immediacy. *Road Menders* shows reality's anatomy as all sticks and bones: single strokes of primary colors outline and fill the volumes of trees, stones, and road. Van Gogh painted it in 1889, shortly after cutting off his ear lobe and just a year before his suicide, but it's noteworthy not for its wildness or anxiety but for its vigorous technical control. Phillips had a special affinity for painters like Van Gogh, Gauguin, Vuillard, Bonnard, and Redon, who wanted an art that transcribed feeling on the transparent membrane dividing (or holding together) material and spiritual worlds. Bonnard was a Phillips favorite, and *The Palm*, a sprawling, busy, decorative picture of Eden and its aftermath (Bonnard's wife, Marthe, is Eve holding the fruit), would be my choice over Renoir's *Luncheon*

as the show's central masterpiece. A stranger and more unsettling painting is Redon's *Mystery*. Redon wasn't interested in decoration, or Impressionist optics, or Cézanne-ish "little sensations." His canvases catch the ethereality of the spiritual infusing what we see, or think we see, as material reality. The female figure in "Mystery" and the flowers that rise before her, gestured into being out of an invisible order of things, seem at the same time to be caught in a disappearing act.

Los Angeles may be a bit far to travel to see one picture, but the last thing in *Renoir to Matisse* is a small still life by Giorgio Morandi that, if you're in a certain vulnerable state, might change your life, or change the way you look at reality (or at paintings, anyway). It's a devotional presence, a steadying

ART LISTINGS

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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 ART, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

ART MUSEUMS

Mingei International Museum, "Navajo Weaves" includes 33 Navajo objects such as chief's robes, other blankets and rugs woven in the late 19th Century and in 20th Century. Pieces of Navajo silver and turquoise jewelry dating from same era as weavings (from a private collection) also on view.

"Elemental Art of the Indonesian Archipelago" includes more than 100 objects such as textiles, jewelry, puppets, baskets, beaded objects, ritual dance masks, architectural ornaments, household objects, ancestor figures, and shrines. Ongoing.

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)

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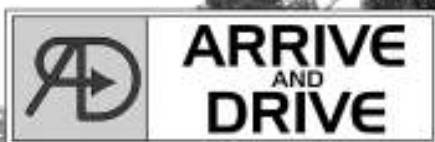
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Mingei International Museum, North County Satellite, "The Beaded Universe — Strands of Culture" includes beads from 40 cultures, inspired by and based on *The History of Beads* by Lois Sherr Dubin. Exhibit includes beaded globe four feet in diameter created by Huichol Indians, a Yoruba chief's robe, garments by New York artist Sandra Rubel.

Concurrently, see "JoAnn Tanzer — Architectural Enamels." Works were created by painting with vitreous glass on steel. Both exhibits continue through February 2005.

Ongoing: "Horses — Circling the Globe" includes animals from India, China, Japan, Indonesia, Sweden, England, Guatemala, Mexico, and the U.S. Some have religious connections, some were made as toys. A selection of Navajo blankets is also on display. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, "Cerca Series: Melanie Smith" features recent video and the photography installation *Six Steps to Reality*, made in collaboration with Rafael Ortega. The piece "compares the purely aesthetic object with the process of its making." Installation is accompanied by series of photographs that "further deconstruct as well as intensify our understanding of the process of art." Continues through Sunday, January 9, 2005.

Find the museum at 1001 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), di-

rectly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 619-234-1001. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, ideas and influence of minimalist art explored in "Specific Objects: The Minimalist Influence," closing Sunday, January 30, 2005. The exhibit showcases works from museum's permanent collection, as well as newly commissioned pieces. Artists represented include Robert Mangold, Sol LeWitt, Dan Flavin, Agnes Martin, Robert Irwin, others.

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, "Jeff Bridges — Pictures" represents 30 years of photographic practice by the compelling actor. The included photographs "act as Bridges' personal and professional diary, with actors, directors, and crew appearing as equal participants in the task of making movies." Enjoy these images of "people at work" through Sunday, March 13, 2005.

Andreas Feininger photographed every form, shape, and structure that enthralled him. "Andreas Feininger: Man on the Street" celebrates his "peripatetic love of New York City in the 1940s with 35 photographs," on view through Sunday, March 6, 2005.

Concurrently, take in "Mariana Yampolsky's Mexico," also on exhibit through Sunday, March 6, 2005. Yampolsky began her career as a printer and engraver in Mexico's Popular Graphic Arts Workshop. Her art is said to blend

graphic arts with documentary photography, "revealing what is unique or heartfelt in each" of her subjects.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado; 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art, 45 contemporary quilts selected from over 600 entries are included in "Quilt Visions 2004," a biennial juried international exhibition. Jurors were Lix Axford, Michael W. Monroe, Jane Sauer. Find the museum at 704 Pier View Way; 760-721-2787. Continues through Sunday, January 16, 2005. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art, "Past in Reverse: Contemporary Art of East Asia," showcases "cutting-edge artists working in a diversity of media...who use contemporary approaches to reflect their respective cultural and artistic backgrounds." Each artist's work is featured in a separate section while accompanying wall texts articulate how the artist is responding to historical precedents. Continues through Sunday, March 6, 2005.

"Tastes in Asian Art" includes "some of the most significant works" in the museum's collection. Exhibit features new and rarely exhibited works, along with well-known pieces. Closes Sunday, May 1, 2005.

"Human Presence: Works from the Museum's Collection," two-part exhibit focuses on the human body. "Part I: The Singular Body" incorporates gallery sculptures of people and animals with those in the garden and court. "Part II"

brings attention to "physiological reactions to pure form and color" via the "Through the Geometry of Color" exhibit. Experience through Sunday, July 24, 2005.

"Visions of the Great Goddess: The Divine Female in South Asian Art," focuses on cultural and artistic significance of goddess imagery in South Asia in paintings from Edwin Binney 3rd Collection. Works feature Devi, the "Great Goddess" or the "First Cause of Things" in four aspects — as a great power, a bestower of fortune, a beloved, and a human saint. Continues through Sunday, March 13, 2005. Concurrently, there's a small display of related sculptures from South India, including a newly acquired Chola-period bronze of Goddess Devi.

Explore aspects of "the Golden Age of Dutch culture" through "rarely exhibited and relatively unknown medium of domestic tiles" in "Seventeenth-Century Dutch Tiles from the Museum's Collection," on view through Sunday, January 9, 2005. Show focuses on history of tile making, its use, pictorial sources.

For further information, call 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Timken Museum of Art, "Benjamin West: Allegory and Allegiance," on exhibit through Sunday, February 27, 2005, showcases the artist's three major paintings based on Edmund Spenser's 16th-Century epic poem "The Faerie Queen." The

exhibition includes preparatory drawings for the paintings, related engravings, and graphic works. West (1738-1820) occupies a significant place in both American and British art histories.

Permanent collection includes European masters, 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

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
Pieces by William Albright, Edwin Lemare, and Jean Langlais may be heard when former civic organ-

ist Jared Jacobsen performs in Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Sunday, December 26, 2 p.m. Program includes "a few Christmas leftovers" such as Frederick Hohman's "Wenceslaus" variations. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Salute to Vienna New Year's Day Concert is slated for Saturday, January 1, 2005. Cast of over 75 professional musicians, singers, dancers including Warsaw soprano Katarzyna Dondalska, tenor Otoniel Gonzaga, Vienna Opera Ballet, Strauss Symphony of America, conductor Klaus Arp.

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)

The Yale Glee Club presents concert on Friday, January 7, 2005, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Program promises "broad and eclectic range of great choral music," from 18th-Century fugues by William Billings to contemporary compositions by Libby Larsen, Morten Lauridsen, newly commissioned work by Pulitzer Prize-winner Dominick Argento, folk songs, spirituals, college songs. Tickets: \$15 general. 619-281-3356. (POINT LOMA)

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Mormon Tabernacle Choir Feb. 4

Bobby Caldwell Feb. 11

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Ani DiFranco Feb. 13

Ashlee Simpson Feb. 15

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December 30

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Eve Selis June 11

"Jersey Boys" Through Jan. 16

"Oklahoma" Jan. 11-16

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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.

An American Christmas

Lamb's Players and the Hotel del Coronado (one of San Diego theater's finest sets!) present their "interactive feast and celebration" that takes place one hundred years ago. GRAND BALLROOM, HOTEL DEL CORONADO, 1500 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 29; NIGHTLY (EXCEPT FOR CHRISTMAS) AT 6:30 P.M. ("THE ATTIRE IS FESTIVE, WITH JACKETS SUGGESTED FOR MEN.") 619-437-0600.

The Book of Liz

No, it's not a Hollywood dish-all, or a lost book of the Bible. It's David and Amy Sedaris's tale of Sister Elizabeth Dunderstock, her famous cheeseballs, her exile from a strict religious sect, the Squeamish, and — like Alice through the Looking Glass — absurdist experiences in the "real" world. In the show, which unfolds like an extended skit, four actors play 13 characters. On opening night, some roles could have been sharper, more differentiated, and more Sedaris (i.e., *above* over-the-

top). The performances that worked best ventured into this artistically verboten terrain: especially David McBean. Whether he's the unctuous Brightbee or a *très* disgruntled waiter, McBean makes bold, consistently hilarious choices. Annie Hinton takes the other side as Liz, She's a soft-spoken innocent. Hinton's so good at subtlety that at times she seems out of place in the comedy's cartoon style. Sean Murray's direction favors uncartooning characters and finding their humanity. But the Sedarises stereotype. They relish offending (and send up the act of offending as well). The Cygnet production is definitely worth seeing but could improve if it went more on the offensive.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE COMPANY, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-337-1525.

A Christmas Carol

The San Diego Rep's 29th annual holiday production has a new twist: Douglas Jacobs has trimmed his original script to 90 minutes with no intermission. All the familiar scenes remain — the Fezziwig Ball's still a ball; the ghosts come, haunt, and go; Scrooge's frigid heart thaws — but the compression makes everything feel more immediate, more urgent. Director Todd Salovey clearly relishes this uptempo version, as do the cast, many of them veterans of *Carols* past (Jonathan McMurtry, Linda Libby, Paul James Kruse, Douglas Roberts, Shana Wride, Robert Townsend). The versatility of the cast, in fact, amazes: they can act, dance, and sing — even the *kids!* Peter Van Norden's crusty Scrooge has grown from last year. Now he's a three-ring circus in a one-ring



A Christmas Carol

tent, both funnier and deeper than before. Javier Velasco's choreography brims with grace and life, and the design elements evoke London on a snowy Christmas Eve, 1842.

Worth a try.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 26; SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Crime Pay\$!

Mystery Café'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.

Grassroots Greeks: Ajax

The extremely popular series of Greek play readings now has a new

location: El Centro Cultural de la Raza. To reacquaint local audiences with the masterworks of ancient Greek drama, Linda Castro and David Cohen offer staged readings. The approach is refreshing. There's no attempt at polished work or choices set in granite. Instead, the actors treat the text as if this were the first day of rehearsal, the threshold of exploration. There's some movement, a suggestion of costumes, and (re)acting, but the emphasis is on the word and, as in all Greek drama, on an unfolding story at once hair-on-fire irrational and as logical as a courtroom debate. It doesn't take long to see how pertinent and compelling these plays are. An informal discussion follows the reading, and admission is free, though donations are appreciated. Next reading: *Hecuba*.

Worth a try.

EL CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BOULEVARD, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH APRIL 11; MONDAY, JANUARY 10 AT 7:00 P.M. 619-235-6125.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

The Old Globe Theatre stages its popular holiday production of the Dr. Seuss classic. Jack O'Brien directed.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH DECEMBER 31; TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-2255.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

One of the longest-running shows in Off-Broadway history, *Perfect* covers the zodiac of relationships, starting with a first date ("Will I be a date from hell?"), through the


singles scene ("Single Man Drought"), to marriage, children, even a funeral. Along the way a San Quentin con scares a timid couple into taking the Big Step ("You gotta compromise a little, you dickheads!"), and Rose Ritz tells the truth for her dating service videotape. Theatre in Old Town's engaging production features a four-person cast. They have the smarts not to push for comedy or drama, letting the audience choose its reaction (romantics can sigh, scoffers can, well, scoff). Andrea Chamberlain, Mylinda Hull, David Engle, and especially Stan Chandler, who must be one of the most versatile performers around, enhance every scene with strong voices and precise character details. Credit as well to the costume designer, unnamed in the program, who provided everything from tuxes to Chargers T-shirts — and enough Velcro to permit what must be, in many instances, split-second changes.

Worth a try.

THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 2; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 5:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

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How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Jersey Boys

This wonderful new musical isn't just a nostalgic greatest hits of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons event. It tells the stories behind the songs, many of which the group would rather forget. In the process, it explores parallel dreams: the mythical "American" one; and the nightmare that comes with an overnight fame only Dr. Faustus could conjure. Under Des McAnuff's superb direction, *Jersey Boys* unfolds cinematically, with nary a wasted frame. Almost always there's at least one live musician on the minimalist stage, making the piece a moveable concert where music's made in every conceivable mode. And most astonishing of all, the four performers cast as the singers are so talented they could hit the road, right now, and land high-paying gigs. They could, but they're headed to Broadway instead. If each were a separate "season," Christian Hoff's tough-talking Tommy DiVito would be winter. Daniel Reichard's gentle Bob Gaudio would be summer (especially when we learn that "Oh What a Night" commemorates his first sex). J. Robert Spencer's Nick Massi would be autumn, and Frankie Valli would be spring, since his voice explodes with the freshness of something brand new. David Norona plays Valli so well that on opening night, when he sang "My Eyes Adored You," in the audience the real Valli sprang to his feet, pounding his hands and, so it seemed to the crowd who soon stood with him, passing the torch. (Note: The La Jolla Playhouse has extended the run of this production three times.)

Critic's pick.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, MANDELL WEISS THEATRE, MANDELL WEISS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, UCSD, THROUGH JANUARY 16; TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

The Culy Theater hosts "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater," as Joey and Maria tie the knot. DAVE AND BUSTER'S, 2931 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, MISSION VALLEY, AND 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, DOWNTOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Kimberly Akimbo

One of 2004's best productions is back! Delicia Turner Sonnenberg's Moxie Theatre is restaging a show that could have run for months. Kimberly's "akimbo" because she's aging 4½ times faster than "normal." She's 16 going on 78. People with her progeria-like condition die around 16. But then again, David Lindsey-Abaire's crazy-wise comedy asks, what is normal? Is it merely an antiquated concept? In Sonnenberg's treatment, the characters drive the play, propelled by rampant denial (what goes unsaid about Kimberly's condition lurks beneath every line). The director lets the jokes, and they are legion, fall wherever. She emphasizes an akimbo family that, the playwright would argue, is the family of man. Everyone in the terrific cast combines the human with the gonzo: Matt Scott's juiced Buddy; Liv Kellgren's tough Debra (who steals a

mailbox); Jason Connors's poor, bedraggled Jeff — is his life an internship to become the next Job? Linda Castro gives an honest, moving performance as Kimberly. Living on fast forward, she's both younger and older than the rest. As Kim's narcissistic mother, Patie, Jo Anne Glover's a "Jersey Girl" writ large, especially when shouting "Come back! I'll be normal now. I'll show you I can do it!"

Critic's pick.

MOXIE PRODUCTIONS, LYCEUM STAGE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, THROUGH DECEMBER 24; THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas: Northern Lights

This year, Lamb's Players' popular holiday show is set in 1962. Three generations of Baxters change the location of their Christmas celebration. Deborah Gilmour Smyth directed.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 26; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:30 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. (NO PERFORMANCE CHRISTMAS DAY.) 619-437-0600.

La Pastorela De Los Inmigrantes

The Pastorela tradition began in Spain a few years after Columbus sailed west. The story follows a group of shepherds, on their way to Bethlehem, hounded by demons and doubts. San Diego's Pastorela tradition began in 1991. Teatro Mascara Majica presented an English/Spanish version at once ancient and hip. This year's — a cavalcade of holiday songs, contemporary references, dazzling costumes, and irrepressible energy — does even more. It *rocks*. Willie Green and Von Shauer head a game cast as Archangel Michael (and Bob Marley and SpongeBob) and Satan (and Donald Trump and the President). Over the years, director Bill Virchis has steered the show toward the flow and jubilation of a musical. Thanks to a tight three-person band, 2004's Pastorela breaks into song at every turn. Many numbers stop the show, in part because of the stirring performances, but also because the audience, which has risen to its feet and clapped and danced and sung along, must sit back down so the shepherds can continue on to Bethlehem.

Worth a try.

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THEATER

The Last Five Years

Take *I Do! I Do!* Add a smidgen of Harold Pinter's *Betrayal*. Blend them into a commercial "I can relate" mix, and you have composer Jason Robert Brown's "relationship" musical, based on his own experiences. Actually, it's got moments that spark. When they meet, Jamie's an aspiring novelist; Cathy's an aspiring actor. They fall in love (she's his "Shiksa Goddess"), marry, and break up. The musical's twist, which at times works against itself: Jamie's story goes from past to present; Cathy's moves backwards from now to then — he darkens, in other words, as she brightens. At the North Coast Rep, director Peter Ellenstein has cast two talented, engaging performers, Jeremiah Lorenz and Erin Cronican, but I don't think I caught them on their best night. Both sang a bit strained, as if they had just done a matinee (this show's killer vocal demands, just about every song a high-wire act, rival those of *I Do!*; also, though solid, the back-up band almost drowned them out). Lorenz makes the most of Jamie, by far the hipper of the two (in fact, Cathy's so bland and whiny, you wish Brown's ex-wife had written her part). Cronican has a show-stopper, though. In "Climbing Uphill," Cathy does an audition and tells what it feels like as well; the combination feels like a divorce inside a marriage.

Worth a try.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE,
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DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M.
 SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY
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Late Nite Catechism

In most interactive theater the audience needs time to warm up, get into the spirit of performance. Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan's immensely popular show, by contrast, takes about two seconds, max. Sister, a nun substitute-teaching St. Bruno's adult catechism class, walks in, beams a pleasant smile, then orders latecomers to take their seats NOW. She's teaching because it's Father Murphy's poker night. And she's from the pre-Vatican II, don't-spare-the-rod school (when she taps a ruler on her palm, half the audience rubs its

knuckles from suddenly unexpressed memories). Hulking around in heavy black gabardine, a python-sized rosary coiled at her waist, she commands such a presence that eyes look away when she glares at them. And — whether threatening eternal damnation to a gum chewer, or delighting in church loopholes (St. Veronica probably had an eating disorder; St. Patrick was actually Scottish) — she's as strict as a drill sergeant and funny as a crack stand-up comedian. *Late Nite Catechism*, which began in 1993, has become a cult classic. It's the *Rocky Horror Show* for anyone who had an old-school parochial education. And everyone else.

Worth a try.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE,
 987D LOMAS SANTA FE PLAZA, LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH,
 THROUGH DECEMBER 28; MONDAY AND
 TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 858-481-1055.

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

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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 AcroTurf. 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 acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATRE, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

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: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE, 6822-B EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. (THE “FAMILY” SHOW) AND AT 9:45 P.M. (“RATED PG-13”). 619-465-7469.

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1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, DOWN-

TOWN, AND DAVE AND BUSTERS, 2931 CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, MISSION VALLEY, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639.

Tenth Annual Welk Musical Christmas

The Welk Resort Theatre presents a new musical revue for its holiday show, including segments about Hollywood, Charles Dickens, and “Cathedral.” Cheryl Baxter directed and choreographed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH DECEMBER 23; THURSDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE THURSDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

36 Views

Laguna Playhouse presents the Southern California premiere of Naomi Iizuka’s 36-scene drama about the secrets behind the discovery of what might, or might not, be a rare work of art. Chay Yew directed. LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE, 606 LAGUNA CANYON ROAD, LAGUNA BEACH, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, THROUGH JANUARY 30; 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.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house

blend — “Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays ’70s tunes on the piano. 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 admit, 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 magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties 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.

THEATER DIRECTORY

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The Hispanic Theatre Of San Diego
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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in *Blurt*. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to freerangechicks@hotmail.com

"It always happens the Wednesday before Christmas." Last year Clear Channel fired 20 people. The year before that

just before Christmas," said an anonymous non-Clear Channel employee.

The day after the firings, the remaining Clear Channel employees received a memo that was supposed to help boost morale. The memo acknowledged that though Clear Channel must spin off the five Mexican

that a station is worth 15 times what it nets. Based on that, these stations should actually be worth \$90 million. But since these are Mexican stations, and you are only buying the right to operate them and not own them, it seems like it should be even lower."

Local Clear Channel radio manager Kelly Kibler, when asked about the firings and the divestiture, answered, "No comment."
— Ken Leighton

"They are taking personal stabs at Roxy" because she is white. To say that someone does not have a rightful place in a certain sector of the music business based on race, in the year 2004, is simply outrageous."

Sayer Sweeney is a USD freshman who said he used to spend a lot of time flipping back and forth between the two local hip-hop stations: Jammin' Z-90 and Blazin' 98.9 (formerly called "More FM"). Sweeney, 18, said he has permanently tuned out 98.9 because of the overtly racist promo ads that 98.9 airs against the only other local hip-hop station — Z90,

whose morning host goes by the name "Roxy."

"They repeatedly say on



HIP HOPPIN' ROXY GETS ALL KINDS OF ATTENTION

the air, 'That morning DJ thinks she's hip-hop. Have you seen her? That's not hip-hop.' I knew right away what they were getting at. The clear insinuation here is that because Roxy is white, she cannot be hip-hop. What gives an African-American or Latino person more credibility as being hip-hop than a white person?"

Roxy declined comment, deferring to her boss Diana Laird, Z-90 program director.

"I think it's uncalled for," said Laird, who said that the Roxy-bashing promo has aired repeatedly

on 98.9. "It's racist. Hip-hop is a lifestyle, and it's a musical genre that appeals to everyone. I'm not going to dignify it by responding to it on the air."

"I can assure you that my radio dial has turned to 98.9 for the last time," said Sweeney, a Boston-area native. "If our status as Caucasians classifies us as unfit to spread the culture and music of hip-hop, then it also renders us unfit to tune in and support it."

Repeated attempts to get 98.9 program director



DONNA FRYE PRESUMABLY HAS AN AVERSION TO POLKA

Tommy Del Rio to respond were unsuccessful.

— Ken Leighton

After a long day of nasty politics and "bubble trouble,"

what kind of music does District 6 San Diego city councilmember Donna Frye relax to when she goes home?

"Jazz," she says.

"And what do you like to rock out to?" I ask.

"Pancho Sanchez."

"What is in your CD player right now?"

"Stray Cats."

Frye says that her favorite local band is Island Fever and favorite club in her district is the Q (the clubhouse at the stadium).

Is there any particular music station listened to in her office at City Hall?

"88.3 FM."

Finally I ask, "What kind of music does Mayor Dick Murphy like rocking out to?"

"Accordion polka."

— Michael Hemmingson

Venture capitalist David Cremin, 44, is co-owner of the two-year-old Santa Barbara-based firm DFJ Frontier Fund, which has invested around \$25 million in several emerging companies. Among them is Poway's OnTech Delaware,

the inside track

blurt

it was 34. And it was always right before Christmas."

That's from a local radio employee. On December 14, Clear Channel's San Diego radio group fired 11 employees. Although no on-air personalities were canned this time, the pre-holiday pink slip tradition had a chilling effect on some of the remaining employees who said the mass firing showed insensitivity and bad timing.

"This year they only axed 11 people. But it was still

stations (91X, "Kool 99.3," "Magic 92.5," Z-90, and XTRA-AM) it operates, the San Antonio-based company had until September 2006 to do so.

According to in-house correspondence, Clear Channel is asking \$135 million for all five stations. According to an industry observer, that fee seems high considering that the same memo said those stations will only generate a net profit of \$6 million this year.

"The industry standard is

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

blurt

continued

Inc., which makes self-heating food containers, soon to hit the market. "It's going to make the microwave obsolete," says Cremin.

In 1989 Cremin played keyboards for the pseudo-metal band Baton Rouge, who hit the charts with "Walks Like a Woman." The onetime engineering student at University of Connecticut, Stamford, was dumped by the band in 1990. He promptly formed a digital music company, Vis-a-Vis Entertainment, which he sold in 1998 to BMG Music Publishing, providing him with capital. Cremin founded the investment fund with two other partners. Together they raised \$25 million in cash commitments from wealthy individuals and institutions, including the California Public Employees' Retirement System. DFJ Frontier has done well, reviewing around 1000 pitches a year and funding

around a half dozen, allotting \$300,000 to \$500,000 per investment.

The food canisters produced by OnTech use an inner container filled with calcium oxide to heat edibles upon activation. They will be introduced to the market at Kroger Co. stores in January. According to the DFJ website, a *Fortune* article this month (12/13) writes, "The best recent



KEYBOARDIST FUNDS POWAY'S SELF-HEATING FOOD

packaging innovation is the self-heating plastic containers that encase Wolfgang Puck's new coffee drinks. At the press of a button, calcium oxide and water in a self-contained core react to heat the coffee to 145 degrees in six to eight minutes. The drink stays hot for half an hour."

Cremin says his new endeavors provide more security than rock and roll. "A lot of people can write

songs and record them, but how can you tell who's going to sell?" he asks. "However, no one else can make self-heating food packaging that really works.... [OnTech] will turn a profit from the first quarter."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Seventy-seven-year-old Clora Bryant refers to herself as a "trumpetiste" in a new documentary film chronicling her pioneering career as one of the few woman musicians to infiltrate L.A.'s Central Avenue jazz scene in the 1950s. *Trumpetistically Clora Bryant* emerged from a 1987 meeting between African-American filmmaker Zeinabu Irene Davis, a student in her mid-20s at the time, and Bryant when Bryant was 60 and seeking a bachelor's degree in music. Davis is currently a professor at UCSD.

Over the years that the film was in production, Davis made five other movies, got married, had a child, and worked as a high school teacher and part-time sound tech.

"I hope the film has a long life in the schools," Davis told the *L.A. Times*, "because to me the target audiences are young women who might be playing an

instrument but who may get discouraged or ridiculed. In New York, there were a number of women musicians in the audience, and this is the thing that made me cry — They said, 'Thank you for telling my story.'"

Davis's film details Bryant's impoverished youth in northern Texas, as well as early tours in the 1940s with a segregated all-girl band from Prairie View College. Her days playing trumpet behind Louis Armstrong,



UCSD PROF MAKES FILM ABOUT CLORA THE TRUMPETISTE

Charlie Parker, and Billie Holiday are covered, and rare concert footage from New York and L.A. appears alongside a clip of her on *The Ed Sullivan Show* in 1960. After touring the Soviet Union in 1989, the

septuagenarian underwent quadruple bypass surgery in 1996 and was forced to put down her trumpet forever. In 2002, she was awarded the Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Award at Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center.

Trumpetistically Clora Bryant premiered this month and makes its West Coast debut February at the Pan African Film Festival in L.A. before touring art theaters (no area screenings at press time). It will air sometime in 2005 on PBS. One performance clip in the film includes a raspy voiceover by Dizzy Gillespie, a friend and fan of Bryant's, commenting, "If you close your eyes, you'll say it is a man playing."

— Jay Allen Sanford

"I'm halfway through a three-month chemotherapy program. It sucks all the energy out of you." To make ends meet, Phil Cole, 45, has had to liquidate.

"I have a mobile recording studio. I've had to sell a lot of studio stuff. I sold my motorcycles. I'm just trying to keep my head above water."

In the early 1990s Cole played bass in the cover band Bombay and in the all-

original Jonny Quest. Most recently he has been a sound tech for Dr. Feelgood and the Interns of Love, Hot Chili, NRG, Rockola, the Soul Persuaders, and other oldies-based show bands who play the "casual" circuit, which is mostly



FUNDRAISER FOR PHIL THIS SUNDAY

corporate and convention gigs.

"He has cancer and it is spreading," said Kimmy Terrell of Polyester Express, who has worked with Cole for years. "He is having to sell everything he owns just to pay his mortgage."

Mitch Grant owns Special Event Audio Services and frequently hired Cole as an independent contractor.

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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

"Because of the cost of workers' comp, I can't afford to take him or anyone else on as a salaried employee. That's just the way it is in the music business. If I took everyone as an employee, I would price myself out of business. He's like all the rest of us musicians with no health care. But we are one big family who help each other. That's what this is all about."

Grant is not optimistic about his buddy's future.

"He was misdiagnosed with kidney stones. It turned out to be transitional cell kidney cancer. It's pretty bad. It spread to his lungs and his lymph nodes. The chemotherapy is really kicking his ass.... I've done everything I can financially to support him.... I don't want to get political, but [lack of health

care] is one of the biggest screwed-up things about our country."

The fundraiser for Phil Cole is this Sunday at Humphrey's Special Events Tent, with Rockola's Beatles Christmas salute at 3 p.m. followed by Eve Selis at 7 p.m. Admission is \$15, \$5 for kids. All proceeds go to Cole's health care.

— Ken Leighton

Six-year-old Before Today signed a three-record deal with Equal Vision in January, which



PHOTOGRAPH BY RYAN LOYKO

BEFORE TODAY PLAYS SOMA NEXT FRIDAY

released their *Celebration of an Ending* (recorded locally at Double Time) in

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: MULVANEY'S

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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UM...REMEMBER JESSICA TOOK NICK BACK!



OVERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM

September. Equal Vision (the New York label known for breaking Coheed, Cambria, and Saves the Day) has since lost Coheed and Cambria to Capitol Records.

"They were getting really big," said Vic Fuentes, singer/guitarist of Before Today, about Coheed and Cambria. "Indie labels can't really handle it. Equal Vision, if not the biggest, is the best indie label." Fuentes said Before Today's contract with Equal Vision includes covering their touring costs.

"We've had two national tours." Fuentes said all four members of Before Today, aged 19 to 22, were born in San Diego. "We never want to leave."

Fuentes said his band got signed without a manager,

without press, and without even a publicity shot.

"Record a good, solid three- to four-song demo. That's exactly what we did."

Maybe it helps if your band also has the word "Day" in its name.

Before Today appears New Year's Eve at Soma with As I Lay Dying, Atreyu, Bleeding Through, Underminded, My American Heart, Throwdown, Terror, the Strangers Six, Yesterdays Rising.

— Ken Leighton

"The bands have just submitted lyric sheets to the board of directors, to make sure there's no cussing and stuff."

Lori Wiar is the coordinator of First Night

Escondido's third annual Battle of the Bands, held New Year's Eve.

"All styles, all ages are welcome," says Wiar. There's even a junior-high band.

"Have you heard of the Fijis? They were on KUSI a few days ago. The singer is 14 and sings like Jonny Lang. The voice that comes out of that kid is not natural."

Twelve bands have been chosen: False Image, the Knife of Iris, Somewhere Closer, Parkhurst, F Zero, Arliss, Dead Fallacy, Craze, Damcyan, Trip&Fall, Elenchus, and Temperno.

Starting at 6:25 p.m. and ending at 11:15 p.m., these new acts will be presented on dueling stages at the

California Center for the Arts, Escondido, each playing 20-minute sets. Grand prize is a ten-hour recording session at Don Lithgow's DML Recording Studio in Escondido. Lithgow has recorded blink-182 and Unwritten Law.

Two past winners, Mercy Flood (an alt-Christian band) and Offtrack (a teenage band that calls itself "San Diego's only tubesock pop-rock" band), have yet to be signed.

— Michael Hemmingson

CONTRIBUTORS

Jennifer Ball (editor), Josh Board, Edwin Decker, Dave Good, Michael Hemmingson, Randy Hoffman, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Mary Montgomery, Derek Plank, Jay Allen Sanford

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His Nickname Is Dimebag

"We both realized that he wasn't playing his guitar and the song was still going on."

John Lennon was murdered by a crazy fan on December 8, 1980. On December 8, 2004, another crazy fan murdered a musician: Nathan Gale, a 25-year-old former Marine, initially told friends that he blamed "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott for breaking up the heavy metal band Pantera. It was then widely reported that Gale began claiming the band was stealing song lyrics he had written.

When Dimebag Darrell and his brother, drummer Vinnie Paul, played in Columbus, Ohio, with their new band Damageplan, Gale jumped onstage and shot Darrell to death. He then shot and killed a bouncer (that tried to stop him) and two others before police gunned him down.

A lot of things came to mind when I heard this story. There was a time I was working an overnight DJ shift at Rock 102.1 (now Rock 105.3) and I had friends in from out of town. They were in the studio with me. As I recorded phone calls for potential playback on the air, one caller stated he was going to sue Led Zeppelin because they stole the lyrics to "Stairway to Heaven" from him. The guy spoke normally enough and presented his case. He read verses from the Zeppelin song and then the verses he claimed he wrote. After listening to this guy rant for awhile, I asked, "How old are you?" When he told me, I said, "Zeppelin released that song in 1971. You weren't even born, so how could they steal it from you?" There was silence on the other end, as my friends laughed in the background. Then he replied, "Next time I see Robert Plant [Zep singer], I'm going to kill him!" He hung up.

When I told this story, laughing about it, to our afternoon DJ and promotion director Chris Ryan he told me that when he worked at a radio station in Phoenix a listener often called in threatening to kill the DJs. One DJ told the caller the station's address and dared him to come down. That DJ was shot and killed by the caller later that day.

I also thought about the time I was at an Isley Brothers concert at the Del Mar Fair five years ago. We were near the back, where everyone stands before the seating begins. Everyone started running for the exits. We asked, "What's going on?" and someone answered, "A guy

pulled out a gun!" We ran, too. But from outside that area we heard the Isley Brothers still singing, not missing a beat. We glanced around the corner, saw their purple suits still onstage, and walked back in. I thought then of how easy it would be for somebody to shoot a person onstage — how vulnerable they are up there.

Bobby "Blue" Bland played at 4th & B a few months after 9/11. My friend is a blues lover and he wanted an album autographed, but Bland had security all around him. One of the security guys said, "Ever since September 11, Bobby beefed up security. He doesn't want anything crazy happening to him."

It was odd that, after the shooting of Darrell, Bland was playing 4th & B the next night. And my friend again tried, unsuccessfully, to meet Bland.

I talked to Ed Pate, the sound engineer at 4th & B. He said, "Even I couldn't get near Bobby 'Blue' Bland. He was in and out of there so fast. The second the show was over, he jumped onto the bus. Everything was weird that night."

I remember when metal band W.A.S.P. played 4th & B. Their fans are known for bringing raw meat to throw onstage. The band hated this. One member said, "We slip on the liver and could get hurt." I asked Pate about this and he replied, "Yeah, our security guards found lots of meat in their pockets and we had them throw it out before they came in. Usually, security pats people down and there aren't problems. If people have weapons, they see us searching everyone, so they go back and put them in their cars. The worst problem we have is with the rap acts, from the rappers that perform here. We tell them they have to leave those [weapons] on their bus."

Before I hung up with Pate he told me, "I overheard some security guards talking about the shooting of Darrell. One of them said, 'That could never happen here.' I turned around and said, 'Yeah, what about all those times some fan jumps onstage and then jumps off to stage - dive?'"

When the classic rock station I worked at became a hard rock/heavy metal station, Pantera became the number-one requested group. I couldn't figure it out. I didn't care for them. Our music director and afternoon DJ Peg Pollard



Dimebag Darrell, Peg Pollard, Vinnie Paul

said, "They always got the most requests. And when I got my job working in Denver, they were the most-requested band there, too."

Pantera released *Vulgar Display of Power* in 1992 and played the Starlight Bowl in Balboa Park on November 14 of that year. The night before the show both Darrell and Vinnie called our music director Peg and asked if there were any parties that night. She told them she had to work at Dream Street (oftentimes radio stations go to a club to do promotions). They said they'd show up. She called me at home to ask if I'd help her with the event because she knew that if those guys showed up, it might get hectic.

So there we were at Dream Street in Ocean Beach and it's looking like they aren't going to show. I said to Peg, "They called you about a party. They wanted to party, not come to a bar." But when the last local band was onstage, late in the evening, the two guys from Pantera walked in. The crowd was going nuts, asking for autographs (which they gave), buying them beers (which they drank), and finally, they played onstage with the band.

The music was just loud noise to me. Since I don't play guitar, I couldn't appreciate what Darrell was doing — yet I would always see him on the cover of guitar magazines. And when I once went to NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) in Los Angeles, of all the musicians there, Darrell had the biggest crowd around him, asking for autographs. It struck me as odd that the guys were so nice. For some reason, you think

metal-heads are just going to be rude. But these guys were smiling, letting the fans take pictures — and the concert wasn't even until the next day.

Peg begged me to go to the Pantera concert, but I declined. The next day she told me, "Everyone from Dream Street last night was backstage drinking beer. I asked them how they got there and they said, 'Dimebag gave us free tickets to the concert and backstage passes last night.' I had never seen so many people backstage."

When the news of this tragedy hit, Rob Halford, now a Hillcrest resident, issued a statement on the website "Metal Sludge." It read: "His [Darrell's] musicianship was superb and his original style was and will remain an inspiration to players worldwide. His friendship can never be replaced. I first met Dime in 1991. I was in Toronto preparing for the 'Painkiller' tour. I had MuchMusic TV on and saw this guy talking about metal and wearing a 'British Steel' shirt. From what he was saying and the Pantera video that aired I knew right away that this man was a guitar god. I called MuchMusic and spoke to Dime and that night went to a club and hung with the band. We jammed. From that point on, he and the rest of the band became solid friends. My gut feeling was that this band would be huge."

So Pantera toured with Priest all over Europe. Halford continues, "Of course, so much has happened since those early times and I feel

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that it's important now that however we take the turn of events in recent years we all stay true to the same belief that Dimebag had about his love of metal, which was to play your heart out and be real wherever you are. Some things that happen in life make no sense at all, but out of pain comes strength and use it as an enduring memory for Dimebag. Love never dies."

Pantera was in our studio for interviews every time they came to town. I don't remember much of what they said because I was usually working or just not listening. But Peg recalls, "They were the nicest guys. Some bands came in with attitudes and were assholes. These guys were always nice. One time my boyfriend Len wanted me to have a drumhead signed by Vinnie. Sometimes people spell things wrong, so I said, 'L-E-N' — saying each letter. He asked again, looking confused. I again spelled it. He ended up signing 'Ellian' — thinking I was saying a name, not spelling it."

The next time we partied with Pantera was in 1996. They co-headlined a show at the Sports Arena with White Zombie. Again they called Peg the night before to ask, "Where's the party?" There was no party going on that we knew of, but Peg thought fast on her feet. When a listener called in near the end of her shift, it sounded like a large crowd was at that house. She asked if a party was going on. There was. She said, "Can I come over?" Of course, the listener was excited that this DJ he listened to was going to come over. He started screaming when she said, "I'm bringing Pantera with me." He asked, "Did I win some contest or something?" Peg laughed and said, "No — me and the guys are just looking for a party tonight."

She called me and we met at a house in Clairemont. Andy had Dimebag sign a guitar the second he walked in. (Andy — if you're reading this, I want a copy of the picture you took!) Near the end of the night, Dimebag was showing Andy how to play some chords.

Everyone began asking Dimebag for autographs and Peg said, "Give the guy a break! Let him grab a beer and chill out." He said, "No, no, it's fine." He signed autographs for half an hour, before drinking. One guy called him "Diamond." I said, "No, his nickname is Dimebag." I was quickly corrected. The fan told me "He started out being called Diamond Darrell, but somewhere it got switched to Dimebag. I think because he always has a dime bag of pot on him."

Of course, everyone was also handing him joints, which he'd gladly take, and hand back. One guy said to me, "I'm going to save this joint. I'm going to tell people that Dime actually took a toke from it." I wonder if it will end up on eBay now.

As it got later in the evening, more and more people began to show up at this small house. I noticed Andy calling friends on the phone and I told him, "If too many people show up, the cops will probably close things down. And the guys are going to get sick of being asked the same questions over and over. I think they just want to party, not act like rock stars." He hung up the phone saying, "That's cool, that's cool."

At the Sports Arena, Peg and I were on one side of the stage, watching. Pantera had a banner behind them with a marijuana leaf on it and everyone was throwing joints onstage. Dimebag was lighting them up right onstage. At one point he staggered over and put his arm around Peg, offering her one. She refused, and he started talking incoherently to her, smiling and laughing. We both realized that he wasn't playing his guitar and the song was still going on. She pushed him back to the stage and he started playing again. It was so odd.

Pantera once came to town with Ozzy Osbourne. Upon this tragedy, Osbourne released this statement: "Dimebag was a dear friend of mine. I'm absolutely beside myself with grief. I can't for the life of me understand why someone would do this. Pantera toured with me many, many times. I'll always remember the signed guitar that he gave me at my 50th birthday party. My heart goes out to Dime's family, his fans, and the other innocent victims who were killed in this senseless tragedy. It's just terribly, terribly sad."

While working in radio, I would see fans come to the studio and give musicians all kinds of gifts. The musicians would thank the fans and throw the stuff in the limo, in the trash — sometimes never look at it. Sometimes a band would bring the gift into the studio, just having been handed it in the parking lot. They would open it — it might be a nice bottle of booze or even something like a portrait that was painted by the fan. Often the musician would smile and say to the nearest person, "You can have this if you want." They'd autograph it and some intern at our station now had a cool gift.

There was a guy named Jimmy who was a hardcore Pantera fan and had a business airbrushing shirts. He gave one to Peg to give to Dimebag Darrell as a gift. She said, "I'm going to interview them before the show. Come by the station and I'll let you give it to him in person."

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Calendar MUSIC SCENE

Jimmy handed the shirt to Darrell, who thanked him for it. That night in concert he came out wearing the shirt. Imagine the thrill that was for Jimmy! Peg remembers, "Near the end of the concert he'd take off his shirt and throw it to the crowd. Jimmy probably didn't care as much for that part of it. But the next time Darrell came into the studio, I let him give Darrell another shirt. And the exact same thing happened. But Jimmy was thrilled he even wore the thing."

Dave Mustaine, singer for Megadeth (and former Metallica member), was born and raised in La Mesa and lives there still. He also issued a statement on the website "Metal Sludge" the very night of the murder: "There is nothing unique or clever to this post and what I want to say has no doubt already been said throughout the metal community, by countless others whom were more closer to Darrell than me, by now. However, knowing he was murdered tonight, I wish to thank and remember Darrell for his amazing life and the gift that he shared with me and so many other fortunate. I pray for Darrell's family and friends; specifically for their healing, their peace, and their understanding of this tragedy in their time of need. I send my deepest heartfelt condolences to the Abbott family, to Darrell's friends, and to the fantastic Pantera and Damageplan fans around the world. We must never forget his life, and his genius, his terrific personality, and to the legacy he left behind to remember him by. Darrell, I will see you in heaven and I, like so many more, love you brother. You will be missed."

A music photographer in Colorado once told Peg that Darrell handed him a beer and that he had a really bad acid trip from drinking it. He was sure that Darrell spiked it with something. A person working with the band said, "Never drink anything Darrell hands you." Peg tells me, "That's weird, because I've drank things he's handed me and never had a problem. He was

so sweet and I can't imagine him doing that. Maybe it was a joke."

Unfortunately for Peg and me, the best parties the Abbotts had were in Dallas, Texas. They owned a strip club there and many metal bands that came through partied with them. After her radio career, Peg began working with Suicidal Tendencies. One night the members of that band and Peg were at the club and a guy in Suicidal thought someone in Pantera was laughing at him. He punched the guy, knocking him out. Usually, though, metal bands talk fondly of their trips to Texas to party with Pantera.

Ratt started here in San Diego. Ex-member Juan Croucier issued this: "Dimebag Darrell was an awesome guitar player. Pantera and Damageplan were great, great bands. I remember hearing Pantera for the first time back in the early '90s and thinking to myself, 'Man, this band is over the top.' Very intense. I loved it. It was also my brother Rick's favorite band. Darrell brought something new to the hard rock/metal game. He was not only a great guitar player/songwriter, but he changed the rock music with his style and approach. Hard rock will never be the same. His contribution to music will live on in all of us who loved his work. Life is so precious. Everyone matters. Unfortunately, we live in a world where senseless and insane acts of violence can and do happen without warning."

They do, and that's why I was surprised by Ted Nugent's comments. He's an NRA member, a big hunter, and an outspoken advocate of gun ownership. He told the *Flint Journal*, a Michigan newspaper, "It was horrible. Darrell was a big fan of mine. He expressed that every time we ever saw each other." Of the many musicians' statements I read, the "Motor City Madman" was the only one to comment on Darrell being his fan, not the other way around. He even mentions songs of his that Pantera covered. He ended with, "It's tragic on two dynamic levels. Once again, innocence is destroyed, and it's Americans destroying other Americans. This conduct runs wild in this country...It's not the Taliban doing it. It's Americans." ■

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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

SUNDAY

Was (Not Was): Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, December 26, 7:30 p.m., 143

South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

TUESDAY

Joe Satriani [459]: 4th & B, Tuesday, December 28, 8 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

WEDNESDAY

Ozomatli [270] and **Slow Motion Reign:** Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, December 29, and Thursday, December 30, 9 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

EXTENSION 4001

UPCOMING CONCERTS

DECEMBER

Fishbone [177]: 'Canes Bar and Grill, Thursday, December 30, 8 p.m., 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

Steve Poltz & the Rugburns [263]: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, December 31, 9 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Atreyu, As I Lay Dying, Bleeding Through, and more: SOMA, Friday, December 31, 6 p.m., 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Joe Satriani may have been slated to become the next guitar hero of his generation. They've come along periodically since the British Invasion guitarists of the '60s reinvented American blues and rockabilly. Too technical, say some critics of Satriani's work, and they may be right. A lot of Satriani's stuff is so out there that it is sometimes hard to identify as guitar music. But he can rock, too. I recall sitting in a bar in La Jolla one night back when MTV still played music videos. A Satriani video was in high rotation. I must have seen it four times before last call. It was "Big Bad Moon," a pile driver based on an ancient vamp. For that recording, Satriani shed his complex guitar gimmicks, he actually sang (many of his tracks are instrumentals), and he flat-out wailed Billy Gibbons—style on guitar. It worked for me.

If nothing more, Satriani is something of his own cult. There are hordes of other guitar players who took lessons from him (like Kirk Hammett, Steve Vai, and Larry LaLonde), each imbued with Satriani's quirky guitar mannerisms. Satch, as he is known, also has his own custom line of Ibanez guitars and Peavey amplifiers. Perhaps because he has superior, clean tone and can fill like a handful of guitarists playing at once, he has been a sideman to many, including Greg Kihn and Mick Jagger. Once he even filled in for Ritchie Blackmore on a Deep Purple revival tour.

Hit recordings aside, the G3 tours are perhaps where Satriani's career has gained most of its traction. For years now, he and Vai have cut heads with other virtuosos like Michael Schenker, Robert Fripp, Adrian Legg, and Yngwie Malmsteen. It's a spectacle that produces some of the most muscle-bound guitar playing this side of Pat Travers. But Satriani built a career on nerdy space-alien fretboard emanations. Different,



JOE SATRIANI

yes, but I'm a child of the '60s. I favor guitar that sounds old school: revved and distorted. "You could write a thesis," Satriani once told an interviewer, "on why people like distortion."

(To hear a sample of **Joe Satriani**, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4459.)

JOE SATRIANI, 4th & B, Tuesday, December 28, 8 p.m. 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497. \$30.

JANUARY

"Jazz in the Park" with the **Mike Wofford Trio** and the **Holly Hofmann Quartet:** San Diego Museum of Art, Wednesday, January

5, 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park. Tickets, 619-220-8497; information, 619-298-5255.

Al Kooper: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, January 14, 7:30 p.m.,

4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. Information, 619-303-8176.

Gomez: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, January 14, and Saturday, January 15, 9:15 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue,

Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

The Kottonmouth Kings [129]: 'Canes Bar and Grill, Saturday, January 15, 8 p.m., 3105 Ocean Front

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Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

Keller Williams: 4th & B, Saturday, January 15, 9 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Jay Farrar: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, January 19, 7 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Dionne Warwick /497/: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, January 20, 8 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

The Steve Morse Band /226/ and the **Dixie Dregs:** Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Friday, January 21, 8 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

The Chieftains: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, January 22, 8 p.m., 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Andy Griggs, Lee Ann Womack, and **Tracy Byrd:** Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, January 25, 7 p.m., 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-220-8497 or 619-445-5400.

“SnoCore Tour” with **Chevelle, Helmet, Crossfade,** and more: SOMA, Thursday, January 27, 7 p.m., 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662 or 619-220-8497.

The Robert Cray Band /941/: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, January 29, 8 p.m., 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

FEBRUARY

Luna and **Midnight Movies:** The Casbah, Thursday, February 3, 8:30 p.m., 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-220-8497 or 619-232-4355.

Modest Mouse /593/: SOMA, Saturday, February 5, 7:30 p.m., 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Dave Alvin: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, February 5, 9:15 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

“Brazil Carnaval 2005”: 4th & B, Saturday, February 5, 9 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

The Derek Trucks Band /950/: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, February 9, 8 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Steve Earle & the Dukes and **Allison Moorer /783/:** Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, February 10, 7:30 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Ronnie Milsap: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, February 10, 8 p.m., 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

Bright Eyes /244/ and **Neva Dinova:** Spreckels Theatre, Friday, February 11, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500 or 619-220-8497.

Bobby Caldwell /603/: 4th & B, Friday, February 11, 8 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Dark Star Orchestra: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, February 12, 9:15 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Ani DiFranco /259/: Copley Symphony Hall, Sunday, February 13, 8 p.m., 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-220-8497.

Marcia Ball /953/: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, February 13, 7 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

Jill Scott: Copley Symphony Hall, Thursday, February 17, 8 p.m., 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-220-8497.

Chingy: 4th & B, Thursday, February 17, 8 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Queensrÿche /431/: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, February 18, 8 p.m., 5000 Willows

Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

“Bob Marley Festival”: San Diego Sports Arena, Monday, February 21, 1 p.m., 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

Donavon Frankenreiter: 4th & B, Wednesday, February 23, 8 p.m., 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Duran Duran /256/: San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, February 25, 8 p.m., 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

The Music: ’Canes Bar and Grill, Sunday, March 13, 8:30 p.m., 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

Big Head Todd & the Monsters /477/: 4th & B, Thursday, March 17, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Blue Öyster Cult /509/: 4th & B, Friday, March 18, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Mötley Crüe: Coors Amphitheatre, Tuesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600 or 619-220-8497.

Handsome Boy Modeling School: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, March 29, 9 p.m., 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140.

APRIL

Rod Stewart /605/: Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, April 1, 8 p.m., 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600 or 619-220-8497.

“Taste of Chaos” with the **Used, My Chemical Romance, Killswitch Engage,** and more: San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, April 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-224-4171 or 619-220-8497.

Steve Vai /523/: 4th & B, Friday, April 29, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

MAY

Juanes: Cox Arena, Tuesday, May 3, 8 p.m., SDSU campus, College Area. 619-220-8497 or 619-594-0429.

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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 4002

ALTERNATIVE

- The Buzzkill Romantics:** The Casbah
- Channing Cope:** The Casbah
- C.L.A.:** The Casbah
- Cradlebait:** The Roseary Room
- Day & Age:** The Casbah
- Dreaming of Tanks:** The Casbah
- The Figures of Speech:** Blind Melons
- Fono** [148]: The Casbah

- Huero:** Brick By Brick
- lowcloudcover:** The Casbah
- The Menace:** The Casbah
- One Nation Under a Groove:** The Casbah
- Operator X:** The Casbah
- Ozomatli** [270]: Belly Up Tavern
- Gregory Page** [186]: Lestat's Coffeehouse
- Royal Automatic:** Brick By Brick
- Sister Mary Margaret Jones:** The Casbah
- Slow Motion Reign:** Belly Up Tavern
- Those Dang Robinsons:** Winstons
- Wadi Gad:** Winstons
- Was (Not Was):** Belly Up Tavern

EXTENSION 4003

ROCK

- Bad Credit:** Blarney Stone Pub
- The Bandanna Band:** Pounder's
- The Bartones:** Tiki House
- Cathryn Beeks** [507]: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)
- Blind Date:** Second Wind (San Carlos)
- Criminal Funk:** Humphrey's
- The Electric Waste Band:** Winstons
- The Emerson Band:** Lestat's Coffeehouse
- The Evil Twins:** Di-mond Jim's Nightclub
- Ryan Ferguson:** The Casbah
- Mike Flynn:** The Casbah
- Mike Gardner:** North Bar Sports & Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina, Cheers
- Hera's Olive** [461]: Dick's Last Resort
- Hot Rod Lincoln** [547]: Tio Leo's Lounge
- lencyde:** Blind Melons

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

If you do a Google search for **Was (Not Was)**, you'll get links to the usual pop-up-ad-heavy sites for lyrics and discount CDs. You'll also get headings like "The Moon Landings Were NOT Faked" and "Tyrannosaurus Was Not a Fast Runner." These results are oddly appropriate: The off-kilter R&B band had an absurdist sense of humor and its biggest hit was titled "Walk the Dinosaur." Was (Not Was) began in 1980 basically as an excuse for longtime friends and producers **Don Was** (Donald Fagenson) and **David Was** (David Weiss) to gather musicians from the Detroit scene. Among their first collaborators were members of P-Funk

and the MC5. By their second album, things were getting still more eclectic: Guest vocalists included both Mel Torme and Ozzy Osbourne. Over the years guests would include Iggy Pop, Frank Sinatra Jr., Elvis Costello, Leonard Cohen, and members of the Knack and Kiss. All these connections came in handy for the Was (Not Was) guys in their day jobs. Don Was became one of the top producers in the world after his work on *Nick of Time* rejuvenated Bonnie Raitt's career. He has since worked with countless big-name acts. Partly because he had become in such high demand, Was (Not Was) dissolved in 1993. This fall, Don and David Was announced they were reuniting with vocalist **Sweet Pea Atkinson** and other original members to go on a reunion tour. They're



calling it the "Life After Meth" tour, which suggests that this comeback was hard won. **WAS (NOT WAS), Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, December 26, 7:30 p.m. 619-220-8497 or 858-481-8140. \$17.**

- Transfer:** The Casbah
- The Truckee Bros.:** The Casbah
- The Ventilators:** Coyote Bar and Grill

EXTENSION 4004

POP / TOP 40

- Carol Ames** [619]: Winstons
- The Disco Pimps:** Squid Joe's
- The 80z Allstars:** Squid Joe's
- The Love Rangers:** The Alley
- The New Breed Band:** Dick's Last Resort
- The Pier Group:** Trelisses Garden Grill

- Dean Paul Ratzman:** T.D. Hays Bar & Restaurant, Bistro Soliel
- Peter Robberecht/Pianoman** [622]: Dakota Grill and Spirits
- Richard Samuels:** The Calypso Cafe
- Too Much Fun:** The Metaphor Coffeehouse
- Uptown Groove:** Second Wind (Santee)

EXTENSION 4005

JAZZ / BIG BAND

- The Toby Ahrens-Neal Wauchope Duo:** Ole Madrid

- The Archtones:** Croce's Jazz Bar
- Blue Largo** [636]: Patrick's II
- The Sacha Boutros Quartet:** Pasquale on Prospect, Aurora Trattoria
- Ray Briz:** Hotel del Coronado
- John Cain** [703]: Hotel del Coronado
- The Jorge Camberos Quintet:** Croce's Jazz Bar
- Bruce Cameron:** Coyote Bar and Grill
- Ben Campbell:** Dizzy's
- Mike Cassidy:** Dizzy's
- Will Cruse:** Dizzy's
- The David Patrone Quartet** [647]: Croce's Jazz Bar, Martini Ranch (Gaslamp)

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GUINNESS

— DRAUGHT —

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.

Air Conditioned: Thursdays, Lounge with DJ Gage. Wednesdays, Rockboxx, '80s and '70s rock with DJs Atari, Sergio, and Jr. MixMaster. 4673 30th Street, University Heights. 619-501-9831.

Axis Martini Bar: Thursdays, Groove, DJs D-Skwiz and Enigma spin Top 40, hip-hop, and R&B. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 2010 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-2077.

Bad: Second and fourth Wednesday of the month, '80s, rock, and electro. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; no cover. Rebar, 3404 30th Avenue, North Park. 619-291-3730.

Blitzkrieg Bop: First, third, and fifth Monday of the month, punk,

indie, and rock 'n' roll with DJ Mr. Hyde. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Boulevard: Thursdays, Club Boulevard, hip-hop and house with DJs Marc Thrasher and Van. 925 W. San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004.

Church of Noise: Second and fourth Monday of the month, new noise mixed with alternative rock classics. Hosted by DJ Mr. Hyde. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Club '80s: Thursdays, the best of the '80s with DJs Bryan Pollard and Brian Anderson. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Club '70s: Sundays, the best of the '70s, glam rock, glitter disco, and punk, with DJs B.P., Morgan Young, and Sickboy. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Darkwave Garden: Wednesdays, ethereal-electro-fetish. No cover. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Deep: Thursdays, drum 'n' bass and jungle music with DJs Wallcrawler, Probable Cause, and IzM. 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Rhythm



Ozomatli, December 29 & 30, Belly Up Tavern

Lounge, 3048 Midway Drive, Midway. 619-224-4835.

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.

Electrum: Third Saturday of the month, rhythmic noise, power electro, and militant beats with DJs Bryan Pollard, Chuiy Bitios, and Thermal

Detonator. No cover; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Faction-6: Tuesdays, elektroclash, indie, and synthpop with DJs B-czar, Talbot, and NarcoLept. No cover. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Hands on Wax: Thursdays, house, hip-hop, and downtempo with DJs SK, Matsu, and Dylan Jones; live percussion by Ken. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Surf 'N' Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474.

MixLab: Thursdays, DJ Dex spins an eclectic listening session: alternative hip-hop, urban soul, and Latin grooves. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. Candelas, 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-702-4455.

One Nation: Second Saturday of the month, bootleg remixes, '80s classics, and hip-hop with DJs Bart Blackstone and Atari. The Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street, South Park. 619-284-6784.

Plum Loco Saloon: Thursdays, Latin Night with DJ Rick La Voz. Sundays, Reggae Night with DJs Nico and Josh. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 2511 Sweetwater Road, National City. 619-475-7313.

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Tuesday, December 28
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MATT MOLARINS
ASHLEY LENNON THOMAS
SHEA • MARK DECERBO
BART MENDOZA
STEPH JOHNSON
JOEY BOWEN • ITAI
SAM BYBEE
AUDREY SURFACE
MATTHEW STEWART
Doors open at 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 29
HUERO
ROYAL AUTOMATIC
(formerly Three Minute Miracle)
NANCY

Friday, January 7
"Benefit for Underground Tattoo"
MEDIA LAB
MALACHI CRUNCH
CODE: ADAM
more bands TBA

Saturday, January 8
"S.D. Guitar Gurus"
TAZ TAYLOR • R.D.G.

Monday, January 10
Brick By Brick & Klub Therapy present
COLLIDE
CALL ME ALICE
DJ BRYAN POLLARD
DJ GRENDEL PRIME

Friday, January 14
HELSTAR
CAGE
BROKEN FOUNDATION
WITHER

Saturday, January 15
VIII FRAUD
DOWNSPELL
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Saturday, January 29, at 4th&B
RITCHIE BLACKMORE
& BLACKMORE'S NIGHT
Featuring Candice Night
Tickets available at
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1/13 Dinah Cancer & the 45 Grave Robbers (25th Anniversary)
1/21 Accident Experiment • 1/26 Kool Keith • 1/29 Burlesque Night • 2/3 Hem
2/26 Deeds of Flesh • 3/12 Alice Unchained (Alice in Chains tribute)

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Calendar CLUBS

The Pompeii Room: Thursdays, DJ Stiffy spins dirty South, hip-hop, and reggae. 740 Nordahl Road, San Marcos. 760-737-5040.

Red C Lounge: Thursdays, hip-hop. Sundays, downtempo and house. Tuesdays, house. Wednesdays, Relax, '70s and '80s funk. No cover; 21 and up. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-2838.

Super Hit: Sundays, two rooms of reggae and dancehall with Rashy, Dash Eye, and KOFL. Aubergine, 500 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-232-8100.

Transport: First and third Saturdays of the month, Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern

Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), Golden Hill. 619-284-6784.

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. Thursday,

Friday, and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Saturday, 5:30 p.m., *Candye Kane* and *Billy Watson*, blues. Sunday, 7:30 p.m., *Was (Not Was)*, alternative rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Ozomatli* and *Slow Motion Reign*, alternative.

Bistro Soliel, 641 South Coast Highway, Encinitas. 760-942-9549. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Dean Paul Ratzman*, jazz/old Top 40.

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004. Thursday, hip-hop/R&B. Sunday, 9 p.m., *Dulce*. Monday, 10 p.m., local bands. Wednesday, country music.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Los Tres Sapos*, standard rock. Friday, *Jeff Moore* and *Dean Smith*, blues/pop. Saturday and

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BLIND DATE

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY
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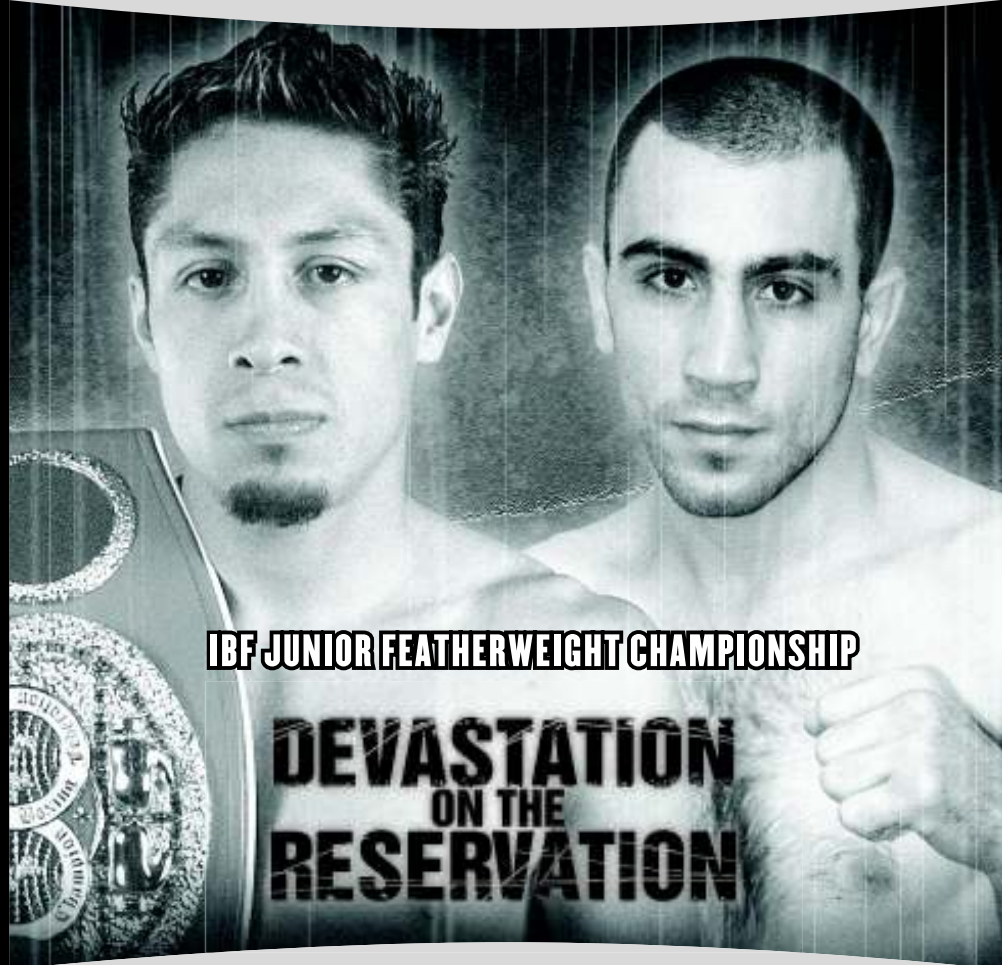
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SUNDAY, DEC. 26
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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29
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FRIDAY, DEC. 24
JEFF MOORE
& DEAN SMITH

MONDAY, DEC. 27
EVE SELIS

SATURDAY, DEC. 25
RICHARD SAMUELS

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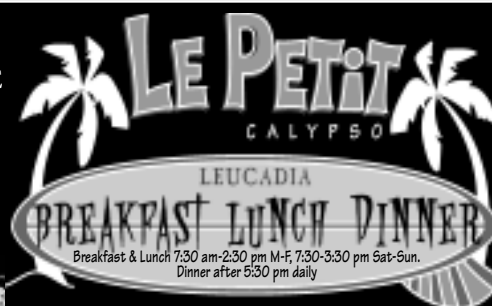
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At the Del Mar Racetrack

The producers of the largest Halloween and New Years Eve Events for over a decade present the 12th annual New Years Eve 2005.....

Back again with exactly what you want: Lavish, Exciting, Classy, and Cool. Celebrate the coming New Year with thousands of your closest friends. 50,000 sq. ft., 5 rooms, 2 balconies, with accommodations at the Del Mar Hilton Hotel.

Featuring the finest entertainment available anywhere. Including Hip-Hop, House, Disco, Latin, Funk, & plenty of room to dance. The countdown will be displayed on over 300 TV Screens & Projectors by the west coast's best VJ's, video groups.

MainStage1: From the mega clubs of New York World Famous SuperStar DJ FrankieBones. Flown in Direct from Detroit, San Diego's favorite New Year's Eve D.J. Legendary Derrick Thompson a.k.a. DRIVETRAN is back again. Also featuring the unique styles of the infamous Cuban & the underground sounds of J.infexus, Jon E Thin, Emmet Masterson, & Local Rising Star Chad Fortin!

MainStage2: Hosted by ForePlay & Taking it to the next level in Hip Hop AND House this year will be the DJ's that do it best: Renowned 98.9fm DJ's Seize & Bille Knight, as well as DJs A*K*A, Fraz, & Eddie Chapin. A special live show by Ostrich Head & Higher Mines will set this stage on fire! Without missing a beat, the evening will shift gears for a very special presentation of the ever successful "Entice" fashion expose, featuring some of the hottest models and designer labels the West Coast has to offer!

Stage 3: 'Bling in the new year with that style and flare that S.D.

knows and loves: DJ's Sunny D, Misty Dawn Feat. Rosie, Jon Doggie, Tony Cappa, Will P. and a live percussion section will keep this place a section of decadence all night long!

Stage 4: Hosted by Azucar Events-Hiphop & Latin Fuse for a room that promises to be hot and spicy! With international Hip Hop talent hitting the decks, along with the musical talent of Jose Serrano & Mozart the atmosphere will be kept sexy and soulful no matter where you're from!

With three additional V.I.P sections to relax and socialize, two huge outdoor balconies, limo service and deluxe hotel accommodations, this event promises to be, as always, second to none. Early ticket purchase is recommended, as this event is expected to sell out. In addition to standard ticket sales, special V.I.P. packages are available in limited amounts, so be sure to inquire! Tickets available online at www.sdnnewyears.com, www.ticketmaster.com, or any ticketmaster outlet.

This event will be filmed and broadcasted on television.

By purchasing a ticket you are authorizing Solutions Ent. to use your image for future broadcasts

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PLANET X

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E Street Alley



New Year's Eve

Friday Dec 31
Tantalize your senses...
Sparkling Champagne
and Sheer Revelry
at E Street Alley

Doors open at 8
Cover \$20 8-9:30
\$40 9:30-12 \$20 12-close
Express Line Available 10-12pm
(No VIP Card Line Privileges)
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HATS, HORNS, BALLOONS, MUNCHIES, FOOD &
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\$25 Advance
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Thursday, December 23 • No Cover
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BLUES
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Friday, December 24
Christmas Eve
Warm, fun evening with
all of our friends!

Saturday, December 25
Merry Christmas
CHET CANNON
& THE COMMITTEE
"Sign Me Up for the Blues"


Sunday, December 26 • No Cover
RED LANE ROCKS
"Rockin' Rhythm Blues -
Touch of Country"

Monday, December 27 • No Cover
BLUES BROKERS
"If It Ain't Broke, It Ain't the Blues"

Tuesday, December 28 • No Cover
BLUE
LARGO
"Large Blues"

Wednesday, December 29 • No Cover
RONNIE LANE & THE
TEXAS TWISTERS
"Pushin' the Blues"

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- Drink Specials. Hats. Blowers & Novelties.
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- New Year Countdown with Complimentary Champagne toast.

Just **\$45** per person
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www.aubergineon4th.com, www.fundamentalentertainment.com



AUBERGINE



DJHere & The Convivium Presents **NEW YEARS EVE BALL 2005** Hosted by The Convivium & Brandon C at the **PRADO** in **BALBOA PARK**

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Hosted by: CT & Dave, from the Real World

Complimented by 30 foot hand-stenciled ceilings, hardwood floors, sky lights, a
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outdoor garden/patio
plenty of soft sexy seating
7 full bars
VIP Room
6 DJ's
LIVE Acid Jazz
plenty of free parking
valet available



This event will encompass the entire Bristol Hotel including the scenic &
lavish SKY ROOM. Whether you have a room or are coming to party, this will
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back for one NYE night.

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BRENT BARTEL
JON SAUTTER
MATT LEVINE
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PEACEMAKER
NICK CALUGAR
FRANKIE M
LAMONT MOERHAUS
LOREN ALEXANDER

Presale Tickets Strongly Recommended

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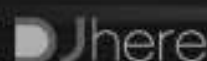
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'80s hits spinning
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playing all your favorite
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Join us for Big Vinnie's
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Saturday, December 25
**OPEN
CHRISTMAS
DAY!**



Friday, December 31
**NEW YEAR'S
EVE PARTY**
with
SYNYGY

Thursday, January 6
**JOE WOOD
& THE LONELY
ONES**

Friday, January 7
**JIMMY
MITCHELL
&
THE DOUBLE
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with special guest TBA

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TAZ TAYLOR
1/22: BILL MAGEE
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Tickets \$10 in advance • \$15 at the door
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'80s DANCE
Criminal Funk

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

**DJ John Phillips'
Holiday Party**



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26
3-6 PM • BENEFIT CONCERTS FOR PHIL COLE IN THE BIG TOP TENT

7-9 PM **Rockola's
"A Very Beatles Christmas"**



SMOOTH JAZZ WITH KELLY COLE
THE ONLY PLACE TO BE ON SUNDAY NIGHT!!!
8 PM-12 AM: **Jose Molina Serrano**

DJ JOHN
PHILLIPS



TUESDAY, DEC. 28
ORIGINAL ROCK: **Tapwater**

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29
CLASSIC ROCK: **Pink Floyd**

THURSDAY, DEC. 30
NEW YEAR'S EVE
AUSTRALIAN NEW YEAR'S EVE

Makai



UPCOMING SHOWS
NEW YEAR'S EVE
THREE GREAT PARTIES
BACKSTAGE LOUNGE: Quiet Storm
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Spectacular Cuisine
BIG TOP PARTY TENT: Rising Star

SATURDAY, JAN. 1
A SAN DIEGO
LEGEND

**THE
STREET
MANNED**

FRIDAY, JAN. 14
Coco Montoya

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19
Adrian Legg

MONDAY, JAN. 24
Johnny A

TICKETS ON SALE AT TICKETMASTER AND HUMPHREY'S TICKET OFFICE
RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE WITH DINNER IN THE RESTAURANT

Calendar CLUBS

Sunday, *Richard Samuels*, piano.
Monday, *Eve Selis*, rock. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk. Wednesday, *Runnin' Blue*, blues.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Sunday, *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Ventilators*, rock/blues. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Red Lane*, rock/blues. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Bruce Cameron*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Late Late Show*, blues/rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

Longshot Saloon, 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Call club for information.

Marriott Hotel, 11966 El Camino Real, Del Mar. 858-369-6032. Arterra Lounge: Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Ray Lipson*, jazz/pop standards/variety pianist.

Martini Ranch, 485 South Coast Highway (at D Street), Encinitas. 760-943-9101. Thursday, 9 p.m., *the 7th Day Buskers*, acoustic roots. Friday, live music. Wednesday, reggae.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Thursday, 8 p.m., *the Kyle Jester Blues Show*. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Thursday and Monday, live Dixieland music. Tuesday, *Too Much Fun*, folk/pop/jazz. Wednesday, open mike.

North Bar Sports & Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock.

Pounders, 125 West Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-739-1288. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *the Bandanna Band*, classic rock.

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.

Scalini, 3790 Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-259-9944. Thursday through Saturday, live jazz. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Sambajazz*, American and Brazilian jazz.

Squid Joe's, 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-4996. Friday, 7 p.m., *the Disco Pimps and the 80z Allstars*, pop.

BEACHES

Aurora Trattoria, 1025 Prospect Street #250, La Jolla. 858-551-8554. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Hall &*

Online Club Coupons!

The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the Reader's website.

☉ indicates North County.

Blind Melons **2 for 1 cover**

Brick By Brick **2 for 1 admission**

Club Caribe **\$5 off cover**

Club Montage **No cover**

Croce's **Free cover with dinner**

4th & B **2 free comedy tickets**

☉ Jolt 'N Joe's **Free hour of pool**

☉ Longshot Saloon **\$2 off cover**

☉ McCabe's Beach Club **\$2 off admission**

Mulvaney's **50% off appetizer**

Patricks II **2 for 1 cover**

Sandbar **Happy-hour priced round**

Second Wind Navajo **No cover**

6MinuteMatch.com **\$5 off event**

☉ Squid Joe's **\$2 off pitcher of beer**

Tio Leo's Lounge **\$1 off club admission**

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IT'S ABOUT THE MUSIC
Jon Spencer
Blues Explosion **ONLY**
Dresden Dolls **\$20!!!**
Reeve Oliver & Bad Credit
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FEATURING KIM WILSON, JAMES COTTON, CHARLIE HUSSELWHITE
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THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 23 & 24

MASTERPIECE

6:15-10:45 PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

MASTERPIECE

6:15-10:45 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25,
THRU MONDAY, DECEMBER 27



**Closed
for the
Holidays!**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31,
& SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

**NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION
WITH
ROZ & THE
WRECKING CREW**

9:45 PM-1:30 AM

New Year's Eve Celebration

Jimmy Love's is now accepting reservations
for our New Year's Packages.
Please call a manager for details.
Jimmy Love's is the place to be!

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Jimmy Love's presents Live Jazz & Dinner!

Fridays & Saturdays from 5:30-8:30 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Closed

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

Reggie Smith

6:30 - 11 PM



TUESDAY, DEC. 28 & JAN. 4

Mystique (Element of Soul)

Jazz/Funk/R&B

6:30-11 PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29 & JAN. 5

The Soul Revue

6:30 - 11 PM

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New Year's Eve Celebration

DECEMBER 31, 2004



Advance Discount Tickets:

\$10 Advance Cover Charge

\$10 Deluxe Dinner Buffet

Dinner Served from 6-8 pm only.

Doors Open 6 pm with \$1.75 drinks 6-9 pm.

\$15 cover charge/\$15 Dinner Buffet
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MY AMERICAN HEART
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ROB Presents
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AMERICAN HI-FI
RIDDLIN KIDS
MC LARS
\$10 - 6:30 - TM

THURS. JAN 13
EIGHTEEN VISIONS
EMERY
REMEMBERING NEVER
MISERY SIGNALS
\$12 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 15
ROCK 'N ROLL SOLDIERS
THE EAST - ROLLING BEAGROOTS
A DICK GIVEAWAY
\$7 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

THURS. JAN 20
LETTERKILL
DUST BILL DDIVE
STUNTIFY - 3000 GUITAR
\$10 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

THURS. JAN 27
2005 SNOCORE TOUR 2005
CHEVELLE
HELMET - CROSSFADE
FUTURE LEADERS OF THE WORLD
\$20 - 7PM - TICKETMASTER

SAT. JAN 29
SWINGIN' UTTERS
\$10 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

SAT. FEB 6
CASBAH PRESENTS
MODEST MOUSE
Plus Guest
\$22 - 7:30 - LUNATIKS

FRI. FEB 11
RISE AGAINST
TSUNAMI BOMB
ALEXISON FIRE
ONLY CRIME
\$10 - 7PM - LUNATIKS
FRI. APR 1

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OF
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INCLUDES HOT BUFFET!



Rock 'n Roll
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Dueling Piano Bar

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ALL NIGHT

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Calendar CLUBS

rock. Tuesday, *J.J. Slyde*, blues. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Lafayette & the Leasebreakers*, blues.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, *Hot Rod Lincoln*, rockabilly. Monday, swing. Tuesday, zydeco. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *High Society Jazz Band*.

Trelisses Garden Grill, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego. 619-908-5017. Thursday, *Sean McVicker*, acoustic. Friday and Saturday, *the Pier Group*, pop.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Jaime Valle/Bob Magnusson Jazz Quartet*.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Thursday, *Gabriella LaLicata*, folk. Sunday, *the Celtic Ensemble*. Wednesday, open mike.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday and Wednesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is alternative/rock unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Operator X*, *Sister Margaret Mary Jones*, *Fono*,

and *the Menace*. Friday, *Los Maricones de Rock*. Sunday, *One Nation Under a Groove*. Monday, *the Truckee Bros.*, *Transfer*, *Ryan Ferguson*, and *Mike Flynn*. Tuesday, *Channing Cope*, *Dreaming of Tanks*, *lowcloudcover*, and *Day and Age*. Wednesday, *C.L.A.* and *Buzzkill Romantics*.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park. 619-294-9590. 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 Quartet*, jazz. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *the Jorge Camberos Quintet*.

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. Thursday, *Private Domain*, rock and roll. Sunday, *Hera's Olive*, rock. Tuesday, *Ron's Garage*, acoustic. Wednesday, *the New Breed Band*, pop.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Brett Sanders & the Good n' Plenty Project*, jazz/soul. Tuesday, 8 p.m., *Ben Campbell*, *Johnaye Kendrick*, *Simon Kafka*, *Mike Casedy*, and *Will Cruse*, jazz.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Call club for information.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Friday, 6:15 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. 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.

The Latin Room, 560 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-237-7800. Call club for information.

The Local, 1465 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-4447. Thursday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *Hugh Gaskins*, blues.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Sunday, reggae/dancehall/hip-hop/R&B. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *the David Patrone Quartet*, jazz.

Ole Madrid, 755 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-557-0146. Thursday,



MUSIC > reggae, rock, blues

SPECIAL NIGHTS > live reggae on Thursdays; New Year's Eve there will be a reggae band (Steve Stedham trio) starting at 9:00 p.m.

CLIENTELE > all-age venue; one family in dining room, a few singles in the bar, mostly yuppies; 70 percent Caucasian, 15 percent Latino, 10 percent African-American, 5 percent Asian; equal mix of men and women

COVER > none

HOURS > Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. until 10:30 p.m.

DRINKS > on tap: Miller Lite, Dos Equis lager, New Castle (\$4), five import bottles (\$4), five domestics; happy hour daily 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. (dollar off all beer and wine, well drinks \$3.25, and

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reduced-price appetizers); 50 wines, 5 Scotches, and 25 tequilas

FOOD > lunch and dinner served (dinners average \$15.75); south of the border cuisine

ACCESS > I-5 to Del Mar Heights west, right on Camino Del Mar (highway 101); underground parking, you'll be validated for two hours if you remember to get it stamped by the hostess

DRESS > beachwear is not allowed; I saw slacks; polo, Hawaiian, and dress shirts; dresses; only a handful in jeans and T-shirts

DANCE FLOOR > none

FIRE EXITS > four – the main entrance, another out of the kitchen, and on both sides there are exits

BATHROOMS > clean and graffiti free

CAPACITY > 200 total (100 on the terrace, 45 in the bar)

SPECIAL AREAS > interesting use of water and walkways; be sure to explore the entire area, including the east section where Esmeralda bookstore used to be
FURNISHINGS > one wall across the entire restaurant looks like inside of a cave; panoramic ocean views; four big-screen plasma TVs at the bar

DECIBEL LEVEL > 108 when Naddy Skat did a cover of "Fly Like an Eagle"; 109 last week at Hot Java Café

WEIRDEST BAND NAME IN LAST MONTH > Naddy Skat
QUOTABLE > "I actually hate reggae.... Every reggae song sounds the same. Although, I did hear them play the *Gilligan's Island* theme."

This place is located in the Del Mar Plaza. There are lots of swanky shops with eye-gouging prices to wander past, plus a huge fountain with an outdoor plaza that feels like the Mediterranean, including mosaics, and even terra cotta statues (one in the fountain) by

T.J. Dixon and Jim Nelson, Encinitas artists. They've had to repair them because of vandalism.

There's also a market that has pastries and homemade ice cream. With a terrific view of the ocean, it's well worth a visit. Remember, the sun sets before 5:00 right now.

I asked a manager why they only had music on Thursday, and he told me they will have more bands in the summer. Another manager told me that in one section of the dining room they are going to tear out the walls and have large open windows. He said, "Everyone always wants to sit outside."

I went out to the terrace and talked to a group of people. One guy said, "This is the place for us on Thursday nights. The weekend is almost here, we work nearby, and we need some reggae to get us ready for the weekend. The only other thing that would make this perfect would be a joint." His friend replied, "Or that woman we were talking to earlier."

—Josh Board

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Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Bill Magee Blues*. Sunday, *Red Lane Rocks*. Monday, *Blues Brokers*. Tuesday, *Blue Largo*. Wednesday, *the Texas Twisters*.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Thursday, *Primo*, salsa/Latin. Tuesday, *Rico Tumbao*, Latin.

SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday through Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/Latin.

Club Caribe, 5080 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-472-2400. Thursday, live reggae band. Friday, salsa/meringue/bachata/reggae.

Di-mond Jim's Nightclub, 773 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-585-7323. Friday and Saturday, *the Evil Twins*, classic rock.

Galley at the Marina, 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-422-5714. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Joe Rathburn*, acoustic originals/covers.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday and

Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., also Friday 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Robert Wetzel*, guitarist.

Palm Court: Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Ray Briz*. Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West*.

Prince of Wales: Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Daniel Jackson*, jazz.

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By George, They've Got It!

Normally, if a restaurant sounds too good to be true — it is. So my group entered George's at the Cove with a high degree of collective skepticism. "George's wins so many awards and popularity contests," said Lynne. "It's supposed to be so great, but I've always wondered whether that's just one of those assumptions that nobody dares to question." For all four of us, this was a first venture below stairs to George's top food venue, the Fine Dining Restaurant. (George's also has a rooftop bistro and a bar at mid-level, both serving a SoCal casual menu cooked by a separate kitchen.)

Reflecting the menu's emphasis on seasonal produce, the foyer was decorated with assorted squashes. A hostess walked us past private side-rooms, all occupied with corporate pre-holiday diners. In the main dining room, the acoustic-tiled dropped ceiling keeps the sound level reasonable — a necessity, since the tables are so closely spaced that waitstaff have to choreograph their moves through the narrow aisles. We were seated in a leather booth with an arresting semi-abstract painting on the wall and heavy, ornate stainless settings on the white tablecloth. Across the room, the wall of windows overlooking La Jolla Cove framed a black expanse dotted with sparkling lights from the opposite shore. It must be gorgeous during summer sunsets.

As we studied the menu, a basket of warm, soft wheat bread from Bread & Cie arrived with a ramekin of salted butter. We ordered a bowl of butternut squash soup, which the staff completed at the table and divided into two bowls to share. (A full bowl each would have been too much, and it would have been tragic to waste the leftovers.) The broth had the nutty flavor of this species of squash, warmed by autumnal hints of cinnamon, cloves, and ginger. Contrasting garnishes brought the soup into focus: A bread crouton was capped with mascarpone cheese studded with bits of black truffle peel and tart apple sticks. When the soup-logged bread sank, its toppings remained afloat.

A hunk of foie gras was coated with minced pistachios, which lent textural contrast to excellent rosy-rare duck liver. The secret, chef Trey Foshee later told me, is that he cuts the *foie* thick, to let the surfaces sear brown while the inside stays juicy. This alone makes his rendition one of the best in town. Underneath the liver is a slivered salad of anise-like fennel stalks and persimmon. A waiter dresses



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

the plate with a pour of honey-ginger "gastric" (thin sauce), completing the range of sweet-sharp flavors that bring out the best in this meat.

A host of salads show off the day's bounty from legendary Chino Farms, the main produce source for this kitchen. My group was hard pressed to choose between a Fuyu persimmon salad with Basque bleu cheese, and another salad featuring Medjool dates in a Persian-influenced array of walnuts, goat cheese, tender greens, and a swash of pomegranate vinaigrette. We went for the dates, which prompted passionate discussion. One person found the fruit too sweet, while the rest argued that the faint bitterness of walnuts and the tartness of pomegranate made for a perfect combination.

Most dishes served at George's are plated in threes — perhaps because the chef's first name is Trey (he says he was named for the 3-card). A trio of ravioli is stuffed with sweet potato, mascarpone, and black truffle shavings, surrounding a ragout of local spiny lobster meat and leeks, and caressed by a pear *coulis*. The lobster ragout was a happy surprise, as was the perfect harmony

between leeks and pears. The combination of pears and yams, however, made the dish sweet for a starter, and the ravioli were pasty, undercooked by perhaps 45 seconds. Nonetheless, the concept received two thumbs up (including mine), one neutral, and one down (Lynne).

Another evening began with Miyagi oysters from Tomales Bay, purchased from a Bay Area seafood company (Monterey Fish) known for the high quality of its Northern California catch. The medium-sized oysters were meaty and sweet, and came with a piquant champagne mignonette dotted with sweet onion. We also tried one of the season's most charming appetizers, the festive "table-smoked salmon" — seen on almost every nearby table. Rectangles of raw herb-cured salmon arrive beneath a glass cloche, along with a soup spoon cradling leaves of orange pekoe/orange blossom tea. The tea is set alight in the kitchen, and during the trip to the table, it imbues the salmon with its delicate scent. By the time the waiter lifts off the cloche, the leaves are burnt out. Alongside are three mini-blini and a dollop of lemon crème fraîche topped with salmon roe

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

George's at the Cove Fine Dining Restaurant

★★★ (Excellent)

1250 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-454-4244;
www.georgesatthecove.com.

HOURS: Monday–Thursday 5:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:00–11:00 p.m., Sunday 5:00–10:00 p.m.

PRICES: Appetizers \$8–\$20; Entrées \$28–\$42; Desserts \$8 each. Five-course (smaller plates) tasting menu \$58, or \$82 with matching wines.

CUISINE & BEVERAGES: Ambitious California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients, emphasizing local seafood and produce. Long, serious wine list at fair prices, many by the half-bottle or glass; most bottles over \$50. Dessert drinks include rare New York State "Ice Wines" (\$25 and \$35/glass) and mature Chateau D'Yquem (\$20 per ounce). Full bar.

NEED TO KNOW: Reservations necessary. Be flexible about arrival time unless reserving well ahead. Leisurely pace, attentive service. Business-casual or strictly business dress. Moderately loud. Wheelchair access by two elevators; front desk staff will guide you. (If arriving alone, ask valet parkers to fetch a staffer.) Men's restroom upstairs, disabled can use the facilities at Pasquale's next door. Valet park, \$7. Website menu and wine list on website reasonably current, including prices.

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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of moderate quality: Instant New Year's Eve.

A steamy bowl of onion soup is powerfully attractive on a cold, wet evening. Here, the soup deconstructs the French tradition. The waiter sets down a bowl containing a mound of firm-tender caramelized onion slices so sweet they must be Maui-grown, a handful of wheat-bread croutons,

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

and a disc of *frico*, an Italian-style “fried cheese” wafer made from Parmesan and Gruyère. Another waiter arrives to pour in the dark, beefy broth. “I prefer it the old-fashioned way, with the gooey cheese all over the top,” said my boyfriend, disappointed that the *frico* showed no inclination to melt. But he had to concede that the onions’ texture was superior to the usual limp strings.

“Red Wine-Braised Prime Shortrib” aroused my curiosity about the unusual use of Prime-quality meat in a wet-cooked dish, where the grade is less important than in a steak or roast. I got the point at first bite. “Melts in your mouth — literally!” said my friend Sam. Cooked off the bone, the meat resembles veal cheeks in its tenderness. The raw meat is evenly marbled and, during cooking, the suet dissolves to moisten the meat. With its beefy, winery sauce, this was a short rib unlike any I’ve tasted before. It came atop a purée of Yukon Gold potatoes smoked over hickory and rich with butter and half-and-half. Smoked potatoes aren’t something you’d want every day (they’re intense!), but the pleasure of discovering new and unexpected flavors is one reason we eat out. Surrounding the meat was a tasty ragout of tiny

diced carrots, parsnips, and shreds of dark greens.

Three seared Sea of Cortez scallops, two inches thick, displayed browned surfaces lightly crusted with kosher salt. Their texture proved closer to tender meat than to the marshmallowy Atlantic scallops served at most upscale local restaurants, but the flavor is sweet and fresh. The chef decided to use these local mollusks after noting the deterioration in the flavor of Maine scallops over the last few years. (Other local chefs — and this writer — have also made this observation.) Here, the scallops come with tiny, dark-crusted herb gnocchi with chartreuse centers (they have a pleasantly starchy resilience) and a satiny purée of cauliflower, served the same day the heads are harvested. (The taste is strikingly different from the middle-aged cauliflower at my neighborhood grocery.)

I ordered a roast free-range chicken breast mainly to taste a substance I’ve read about but never had a chance to try: *farro*, an ancient Tuscan peasant grain currently enjoying a mad vogue in Manhattan’s upscale Italian restaurants. In English, it’s called spelt (you’ll find it in “health food” breakfast cereals). It consists of long-grained hulled wheat, and was reputedly used for the original “Roman Meal” that fed the Roman army. I found the grains chewy and resilient, like brown rice, but with an emphatic wheaty flavor. It’s served here with a mixture of pearl onions, oyster mushrooms, and firm

diced pumpkin or carrots (depending on availability). The chicken itself is a sliced airline cut (the breast and the wing drumettes), the meat moist and the skin deliciously crisp, rubbed with black pepper, fresh thyme, and salt.

A more conservative entrée places four medallions of lamb loin atop braised lamb shoulder over a bed of salty baby spinach. The garnishes around the edge of the plate — lamb au jus, curry oil, and yogurt — aren’t just for looks, but add flavor and moisture to the meat when used as dips. A mound of couscous studded with golden raisins is touched with curry spices and snipped chives, bringing this often-bland grain to life. Another standard dish is the thick, near-raw steak of sesame-coated tuna (yellowfin) loin, seared along one edge — a treatment that came into fashion about 15 years ago, and that, for me, has since lost its novelty. It’s well executed here, served with baby bok choy, shiitake slices, and a tangy, spicy eggplant-miso purée.

You can’t win them all, though, and one of our dishes lost. A shelled, whole tail of local spiny lobster is stuffed with bread crumbs and wrapped in pancetta. The lobster is tenderly cooked and sweet at the center, but the pancetta seeps into the meat, pervading it with salt and pork fat. Browned oyster mushrooms, roasted beets, strong greens, and an acerbic cranberry vinaigrette knock the poor crustacean senseless. Patrons at George’s expect

their lobster gussied up, but this went too far.

Simple side dishes showcase local vegetables, such as Jerusalem artichokes, which are rarely found on local menus. These sunflower relatives (no kin to regular artichokes) look like ginger roots and taste vaguely like potatoes. Trey roasts them in their skins, an optimal treatment for showing off their earthy-sweet flavor.

The talented pastry chef, Yolanda Santos, falls into the Jack Fisher (Region) and Laufa Huffnagel (California Cuisine) school of dessert explorers. Dishes like lime-coconut pavlova with curried banana fritters and warm apple crisp with candied fennel are original, even challenging in their sweet way.

“Well,” said Lynne as we left, “I’m sold. I didn’t think it’d be this good. It is.” Three heads nodded in agreement.

ABOUT THE CHEF

Trey Foshee was born in Hawaii and grew up in Ojai, north of Los Angeles. He slipped into the restaurant business as a busboy to support his surfing habit. “I wasn’t very outgoing,” he says, “so I ended up moving back into the kitchen. I didn’t have any thoughts of making a career of it, but as I kept doing it, I enjoyed it more and more. Eventually it showed itself as a career path for me.

“After working in a couple of places in Ojai, I went back to Hawaii to surf some more. One day, I had an epiphany that I

should do something with myself, for myself, and decided that cooking school was the right thing for me. I went to Culinary Institute of America in New York.”

After graduation he worked at Roland Passot’s La Folie in San Francisco for about a year and a half. “Roland is really a chef’s chef,” he says, “and he influenced me about what it really meant to be a chef. I picked up a lot of techniques from him, and I respected his food a lot, but mainly we would all work 12, 14 hours a day, and he’d always be there first and [leave] last. He wasn’t the kind who’d just stroll in at service time, yell at everybody in the kitchen, and take a bow in the front.

“Hans Röckenwagner called me when he was opening his new Röckenwagner restaurant in Santa Monica, and asked if I thought I was ready for the chef’s job there. At 24, with a lot of cooking background but not a lot of management background, I said, ‘Sure, I’ll do that.’ I spent three years with Hans. It was pretty intense. Then I took a year off to relax, cooking freelance, then running a small restaurant in L.A. The Mauna Lani Hotel on the Big Island was looking for someone to do California cuisine at their restaurant, and I ran that for two years. Then I went to Sundance [Robert Redford’s resort] to head the kitchen there. It was similar in some ways to George’s — we had sophisticated, well-traveled people expecting very cos-

opolitan cuisine, but we also had locals dropping in with their families, looking for simple, good food. George [Hauer, owner of George’s] recruited me from there. It’ll be six years in March.”

Trey has won numerous culinary awards in recent years, including *Food & Wine* magazine’s America’s Ten Best New Chefs in 1998, and the Golden Dish award from GQ magazine. He has served as guest chef at James Beard House in New York.

“Our menu here really revolves around what local farms have,” he says, “especially Chino Farms, our main supplier. We use a lot of local seafood and Northern California halibut, crab, and oysters, very little from the East Coast. We use free-range chicken that a local company raises in Petaluma, and free-range pork from Niman Ranch. Our tasting menu is drawn from on-menu dishes, because when we tried it with other dishes, it just didn’t sell — I don’t know why.

“We also have a chef’s tasting that’s not on the menu, created *à la minute* by either myself or Alex, my sous chef. It runs about eight courses. We took it off the menu because a lot of people ordered it without really understanding what they were in for — they saw the high price and mainly did it as a status thing, without realizing what it meant to tackle eight courses. Now the servers offer it as an option to people who seem to them to be especially interested in the food.” ■

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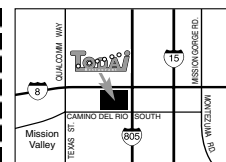
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"Uh-oh. Look outside, man," says Hank. "Is there a back door? The place is surrounded by cops."

I'm the one who insisted on this. Do *something*, anything to add fuel to the yule. Anything affordable. Hank and I meet around six at the Gaslamp trolley stop. But we're not stupid. We head East, away from Fifth Avenue's RUF (Rich Urban Folk) traps.

I have an ace in the hole. We cross this huge multiblock parking lot toward a light that shines in the dark of Market Street.

"Like following the Christmas star," I mutter.

"Yeah, right, and we're the two wisecracks," Hank says. Guy's suspicious. We cross Market. Sign says "Padre's Ballpark Pizzeria."

"This is it?" he says. "A pizza joint for a Christmas treat?"

"I like to think of it as Mediterranean."

Hank grunts. One hardy guy sits outside, chewing on a slice of pizza, but most folks are inside this warm-feeling yellow and red and green place, with chunky wooden chairs padded with velvet. Gal waits at the cash register below the big menu.

"Dude, order whatever. It's yours," I say. Safe bet. The most expensive thing on the list is fettucine Alfredo with shrimp or chicken (\$9.99).

"They've got a slice of pizza and a glass of beer for \$4.99," Hank says. "That's your kind of thing, ain't it?"

Depends. The pastas all look nice and winter-warm. Spaghetti with meat sauce is \$5.99. With meatballs or sausage, \$6.99. Lasagna's \$6.99.

Hmm. Getting hungrier.

"I'll have the Greek salad," Hank says.

Sigh. Even Christmas can't derail his cholesterol crusade. On the other hand, the salad's only \$4.99. Me, I peruse on. Pizzas go from six to nineteen bucks, but pizza for Christmas? Hank's right on that one.

"How about trying our shawerma?" says the girl, Bianca. "It's very good."

"Remind me what that is?" I say. "I know I've had it before, at a Chaldean...Ah. You guys are Chaldean?"

"Yes! We came here last December, a year ago."

"From Iraq?"

"No, from Michigan."

Bianca's mom and dad left Baghdad for the U.S. before Saddam even came to power.

"It's chicken marinated with our secret herb combination," she says.

Hmm. Bound to involve olive oil, garlic, lemon, yogurt. The menu has a Chicken Shawerma Sandwich for \$5.99 and a Chicken Shawerma Plate, with rice, hummus, salad, and pita bread for \$7.99. I see Hank could have had a Mediterranean Veggie Plate of salad, hummus, "babaghanoooge," dolma, and pita for \$8.99.

"Think I'll have the Chicken Shawerma Plate," I say.

"I'll have to check about the rice," Bianca says.

"We just sent a big order to go."

It turns out they're out. That gives me an idea.

**TIN
FORK**
ED BEDFORD

"What about if you put the shawerma on spaghetti?" I say.

"Well, we haven't done that before, but..."

Hey hey. Let it be noted. In December 2004, a new dish was born. Bianca brings out this way-big plate of spaghetti with clumps of heavily marinated chicken meat on top. Next to it, she sets down a beautiful brown-and-green ceramic bowl of golden hummus with feta and an olive on top. Next to that, a plastic plate with pita in paper, and next to that, a salad of romaine lettuce, pepperoncini, tomatoes, and feta cheese. Good deal!

Dammit, I want a beer. Draft's \$1.99. Hank takes one look at my hummus and orders a bowl for himself (right there, that's another \$3.99).

The chicken is delish. Garlicky, nutmeggy, perhaps. Goes well with the spaghetti, washes down fine with the beer.

"Uh-oh. Look outside, man," says Hank. "Is there a back door?"

The place is being surrounded by cop cars.

No worries — they're all here to eat. Half a dozen or more. "I come at least once a week," says Ed, a sergeant. "Because of this." He chomps into a gyro (comes with French fries or salad, \$6.99); the gyro sandwich alone is \$4.99). "It's truly the best I've ever had. Plus, we just like it here. The owner's a very good guy."

His buddy Jim, off-duty, or else he's plain clothes,

is here for the first time. Eating a torpedo. Another whole table is filling up with with cop talk. But the place buzzes with all sorts. A tall guy chats with Hank while he waits for pizza. He lives upstairs. Pays \$500 a month. Works at a swank hotel in the Gaslamp. "Car? Downtown?" He waggles the skateboard under his arm. "This is my car." Studio musician named Rick, who's originally from Switzerland, is swearing by the Philly cheesesteak (\$5.99).

"He's right," says Nasser, Bianca's brother. He's cooking tonight. "If I could only have one thing to eat for the rest of my life, this Philly's what it'd be."

A woman comes in. Beautiful, blonde, with a clipboard. "Would you like to make a donation for 'Toys For Tots?'" she says.

I'm about to shake her off when Hank says, "Sure." He peels off a Washington. "Christmas spirit, dude. What's wrong with you?"

Outside, he adjusts his belt. "Good place, but..."

"But what?" I say.

"How long can this last?" He looks across 8th to ye olde Barry Hotel, where my pal Cisco once lived for six roach-infested months. It's already looking smarter. Across Market, "The Mark" is going up. Condos "from the mid \$400,000s to over \$3 million."

"How long before these people get an offer they can't refuse?" Hank says. "Wanna bet by next Christmas it'll be 'Bianca's Wine Bar and High-Priced Tapas Joint?'" ■

The Place: Padre's Ballpark Pizza, 744 Market Street (at 8th), 619-531-1199

Type of Food: Mediterranean, pizza

Prices: Spaghetti with meat sauce, \$5.99; with meatballs or sausage, \$6.99; lasagna, \$6.99; fettucine Alfredo with shrimp or chicken, \$9.99; slice pizza, glass beer, \$4.99; Greek salad, \$4.99; chicken shawerma sandwich, \$5.99; chicken shawerma plate, with rice, hummus, salad, pita bread, \$7.99; Mediterranean veggie plate (salad, hummus, "babaghanoooge," dolma, pita), \$8.99; Philly cheesesteak, \$5.99; Daily specials (Monday to Friday) e.g. gyro, soda, and chips, \$6.00; slice of pepperoni pizza and drink, \$2.99

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Killers

"A customer bought this at auction in Europe. It's the last bottle, probably bottled 40 years ago."

Time for a roundup. My love for the Wine Bank is well documented, but what are they tipping up in North County? Steve Frederick, Manager at Vintage Wines (858-549-2112), immediately recommended Champagne. "People just don't drink enough Champagne. I like the Nicolas Feuillatte Blanc de Blanc. A great little bottle, and at \$23.99, you can't beat it." Something fantastic to drink this holiday season (money no object)? "The '85 Sandrone Cannubi Boschis Barolo" — \$299.99. Salesman Wes Elliott hopped on the Italian train as well, pointing out (among others) '99 Brunello from Villa le Prata for \$59.99.

When it came to Champagne, Michael Rohner, General Manager for the WineSellar & Brasserie (858-450-9557), leaned toward something with a little more cachet. "Feuillatte is getting to be the size and mass of Veuve Clicquot. Like Veuve Clicquot, it's good wine; Feuillatte does great stuff. But it's getting less interesting to bring to a party. Everyone will recognize it, and they'll know what to expect. I love the Bruno Paillard wines." Paillard produces only a fraction of Feuillatte's quantity, but doesn't price itself like a cult wine. The winery's barely-available '95 vintage Champagne sells for \$52.99; the Brut Rosé for \$42.99.

When Rohner heard me ask about sexy wines,

he thought red and he thought silky. "Probably the '02 Jamey Whetstone Hirsch Vineyard Pinot Noir. It's priced at a relative discount at \$45.99, compared to other people who use that same fruit." Wines like Whetstone's "are as close as we can get to Burgundy in profile and flavor, but they still have a little more massiveness, a more California palate. I could recommend them to any California wine fan. I could also recommend them to a Burgundy fan, and they would say, 'Wow, this is where California has gotten.'"

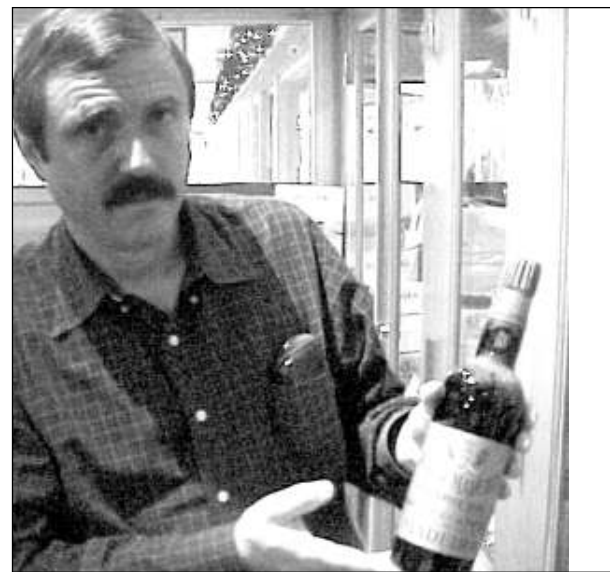
Rough similarity to California also guided his picks for bargains. "In general, I'm going to do Tempranillo from Spain, both for the value you get and for the similarities to Syrah and Merlot. It's pretty ripe, robust, and dense. I love the Finca Sobrena from Toro" — \$13.49. Top value, however, went to the Crios de Susana Balbo Syrah-Bonarda blend from Argentina — \$13.99. At that price point, said Rohner, "it'll blow away anything you can get out of California."

Over at The Wine Connection in Del Mar's Flower Hill Mall (858-350-9292), Dave Clark told me that "Pinot Noir as a category is hot this year. It started at Thanksgiving and seems to be continuing to truck along. Both '01 and '02 were good vintages, and '02 seems to be getting quite a bit of press, both for California and Oregon." It's just possible that Paul Giamatti's turn at a

Pinot-loving connoisseur in the movie *Sideways* hasn't hurt matters. "It's showing at the theater here, and we've joked about putting up a sign: Pinot Noir Sold Here." The Wine Connection (along with several other shops) carries the very wine Giamatti first orders at the Hitching Post's tasting bar: Hartley Ostini Hitching Post Bien Nacido Vineyard, \$26.99. It also carries the '01 Januik Cabernet out of Washington State. At \$29.99, "it's one of the only Cabs under \$30 to get over 90 points from Parker."

Given carte blanche, Clark would buy the '96 Cuvee Nicolas Francois Billecart Brut Champagne from Billecart-Salmon at \$119.99. "Absolutely the best Champagne I've had in at least the last couple of years. The finish goes on for more than a minute." Given a budget, he'd eye the '95 Laurent-Perrier Brut. "It got 92 points in *Wine Spectator*; why it's \$34.99, I don't know. They probably imported it last year, and sometimes wholesalers look at what they've got a stack of" and price it to sell. "It's really good Champagne, and it's a steal."

The Wine Connection was easily the winner for the "Most Offbeat Collectible for a Jaded Connoisseur" on my little tour. Clark lead me to a 1795 ("That's not a misprint") Madeira. "A customer bought this at auction in Europe. It's the last bottle, probably bottled 40 years ago. The price is yet to be determined — probably something under \$2,000. It's made from Terrantez, one of the great old Madeira grapes that's almost



Dave Clark with 1795 Madeira

disappeared. It's only now being replanted." This wasn't necessarily a showpiece wine, something to put under lights in your cellar next to the bottle from Thomas Jefferson's cellar. The residual sugar in Madeira, as in all sweet wines, helps it to endure the vicissitudes of old age. I was once lucky enough to taste a Madeira from 1860, and it was lovely, nutty and still going strong.

Over at the Del Mar Harvest Ranch Market (858-847-0555), Buyer Justin Lewis affirmed Pinot Noir's holiday hotness. "We always recommend Pinot Noir for the holidays because it's so versatile. It's the best red you can have for turkey, and a lot of people eat salmon on Christmas. Oregon Pinots are some of the best right now." He touted the single vineyard Pinots from

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Torii Mor — '01 Olson Vineyard, \$49.99; '01 Seven Springs Vineyard, \$46.99 — and the '00 reserve from Cristom at \$39.99. The best Pinot under \$15? "Mac Murray Range, \$13.99. Robert Parker raves about it."

Steve Ark, Buyer at Cardiff Seaside Market (760-753-5445), would go with the Belle Ponte out of Oregon, \$14.99. "It's really good. It tastes like a real Pinot. It's got acidity; it's not trying to be Syrah." Cardiff carries its share of \$100+ trophies, but when I asked Ark to pick a gem, he went for the '01 Valsacro Dioro Rioja — \$39.99. "This is one of the most killer wines. I would spend \$40 on it. It's really rich and dark — that New World Tempranillo thing." And down at the party-wine end of the scale, he selected a Calina Reserve Cabernet-Carmenere blend out of Chile at \$6.99. "It's a Kendall-Jackson wine that was supposed to be \$15 or \$16, but they're getting rid of it. It's a really lush wine for seven bucks."

Chile also produced the top party red suggested by Buyer Matt Francke at the San Diego Wine Company (858-535-1400): "Santa Ema Reserve Merlot at \$6.99. They call it a reserve because they do have a lesser bottling. For whites, I'd go with the Grove Street Chardonnay for \$5.99." His pick for sexiest wine was the '01 Cassafrassi Chianti, because at \$19.99 "it tastes more expen-

sive than the price tag suggests."

Francke named Krug his best bubbly at \$99.95, with the '96 Fleury Brut a sleeper at \$43.95. Buyer Paris Driggers found it in France, "and he said it held its own with the '96 Dom Perignon, no problem." But what seduced me was the Charles Ellner Rosé Champagne at \$27.95, which Francke judged to be a shade better than the Duval-Leroy Rosé. Opened it with the Feuillatte Blanc de Blanc that evening, and was suitably transported by both — orange blossom and almond in the Feuillatte, Campari and cranberry in the Ellner. People just don't drink enough Champagne. (Note: Wine has a nasty tendency to sell out. If you're interested in buying any of these wines, you may wish to call about availability.) ■

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

101 Cafe 631 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-722-5220. This is the oldest li'l eating establishment in Oceanside. Cooks have been flipping burgers here since 1928. The café is named after Route 101, the Pacific Highway. Old-timers remember when everyone from truck drivers to movie stars would stop for a bite before heading on to San Diego and Tijuana. Try the ABC (avocado, bacon, and cheese) Omelet, the 101 Original Cheeseburger with its "secret sauce," chicken fried steaks with eggs and, of course, the Great Depression dish: biscuits with gravy and home fries. Open daily, three meals until midnight. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/01)

Big Jim's Old South Barbecue 190 North Coast Highway 101 (2 blocks north of Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-635-1166. At this outstanding barbecue, you can "Put Some South in Yo Mouth!" The smoking-wood is mellow hickory, and each type of meat (sublime "pulled pork," smoky skewered shrimp, huge pork ribs, chicken, steak) gets individualized treatment, including a tangy Alabama-style mustard sauce for pork and chicken. (Beef gets the more familiar tomatoey Texas-style sauce.) Side dishes are superb: Don't miss the thick, smoky-sweet Brunswick stew (you'll not find its like anywhere on this coast), exemplary hush puppies, corn muffins with honey butter, well-balanced slaw... Oh, just taste everything you can fit under your belt. Lunch/dinner daily, breakfast weekends. Low moderate. — N.W. (10/01)

Kim's Restaurant 745 First Street, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103, Encinitas, 760-942-4816. Both Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are offered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu lists 265 items, including 18 Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many made with *seitan* (mock poultry). The seafood isn't necessarily fresh catch —

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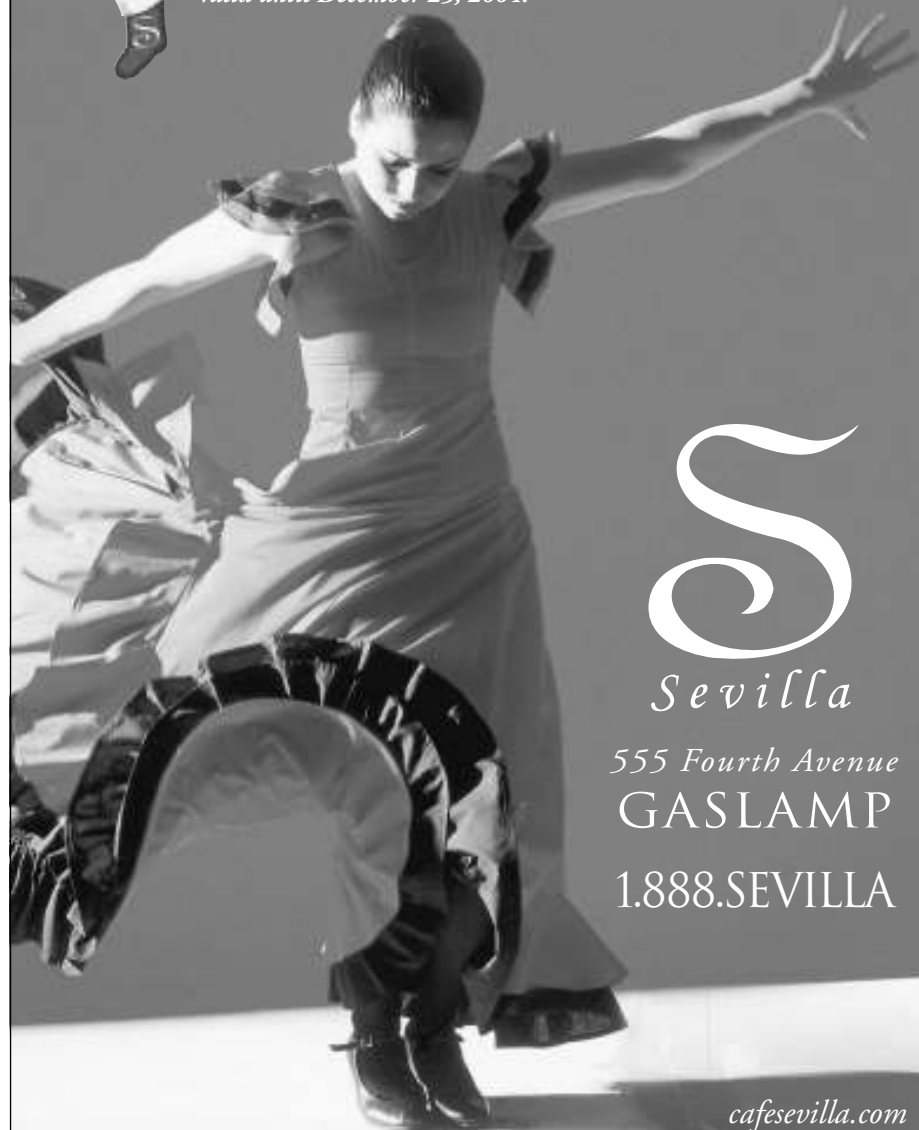
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some shellfish is evidently obtained frozen, scallops are phosphate-pre-served, and the reasonably priced abalone dishes involve slightly chewy, rehydrated dried abalone from Asia. On the other hand, portions are enormous, and the cooking is careful and tasty, although some flavors have evidently been adapted to American palates and ingredients. Open Tuesday through Sunday, continuous service lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W. (10/01)*

Meritage 897 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-634-3350. Chef-owner Susan Sbicca creates pristine California Cuisine here, highlighting fresh (and usually organic) local produce. A few pick hits are direct imports from her Sbicca down the coast — the irresistible lobster-crabmeat croquettes and lobster-shrimp bisque are pure Del Mar deluxe. But some simpler dishes cleverly complete themselves as you eat them — salmon served with peas and mushrooms on one side and a creamy sauce on the other creates a whole new sauce when you broach the fillet. A lemon-pistachio cake, too, changes as you cut it, the pieces crumbling into a berry coulis. It's a fun way to eat, engaging the mind along with the palate. The setting is family-friendly (only well-mannered kids come here) with a

handsome, airy dining room and charming patio. Wide-ranging wine list, plenty by the glass and even some half-bottles. No corkage on Tuesdays; Mondays and Wednesdays most bottles half price. Reservations advisable. Lunch and dinner daily, bar menu ongoing. Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Palomar Airport Cafe 2162 Palomar Airport Road, Carlsbad, 760-438-9665. *Top Gun*, anyone? Chow down and choose views of planes like the 1935 Harvard, "The Texan," or the Life Flight choppers scrambling. Expect to see greats like Chuck Yeager or his buddy Lowell Williams, who still trains stunt pilots here. It's not gourmet, but it's down-to-earth solid nosh, with plenty of beer and spirits flowing. The cafe's sexy waitresses serve generous plate-loads of everything from breakfast burritos (scrambled eggs, onions, bell pepper, potatoes, cheese) to corned beef hash with eggs and spuds. Or lunchwiches with quirky plane names like Almost Famous Mustang Burger (open-faced with chili) or the B-29 (turkey, Swiss cheese, Ortega chilies "melted together on grilled sourdough"). Delish. Breakfast, lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Sakura Bana 1031 South Coast Highway 101 (Suite A), Encinitas, 760-942-6414. One of the friendliest eateries in a friendly town, this is a sushi bar where everybody knows your name (or acts like they do). The chefs love to whip up special dishes for the many regulars at the counter, so if you're a newbie, keep an eye out for what your neighbors are eating. A blackboard lists

the specials, guiding you to the day's freshest catch. Should you spot pompano on the list, get *two* orders — with two orders (but not if you just order one), after you've consumed the delicate raw fillets, the chefs will deep-fry the skeleton to a lacy crunchiness. If you don't feel like sushi, there are several tables, and standard Japanese appetizers and entrées are available. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W. (9/01)*

Sbicca American Bistro 215 15th Street, Del Mar, 858-481-1001. The roof garden has an unobstructed ocean view and is especially pleasant for very good American or Mexican breakfasts. Select simplest preparation for dinner: Chilean sea bass, salads, soups. Roasted half chicken best bet. Lunch Monday through Friday, dinner nightly. Brunch Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Moderate. — *E.W. (9/98)*

NORTH INLAND

Bernard'O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo Village Shopping Center, 858-487-7171. Ambiance excels here at one of the prettiest restaurants in the county. High ceilings, tall arched windows, rose-cream walls, fireplaces, and charming Gallic paintings make for an eye-fel, and on many nights a harpist plays show tunes. The cuisine mingles French classics (mussels with *frites*, crumb-coated rack of lamb, etc.) with

daily specials offering seasonal Cal-Mediterranean cooking. These dishes seem a little less adventurous than in days of yore, but this is still a place for a gracious meal in a superb surrounding. Lunch Wednesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W. (6/04)*

DiCrescenzo's 11627 Duenda Road (off W. Bernardo Drive), Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-2776. This is a stand-in-line, order-at-the-counter, grab-a-table, listen-for-your-order-number kind of a place. If you're looking for pampering and atmosphere, this isn't gonna cut it. If you're wanting yummy Italian comfort food to eat in or take out, this the spot. The bread alone is worth a trip. Real, flaky, honest-to-goodness French rolls complement pastas and salads or encase meatballs, eggplant parmesan, or deli meats. The meatballs, a DiCrescenzo family recipe, are unusually moist and tender, perfectly seasoned. The subs — especially Rocco's Imperial Sub — are packed with deli goodies and just enough Italian dressing. Thin crust pizzas are a popular treat. Open Monday through Saturday, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. — *S.M. (10/03)*

The French Market Grille 15717 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego, 858-485-8055. Ambience is served in generous portions at this romantic establishment with elegant indoor dining or a charming garden setting. The wine list has over 50 selections, including several available by the glass, and the varied menu offers Gallic dishes of duck, lamb, fish, veal, frog legs, and more. Most dishes are served

with the usual French cuisine sauces, but if you're dieting, they'll gladly omit sauce. Ingredients and execution of the entrées can be inconsistent (e.g., some nights the fish is overcooked or the meat is tough, other nights they're fine) but the crab-cake appetizer is always outstanding. Save room for dessert, especially the excellent crème brûlée. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *S.M. (11/03)*

Hernandez' Hide-Away 19320 Lake Drive (off Del Dios Highway), Escondido, 760-746-1444. The founder of Hernandez' claims he invented the margarita at his previous restaurant in Bird Rock. True or not, the margaritas (rocks, not slush-ee) are terrific, on a par with Baja's best. The food, though, is detuned for gringos, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. Even the guacamole is underseasoned, but if you like this sort of thing, a pleasant "tamale pie" is as good as any Midwestern mom's. The huge bargain-priced brunch on Saturdays and Sundays brings in the crowds; reservations urged for weekends to save a long wait. The exterior patio sports a big, funny mural, and the interior is carved into several rooms (helps keep the noise down) camped up with cute "Old West" cantina decor. Weekend brunch; lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (7/04)*

Mille Fleurs 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-3085. One of the area's top destination restaurants, Bertrand Hug's beautiful room with beautiful food draws "the beautiful people" — Hollywood honchos, high-

end high school graduation parties, and a steady influx of rarefied Rancho Santa Fe residents flaunting huge twinkling rocks. The daily-changing menu sports first-rate modern French cuisine (with a few German touches) by long-time chef Martin Woelsle. Order at will — everything's flawless. The menu's most exciting on weeknights, when crowds are sparser and the the kitchen has time to stretch. The wine list is fabulous but exorbitant even at the bottom. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Reservations a must. Very, very expensive. — *N.W. (5/01)*

GOLD COAST

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), 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 light-house-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 endless Freixenet champagne. Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Reserve for

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Sevilla **Flamenco dinner show for 2 \$75***
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La Jolla

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Uptown & North Park

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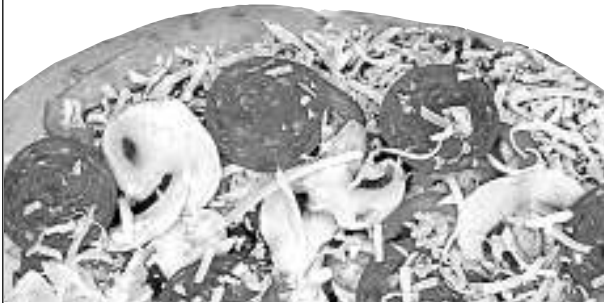
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Charlie's by the Sea 2565 South Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea (a long block south of the stoplight), 760-942-1300. This seaside spot offers a blissful patio right on the breakwater and a terrific, authentic Boston-style clam chowder to match the 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)

Le Bambou 2634 Del Mar Heights Road, Del Mar, 858-259-8138. Nouvelle Vietnamese cuisine is prepared here that's fresh, light, delicate. But the portions are small and two people should order three entrées for a satisfactory meal. Soups are outstanding and the imperial rolls, lemon grass chicken, soft-shelled crab, vegetarian rolls, and charbroiled pork do well here. The wine list includes 40 items. Fast service and aesthetic surroundings. Lunch Tuesday to Friday; dinner Tuesday to Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

LA JOLLA

Forever Fondue 1295 Prospect Street #201, La Jolla, 858-551-4509. Also at 6110 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-295-7792. Once every thirty years, a person should experience the novelty of fondue. Forever Fondue offers patrons the opportunity to cook or dip a variety of food items in a shared pot at their own table, accompanying the morsels with six different but universally disappointing sauces. Ambiance is minimal, other than the harsh chemical spray that bussers use for cleaning vacated tables. Dessert, however, is yummy — you can't miss with anything dipped in chocolate. The restaurant is clean and the staff friendly, although service can be extremely slow. Mediocre wine choices. Seating space is limited so reservations are recommended. Open daily for dinner. Moderately priced. — S.M. (2/04)

Fresh Seafood Restaurant 1044 Wall Street (at Herschel), La Jolla, 858-551-7575. The fare is mainly fishy and the room is truly dishy, with lots to look at — the open kitchen, floor-to-ceiling sculptures, street-patio scene, or the décolleté of the date dresses among the younger half of the crowd. The older half shows up in business suits, whatever their gender. Here you'll find that Chef Matthew Zappoli's seafood creations and lush sauces live up to the restaurant's name, although reined in enough to keep from scaring business-suited palates. Fish not your dish? Meats and poultry are of fine quality, too. Save room for the hazelnut mocha mousse cake, so sensual it should be X-rated. Good wine buys in Sauvignon Blancs and "interesting whites." Dinner reservations a must. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Marrakesh 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At our sole Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-

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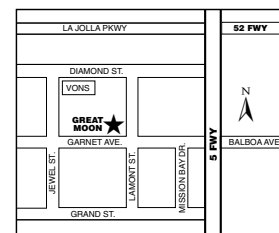
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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. On quiet weeknights, you can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Dinner nightly, reserve for weekends. Moderate. — *N.W.* (4/01)

Nathan's at Michele Coulon's 7556 Fay Avenue, Suite D, La Jolla, 858-456-5098. Fans of The Belgian Lion, a San Diego institution for over 20 years that closed in 2001, can rejoice. Nathan Coulon, grandson of Belgian Lion founders Don and Arlene Coulon, has stepped into his mother Michele's kitchen to resurrect many of the Lion's signature dishes: *cassoulet*, *steak au poivre*, *poulet Normande*. He's also added a few of Grandpa's that never made it onto the menu — try the baby spinach gratin — and now and then slips in something of his own. Ingredients are often first rate and sourced from good local growers. Growing up in the old restaurant's kitchen has taught him well; the *poulet Normande* is one of those deceptively simple dishes that surprises you with its perfection. Thoughtful and affordable wine list. Dinner Thursday through Saturday only. Expensive to very expensive. — *A.M.* (6/04)

Piatti Ristorante 2182 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, La Jolla,

858-454-1589. Whether you sit inside to enjoy the warm, rustic decor or outside under the giant ficus tree listening to the fountain, you're in for a treat at this secluded restaurant. Meals begin with crunchy corn-studded *ciabatta* and spicy balsamic dipping sauce, but don't fill up too soon: the appetizers and salads are varied and tasty. All pastas are house-made and served with lively, unusual sauces, including *penne agnello*, a treat for lamb aficionados. Lemon-herbed rotisserie chicken, wood-fired pizzas, veal *picatta*, and *bistecca* (a grilled rib-eye steak) round out the entrées. Portions are generous, so pace yourself if you're planning to have one of their house-made desserts. Lunch and dinner weekdays; brunch and dinner Saturdays and Sundays. Moderate. — *S.M.* (7/04)

Roy's 8670 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde Center (across from UTC), La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy outpost of top Hawaii chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain has elements of both "top chef" and "chain" about it. Decoding Roy's Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when ordered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo (including the yummy off-menu ahi poke) by asking for it; 3. Don't waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stickers, *lumpia*, "Kahana" *shutome* (swordfish), or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated, including vegetarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar. Open nightly. Very expensive. — *N.W.* (4/01)

Sky Room Top floor of La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0771. The stunning ocean view offers three essentials for a memorable evening: privacy, intimacy, and the ability to talk without the interruption of noise. The food is a feast to the eyes as well as the palate. Best bets: abalone and scallop steak appetizer, the daily soup, diver scallops, and lobster. Dinner only, with two seatings on weekends. Very expensive. — *E.W.* (10/99)

Zenbu 7660 Fay Avenue (at Kline Street), La Jolla, 858-454-4540. It was a natural for fisherman-restaurateur Matt Rimel to open a sushi bar-fish house, featuring sparkling fresh catch, much of it from his own boats. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls, which can be lunkish. Don't miss the sashimi of live local *uni* (sea urchin) served on its shell most weekends. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood, sometimes in almost goofily elaborate preparations. No reservations; 30-minute wait likely on weekends. Sushi bar is up a short staircase; dining room and patio tables are wheelchair accessible. Several vegetarian choices. Full bar, good sake list. Dinner nightly. Upper moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* (6/01)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Korea House 4620 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-0080. Korea House offers floor seating or a table if you want to barbecue your own food. The menu offers fine "down-home" Korean food, such as traditional *man-*

doo (beef) dumplings, *gaejang backban*, or raw crab, and *yookhwe*, a steak tartare worth risking. Make a meal from enormous appetizers like *gul bosam* (raw oysters, pork, and cabbage leaves). Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N.* (9/98)

Nijiya Market 3860 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you're not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya's steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you'll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweet bread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — *M.N.* (8/99)

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)

Prego Hazard Center, 1370 Frazee Road (at Friars), Mission Valley, 619-294-4700. In a stylish North Italian restaurant set in a come-as-you-are mall, a million-dollar renovation at the turn of our century has turned down the noise level to match the pleasing, easy-going North Italian cooking. Good starters include the antipasto platter, sparkling salads, and yeasty, fresh-baked rosemary-garlic bread (actually a mini-pizza crust). Pastas (many featuring fresh seafood) are nearly perfect, but risotto can be risky. Entrées are mainly simple grilled or rotisseried meats and fish. Service is warm and well informed. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *N.W.* (4/01)

Seau's Mission Valley Center mall, 1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravagant multivenue sports pub is major league fun — a real-life reincarnation of some 1960s McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-normal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream "something for everyone" choices, including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elementary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for

Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.* (1/03)

Sheila's Cafe & Bakery 4577 Clairemont Drive (Wilson Plaza), Clairemont, 858-270-0251. A "Glatt Kosher," a non-dairy Orthodox Jewish restaurant and bakery with a mission. Sheila was determined to create food observant Jews could eat without worrying — from Italian to Mexican to ribs to fried chicken to lactose-free cheesecakes — and that everybody else wouldn't know was different. The result: a menu stretching from chicken soup with matzoh balls to standards like hamburgers and even Sunday prime rib dinners. You don't need a *yarmulke* to feel comfortable here, but it's comforting to know everything down to the least lettuce leaf has received extra-careful preparation. You'll find Sheila's breads and pastries at supermarkets all around town. Lunch and dinner Monday through Thursday, lunch Friday, dinner Sunday (closed Saturday, of course). Moderate to slightly expensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

THE BEACHES

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thin-skinned ravioli stuffed with marinated braised short ribs shouldn't be missed, and his goose foie gras on *ciabatta crostini* is divinely playful. Traditional dishes take on new life, too: The house "antipasta" (of marinated vegetables and top-quality Italian deli meats) is everything you'd hope for, while house-made pesto gnocchi float off the plate. Some dishes are invariably less successful, but boredom will not be a problem — this is nothing like "hotel food." The Italian/Californian wine list emphasizes lesser-known Italian reds. Daily, three meals. Upper moderate to expensive. — N.W. (5/02)

Baleen Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road (off Ingraham Street), Mission Bay, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask before you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions, including gorgeous lobster bisque, salmon with a clever hummus crust, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better values farther up the range. Reservations recommended. Very expensive. — N.W. (12/00)

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix-fixe pre-show dinners because they guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door amputheatre. They're missing the best food, which emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features top-quality seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with lively, seasonal veggie garnishes. Reserve for show-nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet weekends. Reservations strongly advised. Pre-show prix fixe moderate, à la carte high-moderate to expensive. — N.W. (11/01)

Kono's 704 Garnet Avenue (on the boardwalk), Pacific Beach, 858-483-1669. This inside-outside café is your prototypical California surfer hangout. It's cream and green with maroon canvas window canopies, red-painted make-believe shutters, and three surfboards sprouting through the roof. On weekends, lines of tourists come looking for their California fix. But Kono's is known among locals, too, for generous breakfasts. Check out their PBS: Pancakes, Bacon and Scrambled eggs. Or the breakfast sandwich with eggs, bacon, cheese, and tomato on a toasted English muffin. Or the CB Burger (chicken breast, green chili, and pica sauce). Best time: foggy mornings. Chow down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a birds-eye view of surfers appearing out of the mists below. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/00)

Lotsa Pasta 1762 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-581-6777. At this large, loud family restaurant, you pick your noodles (from nine flavors and six shapes, plus seven stuffed pastas) then choose one of 17 sauces to dress them. Entrées come with soup or salad and garlic bread. For a little extra, you can choose a pasta combo or add ingredients such as garlic shrimp, breaded meatballs, or good spicy sausage. The big deal is *timpano*, a bread-shell enclosing a cornucopia of pastas, sauces, cheeses, and meats (made famous by the movie *The Big Night*). But don't expect authentic Italian (or even New Jersey Italian) cooking. The fare is more midwestern American-Italian, with all pastas cut to the same hefty thickness and mostly weighty sauces. (The vodka sauce and Thai peanut sauce are lighter choices.) Wines live up to their rock-bottom price tags. A retail counter offers most pastas and sauces to go. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (4/03)

Mardi Gras Cafe 3185 Midway Drive (near Rosecrans and East Street, in mini-mall with a 7-11, across the street from Godfather Pizza), Loma Portal, 619-223-5501. The Creole cooking at this café/grocery, to eat in, take out, or have catered for your next

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Calendar
RESTAURANTS

party, is sound and tasty, if deliberately underseasoned (just add salt and hot sauce to taste). You can also buy the real and rare ingredients from the freezer, deli case, and grocery shelves, including Cajun *tasso* (spiced ham), *boudin blanc* (rice sausage) and crawfish sausage. Daily brunch through early dinner. No alcohol, everything available for takeout. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/01)*

Sapporo Japanese Restaurant 5049 Newport Avenue (by the pier), Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small, but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice — all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include *yaki soba* (stir-fried sautéed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and *champon* noodle soup (*udon* noodles, scallops, shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed Chicken Bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/01)*

CENTRAL
SAN DIEGO

Asia Cafe 4710 Market Street (at 47th Street), Chollas View, 619-527-1917. May be 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)*

Huffman's Bar-B-Que 5039 Imperial Avenue (at Euclid Avenue), Chollas View, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman's fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Lao & Chinese Cuisine 4212 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-263-0914. This restaurant is a simple place, large and spare around Formica tables, that serves uncomplicated, home-style Lao cuisine. I highly recommend the *larb*, a spicy salad with poached minced beef, chicken, or pork and seasoned with lime juice, hot pepper, cilantro, onions, fresh mint, and ground toasted rice. This dish is earthy and wild, spectacular. Other tasty dishes include papaya pog-pog salad (papaya, chilis, and tomato), *tom yum* soup, and

pho and *pad si-ew* noodle dishes. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (2/99)*

Nate's Deli 3120 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-284-0206. This deli-café is in City Farmers' Nursery, the one with sheep, geese, Clyde the horse and a mini forest in the middle of town. The late Nate was the father of owner Bill Tall, and this deli was his dream. (Nate died just before opening.) Try appetizers like smoked salmon, or "Kishka," a spicy wrapped filling, hot with brown gravy, or the grilled chicken fillet salad. But really, sandwiches are "it" here, and huge, and you can choose your cheeses, breads, and condiments as the sandwich-making proceeds. Go for, say, beef bologna, pastrami, liverwurst, salami, or vegetarian, then take it out to the eatin' deck, and check out the wild life. Town's a block and a world away. Breakfast to early dinner six days; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/03)*

Pizzeria Luigi 1137 25th Steet (at C Street), Golden Hill, 619-233-3309. They claim to make real New York pizza in this tiny storefront and they're not lying. One of the owners is from Brooklyn and his origins are written all over the pies. The sauce tastes right and the crusts are thin enough that you can fold a slice into a "V" to eat on the run, New Yorker style. But it's better to take home a whole pie with your choice of toppings (or a stromboli or calzone) and enjoy it at leisure. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (7/04)*

EAST COUNTY &
STATE COLLEGE

Barnes Bar-B-Que 2625 Lemon Grove Avenue (at Cypress, tucked in the back of Liquor Mart Square),

Lemon Grove, 619-462-9206. The sign on the window reads: "Soul Food: 99 cents"; inside is the homey solace of good cheer and excellent Memphis-style barbecue. Pork gets star billing: in a sandwich, it appears as tender chunks laced with smoke; on ribs, as luscious, multitextured strips slathered with sauce that balances sweet smoke, citrus tang and a mild, persistent spice. BBQ beans are a revelation, creamy yet substantial, swimming alongside rich bits of pork in a sauce that delivers a sweet molasses bite. Macaroni and cheese is gooey and gummable, a mild counter to the murky, sour/salty greens. On Fridays, you can get Southern-fried catfish or red snapper, plus hush puppies. Inexpensive. — *A.M. (2/01)*

Charley's Famous Hamburgers and Kebobs 8312 Broadway (at Sweetwater Road), Lemon Grove, 619-460-2690. When you spot an old red-and-white gas station that looks like a café, don't hesitate. That's Charley's. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps and a fountain now gurgles where the air hoses used to be. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebobs. Charley's sweet dough beef-and-onion sandwich is scrumptious. Mostly take-out, but you can dine out at their picnic tables under bougainvillea. Open daily, three meals. — *E.B. (12/01)*

D.Z. Akin's 6930 Alvarado Road, Alvarado Plaza, College Area, 619-265-0218. Surely the best Jewish delicatessen in San Diego. Soups are wonderful, and so are the 110 sandwiches, especially the corned beef. The *knishes* and chopped liver easily rival Mother's. Excellent breakfasts and outstanding, fully stocked bakery. Open

daily, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

European Bistro Lake Murray Square, 6062 Lake Murray Boulevard (at El Paso), La Mesa, 619-698-5555. Here at the center of a Russian new-immigrant community, in a strip-mall just south of Ross and Big Lots, you'll find an array of savory Eastern European dishes. They're nowhere as heavy as Nonna's — here they're done with the lightness of the Russian-French chef tradition, applied to specialties from Russia, Poland, and the Ukraine. Following classic Russian custom, there's a splendid choice of small, savory, and substantial salads (try the sensual *Stolichny* chicken-potato salad) and delightful appetizers, including airy crêpes with juicy (and affordable) red or black caviar. The outstanding main course is lamb shish kebab featuring tender marinated ribs cut from a rack. But don't look for borscht; it's not on the menu. Entrées come with a choice of starches; trust me, you want fries with that. Open daily, lunch and dinner (early dinner Sundays). Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Jasmine Bistro Westfield Plaza, 315 Parkway Plaza (at Fletcher and the 67 Freeway), El Cajon, 619-588-8228. A gleaming little architectural jewel surrounded by the big white boxes of its mall, Jasmine Bistro is a spin-off of the well-known Jasmine Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant on Convoy. By day, the fare centers on fresh, expertly made Chinese dim sum (elaborate finger-food) offered both by cart and by menu. At night a fresh crew of multi-ethnic chefs step in to cook up a Pan-Asian panoply, so if you're in the mood for Mandarin and your date wants Thai, no problem. Unfortunately, eaters in this suburban milieu won't stand for too much authenticity, so so-

phisticated diners may find the fare a little dumbed-down. Mainly California wine list suggests wine pairings for the food; numerous Asian beers, fruity drinks. Reserve for weekend dinners. Daily brunch/lunch through early dinner (until 9 p.m. weeknights, 9:30 weekends). Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées). — *N.W. (5/04)*

Rodeo Bar and Grill 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, 619-390-7996. Agnes and Ildikor are the two blue-eyed Hungarian-born sisters who run this only-in-Lakeside institution. It's a low, red, grapevine-covered onetime produce barn near the rodeo grounds. A dirt parking lot hides under the trees, and an old freezer door is the main entrance to the restaurant, which has decor straight out of Dodge City. The menu has two sides: the A-side features big steaks, while the B-side offers bargain-priced sandwiches like grilled barbecued beef or the Ponyburger, a flame-broiled quarter-pounder with steak fries, barbecue beans, and fixin's. On Thursday nights, the sisters' mom cooks one of her special Hungarian dishes, depending on what the customers have asked for — so get on down there and vote! Open until 1 a.m. (with karaoke) on weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (10/00)*

FAR EAST

Kountry Kitchen 826 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-3200. Thank goodness the Kountry Kitchen's still around. They still open at 5 a.m. for the farmers and anyone else who's up then. They still make their own sausages, and grind their own burger meat, too. The Italian Sausage Breakfast is truly deli-

CHRISTMAS EVE

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La Casa Del Zorro Borrego Springs Drive (Rte. 73) (five miles south of Palm Canyon Drive at Yaqui Pass Road), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5523. La Casa Del Zorro is Borrego Springs' most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a deluxe resort five miles south of town. (Drive through the parking lots until you reach the fenced swimming pool; the restaurant's small, dimly marked door is just to the left.) The California Cuisine menu offers elaborate seafood appetizers (out here in the desert) and entrées with fine, subtle sauces, fresh veggies from nearer the coast, and rather mild-flavored, exquisitely tender meats, evidently chosen to be gentle to the dentures of the duffers. Desserts are few and very sweet. Full bar; great (but pricey) wine list. Collared shirts and jackets required on men (they'll lend you a jacket if needed), dressy-casual wear on women. Open daily, continuously (in theory) from breakfast through dinner. Reserve for weekend evenings. Very expensive. — N.W. (4/03)

The Olde Homestead Fudge Factory The Center, 590 Palm Canyon Drive (north side of the street), Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The Fudge Factory's greatest dish is not what it's named for, and some of its pick hits aren't fudge, either. Of the 24 flavors of housemade fudge, barely a half dozen are available on any given day. The chocolate walnut is especially delicious, but the real masterpiece is the "date shake" — a cold quaff that's ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Then, too, a former pastry chef of the famed La Casa Del Zorro provides trays and trays of delicate pastries, and this is one of the few spots in town with an espresso machine. Open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — N.W. (4/03)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Arrividerci Italian Restaurant 3845 Fourth Street, Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. However you picture an idealized Italian restaurant — sprawling café on the strada or little cozy corner as in *Moonstruck* — somehow Arrividerci is "it." The straight-from-Rome look of the crowded sidewalk deck and yellow-and-white-awning helps. The menu is a big yet familiar regional potpourri. Reliable standards include *vitello bel monte* (veal in a brandy cream sauce with tomatoes); "straw and hay" (*paglio e fieno al pesto*), pale yellow-and-green pasta with string beans and pine nuts in a delicious pesto sauce; baby rack of lamb with rosemary; or shellfish pasta dishes like linguine *mediterraneo*, with clams, mussels, and big garlicky shrimp. Part of the fun is bumping chairs. Think dining car on a narrow-gauge railroad — you're that close to the next table. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — E.B. (7/04)

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twigg Street (at Congress, diagonal to Rockin' Baja Lobster), Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean *pastel de choclo* (a casserole of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland, spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (citrus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru, earthy Guatemalan *chilemal* (cilantro-laden pork stew), aromatic beef curry from Trinidad, and a sensuous *vatapa* (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat-and-fowl-free options. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Crest Cafe 425 Robinson Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-295-2510.

"Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco café backs it up. Cecelia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loyal customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy Vegetable Steam Basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the Fresh Salmon Burger, the OuiOui Burger ("aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted jack cheese") or the wicked, spicy Butter Burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayenne-cumin mayo and more butter). Best of all, late hours: open 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Extraordinary Desserts 2929 Fifth Avenue (at Palm), uptown, 619-294-7001. The desserts here do live up to the name, whether you gobble them on the spot on the patio of this charming café or buy them to take home. Owner Karen Krasne's pastries are created with strict French techniques with flavors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the rice fields of Bali to the *souks* of Morocco. The white cakes are true food for angels — ethereal and not excessively sweet, vibrant with flavors of fresh ripe fruits — and some of the chocolate cakes (e.g., the "Caribe") follow suit, while others are rich and dense. Not your piece of cake? There are also tarts, cookies, chocolates, ice cream dishes, puddings, breakfast pastries, and fine teas and coffees, along with Krasne's own lines of honeys, jams, chutneys, syrups, and popcorn — plus a truly lovely assortment of international craft objects. Open for weekday breakfast, weekend brunch until late, closing at 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at midnight on weekends. — N.W. (5/02)

Fifth And Hawthorn 515 Hawthorn 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)

Hob Nob Hill 2271 First Avenue (at Juniper Street), Banker's Hill, 619-239-8176. It opened in 1944 as a 14-stool lunch counter. Now, you sweep in under the maroon canopy to shiny red booth seats, deep blue carpet, blond wood, paintings, and a half-wall of wine. You're thinking "business class," but don't be fooled. We're talking coffee-shop prices, especially with the all-day breakfasts and sandwiches, not to mention the burgers with a salad tossed in. It's across the street from a retirement condo complex and at dinner, says the owner, "We cater to seniors." While there are à la carte choices, affordable three-course prix fixe dinners (with a regular entrée for each day of the week, Mom-style) are the order of the day — e.g., tasty barbecued pork on Saturdays, roast lamb or turkey Sundays. Open daily. Inexpensive to low moderate. — E.B. (10/01)

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Avenue (at Washington), Suite 120, Hillcrest, 619-682-4054. A simple neighborhood sushi bar offering imaginative rolls, each one so distinctively seasoned that there's no need to mar the pretty fish-scapes with wasabi dip. The fish is super-fresh and includes salmon that



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

Kazumi-san cold-smokes himself. For a family-style dinner, “The Ultimate Boat” (serving two or more) is an encyclopedia of Japanese specialties, a huge platter of sushi, *gyoza*, assorted appetizers, yakitori, teriyaki, and terrific tempura. Need comfort food? The tempura also graces the top of a satisfying bowl of *nabeyaki udon* (noodle soup) with an onion-sweet broth. With just a small staff of family members in the kitchen and house, expect a wait for food at busy times. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (10/00)*

The Mission North Park and City Bakery 2801-2805 University Avenue, North Park, 619-220-8992. The two winners are breakfasts and the adjoining bakery, especially for its Russian pecan bread and cinnamon rolls. Lunch and dinner offer California food with Asian and Latino influences. Lots of items under \$10. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (7/98)*

The Parkhouse Eatery 4574 Park Boulevard (at Madison), University Heights, 619-295-7275. A small house provides a charming setting for dining. The eclectic menu is prepared with average competence. You can make a meal from the list of appetizers. Open weekdays three meals, weekends for brunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (10/99)*

Picasso Spanish Restaurant 3923 Fourth Avenue (near University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-3061. Interesting Spanish tapas and entrées are served in a small, modern, art-filled room that draws a casual neighborhood crowd. The regional style is Basque, from Northern Spain, but these aren’t the tiny *pinxos* of that area — in fact, these bites are larger than usual, sized generously for two eaters. Some top tapas include chicken-stuffed *empanadillas*, baby eels in gar-

lic sauce, stuffed greenlip mussels, and an outstanding paella (available as both a tapa and entrée). A bargain-price bottomless pitcher of the house’s workmanly sangria (made with Livingston Cellars Burgundy) is the patrons’ favorite beverage. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W. (6/01)*

Region 3671 Fifth Avenue (at Pennsylvania), Hillcrest, 619-299-6499. Three of our best young chefs — Michael Stebner, Allyson Colwell, and Jack Fisher — are creating inventive, daily-changing menus inspired by superb seasonal ingredients from local farms and artisans. The decor is rustic and the style is “pure and simple” to showcase the intense flavors of wild-caught fish and naturally raised meats and produce. Don’t miss the house-made cheeses and brilliantly unconventional desserts. You can order à la carte, or a whole table can share a well-priced “trust the chef” tasting dinner drawn mainly from the evening’s menu, with an optional matching wine-flight. An adventurous wine list at reasonable markups adds to the fun and the bartender offers inventive cocktails. Reservations urged, especially for weekends. Restaurant is up four stairs; wheelchair lift available (ask bartender). Can be noisy, banquets are quietest. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. High moderate. — *N.W. (5/04)*

Soltan Banoo Persian Eatery & Tearoom 4646 Park Boulevard (at Adams Avenue), University Heights, 619-298-2801. It’s colorful, small, and intimate. This two-room café pulsates with multicolored cloths, midnight blue cushions, Aladdin-shaped pitchers and samovars. What you’re eating is basically Persian health food — most Persian fare is healthy food anyway. Try the pomegranate soup, made of spinach with lentils, beans, wheat, and pomegranate juice, or the strawberry tabbouleh salad. Lamb is often a part of dishes. *Ghourmeh sabzi* is a lamb stew. *Koufteh-Berenji* is a ball of basmati rice with lamb, eggs, onions, and plums. And don’t forget tea. They have everything from Darjeeling and Caspian to Lapacho Bark, Black Peach, and, if you really need a boost, Temple of Heaven

Gunpowder. Breakfast through earlyish dinner Tuesday to Saturday; breakfast and lunch only, Sundays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Whole Foods Market 711 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-2800. For vegetarians on the go, Whole Foods’ prepared food section will feed you better — and faster — than any vegetarian restaurant in town. Outstanding selections include green chili and cheese polenta; Emerald Mushrooms salad or Rapid Dragon greens, both with a sweet surprise of raspberry jam; and, especially, their *farofa* salad, like American stuffing, but it’s couscous studded with almonds, fat raisins, thin strips of scrambled egg, and bits of carrot and bell pepper. Whole Foods’ vegetarian meals will tempt any meat-eater with their delicious originality. La Jolla branch at 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, 619-642-6700. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N. (4/99)*

DOWNTOWN

Acqua Al 2 322 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-230-0382. Despite its monicker, this isn’t a seafood trattoria, but a near-fishless branch of a restaurant in Florence that won success by eschewing the standard Florentine menu while maintaining Tuscan purity of style. Chef-owner Martin Gonzales trained there and serves as charming host of the local outpost. Best bets are the vegetarian pasta and rice dishes made with aromatic porcini mushrooms. The tasting of five pastas may sound tempting, but they’re chef’s choice — and he tends to choose the dull ones. “Tastings” of salads, cheeses, and desserts are also offered. Mains are mainly rather plain. Moderate (pasta) to expensive. — *N.W. (11/00)*

The Blarney Stone 510 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-233-8519. This handsome establishment, made of dark wood from the Emerald Isle, includes a large, good-looking separate dining room that opens when the dining public forms a critical mass, or around

8 p.m. Like most local Irish pubs, the menu is mainly American and gringo-Mex snack foods, including an “Irish quesadilla” (corned beef and cheese on a flour tortilla). The three wannabe Celtic dishes are an indifferent corned beef and cabbage, “steak Kildare” (a tough, mushroom-smothered rib eye), and “fish and chips Liffey,” which aren’t noticeably different from, say, fish and chips “Thames” or “Afton” or even “Missouri.” Open daily. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Buon Appetito 1609 India Street, Little Italy, 619-238-9880. At the chic, art-filled fourth branch of a chain that started with Hillcrest’s Arrividerci, the bill of fare combines the pick hits of the mother-ship and of Encinitas cousin-restaurant I Trulli. The menu calls the cuisine “Nouvelle Italian,” blending traditional and trendy Mediterranean ingredients. Seasonal specials change monthly. Most appetizers and pastas are fine (entrées often less so), but the kitchen can be hasty, turning out hard-centered risotto or burnt seafood. Winners include antipasto, quail with lentils, and wine-braised rabbit in the style of the Italian Alps. Desserts are mainly weighty. Wine list is an affordable treat, highlighting mysterious Italian grape varieties from small-scale bottlers; the adept staff can help you choose one to match your order. Euro-pop plays loudly inside; noise-sensitive may prefer patio tables. Lunch and dinner daily (with break between); open until 11 p.m. on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (5/04)*

Buster’s Beach House and Longboard Bar 807 West Harbor Drive, East Plaza, Seaport Village, 619-233-4300. There really is a Buster, a surfer who traveled the world working in restaurants. Baja, Oahu, Fiji, Naples, Ocho Rios, Phuket — you name it, there’s a dish from each of those waters, and every one of them ethnically incorrect. The menu’s actually an international anthology of surfer-bar grub — and like Waimea Bay’s waves, it has huge ups and downs. Skip the greasy “Short Board” pupu platter and risky daily fish special and go for the well-seasoned crab cakes, shark tacos, spicy “paella” (more like jambalaya), or pizza. The surfy, fun

decor and breezy patio easily compensate for some of the spiciest service in town; a full bar offers a great beer list and decent umbrella drinks. To snag a patio table, reserve it and make sure they write it down. Three hours validated parking, kid-friendly, plenty for vegetarians. Open three meals daily. Prices cover the waterfront. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Croce’s Restaurant and Jazz Bar 802 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-233-4355. If you enjoy premises with doors open to the street and nightly jazz in the adjoining room, try Croce’s. The chef prepares excellent appetizers, pastas, salads, and entrées. Menus change seasonally. Outdoor as well as indoor seating. Nightly jazz. Dinner only. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

Deco’s 731 Fifth Avenue (between G and F), Gaslamp, 619-696-DECO. When the disco is not in session here, there’s surprisingly fine food in this vast, multiroom glamorama, stunningly done up like a Fred-and-Ginger 1930s ballroom. The eats are in a lightly adventurous California-Asian-Mediterranean mode featuring quality seafood handled with care and creativity; don’t miss the ethereal bread pudding for dessert. (The requisite sushi “party rolls” are merely okay.) Service is hip, smart, and kind. Best dining nights: disco-less Tuesday and Wednesday. Call ahead if you want to book an off-menu meal. No cover charge on disco nights for patrons who order dinner before 9 p.m.; no sneaks, shorts, or Ts if you’re clubbing. Serious wine list runs high; full bar. Happy hour Friday; dinner 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Very expensive, but somewhat affordable if you graze on appetizers. — *N.W. (7/03)*

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-hog from the Ould Sod, offers delicious Irish music live most nights, and also attempts serious Irish cooking — with some successes. Try the lovely herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty, potato crépes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Indigo Grill 1536 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-6802. This second — and much grander — incarnation of Chef Deborah Scott’s Indigo Grill expands her original Native American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Now, the Pacific Coastal cuisine takes in more coast than most, drawing upon ingredients and techniques from Alaska to Oaxaca. (The decor, dark and urban-primitive, follows the theme.) Unexpected combinations are a mainstay; a single dish, such as the seafood *mixto*, may span the entire distance, bringing together a multitude of flavors that work together to create a wondrous whole. Fine breads are made in-house, as are desserts (try the decadent, crispy-creamy plantain cheesecake *flautas*). The wine list includes interesting varietals like Mourvedre and Viognier. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly; closes early Sundays, but open until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Lunch: inexpensive to moderate; dinner: moderate to expensive. — *A.M. (11/02)*

Lou and Mickey’s 224 Fifth Avenue (between K and L), Gaslamp, 619-237-4900. The onetime ornate Royale Brasserie across from the Convention Center finally had to bow to conventional tastes and simplify into a fifties-style steak-and-seafood house. Kings Seafood is still the owner, so the fish quality remains fine. The fare is simple, with minimal sauce or garnish; vegetables cost extra, coming in large portions but merely adequate preparations. Best dishes include “BBQ Shrimp, Man-ales’ Style,” a buttery, spicy New Orleans extravaganza (available as starter or entrée), and the huge, juicy rib-eye “Cowboy Steak.” Valet parking at door. Wraparound heated dining patio. Noisy in dining room near bar; request “Nude Room” for quiet. For interesting wines at good prices, look into “Adventures” sections of the list. Dinner nightly, weekends until 11 p.m. Fish moderate, meats expensive. — *N.W. (7/03)*

Pokez Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine 947 E Street (at Tenth Avenue), downtown, 619-702-7160. Rafael — his buddies call him Rafa — started this cool student/artist hangout years ago when he was 18. Lunchtime business people

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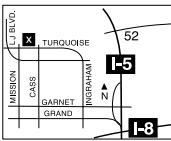
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come here. Evenings, seems like it's all Rafa's friends: people from downtown, Golden Hill, City College. The food is mostly Mexican vegetarian (though he's got meaty things like chicken or steak ranchero or sautéed chicken fajitas). Tip well: the servers volunteer and share the take from the gravy pot. Three meals weekdays; closes earlier on weekends. — *E.B.* (12/01)

Ra Sushi 1014 Fifth Avenue (at Broadway), downtown, 619-321-0021. Big and splashy, this Arizona-based chain restaurant tries to create a high-energy party atmosphere with loudish music and louder "Oriental" decor. Its grazing menu features sushi, sashimi, hosts of Asian-oid appetizers, plus a few substantial noodle dishes and entrées. The food's a mixture of the dire and the delicious — old, pulpy *edamame* versus magnificent miso soup, delicate dilled salmon and desiccated *katsu*. The sushi rice is well seasoned, but the products are inconsistent from hour to hour and roll to roll, depending on how long ago the seafood was defrosted and how recently the rice was cooked. You take your chances, but it's fun anyway. Reservations accepted, even for sushi bar. Numerous Asian beers and sakes, affordable wines, full bar specializing in fancy cocktails. Those with fading eyesight may need a penlight to read menu. Daily, lunch through dinner, to 11 p.m. Moderate. — *N.W.* (5/04)

Rice Hotel W, 421 B Street (at State), downtown, 619-398-3082. The W's several amusing bars and lounges serve as a weekend amusement park for a spiffy singles crowd. Rice is there to feed them on Fusion-lite nibbles created by corporate chefs far away, emphasizing appetizers and desserts over entrées, as you'd expect. Cool, witty decor and a loud, nonstop pop soundtrack drive home the point: This is a scene. Reservations usually necessary for lunch or dinner. Pricy valet parking, but easy street parking weeknights. Three meals daily to 10:45 p.m. Upper moderate to very expensive. — *N.W.* (7/03)

Sadaf 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-338-0008. Vegetarian-friendly. Quiet and relaxed weeknights, the room becomes an ear-splitting mob scene weekends (even before the restaurant goes disco at 9:30). The hearty but sophisticated Persian fare centers on well-marinated kebabs and herb-rich stews, served with various savory rice dishes. There's excellent spinach *borani*, sieved yogurt relish with cucumbers, lamb chop kebabs, and a vibrant, sweet-sour *fesenjan* (pomegranate-walnut sauce with chicken). But the Gaslamp branch's kitchen is wildly inconsistent, e.g., your *fesenjan* dumped on dry ke-

babs instead of mingling with simmered poultry. Desserts are always dreamy — try rosewater ice cream and/or pudding, or *bamieh*, a delicate ladyfinger soaked in (what else?) rosewater syrup. Moderate. — *N.W.* (12/00)

Seven-17 717 Fourth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-232-4440. Steaks, seafood, and eclectic Cal-cuisine are the fare at this friendly spot with a highly competent kitchen. If many of the selections are San Diego standards (e.g., ahi tartare, crab cakes), they're cooked expertly enough to make your mouth forget how often you've eaten them before. Appetizers are the kitchen's forte: Don't miss the pistachio-crust sea scallops or the crab-stuffed portobello mushroom. A couple could easily make a tasty meal by splitting three starters and one of the veggie side dishes — say, the lush, gratinée creamed spinach. Mains are okay, but plainer and pricier. The wine list is long and interesting with plenty by the glass; full bar. Valet parking weekends. Near Petco, offering pre-game/post-game appetizers and drinks specials. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. weekends and after home games if there's a crowd. High moderate (grazing) to expensive. — *N.W.* (5/04)

Taka 555 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-338-0555. The seafood at this always-packed sushi bar and Japanese appetizer-restaurant is top quality. *Ama ebi* (sweet shrimp) from the live tank go down soft and silky smooth, unlike their frozen brethren. And the chefs are highly skilled: the well-seasoned rice is freshly made all evening, and for once the spicy scallop hand roll has scallops, mayo, cuke, and hot pepper running all the way through, not just plopped on top. Savory appetizers supplement the sushi, including miso-baked black cod and mushroom-topped *agedashi* (lightly-fried) tofu. The one problem: the later you arrive, the louder it gets. Make reservations, and if you value your ears, go at an early hour. Dinner nightly. Most dishes inexpensive, but many little bites can eat a hole in your wallet. — *N.W.* (7/04)

Vincenzo Ristorante Italiano 1702 India Street, Little Italy, 619-702-6181. The specialty at this tourist favorite is Sicilian seafood. The cooking is competent, but the restaurant's fishmonger settles for ordinary quality (as does the produce provider). The meat jobber does a better job, providing succulent lamb and veal that the chef grills expertly, and the Italian sausages (from Pete's Meats, up the block) are the ziestiest in town. The restaurant's hard-surfaced interior is so noisy you'll hear every conversation but your own; reserve for the sidewalk patio for a quieter evening.

Open lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.* (8/01)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Azzura Point Loews Coronado Bay Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road (Silver Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-400 or 619-424-4477. The quietly luxurious dining room with a serene bayfront view is romantic and a bit dressy, but far from stuffy. It's not just for tourists, but a lovely evening's getaway for locals. The California-French cuisine emphasizes seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations, with especial ingenuity in the appetizers. Along with the six-course "chef's menu," there's a reasonably priced five-course vegetarian menu showcasing fresh herbs grown in the resort's garden. A good wine list at reasonable markups is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochere of the main lobby. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Very expensive. — *N.W.* (11/01)

Bistro D'Asia 1301 Orange Avenue (at B Avenue), Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy perennial "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Reserve for weekend dinners. Lunch/dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.* (12/01)

Bob's on the Bay 570 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista Harbor, 619-476-0400. Big, breezy Bob's, with its beautiful Bay view, seems to be the unofficial community center of Chula Vista. It's a rambling building overlooking the Yacht Harbor where all sorts of folks pop in for a night off or a fun lunch. The food is serviceable American cuisine centered on steaks and seafood, but on Fridays and Saturdays the scene turns into a pretend-luau complete with Hawaiian band, hula dancers, a party atmosphere, and a few vaguely Polynesian dishes amid the standard mid-American buffet items. Full bar. Reservations advisable for luau nights and Sunday champagne brunch. Casual, family-friendly to the max. Breakfast and lunch buffets inexpensive; Sunday and dinner buffets moderate; à la carte expensive. — *N.W.* (7/03)

Cafe 1134 1134 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-437-1134. Rick Chapman has created a French café atmosphere with round Parisian tables and slat chairs outside and a balcony inside. Here

Coronado's arty types mix with admirals, CEOs, and SEALs. Big fat cups of tea are a favored drink. Breakfasts are mostly steamed eggs plus extras, such as the Americana with two steamed eggs, Swiss cheese and ham, a side of fruit and sliced baguette. Lunches are sandwiches (like curried tuna or brie con pesto) or salads (try the chicken). Best deal: the Combo Special, a half sandwich and soup or salad. And there's always an art exhibition going on inside. Open daily, three meals; service until midnight on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

Galley at the Marina 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-422-5714. This is a great place to relax, take in the view and decide which yacht you're gonna buy when you win the lotto. It's run by Fran Muncey, widow of Bill Muncey, San Diego's greatest speedboat-racing champion. The tasty, bargain-priced Happy Hour specials (3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday) make a visit worth the trip west of I-5: try a 1/2-pound steerburger with French fries, chicken Caesar salad with sourdough toast, or a filet mignon steak plate with steak fries. Next morning, catch the breakfast favorite: biscuits and sausage gravy with eggs. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Point-Point Joint 916 East Eighth Street, National City, 619-474-2866. You're in Little Manila here, heartland of San Diego's Filipino community. So the food has to be authentic. Your problem's going to be choosing. Dozens of dishes with mysterious meats and veggies. You can play safe and choose, say, chicken barbecue on a bamboo spit, chicken *adobo*, or *longaniza* sausage. But you should seek out less familiar choices, too. *Kare-kare* (yam, peanut butter sauce with beef and tripe) is delicious, and so is *dinuguan*, pork in pork blood, also known as "chocolate meat." Want healthy? There's *monggo* (mung beans) with bitter melon leaves, or point to a pile of split, deep-fried fish — *daing na bangus*, vinegar-soaked milk fish, said to be popular with old men with high blood pressure. Lunch, dinner seven days; breakfast Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (8/03)

Zorbas Family Restaurant 100 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-8853. We haven't got to plate-breaking yet, but Greek dancing is alive and well at Zorba's on Fridays and Saturdays. That includes the *zembekikos*, where the dancer picks a glass of ouzo off the floor with his mouth and drinks it. The rest of the week? Families fill this place. They're here for the buffet, spooning up the *spanakopita* (spinach in deliciously flaky pastry), *dolmathes* (ground beef and rice rolled in grape leaves), moussaka (egg-

plant, zucchini, and ground beef), and lamb. Try dividing your meal into three: first visit the salad section. Grab their real, strong-tasting olives, tabbouleh, hummus, onions, lettuce, and pita bread. Return for the heavies, the lamb and beef dishes. Then leave room for baklava and other desserts. It may not be the gourmet's method, but there's no better way to fill a belly. Lunch, dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (2/03)

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 Rincon Del Oso Mercado Hidalgo, Calle Victoria #47, Río District, Tijuana. Eating goat is an acquired taste. This little market restaurant is a good place to start acquiring. It serves kid for breakfast that's surprisingly easy on the taste buds. The best part is scooping the juices and the meat into a hot corn tortilla, adding cilantro, lime, grated onions, and a splash of salsa, and chomping in. It's meaty, slightly rich, almost gamey, like deer or buffalo, except the juices round out that gamey aftertaste. Come early morning for the best kid and the best market scenes. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

El Taurino Steak House Sixth Street #7531 (three blocks west of Revolución), Tijuana, 685-7075. Looking for the home of the foot-long steak? At this old-line surf n' turf eatery a (real) wall-mounted bull's head lunges at you;

his severed ears and tail hang beside him. But anchors and portholes and *barcas* (boats) stuccoed on the white and green walls also emphasize the menu's "surf" side. It's all very forties. Fine linens, lifer waiters, and unchanged but good food — like marinated grilled quail, shrimp *al ajillo* (cooked in oil, garlic, and chili), and fish steamed *empapelado* (in parchment paper). A must-try is the signature *cabreria* steak, a thin but foot-long slab with guacamole, beans, onions, jalepeño, tortillas, and soup or salad. On second thought, the *media* (half) *cabreria* should be enough for most. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *E.B.* (9/04)

Fonda Roberto's Old Road to Ensenada, Avenida Cuahutémoc #2800, Tijuana, 686-4687. Unusual regional specialties are found here. Beef tongue in sesame seed sauce, spicy shredded pork with artichoke seeds, two preparations of chicken, a half dozen of steak. Don't miss the soups or *chiles en nogada* (seasonal). Portions are small, so two people may order three entrées. Take Avenida Revolución all the way to Agua Caliente Blvd. At Calimax, make a right; go up two blocks and make a left. After one block, make another left. Roberto's is in CESUN Universidad just after the road veers right. Closed Monday; open Tuesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

La Petite Cafe Avenida Constitución #720-Q, in Foreign Club Passage off Revolución between 3rd and 4th (beside Maxim's), Tijuana, 688-2171. You're in a side eddy here from the storm of Revolución among Olmec sculptures, Aztec calendars, trees, and amazing quiet. It's standard *casera* (homestyle) food: Spanish chicken with

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

rice and beans, pork chops in green sauce, red enchiladas, steak ranchero, liver-and-onion stew, *chicharrón* (crisp fried pork rind) in a red sauce, and of course *carne asada*, but cooked well and priced amazingly low. Check the generous five-item-plus-coffee breakfast special. All-day breakfast and lunches, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (8/03)

Lonchería La Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroes #105, Tijuana. Venturing to the far end of Tijuana's *Mercado Municipal* is like entering a scene from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. Shafts of sun penetrate the dark of an incredible kitchen of great black iron stoves and giant steaming pots, and hoods gathering into black pipes that snake up and out through the roof. But what a welcome! As you walk through the *mercado*, ladies bounce up, enticing you away to their eateries. Hang in there till you reach *Lonchería La Poca Lucha*, "The Small Struggle Lunch Place." Ask for *carne de puerco* (pork), *chiles rellenos*, *bistec ranchero*, or *higado al gusto* (liver), all around \$3. *Pescado frito* (fried fish), *milanesa con papas* (veal with fries), *pollo frito* (fried chicken), and *carne asada* are slightly more. Price includes soup, steaming hot corn tortillas, and a soda. Open seven days, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Salon Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel, south end of Boulevard Benito Juárez, Rosarito, 661-612-1111. This fabled old hotel's all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. To reach the buffet, go to the left behind the registration desk to the Salon Azteca, walk in, grab a plate, and start dishing up your breakfast from the long line of cafeteria-like bins filled with *gringo*, *gringo-Mex*, real Mexican (*menudo*), and international specialties. Expect to tip if you want something from the omelet or carving station. Next, plunk down at a table where a waiter will arrive to serve you juice and endless cups of decent coffee. Casual dress. Secure parking in hotel lot for a small extra charge. Sundays only, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Somewhat expensive for the area; Visa and MasterCard accepted. — *N.W.* (4/03)

Saverio's Restaurant Mediterraneo Boulevard Sánchez Taboada #3151 (at Escuadrón 201 Street), Zona Río, Tijuana, 686-6442. When Javier

What the Chef Eats

ORRECCHIETTE ALLA BARESE

BY ANTONIO MASTELLONE

Owner/Chef, Arrividerci Italian Restaurant, Hillcrest

This is a typical southern Italian dish served in the winter, and it's one that I personally like. The sausage with the broccoli is common in Italy. It was usually served as a sandwich, but now it's also served with pasta.

Alla barese is made with Italian sausage and rapini, which is the bitter broccoli.

Not everybody likes rapini because it's bitter. It has a little bite to it. In America you can find rapini all year long. In Italy they grow this broccoli in wintertime. I chose to share this recipe

because it's cold outside here now. This is a good dish for this time of year.

Orrecchiette is small ear-shaped pasta that can be purchased in any market that carries Barilla brand pasta.

If you'd like the dish a little spicier you can add red chili pepper flakes or you can choose spicier Italian sausage.

I would drink a stronger red wine with it, like a Barbera or Barolo. Something with body.

HOW TO DO IT

Cook the pasta according to package directions

while preparing the remainder of the recipe. Place olive oil in a large sauté pan and heat to medium-hot. Add sausage and cook for 8 minutes, turning with spatula. Add onions, garlic, tomatoes, white wine, butter, rapini, and salt and pepper. Cover and cook for 5 minutes. Serve over drained orrecchiette topped with Parmigiano and Pecorino cheeses.

INGREDIENTS

1 16-ounce package of orrecchiette pasta
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
1 pound mild Italian

Super antojitos means super snacks, so search out the *pastes* — pastries stuffed with *mole*, cheese, or ground meat and potatoes. Also delicious: pork rind *gorditas*. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (3/20)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Karl Strauss Brewery Restaurant 1157 Columbia Street, downtown, 619-234-2739. One-time Pabst brewmeister Karl Strauss heads his own brewery and a bunch of brewery restaurants bearing his name, so you can't help but be a little wary of an



sausage, removed from casing and shredded
¼ cup yellow onion, chopped
¼ cup fresh garlic, finely chopped
4 roma tomatoes, diced
½ cup white wine
2 tablespoons butter
14 ounces of rapini (broccoli); choose tender stems
Salt and pepper, to taste
4 ounces Parmigiano and Pecorino, mixed together

over-slick operation. But at least at downtown's ivy-covered brick drink and eatery, the food's honest, tasty, and sleek, not slick. And Karl's beers are still interesting. Go for honest-but-beautiful dishes like his "Hump Day" meatloaf (Wednesdays only), which comes looking like a Magic Mountain, or the grilled marinated eggplant sandwich on focaccia. Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. Other branches at 9675 Scranton Road, Sorrento Mesa, 858-587-2739; 5801 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, 760-431-2739; 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-551-2739. — *E.B.* (11/03)

The Living Room Coffeehouse 5900 El Cajon Boulevard (at 59th Street), College Area, 619-286-8434. With deep-draft couches, Persian carpets, pictures on the wall, chunky wooden tables, and a tree-shaded patio, this Swiss-owned café is a student hangout with a lively notice board, a rental computer, and good cheap breakfast food in huge quantities. Try "The Works" omelet, with bacon, ham, onions, tomatoes, pepper, cheese on top, potatoes, fruit, and bread. Open daily, three meals, until late at night. Inexpensive. Additional locations in Hillcrest, Old Town, Point Loma, and La Jolla. — *E.B.* (10/00)

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Starve yourself for eight hours, then come in here and order up an Apple Pancake — a foot-wide, batter-filled, five-egg paradise pelted with slices from two Granny Smith apples and baked till it puffs up like a golden mini-superdome. Cinnamon cinches it. The German Pancake, or its kid brother, the Dutch Baby, are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the really, really filling mushroom omelet, which comes with three pancakes. Oh, and the Eggs Michael: sausage patties and poached eggs lost somewhere under a mushroom-sherry sauce. The whole atmosphere — striped gold-and-cream wallpaper, dainty cups, shelves of ceramic dogs — feels like it's the Fifties and your granny took you here when you were five. OK, it's a nationwide franchise, but it's a comfy franchise, from Oregon. All-day breakfast only, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. Other locations at 14905 Pomerado Road, Poway, 858-679-0186; 160 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-943-1939; 435 South Melrose Drive, Vista, 760-758-3441. — *E.B.* (4/02)

Star Of India 1820 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-1372; also 3860 Valley Centre Drive, Del Mar, 858-792-1111; and 423 F Street, Gaslamp, 619-234-8000. It's the lunch buffet that can lead you by the nose into Indian (and here, specifically *Punjabi*) food. Pick among specialties like vegetable *pakora* — a bunch of veggies dipped in chickpea batter and fried, or a nice mess of eggplant with potatoes, chicken curry *masala*, and maybe the first cooked spinach you ever loved, *palak paneer*. At the PB location, you sit under a sky-blue cupola. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (11/01)



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Out of the Bag

The splendor of the settings overpowers the whimsicality of the action.

In order of unwrapping:

Ocean's Twelve. The gang of eleven, the ersatz Rat Pack, reconvenes (Clooney, Pitt, Damon, et al.); the newcomer, the apparent twelfth, is not a member of the gang at all, but a member of law enforcement (Catherine Zeta-Jones). Even the victim of the previous heist returns (Andy Garcia), rounding

up each of the thieves in a laborious preamble, demanding repayment plus interest, or roughly \$19 million per head, after having been informed of their identities and whereabouts by a rival heister known only as the Night Fox (Vincent Cassel), who wants to force them into a bragging-rights competition to swipe the "famous Fabergé coronation egg" on exhibit in a Roman museum. Smugness, rather than the promoted "coolness," would seem to be the predominant attitude, not only of the cocksure crooks but also of the filmmakers, fresh from laughing all the way to the bank. Steven Soderbergh, as he found out on the first film three years ago, has built up enough credit with critics (some of it well earned) that they will go a long way to make excuses for him. This time they will need to go a long way and a little farther. The

plot, as best I understood it, seems so nonsensical that I am obliged to believe I understood it incorrectly. I therefore feel justified in taking a chance on "spoiling" it — either it's a cheat or I'm misrepresenting it — by asking why our eleven would go through the motions of attempting to steal the egg from the museum (several of them getting

pinched in the process, the rest of them regrouping for a second attempt and getting pinched themselves) if they had *already stolen the egg* on its path to the museum, before a counterfeit egg could be put on display in its place. That's just the biggest niggle. It oughtn't to be necessary, though, to pick apart the plot in detail in order to demonstrate the contempt of the filmmakers for their material and their audience. It ought to be sufficient to cite the lame comic twist whereby the character played by Julia Roberts is asked to put on a Southern accent and impersonate the *real* Julia Roberts; is accepted as such by the Roman press as well as by Bruce Willis (playing himself); and is put in the position of speaking over the telephone to "herself" on her Taos ranch. Far from being some postmodern Pirandellian prank, this smacks of the

REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD



House of Flying Daggers

desperation of an old-time middle-of-the-road Hollywood comedy such as *Take Her, She's Mine*, in which the character played by James Stewart gets hounded in France on the grounds that he looks like James Stewart. Of course an old-time middle-of-the-road Hollywood hack such as Henry Koster had no one to make excuses for him.

House of Flying Daggers. Martial-

arts bodice-ripper about a blind show-girl (the jug-eared China doll, Zhang Ziyi) who is neither blind nor a show-girl, but an agent of an underground movement (and, evidently, a 9th-century forerunner of Zatoichi) opposed to the tottering Tang Dynasty. Zhang Yimou's follow-up to his *Hero*, released over here in late summer after a delay of two years, dispenses essentially more of

the same — more, that is, of the *same-ness* — more of the monotonousness. And the addition of more and more and more ultimately equals less. What's done has been done. To death. A lot of wonderful work went into the color, the fabrics, the sound effects in the opening brothel episode, but once the initial impression has been made, once the viewer can be presumed to be in

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A Very Long Engagement. Jean-Pierre Jeunet's visualization of a novel by Sebastien Japrisot, a name firmly entrenched in the mystery and suspense genres: *The Sleeping-Car Murders*, *The Lady in the Car with Glasses and a Gun*, *One Deadly Summer*, others. While I have read much of his genre work, and with much pleasure, this one has eluded me. It is plainly in the grips of a greater ambition, a WWI-period romance about a tuba-playing, polio-crippled cutie (Audrey Tautou), pounding the trail of her soul mate (Gaspard Ulliel) who vanished on the front lines at the quaintly named bunker of Bingo Crepuscule. So, there's still a mystery element in it,

Bad Education. An Almodóvar paella of priestly pederasty, transvestitism, female impersonation, film, stage, assorted spices and savories. (Gael García Bernal in the persona of cabaret artiste Zahara looks strikingly like a blond Julia Roberts.) The presentation is polished and colorful as always; the onion-y layers of reality — of fiction within fiction — appear muddled and murky. What his fans will nonetheless be certain to find a satisfying dish will be judged by others to be show-offy and self-indulgent. A tasty bit on which everyone might agree: the predatory priest and boy soprano in a guitar-and-vocal duet of "Moon River" *en español*. A true crossover number.

The Aviator. Martin Scorsese con-

tinues to suffer from a form of elephantiasis, compounded by a touch of Osearitis: a pushing-three-hours epic on the tumultuous career of Howard Hughes (the eternally boyish Leonardo DiCaprio, deficient in gravitas even with the added mustach midway through) in the parallel worlds of filmmaking and aeronautics *circa* 1927-47. It offers little insight into the man (the best you can say of the childhood prologue, in which his mother terrorizes him with the threat of cholera and typhus, is that it's brief), yet it offers plenty of random, rambling, gossipy entertainment: the behind-the-scenes follies of the then most expensive film ever produced, *Hell's Angels*; an exciting test flight in 1935, breaking the existing speed record, and a spectacular crash in 1946 in the heart of Beverly Hills, breaking numerous bones; two face-offs, or face-downs, of inquisitorial panels, first the Hollywood censors up in arms over Jane Russell's décolletage in *The Outlaw*, and then a U.S. Senate committee ostensibly piqued over his misuse of government funds during the war; and a whole host of illustrations of his personal eccentricities (to pick a mild word): the handshake phobia, the stuck-phonograph-needle speech tic (suppressible only by a hand over his mouth), the lengthy sequestration in a studio screening room, with the resultant lengthy hair and fingernails, and the daily recycling of the delivered milk bottles as urinals. One way or another,

the caricatures of Hollywood luminaries (principally Cate Blanchett's recognizable Kate Hepburn, if only verbally, and Kate Beckinsale's unrecognizable Ava Gardner) add to our entertainment as well — if, again, not to our insight. And, although useless as a narrative device or even a period-evocation device, Scorsese's pedantic reproduction of the primitive two-color process (reds and blues only, yielding blue peas, blue foliage, etc.), evolving into a fuller spectrum with the passage of time, might tickle aficionados. Surely Scorsese, however, was fishing for a stronger compliment than words to the effect that his movie is good for a few laughs. ■

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.

After the Sunset — Rhinestone heist thriller (a brandished DVD of *To Catch a Thief* establishes a standard of comparison) about a couple of high-tech jewel thieves in smug retirement in the Islands: "Now the challenge is to find joy in simple things." But then the third of the priceless Napoleon Diamonds, of which our couple have already stolen the other two, sails into port, preceded by an obsessed FBI man. Pierce Brosnan flirts with homophobic jokes, and

Salma Hayek models several acres of copper skin along with several square inches of skimpy. Woody Harrelson, Don Cheadle, Naomie Harris; directed by Brett Ratner. 2004.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Alexander — The Great, that is. Not great movie, mind you, just great Alexander. The movie, on the other hand, is a lumbering three-hour uncinematic spectacle that traces the Macedonian conqueror (or uniter, depending upon your politics) from his days as a young lad to the end of his days as a young man — or more concretely, from a child actor who's a pretty fair look-alike, and even Irish-accented sound-alike, for the star of the show, a bleached-blond Colin Farrell — while his mother, Angelina Jolie, rolling her r's in some vague Mediterranean tongue, doesn't age a day. Oliver Stone, in quest of another expose, exposes himself as pretty much a fraud of a filmmaker. Oh, he may shower the hero with rose petals upon his triumphant entry into a computer-generated Babylon, and he may scare up a harem of wriggling and shimmying concubines, and he may marshal some trick photography for the battle scenes: time-tested slow-motion, of course, but also the more modish (post-*Private Ryan*) sorts of jerky and jumpy motion, and a totally bloodshot screen when the hero takes a spear in the chest. Most of the movie, though, is rudimentary face shots, in talky, speechy, shouty, bellowy scenes that are virtually unstaged, and are not more powerful for the rising volume of the voices. To a human battering ram such as Stone, the liberty to depict the switch-hitting sexual mores of the Ancient Greeks (Jared Leto in eyeliner) might have seemed a worthwhile advance over the mid-Fifties handling of the material (Richard Burton in the hero's sandals), but this smidge of historical pedantry, no less than the general tedium, seems unlikely to rally the moviegoing troops. Only the background music of Vangelis, for an authentic Greek flavor, gives the viewer the intermittent illusion that he is watching an epic: clearly the better option than Yanni. With Val Kilmer, Rosario Dawson, Anthony Hopkins, Christopher Plummer. 2004.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Aviator — Reviewed this issue. With Leonardo DiCaprio, Cate Blanchett, Kate Beckinsale, John C. Reilly, Alec Baldwin, and Alan Alda; directed by Martin Scorsese.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; 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; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN

KEVIN THOMAS,
Los Angeles Times

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The Washington Post

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Peter Travers,
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Mike Clark,
USA TODAY

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Gabe Ngiga,
LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

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LOS ANGELES FILM CRITICS

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NEWSDAY

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Bad Education — Reviewed this issue.
With Gael García Bernal, Fele Martínez,
Daniel Giménez-Cacho, and Javier Cámara;
written and directed by Pedro Almodóvar.
★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

posturing vampire-hunter out of Marvel Comics. The previous installment at least had the curiosity of a slumming Guillermo del Toro at the helm. He, in the meantime, took his slumming elsewhere (*Hellboy*), leaving the scriptwriting of the first two installments, David S. Goyer, to assume command. If so gifted a filmmaker and so strong a personality as del Toro could make no (or little) difference, a novice will have no (or little) chance. Especially if the novice has been the man writing these god-awful scripts. The present one literally digs up the original Dracula (in Iraq, to be exact, “about six months ago”), now going by the name of Drake and looking rather like a skinhead soccer hooligan (Dominic Purcell), when he isn’t shape-shifting into a gargoyle Lucifer. The lone-wolf hero, Blade, is joined for the occasion by an independent team of swaggering, swashbuckling vampire-hunters, calling themselves the Night Stalkers (“We were going to go with the Care Bears, but that was taken”), under the leadership of an *au courant* Kick-Ass Chick (Jessica Biel). This turns out to be the daughter of Blade’s personal weapons manufacturer, wheezily played by Kris Kristofferson, who gets killed for the second time in three movies. (As that character was called Whistler, the new character would be Whistler’s Daughter.) Right-hand man of the Kick-Ass Chick is a traditional Smart-Ass Sidekick (Ryan Reynolds), who lowers the tone another couple of octaves: “Unlike typical vampires,” he says of the Parker



Callas Foreve

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10;
CINERAMA 6; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15;
GROSSMONT TROLLEY; MISSION
MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM
PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO
DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN
MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Callas Forever — Sensibly scaled portrait of the Greek soprano, captured well past her prime, when she was involved in a project of dubious artistic integrity, lip-syncing on film to an earlier recording of *Carmen*. Fanny Ardant, as dark and dramatic-looking as the real diva, conveys the appropriate amount of passion — which is to say, plenty. This would seem to be one of the more

★★ (KEN. 12/24 THROUGH 30)

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18;
GROSSMONT TROLLEY; PALM PROMENADE 24;
PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16;
RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN
SQUARE 14; VOGUE)

Closer — Reekingly urbane Mike Nichols chamber piece, prone to be seen as a long-distance companion to his *Carnal Knowledge* in its dirty talk and its romantic disillusion. The quartet of players — two





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American females, a stripper (but of course) and a portrait photographer, and two British males, an obituarist and a dermatologist — align and realign over an extended period of time. (The title is presumably to be pronounced with a soft s, synonym of “nearer,” not a hard s, synonym of Mariano Rivera.) A lot of important events transpire off-screen — in between scenes, in the blink of an eye — and it would not be amiss to say that the most interesting parts of the film are the skips. Nor would it be amiss to point out that these are common devices in theater, where indeed the film originated. While the action has, as they say, been “opened up,” the brittle dialogue still echoes of the stage. (Patrick Marber adapted his own play.) Clive Owen, normally a bit of a Gloomy Gus, is surprisingly the liveliest member of the ensemble; and Julia Roberts, hardly less surprisingly, is the most restrained, the most recessed. (She nevertheless remains the gracious recipient of the contractually required line: “You’re beautiful.”) Natalie Portman and Jude Law occupy the middle ground, fighting uphill battles to humanize their porcelain perfection. 2004.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Corporation — Consciousness-raising, conscience-pricking documentary by Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott, reciting a laundry list, two and a half hours long, of the vices of big business past and present. A rotation of experts (CEOs, Harvard profs, Milton Friedman, Noam Chomsky, Michael Moore, many more) lectures directly to the camera and over a wide variety of archival clips. 2004.

★★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/29, 5 P.M.)

Finding Neverland — Academic exercise, adapted from an unrenowned theater piece entitled *The Man Who Was Peter Pan*, that purports to show how the playwright J.M. Barrie sculpted the glazed statue of *Peter Pan* from the soft clay of his real-life relationship with a widow and her four boys. (Albeit a platonic relationship, both with the widow and — titillating though it may be to believe otherwise — with the boys: “There have also been questions of how you spend time with those boys, and why!”) The usefulness of this exercise is rather diminished by the insistence, for Dramatic Purposes, that Barrie’s stroke of inspiration was somehow a bolt from the blue: thus the concealment of the playwright’s prior successes on the stage, the indifference to such outside literary influences as R.L. Stevenson (*Treasure Island*) and W.S. Gilbert (*The Pirates of Penzance*), the obliviousness to the prevailing child-worship afoot in England at

the time, the denial of the pandering, undaring fashionability of the theme, and the preposterous pretense that it would constitute some sort of insight or revelation, as opposed to self-evident truism, that the play’s subtitle, “The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up,” applies equally to its author as to its hero. (In real life, what’s more, the widow was not even a widow.) Johnny Depp summons up a decent Scottish accent to accompany an indecent smirk. And Kate Winslet is her usual tower of strength and intelligence in spite of a role so narrow in conception that she’s not going to be allowed to cough unless she’s going to die of it. With Julie Christie, Radha Mitchell, Dustin Hoffman; directed by Marc Forster. 2004.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15;

GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Flight of the Phoenix — Remake of Robert Aldrich’s 1966 desert survival adventure, with Dennis Quaid and Giovanni Ribisi, directed by John Moore. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD CENTER 7; 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; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

House of Flying Daggers — Reviewed this issue. With Zhang Ziyi, Andy Lau, and Takeshi Kaneshiro; directed by Zhang Yimou.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Incredibles — A Pixar computer cartoon about a married-with-children team of superheroes in enforced retirement under the Superhero Relocation Program. The tweaking of superheroes has long since progressed beyond a mere trend into a full-blown state of cultural decadence, but there’s no particular reason to hold it against this little tag-along. The topography of the volcanic island that serves as the archvillain’s lair is well rendered, and the

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San Diego Reader December 23, 2004 141

imitation-007 musical score hits a high number of right notes. With the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson, and Jason Lee; written and directed by Brad Bird. 2004.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Kinsey — Heavy-footed biopic on the controversial American sexologist Alfred Kinsey (Liam Neeson, suppressing his Irish accent into something not quite American and not quite British, but adrift somewhere in the ocean between). Writer-director Bill Condon apparently felt it was vital to establish his subject's upbringing under a puritanical father ("Electricity has made possible the degrading picture show"), yet it's unapparent why he needed four actors — three younger incarnations who are poor matches for the mature adult — to establish it: the father (a typecast John Lithgow) doesn't change his tune with any of them. The storyline eventually catches up

to the lead actors, or vice versa, in middle age, but not before Neeson and Laura Linney have had to play at being virgins on their wedding night: it would be hard to sort out the strands of embarrassment in that scene. There's an efficient framing device — right at the outset and at intervals throughout — of Kinsey submitting to the same sexual-history interview he administered to thousands of others, but even with that, it takes a long time to get him from the study of gall wasps to the study of human sexuality. (The lesson learned from the insects — the individuality of every creature in the species — carries over to humans as well, with striking

rhetorical effect, particularly in a checkerboard montage of talking heads dotting the U.S. map.) A great deal of chronological ground is gone over, in mostly cursory fashion, and without many signposts as to where exactly we are and what's going on in the world at large. It's clear enough, all the same, that we're in a sexual Dark Age and that Kinsey, notwithstanding his unprepossessing bow tie and crew cut, is our Prometheus. His experimentation on himself ("I punctured my foreskin.... It didn't give me any pleasure"), including a go at homosexuality with one of his assistants (Peter Sarsgaard, dropping his drawers for art), takes him

near to mad-scientist territory; and even Kinsey squirms a bit in his interview of a sexual omnivore to whom age presents no barrier. Might he be, after all, more a Pandora than a Prometheus? But the balance of the evidence, most tellingly a momentary crack in the façade of the flinty father and a final testimonial from Lynn Redgrave (a holdover from Condon's *Gods and Monsters*), amounts to a clarion endorsement. 2004.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events — Daniel Handler's children's books come to the screen, with

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Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
After the Sunset (PG-13) Fri. (10:25, 12:45, 3:10, 5:35) 7:55; Sat.-Mon. 10:15; Tue. (10:25, 12:45) 10:15; **Alexander** (R) Fri. (10:05, 11:10, 2:05, 3:00) 6:05; Sat. 6:05, 9:50; Sun.-Tue. (2:05) 6:05, 9:50; **The Aviator** (PG-13) Sat. (3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 8:00, 8:30; Sun.-Tue. (11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 8:00, 8:30; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. (1:00, 2:05, 3:40) 6:45, 9:20; Sun.-Tue. (10:35, 1:00, 3:40, 11:30) 6:45, 9:20; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (10:10, 12:50, 3:45) 6:35; Sat. (1:00, 3:50); Sun.-Tue. (10:20, 1:00, 3:50); **Meet the Fock-**

ers (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:30, 11:05, 12:00, 1:20, 1:50, 2:50, 4:15, 5:05, 12:50, 3:45) 6:10, 6:40, 7:10; Sat. (12:50, 1:20, 1:50, 2:50, 3:45, 4:15, 5:05) 6:15, 6:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:00, 9:40, 10:10, 10:30; Sun.-Tue. (10:00, 10:30, 11:05, 12:00, 1:20, 1:50, 2:50, 4:15, 5:05, 12:50, 3:45) 6:15, 6:40, 7:10, 7:50, 9:00, 9:40, 10:10, 10:30; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. (10:05, 12:40, 3:20); Sat. (3:10, 5:35) 7:55; Sun.-Mon. (10:25, 12:45, 3:10, 5:35) 7:55; Tue. (3:10, 5:35) 7:55; **Saw** (R) Fri. 6:05; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:05, 2:00, 3:00, 4:10, 5:00) 6:15, 7:20; Sat. (1:05, 3:00, 4:10) 6:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:25, 9:55, 10:20; Sun.-Tue. (10:00,

12:00, 1:05, 3:00, 4:10) 6:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:25, 9:55, 10:20; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. (11:15, 1:55, 4:30) 7:00; Sat. (1:55, 4:30); Sun.-Tue. (11:15, 1:55, 4:30); **What the Bleep! Do We Know?!** (Not Rated) Fri. (10:20, 1:00, 3:50) 6:50; Sat.-Tue. 6:45, 9:30

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
Meet the Fockers (PG-13); **The Aviator** (PG-13); **Fat Albert** (PG); **The Phantom of the Opera** (PG-13); **Lemony Snicket's A Se-**

ries of Unfortunate Events (PG); **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13); **Spanglish** (PG-13); **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13); **Closer** (R); **Finding Neverland** (PG); **National Treasure** (PG); **The Incredibles** (PG)

La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
Being Julia (R) Fri. (11:15, 2:00, 4:40) 7:30; **Beyond the Sea** (PG-13) Wed.-Thu. (11:05, 1:50, 4:30) 7:20, 10:05; **House of Flying Daggers** (PG-13) Fri. (10:45, 1:30, 4:10) 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (10:45) 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; Mon.-Thu. (10:45, 1:30, 4:10) 7:00, 9:45; **Kinsey** (R) Fri. (11:05, 1:50, 4:30) 7:20; Sat.-Sun.

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CLOSER

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| ULTRASTAR DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8 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 858/558-2AMC | AMC LA JOLLA 12 I-5 at Nobel 858/558-2AMC | REGAL CINEMAS OCEANSIDE CINEMA 16 Mission Ave @ Pacific Ave 800-FANDANGO #152 | ULTRASTAR POWAY 10 Poway Road at Community 858/646-9423 | EDWARDS CINEMAS SAN MARCOS STADIUM 18 1180 W. San Marcos Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #161 |
| REGAL CINEMAS ESCONDIDO STADIUM 16 350 W. Valley Parkway 800-FANDANGO #519 | PACIFIC THEATRES GASLAMP STADIUM 15 5th Avenue at G Street 619/232-0400 | 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 858/558-2AMC | AMC PALM PROMENADE 24 805 & Palm Ave. 858/558-2AMC | REGAL CINEMAS PARKWAY PLAZA 18 Parkway Plaza Mall 800-FANDANGO #131 | PACIFIC THEATRES TOWN SQUARE STADIUM 14 Clairemont Dr. at Clairemont Mesa Blvd 619/274-1234 |
| | | | | | EDWARDS CINEMAS RANCHO SAN DIEGO STADIUM CINEMA 15 Hwy. 94 At Campo 800-FANDANGO #132 | KRIKORIAN'S VISTA VILLAGE METROPLEX 12 25 Main St. 760/945-7469 |

Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement.Check Theater Directories For Showtimes.

142 San Diego Reader December 23, 2004

Jim Carrey, Meryl Streep, Emily Browning,
Liam Aiken, directed by Brad Silberling.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10;
CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8;
ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION
VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 16; GROSSMONT
CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD
CENTER 7; 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; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15;
SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY
DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou —

Wes Anderson's oceanographic comedy with Bill Murray, Owen Wilson, and Cate Blanchett.

(ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; 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 12/25)

The Machinist — Christian Bale, doing a Raging De Niro in reverse, put himself on a Dachau diet and lost in the neighborhood of sixty pounds — and for what? A

suspenseless psychological thriller about a factory worker with a distorted reality. The distortions are eventually explained, if anyone's still interested. Director Brad Anderson has settled down his camerawork since *Next Stop Wonderland* and *Happy Accidents*, and has alighted instead on a different sort of affectation: color-drained photography and blue-tinged photography. With Jennifer Jason Leigh and Aitana Sanchez-Gijon. 2004.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Meet the Fockers — Sequel to *Meet the Parents*, with Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro, Dustin Hoffman, and Barbra Streisand,

directed by Jay Roach.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10;
CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8;
ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION
VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER;
GROSSMONT TROLLEY; 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; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15;
SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY
DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Motorcycle Diaries —

1952 in the life of Che Guevara, before he was Che, when he was still just a med student called "Ernestito," embarking with his biochemist best friend on a road trip from his native Argentina, up the entire west coast of South America, on the back of "an aged, leaky 1939 Norton 500," nicknamed "The Mighty One." The motorcycle, after four spills, conks out in Chile, but the journey continues on foot: a desultory, mildly diverting narrative that, in the end, turns quite touching. With Gael García Bernal and Rodrigo De la Serna; directed by Walter Salles. 2004.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA)

4:40) 7:30; Sat.-Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15; Mon.-Thu. (11:10, 1:50, 4:40) 7:30, 10:15; **Kinsey** (R) Fri. (10:50, 1:40, 4:30) 7:20; Sat.-Sun. (10:50) 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10; Mon.-Thu. (10:50, 1:40, 4:30) 7:20, 10:10; **The Motorcycle Diaries** (R) Fri.-Thu. (2:00) 8:00; **Sideways** (R) Fri. (10:40, 1:30, 4:20) 7:10; Sat.-Sun. (10:40) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Mon.-Thu. (10:40, 1:30, 4:20) 7:10, 9:50; **A Very Long Engagement** (R) Fri. (11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 5:00) 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (11:00) 1:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 10:00; Mon.-Thu. (11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 5:00) 7:00, 10:00

Museum of Photographic Arts

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-7559)

Call theater for program information

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Forces of Nature (Not Rated) Fri.-Thu. 4:00;
Roar: Lions of the Kalahari (Not Rated) Fri.
1:00, 3:00, 5:00; Sat. 1:00, 3:00; Sun.-Thu.
11:00, 1:00, 5:00, 7:00; **Santa vs. The Snow-**
man (Not Rated) Fri. 11:00; Sat. 12:00;
Sun.-Thu. 10:00, 3:00; **Volcanoes of the**
Deep Sea (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00; Sat.
2:00, Sun.-Thu. 12:00, 2:00, 6:00, 8:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-593-0415)

The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Tue. (12:00, 4:00)
8:00; Blade: Trinity (R) Fri. (11:10, 1:55, 4:40)
 7:25; Sat. (1:55, 4:40) 7:25, 10:10; Sun.-Tue.
 (11:10, 1:55, 4:40) 7:25, 10:10; **Christmas with
 the Kranks** (PG) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:45) 7:20;
 Sat.-Tue. (2:40, 5:15) 7:50, 10:25; **Closer** (R)
 Fri. (11:50, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35; Sat. (2:25, 5:00)
 7:35, 10:10; Sun.-Tue. (11:50, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35,
 10:10; **Darkness Falls** (PG-13) Sat. (2:05,
 4:40) 7:15, 9:50; Sun.-Tue. (11:30, 2:05, 4:40)
 7:15, 9:50; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. (2:10, 4:35,
 12:15) 7:00, 9:25; Sun.-Tue. (11:45, 2:10, 4:35,
 12:15) 7:00, 9:25; **Finding Neverland** (PG)
 Fri. (11:15, 1:55, 4:35) 7:15; Sat. (1:55, 4:35)
 7:15, 9:55; Sun.-Tue. (11:15, 1:55, 4:35) 7:15,
 9:55; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri.
 (11:30, 2:15, 5:00) 7:45; Sat. (2:15, 5:00) 7:45,
 10:30; Sun.-Tue. (11:30, 2:15, 5:00) 7:45, 10:30;
The Grudge (PG-13) Fri. (11:25, 1:50, 4:35)
 7:00; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (11:00, 1:50,
 4:40); Sat. (1:50, 4:40); Sun.-Tue. (11:00, 1:50,
 4:40); **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfor-
 tunate Events** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 12:30, 2:10,
 3:05, 4:50, 5:40) 7:30; Sat. (12:30, 2:10, 3:05,
 4:50, 5:40) 7:30, 8:15, 10:10, 10:50; Sun.-Tue.
 (11:30, 12:30, 2:10, 3:05, 4:50, 5:40) 7:30, 8:15,
 10:10, 10:50; **The Life Aquatic with Steve
 Zissou** (R) Sat. (2:10, 5:00) 7:50, 10:40;
 Sun.-Tue. (11:20, 2:10, 5:00) 7:50, 10:40; **Meet
 the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 11:20, 11:40,
 1:50, 2:10, 2:30, 4:40, 5:00, 5:20) 7:30, 7:50; Sat.
 (1:50, 2:10, 2:30, 4:40, 5:00, 5:20) 7:30, 7:50,
 8:10, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00; Sun.-Tue. (11:00,
 11:20, 11:40, 1:50, 2:10, 2:30, 4:40, 5:00, 5:20)
 7:30, 7:50, 8:10, 10:20, 10:40, 11:00; **National
 Treasure** (PG) Fri. 7:30; Sat.-Tue. 7:30, 10:35;
Ocean's Twelve (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 11:20,
 11:40, 1:50, 2:10, 2:30, 4:40, 5:00, 5:20) 7:30,
 7:50; Sat. (1:50, 4:40) 7:30, 10:20; Sun.-Tue.
 (11:00, 1:50, 4:40) 7:30, 10:20; **The Polar Ex-
 press** (G) Fri. (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:00; Sat.
 (2:10, 4:35) 7:00, 9:25; Sun.-Tue. (11:45, 2:10,
 4:35) 7:00, 9:25; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri.
 (10:50, 1:50, 4:50) 7:50; Sat. (1:50, 4:50) 7:50,
 10:50; Sun.-Tue. (10:50, 1:50, 4:50) 7:50, 10:50;
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (PG)
 Fri. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat. (11:15, 3:00) 7:15,
 10:45; Sun.-Thu. (11:15, 3:30) 7:05, 10:35;
Blade: Trinity (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:35) 5:15, 8:00;
Closer (R) Fri. (12:10, 2:45) 5:20, 7:50; Sat.
 (12:20, 2:40) 5:00, 7:20, 9:55; Sun.-Thu. (12:20,
 2:40) 5:00, 7:20, 9:45; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat.
 (11:45, 2:15) 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; Sun.-Thu. (11:45,
 2:15) 4:35, 7:10, 9:25; **Finding Neverland**
 (PG) Fri. (11:45, 2:20) 4:40, 7:15; **Lemony**

Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (PG) Fri. (11:15, 2:05) 4:50, 7:25; Sat.-Thu. (12:05, 2:45) 5:15, 7:55, 10:25; **The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou** (R) Sat. (12:00, 2:40) 5:20, 8:00, 10:40; Sun.-Thu. (11:30, 2:10) 4:50, 7:30, 10:15; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:15, 2:10, 2:55) 5:00, 5:30, 7:45, 8:15; Sat. (11:00, 12:15, 1:45, 2:50) 4:20, 5:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:50, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. (11:00, 12:15, 1:45, 2:50) 4:20, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:30; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. (11:00, 1:45) 4:35, 7:40; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. (11:05, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30; Sat. (11:20, 2:00) 4:45, 7:35, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. (11:20, 2:00) 4:45, 7:35, 10:20; **The Phantom of the Opera** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 3:30) 7:00; Sat. (12:30) 4:10, 7:05, 10:00; Sun.-Thu. (12:30) 4:10, 7:05, 10:05; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:25) 5:25, 8:30; Sat. (11:05, 2:05) 4:50, 7:45, 10:35;

Sun.-Thu. (11:05, 2:05) 4:50, 7:40, 10:30

Grossmont Trolley

8555 Fletcher Parkway (619-466-1401)

Blade: Trinity (R) Fri. (1:20) 4:50, 7:00;
 Sat. (R) Tue. 6:45, 9:15; **Christmas with the**
Kranks (PG) Fri. (2:00) 4:30, 7:15; **Darkness**
 (PG-13) Sat.-Sun. (10:20, 12:40, 3:40) 6:50,
 9:40; Mon.-Thu. (12:40, 3:40) 6:50, 9:40; **Fat**
Albert (PG) Sat.-Thu. (10:15, 12:30, 3:20)
 6:20, 9:30; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri.
 (1:00, 3:45) 6:40; Sat.-Sun. (10:35, 1:10, 3:55)
 6:40, 9:25; Mon.-Thu. (1:10, 3:55) 6:40, 9:25;
The Incredibles (PG) Fri. (12:20, 3:30);
 Sat.-Thu. (1:05) 6:30; **Lemony Snicket's A**
Series of Unfortunate Events (PG) Fri.
 (1:40) 4:20, 7:05; Sat.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:45)
 6:25, 9:00; Mon.-Thu. (1:00, 3:45) 6:25, 9:00;
Meet the Fockers (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 3:50)

6:30; Sat.-Sun. (10:00, 12:45, 3:30) 6:15, 9:10;
Mon.-Thu. (12:45, 3:30) 6:15, 9:10; **National
Treasure** (PG) Fri. 6:35; Sat.-Sun. (10:05, 3:35)
9:05; Mon.-Thu. (3:35) 9:05; **The Polar Ex-
press** (G) Fri. (1:55) 4:25, 7:10; Sat.-Sun.
(10:40, 1:15, 3:25); Mon.-Thu. (1:15, 3:25);
Sideways (R) Fri. (1:15, 3:55) 6:45; Sat.-Sun.
(10:10, 12:55, 3:50) 6:45, 9:35; Mon.-Thu.
(12:55, 3:50) 6:45, 9:35

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road

The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Tue. (12:00, 4:00)
8:00; **Bleed: Trinity** (R) Fri. (10:55, 1:45, 4:35)
7:20; Sat. (1:45, 4:35) 7:20, 10:25; Sun.-Tue.
(10:55, 1:45, 4:35) 7:20, 10:25; **Christmas with
the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 7:40; Sat.-Tue. 7:25, 9:50;

Closer (R) Fri. (10:10, 12:55, 3:35) 7:05; **Darkness Falls** (PG-13) Sat. (1:35, 4:30) 7:30, 10:25; Sun.-Tue. (10:35, 1:35, 4:30) 7:30, 10:25; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. (12:30, 2:55, 5:20) 7:40, 10:10; Sun.-Tue. (10:05, 12:30, 2:55, 5:20) 7:40, 10:10; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:05, 3:55) 7:10; Sat. (1:05, 3:55) 7:10, 10:00; Sun.-Tue. (10:15, 1:05, 3:55) 7:10, 10:00; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (10:50, 1:55, 4:40); Sat. (1:55, 4:40); Sun.-Tue. (10:50, 1:55, 4:40); **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. (10:00, 10:45, 1:30, 4:10, 12:45, 3:30) 7:00, 7:45; Sat. (12:45, 1:30, 3:30, 4:10) 7:00, 7:45, 9:40, 10:30; Sun.-Tue. (10:00, 10:45, 1:30, 4:10, 12:45, 3:30) 7:00, 7:45, 9:40, 10:30; **The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou** (R) Sat. (1:00, 4:05) 7:05, 10:05; Sun.-Tue. (10:10, 1:00, 4:05) 7:05, 10:05; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 1:20, 1:50, 4:15, 4:45, 12:30, 3:45) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00; Sat. (12:50, 1:20, 1:50, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:55, 10:20, 10:50; Sun.-Tue. (10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 1:20, 1:50, 4:15, 4:45, 12:30, 3:45) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:55, 10:20, 10:50; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. (10:20, 1:25, 4:25) 7:35; Sat.-Tue. 7:35, 10:35; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. (10:05, 10:20, 10:35, 1:00, 1:25, 1:35, 4:00, 4:25, 4:30) 7:05, 7:15, 7:30; Sat. (1:25, 4:25) 7:15, 10:10; Sun.-Tue. (10:20, 1:25, 4:25) 7:15, 10:30; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. (10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10) 7:25; Sat. (12:30, 2:50, 5:10); Sun.-Tue. (10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10); **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (10:05, 1:10, 4:20) 7:25; Sat. (1:10, 4:20) 7:25, 10:40; Sun.-Tue. (10:05, 1:10, 4:20) 7:25, 10:40

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)

Meet the Fockers (PG-13); Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (PG); Christmas with the Kranks (PG); Ocean's Twelve (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. 12:00 (3:30)
 7:00, 10:30; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. 11:30
 (2:30) 5:30, 6:30, 8:15; Sat.-Thu. 2:45, 7:45,
 10:30; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri.
 10:45 (1:15, 3:45); **Darkness** (PG-13) Sat. 1:00
 (3:45) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (1:00,
 3:45) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat.
 12:30 (3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00; Sun.-Thu. 10:00
 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00; **Flight of the**
Phoenix (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15;
 Sat. 1:15 (4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:15
 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Incredible**
Shrinking Man (1957) (Not Rated) Fri. 10:45
 (1:45); Sat. 1:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:45 (1:45);
Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate
Events (PG) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15;
 Sat. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.
 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Meet the**
Fockers (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (11:00, 1:00, 2:00,
 4:30) 5:00, 7:30, 8:00; Sat. 11:00 (1:30, 2:00,
 4:30) 5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.
 10:30 (11:00, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30) 5:00, 7:30, 8:00,
 10:30, 10:45; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri.
 4:45, 7:30; Sat.-Thu. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; **Ocean's**
Twelve (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (11:15, 1:00, 2:15,
 4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; Sat.-Thu. 11:15 (2:15)
 5:00, 8:00, 10:45; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri.
 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; Sat. 12:15, 5:15;
 Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:15) 5:15

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denmery Road (858-558-2262)
Meet the Fockers (PG-13); The Aviator (PG-13); Fat Albert (PG); The Phantom of the Opera (PG-13); Darkness (PG-13); The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou (R); Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (PG); Flight of the Phoenix (PG-13); Spanish (PG-13); House of Flying Daggers (PG-13); Closer (R); Ocean's Twelve (PG-13); Blade Trinity; Alexander (R); Christmas with the Kranks (PG); Finding Neverland (PG); National Treasure (PG); The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie; The

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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOAN BRADSHAW CHRISTY HAUBEGGER PRODUCED BY JAMES L. BROOKS RICHARD SAKAI JULIE ANSELL WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JAMES L. BROOKS

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Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13
SOME SEXUAL CONTENT AND BRIEF LANGUAGE

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PG-13

PG

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at Community
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RANCHO DEL REY 16
East H Street &
Tierra Del Rey
800-FANDANGO #126

EDWARDS CINEMAS
RANCHO SAN DIEGO
STADIUM CINEMA 15
Hwy. 94 At Campo
800-FANDANGO #132
EDWARDS CINEMAS
SAN MARCOS
STADIUM 18
1180 W. San Marcos Blvd.
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PACIFIC THEATRES
TOWN SQUARE STADIUM 14
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Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement. Check Theater Directories For Showtimes.

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Calendar

MOVIES

National Treasure — Juvenile adventure yarn about a treasure hunt for the legendary booty of the Knights Templar, handed down to their natural successors, the Masons, and squirreled away by the American Founding Fathers, with clues to its whereabouts written in invisible ink on the back of the Declaration of Independence. The Jerry Bruckheimer treatment (Jon Turteltaub the nominal director) blends bombast and grandiosity with insolence and insouciance, in such a way as to appeal strictly to the tone-deaf or tone-indifferent (or more exactly, juveniles). Nicolas Cage reverts to his action-hero mode, which is to say his take-the-money-and-run mode. Justin Bartha, the mentally challenged younger brother in *Gigli* (if you're one of the forty-two people who saw it), is the sardonic sidekick who seems to be doing an impression of Dennis Miller. Diane Kruger, the Face That Launched a Thousand Ships in *Troy*, is Just Another Pretty Face. And Sean Bean is just another British baddie, albeit slightly more justifiable as a present-day descendant of the Redcoats. With Jon

Voight, Harvey Keitel, Christopher Plummer. 2004.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Ocean's Twelve — Reviewed this issue. With George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Julia Roberts; directed by Steven Soderbergh.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HAZARD CENTER 7; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Phantom of the Opera — The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, with Gerard Butler, Emmy Rossum, Patrick Wilson, Minnie Driver, and Miranda Richardson,

directed by Joel Schumacher.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Polar Express — Neither an “instant classic” nor the polar opposite, but a middling addition to the holiday repertoire: computerized illustrations of the Chris Van Allsburg children’s book about a little boy already too old to believe in Santa (“This is your crucial year”), snatched out of his bed on Christmas Eve for a faith-restoring train trip to the North Pole. Is seeing believing? — or vice versa? (The answer to the explicit question, “Could this be nothing but a dream?” is a firm “No!”) The fundamental animation technique of drawing on top of live-action figures — as in Ralph Bakshi’s version of *The Lord of the Rings*, for example — is nothing new, but it has never looked quite like this: a mobile billboard or magazine ad airbrushed to the thickness of cake frosting, giving the image a velvety, mossy, furry, peach-fuzzy feel. Filmmaker Robert Zemeckis, who really did foment a revolution in animation in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, does not now appear likely to repeat the feat. But only time will tell.

(Maybe when computer-generated touch-ups have become as commonplace in Hollywood as cosmetic surgery, we’ll look back on *The Polar Express* as the breakthrough.) There are some marvelous sights on parade — the ghostly first appearance of the choo-choo out of a clearing cloud of steam and swirling snow; the wind-borne ticket that returns to its holder via a relay network of a pack of wolves, an eagle, a rolling snowball, etc.; the perilous slog over the top of the railcars against a relentless salvo of blinding snowflakes; the train snaking across an ice-covered track; the red-brick Victorian architecture of the Pole — but these, without exception, are significantly liberated from the live actors. They are free-hand animation. The recognizable face of Tom Hanks, behind a walrus mustache and half-moon glasses, in the part of the train conductor and chief proselytizer for childlike credulity, is something of a distraction — a disruption in the cartoon universe — in the same way that an overly recognizable voice can be a distraction (Robin Williams in *Aladdin*, Eddie Murphy in *Shrek*, Albert Brooks and Ellen DeGeneres in *Finding Nemo* — name your own). But Hanks’s voice, in a handful of other roles besides that of the conductor, almost as though he alone were reading the Van

Allsburg text for audiotope, has been sufficiently disguised or electronically altered to be no more than a minimal distraction. 2004.

★★ (CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10)

Ray — Truncated and time-scrambled biography of singer Ray Charles, with a lot of back and forth between his childhood in rural Florida and his manhood *circa* 1948-65, to ensure that Jamie Foxx will never be absent from the screen for too long at a stretch. There’s a nice scene of the newly blind boy at age seven or eight, getting his bearings from the aural co-ordinates around the wood shanty he calls home, while his mother stands by in silence and lets him figure it out for himself. There could have been more of that sort of thing. At two and a half hours, the movie taxes our fondness for this lugubrious wailer (otherwise known as the Genius of Soul); and the fact that he passed away in the same year in which the movie was released only tightens the emotional screws. The routine re-enactments of financial exploitation, marital infidelities, drug abuse, backstage discord among band members, etc., hope to be ennobled by the brand name of Ray

Polar Express (G); **Seed of Chucky**; **The Incredibles** (PG); **Ray** (PG-13)

Rancho Del Rey 16
East H Street (619-216-4707)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. (12:00, 4:00) 8:00; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. (10:05, 1:00, 4:00) 7:05; Sat. (1:00, 4:05) 7:05, 9:55; Sun.-Thu. (10:05, 1:00, 4:05) 7:05, 9:55; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 7:05; Sat.-Thu. 7:15, 9:45; **Closer** (R) Fri. (10:25, 1:10, 3:30) 7:45; Sat. (1:10, 3:30) 7:45, 10:25; Sun.-Thu. (10:25, 1:10, 3:30) 7:45, 10:25; **Darkness Falls** (PG-13) Sat. (2:35, 5:00) 7:45, 10:25; Sun.-Thu. (12:50, 3:35) 7:45, 10:25; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. (12:05, 2:25, 5:00) 7:20, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. (10:15, 12:50, 3:30) 7:00, 9:30; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:05, 3:45) 7:35; Sat. (1:05, 3:45) 7:35, 10:35; Sun.-Thu. (10:00, 1:05, 3:45) 7:35, 10:30; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (10:20, 1:15, 4:10); Sat. (1:15, 4:10); Sun.-Thu. (10:20, 1:15, 4:10); **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. (10:00, 11:10, 2:15, 5:10, 12:45, 3:45) 6:55, 7:55; Sat. (12:45, 2:15, 3:40, 5:10) 6:55, 7:55, 9:35, 10:20; Sun.-Thu. (10:20, 11:10, 2:15, 5:10, 12:45, 3:50) 6:55, 7:55, 9:35, 10:20; **The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou** (R) Sat. (12:00, 2:45, 5:35) 8:15, 10:50; Sun.-Thu. (10:10, 1:00, 3:50) 6:55, 9:50; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (9:55, 10:25, 11:00, 1:25, 2:00, 4:25, 4:55, 12:55, 3:55) 6:45, 7:25, 7:50; Sat. (12:55, 1:25, 2:00, 3:55, 4:25, 4:55) 6:45, 7:25, 8:00, 9:45, 10:10, 10:40; Sun.-Thu. (9:55, 10:25, 11:00, 1:25, 2:00, 4:25, 4:55, 12:55, 3:55) 6:45, 7:25, 8:00, 9:45, 10:10, 10:40; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. (10:10, 1:20, 4:20) 7:10, 7:30; Sat.-Thu. 7:10, 10:00; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:30, 11:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:35, 4:00, 4:30) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30; Sat. (1:05, 4:00) 7:00, 10:05; Sun.-Thu. (10:00, 1:05, 4:00) 7:00, 10:05; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. (10:50, 1:40, 4:30) 7:15; Sat. (12:10, 2:30, 5:05); Sun.-Thu. (11:30, 1:40, 4:30); **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15) 7:20; Sat. (1:15, 4:15) 7:20, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. (10:10, 1:15, 4:15) 7:20, 10:15; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. (11:05, 1:50, 4:35); Sat. (12:15); Sun.-Thu. (10:15)

Vogue
226 3rd Avenue (619-425-1436)
Ray (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 8:00; **Shark Tale** (PG) Fri. 4:30; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. 12:00, 6:15

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Blade: Trinity (R) Fri. 7:30, 11:43; Sat.-Thu. 7:30, 11:18; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 9:34; Sat.-Thu. 9:45; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat.-Thu. 7:30, 11:18; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. 7:30, 11:08; Sat.-Thu. 9:20; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 7:30, 11:18; Sat.-Thu. 7:30, 11:38; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri.-Thu. 9:33; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. 9:33

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mt. Rd. (858-674-9770)

The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. (11:35, 3:10) 7:00, 10:30; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:50) 5:25, 8:00; Sat.-Thu. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:50, 10:25; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. (10:30, 12:40, 2:55) 5:15, 7:35; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat.-Thu. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:35, 9:50; **Finding Neverland** (PG) Sat.-Thu. (10:30, 12:45, 3:05) 5:25, 7:40, 9:55; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:15) 4:50, 7:25; Sat.-Thu. (11:55, 2:30) 5:05, 7:40, 10:20; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (10:30, 1:05, 3:40); Sat.-Thu. (10:40, 1:15, 3:55); **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. (11:40, 2:10) 4:40, 7:10; Sat.-Thu. (11:40, 2:10) 4:40, 7:10, 9:45; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 12:00, 1:40, 2:35) 4:15, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45; Sat.-Thu. (11:15, 12:15, 1:50, 2:50) 4:25, 5:25, 7:05, 8:00, 9:40, 10:35; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. 7:15; Sat.-Thu. 7:20, 10:10; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:20) 5:05, 7:40, 7:50; Sat.-Thu. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:35; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. (11:45, 2:05) 5:30; **Sideways** (R) Fri. (11:05, 1:50) 4:35, 7:20; Sat.-Thu. (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:05; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (10:35, 1:20) 4:10, 7:05; Sat.-Thu. (10:55, 1:45) 4:35, 7:25, 10:15; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. (10:35, 12:30, 2:40) 4:45, 6:45

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16
350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

Galaxy 6
5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. 12:00 (3:30) 7:00, 10:30; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. 11:45 (2:30) 5:15, 7:45; Sat.-Thu. 11:45 (2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:30; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Sat. 12:30 (3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30; Sat. 1:30 (4:30) 7:30, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:15; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sat. 1:15 (4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 8:00; Sat.-Thu. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 8:00, 10:45

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. 12:00 (3:30) 7:00, 10:30; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. 7:15; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 10:30 (1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:30; **Closer** (R) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Sat. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. 12:15 (2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45; Sat.-Thu. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:15, 10:45; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Sat. 12:30 (3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:30) 5:00, 7:30, 8:00; Sat. 11:00 (1:00, 2:00, 4:30)

5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:30) 5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 10:45; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Sat.-Thu. 2:45, 7:45, 10:45; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45; Sat. 1:00 (4:00) 7:00, 9:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:45 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 2:45) 5:00; Sat. 12:30, 5:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:30) 5:30; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; Sat. 1:15 (4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15

RAMONA

Ramona Twin
626 Main Street (760-789-3422)
Call theater for program information

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Tue. (12:00, 4:00) 8:00; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:05) 7:15; Sat. (1:15, 4:05) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Tue. (10:15, 1:15, 4:05) 7:15, 10:15; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 7:10; Sat.-Tue. 7:45, 10:20; **Closer** (R) Fri. (10:55, 1:40, 4:20) 7:05; Sat. (1:40, 4:20) 7:05, 9:50; Sun.-Tue. (10:55, 1:40, 4:20) 7:05, 9:50; **Darkness Falls** (PG-13) Sat. (2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:10; Sun.-Tue. (11:30, 2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:10; **Fat Albert** (PG) Sat. (1:50, 4:40) 7:20, 9:40; Sun.-Tue. (11:10, 1:50, 4:40) 7:20, 9:40; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 2:00, 5:00) 7:40; Sat. (2:15, 5:00) 7:40, 10:25; Sun.-Tue. (11:00, 2:15, 5:00) 7:40, 10:25; **The Incredibles** (PG) Fri. (11:05, 2:05, 4:50) 7:35; Sat. (2:05, 4:50); Sun.-Tue. (11:05, 2:05, 4:50); **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. (10:20, 11:20, 1:05, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15) 7:10, 8:00; Sat. (1:05, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15) 7:10, 8:00, 10:20, 10:40; Sun.-Tue. (10:20, 11:20, 1:05, 2:20, 4:15, 5:15) 7:10, 8:00, 10:20, 10:40; **The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou** (R) Sat. (2:00, 4:55) 7:50, 10:45; Sun.-Tue. (11:15, 2:00, 4:55) 7:50, 10:45; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:45, 12:30, 1:00, 1:45, 3:30, 4:00, 4:45) 6:30, 7:00, 7:45; Sat. (12:30, 1:00, 1:45, 3:30, 4:00, 4:45) 6:30, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00, 10:35; Sun.-Tue. (10:00, 10:45, 12:30, 1:00, 1:45, 3:30, 4:00, 4:45) 6:30, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00, 10:35; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. (10:50, 1:50, 4:40) 7:45; Sat.-Tue. 7:40, 10:30; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 11:15, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15) 6:50, 7:30; Sat. (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:40; Sun.-Tue. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:40; **The Phantom of the Opera** (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 3:30) 7:00; Sat.-Tue. (12:15, 3:30) 7:00, 10:15; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. (10:05, 12:25, 2:55, 5:10); Sat. (12:25, 2:55, 5:10); Sun.-Tue. (10:05, 12:25, 2:55, 5:10); **Sideways** (R) Fri. (10:25, 1:25, 4:25) 7:35; Sat. (1:25, 4:25) 7:35, 10:25; Sun.-Tue. (10:25, 1:25, 4:25) 7:35, 10:25; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 1:10, 4:10) 7:15, 7:55; Sat. (1:10, 4:10) 7:15, 10:10; Sun.-Tue. (10:10, 1:10, 4:10) 7:15, 10:10; **The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie** (PG) Fri. (10:00, 12:20, 2:40)

VISTA

Vista Village Metroplex 15
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Call theater for program information

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (PG) Fri. 10:15, 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:45; Sat. 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30; Sun. 10:10, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:45; Mon.-Thu. 11:00, 1:20, 3:45, 6:20, 8:45; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00, 1:00, 3:45, 6:30; Sat. 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15; Sun. 11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:20, 8:45; Mon.-Thu. 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 9:40; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30, 1:00, 3:45, 6:30; Sat. 12:30, 3:15, 5:55, 8:30; Sun. 10:30, 12:55, 3:30, 6:15, 8:55; Mon.-Thu. 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00; Sun. 10:00, 12:40, 3:20, 6:00, 8:40; Mon.-Thu. 10:30, 1:10, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
The Aviator (PG-13) Sat.-Thu. 12:00 (3:30) 7:00, 10:30; **Blade: Trinity** (R) Fri. 4:45; **Christmas with the Kranks** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 7:15; **Closer** (R) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Sat. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Flight of the Phoenix** (PG-13) Fri. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 7:45; Sat.-Thu. 11:30 (2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:45; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Sat. 12:30 (3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30; Sat. 1:30 (4:30) 7:30, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30; **National Treasure** (PG) Fri. 7:30; **Ocean's Twelve** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; Sat. 1:15 (4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Polar Express** (G) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:15; **Sideways** (R) Sat. 1:45 (4:45) 7:45, 10:45; Sun.-Thu. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45; **A Very Long Engagement** (R) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Sat. 1:00 (4:00) 7:00, 10:00; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
House of Flying Daggers (PG-13) Fri. 11:30 (2:30) 5:15, 8:00; Sat.-Thu. 11:30 (2:30) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; **The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou** (R) Sat. 1:30 (4:30) 7:30, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30; **The Phantom of the Opera** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Sat. 1:00 (4:00) 7:00, 10:00; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **Sideways** (R) Fri. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30; **Spanglish** (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; Sat. 1:15 (4:15) 7:15, 10:15; Sun.-Thu. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15

ENCINITAS

Encinitas 8
220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544)
Meet the Fockers (PG-13) Fri. 1:10, 4:10, 7:00; Sat. 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; **Fat Albert**; **The Incredibles**; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events**; **Flight of the Phoenix**; **Closer**; **Ocean's Twelve**; **National**

Treasure; **The Polar Express**

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
The Motorcycle Diaries (R) Fri. 7:00; Sat.-Sun. 4:00, 7:00; Mon.-Thu. 7:00

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
Flight of the Phoenix (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Sat.-Thu. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:00, 8:00; Sat. 12:30 (3:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:30; **Meet the Fockers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:

Sideways — The bare outline would look like a hundred other buddy comedies: two old friends from college, an ex-soap opera actor and a would-be novelist, take off for an ostensible round of golfing and wine-tasting a week before the former's wedding. They present a classic study in contrasts: the slob and the snob; the free-wheeler and the fuddy-duddy; the fun-seeker and the aesthete; the hack and the artiste. The film itself not only illustrates the split; it incarnates it. Events unfold straight down the middle of the commercial road: the bridegroom, determined to sow as many wild oats as possible, has his amorous entanglements and his torturous extractions, while his divorced and depressed pal warms up slowly to a potential soul mate. It would not be difficult to picture, let's say, Owen Wilson and Ben Stiller in the parts. Nor would it be difficult to imagine the film as yet another Hollywood remake of a French farce (pick your winemaking region), originally starring Gerard Depardieu and Michel Blanc. But director and co-writer Alexander Payne, apparently drifting contentedly into the mainstream with his *Election* and *About Schmidt*, has clearly chosen now to paddle against the current. The choice — to do what's best for the film rather than best for the box-office — is clear enough in the

The Spongebob Squarepants Movie — Big-screen blowup of the Nickelodeon TV cartoon show, brain-child of writer-director Stephen Hillenbrug. After a campy musical prologue with some live-action pirates, we are introduced to the ocean-floor community of Bikini Bottom; to the title character who looks as much like a block of Swiss cheese as like an O-Cel-O sponge (the rectangular pants, something like a step-in flower box, do not identify him either way); to his starfish pal, Patrick; to his boss, Eugene Krabs, owner of the Krusty Krab eatery, home of the Krabby Patty; and to the latter's envious business rival, a

A Very Long Engagement — Reviewed this issue. With Audrey Tautou, Gaspard Ulliel, Jean-Pierre Becker, Dominique Bettenfeld, and Jodie Foster; directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet.
★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)



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*Ziyi ZHANG
Takeshi KANESHIRO
Andy LAU*

HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
A Zhang Yimou Film

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 20 |
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DRIVERS. Independent Contractors. Local auto parts delivery with your dependable economy truck, car or van. Clean DMV. Make \$1750 to \$2400 a month. 619-233-4374.

DRIVERS. Must have Class B license with passenger endorsement and at least 6 months experience. Fixed route, Monday-Friday, 31-40 hours/week with benefits. Call Sandra, 619-287-0628.

DRIVERS. No experience necessary, all training provided. Full time, all shifts. Must have clean DMV and background as well as desire to work with a company that listens to its employees. 40+ hours/week. Potential earnings of \$30,000+ per year. 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. Application must be completed in person: Brink's, 4520 Federal Boulevard, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92102.

DRIVERS. Rapidly growing moving and storage company affiliated with major van lines, has opportunity for professional drivers, van operators and sub-haulers. Please call Jill at 858-564-0990.

DRIVERS/HELPER. Wanted Class B, and C Drivers with moving experience. Immediate full-time openings! Familiar with paperwork and Thomas Guide. References required. Drug and alcohol free environment. 858-405-9596.

DRIVERS: Full-/part-time positions. Class B and C Drivers, Non-emergency Medical Drivers and Mortuary Drivers. Transportation company looking for reliable employees to work for a growing company. Must have good driving record, no criminal history, be able to perform heavy lifting. 1st Aid/CPR, MTDB helpful, will train. Approximately \$22,000 annual income, good benefits. ProTrans Medical, 531 N. Magnolia Avenue, El Cajon, CA 92020. 619-441-9926.

SECURITY: DRIVER/GUARDS. Dunbar Armored has immediate openings at our San Diego branch for Driver/Guards, full and part time. We offer: Medical cover-

age, 401(k) and life insurance, competitive wages, flexible hours, paid vacations, opportunity for advancement, quarterly safety bonus. To qualify: Must have Guard Card, gun permit (up to 90 days to obtain), must be 21 years of age (DOT regulation), able to pass physical and drug screen, clean criminal and driving record, must have acceptable work history and background. For additional information, please call 619-238-1006. www.dunbaramored.com.

TOW TRUCK DRIVERS needed with experience and good DMV record. AM/PM shifts available, benefits. Sea World area. Call 619-571-7101.

EMPLOYMENT E D U C A T I O N

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.25+/hour to start, depending on experience. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

COORDINATOR. Outgoing, enthusiastic individuals with strong community ties needed to coordinate international high school exchange program. Expenses reimbursed and travel incentives. Contact 1-888-44-SHARE; www.effoundation.org. (AAN CAN)

TEACH ENGLISH IN JAPAN to children. Enthusiastic? Professional? Bachelor's degree required. www.aeonet.com. Send resume and 1-page essay, "Why I Want To Work in Japan." AEON/Amity Corporation, 1960 E. Grand Avenue, Suite 550, El Segundo CA 90245. amityla@aeonet.com.

TEACHERS. Part time. Martial Arts, 3-11 years; Musical Instruments, guitar, singing, piano/keyboard, drums, violin; Dance, salsa (adults), ballet, hip-hop, creative dance, jazz, tap; Early Childhood Music/Movement, 1 month-7 years. Orff or Kindermusik experience or will train. Art: Painting, drawing, arts/crafts; Theatre. Languages: Spanish/French; Gymnastics for children. Academy Employment, PO Box 5621, Chula Vista, CA 91912.

TEACHERS: INFANT/TODDLER Teachers for growing NAEYC accredited preschool (12+ ECE units). Competitive salary plus benefits. www.mykidscareclub.com. Rancho Penasquitos. 858-538-KIDS. Fax: 858-538-1270.

TRANSITION SPECIALIST. Assist teachers in group and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. \$8.46/hour to start, depending on experience. 30 hours/week. Benefits. EOE. www.vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org.

EMPLOYMENT H E A L T H C A R E

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

AIDE/PERSONAL ASSISTANT. Assist senior gentleman part time, private home/pay. Multitasked assignments in a smoke-/drug-/alcohol-free environment. Own transportation, telephone and references required. Phone Mr. SKS (ess-key-ess), 858-292-1922 or 619-817-5848 after 10am for interview appointment/details.

CAREGIVER NEEDED. 2 years experience working with seniors. CNA/HHA+. 619-710-2471.

CAREGIVERS needed to work full and part time. Apply in person: America's Home Care, 2423 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 111, San Diego, CA 92108. Call for information, 619-291-0437.

CAREGIVERS. Experienced only! Your Eldercare skills and professionalism are wanted! Openings for Live-In Caregivers with minimum of 2 years experience, driver's license, car and proof of insurance. Premium compensation, direct deposit or a Visa debit card for prompt payment. Generous bonus pay for holidays and outstanding performance. Be appreciated! www.AssistingSeniors.net. Call SHS, San Diego and East County: 619-582-7300. North County and Inland: 760-804-6200.

CAREGIVERS: Live-in, hourly, 12-hour shifts, respite. Paid weekly. Flexible schedules. Serving all San Diego County. Affordable Care at Home, Inc. 1068 Broadway, #101, El Cajon, CA 92021. 619-588-2566; North County: 760-730-0323.

CAREGIVERS/LIVE-INS needed immediately! 2-5 days and 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. Unskilled positions: Help the elderly in your community! Requires experience cooking, cleaning and doing

laundry and a valid driver's license. Flexible hours. No medical training required. Starting pay is \$8.50/hour. 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: CNAs AND HHAs. Experienced/skilled CNAs and HHAs needed to care for the elderly/disabled. Immediate live-in and hourly positions available. Competitive pay. If you are caring and qualified and ready to make a difference in someone's life, give us a call! A Better Solution, South County: 619-585-9011. East County: 619-447-1528.

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 CARE WORKERS, overnight, needed in a residential group home located in Point Loma area. Full time, part time and weekend positions available. Very flexible schedules from 11pm-7am. Minimum requirement, A.A. degree. Residential experience preferred. Fax resume to: Attention Hillary, 619-523-0249, or mail to 3485 Kenyon Street, San Diego CA 92110.

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. A place for only the best of the best to work! Help others! Seaside Chiropractic in La Jolla. www.jobnmermaid.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 Hillary, 619-523-0249, or mail to 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.

DIETICIAN, REGISTERED. American Red Cross WIC Program. Must be Registered Dietician or RD-eligible. Prenatal nutrition counseling and nutrition education experience preferred. EOE. Send resume to: ARC, 3650 5th Avenue, San Diego 92103. scizmic@sdcrc.org or fax to 619-260-3528.

DIRECT SUPPORT CARE. Positions available as Direct Support Care for Adults with Developmental Disabilities. Starting pay-\$8.00. CPR Card and fingerprint clearance. Contact Stacy: 619-749-0704.

H E L P W A N T E D



FUNDRAISING

A national telemarketing firm with 15 years in business, specializing in fundraising for the Democratic Party and charities, is currently hiring telemarketers for its San Diego center.

Full-time
Part-time (evening and Sunday shifts)
Medical & Dental Insurance • Paid Training
401(k) • \$8.50/Hour Plus Bonus
Regular Raises • Convenient Location

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TELEMARKETING
2221 Camino del Rio South, Suite 201
San Diego, CA 92108

CALL FOR AN INTERVIEW: 619-497-5600



Koch Industries, Inc. is the second-largest privately held company in North America according to *Forbes*. Koch Membrane Systems is one of the leading companies in membrane filtration systems. With state-of-the-art technology developed by some of the finest minds in the country, Koch is seeking highly motivated, high-energy individuals who want to become active participants in the drive to be a world-class company.

We are hiring for the following positions located at our manufacturing plant in Scripps Ranch.

Several Production Workers (1st and 2nd shifts)

Duties include the following: packaging, prepping, wet testing, finishing, and rolling. All production positions rotate around the plant to increase working knowledge, ability and skills at Koch Membrane Systems.

High school diploma or equivalent with six months of experience in a manufacturing environment. There are both physical and environmental demands required of these positions.

Chemical Mixer (3rd shift)

Duties include the following tasks: selects, measures, weighs, and mixes chemicals by pouring or pumping liquids/solids into a container; operates mixing apparatus to provide correct temperature, pressure, mixing time and degree of agitation; takes and records accurately all readings; takes samples for laboratory analysis; checks results of lab analysis against specs and takes corrective action; and makes sure all mixed chemicals transferred into process are within specifications.

High school diploma or equivalent with six months of experience in a manufacturing environment. There are both physical and environmental demands required of this position.

(3) Maintenance Technician (1st, 2nd and 3rd shifts)

Major duties include: welding, piping, and general maintenance tasks. Ability to work under plant supervision to correct a variety of equipment-related items.

High school diploma or equivalent. Candidate must possess 2+ years of experience in general maintenance in a manufacturing environment. Good knowledge of basic math skills. There are both physical and environmental demands required of these positions.

Maintenance Supervisor (1st shift)

Major duties include: reviews existing and new work orders; works with production supervisors to establish priorities for work; follows up on work in progress and work completed; and monitors janitorial services and other facilities reports. In addition, monitors and maintains the IMPET work order system; analyzes and produces reports from the IMPET system. Plus, develops and audits cost containment and budget methods for all maintenance and facility areas. Hands-on working supervisor.

High school diploma or equivalent. Candidate must possess 5+ years of experience in general maintenance in a manufacturing environment with 2+ years of supervisory experience. There are both physical and environmental demands required of this position.

Candidate must possess the ability to troubleshoot mechanical and electrical systems. In addition, possess excellent mechanical skills and the ability to work with power and hand tools. Candidate must have good working knowledge of Cal-OSHA standards. Plus, have excellent knowledge of basic math skills and proficiency in computer skills.

Quality Assurance Engineer

Major duties include: maintains ISO 9001-2000 certification, identifies non-conformances, drives corrective actions, guides Quality Technicians and Quality Inspectors and leads the development for new technology programs.

Candidates must possess BS degree in a technical discipline; hands-on working experience in developing and implementing ISO 9000-2000 Quality systems; experience with development and implementation of documented work instructions in support of Quality functions; ability to communicate with senior management, marketing and sales groups and customers; ability to interact with and influence other engineers, supervisors and operators; strong computer skills (Microsoft Office/Project, Access, Excel, Word); ability to develop macros to analyze Quality data performance; and knowledge of Statistical Process Controls (SPC), Pareto Analysis and associated software packages.

Highly preferred: prior experience in a membrane manufacturing environment; knowledge of experimental design principles (DOE) and Failure Mode Effects Analysis (FMEA); ASQ Engineering Certification (CQE); experience in TQM, Kaizen, Lean Manufacturing programs.

Machine Operator (3rd shift)

Major duties include: sets up machine for coating and/or casting membranes, corrects oven temperatures, etc. as specified in procedures. Obtains chemical solutions from mixer and transfers chemicals into coater. Operates machine to manufacture membrane to required parameters of flux and rejection. Makes adjustments of chemicals, temperatures, etc. to maintain membrane parameters only after consulting supervisor. Maintains constant vigilance for membrane defects. Takes samples of membrane and chemicals. Keeps complete and accurate records and logs of readings. Changes rolls of fabric as necessary. Transfers coated membrane to rolling area. Drains, cleans, and refills chemical troughs as necessary. Obtains assistance from supervisor promptly whenever difficulties or discrepancies occur outside the limits specified in procedures.

High school diploma or equivalent with six months of experience in a manufacturing environment. There are both physical and environmental demands required of this position.

Koch Membrane Systems offers an excellent benefits package including a matching 401(k) plan. Please fax résumé to:
KMS at 858-635-1009 or fill out an application at:
10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego, CA 92131.
For more information about the company, please visit our website:
www.kochmembrane.com.

EOE M/F/D/V

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Seeks qualified individuals

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Relationship Bankers • Tellers
Relationship Banker/Tellers • Vault Tellers
Customer Service Supervisor

CENTRAL/EAST COUNTY

Tellers (FT/PT) • Vault Teller
Relationship Bankers

DOWNTOWN

SBA Loan Officer • Construction Loan Servicer
Financial Analyst • Accounting Assistant
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Submit résumé online at:

www.sdnb-careers.com
or mail to: 1420 Kettner Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101
Job Line: 866-730-3295 x1337
www.sdnb.com

EOE/M/F/D/V

DISPATCHERS. Star Ambulance. Apply: 4400 Palm Ave #C, La Mesa CA 91941, 619-469-7827.

DOCTOR'S HELPER. Doctor needs right arm! I need someone to help me out! High energy, happy, sparkler, who wants to learn to be a black belt in human communications. Seaside Chiropractic, one block from Ocean. www.jobmermaid.com.

EMTs. Must be 21 years or older and have copies of DMV and all certifications. Ambulance license a plus. Star Ambulance. Apply: 4400 Palm Ave #C, La Mesa CA 91941. 619-469-7827.

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.

HEALTH CARE: Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Companions (\$100-\$115/day; with own vehicle/insurance, starting at \$120/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.

HEALTH EDUCATOR. Teach patients in hospital ERs about health risks. Full time, flexible scheduling: days, evenings, weekends. Excellent benefits: medical, dental/vision, 21+ days off/year, paid training. No health care experience required. \$9.50-\$11/hour depending on experience. Fluent Spanish/English required. Fax resume: 858-566-7142. Call 858-566-3709 x104.

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 bonus. In business since 1977. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

JOB COACH/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.

JOB COACHES. Community-oriented, Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1-4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. Call 619-440-3300, or fax 619-440-3335.

LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS. Your eldercare skills and professionalism are wanted! 2 years experience, driver's license, car and proof of insurance. Premium compensation, generous bonus pay for holidays, prompt payment for services. www.AssistingSeniors.net. Seniors Helping Seniors. San Diego and East County: 619-582-7300. North County and Inland: 760-804-6200.

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. \$9 per hour. Call 619-668-2228 or fax resume to 619-668-2227, attention: Creative Support Alternatives, SDSU Foundation.

MESSAGE THERAPIST needed part-time for North County Chiropractic office. Must be insured and licensed. For more information please fax resume to: 760-631-8099.

MEDICAL CUSTOMER SERVICE. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad,

Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

NATURAL HEALTHCARE OFFICE. The greatest job you'll ever have. We need 3 people. Front Office, Marketing, and Staff Trainer. In La Jolla Seaside Chiropractic, 1 block up from the Ocean. www.jobmermaid.com.

NURSE CONSULTANT. Diverse, cohesive team searching for RN who wants an exciting challenge to serve as Nurse Consultant for persons with developmental disabilities. Casual atmosphere. Weekends, evenings and most holidays off. Excellent benefits. EOE. Home of Guiding Hands. Fax resume: 619-448-7480; e-mail: tamaryn@guidinghands.org. 24-hour job line, 619-448-3700.

NURSE. LVN, part time 20 hours/week. Work in progressive agency for adults with disabilities in Lakeside. No nights or weekends. \$14/hour to start. Unyeway, Inc. 619-562-6330.

NURSING. RN, LVN, CNA. Need RN, LVN, and CNA to work full and part time. Apply in person: Immediate Staffing, 2423 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 111, San Diego, CA 92108. Call for information, 619-291-5043.

NURSING. The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego seeks qualified: RNs (part-time) and LVNs (full- and part-time), \$17.07/hour. Other opportunities available. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. The GEO Group provides \$2.59/hour in lieu of benefits. Group health coverage available. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com. Please call the Job Line at 619-232-9221 and ask for extension 1150.

NURSING: Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Companions (\$100-\$115/day), CNAs, HHAs, Caregivers (\$10-\$11/hour). 3 years' experience required. Unskilled positions: Help the elderly in your community! Requires experience cooking, cleaning and doing laundry and a valid driver's license. Flexible hours. No medical training required. Starting pay is \$8.50/hour. 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.

ON-CALL COORDINATOR. Work from home! Seeking well organized, detail-oriented individual with superior people skills for part-time nights and rotating weekends position. Call today! La Jolla Nurses Homecare, 858-454-9339. Fax resume to 858-454-5010. EOE/D/F/W/P.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Positions available working with developmentally disabled children and adults. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista or La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 27-32 hours/week. \$8.25+/hour to start, depending on experience. EOE. 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. Day program in Lakeside has several positions open for Instructors, Instructor Aides and Coaches. Work with adults with DD. \$8.75-\$10/hour start plus paid benefits. Entry level also available. Unyeway, Inc. 619-562-6330.

SOCIAL SERVICES. YMCA Oz Shelter Services, a residential program for teens 12-17, has an opening in Clairemont for part-time day/evening Residential Supervisor. Must work weekends. \$9.25/hour. Fax resume: Attention Site Manager, 858-270-8216.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled. Part-and full-time positions. \$7-10/hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available. Fax resume: 619-390-4388. Call 619-390-4277.

SOCIAL SERVICES. North County openings. Employment Coordinator. Train, advise, counsel adults with developmental disabilities at their jobs. \$8.50/hour, negotiable with experience. EOE. Sheri, 1-800-974-9909.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Direct Care Staff positions, \$8-\$8.50/hour depending on experience. Must be able to get fingerprint clearance. Full time, part time and split shifts, benefits for full time. Call or fax 619-303-9302.

SOCIAL SERVICES. YMCA Oz Shelter Services, a residential program for teens 12-17, has an opening in Clairemont for full time overnight Residential Supervisor. Must work weekends. \$9.25/hour. Plus benefits. Fax resume: Attention Site Manager, 858-270-8216.

TRANSPORT VAN DRIVERS. Must be 21 years or older. Star Ambulance. Apply: 4400 Palm Ave #C, La Mesa CA 91941, 619-469-7827.

EMPLOYMENT

JOBS WANTED

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EMPLOYMENT

MANAGEMENT / PROFESSIONAL

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ASSISTANT MANAGEMENT/Management. No experience required. Need career-minded, outgoing individuals. If you do not make \$400/week, call ASAP! Wild and crazy atmosphere! Full training. Ask for Michl. Start now! 858-554-1156.

INTERNET SALES MANAGER. eCommerce and Web-Design experience required. Access/SQL preferred. Tech-savvy individual. Additional information at: www.modimplant.com/jobs.htm.

JOB FAIR! Saturday, January 8, 9am-2:30pm: Zimmer Dental, 6221 El Camino Real, Carlsbad 92009. Start the new year with a new career! Zimmer Dental, a manufacturer of dental implants, has these full-time positions available: CNC Machine Operators (3rd Shift, earning additional 10% shift differential pay), Senior Accountant, Stockroom Clerk, IT Manager, Mechanical Inspectors, CAD Operator and Manufacturing Engineer. Competitive salaries, excellent benefits, new facility. www.zimmerdental.com. Please fax resume to 760-431-8007 or e-mail: Dental-resumes@zimmer.com. For more information, call 760-431-8007.

MANAGER/TRANSACTION Coordinator for Real Estate Team. Immediate, full time, La Mesa. Leadership, self-motivated, detailed, organized. Experienced, prefer licensed. Leave message: 619-507-3166. Fax resume: 619-670-7331.

MANAGERS/SALES PROFESSIONALS. Super opportunity! Seeking top guns (18 and up). We need hungry professionals interested in exciting new Manager positions working with adults who are interested in earning \$20K to \$50K a year and more. This is a trainable position supervising ambitious individuals in sales. Any previous sales experience is a plus, but not required. We are interested in speaking with you if you consider yourself a motivated self-starter who enjoys sales and working outside in the field. Transportation is required. Call us today, positions are limited and will be filled immediately. Call Bruce 619-723-9196.

PARALEGAL. Downtown office seeks full-time Paralegal. 2-4 years Family Law experience. Paralegal certificate, proficiency in MSWord 2000 and Legal Solutions. Fax resume to Danna at 619-234-7430.

QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEER. Major duties: Maintains ISO 9001-2000 certification, identifies nonconformances, drives corrective actions, guides Quality Technicians and Quality Inspectors and leads development for new technology programs. Must possess BS degree in a technical discipline: hands-on working experience in developing/implementing ISO 9000-2000 quality systems. For further requirements, see 12/9 SD Reader display ad. Koch Membrane Systems, 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego 92131. Fax resume: 858-635-1009. EOE. M/F/D/V. 858-635-1013. Visit: www.kochmembrane.com.

REAL ESTATE. Century 21 Award. We have a place for you! Take the first step toward a career that offers independence, flexible hours and investment opportunities. Commercial, Mortgages and Corporate careers also available. www.century21award.com. For information about our free monthly career seminars and top-notch Real Estate licensing school, call 800-480-5529.

EMPLOYMENT

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Loan Officers 90% Split

Excellent leads system available. Well-established company. In business 28 years.

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**Special Education,
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Community Training Specialist/Job Coach \$8.38/hr. to start, DOE

To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits.

Transition Specialist \$8.46/hr. to start, DOE

Assist teachers in group- and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. Implement behavioral management programs. 30 hours/week.

Classroom Aides

\$8.25+/hr. to start, DOE

Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30 am-1 pm.

Applications/résumés are accepted Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm.

Stein Education Center
6145 Decena Drive, San Diego, CA 92120
Fax: 619-281-0453 • E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org

All applications/résumés must include job title. www.vistahill.org.

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Local sports and entertainment marketing company is expanding and has **IMMEDIATE openings!**

We specialize in promotional *advertising* and *marketing* for professional sports franchises and businesses within the *entertainment* and *hospitality* industries.

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NO experience necessary and **WE WILL TRAIN.**

If you are looking to start 2005 on the right foot, then don't hesitate to call Ben @ **858-573-9762.**

Hiring for Spring Season!

**8:30 am-5:30 pm Monday-Thursday,
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858-635-3239**

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cordially invites you to register for the following temporary positions:

• MECHANICAL ASSEMBLERS

1st & 2nd shifts, \$8.50/hour.

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1st, 2nd & 3rd shifts, \$8.50-\$9.44/hour.

Candidates must bring 2 past employment references, photo IDs, and proof of right to work in the U.S. Must have 80% ability to speak, read, and comprehend English.

• TEMPORARY TECHNICAL/ SUPERVISORY POSITIONS ONLY

Fax résumé to: 858-635-3236

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. General office, data input, accounts receivable/payable, phones, Peachtree or computer literate. Hours flexible. Full/part time. Reliable/self-motivated. Pay experience-based. 619-250-2165. Apply online. www.xtrememobiledetailing.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Part-time. Need computer skills. Job includes filing, data entry, appointment setting, errands. Call 858-481-5570.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT of progressive emergent church. Must be open and accepting to everyone's journey of faith. Full-time, but will consider part-time. Must have excellent organizational skills and be very computer literate. Please contact Mission Gathering office at 858-366-0096 or send your resume to Rich McCullen at rich@missiongathering.com.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Pacific Beach commercial fundraising company. Light computer/data entry, general office duties. \$10/hour to start. Fax resume to 858-270-1707.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL. ABCOW Staffing is currently hiring for several Clerical and Administrative Assistants. We have openings in San Diego and North County. Must have 1-2 years of previous administrative experience, MS Word and Excel. \$9-\$13/hour. E-mail your resume to cameron@abcow.com or call 1-800-690-8367 to schedule an interview.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Incredible position available immediately for a prestigious home builder in Del Mar. You will be responsible for working extensively in Excel tracking purchasing expenses, preparing correspondence and performing general office duties. Need at least 3 years of solid administrative experience preferably within an accounting or purchasing department. \$30,000-\$35,000. Detail oriented a must! Great benefits. Call AppleOne, 858-490-6470.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Assist Office Manager, various duties for Rancho Bernardo construction company. Must have good Word/Excel skills. 3 days (24/hours)/week. \$10-\$12/hour. 858-753-0707.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL. Temporary, temporary-to-hire, direct placement positions. Competitive wages, paid weekly, paid holidays and vacation. Medical and dental insurance plans, state of the art training, career management and more. www.jobs.volt.com. Call Volt Services Group for more information. EOE. Carlsbad: 760-729-8916; e-mail carlsbad@volt.com. Chula Vista: 619-427-0200; e-mail chulavista@volt.com. El Cajon: 619-401-1524; e-mail elcajon@volt.com. San Diego: 858-576-3140; e-mail clairemont@volt.com. San Marcos: 760-471-0800; e-mail sanmarcos@volt.com. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920; e-mail scrippsrancho@volt.com.

ASSISTANT-PERSONAL. Full-time for home and office. Computer skills, book-keeping, errands, personal tasks, projects. Strong organizational and management sense. Requires car. 619-595-1564, fax 619-595-7994.

CLERICAL POSITION. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, Del Mar, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

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EARN EXTRA
CASH
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UP TO \$500
PER WEEK**

Men and women 18 years and older are needed to deliver door-to-door advertising in San Diego North County. Distribution areas include Poway, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo and Rancho Peñasquitos. Delivery starts on January 3, so **CALL NOW!** Work a minimum of 6 hours and get paid within 48 hours of successful completion of route.

Call 858-271-5300 and refer to the distribution opening for North County Inland January drop. Limited positions available.

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HIRING FOR MULTIPLE POSITIONS IN JANUARY
Salaries starting at \$13.83/hr**

The Claims Service Representative is there when it counts. Claims Service Representatives provide outstanding customer service to policyholders who have been involved in an accident. CSRs take initial loss reports, verify information and process claim files. You should enjoy working in a dynamic environment and have good decision making skills. CSRs are important because they embody the trust every customer places in GEICO. PREVIOUS INSURANCE EXPERIENCE NOT REQUIRED.

We seek local candidates who are committed to a professional, highly customer-focused call center environment with a stable work history and a GREAT ATTITUDE! In addition to working for a stable and growing company with extensive opportunities for advancement, we offer our associates fantastic benefits, which include medical, dental, life and 401(k), plus profit sharing, on-site credit union, cafeteria, fitness center and tuition reimbursement. This is a business casual environment.

If you're ready to steer your career onto the right track, then e-mail your resume to: sdjobs@geico.com. Job code SDR-DH must be included for consideration.

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**Our Top Sales Agent In 2004
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(Carlsbad, San Marcos, Oceanside, Escondido, Vista, North County)
Fax: 760-431-4334
e-mail résumé to:
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La Jolla
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(Sorrento Valley, La Jolla, Beaches, San Diego, South Bay, Del Mar, Solana Beach, Miramar, Mira Mesa)
Fax: 858-625-2026
e-mail résumé to:
laajolla@ultimatestaffing.com

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858-513-7077
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CUSTOMER SERVICE. Suzuki Musical Instrument Corporation is seeking a customer service representative to handle digital piano customer service calls. Digital piano background is a must! Monday-Friday. Pay negotiable plus benefits. E-mail resume: custsvc@suzukicorp.com, or fax: 858-560-1069.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Looking for energetic, enthusiastic customer-service oriented individuals. Flexible schedule includes days, evenings, weekends, processing phone/walk-up/mail orders. Computer skills a must. Apply to San Diego Symphony, Attention HR, 1245 7th Avenue, San Diego CA 92101. Or fax 619-235-0005.

DATA ENTRY. Meals-On-Wheels needs a temporary data entry specialist. 2 years experience, 50wpm, phones, \$10/hour. Send resume to 619-260-6367, or call 619-260-6110.

DATA ENTRY CLERK. South Del Mar company. Must be service-oriented, detailed, ability to handle deadlines, with prior experience. Responsible for entering quotes and premiums for new business and renewals, typing coverage forms. \$10-\$13/hour. Apply today, call 858-490-6470.

DISPATCHERS. We want you to be part of our team! Immediate openings. Must have excellent communication, computer and organizational skills. We offer excellent pay, 401K, medical/dental/vision, free life insurance and paid vacation. Call or visit us Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Securitas Security Services USA, 6160 Mission Gorge Road, #100, San Diego, 619-641-0049. E/O/E/M/F/V/D/Drug Free.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONAL ASSISTANT to the C.E.O. with Associate's degree or equivalent and at least 4 years of experience in the field. Wide degree of creativity and latitude expected. Bilingual a must (English/Spanish). Please e-mail resume to aida@f-st.com or fax it at 619-497-3141.

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LEGAL SECRETARIES. Novation Legal Placement Services. If you have more than 2 years' experience in litigation, corporate, or patent, and you want to move up to a better position, then e-mail your resume in Word format to novation@novation-legal.com.

OFFICE MANAGER. Downtown office seeks full-time Office Manager. Must be familiar with small business operations. Proficiency with MSWord 2000, Excel, and QuickBooks 6.0. Fax resume to Danna at 619-234-7430.

PART-TIME LEGAL SECRETARY (30 hours/week), Protection and Advocacy, a nonprofit in San Diego, has 1 position available. Fluent in American Sign Language or ability to speak Vietnamese or Tagalog is desirable. Contact 916-658-2659 or www.pai-ca.org/jobs for re-

quired application packet. Apply by 1/4/05. We value diversity. EOE by choice.

PART-TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT. 20 hours/week, afternoon. Must like animals. Data entry, customer service, bookkeeping, phones. Nonsmoking. Medical insurance. Will sponsor immigration. Kearny Mesa. 858-576-1346.

RECEPTIONISTS to \$12/hour. Multi-line phones or switchboard experience. Positions throughout San Diego County. AtWork Staffing today! www.atworkstaffing.com. Fax: 619-234-9678. Call: 619-234-9675.

RECEPTIONIST. Stable Rancho Bernardo company seeks friendly Receptionist. Must have great attitude with a minimum of 1 year experience in previous reception position. Should also have working knowledge of computers. Pay is up to \$12/hour, depending on experience. Apply today, 760-480-0454.

RECEPTIONIST POSITION. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, Del Mar, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

RECEPTIONIST. Need immediate holiday help. No experience necessary. Call 619-286-6200.

RESERVATION AGENTS. Up to \$15/hour. Multimillion-dollar corporation expanding to Mission Valley needs you! Top agents make up to \$1000/week. Full/part time, AM/PM. Paid weekly. Medical benefits. Call between 9am-8pm. Call today, start today. Mission Valley: 619-687-0070.

TRADESHOW COORDINATOR, Administrative. Two years clerical experience with excellent communication skills (oral and written) strong organizational skills with the ability to multi-task while paying attention to details and meeting deadlines, proficient in MS Office required. EOE, drug-free environment. Apply in person: Raphael's Party Rentals, 8606 Miramar Road. Phone: 858-689-7368, fax: 858-689-8040. HR@raphaels.com.

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MARKET RESEARCH Phone Interviewers. No selling. Friendly, outgoing people for San Diego's fastest-growing market research company. Bilingual a plus. Hourly plus bonuses. Medical benefits. Advancement opportunities. www.luthresearch.com. Apply in person: Luth Research, 1365 Fourth Avenue, downtown. Job Hotline: 619-243-8045.

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AIRLINE CATERING. Drivers (California driver's license), Driver Helpers, Dishroom, Food Prep. Join our team. Benefits. 10-year criminal background check and drug screen required. Gate Gourmet accepting applications immediately: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm and Saturday, 9am-noon at 3511 Hancock Street, San Diego. 619-298-7953. EOE M/F/D/V.

ASSISTANT MANAGERS needed: Cold Stone Creamery—Lemon Grove, National City, Pacific Beach, Imperial Beach, La Jolla. Restaurant experience and computer knowledge a plus. Specify location, availability, contact information. Phone: 619-644-9000. Resume fax: 619-795-7152.

BAR MANAGER. Must be self starter with prior experience and knowledge of computer and P.O.S. Systems. Dublin Square

Irish Pub and Grill, in the heart of the Gaslamp. Apply in person: 554 Fourth Avenue, San Diego or fax 619-239-5828. E-mail: dublinsquare@yahoo.com.

BARISTA, PART TIME. Includes weekends, experience preferred. Apply in person: Cappy's Coffee House, 4978 Cass Street, San Diego, 92109. Or call for appointment, 858-274-0028.

BARISTA. Busy upscale cafe, Downtown Gaslamp District. 6 months experience. Must be professional, reliable, available for weekends/evenings. Gran Havana, 502 J Street, San Diego, 92101.

BARISTA. Cappuccino Cottage Coffee Company needs friendly, reliable espresso servers for North County positions. Hourly plus great tips. Call: 760-807-9174.

BARISTAS. Start immediately! Expanding coffee bar chain, seeks morning people for part/full time, permanent positions in multiple locations throughout San Diego. Great pay and tips! Call 760-752-1070. Send resumes to: allison@coffeecartbiz.com.

BARISTAS. Busy espresso cart in UTC area medical building seeking experienced Baristas. Flexible hours Monday-Friday. No weekends! \$7.75/hour plus tips. Call Lily Monday-Friday: 858-467-0375; 619-339-1720.

CASHIERS, SANDWICH ARTISTS, Shift Supervisors. Great shifts available. Good pay, fun work environment. Brueggers Bagels is currently interviewing at the following locations: Pacific Beach, La Jolla, La Costa, Oceanside, Del Mar. Apply in person or online at www.sandiegobagels.com.

CHEF/COOK needed part or full time for catering company. Experience required. For more information, e-mail: jbcatering2005@aol.com or call 619-266-8998.

CLUB OPERATIONS ASSISTANT. Position is located in Naval Base Coronado restaurant/catering facility. Looking for a dependable and organized individual with food and beverage experience in a restaurant and catering environment. Need to be familiar with computers and be able to provide 100% customer service in a busy restaurant that operates 7 days a week and holidays. Pay range \$8.28-\$16 per hour. Outstanding benefits package. Background check required. For more information, call 619-556-8916. Fax resumes to 619-556-9537.

COFFEE BARISTAS. Start immediately! Expanding coffee bar chain, seeks morn-

ing people for part/full time, permanent positions in multiple locations throughout San Diego. Great pay and tips! Call 760-752-1070. Send resumes to: allison@coffeecartbiz.com.

COFFEE CART, GREAT DEAL! Coffee cart with built-in pastry case and equipment. Call Tim at 760-752-1375. allison@coffeecartbiz.com.

COFFEE HOUSE. Barista, experienced, part time. Kitchen help/sandwich maker, part/full time. Flexible hours. Apply: Intermezzo Espresso Cafe, 7610 Hazard Center Drive, Mission Valley.

DRIVERS. Our Pizza Drivers make \$9-\$18 per hour. Friendly bosses hiring huge smilers, warm outgoing personalities! Excellent driving record, own car/insurance. Clairemont. 3574 Mount Acadia, 858-573-1593. www.DrummersPizza.com.

HOTEL HOUSEKEEPER. Part-time. Experience helpful. Apply Aztec Inn, 6050 El Cajon Boulevard or fax resume 619-582-4573.

HOTEL NIGHT AUDIT person needed for beautiful Del Mar Hotel. Full time. Hotel experience a plus. Apply: 710 Camino Del Mar in Del Mar. 858-755-1501.

HOTEL. Hyatt Regency La Jolla now hiring Sushi Cook, General Maintenance Engineer, Refrigeration Mechanic (hiring bonus for these positions), Also hiring Security Officer (overnight), Public Areas Attendant, Housekeeping Room Attendants, Laundry Washer, Night Auditor (part-time), Stewards (Dishwasher), Banquet Servers (on-call), Front Office Agents, Meeting Concierge, Servibar Attendant. Excellent benefits! AA/EOE. M/F/D/V. Please apply online at www.lajolla.hyatt.com.

HOTEL/RESORT. The Santaluz Club, an exclusive country club in the Fairbanks Ranch area, has openings for the following positions: Part-time Hostess, must be available Friday and Saturday evenings; Full and part-time Food Servers, prior fine dining experience preferred; part-time Camp Counselor, experience preferred, work with children ages 3-9; full-time Janitor, prior experience preferred but not required. Please apply at: santaluzjobs@email.com or fax resume to 858-759-4266. For more information, call our job hotline at 858-759-3193.

HOTEL: San Diego is now hiring for the following positions: Sous Chef, Dishwashers, part-time Security, Housekeeping Staff. Applications accepted 9am-3pm Monday-Wednesday: 421 West B Street,

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San Diego, CA 92101. Other positions, call 619-398-3036.

RESTAURANT, GENERAL MANAGER. Brueggers Bagels is currently interviewing for a San Diego General Manager position. Great salary and benefits. No late nights. Must have minimum 2 years experience. Fax: 858-623-6929. E-mail resume: tarenson@brueggers.com.

RESTAURANT MANAGER. Must be self starter with prior experience and knowledge of computer and P.O.S. Systems. Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grill, in the heart of the Gaslamp. Apply in person: 554 Fourth Avenue, San Diego or fax 619-239-5828. E-mail: dublinsquare@yahoo.com.

RESTAURANT WAIT STAFF. Full-and part-time Dining Room Servers for large retirement community. Full-time includes benefits package. Part-time shifts are evenings 4:30-7:30pm. Apply in person at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109. Rick, 858-581-8458. Fax, 858-581-8630.

RESTAURANT KITCHEN LINE Staff. Large retirement home seeking full-time Food Service Worker. Variety of duties including serving line, tray service, stocking, cleaning. Medical/dental/holiday/vacation benefits. Apply at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109. Rick, 858-581-8458. Fax, 858-581-8630.

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICE Worker. UCSD. 15-19 hours per week. Hiring salary: \$8.20-\$8.75/hour, part-time position. Background check required. Apply by 1/7/05 by visiting <http://joblink.ucsd.edu>. Reference Job #34899. EEO/AEE.

SERVERS needed for fun fast paced environment in Fashion Valley Mall. No experience necessary. Great pay and tips. Contact: allison@coffecartbiz.com.

VALET/CASHIER: Sunset Parking seeking Valet Attendants for Viejas Casino. Fun customer service job and flexible hours. All hours and shifts available. Apply at www.sunsetparking.com or call 760-753-4004 x333.

EMPLOYMENT

RETAIL

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CASHIER, part time, for San Diego Automotive Museum store. 25-30 hours/week. Flexible schedule, weekends required. Minimum wage to start. Cash handling experience, customer service and reliable transportation. Fax resume, 619-231-9869. Attn: Lelani, or apply in person at 2080 Pan American Plaza.

CLERK. F Street Corporation is looking for a full time clerk for its Leucadia store. Must be available for any shift. Employment applications at 704 North Coast Highway, Leucadia and at 2004 University Avenue. Drug screening required. Apply in person only at 2004 University Avenue, San Diego, 92104. No phone calls please.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/CLERK. F Street Corporation is seeking Customer Service Clerks for retail stores throughout San Diego. Full/part-time. Must have own transportation and be able to work evening or graveyard shifts. Drug screening required. Apply in person only at 2004 University Avenue, San Diego, 92104. No phone calls please.

Child Development Counselors

Full-time, part-time, weekend, and overnight positions available at a residential treatment center located in the Point Loma area.

Minimum requirement:
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or mail to: 3485 Kenyon St.
San Diego, CA 92110
Attn: Hillary

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Must be self-starter with prior experience and knowledge of computer and P.O.S. systems.

**Dublin Square
Irish Pub & Grill**
in the heart of the Gaslamp

Apply in person:
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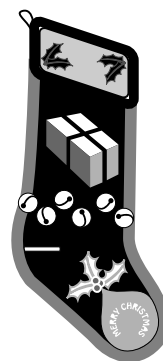
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GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Now accepting applications. Up to \$15/hour plus bonuses, great work environment, insurance (after 4 months), 401(k) and more! Jimbo's Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Del Mar fax: 858-793-7732. 1923 Calle Barcelona #149, Carlsbad fax: 760-334-7733. 1633 South Center City Parkway, Escondido fax: 760-489-7773, hr@jimbos.com.

PART-TIME COUNTER SALES Help for bakery. Approximately 20 hours/week. Start at \$7/hour. Call Don at 858-229-5872.

RETAIL CASHIER. Leading adult bookstores are looking for Retail Cashiers. Must be able to work all shifts, weekends and holidays. Will train. Excellent benefits. Please apply in person at 3606 Midway Drive, 619-222-9973 or 1177 Palm Avenue, Imperial Beach. 619-575-5081.

RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATE/Cashier. For beautiful Solana Beach design district furniture and accessories store. Seeking full-time/part-time experienced and friendly sales associates. 858-720-0450 or fax resume 858-720-8285.

RETAIL SALES. Del Mar high-end ladies' boutique seeking part-/full-time Retail Sales Associates, strong sales ability. Must be positive, energetic, professional. Competitive salary. Excellent growth potential. 858-481-5570.

RETAIL SPECIALIST. Share our vision! Aveda concept salon. If you too strive to blend beauty, environment and well-being, find out how we can grow together. Also seeking: Hairstylist and Nail Technician (Natural Nails). Earth Salon & Spa, 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, California. Eric, 760-519-1832.

RETAIL, full/part time. David's Bridal, a leader in the specialty retail industry, seeks exceptional people for positions in the San Diego store: Store Manager, requires a minimum of 4 years specialty retail management experience in a high-volume, fast-paced environment; Assistant Manager, lucrative earning potential for those with sales experience;

Bridal Sales Consultants, full and part time, high-volume specialty or big box retail store management experience is required (apparel required). Take your career in specialty retail to a whole new level with competitive pay, professional growth opportunities, profit sharing, retirement and more! For immediate consideration, please call 1-800-823-2403 x5173, fax resume to 484-351-0173, or e-mail to davidbridal56@cs.com. www.davidsbridal.com. EOE, M/F/D/V.

RETAIL. Burns Drugs in La Jolla is looking for permanent, full-time Greeting Cards Clerk who is dependable and a team player. Greeting card experience a plus. Apply in person: 7824 Girard Avenue.

RETAIL/CLERK. F Street Corporation is seeking Customer Service Clerks for retail stores throughout San Diego. Full/part-time. Must have own transportation and be able to work evening or graveyard shifts. Drug screening required. Apply in person only at 2004 University Avenue, San Diego, 92104. No phone calls please.

SECURITY GUARD. F Street Corporation is seeking Security Guards, with experience. Part/full-time. Must be able to work evening or graveyard shifts; for retail stores throughout San Diego. Must have own transportation. Drug screening required. Apply in person only at 2004 University Avenue, San Diego, 92104. No phone calls please.

EMPLOYMENT SALES / MARKETING

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES. Homes.com has exciting business-to-business Inside Sales positions available today. We offer competitive base pay or top commissions, daily cash spiff bonuses, complete benefits package, profit sharing program, great work hours (7am-3:30pm) and an excellent work environment. Call today for an interview: 888-329-7576 x2703 or e-

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ASSISTANTS/TRAINEEES. Good work—Good wages—Good hours—Great area! Busy Pacific Beach office needs phone help now! No selling! Flexible hours. \$8/hour plus bonuses to start! Call Bill at 888-546-2919 today.

AUTO SALES. \$2K-\$3K+ per month. Aggressive men and women needed to fill two entry-level positions. Will train. Medical available. Must have valid driver's license. Olympic Auto Sales, 1800 National City Boulevard, National City. Ask for Frank or Joe, 619-477-4982.

CANVASSEER. Outdoors, self-motivated, professional, enthusiastic individuals. \$10/hour, 30 hours/week, Monday-Thursday 1pm-7pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. Paid every Tuesday. Call 760-715-8681.

GRAPHIC DESIGN/MARKETING for Downtown mortgage and real estate company. Must have a minimum 5 years experience and knowledge in the industry. Top pay with benefits. E-mail your resume to: Carlos@westpointmort.com.

HOLIDAY HELP! Customer Sales/Service. Fall expansion. Great pay, flexible schedule, all ages 18+, conditions apply. North County/La Jolla. 760-942-1223; San Diego, 619-583-5609. South San Diego, 619-422-0479.

INTERNET SALES MANAGER. eCommerce and Web-Design experience required. Access/SQL preferred. Tech-savvy individual. Additional information at: www.modimplant.com/jobs.htm.

MANAGERS/SALES PROFESSIONALS. Super opportunity! Seeking top guns (18 and up). We need hungry professionals interested in exciting new Manager positions working with adults who are interested in earning \$20K to \$50K a year and more. This is a trainable position supervising ambitious individuals in sales. Any previous sales experience is a plus, but not required. We are interested in speaking with you if you consider yourself a motivated self-starter who enjoys sales and working outside in the field. Transportation is required. Call us today, positions are limited and will be filled immediately. Call Bruce 619-723-9196.

MARKETING: DOOR-TO-DOOR Advertising. Earn extra cash! Up to \$500 per week. Men and women 18 years and older are needed to deliver door-to-door advertising in San Diego North County. Distribution areas include Poway, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo and Rancho Penasquitos. Delivery starts Jan-

uary 3, so call now! Work minimum of 6 hours and get paid within 48 hours of successful completion of route. Call 858-271-5300 and refer to the distribution opening for North County Inland January drop. Limited position available. Easy money, no gimmicks!

PART TIME. La Jolla Playhouse is seeking individuals with telephone sales experience for its 2005 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 SALES. Start building your holiday cash with the best part-time job in town! Flexible AM and PM shifts. \$9-\$14+/hour potential and hourly guarantee. Weekly pay. Paid training. Bilingual Spanish programs available. Apply: Dial America Marketing, 9332 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www.dialamerica.com/sandiego. Call 858-292-6751 x8045.

PART-TIME SALES. Don't let your license go unused! Earn supplemental real estate income; become a Referral Associate. Real Estate Marketing Network, division of Century 21 Award. Business start-up tools and virtual home office. Enroll online, only takes minutes! www.remnl.com.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS: Fast growing company, Exclusive Relocation Realty, seeks experienced and inexperienced Licensed Agents. Lowest startup fees and free training programs with guaranteed success! Call Alma or McKinley for an appointment: 858-277-0986.

RESERVATION AGENTS. \$1400 Loyalty Bonus! Top Reps earn over \$30/hour plus nightly cash incentives. No selling involved. PM shift (4:15-8:45pm) with full-time opportunities. We offer: Medical, dental, life insurance; 401(k); paid holidays; paid training; great location (close to trolley). No experience necessary for motivated individuals. Call 619-624-2888, e-mail aheron@welkgroup.com, or apply in person 11am-4pm Monday-Friday at: Soleil Communications, Inc., a division of the Welk Resort, 6150 Mission Gorge Road #140, San Diego, CA 92120.

SALES AND MARKETING. San Diego's most progressive marketing and advertising firm has immediate openings. We specialize in promotional advertising and marketing for professional sports franchises and businesses within the entertainment and hospitality industries. Positions include: Promotional Sales and/or Management Training. All openings are entry level. No experience necessary. Must be available immediately. No tele-

marketing or graphic design positions. Call Jennifer at 858-573-9762.

SALES AND MARKETING. \$400-\$500 weekly to start! Rapid advancement! 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. Roxanne, 619-427-3708. www.ivoryimportsinc.com.

SALES AND SALES MANAGEMENT. Fast-growing professional service company in Carlsbad. We are willing to train high energy, dedicated people with top phone skills. Strong closers only. No cold calling. High quality leads call you all day! Manager must have college degree and 8-10 years experience managing a successful Sales team. Realistic \$60-\$120K income first year with full benefits. E-mail: hr@strategictaxresolutions.com. Fax: 760-454-1621.

SALES MANAGER. Pro-Com, San Diego's largest professional fundraising call center. If you're motivated, reliable and hungry for money, we need to talk! Experienced only need apply. Easy \$50K-\$100K/year job plus benefits. Fax resumes to 858-270-1707. Call 858-270-7680.

SALES PROFESSIONALS. Super opportunity! Seeking top guns (18 and up). We need hungry professionals interested in exciting new Manager positions working with adults who are interested in earning \$20K to \$50K a year and more. This is a trainable position supervising ambitious individuals in sales. Any previous sales experience is a plus, but not required. We are interested in speaking with you if you consider yourself a motivated self-starter who enjoys sales and working outside in the field. Transportation is required. Call us today, positions are limited and will be filled immediately. Call Bruce 619-723-9196.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES to work at home. Sell business to business websites. Must have unlimited long distance, 3-way calling, and Internet access. Call Robin, 619-741-8987.

SALES REPS. We will train you for a permanent, part-time position in promotions with our national firm. Call toll free for a personal interview, 619-593-3959.

SALES. \$40K-\$60K first year earning potential! Convert your Telesales skills into a career in mortgage lending. Telemarket

while you learn the mortgage basics, then enter our comprehensive 3-phase Loan Officer training program. Guaranteed base during training, up to \$1900/month plus commission opportunity. Comprehensive training. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full-time Telemarketing positions also available at \$11/hour plus bonuses. Top producers earn more than \$25/hour. Fax: 858-630-4889. E-mail: alicardi@eq1Lenders.com. Call Jim, 858-558-5455, x340.

SALES. \$500 weekly! We have immediate full-time openings in Sales and Marketing, Promotions, Public Relations, and Project Management. No experience necessary. Will train. Call 858-279-5941.

SALES. Are you success-motivated? Need a fun job Monday-Friday? No nights/weekends. Every Friday is payday! Oceanside growth company with management potential. Call today! 760-722-5400.

SALES. Busy wireless store hiring inside sales reps. Will train. Guaranteed salary plus high commission. Starters make \$450-\$500/week. Full/part time. 858-693-7371. Fax resume 858-693-6971.

SALES. Career opportunity! San Diego's JMI Telecommunications Inc. is seeking highly motivated professionals to prospect and build relationships with business owners. Excellent first year earning potential \$35K to \$50K per year. Guarantee training with sales bonuses. We are hiring 20 new Telecom Consultants to open up the San Diego Territory so call ASAP to schedule your interview with Deborah at 619-528-2264, fax resume to 619-528-2265, or email at vazquez@jmips.com.

SALES. Career opportunity! San Diego's largest web design firm is seeking motivated professionals to prospect and build relationships with real estate clients. Supportive training, competitive base salary and commission. Medical, dental, 401(k). Growth and advancement. Apply online at www.z57.com.

SALES. Century 21 Homes First seeking real estate agents with all levels of experience. New licensees to top producers come work for a top brand company. Largest real estate office in San Marcos. Kirk, 760-510-1600 x203.

SALES. Expanding financial services marketing company seeking representatives. Start part time, training provided. Call our office, 877-286-5339, leave message 24/7.

HELP WANTED

CHILD DEVELOPMENT COUNSELOR

New Alternatives of San Diego County is seeking Child Development Counselors to work in a therapeutic setting with SED children. Work with clients referred by the Departments of Social Services and Probation. Counselors are responsible for the implementation of individual treatment plans and developing behavioral modification programs in addition to direct care and supervision of clients. Bachelor's degree in Social Services required. Entry-level position starting at \$9.50. Merit raises and promotions. Benefits after 90 days, medical and dental. 24 Hour Fitness membership.

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Full-time. \$8.65/hour.

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Free Law Enforcement/ Corrections Hiring Seminar!

Have you ever considered a career in law enforcement or corrections but weren't sure where to start?

The San Diego Sheriff's Department Recruitment and Background Unit is presenting a free two-hour seminar on Wednesday, January 5, 2005, from 1-3 pm.

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SALES, INSIDE/OUTSIDE. Terminix has openings in our 6 San Diego area branches. Both positions: Salary plus commission, paid training, full benefits package, exceptional opportunity. San Diego, Carlsbad, Countywide, El Cajon, Escondido, Temecula. Call today for more information. Art Marchesini, 800-452-4276.

SALES. Looking for a change? Stop working. Start a career! Do you have the following characteristics: Confidence? High energy? High enthusiasm? Success oriented? Like different types of people? Great smile? Would you enjoy working with like-minded people? We are looking for people like ourselves. People who like to have fun while making lots of money. Out top sales agent in 2004 made over \$300,000. This person did no prospecting, no advertising, no traveling, no customer service, no billing; the clients came to the resort; and the agent had 4+ weeks of vacation. Come join the professional vacation ownership sales team at the Welk Resort Group San Diego. Call Tom Trobaugh at 760-751-3828 or fax resume to 760-751-3843.

SALES/ACCOUNT REP. \$50,000/year plus bonus/stock. 30-year-old NYSE company. Call San Diego area sales manager, Mr. Dunbar, 619-787-9168. E-mail dunbarnase@yahoo.com.

SALES/MARKETING. Make \$800-\$1500 weekly! Resort Communications now expanding its specialized marketing department; seeking self-motivated telephone sales agents. This is a true career

opportunity that includes a best-in-class compensation plan that you can actually understand, paid vacations, free parking, full medical plan and a clean professional office conveniently located in Mission Valley. Day/evening shifts. 619-683-2470 x1019.

SALES/BROKERAGE. Nationally recognized Futures and Options Brokerage in the La Jolla/UTC area. We offer benefits including 401(k), signing bonus for Series 3 license, and the country's best TV, radio, and Internet leads. No cold calling. Contact Jon Cavuoto at 858-554-1225 and please fax your resume to 858-457-1147. www.BarkleyFinancial.com.

SALES/TELEMARKETING. Business-to-business calling. Flexible full-time hours. Need experienced closers with proven track record. Big money. Daily cash splits. Laurie, 619-296-7862 x35.

TELEFUNDRAISING. Part-time evenings or full-time days. Raise money for top charities. Fully automated Call Center. \$8-\$20/hour. Paid training. Three locations. Call 858-270-7188.

TELEMARKETERS NEEDED for a progressive Mortgage Company. Part time,

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TELEMARKETING/SALES. Make \$800-\$1500 weekly! Resort Communications now expanding its specialized marketing department; seeking self-motivated telephone sales agents. This is a true career opportunity that includes a best-in-class compensation plan that you can actually understand, paid vacations, free parking, full medical plan and a clean professional office conveniently located in Mission Valley. Day/evening shifts. 619-683-2470 x1019.

TELEMARKETING MANAGER. Experienced Manager for fund-raising call center. Must be self motivated and able to train people. Paid training. \$800/week to start. 858-270-7188.

TELEMARKETING. Inside sales. High-tech medical technology firm seeks inside sales professional to introduce new products to existing accounts. Salary \$32K year plus commission and benefits. Potential for \$65K first year. Career opportunity! 858-550-6849.

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Take your career
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David's Bridal, a leader in the specialty retail industry, seeks exceptional people for positions in the **SAN DIEGO, CA** store.

Store Manager

Requires a minimum of 4 years specialty retail management experience in a high-volume, fast-paced environment.

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Lucrative earning potential for those with sales experience.

Bridal Sales Consultants (FT & PT)

High-volume specialty or big box retail store management experience is required (apparel required).

David's Bridal is the largest, fastest-growing bridal retailer in the world! For immediate consideration, please call **1-800-823-2403**, ext. 5173, or you may fax (484) 351-0173 or e-mail resume to davidsbridal56@cs.com. EOE, m/f/d/v.

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TELEMARKETING MANAGER. Experienced Manager for fund-raising call center. Must be self motivated and able to train people. Paid training. \$800/week to start. 858-270-7188.

TELEMARKETING. American Standards is looking for highly motivated sales reps for outbound telemarketing. Part-time and full-time positions available. Relaxed working atmosphere, paid training with great earning potential. Office location in La Jolla. Call Mr. Picard at 858-550-8034 for further questions.

TELEMARKETING. Sports Boosters, Inc. Full/part time. Upbeat, no experience necessary. Guaranteed start \$8-\$12/hour, attendance and contest bonuses. Paid training, vacation, medical, dental, 401(k). We only call businesses. Fun, easy work. Great atmosphere. Call today, start tomorrow! Rob or Michelle, 858-244-0190.

TELEMARKETERS wanted! Tired of selling trinkets? Top producing Del Mar Company. \$10-\$20 per hour plus commission! Call 858-481-LOAN(5626).

TELEMARKETERS. Make big bucks with #1 home improvement company. Part time, am-pm shifts. Cash bonuses daily! Guaranteed hourly. Call Jordan, 858-495-0551.

TELEPHONE SALES. Make \$800-\$1500 weekly! Resort Communications now expanding its specialized marketing department; seeking self-motivated telephone sales agents. This is a true career opportunity that includes a best-in-class compensation plan that you can actually understand, paid vacations, free parking, full medical plan and a clean professional office conveniently located in Mission Valley. Day/evening shifts. 619-683-2470 x1019.

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TELESALES. \$12/hour plus bonuses. Part-time work equals full-time pay. 20 hours per week in Escondido, mortgage loans, predictive dialer, energetic atmosphere. Ramzy, 760-741-7900 x121.

TELESALES. Secure opportunity working for a growing, award-winning educational software publisher! Earn \$25,000-

\$65,000. Experienced closers earn \$100,000+-. Hourly plus commission, 2 shifts available. State-of-the-art call center. We offer training, a relaxed atmosphere, medical benefits, life insurance, and 401(k). 800-858-9673 x196. wstrybel@wordsmart.com.

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ESTHETICIAN. Large room in large salon near Parkway Plaza Shopping Center. Newly furnished, heavy foot traffic. Sell own retail. Good potential. \$160/week. Call 619-654-3979.

HAIR DESIGNERS. Busy, upscale Gaslamp salon near Petco Park seeking booth renters. Walk-ins available! Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

HAIR DESIGNERS/MANICURISTS. Large, full service salon in Encinitas is seeking passionate Hair Designers and Manicurists, etc. Commission with many perks. Call La Boheme 760-436-0111.

HAIR SALON. Now is the time to get a fresh new start! Beautiful, elegant salons in Hillcrest and La Jolla seeking motivated professionals to join our team. Model Call Salon, 858-454-3812.

HAIR SALON. Manicurists, commission or booth rental (\$65/week). Complete private room for rent (Esthetician, Massage, Hair). Beautiful modern salon on Mission Gorge Road/Jackson. 858-361-3008.

HAIRSTYLISTS: booth rental at the next level. Rent your own private studio with us. Interest list forming now! Visit www.salonstudiosgalleria.com or call Michelle at 619-280-4749.

HAIRSTYLISTS. full-service, beautiful, new East County salon looking for motivated, talented, energetic individual. Guaranteed high base plus commission. Hire-on bonus. Management opportunities. Call Fantastic Sams, 619-917-1008.

HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. Full/part time with clientele. 1 month free rent. Ample parking/liability insurance paid. Friendly environment. In the prestigious Flower Hill Mall, Del Mar. Office: 619-322-3326.

HAIRSTYLISTS. Booth rental, commission, or salary. Located between T.J. Maxx and SavOn in Clairemont. Newly re-

modeled, under new management. Hair with Flair, 858-270-5032 or 619-733-3534.

HAIRSTYLIST needed full time for beautiful, upscale salon in Mission Valley. Call Mark, 858-829-2782.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST. Planet Hair & Beyond. Booth rental in fun salon. 3 weeks free rent! Small clientele required. Startup incentive. Hillcrest. Parking, walk-ins. 3830 Fourth Avenue. Daisy, 619-297-0670.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST. Booth rentals for large salon near Parkway Plaza Shopping Center. Newly furnished, heavy foot traffic. Sell own retail. Good potential. Call 619-654-3979.

HAIRSTYLIST. Share our vision! Aveda concept salon. If you too strive to blend beauty, environment and well-being, find out how we can grow together. Also seeking: Retail Specialist and Nail Technician (Natural Nails). Earth Salon & Spa, 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, California. Eric, 760-519-1832.

HAIRSTYLISTS, NAIL TECHNICIAN. Beautiful, sunny and spacious salon in La Jolla Village seeking positive individuals for booth rent or commission. \$250/week. Amy, 619-300-0626.

HAIRSTYLIST. Children's Hairstylist wanted for La Jolla Salon. Great salary and commission structure. Many clients eagerly awaiting you! Experience with children required. Please call 858-551-5161.

HAIRSTYLIST. Busy salon in Solana Beach wants you! Let us show you how you can make up to \$15/hour. Reliable base wage plus commission, health/dental benefits, paid vacation, holidays and more! Call Great Clips at 858-523-0485.

HAIRSTYLISTS/MANAGERS. Pacific Beach/University City. Flexible hours, Guaranteed wage, commission and bonuses. Paid: training, vacation, holidays. Medical benefits. Revenue sharing. Call today! 877-217-6952.

MANICURIST/NATURAL NAILS. Part time for award-winning Hillcrest salon. Service existing clientele/grow into full time. Natural nails only. Hourly plus commission. Weekdays/weekends. 619-692-4237.

MASSAGE THERAPIST. Part-time, all days available, weekends too. License required. Busy salon located in Clairemont Mesa. Contact Emily, 858-560-0325.

MASSAGE THERAPIST. Share our vision! Aveda concept salon. If you too strive to blend beauty, environment and well-being, find out how we can grow together. Also seeking: Hair Stylist, Retail Specialist and Nail Technician (Natural Nails). Earth Salon & Spa, 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, California. Eric, 760-519-1832.

MASSAGE/ASSISTANT MANAGER. Seeking professional Massage Therapists, and energetic and experienced individual. Full/part-time position for HHP Certified Massage Therapists with current permit. Full-time Assistant Manager. Salary with possible commission for qual-

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NAIL TECHNICIAN. Busy, busy, make money now. We have full clientele waiting for you to take over. Full time. Upscale salon in Old Town. Call 619-497-2880.

NAIL TECHNICIAN (NATURAL NAILS). Share our vision! Aveda concept salon. If you too strive to blend beauty, environment and well-being, find out how we can grow together. Also seeking: Hairstylist and Retail Specialist. Earth Salon & Spa, 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, California. Eric, 760-519-1832.

RECEPTIONIST. Busy Del Mar Salon is seeking Hairstylist and Receptionist. Charisma Salon. Contact Eric/Larry at 858-755-0866.

RECEPTIONISTS/HAIRSTYLISTS needed for upscale salons: Diamantes in Mission Valley and Artesia in Downtown. Great atmosphere. For more information, call 619-338-8111.

RETAIL SPECIALIST. Share our vision! Aveda concept salon. If you too strive to blend beauty, environment and well-being, find out how we can grow together. Also seeking: Hairstylist and Nail Technician (Natural Nails). Earth Salon & Spa, 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, California. Eric, 760-519-1832.

SALON POSITION/ESTHETICIAN. Looking for someone who is ready to work now! We have the clientele waiting for you in a beautiful, upscale salon in Old Town. Call 619-497-2880.

SALON PROFESSIONALS—Hair Stylists and Nail Professionals. Booth rentals now available at the Ultra Beauty Supply and Salons. 5 locations: Mission Valley, Encinitas (South/North), Chula Vista, Carmel Mountain Ranch. Spacious, clean working environment. Let us help you grow your business. 760-809-7904.

SALON. Hairstylist (booth rental) and Esthetician (room rental) needed for new, upscale Santee salon. Contact Chantel, C'est La Vie Salon and Day Spa. 9830 Prospect Avenue, Suite C.619-448-8300.

EMPLOYMENT TRADES / LABOR

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

ASSEMBLER for Carvin Guitars in Carmel Mountain Ranch. Fax 858-521-6031.

ASSEMBLY, FORKLIFT Operators, Material Handlers. Immediate temporary positions. 1st/2nd shifts. Weekly paycheck, competitive/vacation/holiday pay, benefits. Call Sony recruiter: 858-716-2040. We welcome walk-ins. Weekdays, 9am-3pm. 16885 West Bernardo Drive, #205,

San Diego 92127. Must be able to pass drug screen and background check. EOE. Aerotek in partnership with Sony.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN needed for Victory Auto Service located in El Cajon. Experience necessary, minimum 1 year. Contact Jimmy: 619-579-7026/fax resume to: 619-442-8226 for interview.

CONSTRUCTION. We need part-time: Tile Setters, Finish Carpenters, Plumbers, and Electricians for home remodeling company. 5-7 years experience. Own tools/vehicle required. Call 619-277-1720.

CONSTRUCTION/REMODEL. We are seeking Tile Setters and/or Finish Carpenters. Full/part time for home remodeling company. 5+ years experience required. Own tools and vehicle required. Call 619-795-9518.

CONSTRUCTION/HAWAII. Experienced Journeymen Stone Setters wanted in Kona for long-term, high profile custom work with top-ranked install company based in Hawaii. Excellent opportunity, great pay, benefits. Ideal work environment. Interviews: January 3-6, 9-11am, 560 West Ash Street, downtown San Diego. Questions? 808-938-9828. Journeymen only please. No hackers.

DELIVERY/MATERIAL HANDLER for construction business. Must have clean driving record and positive attitude. Please call 619-449-9003.

DIRECTV SATELLITE Technicians. Ironwood Communications now hiring! Work for the largest DirecTV installation company. Paid training program. \$60K per year potential. Monthly and quarterly cash bonuses. Excellent health/dental package. \$500 hire-on bonus for qualified Satellite and Cable Techs. EOE/drug-free workplace. Ironwood Communications, Jason Blaylock (Site Manager): 760-403-4921. Danny Scaffidi (District Systems Trainer): 760-403-4465. San Diego County office: 888-420-6867.

DRAIN CLEANERS. No experience necessary. Rescue Rooter offers: medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. Apply in person with recent DMV. 9895 Olson Drive, San Diego, CA 92121. 800-859-5972. AA/EOE.

FORKLIFT OPERATOR. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

GARDENER. Seeking part-time Gardener to do trimming, flower trimming, minor raking, general gardening. Please call Kimberly at 619-296-8900 or fax resume to 619-260-1460.

GLASSBLOWER. Work in a Glassblowing Studio! Production shop seeks versatile, hard-working, experienced off-hand

glassblower. Some experience required! No huge egos. It's a real job! No drugs. www.lowershotglass.com.

HANDYMAN/JANITOR/WAREHOUSE. Full-time. Needs car. Multiple locations. 619-595-1564, fax 619-595-7994.

HOME THEATER INSTALLER. Want to work with the finest electronics like McIntosh and Runco in one of the nicest stores in San Diego? We are looking to hire qualified install technicians. Call Carl, 858-259-3640.

MAINTENANCE. Property Management Company seeks reliable, independent contractor skilled in electrical, plumbing, paint, carpentry, drywall and make-ready preps. Must have own tools, equipment and pickup truck. 3+ years experience helpful. Fax resume to Frederick, 858-270-0411.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR. 3rd shift. Reviews existing and new work orders; works with production supervisors to establish priorities. For further requirements, see 12/9 SD Reader display ad. Koch Membrane Systems, 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego 92131. Fax resume: 858-635-1009. EOE. M/F/D/V. 858-635-1013. Visit: www.kochmembrane.com.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS. All shifts. Welding, piping, and general maintenance. Able to work under plant supervision to correct a variety of equipment related items. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must have 2+ years experience general maintenance in a manufacturing environment, basic math skills. Requires both physical/environmental demands. For further information, see display ad in the 12/9 San Diego Reader. Koch Membrane Systems, 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego 92131. Fax resume: 858-635-1009. EOE. M/F/D/V. Visit: www.kochmembrane.com.

MECHANICAL ASSEMBLERS and Material Handlers. Now hiring for the Spring Season! Accepting applications, 8:30am-5:30pm, Monday-Thursday, December 27-30: 8400 Miramar Road, #270, San Diego. Remedy Intelligent Staffing, in partnership with Sony, invites you to register for these temporary positions. Mechanical Assemblers: 1st and 2nd shifts, \$8.50/hour. Material Handlers: 1st, 2nd and 3rd shifts, \$8.50-\$9.44/hour. Bring proof of right to work in the U.S., photo ID, 2 references. 80% ability to speak, read, comprehend English. Pre-employment criminal background check and drug screening required. Call 858-635-3239. Temporary Technical/Supervisory positions only: Fax resume to 858-635-3236.

PLUMBER. Fully independent Plumber. 5 years experience, minimum. Great opportunity for motivated individual to work with the best paying company in the industry. Call 619-280-8954 or fax resume with references to: 619-280-9150.

PLUMBERS/DRAIN CLEANERS. No experience necessary. Rescue Rooter offers: Medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. Apply in person with recent DMV. 9895 Olson Drive, San

CAREGIVERS



Your eldercare skills and professionalism are wanted! Openings for Live-in Caregivers with a minimum of 2 years' experience, driver's license, car and proof of insurance.

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This is a **TRAINABLE** position supervising ambitious individuals in sales. Any previous sales experience is a plus, but not required.

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San Diego location.

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La Jolla – 858-456-6463

La Costa – 760-632-1432

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Del Mar – 858-253-3600

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www.sandiegobagels.com

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ABS offers an exceptional opportunity for kind and caring Care Providers, Nursing Assistants and Home Health Aides.

Currently experienced/skilled CNAs and HHAs are needed to care for the elderly/disabled. Immediate work available.

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PLUMBING, HEATING, AIR Conditioning tradespeople with/without experience. Work for a national leader in the service industry. Technician training. Must have clean DMV and valid California driver's license. CSL#791820. Contact Kevin, 858-677-5445, x113.

PRESSMAN. Must be able to run AB Dick 9870 (1 color press) and ITEC 3985-twin tower. Friendly and perfectionistic. Part-time; could become full-time. Will train. Jodi, 619-562-5955.

PRODUCTION/CHEMICAL MIXER. 3rd shift. Duties: Selects, measures, weighs, and mixes chemicals by pouring or pumping liquids/solids into a container; operates mixing apparatus to provide correct temperature, pressure, mixing time and degree of agitation. High school diploma/equivalent with 6 months experience. See 12/9 Reader display ad for qualifications. Koch Membrane Systems, 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego 92131. Fax resume: 858-635-1009. EOE. M/F/D/V. Visit: www.kochmembrane.com

SATELLITE TECHNICIANS. Ironwood Communications now hiring! Work for the largest DirecTV installation company. Paid training program. \$60K per year potential. Monthly and quarterly cash bonuses. Excellent health/dental package. \$500 hire-on bonus for qualified Satellite and Cable Techs. EOE/drug-free workplace. Ironwood Communications, Jason Blaylock (Site Manager): 760-403-4921. Danny Scaffidi (District Systems Trainer): 760-403-4465. San Diego County office: 888-420-6867.

SHIPPING/RECEIVING. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, Mel Mar, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

SOLDER MECHANIC. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

WAREHOUSE WORKERS to \$11.25/hour. Heavy lifting up to 65 lbs. Miramar area. All shifts. Apply today! Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm: 701 B Street, Suite 308, San Diego, CA 92101. Call 619-234-9675, fax 619-234-9678.

WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATES. Join Office Depot, the largest office products company in the U.S., at our fast-paced San Diego distribution center! Part time Warehouse Associates, all shifts available for dependable and enthusiastic team players. To become part of our winning team, please visit us at www.officedepot.com, click on "career opportunities." EOE, M/F/D/V. A smoke/drug free environment.

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WAREHOUSE. Picking, packaging, shipping, inventory management. 9-5pm, Monday through Friday. \$8/hour. Reliability a must! Fax resume: 619-641-7949.

WOODWORKER for Carvin Guitars in Carmel Mountain Ranch. Fax 858-521-6031.

EMPLOYMENT MISCELLANEOUS

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ACTIVISM. Campaign jobs with Environmental California and other groups. Help protect our national forests and our oceans. Work with great people. Call Lee, 619-297-5512.

ACTIVISTS. \$300-\$500/week. Save our national forests. Environmental Action PAC is fighting a Bush proposal to open more national forests to logging and mining. Full/part time, career opportunities. Call Sam, 619-221-0821.

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. Disabled person seeking computer literate person to work in and around the house in exchange for housing. Call between 10am-7pm, 619-479-4212.

BARISTA. Full time, UCSD, part time at Fairbanks Ranch. Great opportunity. Approximately \$10/hour including tips. Leave message. Contact Bob at Fairbanks Coffee, 858-699-7610.

CAREGIVERS. Happy, smiling live-in caregivers needed to look after elderly in La Jolla. Top rates and benefits. Ask for Lital 858-454-5519 or call 858-354-5565.

CASHIER, PARKING VALET and Shuttle Driver jobs. Full time, part time. All shifts throughout San Diego. Call the Ampco System Parking job line for current openings. 619-239-3402.

CLERK FOR FRENCH BAKERY. Part-time. No experience required. Starting at \$8/hour. Must be willing to learn, outgoing, and customer oriented. If you want an application faxed to you or to find it online, please call us at 858-488-1725 x311.

COMPUTER ASSISTANT. Computer novice looking for computer lessons on basic computer functions. Various programs such as Microsoft Outlook, Word, Excel and the Internet. 10-15 hours per week. \$10-\$12 hourly. Starts 1/1/05. San

Diego State area. Call 858-350-9696 x114.

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 call or job line: 619-234-0128.

CORRECTIONS OFFICER. The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego seeks qualified Corrections Officers. Requires Adult Corrections Officer CORE Course and 1 year of experience. Full time, \$21.58/hour. Other opportunities available. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. The GEO Group provides \$2.59/hour in lieu of benefits. Group health coverage available. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com. For more information, please call the Job Line at 619-232-9221 and ask for extension 1150.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Up to \$15/hour and after training. \$9/hour during. Multi-million dollar company is expanding to Mission Valley. Full/part-time. AM/PM shifts. Paid weekly. Call today, start today! Between 9am-8pm. 619-516-4276.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE POSITION. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for qualified individuals to fill all of our positions throughout San Diego County. We service San Diego, Del Mar, South Bay, East County, Miramar, Mira Mesa, Sorrento Valley, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, North County. Please call the office that best suits your location: Poway office, 858-513-7077; La Jolla office, 858-625-2025 or our Carlsbad office, 760-431-4333.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/DISPATCHER for materials company in San Bernardino. Excellent customer service skills, coordinate deliveries, accounts payable/accounts receivable. \$30K-\$33K. Call 847-530-4456 or e-mail: mctcsresumes@cs.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/DATA ENTRY Clerk needed for photo lab. Bilingual helpful. Apply at Colorich, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5pm. 1925 Euclid Avenue, San Diego CA 92105. Call: 619-263-2215.

DELI. Counter help needed. Looking for friendly, energetic staff. Full or part time. Call Julie, 858-456-0196 or apply in person, 1101 Wall Street, La Jolla.

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Brinks, Inc., whose reputation has been built upon integrity and professionalism since 1859, provides the following:

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DIRECTV SATELLITE Technicians. Ironwood Communications now hiring! Work for the largest DirecTV installation company. Paid training program. \$60K per year potential. Monthly and quarterly cash bonuses. Excellent health/dental package. \$500 hire-on bonus for qualified Satellite and Cable Techs. EOE/drug-free workplace. Ironwood Communications, Jason Blaylock (Site Manager): 760-403-4921. Danny Scaffidi (District Systems Trainer): 760-403-4465. San Diego County office: 888-420-6867.

DOOR-TO-DOOR ADVERTISING. Earn extra cash! Up to \$500 per week. Men and women 18 years and older are needed to deliver door-to-door advertising in San Diego North County. Distribution areas include Poway, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo and Rancho Penasquitos. Delivery starts January 3, so call now! Work minimum of 6 hours and get paid within 48 hours of successful completion of route. Call 858-271-5300 and refer to the distribution opening for North County Inland January drop. Limited position available. Easy money, no gimmicks!

DRIVER/LEGAL MESSENGER. Great opportunity in busy, growing litigation support service. We will train an enthusiastic team player. Good driving record. \$7.75 to start, company car. Full time. 619-298-2385.

FAMILY CAREGIVERS. Help those in need! Immediate openings for Family Caregivers, Childcare, ElderCare. New-hire bonus! Provide nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, and disabled. New 12-and-24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare, dependent care. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@ayhs.cncdsc.com. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

FITNESS CENTERS is hiring sales/trainers and group instructors including yoga. Part or full time. Being Fit Fitness Centers. Clairemont, 858-483-9294; Mira Mesa, 858-549-3456.

FITNESS-FIT ZONE FOR WOMEN. Full/part-time. Seeking outgoing, enthusiastic people. Sales experience preferred. Nutrition/exercise knowledge a plus. Call 858-449-3512; fax resume, 619-225-9004.

FOOD SERVICE WORKERS. The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego has full-time positions available. \$8.45/hour. Other opportunities available. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. All positions receive additional \$2.59/hour in wages in lieu of benefits. Group health coverage available. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com.

com. For more information, please call HR: 619-232-9221.

FOSTER PARENT. Join our team, so they can join yours! Be a Foster Parent. Training and 24-hour support. Financial compensation. Lic# 370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

FREE LAW ENFORCEMENT/Corrections Seminar! Wednesday, January 5, 2005, 1pm-3pm. If you have ever considered a career in Law Enforcement or Corrections, but weren't sure where to start, this is a must! Presented by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department Recruitment and Background Unit, you will receive valuable information on career opportunities, benefits, preparation for the written exam, background investigation, employment interview, physical agility test and preparation for the Academy. Call today to reserve a seat: 858-974-2159 or visit us at: www.sdsheerif.net.

GENERAL. Ambitious, athletic men and women. Able to lift 25-35 pounds. \$400-\$600/week. No experience necessary. Will train. Setup/Display work. New factory appliance outlets San Diego countywide. Work in your area. 858-566-5155.

GENERAL. Healthcare Services Group now hiring Housekeepers, Laundry Aides, Janitors, Dietary Aides, Maintenance Assistants. North County: 858-672-3900; San Diego: 858-277-6460.

GUARDS. Security Officers, Rovers. Full/part time, weekend shifts. Up to \$10/hour. Apply in person: WSA Worldwide Security, 11526 Sorrento Valley Road #2-D, San Diego, CA 92121. 858-259-2929.

GYMNASTICS INSTRUCTORS. Seeking enthusiastic, experienced people to teach preschool/recreational gymnastics. High energy, strong teaching/nurturing skills needed. Part time. For more information, call 619-246-2469 or e-mail resumes to debbie@gymventures.com.

INSTRUCTORS/JOB COACHES and Substitutes wanted for work with developmentally disabled. No experience required. Will train. \$7.30/hour. Apply in person at 9575 Aero Drive. Positions available in East County/Downtown/Vista. Criminal record clearance and drug test required. www.arc-sd.com. EOE. To schedule an interview, call 858-715-3780.

LAUNDRY WORKER. The GEO Group, Western Region Detention Facility, San Diego has full-time positions available. \$8.65/hour. Other opportunities available. Must have lived legally in USA for the last 5 years, be currently legally eligible to work in USA. Pre-employment physical, drug screening, background investigation, other employment conditions required. EOE. M/F/D/V. www.theGEOgroupinc.com. For more information, please call HR: 619-232-9221.

LOAN OFFICERS. No license required! Bilingual a plus. 1 year mortgage experi-

ence or 2 years sales experience required. \$120K annual potential, high commission splits, quarterly production bonuses, exclusive lead sources. Also seeking qualified Supervisors/Managers. Loan Island, 9089 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 102, San Diego, CA 92123, 858-496-3900. E-mail resume: info@loans2u.net.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN for large luxury apartment community. Apartment maintenance experience required. Call Steve at 619-516-1300.

MYSTERY SHOPPERS: Get paid to shop! Mystery Shoppers needed to pose as customers in local establishments. Valid e-mail required. Part time/full time available. 800-399-2494.

NIGHTLIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS wanted. Clubs, bars and special events. Will train. Must have digital camera. Apply: www.iphotoworld.com/jobs. (AAN CAN)

PART-TIME SECURITY. Immediate placements! With valid CA Guard Card, see office for details. San Diego, Escondido, Temecula. 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 and vision, 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/FULL-TIME. Earn extra cash! Up to \$500 per week. Men and women 18 years and older are needed to deliver door-to-door advertising in San Diego North County. Distribution areas include Poway, Scripps Ranch, Mira Mesa, Rancho Bernardo and Rancho Penasquitos. Delivery starts January 3, so call now! Work minimum of 6 hours and get paid within 48 hours of successful completion of route. Call 858-271-5300 and refer to the distribution opening for North County Inland January drop. Limited position available. Easy money, no gimmicks!

PART-TIME PET SITTER. Permanent. 7 days. Split shift plus holidays. Infrequent traveler, bonded, positive minded, ethical. Reliable car. 619-685-7979.

PART-TIME ON-LINE SURVEY Takers. Work from home and get paid up to \$75 for each completed survey! No experience. Start today: www.SurveyVentures.com/105.

PART-TIME. Balloonatics!, San Diego's original party decorating company, is hiring! Fun job! Flexible hours, no selling! \$8/hour to start. Valid driver's license required. Philip, 619-238-6080.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT. \$12-15/hour. Part-time. Afternoons, evenings, weekends. Some home office work; some work done at beaches, parks, restaurants, etc. Light computer skills/typing. Send resume to Softsun Research: P.O. Box

600339 San Diego, Ca 92160-0339. 619-281-9777.

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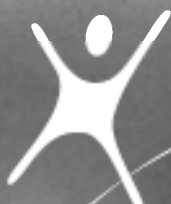


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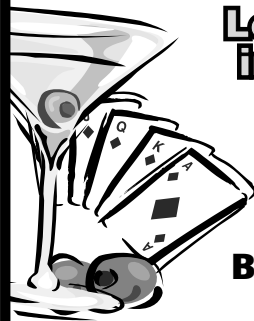
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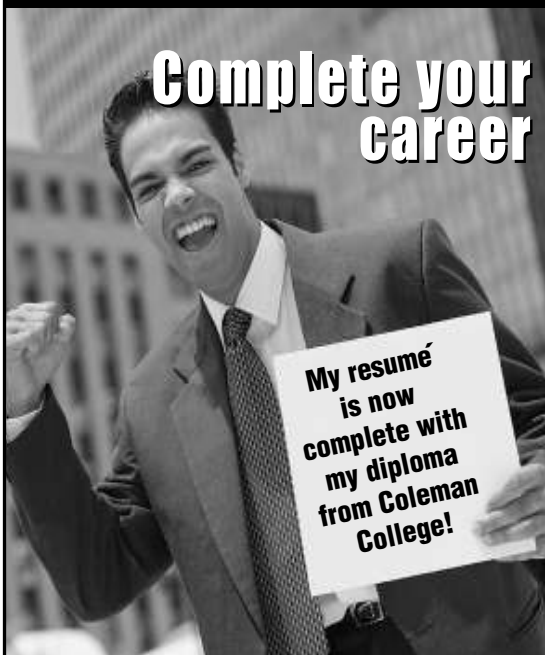
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ABSOLUTELY ANY PROBLEM can be discussed with a professional therapist in complete confidence. Call for an office consultation at no charge. I can handle most issues. Banker's Hill location. Available nights/weekends. Patricia J. Snyder, MFT (MFC-37588). 619-990-4717.

ACCELERATED CHANGE is possible with hypnotherapy. Free consultation. Convenient Escondido location. We also offer self-hypnosis classes every Wednesday, 6:30pm. Certified hypnotherapist since 1987. Lic#CHT592301. 760-738-3745.

ANXIETY, DEPRESSION, traumatic stress? Child or adolescent behavior problems? Individual, couples, family counseling available. Sliding scale, insurance accepted. Jerry Rey, Psy.D. (MFC39595). 619-846-5018.

ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic. 9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

ARE YOU READY FOR GROWTH? Individual/couples therapy with licensed marriage and family therapist. Therapy with heart and compassion. Laura Carr, MFT (MFC-38400). 619-680-5608.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST (PSY7103) offers individual psychotherapy by supervised doctor of psychology/psychological assistant. Low cost, \$35/hour. No insurance accepted. Aero Drive/I-15. 619-884-6273.

COUNSELING/THERAPY. Individuals, families, couples, children, adolescents. Highly skilled MFT interns. Sliding scale as low as \$35 a session. Relationships, depression, anxiety, loss/bereavement, parent and child problems, drug and alcohol concerns. Ongoing men's group and women's groups meeting weekly. Individuals or couples are welcome. (MFC-12245.) Center for Inner Work. 619-584-1725.

COUNSELING/DREAM STUDY. Curious, unsettled by your dreams? Jungian dream study helps with life issues, transitions, relationships. \$40/session. Paul Hartsuyker, MFT-15896. www.sandiegotherapist.com/hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

COUPLES/FAMILY THERAPY. Marriage/couples counseling. Specializing in relationships, individuals, addictions, mood disorders. Samuel A. Newman, M.A., MFT-25066. Sliding scale. 25 years' experience. 619-944-1346. saane41551@yahoo.com.

DEPRESSED? ANXIOUS? Relationship/career problems? There is help from someone you can really talk to. Clinical psychologist, Eva Lee, Ph.D. PSY-8261. 619-297-7377. day and evening.

GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, confusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Discretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Karmen, PhD, MFC-12709. 619-296-9442.

HEALTHY ADULTS learning to heal childhood traumas. Call for free preview. Classes to begin January 24th. Emotional recovery from wounds of dysfunctional family. Includes Thought Field Therapy. Counseling for individuals, couples and families. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician, and Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975. www.goodlove-online.com.

HYPNOTHERAPIST/COUNSELOR. Board certified. All issues welcomed. Evenings OK. Free consultation. Confidential. Accepting new clients. www.tranxformation.com or call now, Lily Gordon, PhD. #C10538. 619-280-8726.

RELATIONSHIP COUNSELING. Let me help you sort out problems. Individuals, couples, and families. Sliding fee scale. Ruthann London, MFT23039, 2181 El Camino Real, Oceanside. 760-672-8552.

STRESSED? FEELING STUCK? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Sexual issues? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

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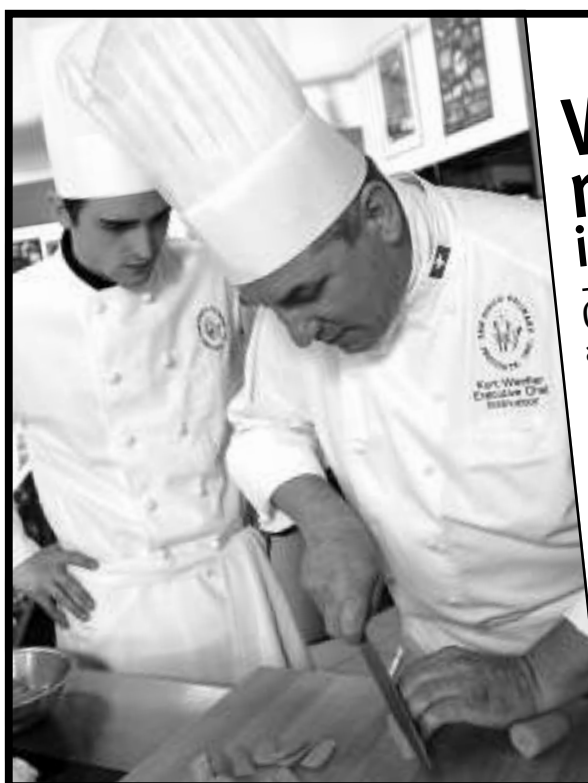
ADDICTED TO INTERNET pornography/sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. 619-685-7211 or PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163.

ADDICTION PROBLEMS? Women for Sobriety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549-3533.

ADDITIONAL HELP NEEDED to staff and support the Medical Awareness Institute's ongoing programs. Cash donations and volunteers needed to expand our services. Please visit www.MAlcares.org. 619-280-2100.

ADULT CHILDREN of Alcoholics. Get group support at San Diego area meetings. Visit www.adultchildren.org or call 619-276-6232.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Fairmont Park/Azalea Park. Tuesdays, 7pm, First Church of Brethren, 3850 Westgate Place, San Diego. John, 619-295-2720.



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Across

- 1. Some like it hot
- 6. Hoolihan's "M*A*S*H" rank: Abbr.
- 9. Not asleep on the job
- 14. Some native New Yorkers
- 15. Three after B
- 16. It's hell
- 17. Take the roll of
- 18. 1976 Rick Dees hit
- 20. 1984 Prince hit
- 22. Make public
- 23. Explosive ingredients
- 24. Sharp change of direction
- 27. Reply of affirmation
- 30. Mag published without paper or ink
- 32. Removed, as a desk drawer
- 37. Top-notch
- 38. 1958 Bobby Day hit
- 40. Complainer's sound
- 42. More despicable
- 43. "No surprise to me"
- 45. Like paradise
- 49. Contribute
- 50. "You're so right!"
- 55. Biblical verb ending
- 56. 1970 Simon & Garfunkel hit
- 59. Apt title for this puzzle
- 62. O.K. Corral brothers
- 63. ____ acid
- 64. Word before an old name
- 65. The "v" in "c.v."
- 66. "Contact" author Carl
- 67. Tied, in a way
- 68. They produce lemons and cherries

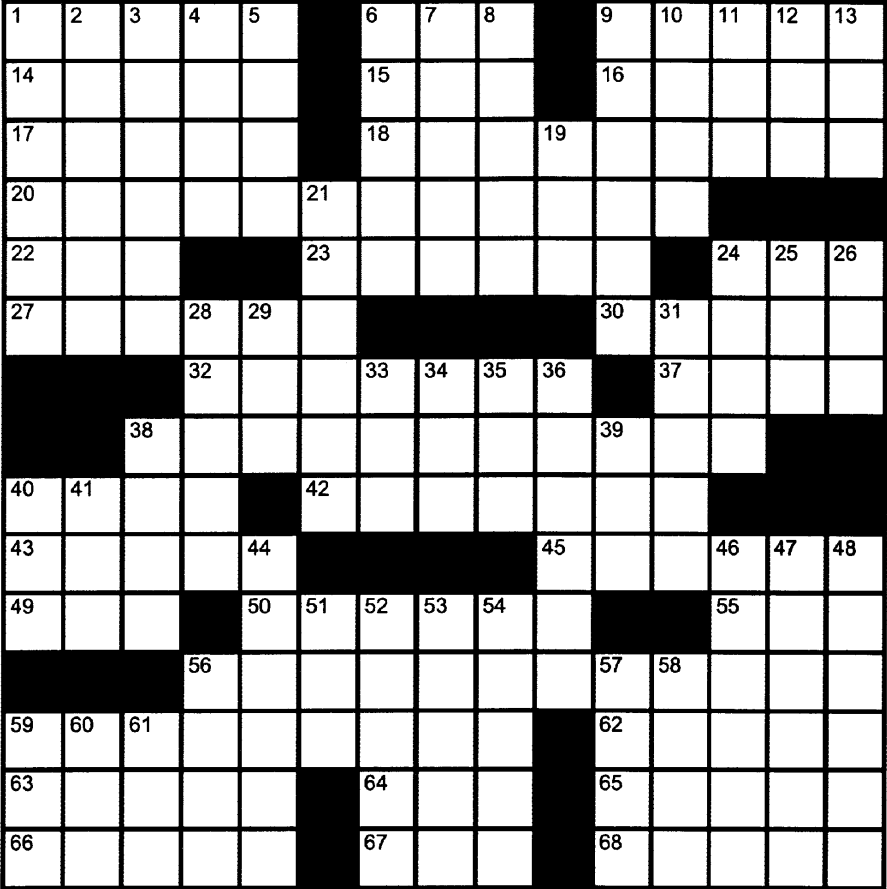
Down

- 1. Oceanic route
- 2. Jughead's pal
- 3. Soda bottle units
- 4. Penn of "Mystic River"
- 5. Made a tax evaluation: Abbr.
- 6. 1406, in Roman numerals
- 7. Cutting down, after "on"
- 8. Reverend Jackson
- 9. What Richard III offered "my kingdom" for
- 10. Disney dog
- 11. School's Web site address ender
- 12. Kind of room
- 13. "Shame on you"
- 19. "Proud Mary" band, for short
- 21. Amplified
- 24. National Park in Utah
- 25. Quaint lodging

- 26. "How about that!"
- 28. "What ____ to do?"
- 29. Vodka or whiskey: Abbr.
- 31. Congo, once
- 33. Corporate sect.
- 34. Clandestine maritime org.
- 35. www.google.com, e.g.
- 36. City of Spain
- 38. "Atlas Shrugged" author Ayn
- 39. Oyster breeding area
- 40. Soccer star Hamm
- 41. Gave the go-ahead
- 44. President after Taft
- 46. Approaching
- 47. 1994 box office flop starring Julia Sweeney
- 48. Some cop show scenes
- 51. Lt. saluter
- 52. Designer Karan
- 53. Georgia of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
- 54. Short-lived Ford
- 56. Novelist O'Brien
- 57. Prepares to drag
- 58. Item for Jack and Jill
- 59. Some college degs.
- 60. "____ little teapot ..."
- 61. 18-wheeler

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
- 2. 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).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. 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.
- 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- 7. One entry per person.



Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 12/16/04.

Of the 93 entrants, 90 were correct. The winners are:

- 1. Janie Redmond, Cardiff
- 2. Guillaume Visot Nolder, San Diego
- 3. Noriko Reese, San Diego
- 4. Ann Robbins, San Diego
- 5. Judith Rocle, San Diego

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 858-576-3811.

ATHEIST COALITION: "In so far as the mind is stronger than the body, so are the ills contracted by the mind more severe than those contracted by the body." Newsletter and website, www.atheistcoalition.org or 858-459-8273.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT (Association Cannabis Therapeutics). Nonprofit. Seeking patients with questions about local guidelines. Proposition 215, doctors, 24 indoor plants, pound, evaluations. Peace, edzepp@yahoo.com or 619-528-0907.

CAR SLOT RACING-SATURDAYS. Yours or buy/rent ours. 75% cost paid back-product purchases, top 3 finishers. Tro-

phy-most points monthly. Vista. www.nomadslotracing.com. 760-492-4619.

CATHOLIC COMRADES for single Catholics of all ages wishing to meet others who share the same beliefs and interests. Write to Catholic Comrades, PO Box 131555, Carlsbad 92013.

CATHOLIC TRADITIONAL Latin mass is held in Escondido at 4pm, the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month. Information, 760-931-1260 or 858-451-6417.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. For information: www.sdccoda.org or 619-222-1244.

CONCERNED UNITED Birthparents welcomes birthparents, adoptees, and adoptive parents to our monthly support group meetings. Visit our website, www.

CUBirthparents.org or call CUB, 619-685-7673.

CROSSDRESSER/TRANSGENDERED? Nonprofit support group. Monthly meetings/newsletter. Education, socializing, friendship. Neutral Corner, PO Box 19008, San Diego 92159. www.geocities.com/neutral-corner or 619-685-3696.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS. Do you have problems with debt, overspending, credit card use? There is a 12-step program that can help you! Call today. 619-525-3065.

DIVORCE HURTS. Find help at DivorceCare. Special weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. Sponsored by Canyon View Christian Fellowship. Information, 619-468-0075.

DIVORCED WITH PROBLEMS? Bad judgments? Corrupt attorney? Paying too much child support and visitation problems? Call Coalition of Parent Support, 619-465-2677.

DIVORCING/SEPARATING? Get guidance/support during your emotional adjustment. Group meets Friday, 6:30-8pm

in Allied Gardens, off Waring Road. Divorce Anonymous. 619-442-1550.

DO YOU SMOKE MARIJUANA to relieve migraines, ADD, arthritis, or other chronic disorder? Find out how to become a legal California medical marijuana patient. 619-708-3352.

DONATE that automobile, boat, RV, etc. to Ronald McDonald House Charities-San Diego for tax deduction and possibly a partial cash payment. Call toll-free, 866-244-8464.

FELLOWSHIP OF OLDER GAYS (FOG). Free, strictly confidential information. Social club, full calendar of activities. PO Box 4271, San Diego 92164-4271. www.geocities.com/ westhollywood/ park/ 9411. 619-298-1388 or 619-702-4586.

FREE 24-HOUR inspirational daily word phone message of love, joy, and encouragement. New message daily, 619-281-LOVE (5683). Prayer ministry, 619-282-7609.

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Box 1473R, San Marcos 92089. 760-436-3730. San Diego. 619-299-6812.

FREE CD on "The 861 Evidence" of income tax collection fraud. Learn if your income is taxable at all. www.861.info.

FREE COUNSELING SERVICES to families waiting for returning servicemen/servicemen that have returned. Family, individual. Private services. Group also forming. First come, first served. 619-838-6817.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4305 Gesner #200. 858-509-7582.

HAVE YOU SEEN "What the Bleep Do We Know?" You can discuss the movie in a small informal group. Call Gilbert, 619-260-0606.

HELP FOR YOUR LIFE. Lonely? Dial hope, 858-277-8060. Scripture, new thought, prayer, request prayer (recorded message changed daily). Helpful messages, 858-277-2389. Sunday service, 10am, Linda Vista Presbyterian Church,

2130 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. 858-277-8060.

HERPES (HSV)/HUMAN (HPV) Papillomavirus support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org. Recorded message, 619-491-1194.

IF YOU ARE A WOMAN, age 18-55, who has suffered a traumatic event, which has led to repeated painful memories, ongoing irritability, anxiety or depression, then please contact a UCSD research team seeking to find out how these symptoms, along with a study dry, and their treatment may affect how your brain works. This is an 8-week study, all visits, treatment and care will be free and you will receive up to \$200 for participation. For more information, please call Kelly at 858-534-9442.

IN SEXUAL COMPULSIVES Anonymous members are encouraged to develop their own sexual recovery plan. Information, 619-819-7740.

LUPUS INTERNATIONAL Support Group meets the third Saturday of every month from 10am to 12pm in Rancho Bernardo. This is a free support group. For more information and meeting location please call Danielle at 888-532-2322, x4.

MEDITATION HOUR. Learn and practice spiritual techniques: grounding, centering, running energies, using clairvoyance, and chakras. Weekly, easy, fun. 619-991-0944.

MEDITATION. Free classes Tuesdays, 7pm; Wednesdays, 7pm; and Thursdays, 7:30pm. Saturdays, 11:30am. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, Suite 303, Ocean Beach. www.dharmacenter.com or 858-616-6308.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching a movie every 2 weeks and discussing it afterward (like book clubs)? Please call 858-272-8727 or 619-934-2602.

OVERWEIGHT men, ages 25-55, needed by UCSD School of Medicine for nutrition and physical activity health promotion research study. Participants will be paid. 858-457-7282.

PARENTS, FAMILIES and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Find help, support, and understanding. Meetings monthly in Hillcrest. www.pflag.com or call for details, 619-579-7640.

PARTICIPATE in research study. Looking for sexually active men and women who have used crystal meth recently. All confidential. Cash incentive \$230. 619-543-5088.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Healing into Positive Life Creation," January 20, 2005. 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar 92014. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. 858-259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Connecting to Spirit," January 10, 4716 32nd Street, San Diego 92116. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. 619-280-9075.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING adoption? We can help! We specialize in matching families with birth mothers nationwide. Toll free 24 hours a day, One True Gift Adoptions, 866-921-0565. (AAN CAN)

PROBLEMS TORMENTING YOU? Relationship setbacks, addiction, anxiety, stress, pain, falling apart. Impact your life with Spiritual Solutions. Free community service. Call 858-272-3246.

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/codependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate Recovery, First Lutheran, 867 S. Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444.

RESEARCH participants needed. Earn \$50 gift card. Women with PMS between 20-35 living with partner at least 1 year. 760-944-6294.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798, www.slawso.org.

VOLUNTEER as an office coordinator with the Carlsbad Fire Department. Help with variety of needs from responding to public inquiries to facilitating the bicycle license program. 760-434-2929.

VOLUNTEER to teach lessons about local government to 3rd graders in their Carlsbad classrooms through the CityStuff program. Receive 3-hour training session for 6 presentations. 760-439-3716.

VOLUNTEER by being a friend to someone with a mental health challenge. Only 4 hours a month makes a difference to a child or adult. Contact info@compersandiego.org or 858-361-3632.

VOLUNTEER AS A MENTOR. Change a life. Need responsible, caring adults to serve as volunteer mentor for youth at risk, 10-17. KristianPartners Mentorship Program, 619-584-5797.

VOLUNTEERS, San Diego's abused/neglected children need you. Serve as a Court Appointed Special Advocate or Educational Surrogate. Training provided. Next information sessions: Wednesday, 1/12 and 2/9. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit www.voices4children.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for thrift store. Alliance For African Assistance. Help process clothing donations in our thrift store warehouse. Any help given is greatly appreciated. 619-282-4218.

WE WANT NEW WRITERS. The Academy for Alternative Journalism, supported by the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies and by alternative papers like this one, seeks experienced minority journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Chicago. The 9-week program (6/19/05-8/14/05) aims to recruit talented minority writers into the alternative press and train them in magazine-style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3000 plus housing and travel allowances. While the program is designed to encourage minority writers to consider careers in the alternative press, candidates of any ethnicity may apply. For information visit the website www.medill.northwestern.edu/aaaj or write for an application: Academy of Alternative Journalism, Northwestern University, Medill School of Journalism, 1845 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208. E-mail altacademy@northwestern.edu. Application deadline: February 11, 2005. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

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Last week's place: The driving range at National City's public golf course — maybe the cheapest in the county — at 1439 Sweetwater Road. A bucket of 63 balls costs \$5. To play a round on the nine-hole course costs \$10. Try getting that deal at Torrey Pines. (Last week's winners: Dana Gassaway, David Ruth, Jeff Dunbar, James Bennett, Chris Kmet)

Q: Walking before giants?

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 and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

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AIRLINE TICKET, Southwest 1 way, real paper voucher, not electronic, fully transferable, expires February 2005, \$185 cash only. 858-349-2160.

AIRLINE TICKETS, Southwest, 6 one way, transferable to anyone, anywhere, last minute, reservations only. \$180 each way, use 2 for roundtrip. Security fee \$5 extra. 619-464-3111.

AIRLINE TICKETS, anywhere Southwest flies with drink coupon book, fully trans-

ferable, roundtrip \$340 cash. Pick up in Pacific Beach. 858-336-0695.

COSTA RICA PARADISE! 35 lovely furnished hotel/apartments. Best area! \$195/week; \$395/month. Scotland Apartments, www.hotels.co.cr/scotland.html. Call Donald Blair at 760-822-1508. Also, excellent real estate investment opportunities. www.costaricaRE4sale.com.

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LAS VEGAS AND LAUGHLIN TOURS! Five Star Tours is offering a 3 day, 2 night excursion with transportation, hotel and casinos. Call 619-232-5040. www.fivestartours.com.

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BEVERLY who lived in Imperial Beach and Lakeside in the 1960s, call Jerry D.

CONTINUED: Following Asteroid... "It matters not to you, for you will have lost your 'consciousness' and would again be without knowingness." Aton.

DAVIEBABE! Roller skating, Grossmont Mall, The kids' photos, and Santa!

DICK-SUPPORTERS are jock straps (and man, do they smell). Surf's up, Dickdude! TGIF.

MATCHES

SHARED INTERESTS

FRIENDSHIP, Erudite Latin male. Educated, shy, soft spoken. Seeking mature, intelligent male friend for movies, Scrabble, cogent talks. Age/appearance unimportant. I value character foremost. (12/29) ☎33429

WHITE FEMALE, ATHLETIC, 50, intelligent, responsible, very mild autism, seeks friends. Hiking, tennis, basketball, movies, jazz, saxophone, coffee. Responsible, loyal, bilingual. (1/5) ☎33448

FRIENDSHIP, Senior gal, fun, friendly. Seeking retiree who likes to drive long trips, East Coast cruises. Outdoors type, tall, thin, healthy, energetic, charismatic personality. (1/5) ☎33430

MATCHES

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

THIS EXOTIC, ATTRACTIVE, smart, fit, mysterious woman is looking for a playmate, 55-65 years old. (1/5) ☎33771

LET'S DANCE! Lots to offer! Attractive, slender lady, 110lbs., diversified, educated in life! Outdoors, arts, theater, young 50, attractive, fit, outgoing, non-smoker. (1/5) ☎33775

SENSUAL, ATTRACTIVE, loving, youthful lady, 5'6", trim, athletic, enjoys outdoors. Seeking tall, healthy male, 55-68, wanting to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (1/5) ☎33765

SMOLDERING SCORPIO, curvaceous (not fat) classic beauty, great conversa-

tionist, excellent cook. Seeking kind, cultured (not the yogurt kind!) 45-55, who wouldn't mind a serious relationship! (12/29) ☎33742

NEW YEAR, new friend/companion. Talk, walk, clear gain, tall, kind gentleman about 68-75 would be great! Swim, former skier, golfer, dancer, need partner. (1/5) ☎33774

ZEST FOR LIFE! Vivacious, spirited, balanced woman seeks honest, passionate, sensitive man to share laughter, commitment and dreams. Captivating energy to invigorate your soul. (12/29) ☎33759

OUTGOING, GOLDEN, divorced white female, 63, worldly, artistic, musical, cultural, seeks youthful, explorative, attractive, fit, crafty, outdoorsy, flexible rancher gardener for new horizons, life learning. (12/29) ☎33750

NAUGHTY BUT NICE! Fun loving, effervescent, trim, pulchritudinous, confident, sensuous, honest, desires white non-smoker, 57-67, humorous, romantic, playful, stable, intelligent. Share, care, love. Sports, arts. (12/29) ☎33748

GODDESS NEXT DOOR with weekends to share for companionship, exploring the town; hanging out in the comfort zones. If you've got ideas, I've got time. (1/5) ☎33768

36-YEAR-OLD QUALITY LADY seeks physically fit, kind gentleman, 34-46 years, for lasting relationship. I'm brunette with blue eyes and attractive. Serious responses. (1/5) ☎33777

SEEKING FINE GENTLEMAN to share some special times with. Must be 6' or taller, handsome. Me: great, black woman, no children. (1/5) ☎33776

YOUNG MAN WANTED for Christmas. Age 25-40, young 50-year-old attractive woman seeks a handsome man to spoil and be spoiled. Lots of love. (1/5) ☎33778

HISPANIC, 47, SMILES, honest, sense of humor, easy to get along with. Enjoy jazz, arts, dining, movies, adventurous, romantic, affectionate, sincere. (1/5) ☎33763

CUBAN FEMALE, 47, sexy, romantic, intelligent, good morals. Seeking gentleman with good qualities, for a rewarding, long relationship. Let's start a new year together. (12/29) ☎33753

FRISKY GODDESS, 53; nature, metaphysics, science, travel, art. Seeking Caucasian boyfriend, 46-60, nonsmoking, spiritual, open minded, educated, caring, kind, optimistic, creative, handy, for life adventures. (1/5) ☎33767

EDUCATED, INTELLIGENT, fun-loving Italian. Seeking healthy widower, working/semiretired professional, professor, doctor, attorney, late 50s/mid-60s for potentially serious long-term relationship. Nonsmoking. (12/29) ☎33740

DON'T SPEND NEW YEAR'S Eve alone! Spend it with me! Attractive blonde, 5'3", 120lbs. Seeking male between ages 38-50 for good times, dating and relationship. (12/29) ☎33746

FUN, FIT, YOUNG, shapely, 63, 5'7", Caucasian, intelligent Democrat, walks, arts, nature, dining. You: 57-63, healthy, non-smoker, life-loving, for friendship, romance. San Diego preferred. (12/29) ☎33755

ASIAN, EXOTIC, SWEET, nice legs, curvaceous, humorous, 5'3", 115lbs., health care professional, childless, homeowner.

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Seeking fit nonsmoker, generous, up-scale, compatible, financially stable, 35+, Caucasian/Asian bachelor. (12/29) ☎33757

LOOKING FOR TRUE LOVE. Ready to be met with love, affection, flowers, kisses, sushi, sunsets and intelligent conversation. (12/29) ☎33743

TALL, PLAYFUL, AUBURN, 44, 5'9". Seeking professional, 6'+, 200lbs+., 38-46, spiritual, stylish, honest, dancer, adventurous, cultural, humorous, spontaneous, nonsmoker/addictions, stable. New Years/Vegas, friendship. (12/29) ☎33747

EAST COAST ATTITUDE wanted by gal with fabulous personality and quick wit. I am 42, 5'10", brown/brown, and fit with positive attitude. Seeking similar. (12/29) ☎33754

PRETTY AND PETITE music teacher, 5'2", 115lbs. Enjoys hiking, bicycling, working out, meditation, hatha yoga, seeks gentleman 5'10"+, athletic, spiritual, good sense of humor. (12/29) ☎33760

PASSIONATE NURSE, loves flowers, needs love. Marriage minded, 47, tall, white/Latina. You: work, car, white, no family. 48-60 years old. (12/29) ☎33756

MERRY CHRISTMAS, Happy New Year Mr. 70+, from young at heart, attractive lady looking for lonely, active nonsmoker, for companionship or long-term relationship. (1/5) ☎33762

LOVER/BOYFRIEND WANTED by plus-size brunette, very loving and sincere nonsmoker. Seeking long-term relationship. Let's go for it, big boy! (12/29) ☎33741

LATIN LADY, PETITE, 40. Seeking sincere, honest male for dating. Must be passionate, caring, single, humorous, gentle. Military OK, salsa OK. Emotionally stable with morals. (12/29) ☎33738

BLONDE, BIKINI LOOKS, 5'8", 135lbs., classy lady. Seeking 45-55, single white male, 5'10"-6'4", financially secure, homeowner, handsome. Genuine dates, fun, romance, trips. (12/29) ☎33751

56, FUNNY, HONEST, outgoing. Seeking friendship of a gentleman between 54-60. Be outgoing, have good sense of humor, nonsmoker. Be spontaneous and fun loving. (1/5) ☎33766

3

Ways to Respond to

READER MATCHES ADS!

Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200 x416

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No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.

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No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

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."

ABOVE AVERAGE FEMALE, 50s (look 40s), attractive, active, bright. Seeking accomplished, degreed professional with career in military/government, for social activities, travel, long term relationship. (1/5) ☎33781

ATTRACTIVE, ADVENTUROUS, sweet lady looking for same in a man wanting weekend playmate for walks, movies, concerts, etc. and relaxing delights in Southern California area. (1/5) ☎33770

PACIFIC BEACH AVERAGE lady wants to meet an average man. I am 52, 5'3", 125lbs. My interests are pie, ice cream, chocolate, mental health. (12/29) ☎33745

VERY ATTRACTIVE, 55, 5'3", blonde, 110lbs., athletic. Seeking attractive, well groomed, 5'10"-6", trim, Caucasian, European, Spanish, 58-65, humorous, dancing, travel, dining, movies, enjoy the holidays. (12/29) ☎33749

NEW TO EACH OTHER in the new year. Very attractive, 52, North County nonsmoker. Seeking alive, fun, tallish, good-looking male for romance, travel, beach, kisses. (1/5) ☎33779

NURSE, BEAUTIFUL, SHY, loving, 38, 5'7", 128lbs., professional, Asian. Seeking handsome, educated, caring, passionate, supportive, genuine, sensitive man, 38-49, physically/mentally healthy, long-term relationship. (12/29) ☎33752

SEEKING SOMEONE to spend time with, possibly build relationship, travel, companion. Me: 50, European, blonde, college graduate, nice looking. You: good looking, college educated, North. (1/5) ☎33761

HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE. Looking for a compatible partner. I'm 58, tall, slender, attractive, nonsmoker, Jewish. Enjoy walks, movies, dining, friendship and sharing fun times. (1/5) ☎33780

NEWLY DIVORCED 49-year-old wants to meet a nice, fun guy to date. I am 5'7", 127lbs., like books, movies, music. Have dogs, cats. (1/5) ☎33772

CUTE ASIAN, 44, looks 34s, homeowner, mother. Seeking nonsmoking Caucasian, considerate, generous, degreed, mannered, 38-52, fit, cleancut 5'10"+, to enjoy casual entertainment, food, conversation, kids. (12/29) ☎33744

SINCERE, LATIN, 48, 5'5", professional, stable, nonsmoker. Searching for black gentleman, 41-55, nonsmoker, no drugs/games. All calls returned. (1/5) ☎33782

PRETTY, CURVACEOUS LADY, 65, fun loving, kind, in search of kind, 67-75 years, light hearted gentleman, 5'10", for long-term relationship. (1/5) ☎33764

LOOKING FOR STRONG black man, 40-55, who enjoys long walks, plays, amusement parks, museums, and good conversation. No games please. (12/29) ☎33758

WOMEN OF QUALITY VALUES wants successful entrepreneur, nonsmoker, 5'10"+, 49-59, for the best fulfillment ever. Me: 54, 5'5", great shape. (12/29) ☎33739

SPANISH LADY, ATTRACTIVE, divorced, graduate, good nature. Seeking white Caucasian/Hispanic gentleman, 35-50, similar characteristics to create stable relationship based in mutual love and respect. (1/5) ☎33769

IMAGINE KATIE COURIC at 61. Playful, healthy, active, attractive, retired professional, 5'3-1/2", 118lbs. You are healthy, active, attractive, financially secure. Seeking friends, possible relationship. (1/5) ☎33773

MATCHES

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

SINGLE MOM OF SMALL CHILD?

Executive, engineer, MBA, 42, 6'3", 175lbs., slim, fit, well-dressed, handsome Spanish descendant with accent, manners, personality, son is 6. (12/29) ☎33425

Merry Christmas!

Strong, gentle and tender professional man, 6'2", 205lbs., mid-50s. Seeking warm, understanding lady to cherish and respect and for committed relationship. Merry Xmas! (12/29) ☎33422

WELL, THIS WILL BE interesting. Am I ready? Are you ready? Call and let's find out. (12/29) ☎33406

HANDSOME, SEXY, SUCCESSFUL executive, 60, trim, 5'10", blond, green eyes, clean, caring, considerate, romantic. Seeking pretty lady, 40s+, for travel, fun, happy, exciting committed relationship. (12/29) ☎33401

THIS BLIND DATE will be the best one you ever had! Attractive, humorous, fit, Latin, 38, young looking. Searching for a passionate, attractive, fun lady! (1/5) ☎33431

MEXICAN OR ASIAN connection sought by 30-something, 6'3", degreed, handsome, spiritual, Afro-American male. No baggage. Loving personality. Please be petite or some curves. (12/29) ☎33428

ON A QUEST TO FIND my mate. I'm healthy, grounded, athletic, realistic expectations, 5'9", 170lbs., 65. Like the outdoors, kayaking, bicycling, coffee, wine. Age open. (1/5) ☎33458

TALL WHITE MALE seeks pretty black female for fun, company. Nice legs and great wit a plus! Do you like Sade? Well, Adu. Well, adieu! (1/5) ☎33439

HANDSOME HISPANIC SEEKS special honey for the holidays for fun, laughter, plus romantic moments. Let's meet, passionate, serious-minded sweetheart. Possible long-term relationship, more. (12/29) ☎33399

SINGLE HISPANIC, 5'9", 29, looking for females to meet 25-55 of age. I like movies, going out, and walks on beach. Open minded. (1/5) ☎33453

EAST COUNTY, RETIRED, 68, nice guy, like cruises, car trips, movies, walks. I am healthy, active, trim, looking for a nice lady. (12/29) ☎33417

CAN SING, DANCE, WALK, talk, smile and cry; alone or with the right lady this Christmas. Me: I'm 5'9", 64, open minded, and open hearted. (12/29) ☎33410

MUSICIAN SEEKS MUSICIAN or singer or songwriter. Tall, 40s, fun, passionate, hiking, exploring, travel, good communication, positive attitude, good life. (12/29) ☎33397

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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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Meet your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

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

PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

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|---------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |

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Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 **Fax:** (619) 233-7907
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Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Phone:** (619) 235-8200

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We must have the following information. Please print.

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Phone (evening) () _____

Signature _____

To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)

E-mail: _____

Choose One: ☐ Woman seeking a man
☐ Shared interests ☐ Man seeking a woman

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San Diego Reader December 23, 2004 171

ENTREPRENEUR, SUCCESSFUL, financially secure, homeowner, tall, handsome, fit, virile, widower. Has everything! Seeking fun lady, 49-65, attractive, playful, affectionate, curvaceous, dates, dancing, romance, exciting trips. (12/29) **☎**33405

TALL, ROMANTIC, ROUGH tenor, with a sort of macho attitude, seeks sensual, 40-something woman. A published writer and opera singer. Let's start some fires! (12/29) **☎**33415

OCEANSIDE GENTLEMAN, 52, 5'9", self assured, honest, playful, positive, kind, giver, romantic. Seeking good friend for quality fun, theater, movies, dining, walks, weekend getaways, nonsmoker. (12/29) **☎**33414

NEW YEAR'S KISS! 33, 5'4", professional, curvy, happy, fun, affectionate, caring, active woman seeks nice guy 29-43, educated, nonsmoking, honest, upbeat, communicative, for sincere relationship. (1/5) **☎**33783

U.S. EXECUTIVE, 58, college, no drugs/smoking, considerate, romantic. Seeking Hispanic woman, bilingual, attractive, slender, 5'-5'6", 30-40 years old, no children at home, for travel, dining, and fun. (12/29) **☎**33395

FULFILLING LIFE PARTNER. Seeking spirited, interesting, genuine, playful, active, fit, good looking, 25-40, commitment, family, i. energetic, loving, playful, tactile, holistic health, athletic, caring, appreciative. (12/29) **☎**33423

DIM WITTED CAUCASIAN woman who resembles blonde in jokes wanted by divorced Caucasian male, mid-60s, who can not find woman of his dreams. (1/5) **☎**33461

LA JOLLA INVESTOR, 6'3", 190lbs., handsome, athletic, 38. Looking for younger beauty with brains. Please enjoy travel, dining, sports, adventure. Lets have lunch, dinner or? (12/29) **☎**33413

APPEALING TO MY BEAUTIFUL black goddess: This attractive, white male professional, age 42-waits you with romance and respect! (1/5) **☎**33440

3 Ways to Respond to READER MATCHES ADS!

Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200 x416

Use your credit card

No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours

No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

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."

SINGLE WHITE MALE, 39, 5'10", blonde/blue, average build. Enjoy sports, travel, theme parks, long drives. Seeking attractive, uncumbered, white female, 25-55 with similar interests. (1/5) **☎**33436

EAST COUNTY SEEKS sexy, fit, Christian woman, nonsmoker, no kids, 47-54. Me: 6', 190lbs., custom motorcycle and homeowner, loving, caring, stable. (1/5) **☎**33452

NICE GUY, 53, SEEKS nice girl, 45-49, slender, smart, playful, nonsmoker, for all kinds of stuff to laugh at, enjoy, remember, love. Call now. (1/5) **☎**33459

SPIRITUAL, ROMANTIC, sensual man in search of Asian woman, 30-45, humble, pretty smile, affectionate, good shape, for relationship of passion, intimacy and growth. (12/29) **☎**33398

CHARMING, HANDSOME, TALL, confident, romantic, fun loving, 46. Looking for that special lady for intimate and lasting relationship. Affectionate, loyal, responsible. Healthy, slender, pretty. Nonsmoking. (1/5) **☎**33446

AFFECTIONATE, ATTRACTIVE, degreed professional, uncumbered, 40, 6'1", 215lbs., green-blue eyes, family oriented, German-Irish Catholic. Seeking attractive, intelligent, uncumbered, white, 24-34, inner/outer beauty. (12/29) **☎**33427

VERY YOUNG GOISH, tall, handsome, white male, divorced father, seeks attractive, generous, sexy woman. Enjoy intimate, romantic evenings, kisses, hugs, soft music, me, wine. (1/5) **☎**33454

ROMANTIC, YOUNG, 63, East County, very fit, nonsmoker, nice guy, imagine Richard Dreyfuss. Share life, love, music, dining, movies, ideas. Seeking curvy, 5'5"ish, soul mate. (12/29) **☎**33421

GOOD-LOOKING, SMART, stable, successful, uncumbered, nice guy, approximately 6', 180lbs., 47. Seeking slender, single, highly educated, nurturing beauty, 30-43, for balanced, long-term relationship. (12/29) **☎**33403

INQUISITIVE, DISCERNING, 55, well read, traveled, principled, nice looking, uncumbered, considerate, aesthetic, sensual, conversant. Desires smart, secure, long term, equal. (1/5) **☎**33460

ROSES OR CARNATIONS? Dining out, movies, walks at the beach, parks or zoo? Leave me a message. Prefer African-American but will answer all messages. (1/5) **☎**33432

CARING, FUN, FIT, romantic white male, 54, 5'6", 180lbs., seeks special lady for dinner, walks, camping, and quality time together. Bye for now. (12/29) **☎**33416

KARAOKE SINGER, CONTRACTOR, 45, tired of wowing the crowd but always going home alone. Can you relate? Looking for singer my age or close enough. (1/5) **☎**33441

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relationship. I'm 56, 5'3", 145lbs., good looking. I love music, walking, cats, fun at home. La Mesa area please. (12/29) **☎**33418

SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN, intelligent, handsome, charming and emotionally stable, wishes to make happy a sensitive, attractive and educated lady in her 30s. (12/29) **☎**33420

NICE GUY, FIT, HAVE FUN doing anything. Family, friends #1. Racquetball, movies, dancing, Vegas. Like football with guys, but clean up nicely for night out. (12/29) **☎**33407

LIGHTNING SEEKING THUNDER. 57, 5'11", 175lbs., exercise a lot, plentiful hair, property manager, MA degree. Seeking shapely, good legs, 45-60, successful, still seeking right fit. (1/5) **☎**33447

SENIOR GENTLEMAN. Very active, tired of being alone. Ready for a long, fun-filled relationship. Please no grumpies. (12/29) **☎**33419

GENTLEMAN, KIND, 50s, addicted to live music, indie films, basketball, eats all languages. Are you related to Scarlett Begonias, 45-65? Let's listen to music, play. (1/5) **☎**33463

OUTDOORSY FEMININE lady needed. Me: 45, act 25, 5'8", 165lbs., honest, reliable, casual. You: ideas, motivating, one-man woman, nonsmoker. Ready for caring, sharing relationship. (1/5) **☎**33434

HANDSOME, ATHLETIC, 37, 160lbs., open minded, caring, romantic, outgoing, uncumbered, considerate, aesthetic, kind woman, any age/race, for some great times. Nonsmoker/drugs. Call. (1/5) **☎**33443

EAST COUNTY GUY seeks lady. Friendship leading to long term. Girl next door, hugs, kisses, romance, outdoor type. Myself early 60s. (1/5) **☎**33438

MISSION BAY, CAUCASIAN, widower, 60s, 6'7", 165lbs., secured homeowner. Enjoys music, dancing, cooking, glass wine, quiet times. Seeking attractive, affectionate lady, under 65, for dating. (1/5) **☎**33442

65+, ATTRACTIVE, ROMANTIC male seeks healthy, stable, special lady for quality time. (12/29) **☎**33400

OLD GEEZER, 80s. Seeking chick, 70s-80s, for friendship, companionship, possible long relationship. Love good music, foods, wines, cruises, travel to all enjoyable destinations on earth. (1/5) **☎**33435

LARGE WHITE FEMALE wanted. Attractive, intelligent black artist seeks devoted, passionate, monogamous relationship with you. Be large, proportioned, attractive and seeking a permanent relationship. (1/5) **☎**33433

FUN LOVING, AFFECTIONATE, educated, 5'8", athletic gentleman. Looking for nonsmoker, slim, medium build, cuddly, 50s, 5'-5'6" female for conversation, outings,

beaches, music, movies, home, love? (1/5) **☎**33449

TALL, SLIM, ROMANTIC engineer seeks woman of insight, 40-50, modest, financial dreams. Start with walks, conversation, tennis, swimming, work up to dancing, back rubs, etc. (1/5) **☎**33462

SLENDER, 6'1", FIT, FUN, degreed, responsible, father, humorous, mannered, varied interests. You: 42-52, bright, fun, trim, feminine, available, nonsmoker; conversation, dinners, quiet times, movies, dance. (1/5) **☎**33445

ARE YOU OVERWEIGHT or fat, but not obese, fair looking, feminine, active, happy, 25-50 female seeking a fair looking, fit, loveable, 40, black male? (1/5) **☎**33451

I AM 58. Are you adventurous, like to walk on the beach, clubs for dancing, and fun loving? Let's hook up! Leave e-mail or phone number. (1/5) **☎**33457

WHITE MALE, 61. Looking for lady for fun, romance, walks, dining out, weekend trips, casinos, boating, Lake Havasu. Let's talk. (12/29) **☎**33404

SINGLE DAD WITH LITTLE girl, 7 years. 46 years, 5'10", 170lbs., blond/blue, Chula Vista. Seeking lasting relationship with loving, caring, easygoing, thin woman. (12/29) **☎**33402

ITALIAN, 45, HARD WORKER. Seeking lady, long term relationship. Race/age open. No kids, nonsmoker/games, enjoy music, romantic dining, sports. Call me. Ciao bella. (1/5) **☎**33450

AFFECTIONATE, ROMANTIC, monogamous, biracial African-American and white, 65, 6'4", 220lbs., financially secure. Seeking lifetime relationship with white female. Home, dancing, travel, fun, more. (1/5) **☎**33456

BLACK RETIRED MARINE with all the right stuff. Looking for an intelligent, attractive woman, 5'5" +. (12/29) **☎**33426

6'2", GQ-LOOKING, young 50, nonsmoker, educated, financially secure, athletic, white professional, honest, responsible, smart, communicative, uncumbered, humorous, hugger. North Coastal homeowner. You: stunning, classy, curvaceous. (12/29) **☎**33424

TRAVEL, ROMANCE! Sean Connery look alike, athletic, communicative, monogamous, 61. Seeking down to earth, fit woman for sharing, laughing, good conversation, emotional intimacy, camping, hiking. (12/29) **☎**33411

SEEKING ORIENT: Asian young lady wanted by tall, educated professional male, I have no baggage. For dancing, romancing, friendship, dining, dating, exciting things, possibly more. (12/29) **☎**33412

PENASQUITOS, RETIRED, white, Virgin, 67, 5'11", 170lbs., spiritual. Enjoy yoga, meditation, exercise, outdoors, gardening. Seeking water sign with similar interests for lasting relationship with love. (1/5) **☎**33437

ASIAN LADY REQUESTED by Caucasian gentleman. You are 30s-40s, slim, sensual, happy, fun, sense of humor, interesting. Me: traveler, loves family, business, and you! (12/29) **☎**33396

36, 6', WHITE MALE. Interests are cool dive bars, Cajun food, vampire folklore, collecting rare records, anything vintage, classic horror movies, jazz, meeting freaky people. (1/5) **☎**33444

ROOMMATES

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

BAY PARK. Share beautiful home. Quiet neighborhood. Washer/dryer, fireplace, wireless broadband internet, digital TV. Female. Nonsmoker. \$550/month, share utilities. Available 1/2005. 619-276-0781.

BAY PARK. \$620, includes utilities. Upstairs in trilevel, quiet area in cul-de-sac. Refrigerator, washer/dryer. Share bathroom. Female preferred. 858-272-1594.

BAY PARK/MISSION BAY. Home on Clairemont Court. \$510. Nice furnished room, internet, cable, washer/dryer, kitchen, beautiful garden, near bay, transportation, stores, prefer male, nonsmoker, utilities \$80. 619-276-1966.

BONITA/CHULA VISTA, EAST. \$500/month, 1/3 utilities. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in great neighborhood. Near Southwestern College. Backyard has pool, jacuzzi, barbecue, and more. Washer/dryer. No pets. Available 1/1. 619-392-9697.

CARDIFF. 3 rooms/own baths. 2-story house. \$850, \$900, \$950. Panoramic ocean views. All amenities, washer/dryer. One room has private entrance. No pets. 760-815-0352.

CARDIFF. Small, \$550. Tiny room, \$475 plus utilities/deposits. Community living with privacy. Vegetarian kitchen, organic

garden, jacuzzi, laundry, distilled water. Nonsmokers, no dogs. 760-753-0321.

CARLSBAD. \$650, all utilities included. Large 3 bedroom home to share. Private backyard, fire pit and ping-pong table. Close to beach and lagoon. 760-730-0450.

CARLSBAD. \$850. Near beach. Share large condo with balcony. Lagoon view. Single level, elevator, bedroom, private bath, fireplace, washer/dryer, secure garage, pool, jacuzzi. 619-885-1471; 619-235-2415, x27512.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$700 and \$750, plus deposits, includes utilities. 2 rooms with private baths. Includes kitchen, laundry, yard, parking available, female preferred, cat considered. 858-755-7693.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$825/month, 1/2 utilities. 2 bedroom, 2 bath dual master townhome. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, garage. Large closet, private bath. Available January 7. 949-887-5255.

CHULA VISTA. \$500/month. Female preferred. Furnished bedroom in nice home. Share bathroom. No pets/smoking. Cable, phone, kitchen privileges. 619-271-4802.

CHULA VISTA, EAST. \$450-\$475. Room in spacious, new, peaceful home near SouthWestern. Share bathroom, great location/neighborhood, washer/dryer, cable, female. No smoking/drugs. 619-864-2375.

CLAIREMONT. \$550, plus 1/3 utilities. Room in 3 bedroom house. Pool, washer/dryer, cable, DSL included. Large yard, close to everything. 858-405-2607.

CLAIREMONT. \$350 unfurnished, \$400 furnished. One bedroom, share bath, kitchen. 1/2 utilities. Garage \$25. Near I-5. No smoking, drugs or pets. Deposit. Available 1/05/05. 619-235-2415, x16361.

CLAIREMONT. \$575. 3 bedroom house. Large bedroom available January. Bills included. Washer/dryer, internet possible. Large enclosed backyard, some storage. Pet possible with deposit. 858-573-2354.

CLAIREMONT. Special price! Bedroom available, \$475. Space in living room with couch/closet. \$275. Centrally located. No drugs/alcohol. Available now. 858-483-4184.

CLAIREMONT. \$550. Room on back of house with private entrance. Share kitchen, etc. Quiet street, plenty of parking, free laundry, cable TV. Available 1/6/05. 858-569-0105.2

CLAIREMONT. \$550, share utilities. Room in 3 bedroom, 2 bath, quiet mount area home. Fresh and clean. No smoking, pets, or drugs. 858-277-2044; e-mail, bjwithall@yahoo.com.

CLAIREMONT, NORTH. 2 rooms. Master bedroom/private bath. \$540. Small room/private bath, \$440. 1/4 utilities. Share house. \$200 deposit. Quiet place. Available now. 858-483-2857.

CLAIREMONT/MESA COLLEGE. 1 bedroom available now in large house near Belford and Armstrong. \$450, plus utilities, deposit. No pets. Call Frank at 858-560-2946.

COLLEGE AREA. \$550-\$800. 2 houses. 6+ bedrooms, 3 baths includes utilities, cable, Internet. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer. Double garage. Cul-de-sac. www.myidealhome.com/collegecasas. 619-265-7425.

COLLEGE AREA. \$500 includes internet, TV, phone, utilities. Male/female share 3 bedroom condo with 2 males. Share bathroom. Laundry/pool. No pets. Scott, 858-336-1913.

COLLEGE AREA. \$650 plus deposit. Room for rent. Condo. Share kitchen and laundry room. Cable internet, pool, jacuzzi. Nice complex. Available now. 619-548-2165.

COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. \$450, spacious bedroom, peaceful canyon top home. 2 males looking for male roommate. Washer/dryer, storage, yard. No smoking, drugs, pets. 619-287-1780. 619-235-2415, x31231.

COLLEGE AREA. Immediate move-in. 2 bedrooms available, \$550 each. Share bathroom. Female preferred. Washer/dryer, pool, jacuzzi, 805-657-3208.

CROWN POINT. \$700, 1/2 utilities and deposit. Great room for rent! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Parking, laundry, enclosed back patio. Close to all. Have small dog. Nonsmoker preferred, no drugs. 619-708-0472.

DOWNTOWN. \$575-\$700, \$250 deposit, charming Victorian, furnished. Includes: utilities, phone, digital cable with movies and radio, broadband wireless, house-keeping, laundry. Review www.newportplace.com. Interested? Send e-mail.

DOWNTOWN. Luxury Treo townhouse to share. Pool, jacuzzi, gym, 3 barbecue areas, stainless appliances, fireplace, in-suite washer/dryer. Rooms start at \$650. 619-274-1900; ukiyo_e@yahoo.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$900. Female to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath brand new Palermo condo, fitness center, washer/dryer, underground parking, pool, jacuzzi. Available 01/01/05. No pets please. 619-253-7352.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 rooms for rent in penthouse. \$1375, master bedroom with private bath and parking space. \$875 for other bedroom. Views of bay. Walking distance to Gaslamp. Large outdoor patio with fountain. Stainless appliances, granite countertops. Security, concierge, pool, steamroom, gym, jacuzzi. Contact Byron, 619-501-0480 or byron@byronhnt.com.

EASTLAKE. \$550, \$250 deposit. Furnished house. Community pool, tennis. Light cooking. Nonsmoker female preferred. No pets. Utilities included. Available January. Call early morning/evenings, 619-397-5795.

EASTLAKE/CHULA VISTA. \$625, utilities included, flexible deposit. Gated complex, washer/dryer, community pool, jacuzzi, private parking, new carpet/stainless steel appliances. Available 01/01. 858-414-4682.

EL CAJON. \$500, 1/3 utilities, deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Share bath. Washer/dryer, cable internet. Close to all. No drugs, smoking, pets. Clean! Available 1/1. Must see! 619-250-7144.

EL CAJON. \$445. Room in 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No cats/dogs, drugs. Near shopping, food, transportation, freeways. 6-month minimum. Credit check. 619-588-5009.

EL CAJON. \$500/month, plus deposit. Room for rent in 3 bedroom house. Nice area. Large closet. 858-752-3406.

ENCINITAS. \$600. Beautiful large house on 1 acre. 2 miles from beach. Nonsmoking/drugs/pets. Laundry room, garage, drinking water filter. Private location. 760-634-9824; 619-804-8377.

ENCINITAS. \$600, \$550. Remodeled house. 2 rooms available. 1 has private entry. Utilities, cable, gardener included. Washer/dryer, fireplace. By the beach and Coaster. 760-753-2640.

ENCINITAS. Medium bedroom/private bath, \$650 or master bedroom/private bath, \$850. Utilities, plus deposit. 3 bedroom house. Safe quiet area. Nonsmoking/drinking/drugs. 760-944-2877.

ENCINITAS. \$550, 1/4 utilities. Room in clean, quiet, modern house, beautiful neighborhood. Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges, phone line available. Deposit. Won't last long! 760-753-1686; 619-235-2415, x13505.

ENCINITAS. \$550, 1/2 utilities. Room with private bath to rent in 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Good parking, pool, jacuzzi, tennis. No smoking/pets. 760-635-3600; 619-235-2415, x32743.

ENCINITAS. \$800, includes utilities. Room available 1/1. Looking for roommate to share big house with others. Female to share entire floor with other female. Washer/dryer, internet and cable included. 760-685-1797.

ESCONDIDO. \$850. 10-acre avocado farm. Own bathroom, own kitchen, Super quiet, 6 miles from I-15 freeway, 1 person only. Farm animals welcome. 619-339-1963.

ESCONDIDO. \$550, 1/3 SDG&E, \$225 deposit. Basic cable included. Male only to share townhome with 2 people. Furnished room, own bathroom. Credit check, references. 760-520-1244.

HILLCREST. \$550, deposit, 1/2 utilities. Beautiful, new 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, vaulted ceilings. New appliances, fireplace, granite counters. Walk to store! No pets. Available now. 619-884-8026.

HILLCREST. \$750. No deposit/utilities/pets. First at Pennsylvania. Charming Victorian house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath furnished. Modern, new appliances, laundry, yard. Female preferred. 619-269-9221.

HILLCREST. \$650 plus utilities. Female only. Bedroom/sitting room suite, private bath. Share beautiful, spacious home with 5 others. Pool, garden. No smoking/pets. 619-295-6864.

HILLCREST. \$450 plus utilities. Female only. Bedroom/shared bath. Share, beautiful, quiet, historic, spacious house with 5 others. Pool, garden. Nonsmoker, no pets. 619-295-6864.

LA COSTA. \$650, 1/2 utilities, deposit. Bedroom/private bath in 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Quiet neighborhood. Nonsmoking/pets. Washer/dryer, pool, jacuzzi. Larry, 760-929-0353.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$650, includes utilities. Gated community. Large master bedroom, private bath. Includes kitchen, laundry privileges. Female only. No pets, drugs, smoking. 760-929-0502; 619-235-2415, x20229.

LA JOLLA COLONY. \$725, including utilities, cable/internet. Attached garage. Female to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath quiet townhome. Pools/spas. Washer/dryer. Near UCSD-shuttle and shops. Available 1/1 or sooner. 619-857-1857.

LA JOLLA COLONY. \$800/month. Female renters wanted for 1 bedroom in condo; or room to share \$500/month. Available now. Ask for Glenda, 1-888-684-5263; 619-235-2415, x25250.

LA JOLLA. Village area. \$800, all utilities, cable DSL included. Female to share flat with female. Share bath. Private laundry. Great location. \$400 deposit. 858-349-0410.

LA JOLLA. \$600. Private bath in spacious house on La Jolla Scenic North near UCSD. No lease, no pets/smoking. 2 months minimum. 858-729-0055.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Male nonsmoker preferred to share 2 bedroom condo. Own bedroom/bath. Fireplace, washer/dryer, garage, pool. Near UCSD. \$775. 858-453-0564.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$900, share utilities. Quiet, charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 1/2 block to Windansea Beach. Carport. Laundry room. No smoking. 858-349-1334.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$700, plus deposit/utilities. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage,

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garden, 1-1/2 blocks to beach, nonsmoking, no pets, females only. 858-459-4674; 858-531-8876.

LA MESA. \$725, 1/2 utilities. Dog friendly 2 bedroom, 1 bath house to share. Close to park, freeways, SDSU. Large backyard. Available 1/1. Kim, 619-668-6920; 619-235-2415, x26787.

LA MESA. \$475, with storage at \$40. Large room with large closet. Quiet older home, easy parking. Laundry. Some pets OK. Say phone slowly/clearly, 619-235-2415, x21086.

LA MESA. \$480, 4 bedroom house. Close to Cuyamaca College. One room available for male. For more information, call Steve, 619-971-7520.

LA MESA. \$650, includes utilities. 14x10 room, 4 bedroom house, share with 2 others. Pool, jacuzzi, garage. Nonsmoking male preferred. Pets possible. Available 1/1. 619-235-2415, x11950.

LA MESA. \$450. 9'x19' room, separate from quiet house. Shared bath. High speed internet. No kitchen use in house. Nonsmoker/pets. Male preferred. Michael, 619-504-7380.

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LA MESA. \$500, utilities included, shared bath. Quiet, private neighborhood. Large yard with pool and patio. Cable ready. Washer/dryer. Have dog. Close to SDSU. Easy access to all freeways. No smoking/drugs. Available now. Call, 619-444-8868.

LA MESA. House. Great central location. Close to SDSU, trolley, bus. Nonsmoker. I have dogs. Have washer/dryer. \$550 plus partial utilities. Now available. 619-733-8333.

LA MESA/GROSSMONT/SDSU. \$450/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath quiet/clean house. Large yard, washer/dryer, cable included, easy parking. Quiet neighborhood. No smoking. 619-466-3115.

LAKESIDE. \$700/month, includes utilities, \$350 deposit. Master bedroom and bath.

House with washer/dryer. No smoking or drugs. Available 1/1. 619-733-8574; 619-235-2415, x24947.

LEMON GROVE. \$600 plus deposit and utilities. Full house privileges. Close to trolley. Laundry on site, parking available. No smoking. Pets OK. 619-328-7930.

LEUCADIA. Moonlight Beach. \$680. Share clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment. Less than 1 block to beach. No drugs or smoking please. 760-753-0648.

MIRA MESA. Split \$1750 plus utilities. Share spacious contemporary, 2 masters plus baths. 2-car garage plus storage. Large closets, plush carpets, fireplace, washer/dryer. Gated community with pool, spa, tennis, racquetball. Available now. 858-566-6001.

MIRA MESA. \$495. Share large house. Master or single rooms available. Cable and phone in room. New carpet/bathroom. Quiet neighborhood, good location. 858-271-4584.

MIRA MESA. \$450. Room in 6 bedroom house. \$400 deposit, canyon view, washer/dryer, 1/6 utilities, storage, cable, internet, fireplace, garage. Close to freeways. 858-336-7788.

MIRA MESA. \$400, 1/3 utilities, \$150 deposit. Female share 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Laundry, pool. Centrally located. I-15, Miramar college. Available 1/10. E-mail, 858-344-6497.

MIRA MESA. \$750. Female. Large master bedroom, private bathroom. Large house. Includes all utilities, plus cable TV. Washer/dryer, community pool. No pets/smoking. 858-271-1035; 619-235-2415, x31455.

MIRA MESA. \$570. Room in large 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. 2-car garage. Road-runner, community pool. No smoking/drugs. 111118 Polaris Drive. Nick, 619-886-2004.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$550/month, \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1 block from beach. Parking available. No washer/dryer. Prefer nonsmoker. 619-235-2415, x25161.

MISSION BEACH. Share 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to sand. \$650/month, utilities, private parking, remodeled bathroom. Available 1/1/05. \$533 deposit. Sarah, 858-349-8310; Beth, 858-752-0094.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. Room in view apartment. Share kitchen, bath. Utilities paid. Laundry, cable included. \$550/month. Male preferred. Please call mornings only, before 11am. 619-295-0444.

MISSION VALLEY. \$590, plus utilities, \$350 deposit. Seeking female to move in January. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, fully furnished, dishwasher, patio, laundry facility. stefanie.rock@gmail.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$600. Share 3 bedroom apartment. Nice, clean. Gym, pool, jacuzzi, tennis court, parking. Nonsmoking male preferred. No pets. Available now. Mike, 858-699-6292.

MISSION VALLEY. 2 rooms, \$725 and \$650, 1/4 utilities. 1500' townhouse, hardwood floors, big screen HDTV cable/net,

pool table, pool, barbecue, private bath/ balcony, garage parking, storage. 858-603-3077.

MT. HELIX. \$450, 10% SDG&E. Large, furnished room in beautiful, large, quiet home. Kitchen/pool privileges, laundry, patio. No pets. Other locations also. 619-697-8596; 619-822-5386.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$550, plus 1/3 utilities. Spacious house, quiet neighborhood. Close to Adams. Washer/dryer, good size backyard. No pets. 619-501-5258.

NORTH PARK. \$500, deposit \$400, utilities \$65 (includes cable/heating). Large bedroom, 1/2 bath, large walk-in closet. Small, quiet complex. No pets. Female preferred. 619-284-4293.

NORTH PARK. \$530. Share 4 bedroom house. Cat OK. Laundry, large kitchen, dishwasher, courtyard with koi pond. Share bath, internet available. Deposit \$430. No smoking/drugs. 619-255-0495; 619-822-4788.

NORTH PARK. \$600, includes utilities. Huge master bedroom, own bathroom, own balcony. Fireplace. Cat OK with deposit. On-site laundry, secure building. Available 12/28. 858-774-2987; 619-235-2415, x23036.

NORTH PARK. \$500, 1/4 utilities. Large, sunny room in quiet, older house. Share bath. Washer/dryer, storage. No smoking/drugs. Deposit. Pets welcome. 619-296-4767.

NORTH PARK. \$400/month, 1/2 utilities, \$400 deposit. 1 bedroom with bath available in 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Available now. 619-295-0753.

OCEAN BEACH. \$555/month plus utilities, deposit. Share 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. Close to beach, off-street parking, washer/dryer. Credit check. Nonsmoking/pets. Available 1/3. Roy, 619-379-7625; Cindi, 619-823-1680.

OCEAN BEACH. \$690. Spacious 2 bedroom house. 2 blocks to park, 4 to beach. Dog considered. Patio, laundry, dish-washer. Great house. Female preferred. Matt, 858-610-0935.

OCEAN BEACH. \$650. Room available in 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house. Washer/dryer, 2 yards, parking. Near beach/parks. 619-518-8067.

OCEAN BEACH/SUNSET CLIFFS. \$650. Great house/view, 4 bedroom, 4 blocks ocean. Washer/dryer, hardwood floors, fireplace. Big kitchen, living area, back yard. 619-222-0968.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$650. Quiet, clean furnished bedroom/bath. Parking, view, gated. 1/2 utilities. Fireplace, cable, laundry, skylight. Near shops, YMCA, bus, beach. 619-546-5700.

OCEAN BEACH. \$600/month, \$600 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 2-1/2 blocks to beach. Spacious, large closet. Have cat. Move in after 12/27. 619-518-2669.

OTAY RANCH/CHULA VISTA. \$590. Share new house. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2-car garage, near shopping. New appli-

ances, community pool/spa. Split utilities. 858-405-2597.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$450/month. No deposit required. Utilities included. Quiet complex. Completely furnished. Share 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Short-term 1-4 months. Females only. Share with male. 1 block from ocean. In-house cat allowed. Available now. 4751 Mission Boulevard, #5. 858-581-0585.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800, deposit, 1/3 utilities. Roommate in 3 bedroom, 3 bath, blocks to bay/beach. Balcony, washer/dryer, garage, fireplace, vaulted ceilings. 1813 Chalcedony. Available 12/21. Joe/Spray, 858-581-1012.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775/month, 1/3 utilities. Share large 3 bedroom house with 2 roommates. Parking, washer/dryer, yard, deck, hardwood floors, great location. Chris, 858-344-2236.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$572.50. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer. Month to month lease. No dogs/cats. 3719-1-2 Ingraham. 858-405-0731.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$792, \$500 deposit. Excellent master bedroom in newer 3 bedroom, 3 bath apartment. Washer/dryer, garage parking. Close to everything. Available now. 858-344-3713.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$812. Roommate needed. No deposit required. Washer/dryer included, garage plus additional parking space. Free internet. Great location near bay/beach. Jim, 858-349-1315.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950 plus utilities. Large, new, 3 bedroom, 3 bath house. Female roommate. Gourmet kitchen, broadband internet. Excellent location, walk to all. Holly, 619-459-6940.

PACIFIC BEACH. Room for rent. Close to bay, beach. Washer/dryer, yard, off-street parking, cable, internet, clean, quiet. No pets. \$680, deposit \$680. 858-442-5352.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$650. Room in 3 bedroom house, 4 blocks from beach, ample parking, garage, large front/backyard, hardwood floors. Male preferred. 858-869-3729.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800, plus deposit. 2 bedrooms available in 3 bedroom, 3 bath master bedroom with own bathroom. 2 blocks to beach, jacuzzi, steam room, roof, patio view of beach/bay. January 1. Lee, 858-405-5352.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750-\$800, deposit. 2 bedrooms available in 3 bedroom, 3 bath luxury townhome. Unfurnished. No smoking, pets, drugs. Garage, patios, dish-washer. Sabine, 619-665-9254; 858-274-5124.

PACIFIC BEACH. Room in 2 bedroom. Share bath. Across from beach. Street parking. \$600/month, first, last, deposit. Male/female. No pets allowed. 858-829-1626.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$650/month, 1/2 utilities, \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, garage, 2 blocks from beach. Available 1/1. No smoking, pets, drugs. 619-235-2415, x30134.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$700, plus 1/5 utilities. Nicest house in Pacific Beach. Hot tub, maid service, big screen TV. Parking, laundry. Call Jason, 858-220-2529.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$587.50, \$300 deposit. 4 bedroom, 1 bath, house. Driveway, yard. Female preferred. Blocks to bay. Quiet neighborhood. No pets. Available now. 858-483-3743; 858-490-8075.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775/month, plus deposit, 1/3 utilities. Own room and bath in large 3 bedroom condo. Garage, laundry. Nonsmoker please. Available now. 619-235-2415, x29465.

PACIFIC BEACH. Room and private bath in 2 bedroom condo on Mission Bay. \$800, plus 1/2 utilities. On-site laundry. 619-384-1490.

PARADISE HILLS/BONITA. \$675. Share large 2-story townhome. Includes own bathroom, has washer/dryer, own parking space, pool, jacuzzi, tennis courts. Colleen, 619-470-7295.

POINT LOMA/SUNSET CLIFFS. \$650 with private entrance, \$650 room, private bath, includes utilities. Quiet, upscale neighborhood. Cable TV, internet. No smoking/pets/drugs. Rheta, 619-269-6626.

POINT LOMA. Room with private bath. Washer/dryer, \$675, utilities included. No pets. Great view! 619-925-0915 or 619-405-7876; 619-235-2415, x27864.

POINT LOMA. \$875+. Share home on ocean. Spectacular view! 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Den, fireplace, washer/dryer, yard, garage. Maid, gardener. Pet OK. 619-223-1014.

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. \$550/\$650. 2 furnished rooms, 1 with panoramic ocean view, newer building, each with microwave/refrigerator, laundry, parking, 4 blocks to ocean. Female only. February 1. 619-226-4010.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Room for rent. \$350. Partially furnished room in large, clean house. Utilities included, \$200 deposit. No smoking/pets. Female only. 858-457-0383.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Off freeway I-15. Single family house. Master bedroom including bathroom, \$700. Smaller bedroom \$500 each, share bath. Utilities divided. Cable TV, parking. 760-612-7679; 619-235-2415, x15658.

SAN CARLOS. \$600 plus utilities, deposit. Room available in large furnished house. Close to I-8, SDSU. High-speed internet, pool table, washer/dryer. Nonsmoking. 619-265-1588; 619-235-2415, x27121.

SAN DIEGO. \$375, no deposit, includes utilities, cable, full kitchen and laundry. 6 houses. No alcohol/drugs. Mention this ad and get \$75 off first month. Kenny, 8am-8pm, 619-857-2230.

SAN MARCOS. \$575. DishNetwork cable and utilities included. Furnished or unfurnished. CSUSM/Palomar area. Share large, luxurious, sunny home. Fireplace. Jacuzzi. Nonsmoking, no pets. 858-361-5500.

SAN MARCOS. \$500. 2 rooms available in fully furnished, brand new 3 bedroom,

2-1/2 bath townhouse. HDTV, Wifi, new appliances, queen beds, big backyard. Near CSUSM. 760-815-5825 or 760-798-1140.

SAN MARCOS. 1 or 2 roommates needed. \$700, Semi master bedroom or \$550, second bedroom/office. Fully furnished, beautiful, landscaped home, swimming pool, spa, outside patios. Call Stan, 760-845-5144.

SAN MARCOS/SAN ELIJO HILLS. \$590, 1/3 utilities. Share newly furnished townhome, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage. New appliances, community pool/spa. LinaLi_51@hotmail.com; 858-320-3351.

SANTEE. \$600. Share house. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 square feet. Big yard, housekeeper, washer/dryer, brand new carpet/paint. Share with 2 males. 858-945-4389.

SCRIPPS RANCH/SABRE SPRINGS. \$625. Share quiet 4 bedroom, 3 bath house with 2 others. No smoking, drugs, pets. Private room/bath, full privileges. 858-775-4142.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$530, plus 1/3 utilities. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, cable, internet, 2 pools/jacuzzies. Quiet, safe area. Near Alliant International University and bus stops. 858-693-3939.

SCRIPPS RANCH/SABRE SPRINGS. \$625. Bedroom, private bath. Beautiful wooded area overlooking Hendrix Pond. Share townhome with 1 person. Nonsmoking/drugs/pets. Available 1/02/05. 858-638-6679.

SDSU. \$675, master bedroom, private bath, plus \$100 deposit, all utilities/amenities included with gas fireplace, pool, clubhouse access. Smaller room, \$575, \$100 deposit. 619-894-2685. 619-235-2415, x25104.

SERRA MESA. \$450/month, 1/2 utilities. Female roommate wanted to share 2 bedroom apartment. Great location near Mesa College and freeway. 858-277-3034.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1100/month, 1/2 utilities. Elegant, remodeled, large kitchen, dining. 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Nonsmoker to share with female. Available 2/1. Tina, 858-722-5824.

SOLANA BEACH. \$575, 1/3 utilities. Share cottage home. Washer/dryer, cable, internet access. No pets/drugs/smoking. View of racetrack, large yard. 760-672-3969.

SOLANA BEACH. \$650/month. 2 roommates needed to share 3 bedroom house. All utilities included. Washer/dryer. Available 1/1. Call 858-481-1256; 619-235-2415, x22589.

SOLANA BEACH. \$800, \$700 deposit. Spacious master bedroom, walk-in closet, garage parking, washer/dryer, backyard, clean/modern condo, pool. Near Del Mar Racetrack. 858-337-4560.

SORRENTO MESA. \$550/month, plus utilities. Charming, quiet, clean dual master condo. Master bedroom with private bath. Laundry. No pets or smoking. Available 2/01/05. 858-354-4054.

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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 this form 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 your printed ad, continue to describe your roommate situation. When you are finished recording, press 2.

3. Your print ad may not describe you or the person you are seeking.

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4. To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need cross-streets and zip code:

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ZIP CODE

5. The system dictates a mailbox number and security code.

MAILBOX NUMBER

SECURITY CODE

6. To retrieve your messages call (619) 235-2415. Messages are erased after you hear them, so have pen and paper ready. Your mailbox will expire at midnight Wednesday, six days after publication.

7. Deadline for placing voice mail ads is 6 pm Monday; however, print/online ads can be placed until 6 pm Tuesday by calling (619) 235-8200. Voice mail ads will be placed on the Hotline within 24 hours. No cancellations.

8. 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.

9. 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),
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For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200.



SORRENTO VALLEY. \$700 includes utilities. 3+ bedroom, 3 bath newer house. Fireplace, pool table, nicely landscaped, 2-car garage, plenty of storage. Furnished/unfurnished. 858-449-3126.

SOUTH PARK. \$500 plus utilities, gorgeous colonial home, fireplace, private bathroom, barbecue, laundry, jacuzzi, views to downtown/park/ocean. Minutes to downtown. Temporary OK. 619-238-1456.

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TIERRASANTA. \$800, 1/2 utilities. House. 13x12 room plus office, 2 patios, barbecue, garden, laundry, parking, spa, 6-month minimum rental. No dogs. Available 1/5. rankin1@san.rr.com; 858-268-5898.

TIERRASANTA. \$550 plus \$350 deposit. Shared utilities/cable/Internet. Washer/dryer. Comfortable room, furnished/unfurnished. Near all. Prefer male. No smoking, drugs, pets. 858-292-0145.

UTC. \$600/month plus utilities. Roommate wanted for 3 bedroom condo. Washer/dryer within. Large pool, jacuzzi, covered parking. Deposit required. Available 1/1. 858-552-8920.

UTC. \$850/best. Master bedroom for sublease in 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bathroom condo. Quiet neighborhood. Near shopping, bus, parks. Parking, washer/dryer, fireplace. Utilities shared. 858-546-1628.

UTC/LA JOLLA. Lucera. \$800. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2 pools, spa, basketball, raquetball, tennis courts, fitness center, clubhouse, gated, water included. Share utilities. Nonsmoking, small dog OK. 858-452-0327.

VISTA. \$500/month, \$150 deposit. Nice room with closet. Includes utilities, cable, washer/dryer, pool, jacuzzi, tennis. Close to 78. No smoking/drugs. Dirk, 619-405-8687; 619-235-2415, x10265.

VISTA. \$700/month, 1/3 utilities. Share 4 bedroom house. Full privileges. Nice home. Easy access to I-78, I-5 freeways. Immediate occupancy available. Call Greg, 760-917-6714.

WANTED: Female nonsmoker seeking home or condo to share (own bath) with 1 other. Preferably in La Jolla or Del Mar. 858-793-7799.

LA JOLLA, DREAM OCEAN VIEW commercial office. Mixed-use rental. Nearly 1100 square feet. Sensational opportunity for bookkeeper, music, or art. \$1600/month. Mike Stalsby, 858-456-0407.

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CHULA VISTA. \$3000. New 5 bedroom, 3 bath house near Otay Ranch. Pet friendly, 1187 Sparrow Lake Rd. 619-696-7941.

CHULA VISTA. \$2600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New, gated, furnished, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, landscaped with patio, near freeways. Nice neighborhood. Call Roseann, 619-254-5279.

CHULA VISTA. \$1875/month. \$1875 deposit. Home in Eastlake Greens. 3 bed-

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CHULA VISTA. Sunbow. \$2400 rent. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2-car garage. 2483-square-foot house. Pool, spa. Gardener, laundry, air conditioning, barbecue. Cul-de-sac. No pets. Available 1/3/05. 619-339-4025.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Move-in special! Nonsmoking, small complex. 4271 Cherokee Avenue. 619-741-9554.

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FALLBROOK. 2 bedroom single story home with laundry facilities. Side yard with wood deck. Sorry, no pets. \$1200. Manager, 760-728-0538.

FASHION VALLEY/LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cute corner house, enclosed yard for pets, very clean, gardener included, close to USD. \$1450. 951-235-0449.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Restored 1906 Craftsman church. Quiet, private yard with deck, washer/dryer, wood floors, 1100 square feet. Pets OK. 2732 A Street. \$1325. 858-245-8198.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Hardwood floors. Granite countertops. Built-in microwave. Shared yard. Laundry. No pets! Agent, 619-234-9553.

HILLCREST. \$1450. Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Huge yard, washer/dryer. Pets considered. 619-230-0998.

HILLCREST. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house for rent. 2-car garage. Hardwood floors, new carpets, den, fireplace. Will consider small pets. Available January. 858-569-0770.

HILLCREST. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Hardwood floors. Deck. Fireplace. Washer/dryer on property. Gardener. Skylights. Clean. Cat considered. 1602 Upas Street. 619-867-2921; 619-296-9039.

HILLCREST. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage close to all! 3785-1/2 Park Boulevard. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.nckeecompany.com.

HILLCREST. \$850. Charming cottage in beautiful, quiet neighborhood, 5 blocks south of University. Private alley access, fenced yard for pet, garage parking. Remodeled full bathroom, hardwood floor, walk-in closet, washer/dryer, storage. Very small kitchen with bar sink, mini refrigerator, 4-burner stove with oven, microwave. All white interior, big windows to private garden. Studio floor plan. Rent includes broad band high-speed Internet, cable TV, water, gardener. Please call 619-921-1695 for appointment to view.

HILLCREST. Start the New Year in your canyon rim cottage/studio-private, secluded, yet close in. \$1150. Call 619-303-0821.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1 bedroom cottage with hardwood floors/carpet. Fireplace. Tons of windows. Kitchen nook with built-

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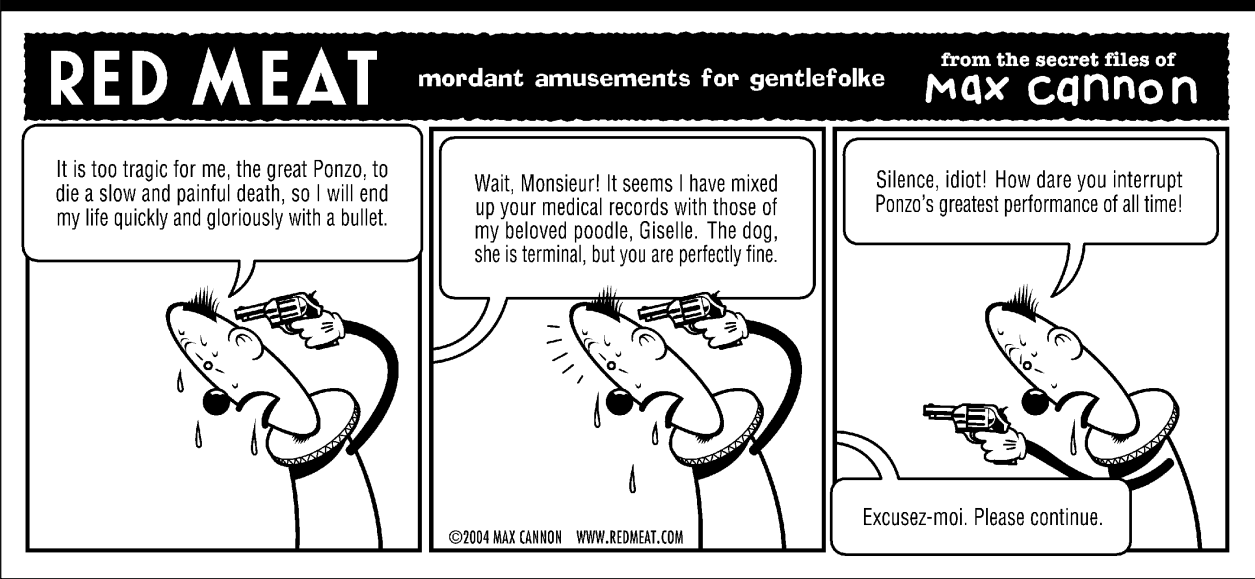
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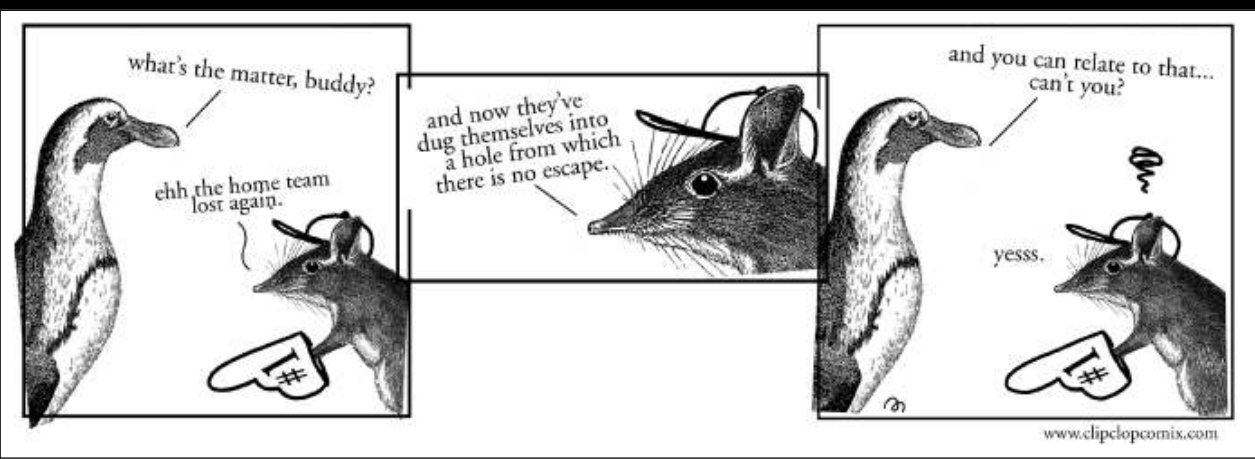
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CARLSBAD. \$1495. Beautiful new 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, 2-car garage,

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CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE. \$875. South of Vista Way, walk to ocean. Quiet, bright, newer decor. Older, charming 1 bedroom apartment. No pets/smoking. 701 Eaton. 760-967-8121.

CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE, SOUTH. \$1050. Walk to ocean, lagoon/trees. Screened porch, privacy, quiet, bright, 1000-square-foot 2 bedroom apartment. Garage available. No smoking/pets. 699 Eaton. 760-967-8121.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$1600. 2 bedroom plus loft, 2 bath condo with fireplace, vaulted ceilings, attached 2-car garage. Gated community with pool/spa. No pets/smoking. Poway School District. 760-473-4859.

CARMEL VALLEY. Looking for affordable luxury living? 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1150! Move-in specials! Quiet! Near Del Mar beaches, shopping, easy freeway access, award winning schools! Free tennis, swimming lessons! Washer/dryer. Covered parking. Fitness center. Pool. No pets. Club Torry Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.sdreader.com/rent/2106.

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CARMEL VALLEY. \$1700. Townhome. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2-car garage. Pet OK. 13547 Tiverton Road. "Cambria." Agent, 858-755-1139. www.scuba-rentals.com.

CASA DE ORO. \$995. Ask about move-in specials! 2 bedroom apartment. Spacious floor plans. Refrigerator. Range. Dishwasher. Disposal. Pool/spa. Park-like setting. Close to shopping. At foot of Mount Helix. 3917 Conrad Drive. Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, Saturdays. Call Jackie, 619-697-6323.

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washer, balcony, laundry, off-street parking. Available now. Deposit \$600. No pets. 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedrooms and 2 bedrooms from \$875. Free 1st month's rent! Beautifully renovated apartments, conveniently located near downtown Chula Vista, close to dining/shopping. Pool, parking, on-site laundry. Office open daily. 515 Glover Avenue. 619-476-6659. www.rasnyder.com.

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CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1,095. 4260 46th Street. Clean, bright, with high ceilings. 2 balconies. Section 8 ok. 619-301-8654.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$700/month. 1 bedroom duplex. \$100 discount on first month's rent. \$400/deposit. 4247 Poplar Street. Fenced yard. No pets. 858-279-3023.

CITY HEIGHTS/NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Pets welcome. Fenced patio/yard. 3724 40th Street. Call toll-free, 24-hour details: 866-202-6045 x60.

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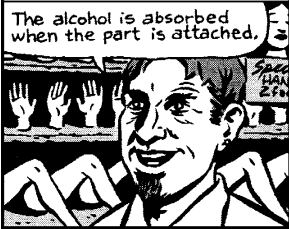
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I WENT TO A BAR WITH SOME FRIENDS FROM WORK. INSTEAD OF DRINKING, YOU'D SWAP YOUR BODY PARTS FOR DRUNKEN BODY PARTS.




The alcohol is absorbed when the part is attached.

I ORDERED AN ARM, AND MY FRIEND CHRIS STARTED WITH A LEG. THE NIGHT WENT ON, AND IT GOT PRETTY CRAZY.



Another round of hands, please!

THE NEXT DAY AT WORK, DAN SHOWED UP WALKING ON A PAIR OF VERY SMALL CHIHUAHUA LEGS.



It seemed funny last night!

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Move-in special: 1/2 off 1st month's rent! Coin laundry. Controlled access. Will go fast! 5234 Rex Avenue. Call Sunrise Management at 858-571-1970.

CITY HEIGHTS. Move-in special! \$100-\$300 off first month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$650. New appliances, off-street parking,

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$915. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 4265 Chamoune Avenue. Townhouse apartment, central air/heat, laundry room, new carpet. No pets. Plenty of parking. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$100+ move-in special! Seniors only. 1 bedrooms, \$590. 2 bedroom, \$675. No pets. 4262 Estrella. 858-483-5111 x42. More at www.melroyproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. Furnished studios. From \$375/week. From \$975/month to month. Corporate housing available. Microwave, mini-refrigerator, laundry, heated pool, spa, daily continental breakfast. Great central location. Weekly maid service, includes all utilities, linens. Garden surroundings. Parking. No pets. 5415 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Call toll free,

1-800-562-2217. www.sdreader.com/rent/2035.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$895-\$1150. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Call for move-in special! Coral Bay Park. 1 bedrooms from \$885, 2 bedrooms from \$1035. Renovated units; 1 bedrooms from \$960, 2 bedroom/1 baths from \$1160. Pets welcome (size limit). 25 meter lap pool and spa. 3309 Cowley Way. Toll free: 888-500-0471. Visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/1070.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedrooms, \$925 and up. 2 bedrooms, from \$1100 and up. Looking for clean, quiet and homey? Our lovely complex is peaceful and quiet day and night! Walking to all your needs. Patios and courtyard. Garages available. 619-

276-3222. For photo, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

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CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Call for no-deposit special! 1 bedrooms starting at \$885; 2 bedrooms from \$1035. Renovated units also available: 1 bedrooms from \$960; 2 bedrooms starting \$1160. Pets welcome (size limit), 25 meter lap pool. Spa. Call toll free: 888-500-0471. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT. 4128 Mt. Alifan. Large, open, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, upper unit. Covered parking with storage. Pools, jacuzzi. Walk to all. \$1250/month. 858-717-1414.

CLAIREMONT. 3245 Old Bridgeport Way. 2 master, 2-1/2 bath townhome. 2-car garage attached. Fox Run Community. Refrigerator, dishwasher, stove, fireplace. Nonsmoking. \$1650/month. www.timcassidy.com; 619-275-2525.

CLAIREMONT. Pacific Bluffs. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2-story townhouse. 1100 square feet, new carpet, 2-car carport, large private patio, balcony, laundry hookups. 858-627-9168, 619-200-2036.

CLAIREMONT. Stonehaven. \$2200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. 2 garages, all amenities, pool, spa, tennis, lakes. 1550 square feet, wonderful community,

large yard. New carpet. No pets. 619-200-5410.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$1500. 1/2 off 1st month's rent! Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with washer/dryer, microwave, parking and community amenities! 2510 Clairemont Drive. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1095-\$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 baths. Furnished or unfurnished. Balconies/patios. Gas stove. Air. Dishwasher. Gated. Near all/golf course. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 619-285-3822.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Nice unit. 1200 square feet. Newly remodeled, central air, laundry facilities, parking, pool. 888-679-2442 or 810-523-5112.

COLLEGE AREA. Townhouse. \$1585. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Great location near SDSU. Pool, jacuzzi, sauna, fireplace. Move in after January 1. Call Leonard, 858-663-1121.

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COLLEGE AREA. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms, \$820. Gated building, nice pool area, air conditioning, patio, laundry, parking. Central location. 4601 63rd Street. 619-229-9248 or 619-850-6197.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. \$1495. 4515 College Way. Fireplace, new refrigerator, dishwasher, washer, dryer. 2-car garage. CSPM, 619-229-2440.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, large master bedroom, walk-in closet. Gated parking, washer/dryer in unit. Private patio for storage. \$1200. Norman, 619-335-3248.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750-\$775. 1 bedroom. Low \$300 deposit, near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1100/up. Large 2 and extra large 3 bedroom apartment. New carpets. Appliances, newly refurbished. Laundry facilities. Off-street parking. 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story duplex, washer/dryer, appliances, water/gardener paid. No pets, no smoking. Available 1/1/05. 7122 Amherst. 858-538-0392.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$625 rent, \$500 deposit. Upper 1 bedroom apartment. Parking lot. No pets. 4423 Menlo Avenue #8. 619-283-3353 or 619-299-8515.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, new tile, carpet and paint. Upstairs with balcony. Pool/spa. Laundry room. I-8 at Waring Road. 619-233-4182.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments available in gated community. 1 bedroom, \$850, 2 bedroom, \$1275. Pool/laundry room on site. Hot/cold water, trash and sewage paid. Small pets allowed on approval and with extra deposit. Call for current specials. www.sdreader.com/rent/2019. 619-286-0441.

COLLEGE AREA. \$650. Newly painted 1 bedroom apartment. Assigned parking. Beautiful patio. No pets. 4444 49th Street, north of El Cajon Boulevard. 858-278-6135; 619-795-9805.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$675. 5502 Adelaide Avenue. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, carpeted, plenty of parking, laundry facilities. No pets. Available now. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

CORONADO. Unfurnished. \$1950, spacious, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, on-site laundry, parking space, range, refrigerator, dishwasher, disposal. Upstairs. Near bay, stores, schools. Cat OK. 619-823-3336.

CORONADO. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. All appliances. Patio. No pets. Near park. Off-street parking. 771 D Avenue, #D. Open 7am-7pm. 619-435-5311.

CORONADO. 139-1/2 and 143 D Avenue. Ask about move-in special on 1 bedroom, 1 bath! Also available, 2 bedroom, 1 bath with ceiling fans, laundry facilities and a courtyard. Parking available for small fee, within walking distance to Ferry Landing. \$925-\$1195. Available now. Call 619-437-7125; www.msrbrower.com.

CROWN POINT/PACIFIC BEACH. \$940. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace and small back yard. \$935, upstairs, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$895, lower 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garden setting. Laundry. No pets. Close to beach and bay. IPMG. 760-967-4764.

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CROWN POINT. 3907 Gresham Street. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking spaces. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Fireplace. View of bay. Steps to bay. No pets. \$2100/month, \$2100 deposit. www.timcassidy.com. 619-275-LIST.

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DEL MAR. \$400/week or \$1400/month. Complete furnishings, housewares, linens, full kitchen. Studio. Remodeled.

Garage, pool, spa, on site laundry. Utilities paid. Near I-5, beaches. 858-349-0860.

DEL MAR. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool, laundry, parking. Walk to beach and village. New carpet, paint. Upgraded bath. 619-296-9631.

DEL MAR. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. 2-car garage, patio, community pool, private location. No pets/smoking. 2752 Caminito El Dorado. Broker, 858-481-8185. www.TheLaskers.com.

DEL MAR. \$1750. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Light, bright, maple flooring, tiled kitchen and bath, dishwasher. Pool, spa, parking. Includes water/gas. 858-481-4345.

DEL MAR. \$1150-\$1200. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Tiled kitchen/bath, new carpet, light, top floor, storage, view, large balcony. Pool, spa. 858-481-4345; 760-753-6060.

DEL MAR. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 doors from the beach. Clean, newly painted. Fairly new appliances. Laundry on site. 858-793-6735.

DEL MAR. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1550; 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2175. Block to ocean. Views. Gated. Cable, pool, spa, sauna. Indoor cats. 858-481-9585; mikaetla@aol.com.

DEL MAR. Recently renovated ocean view 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Freshly painted. Onsite laundry. Walk to beach/village. 425 Stratford Court. \$1650. Nyla, 858-793-2634.

DEL MAR/CARMEL VALLEY. From \$1395. 13068 Callicott Way (detached home). 13754 Mango Drive #322 (top floor, west of I-5). 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almost ocean front). Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Pets OK. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.LoveDelMar.com. Distinctive Properties RE/MAX. 858-755-8580.

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DOWNTOWN. New 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Washer/dryer in unit. View San Diego bay. 2 blocks from Little Italy. Free recorded message. 800-701-1374 x9288.

DOWNTOWN. A must see! Recently remodeled, large, stylish studios. Murphy bed, hardwood floors, separate kitchen, full bath, walk-in closet with built-ins. Laundry and ample storage. \$795+, \$500 deposit. Call to schedule appointment, 619-423-3893. www.floit.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$475 and up plus deposit. Furnished room available in residential hotel with shared kitchen/bath. Includes microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. 1545 Second Avenue, between Beech and Cedar. 619-595-0078.

DOWNTOWN. 1501 Front Street #526. Awesome Palermo condo, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upgraded, large private patio with furniture, Washer/dryer, refrigerator, city lights and peek-a-boo harbor view. \$1595/month. Must see! Eric, 760-929-8585.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms and studios near Gaslamp District. \$400-\$675, very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue, Hughes Management, 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$400-\$550, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$385-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street

trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. \$1695. Downtown loft. 731 9th Avenue, "BlueBox Lofts." 25-foot ceilings, hardwood floors, washer/dryer in unit. Three blocks to ballpark. Available immediately. 619-885-1843.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, crown molding, turn of the century detailing. Also, 2+ bedroom, 1 bath for \$1080. 619-230-0998.

DOWNTOWN. \$1695. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Spectacular view. Valet. Parking. Gym. Pool. E-mail: trini_ting2000@hotmail.com or call 619-690-5315.

DOWNTOWN. Best value, Gaslamp District, \$360/month, community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Studios, historic building, full kitchen and full bath, includes utilities, no smoking or pets. \$550-\$700. 901 10th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable, \$160 weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful City Front Terrace in Marina District. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All amenities. Fantastic city views. \$2500 unfurnished/\$3100 furnished. 619-421-1520; 619-253-7335.

DOWNTOWN. \$1695. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, Gaslamp. Granite counters, 2-car parking, balcony, washer/dryer. Gym, Jacuzzi, pool table. No pets/smoking. 858-204-7688.

DOWNTOWN. Near ballpark. \$375-\$575, includes utilities. Rooms with private kitchenettes in large Victorian home, shared baths. Call for appointment, 619-233-1440.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, heart of Gaslamp, shared bathrooms, community kitchen, free cable TV, no pets, 843 4th Avenue, Windsor Hotel. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Large 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse, Treo. Stainless appliances, granite counters, fireplace, dual master suites, private patio. Luxurious amenities. \$1950. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Studio with great view, urban-style, high ceilings, kitchenette and full bath, air conditioning/heat, includes utilities, no pets, \$700-\$870/month. 728 Market. 619-239-1639 x103. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$150/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1350. Newly renovated loft. New paint/hardwood floors. Washer/dryer in unit. Month free with 13-month lease. Bright, full kitchen, full bath. 825 5th. 619-544-4488.

DOWNTOWN. \$1250. Great new Palermo 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Pool, spa, exercise room. Washer/dryer. Secure parking. Large garden patio. 1501 Front Street. 760-420-2388.

DOWNTOWN. \$1297. Holiday special! Palermo, near Little Italy. New 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit, pool level. Large patio, washer/dryer, granite countertops, window coverings. Jacuzzi, clubhouse, gym. Immediate move-in. Call Larry anytime, 702-249-7101.

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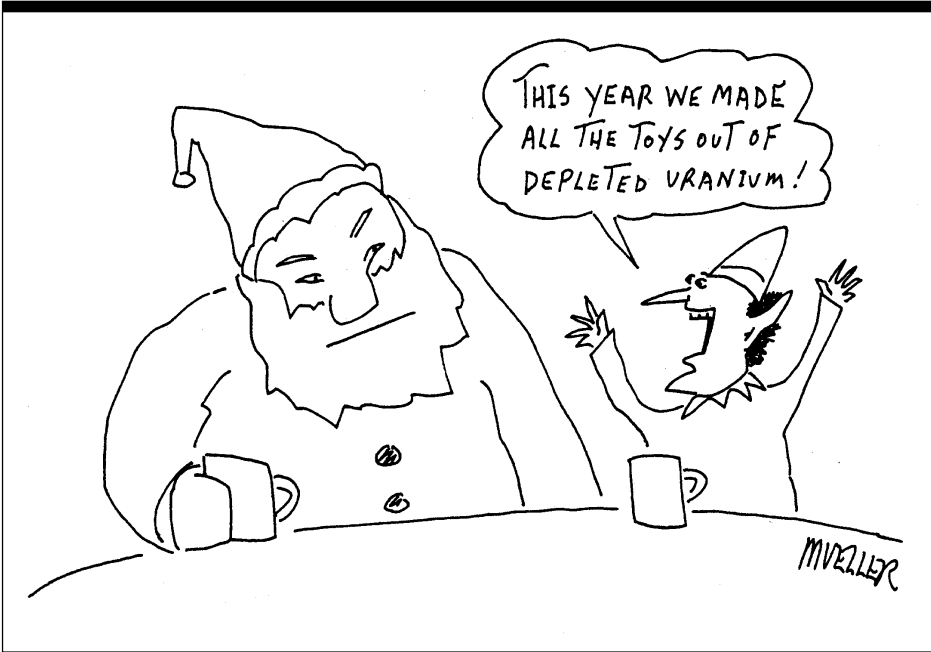
DOWNTOWN. \$1250. New condo at the Mills! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 841 square feet. Washer/dryer in unit. Storage. Parking. 1642 7th Avenue. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1295. New at The Palermo. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 781 square feet. City views. Gym. Pool. Pet OK. 1501 Front Street. 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$2295. Horizons. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1222 square feet. Pool. Gym. Concierge service. 2-car

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parking. 510 First Avenue. 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$2395. Park Lofts. 1431 square feet. 2 bathrooms. Wood floors. Washer/dryer. Parking. Close to Petco Park. 877 Island Avenue. 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$4795. Luxury Park Place, 1900-square-foot condo. 2 bedrooms plus den, 2 bath. All amenities. Air conditioning, fireplace, pool, 2 parking spaces. 700 West Harbor. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$625/up. Studio. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, 500 square feet. All utilities. Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. Studios. 1157 10th Avenue, #4 (\$500) and #6 (\$550). Section 8 OK. Available 11/8. app@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-685-1686.

DOWNTOWN. Prime location in Gaslamp! New, beautiful, upgraded 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking. Granite, laminate flooring. Pool, spa, fitness. Water, trash included. \$2300. 619-200-7276.

DOWNTOWN. Penthouse loft. 1000 square feet. \$2600. Includes all utilities. Contemporary custom designed loft located in a remodeled distinctive historic building. Hardwood floors, huge deck with best view in San Diego. The list is endless. Must see! 1 block from Balboa Park. No dogs. 619-235-5601.

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DOWNTOWN. Brand-new double suite condo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking. Laundry inside, all appliances. \$1800.

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DOWNTOWN. 655 Columbia Place. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with loft. Top-floor, high ceilings, overlooking G Street park. No-pet complex. \$1550/month, 1-year lease required. Call Stephanie, 619-246-5623.

DOWNTOWN. 7th/C. Live/work. Trolley Lofts. \$915-\$1375. Hardwood, some vaulted ceilings, laundry, heat/air. Great central location! Parking or most pets (extra fee). 619-702-7222.

DOWNTOWN. \$1750. Fabulous views! Brand new condo! 2 master suites including 2 bathrooms. Underground secured parking. Washer/dryer. No pets. The Diamond Group, 619-624-2031.

DOWNTOWN. \$1500/month. 2 blocks from Petco Park. 1 bedroom unit on 4th floor, overlooks jacuzzi/courtyard. Brand new. Available immediately. References required and checked. 525 11th Avenue. Call Frank, 619-913-5804.

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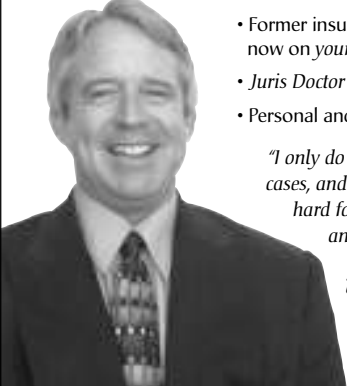
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DOWNTOWN. \$1550. Brand new 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, all amenities. Free Charger tickets! 1/2 off first month's rent. 858-272-3900 x107.

DOWNTOWN. \$1695. Upgraded 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with hardwood floors, washer/dryer, gated, with large yard. 454 17th Street. Agent, 619-795-3825; 858-560-1178.

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DOWNTOWN. \$2600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1000 square foot balcony. Glass walls. Amazing views. Pool, jacuzzi, gym, laundry, storage. No smoking/pets. http://www.intergulf.com/avita.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Corner studio, Hardwood floor, \$795. One bedroom, \$995. Bearclaw tub-showers. Charming. Secure. Quiet building. Laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1595. Gorgeous, new 1 bedroom, 11th floor, dramatic bay views, corner unit, floor to ceiling windows. Stainless, granite, washer/dryer, pool, spa, gym, secure building/parking. Pets welcome. 760-815-1054.

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DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$725. 1 bedroom. Hardwood/ceramic floors, laundry. Nonsmoking. On trolley line. Ball Park. 25-unit clean older building. 1 cat OK. 830 Park Boulevard (12th). 619-236-9117.

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DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Historic 2 bedroom, 1 bath home on 5000-square-foot corner lot. Downtown and ballpark views, walk to Gaslamp or Petco Park. Hardwood floors. 2 fireplaces, newer appliances, gardener, off-street gated parking available. \$1395/month. No smoking/pets. 619-954-3169.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1375. Brand new studio/junior 1 bedroom. Stainless appliances, washer/dryer, granite countertops, hardwood and carpet, pool, spa, fitness center, underground parking. 619-226-7554.

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DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$121/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Safe and secure. 619-235-6820.

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DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. City Square. Large, brand new 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer, view, jacuzzi, pool, gym, secured system/parking. \$1600. 450 J Street. 619-395-6881.

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DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1450/negotiable. Acqua Vista 1 bedroom, 1 bath on the 14th floor. Kitchen granite countertop, stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer, Berber carpet and window treatments included. Water paid. Pets considered. 619-857-2900.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Brand new 1 bedroom, 1 bath at Palermo! 1501 Front Street. Washer/dryer. Refrigerator. Microwave. Granite countertops. Secured parking. Gym. Patio with access to pool/spa. \$1500. Available immediately. 619-216-1627.

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DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1500 square feet, attached garage, air conditioning, washer/dryer, 2 decks, city/bay views! Available 1/1/05. \$2200/month. 619-339-9100.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Up to 3 weeks free! 1 bedrooms from \$1218. 2 bedrooms from \$1615. Low deposits! Views! Controlled access. Elevators.

Clubhouse. Landscaped courtyards, barbecues. Subterranean parking. Storage available. Fitness center. Pet friendly! Full-size washer/dryer. Air conditioning. Internet. Porta d'Italia. 1970 Columbia Street. 1-866-465-2127. www.sdreader.com/rent/2095.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1750. Palermo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All amenities. 2 secure parking spaces. Water feature outside bedroom window. Brand new security building. 619-846-8998.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$895-\$1895. Luxury lofts. Month-to-month furnished or year lease on unfurnished lofts with bay views. Washer/dryer, parking, concrete floors. Call 619-255-0526. www.sdurbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Move-in special! Corner Ash/Union, great views, 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$1250-\$1850. Stainless steel appliances, 17-foot ceilings. Pets OK. 619-501-6731, www.thebillboardlofts.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$680. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Residential hotel with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. \$1209-\$1370. On-site management. Laundry. Parking available. Income qualified. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available now! Call for details, 619-236-9353.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3 story, hardwood floors, garage with direct access. Gourmet kitchen. Subzero refrigerator, washer/dryer. \$2100. 619-885-8003.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Brand-new Acqua Vista condo, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 balconies, pool/fitness, valet parking. Great location! \$1425. No smoking. By appointment, Del Phillips, 619-298-6666, www.delphillips.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1650/month. New, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, balcony, luxury condo, sunny with city view. Pool and amenities, washer/dryer, valet parking. Rebecca, 858-509-4733.

DOWNTOWN/MARINA. CityFront. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Views! \$2500. Call now for move-in special. @ Home San Diego, 619-571-9977.

EL CAJON. \$850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1/2 off 1st month's rent! Upper unit, coin laundry, large deck area and parking. Cat OK. 463 North First Street. Call 858-571-1970. www.sunriseliving.com.

EL CAJON. \$875. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fresh paint, new carpeting. Recreation room. Barbecue area. Sparkling pool, relaxing spa. Laundry on site. Lush landscape. 501 Greenfield Drive. 619-441-9726.

EL CAJON. Newly refurbished 1 and 2 bedroom apartments, some include backyard. Conveniently located near stores, I-8. Amenities include pool, 2 laundry facilities, dishwashers, assigned parking. 1 bedrooms start at \$730, 2 bedrooms start at \$850. 619-579-5640.

EL CAJON. Award winning community! Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment homes. Sparkling swimming pool. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Pet friendly. \$300 security deposit on approved credit. Great move in special! Evergreen Gardens, 291 Jamacha Road. www.sdreader.com/rent/2113 or call 619-442-9935.

EL CAJON. \$850/up. Large, deluxe 2 bedroom. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds. Parking. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Near town, shops, bus. 619-579-0174.

EL CAJON. Make Stratford Arms your new home! Small gated community. Laundry facilities. Pool. \$975, 2 bedroom, 1 bath flat available. \$1040, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse. New carpet/appliances. No pets. Available 12/15 and 1/15. 1397 East Washington. 619-593-6602.

EL CAJON. Large 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath available soon. Laundry on site, parking, and resident manager. No pets/no smoking. \$850 and up. Call for more detail, 858-866-0867.

EL CAJON. \$600. 1 bedroom, parking, laundry, downstairs unit. New carpet, air conditioning. Security deposit \$600. 804 South Orange Avenue. 858-273-4042.

EL CAJON. \$550. Very nice studio, \$500 deposit and half off first month. Laundry on site and close to all. 280 Wells Avenue. 619-334-1639.

EL CAJON. \$1250. Brand new spacious 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo, gated community. Stunning kitchen, granite, stainless appliances. Pool, spa, clubhouse, laundry. No pets. 619-300-3063.

EL CAJON. \$790-\$810. Affordable housing. \$499 moves you in! 2 bedroom, 1

bath apartments. Close to all. Gated community, 2 pools. 2 laundry facilities. Available now. Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30am-6pm, Saturdays 9am-3pm. 619-442-8306.

EL CAJON. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, pool/clubhouse. New condo in gated community. Available on 1/15/05. Call 619-665-3490.

EL CAJON. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Central air and heat. Huge private yard. Balcony. Quiet. No pets. 1236 Persimmon Ave. 619-579-1127.

EL CAJON. \$795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Air conditioning, fireplace, fresh paint, dishwasher. Upper unit. Parking, laundry on site. 855 E. Lexington. Cogan Properties, 619-283-2144.

EL CAJON. Newer trailer for rent. \$550 and \$475/month plus utilities/deposit. \$30 fee for credit check/rental history. Laundromat. Gated community. Bill, 619-444-4843.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$725/month. Central air and heat, pool, barbecue area, laundry. Gated community. Wheelchair accessible. Select pets on approval. Ask about move-in special! 346 South Mollison Avenue. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON. Deluxe townhouse apartment. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, laundry hookups, central heat/air. Quiet building. Very clean. No pets. \$1300/month plus deposit. Andy Anderson, manager, 619-447-1189.

EL CAJON. \$1095. 2 bedroom apartment. Move-in special: \$500 off 1st month's rent with a 12 month lease! Spacious, remodeled and luxurious! Beautiful pool area, parking, on-site laundry. Going quick! 410 East Lexington Street. Call 619-588-7532, www.sunriseliving.com.

EL CAJON. Holiday Special: One cent move-in, no rent until January 2005! 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$625. 6 month lease. On-site laundry, pool, parking. Great freeway access. 800 N. Mollison. 619-447-0531, 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. \$850. 1423 Peach Avenue. 2 bedroom, 1 bath (one apartment upstairs and one apartment downstairs). Large kitchen, living room and bedrooms. Laundry room, assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

EL CAJON. \$900. 1423 Peach Avenue (between Grape and 3rd). 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs. Huge living room and bedroom. Laundry, new carpet, assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom. \$725. Pool, on-site laundry. Parking. 1019 Peach. Sandy, 619-588-4773.

EL CAJON. \$725. Studio. Newly redone. Granite counters, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. On-site laundry. No pets. 619-820-0003.

EL CAJON. \$795. Clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath; no pets! 382 Orlando Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

EMERALD HILLS. New 2 bedroom, 1 bath, appliances, gated, laundry facility, Section 8 OK, deposit, minutes from Downtown, \$1350. 619-871-4819.

ENCANTO. December special! \$100 off. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900, 1 bedroom, 1 bath plus den, \$800. Se habla espanol. Manager, 619-266-2949.

ENCINITAS. Ocean view 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Skylights, fireplace, all appliances. Washer/dryer on premises. Walk to Coaster, beach. Nonsmoking. Laundry on site. \$1525/month. 858-481-2604.

ENCINITAS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. West of 101. Completely refurbished. Walk to beach. No smoking/pets. Available now. \$1995/month. Garage available. 760-402-8645, 760-436-3456.

ENCINITAS. \$1200. Quiet 1 bedroom. 1800 square feet from beach. Full bath, garage, private yard, shared washer/dryer. Available immediately. Most pets okay. 760-470-6220.

ENCINITAS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 1-car garage. Pet OK. 1052 Golden Road. Agent, 858-755-1139, www.scuba-rentals.com.

ENCINITAS. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1-car garage. Small pet OK. High Country Villas. Senior complex. 1892 Forestdale. Agent, 858-755-1139, www.scuba-rentals.com.

ENCINITAS. \$1700. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, Berber carpet, washer/dryer included, garage attached. Small dog OK. Close to Moonlight Beach. Upgraded! 422 Carmel Creeper, "Saxony." Agent, 858-755-1139, www.scuba-rentals.com.

ENCINITAS. 1 bedroom, \$1045. Small complex. Assigned parking. Laundry. Patio. Bright and airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway.

way. Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious townhomes, \$1390-\$1415. Ask about our move-in special! Washer/dryer, parking, fully equipped kitchen. 1 mile from Encinitas Beach, close to shopping, golf and I-5. 760-633-3382. www.rasnyder.com.

ENCINITAS/LEUCADIA. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Walk to beach. Private yard. New floors/paint. Laundry hookups. Very clean. Attached carport parking. 760-943-0880.

ESCONDIDO. Gated, garden-style living! Junior 1 bedrooms, \$770. 1 bedrooms, \$870-\$900. 2 bedrooms, \$995-\$1025. Washer/dryer included. Central air and heat. Dishwasher. Microwave. Walk-in closet. Large private patio/balcony. Pool. Covered parking. Near bus and shopping! Teton Pines Apartments, 2100 East Grand Avenue. 760-747-5566. www.sdreader.com/rent/2090.

ESCONDIDO. \$900-\$1195. 1/2 off 1st month's rent with approved credit. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath and 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Appliances. Laundry. Pool. 760-738-2303.

ESCONDIDO. \$800. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment. Fireplace, pool, spa, laundry, gated community. 760-741-0187.

ESCONDIDO. Quick, easy freeway access. Large 1 and 2 bedroom apartment homes. Pool, spa, covered parking and laundry facilities. Starting at \$760 monthly. Phone: 760-489-8989 today!

ESCONDIDO. December special. \$100 off! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$900, \$700 deposit. All appliances. Se habla espanol. Please leave message, 858-699-3650.

ESCONDIDO. \$495-\$670. Newly remodeled studio and 1 bedroom apartments. On-site laundry with inner courtyard. 204 East 2nd Street. Xlarent.com, 760-294-4805.

ESCONDIDO. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Washer/dryer, fireplace, heating and air conditioning, all electric kitchen. Pool, assigned parking. Near Orange Glen school. \$1100/month. 858-487-9798.

FALLBROOK. \$930. Spacious 2 bedroom single story apartments with woodburning fireplace. Back patio. Covered parking. Sorry, no pets. Manager, 760-728-0538.

FASHION HILLS. \$1700. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1/2 bathroom condo. Washer/dryer. Air conditioner. Fireplace. Pool. Spa. Tennis court. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

FASHION VALLEY/WEST. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome. Friars Village. Pool, spa, 1-car garage plus carport. Covered balcony. Moran Realty, Inc., 619-231-1818.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Newly refurbished upper unit with view. Near USD, cat OK. 5946 Lauretta Street #12. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

FASHION VALLEY. \$885. Large 1 bedroom condo. No pets. Walk-in closet. Parking. New carpet. Dishwasher. Quiet. Balcony. Pool. 6780 Friars Road #316. Agent, 619-275-3455.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$850 rent. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment. No pets. At 1340 Eureka Street #23. Agent, 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY, WEST. \$1750. Will paint to suit decor. 3 bedroom, 2 bath golf course view townhouse. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. 1400 square feet. Clubhouse. Pool. Jacuzzi. 858-452-5001.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1150 rent. \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. No pets. At 1330 Eureka Street #1. Agent, 619-298-5820.

FLETCHER HILLS. Large, elegantly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Fireplace, air, heat, all new appliances, walk-in closet, laundry on site, off-street parking. No pets. \$1050 rent. Available now. 1274 Cuyamaca Street, 92020. 619-829-5722.

FLETCHER HILLS. \$825. Studio in private home. Private entry and bath. Utilities paid. Pool. Access to washer/dryer. Parking. View. No smoking. 619-297-1483 x110 or 619-851-7986. www.rasnyder.com.

GOLDEN HILL. Beautiful condo right on Balboa Park. Newly renovated. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. http://home.san.r.r.com/rental92102/. 858-733-1430.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Unique metropolitan setting offering comfort and convenience. 2 bedroom townhomes with washer/dryer. \$1505. Call for availability. Private balcony! View. Central air and heat. Controlled access. Reserved covered parking. Dishwasher. Microwave. Pet friendly. Freeway access. Golden Pacific, 1015 19th Street. www.pacificliving.com, toll free: 1-866-807-3215. www.sdreader.com/rent/2028.

GOLDEN HILL/BALBOA PARK. Gorgeous bright 1 bedroom condo, golf course view with balcony. Cathedral ceiling, fireplace, and complete security. Covered and secure parking. Refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Huge attic storage. Lease required. \$1275. Harvey 619-233-1301.

GOLDEN HILL. \$925/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Crown molding, front yard, white picket fence. 619-230-0998.

GOLDEN HILL. 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at \$900. Recently renovated. Free Wi-Fi Internet. Wood floors, new microwave, dishwasher, coin laundry room. Pet friendly. 619-223-3495.

GOLDEN HILL. All new 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Granite countertops, dishwasher, washer/dryer, hardwoods, parking space. No pets. \$1400/month. 1/2 first month! 2782 Treat. 619-247-0036.

GOLDEN HILL/SHERMAN HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom apartment. Newly remodeled old Victorian with view, must see. Available now. \$1200. No pets. 408 21st Street. 619-223-3495.

GOLDEN HILL. \$775. Sunny, unfurnished studio with French doors and balcony in charming Victorian. Utilities paid. Nonsmoking. Available 1/1/05. Michele, 619-696-7076.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$875. Very large 1 bedroom, recently remodeled apartment. New appliances, pool, on-site laundry, quiet neighborhood. Available immediately. Pet OK. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs condo, \$995 deposit. All appliances, balcony, laundry. 2783 C Street. 858-277-1189.

GOLDEN HILL. Studios available. \$700-\$750. Move-in special -\$200 off 1st month's rent! Totally remodeled building. Excellent location. Close to Downtown and freeways. 619-247-8516.

GOLDEN HILL. \$725. Studio, quiet, gated, near Downtown, close to bus, no pets. 2528 C Street #5. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

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Hosted by: CT & Dave, from the Real World

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GOLDEN HILL. \$1550. 2655 C Street. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex with large laundry room, off-street parking. Section 8 OK. Available now. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

GOLDEN HILL. \$750. Quiet 1 bedroom, upper. Balcony. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 1119 34th Street. Corner of C Street. 619-443-1289.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1200. Spacious, private 2 bedroom, 2 bath overlooking quiet courtyard. Upper level with vaulted ceilings. Brand new carpet. Tiled kitchen with many cabinets, dishwasher, large counterspace, dining area. Two large tiled bathrooms with double sinks. Extra closet space. Free high-speed wireless Internet. Laundry. Close to downtown. 2439 Broadway (west of 25th). www.goldenhillrentals.com. 619-239-2278.

GOLDEN HILL. \$995. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Designer Berber carpet and paint, wood blinds, new stove, refrigerator, on-site washer/dryer. 811 26th Street. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$895. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. 2 levels. Lots of windows. Private garden yard. Off-street parking. Garage available. 1933 E Street. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. Victorian studio. City/ocean view. Deck. Laundry. Secure. Wood floors. \$600. 2449 G Street (upper). Shown by appointment, 619-236-1186.

GOLDEN HILL. 1/2 off first month! \$675-\$700. Furnished studios. Open house: Sunday 9am-3pm. Lovely apartments with city view. Beautiful older building, controlled access entry. Cat OK. Wilshire Apartments. 2004 C Street. 619-232-0903. www.rasnyder.com.

GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$725. Parking, on-site laundry. Section 8 OK. 3030 Broadway. 858-200-9408.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1290. Spanish villa. Very large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, fireplace, laundry hook-ups. Off-street parking. All new appliances. 2 blocks to Park, in older neighborhood. Available 1/15/05. 1510 29th Street. 619-299-9695.

HILLCREST. Spacious 2 bedrooms starting at \$1225. Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. \$860. 1920s 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. Large closets. Clean and quiet. Indoor cat ok. Assigned off-

street parking. Third and Washington. 619-226-1021.

HILLCREST. Great move-in specials! 1 bedroom, \$895/up. Elegant apartments! Elevator, clubhouse, gym, pool, sauna, air conditioning, dishwasher. Ceramic tile. Laundry. Microwave. Floor-to-ceiling windows. Covered parking. Locked bicycle storage. No pets. Park East Apartments. 111 West Pennsylvania. ParkEastApts@att.net. www.sdrreader.com/rent/1006. 619-298-3225.

HILLCREST. \$1395. 2 bedroom plus office, 1 bath apartment. Washer/dryer in unit, hardwood floors, 1920's restored building, no pets. 3421 5th Avenue. Cathy. 619-299-6610.

HILLCREST. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, fully remodeled, front yard completely enclosed, washer/dryer, excellent location. 619-549-4959.

HILLCREST. \$2200. Brand new top floor, view! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, loft, 2-car parking, all appliances. Great location. Near all. No pets. Agent, 619-370-7103.

HILLCREST. Ask about Manager's Special! From \$795. Studios, 1 bedrooms in the heart of Hillcrest. Newly renovated! Controlled access. Hot tub. Barbecue, picnic area. Dedicated management. Don't miss out on Hillcrest living at its best! Near bus, shopping, freeways. Nightingale Apartments. EHO. 619-295-4351. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2014.

HILLCREST. \$1675. 1 bedroom penthouse apartment. Sunroom office. Park

views. Quiet, charming building. Laundry. Gated. New carpet/paint. Deck. 536 Maple. www.palomarapts.com; Jennifer/Mark, 619-232-1665.

HILLCREST. \$825, \$825 deposit. Large, quiet 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Large closet, laundry facilities, off-street parking. No pets. 4571 Maryland Street #4. 619-466-8153.

HILLCREST. Studio, \$775. Pool, view, laundry, in the heart of Hillcrest, near all. Sleepy Hollow Apartments, 4201 6th Avenue. CCPM. 619-298-1059.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom apartment. Downstairs. 1 parking spot. Laundry on site. Walking distance to shops. Cats OK. 3962 First Avenue. Cindy, 619-296-4572. Boone Properties, 858-274-6856. www.booneproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$825. Spacious upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in gated courtyard. New paint, carpet, laundry, off-street parking. No smoke. No pets. \$200 off first month! 4068 Florida Street. Agent, 619-685-3960.

HILLCREST. \$1050. Comfy 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment. Gated courtyard, laundry, off-street parking. No pets/smoking. 4011 Florida Street. Agent, 619-685-3960.

HILLCREST. \$1325. Beautiful, large, traditional 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Hardwood floors, new two-tone paint, extra storage, pretty courtyard, off-street parking, laundry. No pets/smoking. 3571 Sixth Avenue. Agent, 619-685-3960.

HILLCREST. \$1295. Spacious 1 bedroom condo. Newly remodeled. All appliances. Balcony. Mock fireplace. Garage parking. Pool. Gym. Spa. 3980 8th Avenue. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

HILLCREST. \$625. Cozy studio located in the heart of Hillcrest. All utilities paid. Laundry. Off-street parking. 3798-1/2 Oneida Place. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

HILLCREST. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking spaces, all appliances, patio, fireplace, tile and wood floors. Central heat/air, washer/dryer. Water paid. 3635 3rd Avenue #E. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

HILLCREST. Studio, new carpet, fresh paint, laundry. Walk to all. Free service. 619-296-2787.

HILLCREST. \$895. Small 2 bedroom. 550 square feet. Great character. Laundry. Light yellow/white trim. Drive by 3705 6th Avenue. 858-945-5710.

HILLCREST. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming Cape Cod style, upstairs unit, appliances, utilities included, cat OK, year lease. Move-in special. 127 Brookes Street, 92103. 619-698-6913.

HILLCREST. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Security building, pool, laundry, underground parking. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom. \$1000, includes all utilities. Remodeled distinctive historic building. Original hardwood floors. Laundry facilities on every floor. Controlled security access. Quick stroll to Balboa Park. No dogs. Ask about our move-in special! Must see! 619-235-5601.

HILLCREST. \$1400. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New remodel. Garage. Formal dining room. Built-ins. Hardwood living room, tile, kitchen. 3668 6th Avenue. 619-301-0346.

HILLCREST. \$995 rent, \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets. 3831 First Avenue #5. 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. 62+ Senior Living at it's best! Nice 1 bedroom apartment in the Park View Robinson building. New paint, carpet, vinyl. Walk-in closet, air conditioning, activity room and laundry onsite. Gated with intercom. \$825/month, \$400 security deposit. 1/2 off first month's rent with lease. Section 8 and indoor cat OK. 1220 Robinson Avenue. Manager, 619-291-7284.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 1 bedroom. Super large, upstairs unit in fourplex. Very old, rehabbed charming building. Appliances. Wood floors. Formal dining room with built-in buffet. Garage. Cat OK with additional deposit. Available 1/8/05. 1634 Upas. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST. \$825. Upstairs 1 bedroom. Newly remodeled. Hardwood floors, tile, ceiling fan, newer appliances, laundry. Cat OK. Nonsmoking. Ask about move-in special! 4170 Park Boulevard #11. 619-239-4846.

HILLCREST. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with view of park, new carpet, new paint. Pets negotiable. Fee. Broker (RR-4607-7698). 858-751-0194.

HILLCREST. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath; \$995, 2 bedroom, 1 bath in the heart of Hillcrest. Just 1/2 block to Balboa Park. Laundry on site. Available 1/1/05, 2/5/05. 3533 Sixth Avenue #8 and #9. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath inside Victorian, close to all. Privacy, balcony, hardwood floors, unique street. No pets. 3730 8th Street. Available. 619-899-6771.

HILLCREST. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment available, and garage. Parking, laundry, near shopping/freeway. 3960 9th Avenue. Call agent, 619-921-8518.

HILLCREST. \$1275. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 8th Avenue! Secure building! Gorgeous, spacious, with hardwood floors, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, parking garage, pool and gym! 858-675-0200. www.twhmc.com.

HILLCREST. \$820. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Near all! Available 12/3. 3632-C Park Boulevard. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Walk to shops, 1 parking. Available now!

3611 3rd Avenue. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$870. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with underground parking. New ceramic tile, blinds, ceiling fan. Clean, quiet. On-site laundry. Gated building. 4191 Cleveland. Call Chris. 619-293-3981.

HILLCREST. \$940. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious kitchen/dining area. Parking. Laundry. Barbecue area. Near Henry's Market. No pets. 4219 Georgia. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-299-1004.

HILLCREST. Gated 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1190-\$1350. Available now. Air conditioning, dishwasher, Jacuzzi, gym. Underground parking. Pets OK with approval. 619-295-2500.

HILLCREST. Discounted rents, must qualify with Housing Commission. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1039/month. Dishwasher, Jacuzzi, air conditioning, gym. Underground parking. Gated. Pets OK with approval. 619-295-2500.

HILLCREST. 3650 Florida Street. Spacious studios, 1 and 2 bedroom townhomes, \$750, \$925, \$1195 and \$1250. All new carpet, paint, appliances, countertops, cabinets and more. Ask about move-in special! Call 619-280-0888. www.msrbrowar.com.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment across from Balboa Park, with laundry! Very charming! No pets! 2820 6th Avenue, #2. Call 619-222-4836, x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

HILLCREST. Studio. \$650, \$600 deposit, electricity included. Kitchenette, refrigerator, underground parking, gated. Nice area. 4155 Georgia Street #102A. 619-297-7662.

HILLCREST. \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. 9-month lease. Available 1/1/05. 4512 Georgia Street #1. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom, 2nd story, garage below. New paint, flooring, stove. Laundry. Pets OK. Charming triplex. quiet canyon street, near UCSD Medical. 4274 Third Avenue. \$1025/month, water included. 619-890-3414.

HILLCREST. \$975. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath in beautiful community! Courtyard, laundry, barbecue, fully gated and more! Must see! 3953 Centre Street. 619-299-4666. www.msrbrowar.com.

HILLCREST. \$965. Upper 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spanish style complex in heart of Hillcrest. Gated entry. Laundry. 3936 8th Avenue. 619-298-2069. www.rasnyder.com.

HILLCREST. \$895. 1 bedroom. Great location. Quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK. 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 3807 Park Boulevard (Behind Numbers). Lovely cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, small dining room, gas stove, brand new carpet, all fenced. Available now. Laundry. No pets. Parking. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$800. 3820 Georgia (between Robinson/University). 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, new carpet, assigned parking, laundry. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. Like charm, convenience? San Francisco-style 2 bedroom, \$975. 1 bedroom apartments from \$900, studios from \$650. Hardwood floors, high ceilings, views, controlled access, laundry/ community room. Near all. Come home to historic Casa Grande at 1751 University Avenue. Cat accepted. Call 619-299-7727. See website: www.sdrreader.com/rent/1015.

HILLCREST. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Pool, parking, laundry, new paint, gated entrance. No pets. 1810 Cypress Avenue. Agent, 619-295-6005.

HILLCREST. \$825. Upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry, walk to all. No pets. 3744 7th Avenue. Agent, 619-295-6005.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. 1-car garage (tandem spot). Secured entrance. No pets. Month-to-month. 1221 Essex. \$1400. 858-405-4949.

HILLCREST/UPDOWN. 2 bedroom, \$1295/up. Great move-in specials! Great location. Elevator. Pool. Laundry. Lovely courtyard. Gym. Sauna. Barbecue. Off-street parking. No pets. Hillcrest Towers. 1030 Robinson Avenue. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2066. 619-295-9673.

HILLCREST/UPDOWN. Studio. \$785. 1 bedrooms, \$875/up. 2 bedroom, \$1195/up. Secluded location beside lush canyon on "No Through Street." Controlled access, elevator, pool, covered off-street gated parking, poolside barbecue, recreation room/television/laundry room. No pets. Park View Apartments, 3700 Tenth Avenue. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2015. 619-298-6768. ParkViewApts@att.net.

HILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$1100, \$900 first month, \$600 deposit. Spacious 2 bedroom. Very clean, light, upstairs, gated, laundry. 4152 Alabama Street. 619-315-5938.

HILLCREST/UPDOWN. \$1045. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Cute tiled kitchen and bath, walk-in closet! Laundry, parking on site. Very quiet. Move-in special! 3620 Georgia. Cogan Properties, 619-279-2183.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1/2 month free with 6-month lease! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1100. Downstairs, quiet, parking, laundry. No dogs. 4584 North Avenue #1. Agent, 619-471-2216.

HILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$1150-1200. Spacious 2 bedroom, newer carpet, appliances, balcony, laundry, courtyard, subterranean parking. 619-886-3147.

HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry. Good location! Cat OK. 4430 North Avenue. 858-273-6429.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1045. Sunny upper half of Victorian house. New carpet. Cat OK. 858-273-6429.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in attractive gated build-

ing near UCSD Medical Center. No pets. 4066 Albatross. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-692-1837.

IMPERIAL BEACH/NESTOR. All utilities included! Worth \$1251! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$795. New carpet, paint, stove. Best deal in South Bay. 1135 Hollister. 619-804-1044 x128.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 2 bedroom townhouses and ground floor units available. Steps to beach! Ocean and mountain views, fireplace, community pool. \$1095-\$1500. Agent. Bill, 619-575-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1189 Ebony Avenue. Available December. Upstairs. Cat OK. Off street parking. Laundry facilities. www.homes4rent.com. Trident Pacific, 619-435-9442.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Washer/dryer, secured parking. 823 13th Street. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeeecompany.com.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$750. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet. Storage. Courtyard. Laundry on-site. Gated. \$600 deposit. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Oceanfront, 2 upper level condos, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1100 to \$1495 for panoramic view. Newly remodeled, new facade, new kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. 676 Seacoast Drive. Call Anna Marie, Prudential CA Realty, 619-840-MOVE (6683).

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$825. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Very nice property with courtyard. Pool. No pets. 1445 Grove Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management. 619-575-0778.

KENSINGTON. \$750. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. hardwood floors, ceramic tile, gated courtyard, laundry. No pets/smoking. 4412 41st Street. 619-251-4355; Agent, 619-685-3960.

KENSINGTON. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment plus den. All amenities. Security building, laundry, off-street parking. Nice convenient location. No pets. Please call 858-456-2098.

KENSINGTON. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Very nice! Available 1/5/04. 4118 Adams Avenue #4. www.cethron.com; 619-295-1100.

KENSINGTON. \$1115. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great neighborhood, 9-month lease, gas paid. 5107 Marlborough. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$1650. 2 bedroom plus 2 optional rooms, 3 bath townhouse. 2-car garage, washer/dryer, refrigerator included, community pool and spa. Cats OK. Available 01/01/05. 760-420-8659.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$1275-\$1325. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Prestigious La Costa community with views of golf course. Amenities include washer/dryer, fireplace and central air conditioning with each apartment. 2385 Caringa Way. Office open 7 days. 760-431-7575.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful view complex above golf course. Washer/dryer in unit, central air, fireplace. Pool/spa. No pets. 2385 Caringa Way. Office open 7 days. 760-431-7575.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. 1/2 off first month! 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1300. Quiet community, upstairs unit, vaulted ceilings. Cats OK with deposit, no dogs. Assigned parking. Available now. Gunney, 760-943-7590.

LA JOLLA SHORES. \$950, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Includes utilities and cable. Quiet area near UCSD, near beach. Available 1/1/05. \$850, studio available 3/1/05. 858-454-5414.

LA JOLLA Village Tennis Club tri-level condo. Near UTC. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. New carpet. Hardwood. Fireplace. Laundry. 2-car garage. Great location! \$1995. 602-549-2279.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. UCSD area. Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse, fireplace, 2-car garage, pool, jacuzzi, \$2100 deposit, \$2100/month. Year lease. 858-452-2492.

LA JOLLA. \$1400. 2 bedroom. \$350 off Walk to UCSD, shops. Balcony. Garden window. No pets. Available now. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive #11. 858-457-4509.

LA JOLLA. Studio. Amazing location 1 block to ocean in heart of Village on Prospect! Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1095-\$1375, includes utilities. 619-645-8082.

LA JOLLA. Starting at \$981 and \$1333. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Pool. Spa. Laundry room. Sauna. Fitness center. Barbecue area. Covered parking. 3 blocks to UTC. Open 9am-5pm, Monday-Saturday, 11am-4pm. La Jolla Canyon Apartments. 9515 Genesee. www.sdrreader.com/rent/2006 or call 858-452-3620.

LA JOLLA. \$900. Studio, charming, minutes from beach, on-site laundry. 396 Kolmar #3. CCPM. 619-296-6699.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Ocean view. Balcony. New. Modern appliances. 2 covered spaces. Near shopping, dining, lifestyle, ocean. Available January. \$2850/month. 619-549-0367.

LA JOLLA. \$2550. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 1550-square-foot townhome. Fireplace, balcony, dishwasher, washer/dryer. 2-car parking in garage. Boone Properties, 858-274-6856. www.booneproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. Big deals for December move-ins! 1/2 block to surf! Studios, 1, 2 bedrooms, \$999/up. Tropical, pool, laundry. Cat OK. 858-536-1900.

LA JOLLA. \$1504. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Cat OK. Dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, microwave. Fee. Free quest search at: www.sdrrentals.com. 858-272-7368.

LA JOLLA. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs apex. 15-plex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Garage. Remodeled unit. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Close to Windansea. Available now. 6236 Dowling. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker, www.delsolpm.com.

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LA JOLLA. Live in the La Jolla Shores area! 3 bedroom, 3 bath stylish town-home. Beautiful interior. pool. Spa. Tennis. \$2750. Mike, 619-417-5766.

LA JOLLA. \$1995. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath corner condo with a single car garage in the gorgeous Renaissance. Condo comes with fireplace, full-size washer/dryer in unit, dishwasher, air conditioning, large patio, community pool and spa, and much more! A must see! 7245 Calabria Court #49. 858-270-5500.

LA JOLLA/PACIFIC BEACH. \$2800-\$3000. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-story town-home. Views, hot tub on roof! 1800 square feet. 2 or 4-car garage. Washer/dryer. Fireplace in master and living rooms. Small pets OK. 909 Agate. 858-204-5299.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Open house Sunday, 12-3pm. Construction special, 1 month free rent! Brand new Mediterranean community. Studios, 1, 2, 3 bedrooms from \$1150. Patios/balconies. Full-size washer/dryer. Cable/Internet. Fitness center. Racquetball. Aerobics. Pools. Hot tubs. Parking. La Jolla Crossroads, 9085 Judicial Drive. Call 1-866-829-8271. www.sdreader.com/rent/2112.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Just remodeled, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. New appliances, garage, pool, yard, fireplace. Available now. Must see! \$2490. 858-406-6234.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. Attached 2-car garage, washer/dryer, new kitchen appliances, granite countertops, fireplace. Close to all. 858-699-7940.

LA JOLLA/UTC. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage, patio, washer/dryer, white and bright. Close to UCSD, freeways, shopping, entertainment. Elena, 858-449-1915.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2-level townhouse. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, large patio, carport, storage. Pool/spa, UCSD close. Pets negotiable. 949-374-2983; 619-804-8350.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Up to \$500 off first month! Studio, 1, 2, 3 bedroom Italian style apartments from \$1220! Newly renovated. Granite counters. Berber carpet, crown molding, new appliances, washer/dryer. Walk-in closet. Fitness center. Movie theater. Near shopping. 15/805. Lush landscaping. 4 pools, spas. Parking. 1-888-218-0377. www.sdreader.com/rent/1058.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. 1 bedroom. Half block from beach. Available 01/01/05. No pets. 6 month lease. \$1025. Call 858-459-1065.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$3500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Oceanfront penthouse. Newly remodeled with balcony, fireplace and garage. 216 Rosemont. Call 858-699-3851 for showing.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$1250. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage-style apartment. 1 block to beach. Fireplace. No pets. 344 Rosemont. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

LA MESA. \$800. Low deposit!! 1 bedroom, 1 bath spacious apartment homes. Quiet, peaceful living within lush, beautiful landscaping and wide open spaces. Excellent location, sparkling heated pools, soothing spas, lighted tennis court. Water, trash, recycling included in rent. No pets. Baltimore Properties, 5353 Baltimore Drive, 619-466-8517. www.sdreader.com/rent/2074.

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. \$745. Extra large studio apartment. Laundry, off-street parking, on-site manager. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. \$800. Large, granny flat. Full bath, balcony, small yard, off-street covered parking. Very quiet area. Close to everything. 4790 Crowder Lane. 619-644-2610.

LA MESA. \$100+ move-in special. Beautiful complex! 1 bedroom, \$750. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury apartment for \$950. \$500 deposit. Upgraded units with pool, dishwasher, gated, air conditioning, laundry on site. Assigned parking. Carpools available. 7481 Mohawk Street. Call 619-466-6149.

LA MESA. \$925. 2 bedroom, with garage, balcony. \$600 off! Dishwasher. Blinds. Intercom entry. Laundry. 4311 Parks Avenue. 619-460-5406.

LA MESA. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Large grand room downstairs. 2-car garage. Community pool. Small front yard. Great view. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with 2-car garage. 4782 Garfield Street #J. Call Bob Cota Realty 619-465-9934 for details.

LA MESA. \$1250. Very large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool. Carport. Laundry facilities. 8600 Lemon Avenue. Ask about great move-in special! 619-466-1532.

LA MESA. \$975. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet gated complex, air conditioning, on-site laundry. Upper unit. No pets. 4641 Date Avenue. Donna, 619-469-3809.

LA MESA. \$750. studio. \$890. 1 bedroom. Low deposits. Carport space, storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. 5365 Marengo Avenue. 619-698-7926.

LA MESA. \$1200. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Parking. Pet OK. 5115 73rd Street. 858-490-1600. kandrproperties.com.

LA MESA. \$1075. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs. Totally remodeled condo in beautifully renovated complex near SDSU. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and maple cabinetry. Washer/

dryer in unit. Gym, sauna and pool. Non-smoker. Small pet. Call Melissa, 619-234-9090.

LA MESA. \$895. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath in courtyard setting. Excellent condition. No pets. \$400 move-in discount. 3717 69th Street. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-583-0575.

LA MESA. 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$866, tucked in quiet, park-like gardens. Newly renovated. Refreshing pool, laundry, air conditioning, barbecue. No pets. 619-464-7676.

LA MESA. Beautiful, peaceful La Mesa location. Studio, \$760. Junior, \$795. 1 bedroom, \$920/up. Ask about move-in special! Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Laundry. Gym. Patio or balcony. Covered parking. Clubhouse, pool, spa, sauna. VillaSangriaApts@att.net. Villa Sangria Apartments. 8633 La Mesa Boulevard. www.sdreader.com/rent/1002. 619-462-1633.

LA MESA. Like owning your own home! Large, 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Air, dishwasher, laundry, private gated yard, pet friendly. Great location, across from Grossmont Center, freeways and Trolley. Must see! \$1335. 619-744-8889.

LA MESA. Spacious 1 and 2 bedroom, air-conditioned apartment homes. Close to lovely parks and shopping centers. Enjoy quality, comfort and convenience at a price you can afford at Vista Amaya. Call us now at 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1035.

LA MESA/SDSU. Junior, \$740/up. 1 bedroom, \$890/up. Ask about deposit specials. Secluded hillside convenient to all. Air conditioning. Dishwashers. Disposals. Patios/balconies. Exercise room. Laundry area. Clubhouse, billiards. Barbecue. Heated pool. Spa. Sauna. Month-to-month lease. SouthridgeApts@att.net. Southridge Apartments. 7200 Saranac Street. www.sdreader.com/rent/1001. 619-462-1940.

LA MESA/SPRING VALLEY. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Lovely neighborhood. 2 car garage. Private garden patio. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Central heat. Central air conditioning. Washer/dryer hookups. Homeowner's Association amenities. Available 12/1. 619-417-9670.

LA MESA/CASA DE ORO. Best value for your dollar! 3 bedroom, 2 baths from \$1325! 1 bedrooms from \$850! 2 bedrooms from \$1075. Elegant, sculptured flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming, New Orleans style community. Patios/balconies. Restricted access gates. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. 619-462-1212. www.sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LA MESA/COLLEGE AREA. \$1200. Mint upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath, over 1054 square feet. Small complex. Pool, recreation room. 6927 Amherst #11. www.TheEquityCompany.com. 619-528-2337.

LEMON GROVE. \$720. 1 bedroom, 1 bath; \$950, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Central location. Near trolly and shops. Clean, cozy and quiet apartments. Move-in ready. Sorry no pets. 619-252-5175.

LEMON GROVE. \$1095. 2 bedrooms, 1-1/2 bath townhouse. New paint, carpet, verticals, private patio, air, microwave. Pet OK with added deposit. Nonsmoking. 7525 Pacific Avenue. 619-944-2816.

LEMON GROVE. \$675-\$750. Big 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special! 1/2 off first months rent OAC! #1 newly renovated, laundry, parking, yard. #3 with patio. Nice. Great location. Close to all. Sorry, no pets. Available now. 3320 Vista Avenue #1 and #3. 619-295-1100. www.cephron.com.

LEUCADIA. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with balcony. Split level. Parking and garage, laundry facilities, short walk to beach. 1717 Vulcan Avenue. Se habla espanol. 760-632-6330.

LINDA VISTA. \$660, studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2285 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-277-4213.

LINDA VISTA. 1 mile to USD. Less than 10 minutes to beaches. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, newly renovated. Large yard, laundry. Pets welcome. \$1550. 619-770-9890.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouses, \$950-\$1050. Great location, assigned parking, private backyards. Deposit same as rent. No pets. 2451 Ulric Street. Move-in special! Call for an appointment. 858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA. \$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in triplex. Laundry room, parking. Available now! 1333 Brunner Street. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

LINDA VISTA. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Dishwasher, parking, storage. No pets. 3262 Ashford Street. 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

LINDA VISTA close to Mesa College. \$850, utilities included. Immaculate 1 bedroom, 1 bath, full kitchen, dining room, great condition. Call Nina, 858-565-2937.

LINDA VISTA/KEARNY MESA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment across from USD. 2-stories, off-street parking. Available January 1st. \$1150. Call Jeff, 858-775-6161.

LITTLE ITALY. December rent free. Every room water view. New secured building. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer, granite kitchen, pool, gym, parking. \$1995. 714-969-0078.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Washer/dryer hookups. Large secure backyard. Off street parking. 1 month security. 307 South 31st Street. 619-885-1706.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments available. Laundry on site. Gated complex. 3117 Valle Avenue. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

MIRA MESA. \$1450. 2 mster bedroom, 2 master bath available. Lots of upgrades. Washer/dryer available. Across from the park and walking distance to shopping area. 619-851-2670.

MIRA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath bottom unit in well-located complex. Pool/spa and laundry facilities. Great location. \$1000/month, \$500 deposit. Pets negotiable. Call 619-518-3442.

MIRA MESA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Highridge community. Great unit with patio, pool, jacuzzi. 10734 Dabney Drive #63. 858-598-1111 x190, www.utiopiamanagement.com.

MISSION BAY. \$2295. 3833 Lamont Street, #3G. Panoramic bay views! Fireworks at Sea World! Southern tip of Lamont! Furnished or unfurnished! Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Distinctive Properties, RE/MAX. 858-755-8580.

MISSION BAY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Over 1200 square feet. View. Gated. Washer/dryer, refrigerator, cable. Furnished/unfurnished. Pool, spa. Secured covered parking. \$1500. 619-665-0664.

MISSION BEACH. \$1975. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath home. Very bright with large picture windows. Garage plus plenty of parking. Steps to beach/bay. Island Court. Year lease. Bettie, 619-307-0071.

MISSION BEACH. \$1245. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Totally remodeled-new tile, fixtures, windows. Bright and airy. Steps to beach/bay. Year lease. Bettie, 619-307-0071.

MISSION BEACH. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath beach cottage. Carpet, parking, fire-place, barbecue. No pets. Year-round. Available now. 858-488-2006 or 858-232-5550.

MISSION BEACH, NORTH. \$1075. 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors, wood deck, airy, bright. Murphy bed. Steps to the beach/bay. New appliances. Month-to-month. Agent, 858-488-4800.

MISSION BEACH. \$800. Cute clean studio. Separate kitchen, bath. Built-in closet and chest of drawers. Murphy bed. Steps to beach. Off-street parking. No pets. 619-225-8446.

MISSION BEACH/PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. Adorable 1 bedroom cottage duplex. Parking. Appliances. Laundry. Private patio. Steps to beach. 750 Wavecrest, across from Catamaran Hotel. 858-272-9547.

MISSION BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath bayside house over garage. Garage included. Quiet area. No pets. New flooring and appliances. 3590 Bayside Lane. 619-890-6848.

MISSION BEACH. \$1600, month-to-month. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs. Fireplace, large bedrooms, 2 parking spaces. Bay side. Available 1/1. 858-518-1812.

MISSION BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom apartment. Newly renovated. Hardwood. One block from beach/bay. No pets. 3795 Mission Boulevard. Available 1/03/05. Call 9am-5pm, 619-281-5070.

MISSION BEACH. \$950/month, \$1000/ deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cute downstairs unit. Steps to beach/bay. Partially furnished. Off-street parking (1 space). Available 1/7/05. Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7433.

MISSION BEACH. \$895. Upper 1 bedroom apartment. Peek water view! Near bay! Parking. Very clean. Gas appliances. 847 Jamaica Court. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$725 studio. Steps to ocean and bay. Includes parking and utilities. Full kitchen. Very clean. 3665 Mission Boulevard. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$1350. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex on Island Court, parking garage, appliances, kitchen/dining/living room, walk to beach. Pets OK. 619-429-8123.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$2100. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Loaded, 2-car garage. Washer/dryer, fireplace, patio, bay views. 821 Balboa Court #2. 760-634-1746 or 858-270-2407.

MISSION BEACH. \$2495. 3833 Lamont Street, #3G. Panoramic Bay/Sea World/Downtown views! Interior laundry. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Distinctive properties RE/MAX. 858-755-8580.

MISSION BEACH Home. \$2500. Steps to ocean. Over 1400 square feet. View decks. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Only 5 years old. Hardwood floors. Fireplace in living room. 2 car garage. Lease. No pets. Available 12/30, CB Property Management, 858-488-2228.

MISSION BEACH. From \$850. 1/2 off first month's rent! Studios and 1 bedrooms, new paint, new carpet, very close to beach. 810 El Carmel Place. Penny Realty 858-272-3900 x107.

MISSION BEACH. \$845. New 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 200 yards from the ocean. Parking. Penny Realty, 858-272-3900 x107.

MISSION BEACH. \$1395, 2 bedroom, 1 bath and \$950 studio. Luxury apartments, all new inside. 3550 Bayside Walk. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, great view, close freeway access/shops/restaurants/pub, laundry, parking. No pets. 3633 Columbia Street/Chalmers. 619-295-7113.

MISSION HILLS. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with downtown/bay view, your balcony. Gated parking (2 spaces)/gated complex. No pets. On-site laundry. 619-296-9393.

MISSION HILLS. \$1100, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartments. Quiet, near shopping and bus lines. Canyon view. Garage. No pets. 619-298-6436.

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MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, view, garage. Cat OK. 3511 State Street. 858-273-6429.

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MISSION HILLS. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, balcony, dining room, dishwasher. 3737 Keating Street. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

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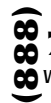


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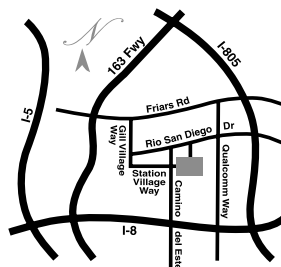
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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$995. 2 bedroom house with fireplace. Garage parking. Gated property with private patio, 4246 37th Street. Xlarent.com. 619-683-7638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom upper unit. Updated appliances, carpet, tiled entry, kitchen, bath. Laundry on site. No pets. 3458 Monroe. Agent, 619-283-2144.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$625. Studio near Adams. Parking. Laundry. Water, hot water, gas and trash included. No pets.

3359 Madison Avenue #11. www.seetheunit.com. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$675. \$200 off first month! 1 bedroom, downstairs. Close to Adams. New carpet. No pets. Available now. 4681 35th #5. Please call resident manager, 619-269-1825.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Parking. Laundry on site. No pets. Available 1/1/05. 4840 West Mountain View Drive. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit. Small garden complex, gated, new paint and carpet, laundry room. Move-in special. \$200 off the first months rent with a 1-year lease. Available 12/25/04. 4580 39th Street #4594. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

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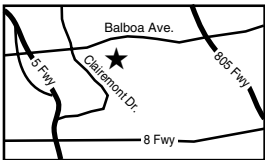
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NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom, utilities included! Very quiet and safe. Laundry on site. Cat OK. 3202-3212 30th. Cogan Properties, 619-283-2144.

NORTH PARK/MORLEY 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. \$675-\$875. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Laundry. Call Mrs. Bailey. 619-838-3358.

NORTH PARK. \$795-\$995. Good credit a must! Very large, nice 1 and 2 bedrooms. Pet friendly! Pool, parking, controlled access, laundry. Clean, quiet. www.jesselproperties.com. 619-640-0112.

NORTH PARK. \$1350. Newly refurbished 2 bedroom, 2 bath with new stainless steel appliances, granite counters, fireplace, and more. 2 off-street parking. Laundry room on site. Gated entry. On Arizona near El Cajon Boulevard. Agent, 619-807-6977.

NORTH PARK. \$1150. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, garage, free basic cable. 4152 Iowa Street #5. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom. Upstairs corner unit. Low \$300 deposit. Cat OK. 3115 Polk Avenue, corner of Polk and Illinois. 858-866-5636.

NORTH PARK. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming Spanish-style, air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry, gated, no pets. Month-to-month. No section 8. 4077 Utah #2, 92104. 619-698-6911.

NORTH PARK. \$800. Deposit \$850. Adorable 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage in small complex. Centrally located with a small patio. 1-car garage. Available now. No pets. 4512-1/2 Idaho Street. Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7433.

NORTH PARK. \$1400/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Appliances, washer/dryer in unit. Completely remodeled. All new everything. No pets. Available now. Call 619-295-0481.

NORTH PARK. \$875 rent. \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Off-street parking spot. New carpet. No pets. At 4541 Hamilton Street, #1. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$725 rent. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom. Parking spot. No pets. At 4178 Kansas Street #9. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$675/month, deposit \$500. 1 bedroom, detached cottage. New carpet. No pets. At 3819 Villa Terrace. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Upstairs 1 bedroom in gated building. Vaulted ceilings. Tiled kitchen and bath. Formal dining area. Laundry. Cats OK. Agent, 619-234-9553.

NORTH PARK. \$795. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment in a quiet complex. Ceramic tile floors and bath. Berber carpet. New appliances including microhood. Freshly painted in designer colors. A great value. Indoor cat OK. 4185 Texas Street. 619-725-3648 or 619-846-6615.

NORTH PARK. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs in duplex. Appliances. Laundry hookups. Ceramic tile floors. Fenced yard. Parking. Water/gardener paid. Pet upon approval with additional deposit. Available 1/8/05. 2343 Boundary. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Small upstairs 1 bedroom. Nice quiet property. Laundry. Walk to shops and restaurants. 4061-1/2 Kansas. Agent, 619-260-1368.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. Hardwood floors, new paint, cute cozy apartment, lovely gated complex. Laundry on site. Available 12/20/04. 4058 Hamilton #4072. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$500 deposit OAC. Indoor cats only. Available now. 4474 Illinois Street. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

NORTH PARK. \$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath nice unit. Parking, laundry. Available 1/9/05. 4333 Mississippi Street #1 and #5. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

NORTH PARK. \$699. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special: \$99 off first month! 1/2 price credit check. Upstairs, laundry, parking. No pets. Available now. 858-837-1678.

NORTH PARK. \$1400-\$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath remodeled home. Washer/dryer hookups. Street parking. Upgraded bath and kitchen. 1411 Bancroft Street. 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. \$725-\$750. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment. 3939-3940 Idaho Street. Gated. Close to all. Laundry on site. 619-298-8383.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Indoor cat only. Cute, must see! Available 1/6/05. 4361-1/2 Mississippi Street. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Move-in special. Washer/dryer and newer appliances, air conditioning, parking, gated. 3784 Pershing Drive. Call agent 619-921-8518.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Newly remodeled. Hardwood floors. Assigned parking. On-site laundry. No dogs. Call Patty, 619-280-5461. www.floit.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, on-site laundry, near all. No dogs. Call Patty, 619-280-5461. www.floit.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. New carpet. On-site laundry, assigned parking. No dogs. Call Patty, 619-280-5461. www.floit.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom for \$800. Beautiful highrise with views of downtown San Diego. Call Palisades Pointe, 619-297-3600.

NORTH PARK. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Bright, immaculate upstairs unit. New carpet. Huge kitchen. Large bedrooms. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 4115-1/2 Arizona. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-296-8802.

NORTH PARK. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in small four-plex. Bright upstairs apartment. Close to bus lines and schools. Coin laundry. Garage included. 4068

35th Street. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-296-8802.

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NORTH PARK. \$690. Upstairs 1 bedroom. Utilities paid. 4334 Texas #5. Stop by, if interested call 619-226-7368.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Deposit \$600. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Reserved, off-street parking. Close to all. Move-in special. Section 8 OK. 4325 Texas #6. 619-804-8711.

NORTH PARK. \$895. Deposit \$800. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, Pergo floors, large eat-in kitchen, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 3976 Mississippi. 619-804-8711.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath with garage. Very private. Coin laundry. \$1025. 3334 31st Street. 619-683-9274.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs and down. Coin laundry. Large units. Garage available. \$950-\$1085. 3662 32nd. 619-683-9274.

NORTH PARK. \$1025, \$900 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, off-street parking, on-site laundry. Nice area, upper/lower unit available. 4158 1/2 and 4158 Alabama. 619-804-8711.

NORTH PARK. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home. 1-car garage. Washer/dryer. Front and rear yard. Hardwood floors. Great area. Available now. Broker/owner, 619-683-9274.

NORTH PARK. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Gorgeous, recently remodeled unit. Washer/dryer, microwave, private patio and parking. 4569 Alabama Street. Call 858-571-1970. www.sunriseliving.com.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment. Refrigerator. Stove. Laundry facility. Parking. www.utiapiamangement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

NORTH PARK. \$795. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Controlled access. Courtyard setting. Off-street parking, on-site laundry. 3167 Landis Street. Call 858-571-1970.

NORTH PARK. 4052 Oregon. \$750-\$775. Super spacious 1 bedroom apartment home with large living room, dishwasher, newly remodeled and more. Available now. 1/2 off first month's rent! Call 619-291-1699. www.msbrowar.com.

NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$995. Very nice, large 2 bedroom with fenced yard and patio. New carpet, paint. Off-street parking. Pet OK. 858-672-0428.

NORTH PARK. \$625 rent. \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom duplex. No pets. At 3033 Monroe Avenue. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$775. Immaculate 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious, new carpet and paint. Appliances-refrigerator, gas stove. Coin laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 858-361-3374.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$725. Small complex with on-site laundry. Water/trash paid. Parking. Holiday Special: 2 weeks free rent! 3742 Wilson Avenue. 858-200-9408.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1150. Large upstairs unit with balcony. Dishwasher. Parking. Quiet, gated complex. 4560 North Avenue. 858-200-9408.

NORTH PARK. Spacious 1 bedroom apartments, \$825. 2 bedrooms, \$1050. Controlled access. Air conditioning. Parking. Laundry. Pool. 3330 30th Street. For appointment, call 619-299-7727.

NORTH PARK. \$200 off first month! All new large downstairs 1 bedroom in gated complex with assigned parking. No pets. \$750. 4656 Kansas Street #4. 858-483-5111 x10. More at www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet community. Laundry on site. 4450 Boundary #8. 619-563-1215.

NORTH PARK. \$100+ move-in special! 2 bedroom in gated complex with garage and on-site laundry. No pets. \$995. 4567 Hawley #3. 858-483-5111 x10. More at www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Parking and laundry. No pets. New paint. Available now. 4366 Texas Street #G. Call 619-497-0630 or 858-550-2811.

NORTH PARK. \$100+ move-in special! 2 bedroom with assigned parking. No pets. \$950. 4561 Hawley Boulevard. 858-483-5111 x10. More at www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK/NORMAL HEIGHTS/University Heights/Hillcrest. 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$700 to \$895. Several convenient locations. Most with parking and laundry. Call for appointment. Agent, 619-296-3189 or www.willinproperties.com.

OAK PARK. \$1100. All new top floor 2 bedroom condo. Stainless and granite kitchen. Quiet gated community. Minutes to downtown. Bayview Heights Drive. 858-472-1013.

OCEAN BEACH. Beautiful beachfront ocean view! 1 bedroom, \$950-\$1100. 2 bedroom, \$1300-\$1500. Serene security garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Consider pets. For address and availability call, 619-224-1748. For applications call, 619-501-5553.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1050. 2 bedroom (1 bathroom, remodeled) apartment. Off-street parking. No pets. 2741 Camulos Street (near Nimitz/West Point Loma Boulevard). 619-222-6427.

OCEAN BEACH. \$825-\$945. Studio and 1 bedroom, 1 bath available now. Bring your dog! Nimitz Pointe Apartments. 2401 Seaside Street. 619-223-0254.

OCEAN BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$900/month includes water and trash. On-site laundry. 4426 Temecula Street #6. Available. Call Chris at 858-490-2727 x350.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$800 deposit. Great location, near beach/freeway. No pets.

4249 Whittier Street. Recently renovated. 619-255-9280.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1100. 1 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony with spectacular beach views. Washer/dryer hookups. Pets OK. 5182 Longbranch. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1250-half off first month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Pet OK. Laundry. Parking. 4437 Mentone Street. Available now. Jennifer, 619-252-2812.

OCEAN BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex unit. Walk to beach. Parking. 5161 Muir Avenue. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1150-\$1395. 1 and 2 bedroom, recently remodeled with new kitchen, ceramic tile counter, ceramic tile floor, new appliances including microwave, ice maker. New carpet, verticals, remodeled bath with ceramic tile walk-in shower. Vaulted ceilings, pool. Block to beach. No smoking/pets. 5025 Cape May Avenue. 619-977-4693.

OCEAN BEACH. \$900. 1 bedroom, steps to beach, gated building. Close to shops. Available now. No pets, please. 5060-1/2 Santa Monica. John A Reis and Company, Inc. 858-272-1348.

OCEAN BEACH. \$875. 1 bedroom duplex with garage. New carpet, paint and vinyl. Close to beach. No pets. Available now. 4910 Saratoga Avenue. Agent, 619-226-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Close to beach. No pets. Available now. 5110 Muir Avenue. Agent, 619-226-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$995. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking, laundry, close to park. Sorry, no pets. 4712 West Point Loma Boulevard. Call Wendy at 619-231-2727 x222.

OCEAN BEACH. \$675. Studio. Close to beach. No pets. Available now. 1 year lease. 2138 Abbott. Agent, 619-226-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath beach cottage. Steps to beach. All new appliances, carpet, paint-great colors! Won't last. 619-417-4392.

OCEAN BEACH. \$900. Updated 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Small complex with courtyard. 4723 Greene Street. Call Anna-Marie, 619-840-MOVE(6683) Prudential CA Realty.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Newly refurbished, near beach. Parking, wood ceiling. 5022 Voltaire. Available now. 619-275-5290.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry on site. Parking. Available approximately 1/15. No pets. 4841 Del Monte Avenue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

OCEAN BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, patio, laundry, lower unit, view. Across from beach. No pets. Move-in special. 2111 Spray Street #8, 92107. 619-698-6913.

OCEAN BEACH. \$850. Beautifully remodeled studio, brand new everything, in garden setting with small yard and patio, close to beach. 4950-1/2 Muir. No dogs. 619-222-8742.

OCEAN BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment. Recently renovated. Front/back balconies. No pets. 4663 Voltaire Street. 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Close to beach. Laundry on site. No pets. Available mid-January. 4972 Narragansett Avenue. kandrproperties.com, 858-490-1600.

OCEAN BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. 2 blocks to beach. Deck, bay view, laundry, parking. No pets. 5072 West Point Loma. \$1875/month. Special: \$500 off first month's rent with signing of 1 year lease! 858-273-4820.

OCEAN BEACH. Steps to beach. Very cute 1 bedroom cottage. 600 feet to beach with shared, landscaped yard (fenced). Stroll to main strip. Hardwood floors, gardens, laundry, parking. Like new, must see. Pets considered. \$1300. 5018 Narragansett. 619-226-7258.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1275/rent, \$800/deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex townhouse. Walk to ocean. No pets. 5124 Brighton Street. 619-299-8515.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1350. Large, 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Appliances, large closets, off-street parking, laundry on site. Nonsmoking. No pets. Quiet residential area. 858-457-3905.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1250. Bright, upper 2 bedroom. Walk to ocean/shops. 2 parking spaces. Laundry facilities. 4873 Niagara Avenue. No pets. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

OCEAN BEACH. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath small apartment. 1 block to beach. 5100 block of Muir Avenue. Street parking, no pets. Available 1/1/05. 619-222-2112.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1225, deposit \$1225. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, laundry in complex, off-street parking. Blocks to beach. No pets. 4838 Santa Cruz #C. Available now. www.timcassidy.com. 619-275-2525.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath downstairs. 2 blocks to beach. Parking. No pets. 619-223-2347.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1315. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2 parking, washer/dryer. 5027-A Santa Monica. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1250. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated parking. Convenient West Point Loma Boulevard location. 4457 Temecula. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-795-8490.

OCEAN BEACH. \$695. Studio apartment in gated complex. Close to beach. Coin laundry. No pets. 4960 Santa Monica. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-224-2110.

OCEAN BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Security building, pool, on-site laundry. Block to beach. Available now. \$1250. 619-222-7199.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 2 bath cottage-style apartment. Close to beach. 4646 Lotus. Torrey Pines Property

Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

OCEAN BEACH. \$200 off first month's rent! \$1300. 2 bedrooms. 1 block to water. No pets. 5043 Del Monte Avenue. 619-279-6411 or 619-226-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment with laundry. Blocks to beach! No pets! 2243 Abbott Street, #B. Call 619-222-4836, x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$200 off 1st month's rent! \$895. Large 1 bedroom. 1 block to beach. Quiet property. 4784 Bermuda. No pets. Drive by, if interested call 619-226-7368.

OCEAN BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with garage! Blocks to beach! No pets! 4866 Brighton Street. Call 619-222-4836, x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment with laundry! 1/2 block to beach! No pets! 5057 Narragansett, #15. Call 619-222-4836, x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. Newly remodeled studios, \$825. 2 bedroom, \$1350. \$250 off first month! 1 block to beach! Gated community, sparkling heated pool, spa, sauna, recreation room, exercise room, laundry, parking and more! Available now! Cats OK, no dogs. 4975 Del Monte. 619-221-8158, www.rasnyder.com.

OCEAN BEACH. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, \$975. \$200 off first month! Close to beach. Gated community, laundry, parking, bike room and more! 4929 Del Monte Avenue. Cats OK, no dogs. 619-221-8158, www.rasnyder.com.

OCEAN BEACH. Spacious newly remodeled 1 bedroom, \$1000. Close to beach! New carpet, ceramic tile, and all appliances. Gated community, courtyard setting, laundry, parking and more! Cats OK. No dogs. 619-226-3171.

OCEANSIDE. \$865. Spacious 1 bedrooms. Private yards/balconies. Great location. Pool. Laundry. Barbecue. Free garage, gas utilities, heat. Large closets. No pets. 760-757-4641.

OCEANSIDE. Incredible views! 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1-car garage plus a space. Totally upgraded. \$1695. Washer/dryer. Available now. 2-pets allowed. 760-505-5278.

OCEANSIDE. \$1495/deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. 2 story. Vaulted ceiling. Courtyard. 2 car garage. Close to 76. 104 Avenida Las Brisas. 760-580-1915; 760-580-6002.

OCEANSIDE. \$700. Large, remodeled studio. Nice, quiet, small complex. 1 mile/beach. Secure parking. No pets. Near Oceanside Boulevard and I-5. 1973 Apple Street. 760-754-1708.

OCEANSIDE. \$1895. 4 miles to beach. Newer 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Resort-style yard. Washer/dryer, refrigerator, gardener. No smoking/pets. 760-433-4273.

OCEANSIDE. \$825-\$895. Large 2 bedroom apartments. Garages available. Newer building. 3 blocks beach. Laundry. New carpet/paint. 501-523 South Cleveland Street. Available immediately. 760-439-6426.

OCEANSIDE. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Near beach, downtown. Fresh paint, new carpet. Spacious, upstairs, ocean view. Well kept. 4 unit complex. Garage available. \$1200. 760-889-6664.

OCEANSIDE. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath. New washer/dryer, refrigerator, dishwasher, oven. Bathrooms updated. New carpet. Quiet, with easy access. January move-in. \$1750/month. 619-549-0367.

OCEANSIDE. \$2383/month with 12-month lease! Luxury, 2800-square-foot! 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-story townhome. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, 2-car garage. New appliances, carpet. Freshly painted. Pool. Jacuzzi. Lagoon view. Private yard with barbecue. 760-721-2802.

OCEANSIDE. Now renting! Beautiful, quiet senior community in Oceanside. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$740. Recreation room with many scheduled activities. On site maintenance. Intercom entry. Close to shopping/freeways. 960 Vine Street. 760-967-0999.

OCEANSIDE. \$1095. Large 2 bedroom apartment located 3 blocks from the ocean. Many recent upgrades including carpet and vinyl, microwave and ceiling fans. Secure off-street parking, laundry on site. Easy access to I-5. Manager, 760-529-0991.

OCEANSIDE. \$825-\$895. Large 2 bedroom apartments. Garages available. Newer building, 3 blocks beach. Laundry. New carpet/paint. 501-523 South Cleveland Street. Available immediately. 760-439-6426.

OCEANSIDE. \$850. 1 bedroom. \$1020. 2 bedroom. \$300 off first month! Open house: Sunday 9am-3pm. Fantastic property near beach/shopping! Spacious apartments. Covered parking. On-site laundry. Cat OK. 700 Carey Road. 760-757-8581. www.rasnyder.com.

OCEANSIDE. 1 bedrooms from \$875. 2 bedrooms, 1 baths from \$1040. Gated, quiet, patios, pool and jacuzzi, dishwasher, microwave. 760-439-3588, www.rasnyder.com.

OLD TOWN. Charming 1 bedroom, condo. Fireplace, air conditioning, free cable, balcony, laundry facilities, secured parking. Small pet OK. 1-year lease. \$1375. 619-203-1355 or 619-297-5217.

OLD TOWN. \$1025. Large 2 bedroom, lower unit, off-street parking, on-site laundry. Large patio. 2085 San Diego Avenue. Available now. Leave message, 858-270-9086.

OLD TOWN. \$1195. Stunning 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. Newly remodeled. View of Downtown and Sea World. Washer/dryer, French doors. No pets. 619-807-3902.

OLD TOWN. \$650-\$695. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios-alcoves on excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

OLD TOWN. \$1500. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Huge. 1000 square feet. Best view in San Diego! 1763 Linwood Street. 619-295-7570.

OLD TOWN. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex available now. Garage, yard and laundry included. Cat OK. 4120 Twigg Street. Off Juan Street. Orion Property Group. 619-749-6545.

OLD TOWN. \$875. Extra large, lower 1 bedroom, view, off-street parking, laundry on premises. 2085 San Diego Avenue. Available now. Leave clear message, 858-270-9086.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ask about no deposits! Resort-style living. Studios, 1, 2 bedrooms starting at \$865, \$1035, \$1450. Heated pool. 2 jacuzzis, saunas. Weight rooms. Tennis clinics. Basketball. Aerobics. Clubhouse. Play area. Laundry facilities. Heat/air. Cat OK. Great location. Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham Street. 888-759-7435. www.sdreader.com/rent/2081.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great location, 1 block Sail Bay, 4 ocean. Storage room, open beam ceilings, laundry hookups. 1253 Oliver. 619-294-8737.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. Nice furnished and unfurnished studios. Quiet, friendly complex. Laundry room available. Off-street parking. Close to beach. 858-490-0374.

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom apartments in small complex. \$1050-\$1450/month includes water and trash. On-site laundry, 1361 Felspar Street. Available now! Call Chris at 858-490-2727 x350.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 650 square feet. Close to bay. On site laundry. Water/trash included. No pets. Security deposit special. 858-273-2623.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. Gated, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking spaces, new paint, carpet. No pets/smoking. Year lease. \$1450 deposit. Available now. Hal, 949-933-3087.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 3 blocks to beach. Washer/dryer. Parking. No pets/smoking. Available now. 1026 Emerald #3. 619-523-5036.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Covered secure parking. near pool, tennis court. One year lease. Available now. Plaza Condominiums. No pets. 858-454-7660.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Pets OK. Large 2 bedroom, deck, wood floors, recently renovated, laundry, block to bay. Available 1/1/05. \$1800. Internet included. 4005 Riviera Drive. www.geocities.com/rivieraapartments/. Brian, 858-442-7873.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3995. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath penthouse condo with bonus room! 180-degree views! 1660 square feet. Granite countertops. Underground parking. 3868 Riviera Drive #4B. Love Property Management, 619-379-4448.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2399. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 3rd floor. Sail Bay views! Fireplace. Balcony. Pool. 3920 Riviera Drive #M. Love Property Management, 619-379-4448.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BAY. \$3399. Luxury 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Bayfront condo with view. 1900 square feet with fireplace. Granite counters. Custom cabinets. Spa tub. Patio. Pool. 2-car parking. cuprys@realty-specialists.com. Love Property Management, 619-379-4448.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3000. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath penthouse condo. Bay/night-light views from every room! Pool. Jacuzzi. Weight room. 3991 Crown Point Drive #P16. Love Property Management, 619-379-4448.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Block and a half to beach. Clean, bright. Ceiling fans, dishwasher, on-site laundry. No pets. 858-273-3233.

PACIFIC BEACH. Coldwell Banker Property Management has rentals available in Pacific Beach and North Park in January and February. For information call 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1325. Downstairs 2 bedroom apartment. Garage available. Recently renovated, tile floors, counters, dishwasher, microwave, large closets, security complex, laundry room, lease. Cats OK. 1955 Thomas. 858-205-2397.

PACIFIC BEACH. Ask about manager's specials! Low deposits from \$550! Gated. Lush courtyard. Huge 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. 1-866-815-6570. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1049.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom. \$850. Near bay. 4021 Lamont Street. Upstairs unit. No pets. Laundry facility on-site. Off-street parking. Available 1/8/05. Call Manager, 858-274-1446 or email beaueventvibe@yahoo.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Quiet neighborhood. Private patio. Wet bar. Washer/dryer. 2 fireplaces. Appliances. 1932 Missouri #3. Available now. 619-697-1660.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550-\$2295. Luxury 2 and 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouses. Attached garage. Available now. Includes refrigerator, microwave, stove, dishwasher, fireplace, washer/dryer hookups. 1760 Diamond Street. Ask about no deposit! 619-223-0254; 858-273-5525.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath available first of December on tree-lined street. Controlled access building, laundry on site, parking and 1 garage space. No pets/smoking. \$1475 and up. Call for more detail, 858-866-0867.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom apartments. On the beach between Reed Street and Pacific Beach Drive. Dogs, sharing cosigners OK. Priced by size and location. Year-round rate. 6-month lease, then month-to-month. Shown 8:30am-5:30pm,

Monday-Friday. Beachfront Apartments, 4217 Oliver Court (behind the Promenade). 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1900. Luxury townhouse, 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, attached 2-car garage, all appliances included, washer/dryer in-unit. New carpet. Close to all. No smoking/pets. Available 1/17/05. Drive by 1954 Missouri Street. Please do not disturb residents. Call 858-274-8251 or all-christine@msn.com. http://groups.msn.com/Christalinespropertymanagement

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1250, villa with private patio. 2 blocks from beach, upper unit, laundry, pool, no pets. 930 Thomas Street #29. CCPM, 858-270-1619.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1100, 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. A+ new maple kitchens! Studios: \$788/up. Tropical, parking, pool, laundry. Big deals for December move-ins! Cat OK. 858-536-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800. 1 bedroom apartment, hardwood floors. Beautifully landscaped yard. Available now. 858-459-5220.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$885. Large, 1 bedroom apartment. No pets. Parking. Laundry. New carpet/paint. Dishwasher. Share courtyard. Nice. 1550 Hornblend Street #2. Agent, 619-275-3455.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3000. 3 bedrooms, 3 bath. Oversized 2 car garage with workroom. Large private deck off of master bedroom. Many upgrades. Close to all. No pets, please. Available 1/15/05. John A. Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs condo in Crown Point. Reserve parking, new appliances, coin laundry, 1 block to bay, available now. 1 year lease. No smoking. 4109 Morrell. 760-730-7369; 858-270-5004.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$900/\$750. 1 bedroom apartment. Garage parking, on-site laundry, large bedroom. No pets. 1345 Grand Avenue #A. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325, 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath. Third floor, deck view. No pets. 6-month lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upper unit. Laundry facility. Parking. Storage locker. Common patio. Quiet complex. No pets. Open daily, 8-6pm. 1537 Missouri Street, #7. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat OK. Hardwood floors. Fee. Free guest search at: www.sdrentals.com. 858-272-7368.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 blocks to beach, refrigerator, stove. Fee. Free guest search at: www.sdrentals.com. 858-272-7368.

PACIFIC BEACH/Z, NORTH. 1 bedroom duplex, \$950. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath duplex, \$1250. New carpet in 2 bedroom. Parking, quiet for both. 858-756-1296.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Carport, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove. Fee. Free guest search at: www.sdrentals.com. 858-272-7368.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Blocks from the beach. Renovated unit. Parking and laundry on-site. 1351 Reed Street. 619-280-8681.

PACIFIC BEACH. 935 Reed Avenue. 1 bedroom apartment. Available. No pets. 1068 Hornblend. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 858-273-4559.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$960. Quiet, upstairs 1 bedroom. 8 blocks to ocean. Remodeled. Hardwood floors, stove, refrigerator. Laundry close. Available now. Cat OK. 1570 Hornblend. 858-232-9932.

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious, upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath with laundry and off-street parking available now. No pets/smoking. \$925. 2003 Emerald Street #6. 619-226-0393.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studios, \$800-\$945. 1 bedrooms, \$965-\$1075. 2 bedrooms, \$1350-\$1450. Great location, minutes from shopping and freeways. Cedar Shores Apartments. 858-274-9680. Sun-riseling.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1400. Plaza condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace. Gated community; parking, tennis, pool, spa, gym. 1801 Diamond Street. America's Finest City Realty, 619-846-7156.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs condo. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace. 1-car garage plus 1 parking. No pets. Contact Bill Luther Realty, 858-488-1580.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Washer/dryer, new stove, small patio. Available now. 1847 Thomas Ave. 858-490-0385.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. Block to ocean. \$1040-\$1080. Lovely 1 bedroom cottage, remodeled, custom tile, dishwasher, dual-pane, garden windows, fan, gray Berber. 851 Diamond. Appointment, 858-270-0214.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$785. Junior 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in small, intimate complex, off-street parking, close to all, on-site laundry. 3431 Del Rey. Chris, 619-504-4995.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$965. 1 bedroom. Spacious, clean, redone, quiet. No pets. Available 1/1/05. 1 year lease. \$700 deposit. Call 858-270-4266. 3911 Jewell Street.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. Spacious sunny 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, large balcony with sunset view. 8 blocks to ocean. 4 blocks to bay. Great location. Near all. Available 1/1. 858-273-8763.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 2 blocks to beach. Coin laundry. No pets. 4635 Bayard Street. 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

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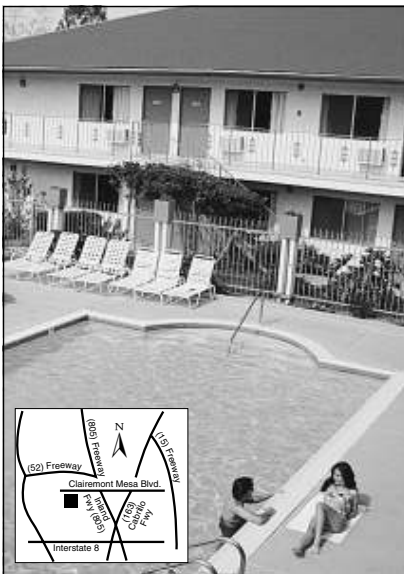
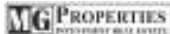
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, ground floor apartment. Coin laundry. Close to I-5. No pets. 2220 Garnet Avenue. 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Crown Management wishes you a Happy Holiday! Call our 24-hour rental line for availability on studios, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms: 858-454-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$795. Studio. Steps to beach. Parking. Basic utilities included. No pets. 865 Grand Avenue. kandrproperties.com. 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2000. Gorgeous, spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath contemporary townhome. 1500+ square feet. Travertine floors, granite in kitchen, dishwasher, washer/dryer, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, parking. Small pet considered. 1712 Grand Avenue. kandrproperties.com. 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 parking, on-site laundry, 1-year lease, \$995/month, \$1000/deposit. Half block to bay. Available now. No dogs, cat OK. 3820-3838 Haines. 858-837-0364.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Refinished hardwood floors, granite countertops, located in a beautiful lush garden-courtyard setting. Ceramic tile bath with glass shower doors. 1 off-street parking space, gated entry, laundry room on site. 2013 Grand Avenue. Matt. 619-725-3642.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1400. Immaculate upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garden courtyard. Balcony. Near bay. Appliances. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Verticals. Available 1/8/05. 858-488-1403.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 month free rent! \$1300, 2 bedroom plus storage. Nice carpet and floor tile, fresh paint, dishwasher, mirrored wardrobe, patio, laundry, 2 car off-street parking. Beaches/shopping/freeways close. 2049-B Garnet. Jeff 858-270-1120.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$945. Block to bay. \$50 sweep credit available. Bright, upper 1 bedroom. Skylights. Open-beam ceilings. Peek of water view. Berber. Parking. Laundry. Haines Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Small 2 bedroom beach cottage. Very clean. Fenced rear yard. Pet considered. Gas appliances. Storage shed. 2660 Magnolia Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2495. Spacious, bright 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. View. Spa. Skylights. Vaulted ceilings. Wet bar. Oversized 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. Excellent condition. 1655 Chalcedony Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. West of Ingham. 2 parking spaces. Fireplace, dishwasher. Bright and sunny. \$1400. 1447 Chalcedony Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, downstairs. Appliances. Coin laundry. Parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/15/05. 2154 Reed. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1175. 1 bedroom. Upstairs, remodeled apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Private balcony. Coin laundry. Parking. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. No pets. Available 1/10/05. 950 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1100. 1 bedroom. Large, remodeled apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Pool. No pets. 2 blocks to Tourmaline Surf Park. 812 Tourmaline. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1025. 1 bedroom. Remodeled, downstairs, large apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, parking, pool. No pets. Available 12/25. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome in 3-plex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Twin master suites. Parking. Ask about pet. 6 blocks to ocean, 1 block to bay. Available 1/10. 1358 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, downstairs apartment. Stove, refrigerator, private patio, garage space, coin laundry. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 12/20. 945 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Properties, broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large, upstairs, remodeled apartment, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, private balcony, coin laundry, parking, 6 blocks to ocean, 1 block to bay. No pets. Available 1/25/05. 1346 Pacific Beach Drive. Del Sol Properties, Broker. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom, large, upstairs apartment, appliances, coin laundry, carport. No pets. Available 1/20/05. 3711 Ingham. Del Sol Properties, Broker. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100/\$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious. Parking. Laundry. Pool. No pets. 2275 Grand. 619-276-5520.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1250. Spacious, bright 2 bedrooms, 1 bath apartment. Two blocks to beach. Remodeled kitchen, dishwasher, new carpet. Parking. Lease, no pets. 858-454-9236.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500 condo, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Brand new remodel, contemporary. Hardwood, granite, travertine, pool, parking, recreation room, more. No pets. Available 12/1. 2266 Grand. 858-272-8024.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-car garage, laundry. Pet with deposit. Dishwasher, disposal, spa. Fee. Broker (RR-4602-3554). 858-751-0193.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Immaculate, charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. Quiet. No laundry. Wrap-around private patio, parking. No pets/smoking. Must see. 858-270-7279.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1350. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry, underground parking. Quiet area. 4055 Sequoia #5. Available mid-January. 760-634-1746 or 858-270-2407.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great values, nice, clean, convenient apartments in multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from \$705. 1 bedrooms from \$875. 2 bedrooms from \$1325. Parking, laundry. Some buildings with gated entry, pool and/or deck. No pets. 858-483-3796.

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious studio. 1-1/2 blocks to beach! Very clean and well maintained. All utilities paid. No pets. \$860/month, deposit \$860. 860 Missouri Street, #B and C. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

PACIFIC BEACH. Newer building. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1325. 12-month lease. Pets welcome. Laundry onsite, parking, fireplace, minutes to beach. Available now. Call 858-454-8857 x301.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upgraded, 3 blocks to beach, dishwasher, laundry, 1069 Hornblend. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Walk to all, laundry. Available now! 1161 Hornblend Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$880. Luxury studio apartment, blocks to beach. Walk to all. Laundry, parking, new appliances. Must

see! 1304-B Felspar. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Front patio. Available now. 2010 Reed Avenue. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, luxury unit, close to beach. Garage \$100. Available now! 1071 Missouri Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1160. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Walk to bay, upstairs, 6 month lease, must see! 2029 Oliver Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Block to beach. Available 12/10. 826 Chalcedony. Garage available, \$100. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in central location. Close to shops and restaurants. 1661 Thomas. Available 1/10. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. 9 month lease. Available 12/10. 1468-4 Missouri Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in garden complex setting. Well-maintained building near bay, freeway and shops. 2150 Thomas #6. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-483-3887.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in garden complex setting. Well-maintained building near bay, freeway and shops. 2150 Thomas #9. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-483-3887.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Superior location 1/2 block to bay. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 3825 Riviera Drive. Available 1/10. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in small complex. Great location. Coin laundry. 1811 Pacific Beach Drive. Available 1/10. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great location across from Henry's Market. Close to shops and beach. 1236 Felspar. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851 or 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Darling cottage-style apartment in garden setting. Close to beach. 1340 Grand Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with 1-car garage and patio. Quaint beach complex. 6 month lease. 2075 Emerald Street. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with 1-car garage. Quaint beach complex close to shopping. 2067 Emerald. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$825. Studio apartment in superior location near bay. 3801-1/2 Riviera Drive. Available 1/7. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4209 or 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Excellent Crown Point location. Close to Sail Bay. 4015 Haines. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851 or 858-454-4209.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$975-\$995/month. Upgraded 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious. 2 blocks to Crown Point Shores. Parking. Pool. Laundry facilities. Cats OK. 3880 Jewel Street. Manager, 858-272-0068.

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious, 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Upstairs/downstairs, one with patio. Parking, trash/water included. Pool and laundry on site. \$1350-\$1395/month. 883 Jewel Street. Call Manager, 858-272-0068.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BAY. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in garden setting. Well-maintained complex in central location. Pool. Recreation room. No pets. 2710 Grand Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-273-8657.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, new carpet, paint, new refrigerator, new stove, dishwasher, microwave, pool, 2 underground parking. 4090 Fanel #2D. Penny Realty 858-272-3900 x107.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$875. Large 1 bedroom courtyard setting. Stop by 4418 Bond #3. If interested call 619-226-7368.

PACIFIC BEACH. From \$850. Studios and 1 bedrooms, pool, parking, couple of blocks to the beach. Penny Realty, 858-272-3900 x107.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with 1 parking. Penny Realty, 858-272-3900 x107.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath home. Just steps to the bay! Assigned parking, sparkling pool, laundry and more. 1327 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-581-1882.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet and paint. \$800 deposit. 2325 Grand Avenue. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$745. Studio, 1 bath, underground parking, 375 square feet, laundry. 1845 Hornblend. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry, 9-month lease. 1536.5 Diamond. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, bright upstairs, large kitchen. 1872 Diamond. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1/2 off first month's rent! Newly renovated. Hardwood floors, new carpet. Near beach and bay. Coin laundry. Parking. 2201 Grand Avenue. 858-483-1095. www.sunriseliving.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1260. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, quiet complex near bay. Available 1/11/05. 3875 Sequoia Street. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath 2-story condo, 1000 square feet, parking. 1520 Thomas. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1/2 off first month's rent! Newly renovated. Hardwood floors, new carpet. Near beach and bay. Coin laundry. Parking. 2201 Grand Avenue. 858-483-1095. www.sunriseliving.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with walk-in closets. New carpet/new paint! Laundry. Washer/dryer. Balcony. Fireplace. Steps to bay. 3946 Haines Street. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, lower, near Crown Point Bay. New carpet. Laundry. Quiet building. No pets. 4275 Kendall Street. 858-273-4042.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Upper level. Off-street parking. Appliances. No pets. Available now. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 blocks to ocean. Nice and clean. Off-street parking. Laundry room. No pets. Available now. 1050 Hornblend Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking, new appliances, rehabbed building. No pets. Available now. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Upper level. Off-street parking. Appliances. No pets. Available mid-January. 4451 Haines Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury condo in the Plaza, 2 parking, weight room, pool. 1775 Diamond. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, high ceilings, lots of closets, dishwasher. 3922 Shasta. 858-483-3534; www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1025. 4682 Bayard. Just 1 block to the beach. Incredibly spacious studio has 3 closets, full bath, kitchen, dining area and more. A must see! 858-270-5500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, near freeway. Available now! 2327 Grand. 858-483-3534.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Spacious, newly remodeled 1 bedroom, \$1055. 1 block to Sail Bay. Balcony, sparkling pool, laundry and reserved parking. Cats OK, no dogs. 3773-3777 Haines. 858-483-9303, www.rasnyder.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1195. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Only 1 block to the beach! Newly remodeled. Dogs OK! Parking, laundry and more! 734 Sapphire. 858-270-5500.

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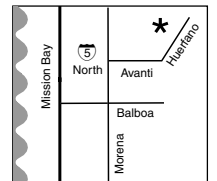


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CARDIFF. By owner. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, 2-car garage. New kitchen, bath, flooring. Jacuzzi, near beach, great neighborhood. \$599K. Offers considered. Joseph, owner, 760-633-1627.

CHARMING 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH home on canyon with views. Modern kitchen and bathrooms. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, garbage disposal, ceiling fans convey. Walk-in closet. And much more! \$385,000-\$425,000. Metropolitan Realty, 619-231-6960.

CHULA VISTA. Priced for quick sale! 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage with custom cabinets. Near shopping. Top Notch Realty, 858-715-0688.

CHULA VISTA. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car, 2800' square, 2004. Full-splash granite, steel appliances, travertine tiles. Deck, great view! Below market! \$695K-\$765K. 858-761-7709.

CROWN POINT FIXER. Pacific Beach 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Approximately 1300 square

feet. Corner lot. Priced for quick sale (\$560,000). Call agent Matt Jerge, 858-699-6034.

EL CAJON. 3 bedroom, retreat, 2 bedroom manufactured home. 1456', huge kitchen, upgrades, ceiling fans, washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Pets OK. \$120,000. 619-401-SELL, 619-749-5633.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom cottage with loft. Ideal location. 24 hour recorded information at 800-365-7186, x2032.

MIRA MESA. 3 bedroom home. Lush landscaping! Own it for \$2206/month with zero down OAC. Call for details, 888-643-1527 x9006. Cadre #01183960.

NORTH PARK. 1 block Morley Field. 3300 square foot, 2-story, duplex/or single family, corner, cul-de-sac. Total 6 bedrooms etc! Each floor, spacious living room, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 1-1/2 bath, full kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors. \$950,000+. Open house, 1/2/05, 12pm-4pm. 3445 28th Street (corner Myrtle). By owner. James. 619-549-3460.

OCEANSIDE. Large 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath home in beautiful complex with pool. Own it with zero down for \$1749/month including HOA fees OAC. Call for details, 888-643-1527 x9005. Cadre #01183960.

OCEANSIDE. Large detached 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Beautiful complex with pool. Own it for \$2100/month with zero down including taxes OAC. Call for details, 888-643-1527 x9006. Cadre, #01183960.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedrooms and 1 bath with a spacious fenced yard. Close to freeway and bay. New roof. \$499,000/offer. Won't last. Agent, 619-275-1874.

RANCHO IN TECATE, BAJA California, Mexico. 1135 acres of land. 2150 square foot house. All utilities. Visit our website: www.freewebs.com/valleyranch.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. Single family home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, tile roof, central air conditioning, fireplace, desirable area. 1836 Donahue Drive, El Cajon. \$499,000. Owner, 619-447-9238.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage. Built in 2002. Huge lot! Quiet, yet close to all. Top Notch Realty, 858-715-0688.

RENT TO OWN! Chula Vista 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1200 square feet. Sunrise views. 1 block to lake. Pergo, fresh paint, \$500/month rent credit. 619-200-9871.

SAN DIEGO IMMACULATE mobile home! Doublewide with 2 sheds, ample carport, large California room. New sink and faucet in kitchen. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Nice family park with lots of amenities. \$64,800. Agent. Robert, 619-709-0759.

SANTEE DREAM HOME! 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, large family room. 1816' square. Built 2000. Paved RV/regular parking. Garage. 2-way fireplace. Jacuzzi, like new tile, 2 covered patios, wooden kid's gym. \$639,000. Agent. Robert, 619-709-0759.

SANTEE REDUCED TURNKEY HOME! Ready for immediate move in. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, bonus room. Nicely remodeled: Fans, dual-pane windows, landscaping, flooring, paint, French doors, more! \$450,000. Agent. Robert, 619-709-0759.

SANTEE. Lovely Santee Hills, 4 bedroom, 1.75 bath, well-maintained, updated throughout. Close to shopping. Virtual tour www.ipayne.com. \$470K-\$480K. 10750 Len Street. Agent Laurie McGettigan, 619-977-0763.

SPRING VALLEY MOBILE HOME, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, inside laundry, spacious and open floor plan, front porch, security. Close to shopping, highways, Sweetwater Lake. \$62,800. Agent. Call Robert, 619-709-0759.

SUNNY, LARGE NORTH PARK house. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Living room, kitchen, dining room, fireplace, wood floors. Large attic. Landscaped yard. Agent Sandy White, 619-977-8322.

VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with attached 1 bedroom guest house. Private entrance. Large 2-car garage. Horse property, large usable 3/4 acre lot. Quiet area. Must see. \$579,000. Agent, Donald Blair, 760-822-1508.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS / Condos

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BANKER'S HILL. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, bay views, rent to own, call for details. Jonathan Schneeweiss, Realtor, 619-279-3333. Search the MLS at www.schomepro.com.

BELOW MARKET! \$25,000 REBATE turns 5 bedroom, 3 bath fixer into Poway dream home. 2800+ square feet, 1/2+ acre with pool/spa. Lender/agent, 858-513-7837.

CLAIREMONT. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, walk-in closet. Balboa and Genesee area. New dual-pane windows. Private balcony, panoramic view, pool, spa, clubhouse. \$310,000. Owner, 858-514-8637.

COLLEGE AREA. Rent no more. Buy now. Lease option. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, split level townhome. No bank or credit qualifying. Owner, 760-753-2654 or 619-582-7964.

COLLEGE AREA. Immaculate 2 bedroom, 2 bath, dual master. New appliances, hardwood floors, larger corner unit in gated complex, parking. Must see. \$310,000. By owner, 619-341-9742.

DEL MAR. Sunny, bright 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Great location! Pool, Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1650. APR only 5%. \$15,000 down. Call agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

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LA JOLLA. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1650. \$15,000 down. APR only 5%. Call agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

LAKESIDE. Single story upstairs condo. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Attached single garage. Laundry, pool. \$269,900-\$287,947. Call Rich Bardy at Zip Realty, 858-449-1582.

LIVE IN THE HEART OF WHERE it all happens! Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo in downtown San Diego! Recent construction with newer appliances, carpet and paint. In unit laundry, washer/dryer convey. Underground parking space, with guest parking. Gorgeous building with pool, spa, and gym facilities! This is the ultimate in luxury living! Seller entertaining offers between \$364,999-\$384,000. Call Tish with The Pugh Team at Century 21 Award, 619-944-2006.

LOCATION! LOCATION! Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath condn in Mission Hills! Minutes from downtown San Diego! New appliances, carpet, tile, and paint. 1 carport parking space, plus 1 additional parking space! Wonderful complex with on-site laundry facility! Call Tish with The Pugh Team, Century 21 Award, 619-944-2006.

MISSION VALLEY. Price reduced! 3 bedroom, 2 bath, one level, view, quiet, top floor, 1279 square feet, Mission Green. Fireplace, garage. \$385,000. Agent, Alice, Younie Company, 858-336-4478.

MISSION VALLEY. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Ideal location. Great for 1st time buyer. 24 hour recorded information at 800-365-7186 x2062.

MISSION VALLEY. Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo near stadium. New carpet and paint. Own it for \$1651/month including HOA and taxes with zero down OAC. Call for details, 888-643-1527 x9001. Cadre #01183960.

NORTH PARK. Luxury condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with garage, fireplace, air conditioning, washer/dryer. New kitchen and bathroom with granite countertops, maple cabinets, flooring/paint. All stainless steel appliances included. Agent, Maria, 858-375-0088.

OCEAN BEACH. Super cool—2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer, walk-in closet, Pergo, large patio. Close to all. \$299,000-\$315,000. Agent, 619-384-7330.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great value! 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo on Noyes Street. Own it for \$1651/month including HOA fees with zero down OAC. Call for details, 888-643-1527 x9002. Cadre #01183960.

PACIFIC BEACH. Price just reduced! Complex was remodeled 2 years ago as a condo conversion. Light and bright 2nd floor end unit overlooking lush garden courtyard. Newer appliances and ceiling fan in dining room, mirrored wardrobes in bedrooms, tiles in kitchen, baths, entry, and dining rooms. Quiet small complex centrally located. Cul-de-sac. Tasha Star Berger, Prudential California Realty, www.starofsandiego.com.

PARADISE HILLS! Great investment opportunity, 2 units on 1 building with huge yard. Magnificent view! Top Notch Realty, 858-715-0688.

RANCHO BERNARDO! Newer 1 bedroom condo, fireplace, patio, washer/dryer, wood floors, new windows, garage. Common pool, tennis courts, fitness center. \$289,900. Agent, Carole, 858-485-9234.

SAN YSIDRO— 3560 SUNSET Lane. Motivated seller! Beautifully remodeled condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, never been lived in! New carpet, paint, cabinets and appliances! Great complex with pool and spa! Offered at \$285,000-\$310,000. Call Tish with The Pugh Team at Century 21 Award, 619-944-2006.

SANTEE. Near Grossmont College, Mission Trails Park and foot of Cowles Mountain. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bathrooms, fenced yard, attached carport, laundry hookups. Agent, Maria, 858-375-0088.

SCRIPPS RANCH. Just listed! Has view! 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Walk to shopping. Excellent condition. Top Notch Realty, 858-715-0688.

UNIVERSITY CITY REDUCED! La Jolla Colony. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath. Upper corner. Washer/dryer, 2 carports, freshly painted/carpeted. \$369,500. Coldwell Banker Associates. Sherry: 858-603-8511.

UTC AREA. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1650. \$15,000 down. APR only 5%. Call agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

\$335K. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bathrooms. West end Santee. Close to freeway, Mission Trails, Cowles Mountain, Grossmont College. Laundry hookups, fenced yard, and attached carport. Agent, Maria, 858-337-6929, mbates@teamdesco.net.

REAL ESTATE

Miscellaneous

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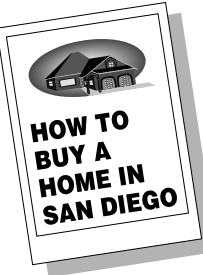
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| 11603 Via Paloma | El Cajon | 3 bedroom/2.5 bath | 1577 sq.ft. | \$545,000 |
| 11958 Via Hacienda | San Diego | 3 bedroom/2 bath | 1711 sq.ft. | \$585,000 |
| 2215 Monaghan Ct. | Spring Valley | 4 bedroom/3 bath | 2178 sq.ft. | \$585-\$599,000 |
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AMP SETUP. Fender 4x12 cabinet, 120 watt Velocity 120 power amp, Furman 2 channel, 15 band equalizer, Grundorf rack. Clean, powerful. Great condition! \$550. 760-994-7388.

AMP, Crate 4x12 cabinet, great condition, must sell, \$200. Blake, 760-214-8099.

AMP, Orange 2-12 combo, 1 channel, 30-watt Class A, Celestion vintage

1930s, like new, \$1000. No trades. Gary, weekends, 619-672-6511.

AMPLIFIER, Fender The Twin reverb (red knob), good condition, \$500/best. 619-890-5072.

AMPLIFIERS. Marshall JCM 2000 TSL602 combo, never left apartment, nearly new, \$900 firm. Mesa Boogie MK III combo, original owner, includes flight case, \$800. 619-944-6446.

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CELLO, Mittenwald, Germany, full sized, very old, suit symphony professional, includes Roth silver bow and expensive travel trunk, \$5500. 858-254-3820.

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DRUMS, Pearl Export Select, like new, 4 piece, 4 Paiste crash, 1 Camber ride, Sabian china cymbals, hats, boom stands, hardware, hard cases, \$1600. 619-542-1306.

DRUMS, Roto toms, 6", 8", 10", with stand, like new, \$110. 619-697-1910.

DRUMS, Pearl Export Fusion wood finish, \$600. Zildjian Ping ride, \$150. Zildjian 13" master sound hats, \$225. ZBT 18" crash, \$60. Sabian china and splash, \$50. 619-804-7273.

EPIPHONE GUITAR, autographed by Peter Frampton, certificate included. Beautiful! Great last minute Christmas gift! \$500/best. 619-465-6532.

EQUIPMENT. Tascam MX-2424 24-bit 24-track HD recorder, Beta unit with AD/DA board, ADAT Opt, flight case,

\$1700. Roland VG-8, good condition, \$250. 760-929-8301.

EQUIPMENT. 8-channel ADA studio microphone preamp, \$200. Full-stack with 100-watt amp, \$600. 2x10 60-watt amp, \$160. 2x12 100-watt amp, \$200. 619-462-1998 or 619-733-2211.

EQUIPMENT. Professional PS speakers, TAD/JBL 3 way, double 15" subs, BSS electronic crossover, Canare speaker cables with Speakons, incredible clarity and punch, \$6500 new, all for \$2600. 760-436-9026.

EQUIPMENT. Like new. 8-channel Spirit Folio mixer, Crest VS900 audio amplifier, Microverb 4, JBL speakers MR825 with stands, 3 microphones, SKB case, cables, \$1650. 619-335-0535.

EQUIPMENT. Mackie SR24X4, good condition, \$900. VHT 2x12 cabinets, new condition, \$320. Line 6 2x12 combo, \$440. Boogie 2x10 road ready, new speakers. Peavey bass head. 619-992-4734.

EQUIPMENT. Fostex 2016 16-channel line mixer, \$130. Aphex Aural Exciter Type C, \$70. Hughes AK100 SRS retriever, \$50. 858-274-2487.

EQUIPMENT. Pignose Stratocaster, sunburst or black, \$85. Box, each new, 10" boxed djembe, \$85. Revolver P-bass, antique sunburst, black pickguard, Silvertone, \$100. LP mini bongos, \$28. 619-508-1143.

EQUIPMENT. 2004 Gibson LTD Les Paul Standard, AA flame maple, amber tint, cost \$2225+ tax, sell \$1800. 2004 Marshall JCM-2000, TSL-602 combo, cost \$1299+ tax, sell \$1000. 619-424-7083.

FENDER/AMP. Fender American Telecaster, hardly used, 2003, \$700/best. Line 6 Flexitone II amp with tb4 floor-board combo amp and two 12" speakers, \$500. 619-224-0233.

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GUITAR AND AMP. Ibanez RG220B strat. Double locking tremolo, dual-humbuckers, xintsustain, metallic sand color, hard case, strap, livewires, Crate Amp GX-212 digital. \$900/best. Chris, 619-429-8243.

GUITAR, BC Rich Beast, pretty good condition, rosewood fretboard, mahogany body, un abused Seymour Duncan pickups, original Floyd Rose double locking bridge/whammy bar, \$500. 858-486-0776.

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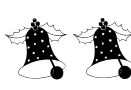
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Kerry Andrews
Bikini Shop Employee
Pacific Beach

No, I don't think so. I usually try to screen out the idiots by talking to them, having a conversation where I can feel them out a little. It's happened before where I've met a guy at a bar and it wasn't later that it occurred to me that he was an idiot. Generally, I try to look for someone with intelligence, but at the end of a night sometimes that's not the first thing on anyone's mind. I mean if the guy were Brad Pitt, it would be a completely different story. I guess if the idiot has a good sense of humor and can be fun to be around, I'd give him a shot.



Josh Crawford
Cook
Mission Beach

I'd date a beautiful idiot, but I don't think I'd look for anything serious. Annoyance plays a large factor in dealing with idiots; you need more there to have a real relationship. Maybe if you're under the influence and you have your beer goggles on the entire time, then it might be easier to pull off. Women having their own interests is important because everyone needs their own time. If you have someone hanging on you the whole time, then it wears on the other person. A beautiful idiot sounds good, but in reality you never know. My buddy says that if a chick has a lot of money, then he could be the kept man of an idiot.



Bob Lukaszewicz
Firefighter
Ocean Beach

I've definitely dated a couple beautiful idiots. The upside of the beautiful idiot is that they are easy to deal with. Of course the downside is their lack of intelligence, personality, what-have-you; it's no fun when you don't have any real way to relate to them. That's the problem that arises when the relationship is all about looks. I couldn't really deal with an idiot for too long; my tolerance for someone lacking something as important as intelligence is little. If the woman looked like Carmen Electra but had drool running down her face, the longest I could stay with her would be a couple days.



Tiffany Danes
Student
Mission Valley

I probably wouldn't date a beautiful idiot. I've dated a guy who turned out to be dumber the longer I knew him; it took four months. I was only 16, so what can you expect? I think the straw that broke the idiot's brain was the fact that I didn't really want to talk to him anymore. We couldn't have a conversation that wasn't about football; I give him credit that he knew his sports statistics. I wouldn't say that all beautiful people are dumb because that would be calling all intelligent people unattractive. There are beautifully intelligent people and the thing to remember is that beauty fades long before intelligence.



Fernando Caldaron
Restaurant Host
Mission Beach

Yeah, I think I've spent a couple summers with beautiful idiots. The longest that I could really date a beautiful idiot is a couple nights. It's good to have fun and not worry about anything serious and when it's no longer fun you got to drop it [the relationship] like it's hot; when you want to dump a girl, you drop her like a five-year-old does a hot potato at a birthday party. I don't know why, but I get luckier in winter because all of my longer relationships tend to happen in winter. I don't like to cuddle up with anything dumb and beautiful during winter; I dominate the serious relationship game when it gets cold.



Lacey Cole-Rae
Writer
College Area

Certainly, I would've dated a beautiful idiot before I married. For the long-term, a guy's got to have more than beauty; for the short-term, I'll take an idiot. Hindsight illuminates what you don't always see while in the relationship; the longest I was with an idiot would be about ten months. By saying that I'd date a beautiful idiot, I'm assuming that the beauty is linked to the person being good in bed. If a guy were bad in bed but beautiful, then I wouldn't date him at all. A guy can't be dumb as a doorknob, hung like a donkey, and not know how to use it. I'm lucky that my husband is beautiful and brilliant.

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CV Boots

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As low as **\$39.95*** each

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60,000-mile replacement recommended. Old, cracked belts can break due to age and mileage and cause expensive engine damage. Most cars. Some cars and trucks extra.

Starting at **\$64*** Labor only

Improve your GAS Mileage with: Factory-Scheduled Services

We use premium parts to improve your performance. Per manufacturer's recommendation. Timing belt extra if required.

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15K or 30K service may not require all services or parts listed.

30K Service starting at \$99.95*

60K Service starting at \$129.95*

- Change spark plugs
- Change air filter
- Change oil filter
- Replace engine oil with up to 5 quarts of Mobil oil
- Change fuel filter
- Check distributor points
- Compression test
- Adjust timing
- Valve adjustment (if adjustable)
- Adjust carburetor (if applicable)
- Adjust fuel-to-air mixture
- Inspect clutch
- Adjust clutch
- Inspect brakes
- Adjust brakes
- Adjust emergency brake
- Inspect & replenish all fluids
- Inspect all exposed belts
- Check electrical fuses
- Lube front end
- Check & recharge battery (if necessary)
- Rotate tires (if needed)
- Check air pressure
- Lube door hinges
- Inspect cooling system & hoses
- Check exhaust system
- Road-test

Prices valid for most cars. Call for price on your model.

Harp Haven and Music Studios, 619-294-7704.

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RECORD AND MASTER a professional CD at Mission Studios. Recent remodel. Analog/digital, ProTools, Manley, Neumann. Beautiful location, Mission Hills/Hillcrest. www.missionstudiosav.com. 619-993-6628.

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RECORD AT STRATE SOUND. Professional equipment, great prices! Come track on the best! Protocols HD192kHz system, Neotek Elite, Neumann, Summit, Neve. 858-735-8270; www.stratesound.com.

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RECORD AT AMPERSAND STUDIO. 32-track ProTools facility. Large tracking room, lounge and gated parking. \$25/hour including engineer. For booking, call Kyle, 619-962-5062.

RECORD SHOW. Thousands of records for sale! Saturday, January 15, 2005. Located at 3909 Centre Street, Hillcrest. \$3 admission after 10am. Further info: www.SanDiegoRecordShow.com. 619-528-8833.

RECORD WITH DL MUSIC. Full-service CD production. Arranging, songwriting, ProTools recording, mixing, mastering. Yamaha Grand, mic selection and more. Experienced. Professional. Great rates. Visa/MasterCard. www.dovellinkhornmusic.com. 858-277-0514.

RECORD. Art/E Street Studios are now Opera House. A state-of-the-art sound facility. Major label quality at a minor price. 619-234-3936.

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hour/10 for rehearsal. Contact Ryan at 858-342-6979.

REHEARSAL STUDIOS! Universal Sound has 2 locations! Miramar and Sports Arena. Monthly rooms and hourly rooms available. 619-306-2222.

REHEARSAL STUDIOS. \$18/hour with PA. Equipment rentals, overnight PA rentals, monthly storage. Recording: \$35/hour. Open 4-midnight, 7 days/week. 24-hour access with air conditioning. Monthly studios now available starting \$450/month. Goblin Studios, 760-599-4627. goblin-records.net

REHEARSAL STUDIOS! StringMasters has 2 locations! Poway and San Marcos. 24 hour access, monthly rooms available. 1-800-822-1991.

REHEARSE AT HINDSIGHT- Miramar. Hourly rooms, fully equipped (drum kit, two quality guitar amps, bass rig, PA), starting \$20/hour. PA only, \$16/hour. 619-922-9786.

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REHEARSE AT ADDER. Upscale Kearny Mesa facility. Six pristine air conditioned rooms. Monthly and hourly, 24-hour access. By appointment only. 858-505-8644. www.adderstudios.com.

REHEARSE IN OCEAN BEACH at Spotless. 1922 Bacon Street across from Winston's. 3 air conditioned rooms with P.A., available for hourly rentals. Parking, loading. 619-523-3073.

SPORTS

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ADULT SPORTS LEAGUES. VAVI Sport and Social Club, www.govavi.com, runs 12 different adult sports leagues, happy hours, event planning and vacations throughout San Diego.

AIR CHAIR, used, heavy-duty stainless bolts, good condition, \$300. 858-292-9597.

AIR HOCKEY TABLE by Harvard, full size, excellent condition, has scoreboard, was \$400 new, 1 year old, now \$175. 619-464-4316.

ATTENTION DIVERS: Scuba tanks from \$50! BCDs from \$40. Regulators from \$75! Wet suits, \$20/up! Don't waste time! Serious shoppers only! By appointment, 858-270-9922.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL PLAYERS. Team needs a pitcher (unlimited arc), shortstop, and center fielder for men's league. Leave message, 619-295-0385.

BASKETBALL GOAL SYSTEM, full-size rectangular backboard, 5'x4', very sturdy base and post, portable, extra stability from cables anchored to ground, \$125. Joe, 619-948-5370.

CHARGERS MEMORABILIA. Superbowl T-shirts, hat, program. Also shorts, beer mug, nylon flag, calendars, pennants, key chains, photos, and more. No item over \$55. 858-259-6934.

GOLF CART for golfers who walk for health and longer life span. Electric Kangaroo cart for club carrying only with autobrake, seat, new battery and charger, \$550. 619-299-0181.

GOLF CLUBS. Men's Northwestern Muscle back irons, Mizuno driver, 3 wood, putter, \$40. Ladies' Northwestern irons, Northwester 1-3-5 metal woods, putter, \$40. 619-442-8227.

GOLF CLUBS. New graphite iron set, 3-PW, \$75. New steel shaft iron set, 2-SW, \$50. 760-434-2268.

GOLF TICKETS, 50% off, 2005 Buick Invitational, only \$14. Good any day, January 17-23. All proceeds go to high school soccer team. 619-287-7110.

KAYAK HOLIDAY SALE! Limited number of used boats starting from \$199-\$675. New boats from \$369! Great prices, service, selection. Block south of roller coaster! Allen's Kayaks at 819-1/2 San Fernando, Mission Beach. Call now! 858-488-5599.

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| Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintenance tune-up• Drain & refill radiator• Inspect air filter• Install spark plugs (premium plugs extra)• Inspect brakes• Clean & adjust rear brakes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change engine oil• Change master cylinder brake fluid• Check suspension• Top off fluids• Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses• Check tire balance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspect fuel filter• Check differential fluid• Check manual transmission fluid• Clean battery terminals• Check & tighten all belts• Rotate four tires• Check tire balance• Adjust tire air pressure |
|--|--|--|

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- Adjust clutch
- Adjust emergency brake
- Recharge battery
- Rotate tires

- Check fuel filter
- Adjust tires' air pressure
- Inspect fuel injection system
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 - ✓ Brake fluid
 - ✓ Clutch fluid
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Parts & labor. Most cars.

BRAKES \$99⁹⁹

COMPLETE SERVICE INCLUDES:

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- Repack non-drive wheel bearings
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Change fluid, inspect U-joints & mounts, inspect drive seals FWD, drain and fill.
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San Diego Reader December 23, 2004 197

KAYAK HOLIDAY SALE! Save on great kayak packages for holiday gift ideas. 40 different models of new and used kayaks are available at prices ranging from \$299 to \$899. Take advantage of our Christmas layaway program that allows you to order a kayak now with a deposit and pick it up just before Christmas. Dozens of accessory ideas also, if you're looking for affordable gifts from \$10 to \$100. San Diego Sailing Center, 858-488-0651. For details, photos and complete pricing, visit our website at www.kayaksforsale.com.

KAYAK—CHRISTMAS SALE! Everything in store 20% off manufacturer's suggested price! Kayaks and all accessories, sandals, booties, clothing, etc. Windsport, 844 West Mission Bay Drive, 858-488-4642.

KAYAKS FACTORY DIRECT. Super low prices! \$299/up! Fast performance kayaks, sit-on-tops, canoes. Also blimps and demos! SEDA Kayaks. Since 1969. www.sedakayak.com. 619-336-2444.

KAYAKS. #1 Hobie Kayak Dealer. All models in stock. Christmas specials! Free demos every day! Fast Lane Sailing, 2610 Ingraham Street #A. www.fastlanesailing.com. 619-222-0766.

MOUNTAINEERING equipment, used once. Women's Montrail Alpine boots, 7.5. Charlet Moser crampons, REI ice axe, BD snow shovel. Paid \$680, selling for \$370. 619-297-8952.

OUTBOARD MOTOR. 4hp Suzuki, 1998, 2 stroke, long shaft, low hours, perfect for sailboat or dinghy. \$400. 619-248-6659.

SKI EQUIPMENT. Includes 1 pair skis and boots, 4 poles, \$75. Wet suit, \$25. 619-980-0358.

SNOW SKIS, excellent condition, Volkl Riesen Stalom P9 with Equipe 747 bindings, Strolz boots, best offer. Doug, 619-347-0649.

SNOW SKIS, 180cm, poles, bag, like new, \$40. Golf clubs, full set, Tour II irons, Taylor woods, bag, \$50. Mountain bike, \$15. 619-464-4423.

SNOWBOARD BOOTS, K2 Raider, used 1 season, \$99. Burton Freestyle, used many seasons, \$50. Both size 9. Todd, 619-235-3000, x205.

\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 146.

SNOWBOARD BINDINGS, black, work perfectly, \$25. 858-569-5900.

SNOWBOARD GEAR. Burton Cascade snowboard 163, \$150. Foursquare jacket, size large, \$40. Protect helmet, new, in box, size medium, \$40. All excellent condition. Allan, 619-813-5139.

SNOWBOARDS WANTED. We buy snowboards, boots, bindings, clothing. We sell new and used gear. Trading your snowboard for 2005 products. Last season's gear blowout! 25-50% off. Play It Again Sports - Pacific Beach, 858-490-0222; College Area, 619-667-9499. Chula Vista, 619-216-9687. www.playitagainsd.com.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE wants 1 complete or partial team for men's slow pitch. Leave message, 619-517-5791.

SURF SHOP! Holiday sale! New longboards from \$395. Eggs from \$320. Full suits from \$79.95. Limited to stock on hand. Leucadia Surfshop, 760-632-1010.

SURFBOARD, \$225, 6'0" x 18" Marbella, almost perfect condition, ridden only few times. Great for winter waves! Like brand new. Need to sell. 858-692-3944.

SURFBOARD, 8'4" Kies, 2 sets of fins, good condition, \$325. 760-525-1102.

SURFBOARD, 6'4" Marbella, like new, ridden 5 times. FCS fins, \$240. lvs2surf@cox.net or 619-778-3820.

SURFBOARD, 8' Todos Santos Surfboards, performance shape, triffin, 20" W, good condition but needs some resin in a few spots. \$150. 858-345-1139.

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. Chula Vista, 619-216-9687. www.playitagainsd.com.

SURFBOARDS (4), \$35-\$170. Aluminum dive tanks, \$60-\$70. 2 wood carved spear guns, \$150 each or both for \$250. Dive weights, 1/3 cost. 858-272-3006.

SURFBOARDS. Fast (not eggs). 7'6" Sauritch, 20" x 2-5/8", like new, \$240. 8' Goodrum, 19.75", good condition, \$175. 619-368-3309.

SURFBOARDS. Three Surftech Woodies. 9'6" Velzy, \$500. 9'8" Johnny Rice, \$550. 10'4" Yater, \$650. All in excellent shape. Beauty and function. Ray, 619-306-9701.

SURFBOARDS: 9' Stewart, \$300. 9'4" Dewey Weber, \$500. Two 8' mini noseriders, \$250/each. Two funshaps, \$175/each. Five shortboards, \$70+. Ding repair, custom shapes. 760-809-6180. www.waveweapons.com.

TENNIS LEAGUE SAN DIEGO. Beginner to advanced. Competitive play levels. Play year round. Join the #1 League in San Diego. League's starting now. tennisleague.com or 619-252-7600.

TRAMPOLINE, 14', has small fixable holes in mat and safety enclosure has no net, but still works fine, best offer. 858-274-5030.

WAKEBOARD. Hydroslide Black Widow, blue and black, includes 1-size-fits-all bindings, purchased July 2004, used twice, \$150. Vista, 760-941-0541.

WANTED: High quality salt and fresh water reels, Tru-line rods, and wood lures. Large or small collections. Private collector, 858-496-0033.

WET SUIT, O'Neill full, XS, good condition, \$20. 110lb. weight set, \$25. Weight bench with curl, \$70. 760-633-0138.

WET SUIT, O'Neill Heat, 4/3, medium tall, used twice, perfect condition, \$160. 858-270-2157.

WET SUITS—FACTORY DIRECT. Full 3/2 superstretch from \$99. www.bozwetsuits.com. 858-569-6786.

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ENLARGERS (2). 35mm medium format and 4"x5" with 150mm lens, both excellent condition, \$75 each. 619-584-1945.

NOVATRON studio flash kit, 3 heads, used 6 times, \$600. Graflex Crown Graphic 4x5, Schneider lens, excellent condition, \$400. 619-820-6183.

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SLR, Olympus OM PC with extra telephoto lens, flash, \$50. Digital HP Photosmart 620 2.1 megapixel, \$60. 858-345-1774.

Computers

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COMPAQ PRESARIO LAPTOP, 15" TFT, P3, 128MB RAM, 6 GB HD, CD/DVD, Office 2000 plus other software, Windows, leather case. \$600/best. 619-583-6251.

COMPLETE COMPUTER, LIKE NEW. HP 1.3 GHz, 40 GB, AMD Athlon processor, 128 MB RAM, Windows XP, 32x burner, all software, like completely new! HP 7935. Keyboard, mouse, Polk speakers, and older model 15" monitor included. Entire system, \$399/best. E-mail for all specs: elginisadog@hotmail.com. 858-692-3944.

COMPUTER HELP? One-on-one, fast, friendly, reliable. Repairs, upgrades, training, cable/DSL, networks. On site or drop off, \$35/hour. Also, music recording. 858-735-6680.

DELL DIMENSION 3000 desktop, Pentium 4, super fast processor, spacious 80GB HD, matching Dell LCD, CD-RW, keyboard, mouse, Windows XP, Warranty. Only \$645. 858-453-1970.

DESKTOP COMPUTER, like new, HP Pavilion A320N, 512 RAM, 2800+ processor, 120GB HD, 2 years, service contract, \$550. 619-846-8976.

LAPTOP, Dell latitude Pentium II, 233MHz, great condition, 64MB, clear screen, power cord, internet, Windows ME, Office 2000, 3.2 HD, good battery. \$150. 858-344-9308.

LAPTOP, new, processor, computer monitors (new and used), new computer, D-link router, wireless router, new MP3 player, 256MB (free Napster download), new 512MB flash drive. 858-623-8434.

MONITOR, 21" Viewsonic P-810, super fine high-definition image 0.21mm horizontal, 0.25 diagonal, maximum resolution 2048x1536, great for desktop publishing, graphics, and business applications. \$160. 619-448-9440.

PRINTER, Canon F50 inkjet color printer, print, copy, fax, scan, includes software, power cord, cable, manual, and extra inkjet cartridges, needs printhead, \$95. 619-421-1639.

PRINTERS, Canon 8380CFX all in one, \$45. Hewlett-Packard Laserjet 4 Plus with added memory and toner, \$150. Both in great condition. 619-303-9279.

WANTED: Disabled poor veteran needs a laptop computer with at least Pentium 3 processor. A contribution so that I may work from home. Thank you. AF-Vet Mike, 619-325-4898.

WEBSITE PROGRAMMING/DESIGN. Chase the Web is your one stop for website development, search engine optimization and website services. Visit <http://www.chasetheweb.net> or call for information, 858-677-1730.

Bicycles

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BIKE CARRIER, DP Fit for Life (Diversified Products) for 2 bikes, class 3 hitch, good condition, \$100. 619-656-7840.

BIKE, 20" wheels, 5 speed, \$49. BMX bike, needs work, \$25. Razors, \$24.99. Evenings, 858-481-3129.

CANNONDALE R1000 CAAD7, 54cm frame road bike, Ultegra/105 compo-

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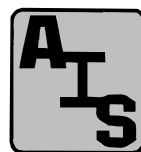
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FROM **\$195⁰⁰**

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
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Includes: new plugs, inspection of ignition wires, distributor cap, rotor & carburetor. Oil filter extra. Most vehicles to 1995. Platinum plugs extra.

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\$19⁷⁵
+ Cert. & V.I.D.
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We Repair & Certify Gross Polluters

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FROM **\$119⁹⁵**
Mufflers \$39⁹⁵

All types of custom muffler work done. Will beat any competitor's price by 10%. Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

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4-wheel Alignment \$39⁹⁵

Set toe to manufacturer's specifications, shims and cams extra, and any other adjustments. Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

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Buy 3 at the regular price and get the 4th Free.

Free alignment with special. Labor not included. Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

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Includes: flush radiator and up to one gallon of coolant. Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$49⁹⁵
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30,000 MILE SERVICE SPECIAL
Service includes:

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- Oil and filter change
- Lube chassis
- Radiator coolant change
- Air filter replacement
- Fuel injection cleaning
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FROM **\$179⁹⁵**
4-cyl.

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FROM **\$75⁰⁰**

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Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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CALL FOR QUOTE

Drain & fill.

FULL SYSTEM FLUSH AVAILABLE.
Call for price.

nents, Ksyrium wheelset, great gift idea, \$1150. 619-276-8758.

INTENSE USSI SL mountain bike, 4" travel, Marzocchi Z1 (5") fork, Mavic wheels, Hayes disc brakes, XTR cranks, good condition, \$1300/best. Tom, 858-278-4240.

LOWIDER TRIKE, loaded, all twisted chrome, custom frame, Chameleon paint, Spinner wheels, show trophy winner, awesome, hurry, won't last, must see, \$1500. 619-224-2238.

MAGNA ladies' 26", 15-speed bike, new, cost \$130, take \$60. Bike trailer, 2x4' bed, 15" wheels, \$45. 619-286-5966.

MONGOOSE, 15 speed, new condition, 26" mens bike. \$135/best. College Area. Call 619-269-1194.

MOUNTAIN BIKE, handmade Royalty Bontrager O/R, red, unreal gift for MTB connoisseur, 19.5lbs., EK Mavic, Crossland Bontrager XTR, invested \$3600, serious only, \$850 firm. John, 858-761-6648.

MOUNTAIN BIKE, high quality, no suspension, older model, lightweight aluminum, fits rider 5'9" to 6'1", paid \$700, great gift, \$200. 619-337-4901.

MOUNTAIN BIKE, Bianchi, 21 speed, grip shifters, great tires, \$140. Trek hybrid, 24 speed, grip shifters, great condition, \$165. 619-224-6947.

ROADMASTER mountain bikes (2) with 17-speed Shimano gearshift, \$40 each. 619-540-9246.

SANTANA TANDEM, 2001. Santana Sovereign with Bob trailer. Excellent condition, \$2000. Over \$5000 invested. 760-518-8896.

TREK 21 speed, just tuned, \$200. Free helmet and pump. 619-585-4714.

TREK 950 mountain bike, 20", single track (no shocks), 21 speed, Matrix wheels, gel saddle, Shimano components, white, excellent condition, cost \$950, asking \$375. 858-454-0764.

WANTED: Handcrank or recumbent by double hip replacement cyclist, used, good condition, lightweight. 951-927-9561.

WIND TRAINER, older style, \$25. 619-977-9044.

YOUTH, Novara Dirt Rider from REI, blue, 20", single gear, like new, \$95. 619-698-7176.

WANTED / TRADE

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

ACCORD OR ALTIMA with ABS, side air bags, Gun safe, double hard-shell gun case, Freestanding porch swings, Camo binoculars, clothing, 3 French doors, Refrigerator, 760-747-5896.

EPOXY COATED SHELVEING. Melamine closet shelving systems. Brand new! Free in exchange for hauling away! Call Mike, 619-295-6660.

FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wood lures, reels, and miscellaneous by Heddon, Plueger, Creek Chub, South Bend,

Shakespeare, to name a few. 858-565-1756.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS/ARTIFACTS. Must be authentic. Call Steve at 619-282-8562.

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.

SHOTGUN AND RIFLE shell boxes, pre-1960. 1 and 2-piece boxes, empty or full, manufacturing by Winchester, Peters, Remington, Western, Federal, Robin Hood, Defiance, etc., for private collection. 619-972-3488.

SLIPPERS AND ROBES. Got new slippers and robes for Christmas? Please donate old ones to us. Holes and stains OK. Comfort is all we seek. Fraser Living, 619-296-2175.

TRAINS. Prewar standard gauge and O gauge Lionel trains. 619-656-2831.

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, www.southcoastauction.net.

ANSTEAD'S. We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appliances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

BLONDE A LA ROSE. Renoir print, limited edition. Issued by the Renoir Impressionist Society. Signed by Renoir in the plate and Paul Renoir in pencil on the print. Appraised \$2500, sell \$600, unframed. drdan@4n6xpri.com.

BRACELET, Italian white gold, approximately 5 carats white diamonds, unisex, exquisite. Can be adjusted to fit. Simply irresistible. Appraised from 2 different locations. \$6000. 619-517-5564.

CHARGERS HELMET, 1980s, blue/yellow bolts! Autographed: Dan Fouts, Lance Alworth, Ron Mix, Charlie Joiner, Wes Chandler, Don Coryell, many more. \$400. Photos: www.timcracken.com/helmet.html.

COIN BOOKS. Redbook by RS Yeoman, 29 total, 24 different dates (1958-1981), \$90. El Cajon, 619-447-4117.

LES MARRONNIERS ROSES. Renoir print, limited edition. Issued by the Renoir Impressionist Society. Signed by Renoir in the plate and Paul Renoir in pencil on the print. Appraised \$2500, sell \$600, unframed. drdan@4n6xpri.com.

PHONOGRAPH, Columbia Grafonola wind up, mahogany table top model, newly refurbished, circa 1915, includes 200 new needles, soft and loud, 220 early 78rpm records. 619-997-8275.

SOFA, rolled arms, walnut carving, 6', \$195. Brass floor lamp, \$45. Oak sideboard (buffet), bow front, claw feet, carving, 4 locking drawers, cupboards, \$795. 858-922-8892.

GARAGE SALES

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AUTOMOTIVE

These discounts are in addition to advertisers' printed offers.

Auto Coupons at SanDiegoReader.com

❶ indicates at least one North County location

Acme Tinting
\$10 off window tinting

Adams Import
Smog check \$16.85

Americana Car Wash & Detail Center
15% off Teflon paint sealant

Auto Parts Exchange
10% off starters & alternators

Brake Co. Automotive Center
Brake special \$79

California Motor Works
Smog check \$16.95

Cliff Brown Automotive
\$10 off any service over \$50

Colors on Parade
Bumper repair \$199

Convoy Auto Repair
30K, 60K, 90K service from \$99.95

DBL Automotive Center
30K, 60K, 90K service from \$94.99

❶ Dent Time
10% or \$15 off dent repair

❶ Discount Transmission & Axles
\$100 off internal transmission overhaul

❶ Dust Away
10% off auto detailing

Eagle Motors
Smog check \$19.75

Econo Lube N' Tune & Brakes – Pacific Beach
Tune-up special \$59.98

❶ Econo Lube N' Tune & Brakes – Oceanside
Winter special from \$89.95

Express Auto Service
Express oil change \$14.95

Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales
\$20 off major tune-up

International Auto Service
Brake service \$34 plus parts

❶ Japanese Auto Tech
Free bumper-to-bumper vehicle inspection

Lo Sieu Smog Test Only Center
Smog check \$29.75 + cert.

Meineke Discount Mufflers
Free oil change

Miramar Radiator
\$10 off any radiator repair

Morena Test Only
\$10 off smog check

On-Time Auto Repair Center
Oil change \$10

Overseas Automotive Repairs
Factory-scheduled service from \$45.95

Pacific Rim Auto Service
Complete axles/half shafts \$68.95 + labor

Precision Tune Auto Care
\$10.95 oil change

Quick Smog
\$12 off any Test Only

Revolution Auto Service
\$10 off auto service

S.A.M.C.O.
Extra \$10 off 30K/60K/90K service

San Diego Auto Stereo Outlet
\$20 off labor

San Diego Smog & Auto Repair
\$10 off any service

San Diego Smog Test Only
\$10 off smog check

Seasides Classic Tinting
Free window tint

Sound Check
\$59 window tinting

Speedy Auto Centers
AC service \$19 plus Freon

Streetnoyz Auto Sound & Security
10% off window tint

Supreme Paint & Body
Free bodywork & pinstripe

❶ Suspension Plus Full Service Center
One free shock or strut

❶ T&T Smog Test Only Check
\$10 off Test Only smog

Thao Automotive
Smog check \$16.75

Transmission SCA
\$100 off rebuilt transmission

USA Autosound
Free window tint

Wentworth Automotive
\$39.95 differential service

SMOG CHECK
\$16⁸⁵

(Plus \$8.25 for certificate and \$2.50 communication fee. Most cars. No appt. necessary. Gross polluters extra.)

ADAMS IMPORT
We Certify Gross Polluters
Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5 pm
Saturdays 8 am-2 pm
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619-282-5555
With ad. Expires 2/6/05.

Starting at
\$59

Back 3 windows, most cars. Some restrictions apply.

\$20 off
Full complete window tint or complete car alarm

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✓ Check Wheel Cylinders
✓ Check Lines, Hoses and Seals
Semi-Metallic Extra.
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Lifetime Warranty Available.
\$59⁹⁵
AS LOW AS
FREE BRAKE INSPECTION
(Most Cars)

Computerized Wheel Alignment
\$29⁹⁵
Thrust Angle \$39⁹⁵
4-Wheel Alignment \$49⁹⁵
Most Cars. Shims & Cams Extra.

Timing Belt
\$79⁹⁵
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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
\$139⁹⁵
4-cyl.
✓ Install New Spark Plugs
✓ Change Engine Oil
✓ Change Oil Filter
✓ 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

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
\$239
Most RWD Cars. Parts & Labor. FWD and 4WD Extra.

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
Please Call For An Appointment

TOWING AVAILABLE

MOVING SALE. Must see! Ethan Allen sectional, queen sleeper, \$500/best. Queen and full sized beds, \$100-\$200. Computer desk, \$200. 24-speed Diamondback bicycle, \$85. Sale, 12/26, 8am. 8012 Fairview Avenue, La Mesa, or call for appointment, 858-414-3357.

APPLIANCES

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

APPLIANCES: Refrigerator frost-free energy saver, stove, washer/dryer: \$135 each. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

BATHTUB, heavy cast iron, 1957, pink color, large chip. Free. 619-462-9473.
DISHWASHER, GE, works well, white, \$25. 619-741-1162.
DISPOSAL, Badger 1, 1/3hp, new, in box, \$35. 619-804-4419.
DRYER, electric, Frigidaire, heavy duty, excellent condition, \$100. 619-825-6633.

LAWN MOWER, gas rear bagger, ad-justable wheels, rotary cut, only \$100. 619-390-6740.
REFRIGERATOR, late model, side by side, ice and water on door, \$250. Washer/dryer with warranty, \$245 or sell separately. Can deliver. 619-584-1625.
REFRIGERATOR, GE, frost-free, side-by-side, \$40. 760-717-5253.

REFRIGERATOR, 22 cubic feet, top freezer, glass shelves, 1 owner, light beige, works fine, bought Energy Star model, asking \$150. fridge@rernst.com or 858-292-1237.

SEWING MACHINE, overlock machine or serger, for edging, White brand model #1600, used twice, \$300. 619-654-4343.

WASHER and electric dryer, \$100 each or both for \$175. Gas dryer free to first person with truck. 858-576-4192.

WASHER, 14lb. Roper, white, good working condition, 4 cycle, 2 speed, \$40. 619-563-4507.

WASHER/DRYER SETS: Both pieces from \$250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, \$145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

WASHER/DRYER. Kenmore washer, heavy duty, \$200. Jenn-Air dryer, elec-tric, 22lb. capacity, \$200/best. 619-993-0972.

WASHERS AND DRYERS. Guarantees. \$100-\$195 each. Over 200 to choose from. In-shop/in-home service and we sell parts. Stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers too. Can deliver. Calwest Appliance Exchange, 619-846-0429.

ELECTRONICS

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FREE DIRECTV, up to 4 rooms free plus 3 free months of HBO, Cinemax for \$36.99/month. 1-888-777-7115. (AAN CAN)

HOME THEATER SET. Pinnacle Plat-inum speakers, new, sealed in the

boxes. 2 front, 2 rear, plus center, subwoofer, extra. Made in USA. \$950. www.pinnaclespeakers.com/ prod-firm.htm. 858-499-5120.

SATELLITE digital receiver, Smart Card, dish, receiver, manual, Globe Cast Satellite, almost new, working great on many international channels, \$199. 619-461-2525.

STEREO SPEAKERS. Quadraflex, 2, 10" woofer, 5" midrange, 4" tweeter, \$30. Fisher, 2, STV-013, 8" woofer, 4" mid-range, 3" tweeter, \$20. 619-787-0255.

TV, 20" RCA, \$50. Microwave, 1.3 cu-bic feet, like new, \$20. 619-226-0355.

TV, 27" color stereo with remote, \$99. 20" with remote, \$59. Excellent pic-tures. 619-461-2433.

TV, 48" projection, working condition, great buy, \$300/best. 619-230-0886.

TV, Sony 20" WEGA stereo TV, KV-20FV300, silver, remote, \$235. Match-ing Sony DVD/VCR combo SLV-D300P, \$99. Both flawless, both 18 months old. Moving. 858-668-1723.

TV, Sony big screen, 53". Mint condi-tion, picture in picture. Sacrifice only \$695. 858-208-7268.

TVs. 26" Panasonic color, \$45. 20" Panasonic color, good condition, \$100. 858-486-4812.

WEB TV, \$50. JVC 8000U Super VHS, \$125. Sony autoreverse dubbing deck, \$100. Canton bookshelf speak-ers, \$75. Headphones, \$15. Acme juicer, \$75. Between 8am-9pm, 619-291-0830.

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A CHERRY SLEIGH. Beautiful brand-new solid wood bed, elegant style. Can deliver. 858-688-2781.

BAR STOOLS, 2, deluxe, 29"H, off-white, wood with backrests and sepa-rate cushions, swivel and brass footrests, \$40 each. 619-226-6746.

BED \$10 A DISCOUNT OFF, new pil-lowtop mattress set, \$799 originally, sacrifice \$249. Luxurious, extra thick, orthopedic. Original plastic, 25-year

\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 146.

AUTOMOTIVE

RADIATOR FLUSH
\$24⁹⁵

FUEL INJECTOR
CLEANING
\$39⁹⁵

MUFFLER SPECIAL
\$64⁹⁵ and up
CATALYTIC
CONVERTER SPECIAL
\$109⁹⁵ and up

OIL CHANGE
\$15⁹⁵

Includes new oil filter and up to 5 quarts of oil. Hazardous waste fee 80¢.

ENGINE STEAM
CLEANING
AVAILABLE

SMOG CHECK \$16⁷⁵
Plus certificate. Most cars. OBDII extra.

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Most flywheels & crankgrinds available in 1 day or less.

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\$90

Includes parts and labor.
Most cars.

BRAKES
[2 WHEELS]
\$69⁹⁵

• Install new lining
• Pack bearings
• Adjust brakes
• Resurface drums or rotors extra

COMPUTERIZED
TUNE-UP

\$29⁹⁵

• 4-CYL. \$29⁹⁵
• 6-CYL. \$34⁹⁵

• 8-CYL. \$40⁹⁵

• Install spark plugs
and set timing
• Diagnosis (scope hookup)

mobile window tinting

Competitive prices. Lifetime guarantee.
15 years' experience.

Let us come to your
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Finest equipment
and installation.

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Repair and Service All Japanese Cars

Major Service 30K • 60K • 90K • 120K \$185⁺

• Change engine oil & filter
• Valve adjust & new gasket (if necessary)
• Change transmission fluid
• Replace air filter
• Replace fuel filter (non-EFI type)
• Replace spark plugs (platinum extra)
• Change brake fluid
• Check front & rear brakes
• Check cooling system & hoses
• Check tire pressure & rotation
• Check lights
• Adjust hand brake
• Inspect exhaust pipe & muffler
• Inspect power steering system
• Inspect fuel lines • Inspect all belts
• Check clutch free-play & adjust
• Replace distributor cap & rotor
• Adjust timing
• Lube front end • Road-test
Call for details. 6-cyl. extra.

Intermediate Service \$95⁺
15K • 45K • 75K • 105K Call for details.

Oil & Filter
Change
\$16⁹⁵+

Up to 5 qts. Exp. 12/31/04.
Some cars higher.

CV Boot \$49⁹⁵ CV Axle from \$145⁺

Fuel Injection Service \$35⁺

Timing Belt \$115⁺
Twin cam extra. Up to '89 models.

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MasterCard (619) 284-0050
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Discover Between University and El Cajon Blvd. Sat. 9 am-3:30 pm
Offers good for Hondas & Acuras only (*Most cars)



Clutch
Job
\$245⁺

4x4, twin cam extra.
Up to '89 models.

Engine &
Transmission
Overhaul
Call for details.

ALL SERVICES
INCLUDE
PARTS
& LABOR
Plus tax

Smog Special Test Only

Fast • Easy • No Appointment Needed

\$26⁷⁵ plus certificate & \$1 transfer fee.
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Sunday by appointment • Visa • MasterCard
Coupon expires 12/31/04.
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America's
Neighborhood
Auto Care Experts

We also do:
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• Fuel Injector Cleaning
• Tune-ups • Emissions
• Radiator Service

FACTORY SCHEDULED
MAINTENANCE
30,000 • 60,000 • 90,000

\$50 OFF*

Scheduled maintenance service, as recommended by manufacturers, includes a tune-up verification, maintenance tune-up, emissions analysis, PCV valve, fuel filter, air filter, oil change, radiator service, and a maintenance inspection.

*As low as \$169.95 after \$50 off coupon.
At participating locations.
Not valid with any other offer.
See manager for details.
Expires 1/23/05.



SMOG CHECK

\$18⁹⁵

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. Expires 1/23/05.

FUEL SYSTEM SERVICE

This service can restore power and performance to your vehicle's engine while reducing emissions and increasing gas mileage.

At participating locations. Not good with any other offer or discount. See manager for details. Expires 1/23/05.

\$59⁹⁵ Most vehicles



OIL CHANGE

\$10⁹⁵ BASIC
Includes up to 5 qts. 10W-30 oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

\$17⁹⁵ PREMIUM
Basic service plus top off fluids and maintenance inspection.

\$22⁹⁵ PREMIUM PLUS
Premium service plus tire rotation, check and adjust tire pressure, and brake inspection.

Most vehicles. At participating locations. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Not valid for prior service. See manager for details. Expires 1/23/05.

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.

See manager for details. Extra cost may be substantial. Expires 1/23/05.



COUCH, brown leather, bring truck and make offer. Other items must go also. 619-231-6720.

COUCH, Ethan Allen Bennet, 6', blue with thin white stripe, wood bun feet, purchased 4 years ago, \$400. dougai@cox.net or 619-222-2566.

COUCH, high-quality leather, rich, warm honey brown color, hard to describe, very attractive, lifetime frame, down pillows, cost \$5800, sell \$850/best. 760-726-5282.

COUCH, LEATHER. 7" high-end styling, light gray color. Nice couch for the price. \$300, originally \$3000. No space, must go! 619-246-8070.

COUCHES, beautiful silk, high-back. Purchased at Treasures, full size couch and love seat. Down-filled, gold with crackle wood finishings. Comfortable. Selling \$500, originally \$3500. 619-778-3911.

DESK, 3 pieces, for home or office, white, 64"x30", side table with drawers, \$75. 619-718-6300.

DESK, new, can be painted or stained, asking \$75. 619-938-9655.

DESK, wood lodge pole, whitewashed, hand crafted, 60"Lx27.5"Wx31"H, excellent condition, \$299. 760-510-8344.

DINETTE SET with 6 chairs, 60"x36", \$300. Curio cabinet, \$50. 2 bar stools, \$25. All natural color wood and excellent condition. Baker's rack, \$50. 619-300-3526.

DINING ROOM SET-7 PIECE Cherry, gorgeous dining table with 6 chairs. Brand new, still boxed, sacrifice \$495. Can deliver. 858-688-2781.

DINING ROOM SET, antique white table and 6 chairs, 45x72, matching buffet, high quality, very good condition, \$395. 858-794-0465.

DINING TABLE, marble oblong, approximately 66"x24", no base, \$65. 619-295-1177.

DINING TABLE, 4 chairs, blonde wood with white trim, \$100. Futon sofa/double bed, \$75. Sharp Carousel microwave, \$50. 760-840-0638.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. Golden brown, internally fiberboard, externally in great shape, stately, 70" tall, 80" long, 16-1/2" deep. 11 shelves, TV shelf storage below. \$200/best. 858-268-0451.

FAMILY ROOM SET, sofa, love seat, chair and ottoman, green leather. Good condition. 858-451-0834; 858-335-5344.

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manufacturers' catalogs and save. Solid cherry, maple, oak or walnut, American made and imported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.davisworld.com or e-mail to info@davisworld.com. Call 619-296-1221.

FURNITURE. 2 captain's beds, twin, birch color, with mattress, \$300 each, 1 executive chair, \$15. Office chairs (6), \$30. 619-287-9484.

FURNITURE. La-Z-Boy recliner/rocker, like new, \$400. Bookshelf, \$60. Coffee table, \$80. 70hearns@yahoo.com or 858-558-2462.

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GLIDER ROCKER with matching ottoman in blue padded material, excellent condition, \$25. Torchier lamp, black, like new, \$10. Lakeside, near 8 freeway, 619-938-0753.

MATTRESS \$139 A BARGAIN. Beautiful Ortho-Pillow set, new in plastic, warranty, Queen \$139. King \$219. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

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MATTRESS A DISCOUNT store. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular

stores. Student specials, legitimate warranties, fast delivery or pickup, name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and TempurPedic style Visco-memory beds for \$899, queen size. 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.

MATTRESS SET, California king, top of the line, looks new, includes mattress pad, great bad back bed, \$275. 619-698-3507.

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SOFA, LOVE SEAT, chair and ottoman, white, good condition, contemporary look, \$200. 760-929-8140.

TABLE, oak/veneer top, with 4 beige material chairs, 42"x60" with 18" leaf, good condition, \$60. 619-596-8603.

TABLE, rattan dining room set, white-washed, matching chairs, round 42" beveled glass top, \$299. Rocking chair, white, \$125. Wrought iron tea cart, \$99. Dan, 760-798-1878.

WALL SHELVES, pair of Italian pine, \$80. 619-296-7185.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

AIR PURIFIERS, Friedrich C-90A, top rated by major consumer magazine, almost brand new, hardly used, two available, asking \$350 each. Joe, 619-857-2121.

AMERICAN FLAGS, huge, 8x12' nylon, embroidered, not printed, all weather, industrial type, retail \$125, sell \$75. Total trolleys, new, \$30. 619-582-1745.

BARSTOOLS, SWIVEL oak with seat cushions. Lightly used in showroom. Retail price \$129 each, 5 available at \$45 each. Call Bob, 619-607-1141.

BEDROOM SET, queen, black lacquer/marble, mirror, dresser, headboard, nightstands, lamps, \$250. Entertainment center, \$75. Woman's bike, \$25. Bar stools, \$30. Gas grill, more. 858-692-5569.

BOOKS. Art (70), \$100. Writing (72), \$100. Escondido. Sal, homony@usa.com, 760-738-3778, or fax, 760-737-0644.

CHAIRS, occasional rounded back, cane sides, newly upholstered back, seat cushions, sacrifice for \$160. Wedding veil, hand-sewn lace and pearls, 44"L, \$68. 760-729-6571.

CHINA. Royal Albert Old Country Rose, 81 pieces total, includes 2 serving bowls, meat platter, bread tray, gravy boat, etc., \$800. Can 3-mail photos, 760-753-1477.

COAT, leather, men's 42 regular, hip length, medium brown, belted, excellent condition, \$65. 858-513-0263.

CROCKERY SET for 8, 60 piece, new and unused, 8 dinner plates, salad plates, soup bowls, cups and saucers, made by Stoneware, ivory with pumpkin border, must sell, \$300. Kelvin, 858-232-9271.

CRYSTAL VASE, Eggerman layered, brilliant, green, signed, with Eggerman decals, unique, gorgeous spirals, fluted top, \$115. See picture and description at www.bbrrd.net or call 619-425-6340.

CURIO, 80"Hx26"Wx12"D, whitewashed oak, glass shelves, lighted, \$175. Farberware stainless breaker/rotoissiere, \$45. 1986 Maxima, 51K miles, 1 owner, \$6995. Sevyllor inflatable boat, unused, \$35. 858-487-1533.

DIRECTV SYSTEM, 4 room free, includes standard installation, 3 months free HBO and Cinemax. Access to over 225 channels! Limited time offer, shipping and handling, restrictions apply, 1-800-877-1251. (AAN CAN)

DISH, Italian, handmade, candy, etc., collectible antique, \$29. Black and gold lines with white small dots. Speak slowly and loudly, leave message, 619-287-1382.

FIREWOOD, \$190 for cord delivered. \$130 for cord picked up. Eucalyptus and pine, dry and split. 858-274-7382.

FUR COAT, gorgeous faux, small/medium, made in France, bought in New York City, worn few times, \$200. Shaggy 3/4 coat, medium/large, \$20. 2000 Yu-Gi-Oh cards, \$60. 760-634-0226.

GOLF TICKETS, 50% OFF. 2005 Buick Invitational Golf Tournament. Only \$14! Good any day, January 17-24. All proceeds go towards sending local high school students to Japan. Call 619-398-4912.

HEDGE TRIMMER, gas, Shindaiwa, professional model, works great, \$60. 619-922-0522.

IRONING MACHINE, Ironite #W4911, 115V, 60CY, 1185 watts, 26"Lx16"Wx36"H, excellent condition, \$100. 858-274-2558.

JACKETS. Fox hip length, worn twice, \$480. Long mahogany mink, full sleeves, older, beautiful, \$750. Vintage leopard jacket (faux fur), good condition, \$65. 858-688-2604.

JEWELRY/CLOTHES. Designer costume jewelry: Haskell, Weiss, Coro Trifari, Taxco silver, Bakelite. 2 fur muffs, fur-collared jacket, Chinese lounging coat, vintage clothing, textiles. 619-297-7636.

KEROSENE HEATERS, like new, \$45 and \$35. Electric heater, 220, \$35. Water heater, 50-gallon gas, \$25. Computer desk, children's size, white, sturdy, \$15. 760-746-2047.

KITCHEN CABINETS, 2 modular birch with white countertops, 2 door, 2 drawers each, \$100 each. 619-478-2500.

MISCELLANEOUS. World Book Encyclopedias, \$25. Electric guitar, \$85. Truck bedliner, \$10. Antique trunk, \$35. O'Haus scale, \$25. Canoe, \$275. Gar-

den glider, \$45. Camping gear, \$45. 858-581-1869.

MISCELLANEOUS. Encyclopaedia Britannica, \$45. Antique clock, \$95. 2 replica Samurai swords, \$65. Compound bow, \$65. Large truck rubber bed mat, \$45. Guitar, \$85. Golf clubs, \$20. 858-581-6223.

MISCELLANEOUS. 13" Admiral color TV, \$30. CD tower, holds 200 CDs, \$35. Records, 45rpm, all for \$20. Microwave oven, 1.2 cubic feet, \$55. 619-299-0710.

MISCELLANEOUS. Beautiful succulent plants, \$1-\$5. Galloping Gourmet Perfection Aire oven, model C 2000, like new, \$20. Fisher Price travel tender in case, good condition, \$20. 619-283-0397.

MISCELLANEOUS. PVC pipe parts, various sizes, 1"-4". SeaDoo with double trailer. Case trenching machine with trailer. Fish aquariums. Clothing. La Mesa, 619-588-6692.

MISCELLANEOUS. IBM correcting Selectric III typewriter, \$100. 7"6" artificial plant with yellow pot/flowers, \$30. Wood sawhorses, pair, \$10. Iron dolly, \$5. La Jolla, 858-454-1422.

MISCELLANEOUS. Sunbeam Mixmaster, no bowls, \$10. Hard Rock hurricane glasses (4), \$5. Southwestern lamp, 17"H base, \$15. Ladies' size 3X pants (13), \$65. 619-922-1438.

MISCELLANEOUS. Color TV, 21", black, with remote, RCA, \$50. Wall clock, 16", new, beautiful walnut, \$35. Camera, Pentax K1000, 35mm, perfect student photography camera, \$125. 619-449-5731.

MISCELLANEOUS. Nikon F2 camera, 3 lenses. Scientific microscope with cabinet. Jewish Passover plates. China dinner plates and serving dishes. Character bar decanters. All excellent. 858-342-2640.

MISCELLANEOUS. Couch, 91", tan floral, highback, \$45. Twin bed frame, \$15. Lumber, 2x4s, up to 14', 25 cents per foot. 619-265-2150.

MISCELLANEOUS. Saturday Evening Post, 1904, \$8. Golf clubs (14), \$20. Antique tall lamp, \$75. Brass chess set, \$45. 10-speed bike, \$35. Down sleeping bag, \$25. 619-223-7440.

MISCELLANEOUS. HP laser printer with toner cartridge refill, \$40. New backpacks (Reebok and 5 Star daypacks), \$5 each. Lace wedding dress, size 8, never worn, handmade, \$40. 858-405-8599.

MISCELLANEOUS. Antique opaque projector with rolling stand, works well, \$100/best. Armor plate, 2'x3', bulletproof composite, \$100/best. Key cutting machine, lever action, like new, \$400/best. 619-224-0499.

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ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

Location: 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad
Time/Date: 11:33 a.m. on 11/12/04

Report: Officers responding to a report of a stabbing at the Westfield Mall were told by the victim, U.I., that he and his son had a disagreement with the suspects, M.W.



and R.S., while en route to the mall aboard a North County Transit bus. After exiting the bus, U.I. was battered by R.S. During that confrontation U.I.'s arm was cut with a box cutter by M.W.
The suspects were located in the mall parking lot. The weapon, a box cutter, was found at the location of the arrest. M.W. was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and booked at the Vista Detention Facility. M.S. was arrested for battery and released on a promise to appear.

PETTY THEFT

Location: 3601 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma
Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. on 11/13/04

Officer's Statement: I responded to Tower Records to take custody of a theft suspect. Upon my arrival I spoke with R.N. [who] told me that he followed



P. through the store and watched him put the CDs into his pocket and walk out of the store without paying for them. It was determined that the suspect had not served time for a theft-related offense per P.C. Section 666. P. was issued a misdemeanor citation and released.

Suspect's Statement: I was in the store just looking around because I didn't have any money on me. When I saw the CDs I figured what the heck and took them for my girlfriend. I'll never do this again.

BATTERY

Location: 1851 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach
Time/Date: 10:15-11:00 a.m. on 10/18/04



Investigation: I was dispatched on 10/19/04 at 1:24 p.m. to investigate a possible battery that had occurred the day before at the Broken Yolk restaurant. Sgt. W.H. Woods #3462 and I met Debra B. in the parking lot behind Los Ponchos restaurant in the 1700 block of Garnet.

Debra B. was upset and crying. She told me she went to the Broken Yolk for breakfast with her husband, Larry. The food arrived around 10:55 a.m. B. said the food was not satisfactory, and she had witnessed unsanitary conditions. B. said she saw a food handler "scratch her ass and rub her nose, then she grabbed a muffin and put it on a plate." She said the food handler was not wearing gloves. She told the waitress she wanted to see a manager. She was told there was no manager. B. stated her dissatisfaction and was asked by employees to leave the restaurant.

B. said she turned to gather her belongings and a female employee pushed her on the shoulders with both hands. She said her husband looked at her and said, "Let's leave, we are outnumbered by the white people and the police will blame us because of the way I look." B. told me that her husband is big and bald.

B. said she and her husband left

the business. She said she did not call police right away because she was too upset.

FUGITIVE

Location: [600] 7th Street, Imperial Beach
Time/Date: 4:20 p.m. on 12/07/04



Incident: A deputy sheriff working patrol attempted to contact the residents of a home. Their dog had gotten out of the yard and the deputy was merely trying to advise them of this. The deputy...recognized one of the people, Ricardo C., as a subject wanted for robbery and assault with a deadly weapon. The deputy attempted to handcuff C. and after placing a cuff on one wrist, C. began resisting and his family members joined in, aiding C. in escaping from the deputy, still handcuffed on one arm. After radioing for help, the deputy arrested one family member and gave chase for C.

Another patrol deputy responded to assist and was struck by an otherwise uninvolved vehicle in the intersection of 13th Street and Palm Avenue. The first deputy was aided by additional Sheriff's units, Coronado Police, and the Sheriff's ASTREA helicopter. That incident ultimately resulted in the arrest of C.'s 14-year-old brother, mother and a friend that was on parole.

Update: On 12/9/2004, at about 12:23 a.m., Ricardo C. was arrested at West San Ysidro Boulevard and Howard

Street. C. saw the police officers and fled on foot. With assistance from ABLE, the San Diego Police Airship, C. was located hiding in the backyard of a nearby residence.

BATTERY

Location: 8585 Blossom Lane, Spring Valley
Time/Date: 1:33 p.m. on 12/07/04



Incident: School Resource Detective, Joe Sherman, observed a male juvenile, 14 years of age, on the Mount Miguel High School campus. Detective Sherman did not recognize the juvenile as a student and attempted to contact him. As Sherman attempted to contact and detain the juvenile, the subject started to struggle with him. As they struggled, Sherman saw that the subject had a large knife in a sheath slung across his shoulder. As the struggle continued, Sherman and the juvenile fell to the ground. As they struggled on the ground, other subjects arrived and attempted to come to the aid of the juvenile by kicking and hitting Sherman. Sherman requested priority cover and several Sheriff's units responded to the scene. As Sherman continued to struggle with the subject, school staff members came to his aid. During the struggle, one teacher was bitten. Additional Sheriff's units arrived and order was restored to the campus. Four juveniles and one adult were ultimately taken into custody for various charges.

— Michael Hemmingson

MISCELLANEOUS. Black leather briefcase, plush, compartments everywhere, expands, unused, \$35. Snowy white ostrich feather jacket, rare, perfect. More. 760-753-6996.

MISCELLANEOUS. Dell computers and keyboard, \$150. Computer chair, \$35. Focal PC480 camera, \$45. Lexmark Z52

printer, \$25. Kodak Ektralite 10 camera, \$15. Charles, cell, 858-205-0637.

MISCELLANEOUS. Wheelchair, youth rolltop desk, bathtub glass enclosure, computer printer stand, 4 shelves, collector's Oriental figures, vanity with sink, youth bed, \$20. \$10. Kitchen sink, bike. 858-270-0565.

MISCELLANEOUS. Cookie jar, Fitz & Floyd, Santa, older issue but new, in box, \$50. Rug, wool hooked, 5'x8', clean, \$45. Jacket, down, men's XL, \$25. 619-282-9581.

MISCELLANEOUS. Bowling ball, bag, shoes, 2 each, excellent condition, \$45 each. Fishing rod and reel, ocean type,

\$45. Table, small, with magazine rack, natural wood, \$25. 858-277-7197.

MISCELLANEOUS. Cross country skis, poles, \$60/best. Antique flour sifter, Pennsylvania Dutch decor, \$15/best. Okabashi sandals, white, women's large, new, \$8/best. 619-280-9083.

MISCELLANEOUS. Convertibles, smog exempt, MGTD, MGTF, 450 SL Mercedes,

Harley, \$4950. 24'x24'x12' steel building kit. 60-gallon compressor. Body shop frame. Hydrogen bisulfite generator, \$150. 858-350-3727.

MISCELLANEOUS. Bose noise cancelling headset, boxed, \$130. Total Gym 1000, boxed, \$100. Mountain bike, \$100. 858-672-1265.

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MOVING SALE. Round, dining table, 4 chairs, leaf, side bar, \$285. Sofa sleeper, \$300. Recliner, \$175. Wooden entertainment center with matching bookshelf, \$250. 1994, Ford Probe, \$1700. All in good condition, pricing negotiable. College Area, 619-339-6968.

MOVING SALE. Fine mahogany furniture, dining room table and chairs, sleigh bed with side tables, coffee and console tables. Beautiful, excellent condition. Brand new Sony 6.1 surround sound system, black leather sectional, black leather couch and office chair. Artwork. Must sell. Leave message, 858-689-7893.

MOVING SALE. 3 twin mattress sets, \$75 each. Assorted small tables, chairs, dresser, desks, \$5-\$25. Metal easel, \$75. Electric mower, \$100. 619-847-2518.

PALM TREE, out of the ground, approximately 8'-10', very healthy, must sell, \$20. Santee, 619-445-5898.

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24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 146.

PALM TREES, Sago and Phoenix Pygmy date palms (only), guaranteed, best prices, can deliver. 619-267-7933.

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Matt's Generic Aspire

Long ago, a friend and I wasted hours lamenting that nobody offered a generic car. We wanted no frills, just the basics, a mechanically sound, cheap car. The one we imagined was something like Matt Jozwiak's Ford Aspire.

Matt tells me, "I had an old Bronco that wasn't running well, and the service manager at El Cajon Ford said I had a blown head gasket. He quoted a price, and I told him that was more than the Bronco was worth to me. I said, 'I just need another car.' He said, 'I've got one I could sell you.'"

"His brother owned it. A 1996 Ford Aspire, a commercial car, with painted-out letters on the side. They were hard to read, but I think it had belonged to a courier service. The car had about 60,000 miles on it at the time. He gave me \$600 for my Bronco.

I was pretty happy. It gets 40 or 45 miles to the gallon.

"It's got no air conditioning, no power windows or power locks, none of that. It's a standard transmission, a five-speed. I was commuting for a few months from Temecula and, pulling the long grades, I had trouble staying up to speed.

"But the biggest challenge is, it doesn't have power steering. It's a small car that drives like a big one. When you're parallel parking, especially, you have to wrench the steering wheel around. But with a little work I can fit it into parking spaces other cars won't fit into. We have a garage at the building where I work, in downtown San Diego, and I can find a parking place just about anywhere in there."

I tell Matt about my friend who was in a VW at a stoplight when a semi pulled up behind. The light changed and before the VW could

accelerate, the semi slammed into the back of it, and the VW motor stalled.

The semi pushed it a block while my friend sat in terror leaning on the horn before the truck driver noticed. He hadn't seen or even felt it in front of him. "Your car isn't much bigger than a VW," I say. "But at least the Aspire has the motor in front, so when you get whacked by a semi at a stoplight, the motor probably won't die."

"But it still might not get out of the way of the semi," Matt says. "It doesn't have much pickup. I guess 0 to 60 in about three minutes. Sometimes I think the drivers of SUVs don't notice me, the way they pull right in front.

"It's about the smallest car around. Last May I was over in Ireland and rented a Ford Micro, which is made for the European market. It looks a lot like the Aspire, a little rounder, but basically the same. I guess my car would fit in better over in Europe than it does here."



--- **OWNER: MATT JOZWIAK**
 --- **CAR: 1996 FORD ASPIRE**
 --- **BOUGHT: SEPTEMBER 2000**
AT EL CAJON FORD
 --- **PRICE: \$2700**
 --- **MILEAGE: 115,000**

"The Aspire isn't a Southern California car," I contend. "It's for people who don't care about showing off. As a rule, Southern California drivers like to show off. Do you ever look around and see all those ritzy vehicles and feel like a stranger in a strange land?"

"Well," Matt says, "I am from New Hampshire."

To suggest future "Driven" stories, e-mail ken@kenkuhlen.net.

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CADILLAC FLEETWOOD, 1973, car runs great, has lots of new parts, needs a paint job. \$1000. Call for more information. Eric, 619-251-2220; 619-460-0830.

CHEVY BERETTA GT, 1992, V-6, low miles, fully loaded, premium wheels, runs and drives great, must see to appreciate, owner will help finance, \$2500. 619-896-0779.

CHEVY BLAZER S10, 1999, L5, white, clean. New tires, head gaskets, fuel pump, climate control, battery, power

everything, \$6700/best or take over payments. 619-445-1771.

CHEVY CAMARO, 1989, 5-speed, new parts throughout, tires, brakes, distributor, all smog parts, etc. \$1500. 619-696-5313.

CHEVY CAVALIER, 1998, fully loaded, 74K miles, excellent condition, new, 40mpg, \$6000/best. 619-929-4367.

CHEVY CORVETTE, 1984, bronze, major tune up completed. New: All brakes/rotors, battery, transmission kit/fluid, oil change (receipts). Needs top/transmission work. \$2500. 619-264-9167.

CHEVY METRO, 1998, 4 door, good condition, smogged, great on gas. \$3500/best. 619-807-0499.

CHEVY MONTE CARLO, 1995, air, leather, alloys, 95,000 miles. First \$2000 takes it. Must sell! 858-499-8982.

CHEVY NOVA, 1969, 2 door, immaculate, always garaged, rust-free, original 84K miles, 307 V-8, automatic, matching numbers, power steering/brakes, air,

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CHEVY S-10, 1995, pickup, 5 speed, 4 cylinder, 150K miles, runs great, smogged, \$2800/best. 619-379-0219.

CHEVY TAHOE, 1997, black, V-8, 4 wheel drive, gray leather, 157,000 miles, new tires, maintained, air, CD, am/fm, cruise, power everything, \$7000/best. 760-749-0363.

CHEVY VAN, 1986, 4x4 Sportsman window van, 350, V-8, automatic, air conditioning, CD, stereo, new carpet, low miles, tow hitch, very versatile, must see, \$4500. 619-561-0978.

DATSUN 280Z, 1978, runs great, has centerline rims, headers, EFI, tune up, asking \$2500. 619-838-8415.

DODGE DART, 1966, partially restored, great running condition. Must sell, moving. \$2000/best. 619-546-4588.

DODGE DURANGO, 1999, green, 4 wheel drive, 65,000 miles, excellent condition inside and out. Garaged, mechan-

ically outstanding, like new Michelin tires. \$11,500. Ted, 858-560-6082.

FORD EXPEDITION SUV, 2002, perfect Eddie Bauer, well cared for, has everything, air conditioning, power steering/brakes, tow package, alarm, bucket seats, cruise, \$20,500. 760-941-9099.

FORD EXPLORER XLT, 1996, 80K miles, 6 cylinder, automatic, leather, fully loaded, premium wheels, excellent condition inside and out, asking \$5590/best. Must sell. 858-279-4487.

FORD FALCON, 1961, classic 6 cylinder, 3 speed, 4 door, baby blue paint, new tires, original black plates, runs great, \$3500 cash. Hablo espanol. 619-583-3751.

FORD MUSTANG, 1992, very fast, clean, V-8, 5 speed, headers, Positraction, cam, lifters, K&N intake, dual catbacks, Flowmasters, gears, sunroof, more, \$5000. Need truck. 619-303-0391.

FORD RANGER CUSTOM, 1991, V-6, 4 liter, longbed, newer 5-speed transmis-

sion, clutch, radiator, starter, exhaust, brakes, toolbox. Has front-end damage but runs great. Smogged. 619-339-7318.

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GMC YUKON SLT, 4x4, 1999, automatic, 5.7L, gray leather, heated seats. Clifford alarm, K&N filter, KYB shocks, full running boards, tow package, 71K. \$10,750. 619-670-5742.

HONDA ACCORD, 1990, 5 speed, all power, moonroof, CD, am/fm cassette, cruise, 142K miles, runs great. \$2700. 619-521-0957.

HONDA CIVIC VP, 2000, silver, automatic, power steering/locks, am/fm, CD, keyless, new battery, 1 owner, 36,300 miles. Excellent condition. \$10,600/best. 760-635-0211.

HONDA CIVIC EX, 2001, automatic, VTEC, 56,000 miles, red, air, power, cassette and CD, moonroof, spoiler, original owner, babied. \$11,900. 619-482-4755.

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MAZDA PROTEGE, 1990, 4 door, tinted windows, electric everything, 80% tread on tires, new brakes, runs great, \$1400/best. Dustin, 619-507-3860.

MERCEDES-BENZ E320, 2002. Immaculate, black/gray interior, sunroof, Bose sound, 39K miles. \$32,000. Warranties. Moving, must sell! 619-888-0281.

MERCEDES-BENZ, smog exempt, white sedan, 11K miles on newer engine, good mechanical condition, \$1200. 858-488-1148.

MINI COOPER, 2003. Blue with black leatherette, 17,000 miles, XM radio, Harmon Kardon sound system, tinted win-

dows, 35mpg. Rancho Santa Fe Motors, 858-759-7723. www.RSFM.com.

NISSAN 300ZX, 1991, black, 5 speed, 2+2 model, new clutch, alternator, brakes and more, just smogged, runs great, 248K miles, \$4200. 619-925-0589.

NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5S, 2003, 25K miles, silver gray, perfect condition, automatic,

air conditioning, power doors/windows, \$15,800. 619-249-8559.

NISSAN MAXIMA GXE, 1995, automatic, 6 cylinder, full power, immaculate condition, security alarm, original owner, asking \$4700/best. 619-933-5874 or 619-589-9002.

NISSAN SENTRA GXE, 2001. Automatic, green, 69,000 miles, fully loaded, CD/cassette, tint, new tires, like new. \$7250. Vin#440945. High Winds Auto, 858-560-0571. www.highwindsauto.com.

OLDS CUTLASS CIERA S, 1994, 140K miles, 6 cylinder, good condition inside and out, very smooth ride, am/fm cassette, new battery, pale metallic gold, \$1500. Dave, 619-575-1705.

SATURN SL2, 1993, 5 speed, turquoise, perfect mechanical condition, body and interior excellent, Kelley Blue Book valued at \$2850, asking \$2500. 858-752-9395.

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(SANTA ARRIVES. SANTA AND I GREET.)

Ollie: So, Santa, you don't mind if I ask you a question to verify you are the real Santa, do you?
Santa: No, Anthony, not at all.
O: Where's my fire truck, Santa? You know which one I'm talking about.
S: The one you "didn't get"? (Santa makes finger quotes.)
O: I'm still pretty pissed about that.
(Santa furrows his brow.)
S: Your brother stole it from under the tree the morning of Christmas 1980. He realized he couldn't play with it without you telling on him so he threw it in the creek behind Steven Brown's house.
O: That son of a bitch.
S: Hey! (Santa points accusingly at me.) That right there is a big reason you've been on the naughty list since 1987, young man.
O: Okay, sorry. Let's just move on. Toys are pretty complicated these days. When I was a kid there were trucks for the boys and dolls for girls. Now, everything has lights and flashes. How do you pull it off?
S: Do you think our shop is only wooden hammers and chisels for making hobby horses? (Santa laughs.) No, no. We're actually a very advanced production force. Our facility is quite modern — rivaling most computer companies, actually. The idea that "Oh no, Santa's workshop is antiquated. He can't keep up, and the spirit of Christmas will die if we don't, blah, blah, blah" is all just Hollywood fantasy. It keeps the movie industry going around this time of year.
O: That brings me to my next question. How do you pay for all of this? You have the largest manufacturing business in, well, in the history of man. How do you keep it all running on zero pay?
S: Zero pay? Ha! You think I do this on milk-and-cookie wages? You watch TV for a living. You tell me.
O: Endorsements.
S: Endorsements. Sprite, Circuit City, Coca Cola. My word, the money those Coke people pay me. (Santa looks out the window.) And they're almost all on the naughty list too. That's the irony of it. Paramount Pictures, Universal Studios, NBC. They all want a piece of ol' Kris Kringle, come about July. But nobody wants to sit down and just behave. Whatever. (Santa looks disgusted.)
(I look away and down a little. Santa notices this even before I do.)
S: It's okay, Anthony. It's not too late. Just stop with this cursing and carrying on with the drugs and that sort of thing. Look, there's an extra DVD of this season's *American Chopper* at the North Pole. There might even be a fire truck up there if you can stop objectifying women.
O: Can I have a copy of *The Winner's Guide to Texas Hold 'Em Poker*, too?
S: That! You see? That, right there, is what we were just talking about!

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY DECEMBER 23

THE SANTA CLAUSE (1994)

KGTV 10, 8:00 P.M.

Tim Allen summons his comedic talent to help Santa Claus out after Saint Nick takes a swan dive off of a roof. I know what you're all thinking, "There's no such thing as 'Tim Allen's Comedic Talent,' " but if we wish real hard, put milk and cookies out, and go right to bed after dinner, maybe this movie will stop being programmed each holiday season and drift back into relative obscurity where it belongs.

CHRIS ISAAK CHRISTMAS, A SOUNDSTAGE SPECIAL

KPBS 11, 9:00 P.M.

If you bite down on the tinfoil wrapper from your Christmas candy it'll shoot a small electrical current through the fillings in your teeth and leave a metallic taste in your mouth. If your cat eats wheatgrass it'll spray waves of

bright green puke from its heaving stomach onto your kitchen floor. If you mix vanilla, khaki, and taupe together you get the Chris Isaak Christmas special, ready and waiting for when you're fresh out of tinfoil and wheatgrass.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

WORLD'S STRONGEST

MAN COMPETITION MARATHON

ESPN2 28, 8:30 A.M. UNTIL 5:00 P.M.

Make this special holiday even better with a Christmas martini and a strongman marathon! You'll need three ounces of gin, half an ounce of dry Vermouth, one teaspoon of peppermint schnapps, and ESPN. Shake the first three ingredients with some cracked ice and strain into a chilled glass. Garnish your concoction with a candy cane and tune in to watch these abominations-of-nature lift giant rocks. Mmmmm...just like Mom used to make.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

VS. BALTIMORE RAVENS

10:00 A.M.

At the Sunshine Company there are 400 TVs all tuned to six different games on Sunday morning. I can never tell which channel the Steelers or the Chargers are on, but it doesn't matter because we're drinking pitchers of the good stuff. By the time Pittsburgh has played and we catch the end of the Charger game, I've slipped from a warm buzz into "I hope I don't wet myself." My roommate Kip does a drunken victory lap around the bar in his Roethlisberger jersey and gets high-fives from the other displaced Pennsylvanians.

DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES

ABC 10, 10:00 P.M.

Rigor mortis has already set into this show's lifeless body. Now all that's left to do is dump it in the street and let a six-foot-tall supermodel run over it in her minivan as she takes her kid to soccer practice. Luckily, I know just where such plot lines and statuesque women cavort. (This week's episode is the pilot that started the whole mess.)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

THAT '70S SHOW

FOX 6, 6:30 P.M.

Because moths think light bulbs are the moon, they naturally gravitate to light bulbs. Because I'm an idiot, I cannot help myself but to stare at a television if it is on. I had the misfortune of eating dinner with friends on the back porch of an Ethiopian restaurant that used a TV to entertain and calm the visiting kiddies. I can't tell you who I was with or what we talked about, but I know that Fez's goddamned girlfriend works at the DMV. Super. There's something I'll think about while I'm dying and I should be remembering who I spent this life with.

SEINFELD

FOX 6, 7:30 P.M.

My father wanders around, waters the lawn, and does dishes while he watches TV. He can't stand anything that requires his attention. He just likes to walk through the front room and see someone fall or glue themselves to a table or something equally stupid. Consequently, *Seinfeld* was banned in my household during its original run from the mid-'80s to the mid-'90s. If I tried to watch it, Dad would come in from outside and change the channel, saying only, "This is a terrible show. All they do is talk," as he turned around and headed back out to the garage. I'm trying to



Desperate Housewives

catch up so I can hold my own when the conversation inevitably turns to, "Do you remember, on that one *Seinfeld*..."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

MAD TV

COMEDY 48, 8:00 P.M.

It really isn't an effort to be the least-funny channel in history; it just seems that way. Comedy Central's executive officers were on a yacht in the South Pacific sometime last year when the head honcho said, "I don't want to eat lobster exclusively, but I want it at every meal. Maybe lobster and eggs for breakfast, then a lobster salad, and steak and lobster for dinner, every day. I want a diamond-studded lobster for my wall, and one for my lawn. Now, you fellas are going to get me there."

"I've got it!" shouted a VP. "We'll just buy shitty sketch comedies that other networks don't want and rerun them constantly. We don't have to pay for new product development, and we'll charge the same for commercials, now that everyone watches us for *South Park* and *The Daily Show*."

"Oh, ho, ho. Martin, you've just won yourself a Tiffany lobster lamp for your Christmas bonus."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

MYTHBUSTERS

DSC 35, 9:00 P.M.

Quickly running out of myths to debunk, the crew of this program has resorted to just making shit up. What was once the simple, straightforward Pepsi and Pop Rocks controversy is now an elaborate scheme involving goldfish and trombones that no one has ever heard of.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

THE BIRDCAGE (1996)

BRAVO 42, 8:00 P.M.

Now that the reality TV season has wound down and we're between holidays, the big networks are going to run a lot of crap marathons. *Joey*, *CSI*, *The O.C.*, and whatever other unwatchable drivel they've barely stitched together. Rebel. Watch something good.

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