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Dirty money Following last week's guilty plea of **Randy Cunningham**, the tentacles of "Duke-Stir-gate" are spreading rapidly into local Republican money circles. Topping the list of reported coconspirators is **Brent R. Wilkes**, the Poway defense contractor and board member of the San Diego International Sports Council who made millions of dollars on government deals



Brent R. Wilkes

pushed by Cunningham. He's widely said to be "Co-conspirator No. 1," described by prosecutors in last week's Cunningham plea agreement. Wilkes, who founded ADCS, a document-conversion outfit, has long been a dependable mother lode for GOP campaigns here, including those of county supervisor **Ron Roberts** and former congressmen **Ron Packard** and **Brian Bilbray**, who is now running for the seat Cunningham is vacating. Wilkes also gave to Democrats, including Senators **Daniel K. Inouye** of Hawaii and **Charles Robb** of Virginia. The money for Roberts came in his 2000 race against **Dick Murphy**, when Wilkes and his employees, vendors, and relatives teamed up to pump at least \$9750 into the Roberts cause. "I provided money to the campaign because I like Roberts's policies. I like his honesty," said **Mark Adams**, a Wilkes employee residing in Alexandria, Virginia.

Other ADCS workers hung up the phone when asked about their donations to Roberts, who has a history of receiving illegally reimbursed campaign contributions. (He's repeatedly denied knowing that the funds were laundered.) Contributors willing to speak also denied any wrongdoing. **Richard Creighton**, a Costa Mesa resident, explained his connection to ADCS and his campaign gift to Roberts: "I got something in the mail to come to a fund-raiser. I'm not really that politically savvy. I know nothing about San Diego politics. All I know is, ADCS is a customer of ours. They sell computer products to the government. Our company makes computer products. They use our products to satisfy their bid."

A year later, Wilkes and friends gave \$2500 to the failed city council effort of Roberts aide **Steve Danon**, who was running against **Donna Frye**. Another example of largess came in June 2003, when now-indicted House Majority Leader **Tom DeLay** got \$15,000 from PerfectWave Technologies, another Wilkes venture. DeLay used the money to help bankroll Congressional redistricting in Texas. Even as late as the first half of this year, the ADCS political action committee was anteing up big-time, giving a total of \$21,000, including \$5000 to Americans for a Republican Majority Political Action Committee, \$5000 to Future Leaders PAC, \$5000 to Superior California Federal Leadership Fund, \$3000 to the American Dream PAC, and \$2000 to Milead Fund. Contributions to the ADCS committee came via employee "payroll withholding," according to the filing.

Ironically, Wilkes, whose house was searched by the FBI last summer, received one of 11 "Monty" awards handed out earlier this year by San Diego State University, from which he graduated with a

business degree in 1977. "The Monty award is a symbol of achievement and success presented to distinguished alumni," said an SDSU news release. "Wilkes is a board member of numerous community and philanthropic groups, including The Campanile Foundation at SDSU." Campanile, presided over by SDSU president **Stephen Weber**, was set up by him in 1999 to collect and manage large cash and real estate gifts for university use. The Alvarado Estates mansion where Weber lives was purchased by Campanile board member **Malin Burnham** and donated to the state in September 2000.



Alvarado Estates mansion

Criminal education As the **Duke Cunningham** saga continued to unfold last week, one usually outspoken media voice remained uncharacteristically silent. *Union-Tribune* editorialist **Bob Kittle**, a regular participant on the KPBS *Editors Roundtable*, was nowhere to be seen. Maybe it had something to do with the fact that before the scandal broke, Cunningham's wife **Nancy**, a former teacher in the Encinitas Union School District and a former assistant secretary for management and chief information officer at the U.S. Department of Education, had



Bob Kittle

been in line to become the director of the Rhoades School, owned by Kittle and his wife **Luanne**. The tony private school has 300 students in kindergarten through eighth grade, many from wealthy Rancho Santa Fe, where Cunningham purchased a \$2.5 million dream house. The Kittles announced in April that Cunningham would take over the school September 1, but she pulled out in June after it became known that a federal grand jury was looking into her husband's dealings. Instead, she remained as "administrator of support services" for the Encinitas Union School District, where she has worked for 30 years. ... Before ex-San Diego city councilman **Ralph Inzunza** was sentenced to 21 months in prison for his role in the strip-club influence-peddling scandal, friends wrote to the judge begging for leniency. Two of them were former members of the San Diego Unified school board, **Ron Ottinger** and **Ed Lopez**, key allies of then-superintendent **Alan Bersin**. In downplaying Inzunza's crimes, Ottinger took a shot at another local crook: "Former Port Commissioner **David Malcolm** was sentenced to only 120 days at a work furlough program for bilking taxpayers of millions of dollars in the Duke Energy scandal, which caused harm to every Californian."

— Matt Potter

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San Diego's Ties To Treasure Islands

By Don Bauder

San Diego wheeler-dealers dumping their stocks just can't get away — whether to the Turks and Caicos Islands,

a Caribbean tax haven, or to Wilmington, Delaware, a corporate "lax" haven.

Padres majority owner John Moores, who sold \$487 million worth of Peregrine Systems stock during a three-year period in which the books were cooked, wanted to have civil suits against him and fellow former directors tried in Wilmington, Delaware, where the company was incorporated, rather than in California. Hordes of companies incorporate in Delaware because it is fraud-friendly: in an insider-trading case, investors have to prove that officers and directors had an intent to deceive. Under California law, defrauded investors have to prove only that insiders had negative material information that the public didn't have. Peregrine directors, including Moores, were told of accounting irregularities yet continued to dump stock, according to civil suits.

In March of this year, Superior Court Judge Joan M. Lewis ruled that a suit filed by the bankruptcy court-appointed trustee should be tried in Delaware. The decision would

have overturned California law that's been in force since 1968. In May, the trustee protested the decision to the Fourth District Appellate Court. Immediately, the California



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

John Moores

attorney general's office wrote the court, siding with the trustee. Lewis's decision ran counter to "California's legitimate and compelling interest in preserving a business

climate free of fraud and deceptive practices," said the attorney general.

Last Friday, the appellate court agreed emphatically. The case will be heard under California law, which comes down hard on perceived "immoral conduct" that is "destructive to the public interest," said the court. The appeals court appears to be applying the state's tough standards to behavior beyond insider trading, says Robert Friese, the trustee. Moores and his fellow defendants will no doubt appeal to the supreme court. For now, though, Wilmington is out of the picture.

On November 10, a federal jury in San Diego ruled that James E. Franklin raked in profits from a "pump and dump" stock scam funneled through an account at a Turks and Caicos financial corporation. After a three-week trial and a week of deliberations, a jury found Franklin and an associate, Samuel Wolanyk, liable for securities fraud.

The Securities and Exchange Commission said the pair, along with related institutions and individuals, took in more than \$4 million from the Internet stock-touting scheme. The commission recommended that Franklin and Wolanyk cough up a total of \$11 million for their transgressions.

continued on page 8

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529 or don.bauder@mac.com

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To Condemn A Cash Cow

By Joe Deegan

Last summer's trial of San Diego councilmen Michael Zucchet and Ralph Inzunza produced an unexpected candor from the city's Redevelopment Agency. On June 24, Zucchet's attorney Raymond (Jerry) Coughlan called agency employee Alex Greenwood to the witness stand. The move seemed intended to hammer home a point: that since the beginning of his only city council term, Zucchet's "first, second, and third priorities" had been to get rid of the Body Shop and Les Girls strip clubs in Loma Portal. Coughlan had said earlier in the trial, according to Kelly Thornton's May 11 story in the *Union-Tribune*, that Zucchet was willing to listen to Galardi's representatives about no-touch at Galardi's club, Cheetahs in Kearny Mesa, "if they talk about Mr. Galardi buying [Les Girls and the Body Shop] and turning them into Krispy Kreme (doughnut shop) or a sports bar."

In the June 24 court transcripts, attorney Coughlan began by asking Greenwood to describe the Redevelopment Agency. "We look at

blighted areas of the city," said Greenwood, "and [put] together real estate deals to bring in new businesses, new housing, new office and other uses to create new jobs and revitalize the area." Greenwood went on to include as part of the agency's work planning and providing public infrastructure for the blighted areas.

Coughlan asked the witness about the concept "blighted area." "I take it," said the attorney, "that that's a term of art within redevelopment jargon. Is that correct?"

"Yes," Greenwood answered. "Under the California Health and Safety Code, there's a specific definition of what a blighted area is. An example... would be an area that suffers from dilapidated buildings, parcels that are so small and irregular that they cannot accommodate modern development, lack of public amenities or infrastructure, broken sidewalks, for example, [or] crime."

The most recent assign-

ment Greenwood had with the Redevelopment Agency was to oversee the North Bay Redevelopment Project Area, 1360 acres along Interstate 5 and Pacific Highway and in the Midway area. Greenwood told the court that "one of the main, prominent gateways into that area is off of the freeways on Camino del Rio [West] and Rosecrans [Boulevard], and there is about a 5-acre area there that we zeroed in on. Because of its prominent location, we thought it was a potentially good site for some sort of real estate project." Greenwood labeled the area blighted.

The five-acre site described (and most of the North Bay Redevelopment Project Area) lies within Zucchet's former council District 2 and contains the Body Shop and Les Girls strip clubs. Greenwood described for the court how, beginning on March 24, 2003, shortly after Zucchet came into office, he met with the councilman every couple of months, and with the councilman's staff almost weekly, to figure out ways to move the strip clubs and an adult bookstore out of the area. Also in attendance at the first meeting with Zucchet was Greenwood's boss, Hank Cunningham, the city's director of the Community and Economic Development Department and assistant executive director of the Redevel-



Michael Zucchet

opment Agency.

Greenwood said he pointed out to Zucchet that the adult-entertainment businesses were likely "cash cows" that the city could not afford to buy out by itself. He also told Zucchet that rezoning the area to try to force them out would not work, since they were "grandfathered in." Eventually, Greenwood testified, he convinced Zucchet that the redevelopment plan for the area around the strip clubs would be sufficient to do the trick.

Greenwood then told the court, "We developed a list of opportunity sites. We analyzed the parcels, looking at such things as property tax data, zoning, and sales tax data.... We looked specifically at the area inclusive of and surrounding the Body Shop and Les Girls sites." Greenwood continued moments later in the same vein: "We tried to get a good idea of... the underground soil conditions, the appraised value of the land, all the information that a devel-

oper might want to know before they started thinking seriously about it. We contacted several developers to see if there was any interest in pursuing it; some people seemed interested, some people didn't. We really tried general marketing to try and develop interest in that site, and nothing worked at first for several months.... It was all me and one other person working on this. We worked very hard on it."

Since Les Girls and the Body Shop sit on small parcels of 5000 to 10,000 square feet apiece but bring in large amounts of revenue, Greenwood said he figured he needed additional parcels to go along with them. "Buying other pieces of land at a cheaper price because they don't have such income-producing uses on them would allow you to get enough land to do a modern development, and it would also lower your average cost of acquiring the land."

"Is this a project," asked Coughlan, "that the developer and your agency... would work on together?"

"Yes, through a development agreement," answered Greenwood. "The classic agreement would be the developer... would take the lead on this. They would take the lead on buying all the land, and we would help support them either financially or using our

continued on page 7



Treasure islands

continued from page 6

But U.S. District Judge Dana M. Sabraw, declaring that this sum was too high, would assess Wolanyk only \$50,000 and Franklin \$770,000.

In asking for a larger judgment, the federal securities commission said that Franklin and Wolanyk used various subterranean means to hide their "ill-gotten gains," including "foreign bank and brokerage accounts, particularly in jurisdictions notorious for their secrecy laws." The pair "refused to provide documents from foreign brokerage and bank accounts, and have destroyed such documents," charged the agency.

Their lawyers deny the commission's charges and claim it overstepped its mandate. Both say the offshore involvement prejudiced the jury. "It definitely colored the case. The jury used that offshore connection" in finding the two liable, says Darren J. Quinn, Franklin's attorney.

"I was disappointed in the jury," says Gregory M. Garri-

son, Wolanyk's attorney. "They said, 'These guys have offshore bank accounts; they must be doing something.'"

This case should be a lesson for San Diegans. If some lawyer or accountant is trying to talk you into stashing money offshore to hide it from the Internal Revenue Service or an ex-spouse, think more than twice: that black hole you believe you are creating may prove to be your personal abyss. Jurors will look askance at a defendant with money stashed in a secret account offshore. How do they know there isn't more stashed somewhere? Those jurors' suspicions are likely to be right on target.

For more than a decade in San Diego, Franklin has been immersed in dicey penny stocks. His company, Initial Public Offering Consultants, one of the defendants in the government's suit, has helped emerging companies tap the public market, often by merging into an empty-shell company rather than selling shares directly to the public.

Franklin has proved to be nimble in the rough-and-tumble penny-stock arena. Eleven

years ago, he got into a dustup with a lawyer who represented speculators tied to the raucous Vancouver Stock Exchange. The lawyer had been disciplined by two British Columbia government agencies, but Franklin didn't know that. Among many things, Franklin called the lawyer a forger, thief, and computer saboteur, and the lawyer called Franklin a black-mailer and thief, according to lawsuits in the case. The lawyer claimed that Franklin physically threatened him—a charge Franklin denied.

According to the Securities and Exchange Commission, Franklin hooked up with the Turks and Caicos corporation through Union Securities, a brokerage house in Vancouver. Franklin was assistant managing director of the offshore operation Vector Keel Ltd. and through it acquired and sold shares that were touted in the pump-and-dump scam, says the commission.

Quinn's response in court: the securities agency has no jurisdiction over transactions conducted outside the United States.

Wolanyk had formerly

worked for Franklin at Initial Public Offering Consultants. In January of 1997, Wolanyk established Red Hot Stocks, which began touting stocks over the Internet. "Franklin orchestrated the fraudulent scheme to tout companies on the Red Hot website and then sell the stocks of the companies profiled," charges the commission's complaint. Franklin set up a company called Net Income to operate Red Hot and attempted to conceal his involvement, says the government.

During the bubble years of 1997 and 1998, Red Hot touted low-priced stocks of many companies that were also clients of Franklin's consulting firm, says the commission.

Investors got misleading information from Red Hot, says the agency. There were unreasonable price projections—up, up, up in a hurry. Franklin and his confreres failed to disclose that they owned stock in the issues that got rave reviews and in some cases would be paid for hyping a stock. They bought stocks that were later touted on Red Hot "with the intent to sell the

stock in coordination with the tout," says the agency. In short, the strategy was to buy the stock, pump it, and dump it, says the commission.

Garrison claims that in most instances, Wolanyk did not sell stock after he touted it. In the cases in which he did, the company whose stock was pumped had put a paid advertisement in Red Hot. But the jury said he committed fraud in 13 stocks.

Quinn asserts that Franklin sold only one stock after it was touted in Red Hot, although the jury said he was involved in seven pump-and-dump capers. Franklin really was not an officer of Vector Keel, despite what the securities agency avers, says Quinn. The individual who headed Vector Keel wrote an account statement stating "that Jim Franklin has authority to trade [through the offshore institution]. But did he get Franklin's consent? No," claims Quinn.

The jury believed the government and not the defendants. If I had been sitting on that jury, I suspect I would have voted the same way. A lawyer can say that "there is

no proof" that his client traded through a secrecy-shrouded offshore institution, but of course there is no proof. That's what offshore secrecy is all about: covering up a paper trail. ■

Cash cow

continued from page 7

negotiating powers to try and purchase the land."

Coughlan then inquired about the condemnation tool.

"Under redevelopment law," Greenwood replied, "if we're in a redevelopment agreement with a developer and they use their best-faith efforts to acquire land just through the private market but fail, if there are one or two people that will not sell their land at a fair market value, we can then come in and negotiate with them.... And if that fails, then we have the legal ability to condemn the property and take ownership of it. We pay the property owner fair market value and any other costs associated with that, but we take possession of the land by force."

"Did somebody step forward and make a proposal to

continued on page 12

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| Model | Power | Price | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2300 X | 300 watts | \$89 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1500 X | 500 watts | \$129 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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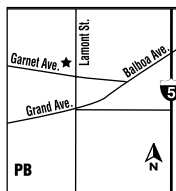


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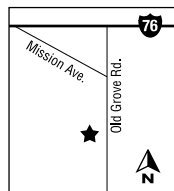
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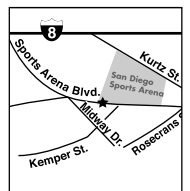
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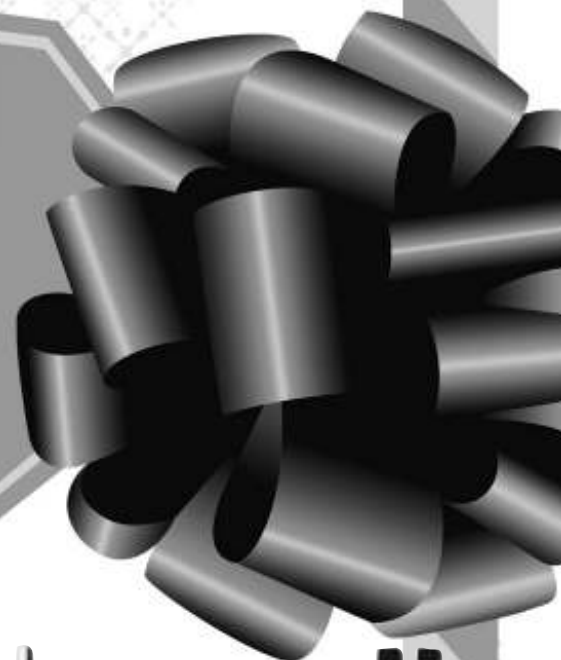
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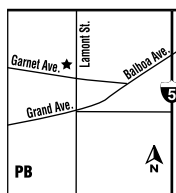
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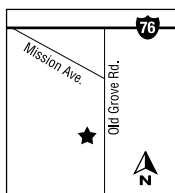
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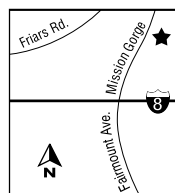
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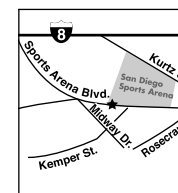
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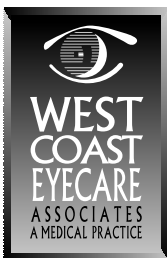
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CITY LIGHTS

Cash cow

continued from page 8

develop this piece of property [at and around Les Girls and the Body Shop]?"

"Yes. All through 2003 we were doing marketing efforts to different developers and other stakeholders. In late [2003] I was approached by a community leader who said, 'Be prepared, you're going to get a proposal from a local property owner. He owns land immediately behind Les Girls and the Body Shop, and he wants to do some sort of project there.' And sure enough, in February [2004], we got a written proposal from a local property owner saying he wanted the agency's assistance in acquiring a large amount of land."

"Is this what's known as an owner-participation effort or offer?"

"Yes."

During cross-examination, assistant U.S. attorney Paul Cook asked Greenwood whether Councilwoman Donna Frye had shown an eagerness similar to Zuchet's to get rid of Les Girls and the Body Shop. A small part of the North Bay Redevelopment Project Area lies in Frye's District 6.

"No, her focus was very different," Greenwood replied. "Her agenda for District 6 and the North Bay redevelopment was more concerned for helping small businesses. She was very suspicious... about any heavy-handed use of redevelopment."

"By 'heavy-handed,' " inquired Cook, "you mean she had some concerns, perhaps, about this condemnation procedure that Mr. Coughlan asked you about, where the city goes in and condemns property and then buys out someone whether

CITY LIGHTS

they want to sell or not?"

"Absolutely. And, in addition, I think she is reluctant to support any large redevelopment real estate project," said Greenwood. "She just has a distrust of developers, if I may say."

Cook then asked whether Zuchet shared "those same views. [Did he] have a distrust of the heavy-handed use of condemnation procedures?"

"I didn't really get that sense from him. He seemed to want aggressive and forthright actions from the Redevelopment Agency," said Greenwood.

To better appreciate Greenwood's candor while under oath, we jump to late December 2004. That's when Greenwood wrote to the owners of the "opportunity sites" — ten parcels between Kurtz and Hancock Streets behind Les Girls and the Body Shop. In the letter, Greenwood told the owners that he had received on December 14 an official, "unsolicited" written proposal to build condominiums on their properties from business neighbor Bill Kenton, owner of 40 percent of the land in question. Although none of the owners except Kenton had ever heard of the city's designs on their area, Greenwood gave them 30 days to sign on to the new proposal, agreeing to sell to Kenton, or to draw up and present their own owner-participation offer. In other words, the majority of the owners were to receive a month to develop an owner-participation offer like the one that Kenton had been collaborating on with the city since the previous February.

In response to the letter, Joe Fritzenkotter, owner of Vanard Lithographics, one of

CITY LIGHTS

the targeted businesses and employer of 100 skilled workers, told me he invited Greenwood to tour his facilities in January 2005. He mentioned to Greenwood that once, during the previous year, Bill Kenton had made an offer to buy his property but without suggesting the deal was part of city redevelopment plans. It therefore took Fritzenkotter aback several months later, he says he told Greenwood, when Kenton "hinted" that the city might take his property in an eminent domain action if he continued refusing to sell. "Greenwood said that I must have misunderstood," said Fritzenkotter, "that eminent domain was not being considered."

Greenwood's letter to the business owners eventually provoked a storm of protest among all of them except Kenton. On March 21, 2005, a subcommittee of the North Bay Redevelopment Project Area Committee met to hear their complaints and make a recommendation. During the meeting, Chris Clifford, who owns a small share in one affected business, accused Greenwood and Kenton of working behind the backs of the other owners. Greenwood denied it. But the subcommittee recommended that the Kenton proposal be rejected.

On March 29, Greenwood appeared with Kenton and Vanard Lithographics representative Rene Coons on the KPBS program *Full Focus*. The show's host, Gloria Penner, asked how well the redevelopment plan for the Body Shop and Les Girls area was being received. Greenwood suggested that people in the area were excited about change.

Almost three months later, Greenwood was testifying under oath in the councilmen's trial. In between, court records show, the FBI interviewed him concerning his conversations with Zuchet. Although both Greenwood and Cunningham resigned their positions over the spring and summer, proponents of the redevelopment plan are going ahead with what they now call "the Gateway Project." On December 15, the North Bay Redevelopment Project Area Committee will elect nine new members; the committee will then have to address "Gateway" again. ■



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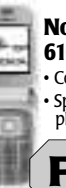
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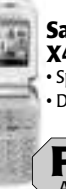
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LETTERS

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.

Keep Taking It And Taking It

I just read your article regarding Qualcomm Stadium ("The Secret Stadium E-Mails," December 1). Thank you for your research. I know it is not easy to find out what is going on with our taxpayer money, and your efforts are well appreciated. I was not surprised at all to read that the city is spending another million bucks on the Chargers. I was not at all surprised to see city employees getting gifts of free game tickets for taking care of the Chargers' "needs." I was not surprised to read that Spanos is worth \$850 million. What surprises me is that citizens just keep taking it and taking it like they have no choice.

Citizens have the power; they have the power to vote. Nothing changes if nothing changes. The citizens must vote differently if they want anything to change. Spending \$100,000,000.00 to look for a new airport in San Diego did not surprise me. It is making me sick. Leasing the Rancho Santa Fe golf course for \$1.00 a year did not surprise me. It is making me wonder what is wrong with the people of San Diego. The council elects or appoints boards for the stadium, for the convention center, and for the Port District, who spend our taxpayers' monies without blinking an eye because no one is watching them. Board members go on jaunts in first class while spending our money. This bothers me a lot. I don't want some fat cat getting free trips to Japan for a month so that they can see a floating airport. I don't want to send our convention center board to London to "network" on taxpayer money. I don't want the Port Authority to spend \$50,000,000.00 to help develop hotels to block the precious little view I

have of the "Big Bay." How about spending \$1,000,000.00 to advertise the "Big Bay"? No wonder we are going bankrupt.

Cunningham's bribery did not surprise me. What surprised me is that, for once, someone got caught. Thank you for letting me vent.

Gene France
Serra Mesa

Barbarella Love

This letter is for Barbarella who, in addition to being a fox (I guess you know how old I am now), attracts me by the quality of her writing and her inherent hipness. Thus, I feel compelled to offer a correction related to her December 1 article, "Drink, Drink, Drink!" In the article, she alludes to "beer on draft." In fact, it's "draft" or "draught" beer, which, according to Webster's, refers to "the withdrawal of liquid, as from a keg." A "tap," of course, is the valve that allows the beer to be drawn from the keg. Thus, it's draft beer on tap. As Tom Robbins said, "Intelligent speech is on the defensive everywhere." I just figured that no matter what else, she would want to be precise in fact. Oh, and Barbarella, I love you.

Dennis Powell
via e-mail

A Vibrant Personality

It's about time! Thank you for the cover article on Eleanor Widmer ("The Late Long-Time Queen of the Café Critics," November 23). She was a vibrant personality, and many of us missed her when she disappeared from the Reader, KPBS, Channel 10, and teaching. The comments from her sons and friends were interesting and balanced, and even the subject herself would have found them enlightening.

Mary Arana
via e-mail

Finest Food Critic

Thank you for the excellent article about Eleanor Widmer ("The Late Long-Time Queen of the Café Critics," November 23). It was a fine tribute to a truly outstanding lady — warts and all.

As a lifelong hopelessly addicted foodie, when I arrived from Chicago over 25 years ago anxious to explore the San Diego restaurant

scene, Eleanor's beautifully written reviews were fruitful and reliable guides.

That she herself might not have been a great chef is totally irrelevant, for her expertise was writing.

She was the finest food critic I've ever read anywhere, and I've read a good many from various sources.

It is very comforting to her many admirers such as myself that her magnificent work is respectfully remembered and so graciously reported.

Alice M. Cox
La Jolla

Kudos For Tobacco \$ Story

Kudos to the Reader and Scott Barnett for his November 17 article, "Tobacco Dollars." This is the in-depth answer to a long-asked question: What has become of the \$66 million in tobacco-settlement funds the City of San Diego has received over the past six years?

Debra Kelley
Vice President,
Government Relations
American Lung
Association of
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Reader Neglect

Something over at the Reader stinks.

I've recently learned your "I Have a Knife," November 3, about a urine-smelling homeless man kidnapping a woman in broad daylight out of a department-store parking lot actually occurred 15 years ago!

Never mind the fact that the Reader neglected to mention this story was originally published back in the '90s — this manipulative missive has more holes in it than a poor man's shoes.

But that awful smell isn't foot odor. What really stinks is the Reader helping Sports Arena businesses give homeless people the bum's rush.

If the Reader does not check this shabby treatment, San Diego's homeless will have no recourse but to discontinue utilizing your paper for suitable bedding material.

Greg Sullivan
via e-mail

The story was originally published June 7, 1990, as was noted at the lower left corner of the first page. — Editor

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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

National Security Sports

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

My Dear Mr. Secretary,

First, I want you to know that I'm on your side in this. When you said, on the 30th instant, during a nationally broadcast press conference, that Iraq was high-stepping along the road to democracy, correctly pointing out that our coalition partner has a free press (indeed, has hundreds of independent radio, television, and newspaper enterprises) no one was more pleased than your correspondent.

Then, the very next day, our domestic communist press, in this instance led by its West Coast mouthpiece, the *Los Angeles Times*, printed a hit piece headlined, "U.S. Military Covertly Pays to Run Stories in Iraqi Press," whining about how you were mismanaging the information battlespace by paying for fake stories and I don't know what else. Frankly, I didn't read all the way through.

Right away, the corrupt American media piled on with their party-line slander stories. I'm referring to the same gang of liberals you've been butting heads against since this battlespace began, to wit: *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Times*, *The Union Leader* (New Hampshire), *The Salt Lake Tribune* (Utah), and their ilk.

As I understand it, there's this fellow, Christian Bailey, an Oxford U (England) grad. He migrates to San Francisco in the late '90s and starts an Internet-biz website. Who knows what it was, but he got out before the dot-com crash. Then came short employment stints in mumbo-jumbo jobs like, "automating custom clearance," and, "Entrepreneur-in-Residence." Other stuff happens. Then, he turns up in 2004 as the New York City co-chair for the Republican National Convention. Somewhere along the way he became president of Lincoln Asset Management. Remember, this guy looks like he's 12 years old. Lincoln Asset Management creates a subsidiary, Lincoln Alliance Corporation and...I'm losing you.

Let's say the Lincoln Group has a colorful (if exceedingly short) history, a curious Washington, D.C., mailing address, an executive vice president who can't get into a bar without being ID'ed, and is in possession of a six-million-dollar contract to translate and cleverly place fake news stories in Iraqi newspapers. Quoting from the despised *Los Angeles Times*, "The Lincoln Group's Iraqi staff, or its subcontractors, sometimes pose as freelance

reporters or advertising executives when they deliver the stories to Baghdad media outlets."

Damn good stories, too. According to the malignant rag mentioned above, *Al Mutamar* was paid \$50 to run a think piece headlined, "Iraqis Insist on Living Despite Terrorism," and *Addustour*, a must-read Iraqi daily, was paid \$1500 to print, "More Money Goes to Iraq's Development."

Now, Mr. Secretary, you and I are men of the world, and we know that some will ask, "If a journalist is paid \$50 to write a story, what happens to the other \$5,999,950?" Well, I tell them that paying \$50 for a think piece ("Foreign Terrorists Are Eating Your Children") is smart shopping and getting fair value for the American taxpayer!

But, that's not why I'm writing this letter. As I said earlier, I'm on your side. So, I've taken valuable time out of my morning in order to alert you to a dangerous wormhole lurking inside your information battlespace. And as sure as unexpected money draws a crowd, this information battlespace gap will be exploited by your information-battlespace enemies.

Yes, yes, I know a lot has been done already. You've got Pentagon-paid-for think pieces, hard-news reports, and mood-of-the-people stories in the can. But, Mr. Secretary, there is more to life than hard-hitting, insightful, reliable news. Mr. Secretary, I'm talking about...SPORTS!

Don, you need a sportswriter on your payroll. Remember the big picture — total information battlespace control. Many Iraqis read the sports section and nothing else. Millions remain uninformed about all the good news in their town because Iraqi sports pages contain *nothing* but sports.

Instead of an Iraqi male (a demographic, by the way, you need to reach) turning to the sports section only to read soccer stories, imagine that same potential terrorist reading stories I could write for you. Stories like, G.I. Joe and Abdul Hussein, the slum-dwelling Baghdad teenager. Joe is a big, tussled-haired farm kid from Montana. Abdul is 18 and a little reckless, a little rebellious. The story opens with Joe on patrol in the slums of Baghdad. He's handing out food stamps and high school diplomas to happy slum residents when...I'll cut to the chase. Joe and Abdul form a soccer team made up of rebellious slum-dwelling Muslim teenage boys and fun-loving G.I. Joes and go on to win an important Muslim soccer match! Listen, Don, I've got 1000 of these. Get back to me while the iron's HOT, HOT, HOT!

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| PITTSBURGH | 5 ½ | | 31 | Chicago |
| Oakland | 2 ½ | | 37 | N.Y. JETS |
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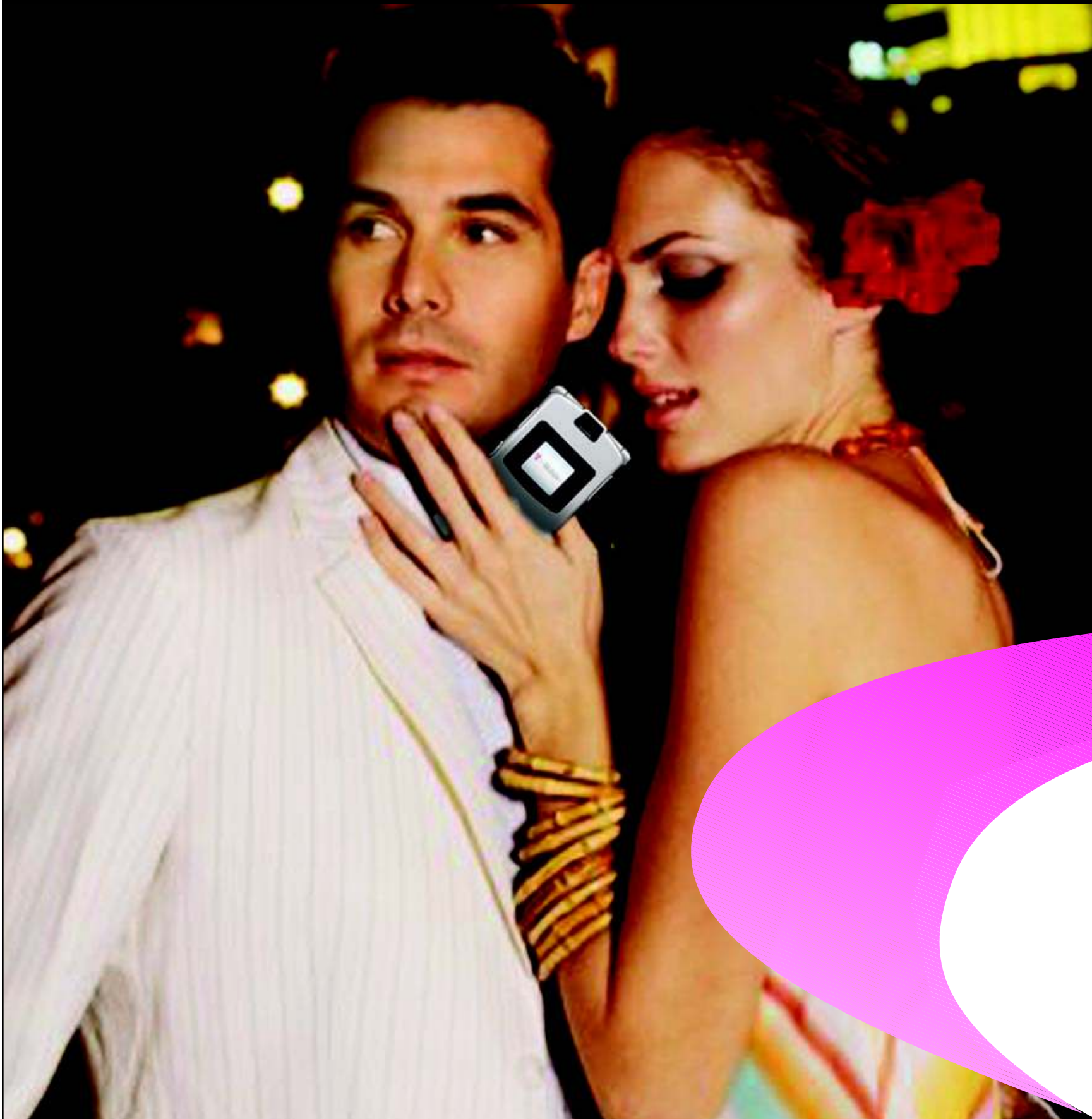
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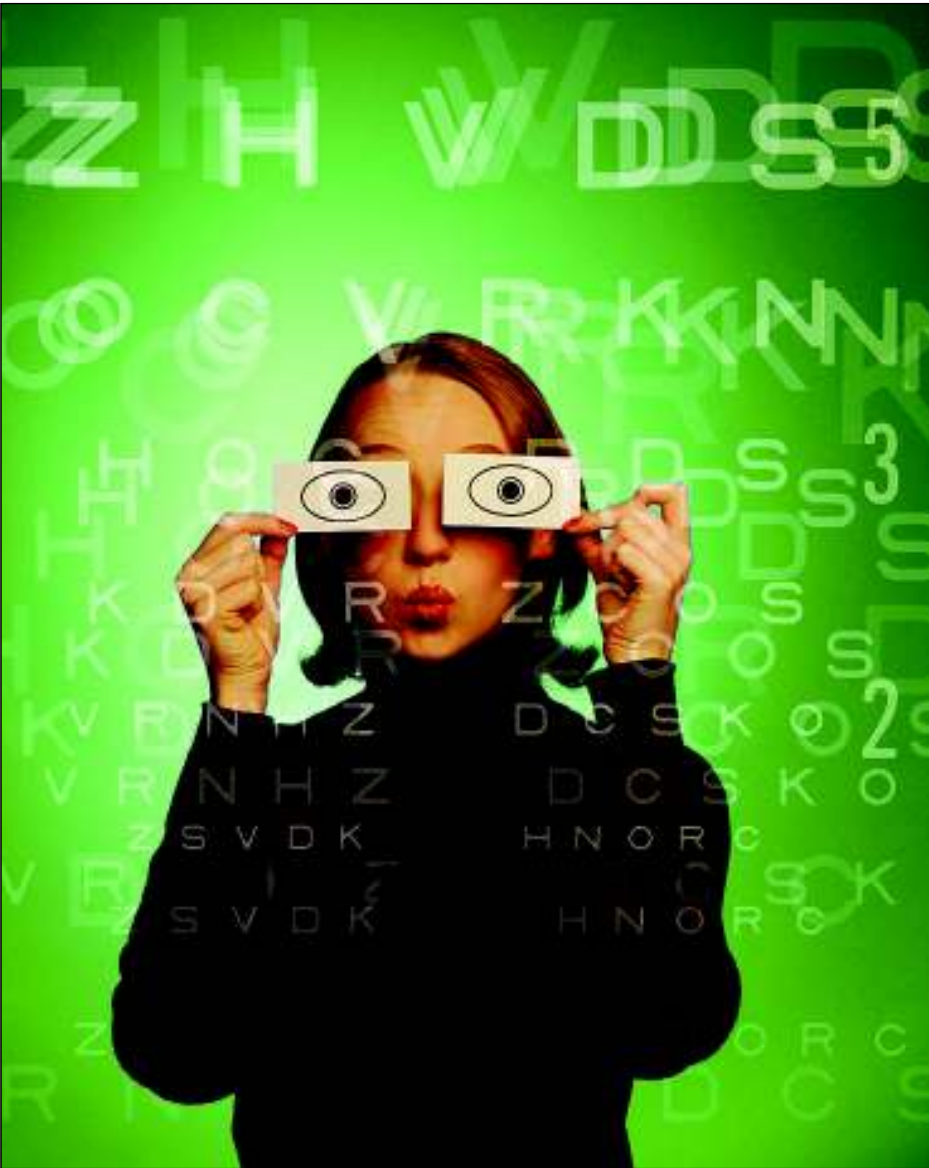


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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

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Address: 2725 55th Street, Oak Park
Founded locally: 1952
Senior pastor: Roger A. Lechner
Congregation size: 1200 families
Staff size: 6
Sunday school enrollment: 450
Annual budget: didn't know
Weekly giving: didn't know
Singles program: no
Dress: casual
Diversity: Asian, white, black, Spanish
Sunday worship: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Vietnamese), 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish)
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour
Website: www.holyspiritsd.org

"[When I'm taking the Eucharist], I'm consuming Jesus' body, if you view it with eyes of faith," said Eileen Carton, a volunteer at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. "How else can you get that close to God? When I take Eucharist, if I lack faith, I am given faith. If I am burdened, Jesus takes my burden." Carton said she's been enamored with communion since she was seven years old. "As a Japanese-American, I was raised Buddhist, but when a friend took me to Mass with her family, I saw the holiness and beauty of the Mass. I was taken aback by seeing Jesus at the consecration. When I saw this, Jesus spoke to my heart and told me I was home. I get so excited about this, I just thank the Lord."

"What really makes the Catholic Church different is that we take Jesus seriously when he gave us the Sacrament of Holy Orders. We take the wine and bread and believe they become the literal body and blood of Jesus," said Dennis Gorsich, a pastoral associate. "We're actually at that Last Supper during the Eucharist. It's like being in a time warp. I often feel closer to God because I've taken the Eucharist. Jesus is clearing away the things that are not good in me."

"When I was 27, I had a born-again experience, as the Protestants call it. Now, I really enjoy sharing my faith and what being a Catholic is all about." Dennis Gorsich serves as an adult educator with the parish. Gorsich believes adult education is especially necessary because of the change in cultural opinions. "The Catholic Church doesn't go along with every whim of popular culture," Gorsich cited the Church's controversial stances against birth control, abortion, and homosexuality. "I like that there are solid church teachings to grab on to. I am comforted by this stability. It is difficult to teach these things because people tend to want things their own way. This is the basic sin of man, selfishness. Even if it comes to their faith, they pick and choose what they agree with the Catholic Church on. This is the same plurality you see in Protestant churches. This is why it is so important to have adult education because the Catholic faith is not a cafeteria plan."

At Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Mass is conducted in three languages: English, Vietnamese, and Spanish. The inner sanctuary walls

are covered with dark wood paneling. Stained-glass windows that depict the sacraments and gifts of the Holy Spirit are interspersed with the Stations of the Cross. The tabernacle of the Blessed Sacrament, designed to resemble the Ark of the Covenant, sits on a stone pillar in the front of the sanctuary. Above it hangs a large wooden crucifix. Several statues of Vietnamese martyrs reflect the Vietnamese presence at the church.

Last Sunday, associate pastor Father Doan Van Lai celebrated the 7:30 a.m. service. Deacon Marvin Threatt, an African-American, bellowed with a deep voice, "The Lord is coming, get ready for a blessing!" On this second Sunday of Advent, Threatt preached a message on repentance. "We must change our lives and turn away from our sin. We cannot just change our actions; we must change our hearts. And when we are changed, we will live in harmony, peace, and righteousness." Threatt paced the front of the Sanctuary as he preached. Deacon Threatt's lively message included hand gestures, stories, and interaction with the congregation. After the Mass, I asked Deacon

Threatt about his sermon delivery. "I use an Afro-centric style of preaching. It's alive. Nobody is going to sleep when I preach," said Threatt. Several nearby congregants agreed.

"I love his style, it's refreshing," said one Hispanic man. "I always walk away with life application," added a young lady. Threatt said he believes the acceptance and involvement of many cultures is what makes the Holy Spirit so unique. "We are one of the few places where multiculturalism works. That is because our multiculturalism is a true reflection of the neighborhood surrounding this church."

Robert Griffith heads the Catholic Charismatic Center at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. The Charismatic Center promotes and educates on the charismatic gifts for all San Diego Catholic Churches. "I pray in tongues," said Griffith of his charismatic activity. "It's a way

of letting God take charge of my prayers. When we pray, it's all us, but this way, God prays for what we really need. It's hard to explain the sensation when this is happening. Some people feel warmth from the Holy Spirit, others have a rush of joy or sadness, depending on what God is doing at the time." Griffith said people can attend a Live in the Spirit seminar hosted at different parishes to learn how to use spiritual gifts.

I asked Dennis Gorsich what happens to a person after he dies. "A person will face a personal judgment by Jesus Christ who determines if he spends eternity with God or without God," replied Gorsich. "Jesus looks at your life and what you've done. We need to try to be holy and obey His commands. The Catholic Church believes all people can be saved. God's mercy reaches out to people who don't believe in Jesus Christ if they are trying to choose to do what is right or are sorry for the wrong they have done. The more you know, ultimately the more responsible you are."

— Drew E. Goodmanson

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



MARVIN THREATT, DOAN VAN LAI

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Oak Park
★★½

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Sermon | |
| content | ★★ |
| delivery | ★★★ |
| Liturgy | ★★★ |
| Music | |
| congregational..... | ★ |
| choir | ★★ |
| Snacks | no snacks |
| Architecture | ★★ |
| Friendliness | ★★★ |
| Poor to satisfactory..... | (none) |
| Good | ★ |
| Very good..... | ★★ |
| Excellent | ★★★ |
| Extraordinary | ★★★★ |

BestBuys

-EVE KELLY

The game is afoot. Every year, my husband Patrick and I try to outdo one another's Christmas gifts. Not for their perfection or beauty, but for their goofy fittingness. Last year, he won, giving me the sparkling ruby slippers I'd always wanted as a child, when watching *The Wizard of Oz* on TV was an annual celebration for me. He still won't tell me where he found them. This year, I'm thinking of getting him a real sword — if I loved *The Wizard of Oz*, he worshipped the swash-buckling in *Zorro* and *The Adventures of Robin Hood*. Something he could use to fend off the evil Guy of Gisbourne, should he ever attack La Mesa.

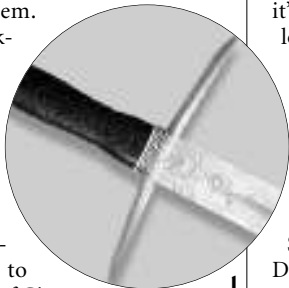
I checked in with Jim Ferguson, owner of Twisted Nickel in Temecula (951-719-1552; www.twistednickel.com). Ferguson makes high-end handmade swords for collectors, and he was willing to give me a rundown on his handiwork. "A sword is made up of a blade, then a ricasso, which is the area that attaches to the guard. The guard keeps your hand from sliding forward, and keeps your opponent's blade from hitting your knuckles. Scottish swords have a basket handle that covers the knuckles completely. There are also guards known as blade-breakers; if you could catch your opponent's blade in it and make a quick return, it might break the blade. Behind the guard is a spacer, to adapt the guard to the handle. The butt end of the handle is called the pommel."

Ferguson makes "a more traditional Celtic-Scots style of sword. Slimmer swords like this are made more for penetrating the body, as opposed to the broadswords, which are sharpened heavily. Broadswords are more cutting, chopping swords; they're used when there's a lot of armor involved."

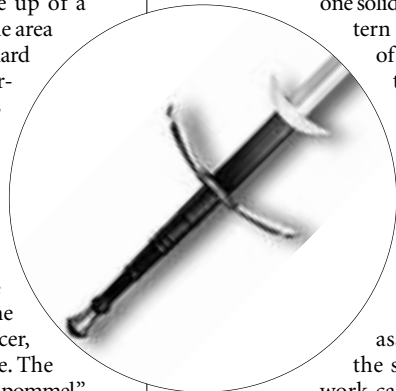
The sword starts with the steel. "What makes one sword better than another is the hardness of the steel. Your car fender is made out of 1018 steel; it would be too soft to make a good blade. I use 1095 steel — steel is an alloy of carbon and iron, and 1095 is nearly one percent carbon. Carbon is what allows you to harden the blade. Once you hit one to one and a half percent, the steel won't take any more carbon."

To harden his blade, Ferguson heats the steel to 1500 degrees "with molten salt. I have a special furnace with a tube down the center. In the tube are rock salt, potassium, and carbonate; at 1500 degrees, the salt is liquid and glowing. I use liquid salt because it transfers heat better than air, and because it eliminates oxygen, which causes scaling. I dip the sword into the salt until it gets up to temperature, about two minutes. Then I pull it out and dip it into cold brine — salt water. It's a very violent reaction when I quench the blade, because it's red-hot. The quenching lines up all the molecules in the steel, and makes them very hard — at times, too hard."

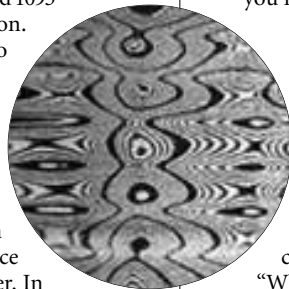
By this point, the blade is often at something like 60 Rockwell — a scale that measures hardness. "When it's that hard, it's brittle. If you hit something, the blade will snap.



1



2



3

"The quenching lines up all the molecules in the steel."

I'll wait about 20 minutes for martensite to form — the steel will get a mottled look to it. Then I'll heat the blade to 475 degrees in an oven, and that will draw some of the hardness out, tempering it and giving it some spring. I draw my swords back to 58 Rockwell. At 56, it'll take an edge, but it won't hold it very long. That's too soft."

Once the steel is tempered, Ferguson polishes it. "You can do it with emery paper, but I use a belt grinder, and then I buff it. And since I use Damascus steel and I want the pattern to show, I etch the blade with an acid. That brings out the differential between the nickel and the steel. See, regular steel is one solid block of metal; Damascus steel is a laminate. I start out with 400 pieces — alternating layers of high-carbon steel and nickel. All 400 layers make a piece only two and a quarter inches thick. The pieces are wire-tied and soaked in a liquid flux. I put it in the furnace, and when it comes out, I squish it down with a 75-ton hydraulic press. That makes it into

one solid block; it's called pattern welding. Each piece of metal keeps its identity — you can see each layer separate from the others — but they're all together in one block. The acid darkens the steel, but it doesn't attack the nickel."

Ferguson assembles the rest of the sword by hand; his work can be viewed on his website and ordered by phone. All that craftsmanship doesn't come cheap — his swords may cost between \$2400 and \$2600. I told him that was out of my ballpark, and he gave me advice for my continuing hunt. "For an average, decent sword, you have to spend \$150 and up. Look for the country of origin. Japanese, German, Spanish, and American swords are pretty good, and made to be functional. Some of the wall-hangers are not functional. If it looks good and you like it, fine, but if you want to join a re-enactment group, you may want something better."

Dan Tresko of Dante's Knife Works in Escondido (760-741-3731; www.dantesknifeworks.com) offers more than 40 swords on his website. Most are functional — that is, ready for actual swordplay. Prices range from \$112.50 to \$599, depending on style and maker. "Most of my swords are bought by collectors and re-enactors," said Tresko. "What sells depends on what movies are playing. When *The Last Samurai* was out, the Japanese swords were very popular. When *Braveheart* was playing, it was the two-hand longsword that sold."

The Edge in Horton Plaza (619-233-7030) has 20 swords in-store to choose from, and over 45 more in its catalogs. Prices range from \$69 to \$200 for nonfunctional swords and from \$250 to \$1800 for functional swords.

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1. Sword by Jim Ferguson
2. Two-handed broadsword
3. Damascus steel pattern

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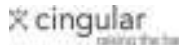


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Crasher

NO EXCESSIVE STUPIDITY

by Josh Board

I started my weekend off at a midday party. Jenn was having a garage-sale party. (I'd never heard of one either.) She had a garage sale and invited her friends over to drink beer and wine and eat snacks while she sold her stuff. If you needed a flute, wet suit, skis, or a book on how to please your woman, you missed out.

I arrived at Jenn's Linda Vista home at noon. Jenn and another lady had all their stuff set out on tables. I asked them how much they wanted for the "No Parking, Fire Lane" sign that was affixed to the garage.

I ended up buying CDs. They were only a buck apiece — most of their items were priced at a dollar — and I was able to pick up the Black Crowes and Liz Phair. And I couldn't pass up the red Gibson electric guitar for \$25. It was missing a string and had a small chip in the paint.

While people negotiated — "I'll give you a quarter for this Melissa Etheridge CD" — I went to watch football with Jenn's husband. He wasn't much of a football fan. He said, "I think football is a soap opera for men." Then, in a girly voice,



"Did you see what T.O. did today?"

There were CDs playing, and the volume of the football game was turned down. Jenn's husband had a Rob Halford CD, and I asked him if he knew Halford had a place in Hillcrest. "Yeah, I know. And we saw him, but not in Hillcrest. We were in Amsterdam, and he was walking through the airport.... I went up and shook his hand. He was really nice.

"You have to be over 18 to see the art."

Of all places to see him."

The garage sale didn't see much action. I think the Linda Vista location had something to do with the poor turnout. After sharing horror stories about my brief stint delivering mail with a woman who used to work for UPS, I headed



home. I had four hours until my next party.

* * *

"You gonna go get drunk?" the groundskeeper chuckled. After driving around campus a few

times I had stopped to ask him for directions to Porter's Pub. Pedro pointed me in the right direction.

Porter's Pub on UCSD campus was hosting "Pub Synergy," an event where students displayed their artwork while student DJs spun music.



I ran into local musician Al Howard and asked him, "Didn't you win a San Diego Music Award for best hip-hop artist?"

"Yeah, three years running. But I'm not really hip-hop." I laughed and said, "Kinda like when Jethro Tull won a Grammy for best heavy metal band."

Howard performed 45 minutes of spoken word for the Pub Synergy event.

I spoke with several students about their art. One guy displayed paintings with vibrant colors that reminded me of Keith Haring's work. I

asked him how he got them so shiny, and he told me that he used a wood finish over his completed painting. I asked him if he was a working artist. "No. I work at Sony," he said.

Another guy did a painting that had a big white shape between two faces. He told me, "I'm going to paint my face into that." I couldn't convince him to stand in front of it for a photo.

One student artist didn't seem to understand what I was saying when I tried discussing her work. She sounded as if she had had a few beers. When I asked her if I could take her photo next to one of her paintings, she asked me if I knew about copyright laws.

I asked Andrew Leighton, one of the organizers of Pub Synergy, if UCSD put restraints on the art, prohibited them from having any nudes. He said they didn't, and since they didn't have nude paintings, it wasn't an issue. As he walked away, I wondered if he thought I was a pervert for asking that. I couldn't think of other restrictions that UCSD might have, but there were at least 10 security guards at the event. I asked one of the guards why there was so much security. "We have to make



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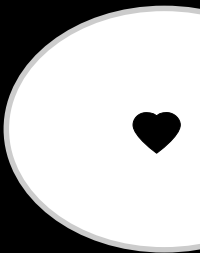
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sure nobody under 21 gets into the pub area. And you have to be over 18 to see the art." I was about to say, "But there aren't any nudes," and caught myself.

The pub has a stage where DJs Diurnal, Leif, and Sonix took turns spinning their stuff — a mix of trance and hip-hop, with an occasional older artist, like Al Green.

I went to the bar for a beer. Porter's Pub has 20 on tap. A sign in the bar reads, "No being an asshole or excessive stupidity."

I was told that they were going to raffle off several works of art, that this event was to raise money for ARTS — A Reason To Survive — a San Diego nonprofit that brings "healing, hope, and self-confidence to the lives of children facing adversities, by providing expressive opportunities through performance, visual, and literary arts."

Melissa was at Pub Synergy representing ARTS. "We're excited about this event. We found out at the last minute...that we were the organization they chose to receive the profit. And that's always good news for nonprofits."

Leighton and his fellow organizers told me that they're going to try to stage another Pub Synergy event in the next few months. ■

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by Barbaraella

Snow Days

Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting, and autumn a mosaic of them all.

— Stanley Horowitz

I woke up to the sound of rain drumming on the cedar shingles and inhaled deeply. My delighted exhalation alerted David to my conscious state.

“Hey,” he whispered. I slowly opened my eyes to meet his, noting from the crispness of his clear blue orbs that he’d been awake for a while. “It snowed last night.”

“Really?”

“It’s not much, but that’s the first snow of the season,” David said, directing my gaze to the small window across the room. I grabbed my glasses from the nightstand and looked out the window; through undulating streams of water I could see the roof, dusted with a lacy layer of what looked like powdered sugar. I marveled that the rain hadn’t washed it away before I had a chance to see this sprinkled white proof of how cold the night had been.

I glanced at the red numerals on the digital clock behind David’s head — was it already 9:30? The gray sky had tricked us into sleeping later than usual, and my instinct was to panic. One by one, I shushed my worries by reminding myself that we were not at home. *I should check my phone*, the panicked me thought. *Your phone doesn’t work here*, the calm me answered. Nothing was on the agenda; I hadn’t looked at my calendar in over three days. We had no one to see and nowhere to be. But what calmed me most of all was the vision through the window — the weather outside was “frightful,” which, to me, was delightful.

It was over 70 degrees the day we left San Diego for Boston, where we would spend time with friends before

taking a bus and then a ferry to Martha’s Vineyard, where we would once again join David’s parents in celebration of Thanksgiving. I was aware of how much I would miss the turkey rituals of home, but at the same time, I looked forward to getting out of town for some long-overdue rest. Holing away on an island in late autumn has a magical way of stopping the clock.

In silent acknowledgement of my position as more than her son’s “friend,” Ency had prepared our room by pushing together its two twin beds. Reaching over the small gap between these beds now to rub my arm, David asked, “What do you want to do today?”

“Play Scrabble. Read. Drink hot cocoa. You know, a whole lot of ‘nothing productive,’” I answered. I waited for it, I expected it, but the guilt did not come. While the trees outside bent to the howling wind and rain, doing “nothing productive” inside as a houseguest was not only acceptable, it was mandatory.

I love stormy weather — thunderstorms, snowstorms, rainstorms, you name it. Bad weather simultaneously fills me with nostalgia, excitement, and relaxation. When I was six years old and living in Alaska, snow days were as frequent and welcome as Saturday morning cartoons. For those of you who have never ventured farther north than Los Angeles, a “snow day” is when the weather is so bad that school is cancelled and most adults are not expected to show up for work. A snow day is a gift — you are given a day to do whatever you would do if there was nothing you *had* to do.

In Rhode Island, storms were not as common, which only served to make them even more special. It was in Rhode Island that I conditioned myself to associate the sound of rain with the taste of tea and bread, but not just any kind of bread — sliced white bread, toasted until it is brown and crispy on the outside and then covered with butter, granulated sugar, and generous shakes of cinnamon. The tea was always Lipton’s black, Dad’s favorite, with at least two teaspoonfuls of sugar to make it palatable enough for an eight-year-old.

A power outage was a spooky yet rewarding phenomenon during which we would huddle together in the flickering light only candles can create and marvel at the silence of a disabled television. If the thunder was particularly loud, Penny, the canine member of our family, was allowed inside to shiver and moan her concern while my sisters and I charted the distance of the approaching storm by counting the seconds between the bright streaks in the sky and the claps of sound that followed.

If there was a slight nip in the air, we could assume there would be packets of Swiss Miss cocoa with marshmallows to warm us. The aroma of cinnamon sticks boiling in apple cider — a rare treat Mom saved for the coldest of days. This tang wafted from the kitchen at the first sign of snow, filling the house with the smell of comfort. When the weather was bad, the family gathered in one room; the fire was lit, the board games came out, and the world seemed to stop turning as a personal favor from

Nothing was on the agenda; I hadn’t looked at my calendar in over three days. We had no one to see and nowhere to be.

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Mother Nature to my family alone.

David and I dressed — he in a fuzzy fleece and me in a cozy, orange sweater — and made our way downstairs.

“It’s funny, you know,” I said, preparing a paste from the Droste cocoa powder I found in Ency’s kitchen cupboard. After I had added hot water to my creation of chocolatey goodness, I continued my line of thought for David, who was laying the Scrabble board on the table beneath a ceiling that was half-filled with skylights. As I spoke, I gazed in wonder at the rivulets of water running down the inclined windows. “We never do this at home, and I think it’s because the weather is always so nice. People aren’t out and about when it’s raining like this — they’re not running errands and attending events, they’re doing *this*.”

“What’s ‘this?’” asked David.

“*This* is weather-forced relaxation,” I said. “Something that doesn’t happen in San Diego. *This* is a good book, good company, warm drinks, the smell of wood smoke, the relief of having nowhere to be and nothing to do but sit here, play this game with you, and drink this cup of steaming cocoa in my hand.”

“San Diego doesn’t *have* weather,” David said, not for the first time.

“I know, but wouldn’t it be nice...I mean, why should we wait to relax until we have no other options? When we return home, after we catch up of course, I want to do *this*.”

“It won’t happen,” sighed David. “There’s always work to be done, you always manage to pack the calendar tight.”

“Well, I’m sick of waiting until I can’t take any more and am forced, in a desperate attempt to maintain my sanity, to high-tail it out of town for some R and R. I think...no, I *know* that we should schedule some ‘snow days.’”

“And how do you plan to do that?” David picked his letter tiles and handed me the bag.

“We’ll turn off our

phone, we won’t answer the door, and we’ll turn the air conditioner on so it gets really, really cold. We can put sheets on the windows to filter the light so it looks like the sky is gray instead of sunny and blue. Then we’ll make some cocoa, light some can-

dles, and snuggle all day to keep each other warm. If we’re feeling creative, I’ll break out the construction paper, Elmer’s glue, and Crayola crayons and we can make pictures for our friends!” David thought I was kidding; I could tell by the

way he was smiling at me. “You think I’m kidding, don’t you,” I said, the excitement draining from my tone. “No, I don’t think you’re kidding. I think you’re crazy. But that’s why I love you.” “So we can have snow days?”

“We’ll see.” “I won’t accept that. ‘We’ll see’ is always a ‘no.’ I’ll just pretend you said ‘yes,’ and plan accordingly. I drew an ‘F,’ you get to go first.” David turned his attention to his letters and I held my warm mug with both hands

and breathed in the rich aroma of chocolate. I closed my eyes and listened to the rhythm of the rain, and, with an anticipatory smile, I tried to remember in which drawers and cabinets at home I had stashed away my art supplies. ■



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*My hero was gone...a man I admired; a man who together with his three
made me laugh out loud, made me pick up the guitar; a man murdered by*

The Dream Is Over

John Lennon 1940 – 1980

Along with many vidiots my age, television was the teat that nurtured us all, and I was less weaned than most. I recall “discovering” the Beatles on a Smothers Brothers show from October 1968 (which I recently re-watched, spotting a then-unknown Steve Martin). I immediately bought any and every magazine that featured their likenesses — no small stack of reading material — and immersed myself for the first time in abject fandom (well, aside from my short-lived obsession with the Banana Splits).

At first, I was a Ringo fan — I think I related to the fact that he’d been small and sickly as a child — and for Christmas 1970 my folks got me a drum kit. Just a little three-piece with a saucer-sized cymbal, a foot-shaped drum pedal, and a photo of three very Brady kids fronting the bass drum. (Temporary madness on my parents’ part.) There are photos of me “playing” these ’70s skins that day, as well as pics of me dressed in an army suit with a net-covered combat helmet, destined to wind up on *A Current Affair* or *Court TV* after I become famous or notorious for Lord knows what.

By Christmas ’71, I was into rock, and I was into the counterculture. I may not have actually smoked pot or had sex or flipped off a pig yet, but I’d been reading about all that stuff in subversive magazines like *Mad*, *National Lampoon*, *Playboy*, among others that probably shouldn’t have been so easy for me to get my 11-year-old hands on. The Beatles provided the sound track to that Christmas, with my gifts comprising a collection of Fab Four albums and 45s I didn’t already own. The band had split up, and that was all we talked about among my many Beatleholics friends (this was the first time my family had lived in one place long enough for me to accumulate something as exotic as friends!).

I remember tears in my eyes listening to “The End” on *Abbey Road*, knowing it was probably the last new Beatles song I’d ever hear. I felt swept up in emotions when I first heard John and Yoko sing “Merry Xmas, War Is Over (If You Want It).” The next holiday, when I received Lennon-style eyeglasses under the tree, I wore

mates inspired me,
a bastard with a gun.

them with the faux army gear (snug, but still a fit), so I'd look just like John's character in *How I Won the War* (which I knew of but didn't see until the early-'80s advent of home video).

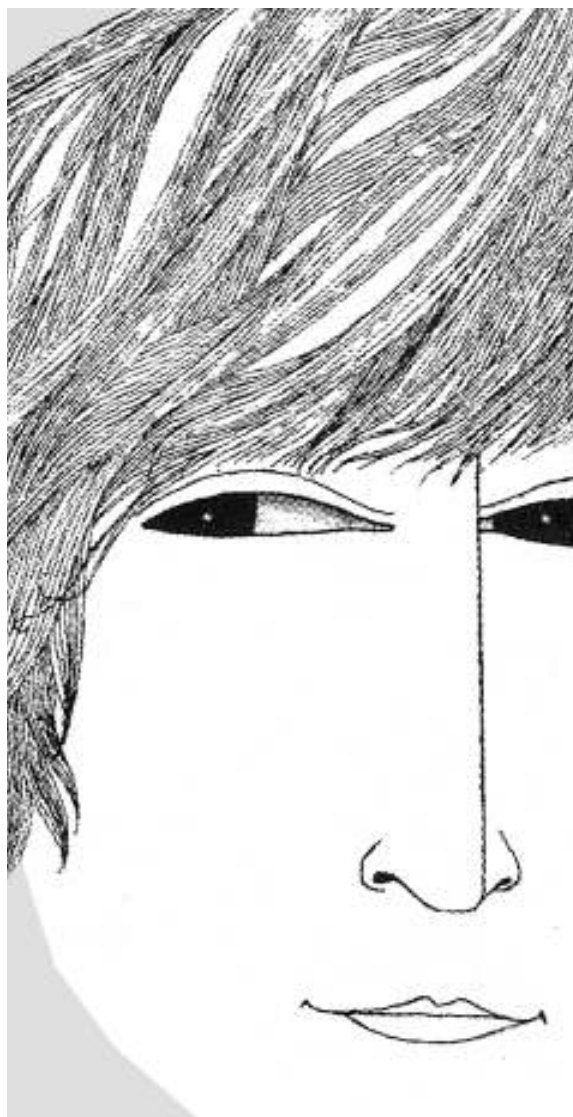
At 20, I was off on my own, 3000 miles away in San Diego, when the holidays rolled around. In early December 1980, I went to a showing of *Fantasia*, which I (an aspiring animator) had never seen. Sitting there in the big old Cinerama widescreen in Mission Valley, I was awed by the incredible achievement of the animators and blown away by the symphonic sound. It was as if I was seeing magic unfold right before my eyes, a handmade creation birthed in the minds of the artists, musicians, and magicians and brought directly to life through the animators' fingers and onto the movie screen. It almost seemed a Christmas miracle to my jaded sensibilities, to be so enthralled, to catch a passing wisp of magic. I wanted to go on holding it, if for just a short while. I sat through two showings.

After daylight broke over Bald Mountain, with my imagination still reeling and my mind fucked, I walked out of the theater, and the magic fell away.

Everyone in the parking lot had their radios turned up and were walking around as if dazed, talking and crying. The DJ was saying that John Lennon had been shot and killed. Nothing I found under the tree that Christmas could cheer me up.

Every year since, I dream of John Lennon on Christmas Eve. Sometimes we jam, once in a while he performs just for me or for a handful of people (a few times reunited with you know who). On occasion I interview him — Everything I Ever Wanted to Know About Lennon but He Was Too Dead to Ask — and once we hung out together at a Pink Floyd concert (John thought Dave Gilmour looked "like a fookin' well-fed wanker!").

No doubt, this Christmas Eve I'll dream about that most influential of dreamers again. Every time this happens, I find myself rediscovering the humani-



From the Beatles' *Revolver*

ty, insight, and morality/mortality that he represents to me. Part of the reason I sleep late on Christmas morning is that I'm reluctant to say goodbye to him; I don't WANT the dream to be over, and I'm desperate to keep my hands wrapped around that wisp of magic, for — just — a — few — moments — longer.

— Jay Allen Sanford,
cartoonist ("Overheard in San Diego," *Rock 'N' Roll Comics*)

* * *

I remember my next-door neighbor Bernard crying one day. I kept asking him what was wrong, and he finally told me, through sobs, "Elvis died." His mom had a shrine to Elvis in her living room, and they took it hard.

When I was 11, John Lennon was shot. I thought of Bernard, whom I hadn't seen in years.

What I remember about that day is Howard Cosell, who at that time was just as famous in my eyes. I would hear people talk about the Beatles as "mop tops," but it was Cosell's toupee that my dad made fun of.

I remember Cosell, during that *Monday Night Football* game, saying something like, "This has just been handed to me..." You knew he wasn't going to tell you about the quarterback, it was his "this just in" newscaster voice.

My parents were shocked, and when you are a child, that is powerful. The next day at school, we were all talking about it on the playground. It was

strange to discuss in class; the teacher didn't seem angry and wanted to talk about the shooting with us. I remember, in line at the cafeteria, the school bully came up to me and said, "Do you know what it will take to reunite the Beatles?" I shook my head and he said, "Three more bullets."

President Reagan was shot soon after. He lived, which made me question why that was news (a kid's logic is sometimes odd).

Five months after Lennon was shot, Pope John Paul II was shot in the arm and abdomen. I thought two things: when the newscaster said "Pope John Paul..." I thought it didn't sound complete without "George and Ringo" after it. I also wondered how often people got shot. My parents tried to calm me down, saying it didn't happen often. Then on October 6, my birthday in 1981, Anwar Sadat, the President of Egypt, was assassinated on live TV.

It wasn't until I was an adult that I realized how tragic Lennon's death was. The Beatles had become one of my favorite groups. I would read the lyrics and think about other musicians who died young. Usually it was from drug overdoses or a plane crash. They didn't get shot. And the ones who did, there were reasons behind it. Sam Cooke was in a hotel with a prostitute who tried to rip him off. Marvin Gaye was shot by his dad, angry about his son's drug addiction. And in the rap world, well, you get shot for wearing the wrong color or for being West Coast instead of East.

Lennon was shot by a guy who was insane. A guy who had him autograph a *Double Fantasy* album earlier that same day (it went on to sell for \$500,000, touted as "one of the last autographs Lennon signed"). A guy who tried to kill himself in Hawaii but was saved by a man who now wishes he hadn't.

A story I once read about the history of *Monday Night Football* said that John Lennon and Ronald Reagan were once visiting the booth at the same time. Cosell turned around to see the Gipper explain-

ing the game to Lennon. To think they would both be shot within 90 days of each other. And that most of the United States heard the news about Lennon during the football game...

It wasn't until about five years ago that football stopped causing me sad memories. Now it's about my fantasy football team, the Chargers continuing to frustrate me, and my hatred of the Raiders.

However, football is relegated to Sunday and Monday. Not a day goes by that I don't listen to some Beatles tunes.

— Josh Board,
staff writer,
professional party crasher

* * *

I can remember where I was that night. It was



Dakota building, where John and Yoko lived

almost like the day I heard President Kennedy had been shot, although this memory is much more vivid. Kennedy happened when I was just 12. This was like hearing a family member had been killed. I had just gotten off the George Washington Bridge and was on the West Side Highway in NYC, head-

ing downtown in my 1976 Triumph TR6 convertible when the radio DJ interrupted the music. "John Lennon has been shot," he said. I remember how the air smelled, the sounds of the city outside my car window, the feeling of lightheadedness as I tried to comprehend what I'd just heard. I was alone. I

started to cry. I don't think I could have kept from crying even if there had been people in the car with me.

Like a film flashback, I was seeing memories of the Beatles and how they took me through my youth in a stream of consciousness that began when I was 12 or 13 years old. How I'd seen them

on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, my sister screaming her head off while I was completely hypnotized by the whole spectacle. How they influenced me in the deepest manner possible, from my thinking to my love for music and the guitar.

As I approached my exit on the West Side Highway, more news came over the radio. "John Lennon is dead," the announcer said in a trembling voice. How could this all happen so quickly, and why? When the details started to become clear, I realized I was only a few blocks from the scene when it happened. The shooting occurred around 8 p.m. At that time I was on the West Side Highway, somewhere around 80th Street West. The Dakota

is right there. In earlier times, I used to argue with my dad about how the Beatles were sure to change the world. On this dreadful night, it became painfully clear that the world would certainly never be the same again.

Everything had changed.
Everything.
— Charlie Dominici, *La Mesa entrepreneur, founding lead singer of Dream Theater*

* * *

In December 1980, I had a job in a warehouse in National City, packing and shipping velvet paintings from Mexico. I had also begun earlier that year putting on punk rock shows at the Skeleton Club in downtown San Diego. Even

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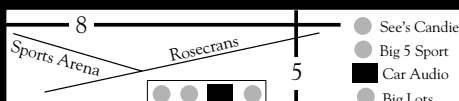
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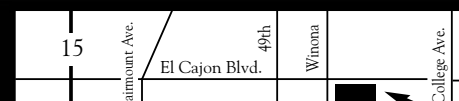
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though I was really getting into all the punk rock and new wave bands of the day — bands such as Dead Kennedys, X, Gang of Four, etc. — I had grown up listening to all the great rock bands and was still a big fan of the Beatles, Stones, Zeppelin, Bowie, etc.

I remember being at work on Monday; it was a busy time of year, and I was working late as we were trying to get everything shipped out for the holidays. I was listening to KGB, which at the time used to play a great variety of music, everything from the Ramones and Sex Pistols to Rolling Stones and Beatles. The DJ broke from the music and announced that John Lennon had been shot and killed. I turned the radio up to hear what he was saying. I was unable to finish my work that



New York City's Strawberry Fields section of Central Park

night. I went and told the owners, a nice older couple from NYC, what had happened. One of them began to cry. We all sat there for a couple minutes, and then I said I had to go home.

— *Tim Mays, longtime area concert promoter, owner of the Casbah*

* * *

The day John Lennon died, my 9-year-old son A.J. and I were in New York City. We were in town dealing with the never-ending litigation related to my late husband, Jim Croce. Jim had died in a plane crash in 1973, but the litigation

lived on. We had returned to our hotel after another long day of mean-spirited depositions. Our room overlooked Central Park, and A.J. was looking out the window when he noticed people acting strangely down below. From our window we could see

people crying and embracing, while others had dropped to their knees weeping.

We thought that the President had been shot, and immediately I thought of John Kennedy. We turned on the TV and learned the terrible news. Both A.J. and I were fans of the Beatles, and I was fortunate to have met John Lennon in Los Angeles in the late '70s. It seemed like such a personal loss, and I was flooded with the memories of when Jim had died. We spent a very sad night watching the news and thought about going over to the Dakota, but it all seemed too overwhelming. Every December, I am reminded of that sad night and how much the world needs John Lennon today.

— *Ingrid Croce, owner, Croce's Top Hat Bar & Grill*

* * *

The loss of Lennon was one that had me caught between two eras. I was in fourth grade when he was shot, attending an inner-city school. If we had been told that Marvin Gaye had been shot (a news flash still a few years in the offing), I think we all would have been struck more dramatically. As it was, there was much more shrugging than wailing. At the same time, my parents were too old to have been Beatles fans, so I'm not sure the subject even came up at home. But one of my classmates was pretty worked up about it, and this got me interested.

I decided that it was some kind of double-digit-aged rite of passage, to be a Beatles fan, so I began getting books and magazines on the Beatles...without actually

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listening to any of the music. There were no Beatle records at my home, and while my uncle owned many, all *he* wanted to talk about was the Lovin' Spoonful. I knew snatches of songs, but that was it. Because I only had books and magazines to rely on, I ended up having less interest in the Beatles than in '60s marketing and media.

A year or so later (an eternity in kid-time), I ended up getting rewarded by my begrudging father with a copy of *Rubber Soul*, which interested me because of the cover. As much as I tried to like the Beatles, something about my genetic disposition made it a lost cause. My heart had been won by the Ink Spots; their records were in abundance in my mother's home. Luckily, she hung out with middle-aged lawyers, and while I continually found myself out of step on playgrounds and at

dances, I held court at piano bars from age 11 onward.

But Ringo? Now, as a huge fan of *Caveman*, *that* loss would have shattered me.

— *Patrick McCray,*
theater director,
Objectivist author of Elvis
Shrugged

* * *

"The dope-smoking commie fag is dead" was the secondhand newscast that announced Lennon's death to me. The words came from my stepfather when I asked why people were crying on the news.

I was 13 years old and knew of Lennon mostly as the Beatle who wasn't in Wings.

My stepfather's description was a treasure map to some undiscovered cool, as cool was defined as anything he hated.

He had analyzed my idols as "fags" (Kiss and Queen, one out of eight

members), "Commies" (that included Richard Pryor and George C. Scott — I guess he couldn't come up with a better category), and "dope smokers" (Cheech and Chong, in a rare moment of accuracy). To have someone be called all three was a hat trick I couldn't resist.

I never felt I missed out on anything by realizing his contributions so late. Paying closer attention to his Beatles material in contrast to Paul's made him my favorite Beatle after a few spins of *Revolver*.

There was a bounce in my step as I walked past my stepfather with *Double Fantasy* in plain view, daring him to say anything.

The lightness of youth was forever replaced with sadness at the unfairness of the universe when I listened to it. I realized in horror that, though Lennon had been silenced, Yoko's

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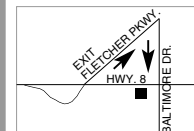
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I was 15 years old the day Elvis Presley died. It was August 16, 1977. We were on summer vacation in Virginia Beach. Dad was driving, Mom rode shotgun, and I was in the back seat with my younger siblings. Somebody on the radio announced that Elvis had died, and my mother started crying. I remember thinking how weird that was. How strange that someone could actually mourn the death of a person they didn't even know. I kept asking her what the big deal was, and she kept waving me off from behind her tears. I figured it was probably some silly female thing.

At 15, one doesn't realize the degree to which the right music can affect a person. At 15, one cannot hear a song that brings him back to when he was 17. At 15, I was still listening to the Monkees and the Partridge Family and a good four or five months away from being turned on to the Beatles, my first true obsession.

It was probably "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" or "Please, Please Me" that got me started on the mop tops. Then I went and bought the red album, the blue album, every album I could get my hands on. For each birthday, I requested Beatles albums. Every Christmas I demanded, "More Beatles." After I exhausted the entire Beatles library, I dove into the solo stuff.

Paul and Ringo and George's music were fine, but Lennon was different. Lennon infected me. His lyrics, his composition, his delivery, his politics — it all just made you feel like you knew

him personally, that he was a great friend who was too busy saving the world to return your phone calls.

It was fitting that I learned about John Lennon's death the same way Mom heard about

Elvis — on the radio, in the car. I was riding shotgun with my metalhead friend Paul driving. Paul didn't give a flying V about John Lennon or the Beatles. He couldn't understand why I was getting all sloppy and

moist about it. (It would be years before his metal heroes would start dying off.) I thought of my mother then, thought about what she was really crying over when Elvis died, thought about what a twerp I was to her,

thought, "Man, 15-year-old sons can be such jackasses to their moms." I hope when she reads this she realizes how sorry I am for that.

Anyway, we held a wake in his honor that weekend. It was me and

some friends drinking beer and smoking pot, listening to Lennon records and pointing out his brilliance, and I can honestly say it wasn't just an excuse to get drunk. We were eight or so friends commiserating

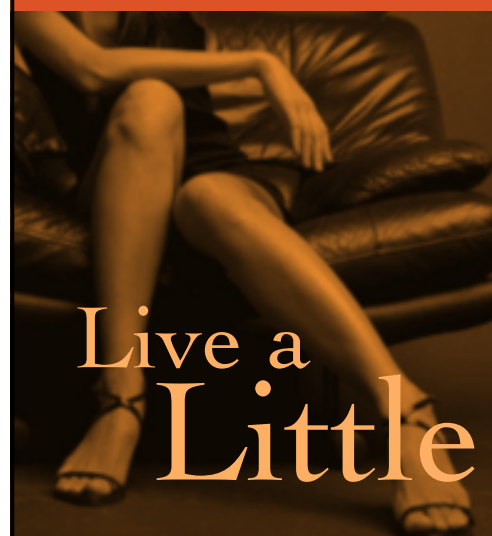


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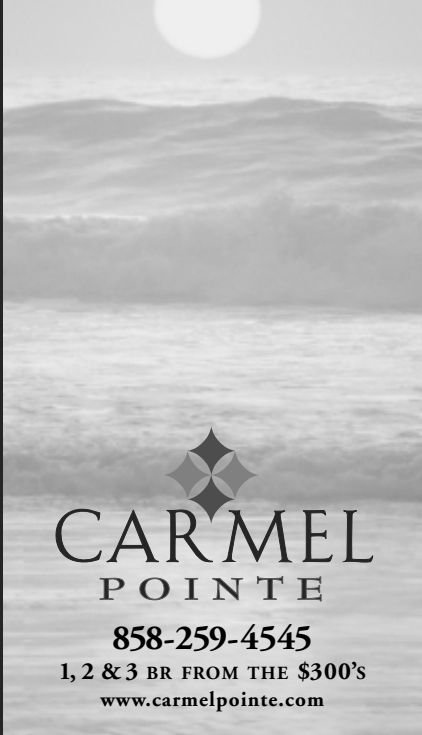
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bartender in heat

* * *

I was at Morin Heights, a recording studio an hour north of Montreal, working on the song "Witch Hunt" for the *Moving Pictures* album the night he was shot. It was a very heavy moment, I recall. I think we were all just stunned. I remember constantly going back and forth, from working to the TV, to try to get some news. If I remember the environment, looking around the room, my memory just shows me a lot of pale faces staring at the tube.

— Geddy Lee, Rush
bassist and singer,
on www.salon.com

* * *

I was 18, a few months out of high school. It's odd that this was before CDs, iPods, cell phones, commercial space travel, and \$3 gallons of gas. Sometimes 18 still feels like just the other day.

Growing up, I was a music fan and, therefore, a Beatles fan. Paul was my fave, but John, George, and Ringo were right behind. A local TV showing of *A Hard Day's Night* I caught as a ten-year-old in 1972 (thanks, Bob Dale!) inspired me to form a band. How could anyone watch the closing segment and not want to be a musician?

The night Lennon was killed I was in the dining room at my parents' house when I overheard the news. For me, it's a moment frozen in time, as clearly recalled as this morning. I wasn't paying attention to the TV in the background, but I caught his name among the football hoopla. The report seemed surreal, impossible. The phone started

ringing from friends wondering if I'd heard. I was such a big fan of Lennon's music that even friends' parents called.

That night, I just sort of lay in bed and thought about the murder and what a waste it was. Like

everybody else, I listened to his songs. It was very depressing. I pulled out a guitar and absently played every half-remembered Lennon-related guitar lick I could recall. Every so often something happens

when you think to yourself, "The world just changed."

I was working at the Licorice Pizza record store in Chula Vista, and it had been a big deal when John released *Double Fantasy* just a few

weeks earlier. The Ono-less tracks, particularly "I'm Losing You," were getting a lot of in-store turntable play among the XTC and Wire platters. A label contact had let us know that a Lennon tour was being considered, so

my friend Paul F. and I had engaged in an ongoing debate over how the tour might compare to the "Wings Over America" show a few years prior.

The next morning, I headed to work a bit

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early, just antsy to get out of the house. I was surprised to find a long line of people waiting at the door to buy anything with the voice, face, or guitar of John Lennon. People were in shock; a few were in tears. We opened up early and within the hour had sold every last Lennon-related item: albums, singles, tapes, buttons, posters, the works. This was back in the day when record stores were everywhere, and each store would stock two or more bins of Beatles LPs and an equal amount of their solo works. The chain sent a truck around to replenish all the stores, but we were sold out again instantly. Commerce in death, but people truly wanted it, even the horrible experi-

mental stuff like *Two Virgins*. Somebody joked that this was probably its only chance to go gold.

As a teenager, this was the first time I'd dealt with mortality. Always iconic, Lennon seemed like one of the "forever people" (as comic book kingpin Jack Kirby might say) — always been around and always will be, part of the fabric of society. And if he can go, just like that, what does that mean for the rest of us?

— *Bart Mendoza, guitarist/singer of the Shambles, San Diego Union-Tribune columnist*

* * *

It was just like another normal December morning in Durham, northeast England, cloudy and a

little cold. I heard my dad go off to work and before long would hear my mother shout up the stairs, "Are you getting up?" But today she didn't do that, today it was "John Lennon has been shot."

I can't believe it, this cannot be right, John is there on the bedroom wall, and he looks fine, no, she must be wrong. I went downstairs; my mother said all she knew was that he'd been shot, nothing else. I tuned the radio to the BBC News and heard the newsman report that John had been shot and had died at the hospital. Didn't hear what else they'd said.

A sick feeling consumed me. I didn't know how to handle this. Of course we'd had deaths in

the family, but this was different, it felt as if my youth had been torn away. My hero was gone, a man whom I felt I had known personally since 1963, a man I admired, a man who together with his three mates inspired me, made me laugh out loud, made me pick up the guitar, a man murdered by a bastard with a gun.

I recall the BBC showed *Help!* that night. I didn't watch, didn't see any of the news reports, couldn't; I don't know now how I got through the days or nights. I tried to avoid friends, couldn't discuss it — just felt raw. It was months before I could listen to John's voice without filling up and breaking down. John, who gave so much to the world, murdered

for what?

Over the past few years, I've been able to visit the scene of his murder as well as Strawberry Fields in Central Park, New York. I still miss him, miss his humor, miss his music, miss what he might have to say about the world today — we can only imagine.

Lennon fans know that during his life, John had a thing about the number 9 ("One After 909," "Revolution 9," "#9 Dream," etc.). Though he died on December 8 in New York, keep in mind that because of the time difference, in England, where John Lennon was born, it was December 9.

— *Dave Humphries, singer/songwriter, former Brit, current San Diegan*

* * *

I was a freshman in high school, and I may have been in love with Laura or Carla or maybe it was Melissa; I couldn't keep track of my infatuations. I hadn't started growing my hair long, or playing guitar, or listening to Jimi Hendrix or Led Zeppelin, but I did like the Beatles, and I knew who John Lennon was.

It was bone-chilling cold at school, and the news about Lennon's murder spread as if it was JFK all over again — at least among my teachers, who all grew up on Beatles music as my parents had. "This is horrible," my math teacher, a guy with long hair in a ponytail, said. "This can't be possible." He asked for a moment of silence in the class.



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We 14-year-old kids all looked at each other.

On TV, on the radio, all I heard was the song "Imagine." It became an anthem of the moment. Whenever I hear it today, I remember December 1980.

People still write about the man. In 2000, Robert Rosen published a book with Soft Skull Press called *Nowhere Man: The Final Days of John Lennon*. Rosen had acquired Lennon's handwritten journals from a disgruntled ex-employee of Yoko Ono's. Ono filed a lawsuit and got the journals

back, threatening legal action if they were ever published. Undaunted, Rosen wrote *Nowhere Man* based on his memories of the journals, calling his book "both investigative journalism and imagination" — fiction, immune from litigation. The publisher sold foreign rights that they didn't own. There was a lawsuit over royalties, and the book was pulled and then re-released by Last Gasp in 2002.

Even in death, Lennon causes controversy.
— Michael Hemmingson, theater director, writer

From the time I was five years old I was spinning Elvis 45s on my all-in-one phonograph. It was the '50s, and my parents encouraged me to listen to the rockabilly kid out of Memphis with the rebel attitude and the voice of a black man. I don't know if I agree with what John Lennon said — "There was nothing before Elvis" — but I do know there was something after him. When I saw three cool-looking, smiling, mop-headed guys slinging guitars and a fourth one bopping and banging on the drums, all playing and

singing together, I was witnessing a whole new kind of camaraderie that my friends and I could emulate. Who cared if none of us had ever held a guitar or beat a drum in our lives? We could pretend and, in our minds, we were the Beatles. I thought, this is the kind of fun I want to be involved in forever, I never want it to stop. And that's exactly what happened.

In December 1980, I was in my first marriage, a young father of my first child. I was preparing bottles or changing a diaper as the news about Lennon came on the TV.

I didn't know how to feel about it. I guess I was in shock, but I couldn't fix an emotion to the event. It made me feel bad that I didn't feel worse about it. Everyone was talking about how awful it was and how it was affecting their lives, but I had my own life and family to think about, and all was not well in my world. I was a struggling musician, with a wife and a baby who I was not emotionally or financially prepared to take care of.

Up until John Lennon's death, I'd held on to the hope of a Beatles reunion. They were a large part of my

musical palette in terms of what I listened to and how I wrote songs. Outside of *Imagine*, *Walls and Bridges*, and *Rock 'n' Roll*, John's solo work with Yoko didn't excite me that much. It had been five years since his last release, and it wasn't as if I was anticipating the new Lennon album. Still, with *Double Fantasy*, I could understand where John was coming from, and I felt a connection to him that was more than musical. He was a family man making music, and those two things, in my mind, didn't easily go together. Yet, here he was doing it, and I drew

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strength and inspiration from it in my own situation.

“(Just Like) Starting Over” was a catchy pop song, kind of retro with the Elvis vocal echo and a percussive, pumping piano. But it was the hopeful sentiments of the lyrics that spoke to me. I’d been hearing the song on the radio, but I didn’t have the album until Christmas when it came as a gift from my mom to my wife and me. She hoped it would provide some marital therapy (John and Yoko kissing on the front cover) for our disintegrating relationship.

That’s when it hit me — the combination of holiday stress, trying to hold my family together, and John’s death were just too much. Here was one of my heroes, a Beatle, who had gone astray, conquered his demons, and come back to his family and his music, a true rock ’n’ role model for rock ’n’ family guys like me, needlessly torn from his own domestic bliss and from all of us. He had achieved an impossible dream, for too short a time. That dream was now just a memory.


— Mark DeCerbo,
singer/guitarist of
Four Eyes

* * *

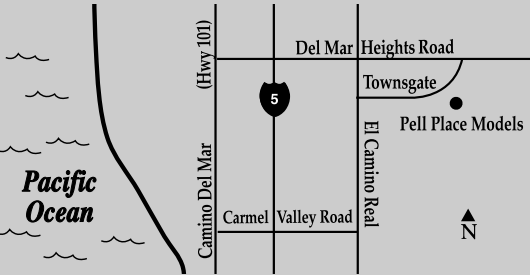
[I was] working in a club in Athens, Georgia. I was behind the counter and someone came in crying. He said, “John Lennon’s just been assassinated.” I went home. My next-door neighbor had cable TV, so we kept watching it, [waiting] for somebody to say, “This didn’t really happen. He’s not dead.” I have relatives who died who didn’t mean as much to me as [Lennon] did. It was...jolting. You wanted Lennon to hang around, to see what he was going to do ten years down the line. For me it was one of those things where it was, like, “Well, I’m not a kid

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anymore.” That was the first big death that really hit me.

— Peter Buck,
REM guitarist,
on www.murmers.com

* * *

Because of my age I was a backwards Beatles fan,

discovering them via John’s solo career. My first album was 1974’s *Walls and Bridges*. I would listen to that album over and over. From there I picked up more of John’s work and then discovered the Beatles, while everyone

else my age was listening to Cheap Trick and ABBA.

I was at home the night it happened. A friend called me. “Steve, did you see the news? John Lennon was shot!” At first I thought he was joking, and I told him it wasn’t funny. Soon, I realized the awful truth.

That week I shut down. Didn’t go to work; didn’t talk to anyone. I sat at home with the curtains drawn, listening to his albums and checking

the news. I cried in the dark and screamed at Mark David Chapman. At 17, this was the first time I had ever faced the death of someone I cared about. It felt like I knew John, through his music. More than any other rocker before or since, John poured his deepest fears and pains into his work, and I think that’s one of the main reasons that his death touched so many of us. We all felt as if we knew John Lennon.

— SS Crompton,
comic book
artist/publisher,
creator of Demi the
Demoness

* * *

I was born an insomniac. Tests later revealed that when I did fall asleep, I would descend into the deepest sleep there is, one that takes normal folks three to six hours to reach — the filet mignon of bedtime. I sleep two to four hours each evening.

On the evening of

December 8, I was living in London, and I had just returned from George Harrison’s home where I was helping him record *Somewhere in England*. I had a nap on the two-hour drive home in fellow musician Ray Cooper’s Rolls-Royce, so I was up for the night. The TV went blank at midnight, and I would switch the radio on so I had company in the wee hours.

The news came to London about 2:30 a.m. — John Lennon had been shot.

I was aghast. News followed that he was dead. Stunned, I thought about calling George, as I’m sure I was one of a handful of Brits who had this info. I couldn’t be the one to tell him, I reasoned, and he’s going to need that sleep he’s getting now, knowing the British media.

At 9 a.m., I called Ray Cooper, who was co-producer of George’s

album, and after a lengthy chat we decided to go ahead with the session...it might keep George from dwelling in sadness. Armed with a few bottles of wine, we arrived at George’s about noon. Reporters greeted us at the main gate, standing in the rain. We sidestepped their inquiries, locked the gate, and drove up to the house.

George was white. He hugged us both and we began the day’s work. We stopped three times during the next ten hours — phone calls from Ringo, Paul, and Yoko. He began rewriting lyrics to a track we had just cut the day before. In ensuing days, Paul McCartney put backing vocals on, joining George and Ringo on that track, as well as myself, the insomniac Wurlitzer pianist from New York who was one of the first to purchase “She Loves You” 16 years before.

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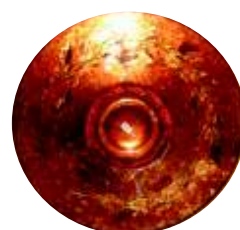


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That track — “All Those Years Ago” — soon evolved into a musical tribute to John and became a #1 single in the U.S. some months later. By 10 p.m., George was exhausted and a bit inebriated. He thanked us for coming and headed for the arms of Morpheus. Ray and I headed back to London, glad we had done what we could for George that day.

I shall never forget that 24 hours as long as I live.

— Al Kooper,
keyboardist on Bob Dylan’s “Like a Rolling Stone,” the Rolling Stones’ “You Can’t Always Get What You Want,” etc.

* * *

I had been living in America for four weeks. At 18, I flew to San Diego from England with a suitcase, a bass guitar, and about \$250 to join the Crawdaddys, a retro ’60s band. We lived and breathed 1964-’65 vintage clothes, vintage guitars, vintage amps, vintage songs. Musically, we were more fixated on the Stones and Them, but the early Beatles were a

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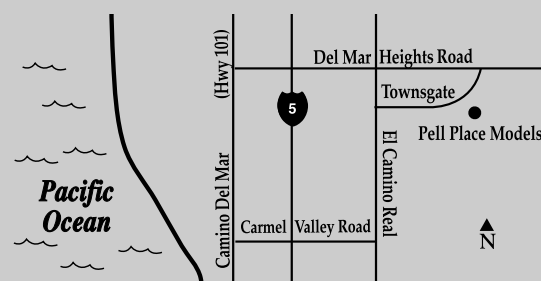
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big part of the daily soundtrack of our lives. John Lennon in *A Hard Day's Night* was the epitome of cool to us: his quick wit, that hard-faced sarcasm in the face of authority.

At the time I was liv-

ing with Ron Silva, the Crowdaddys' leader, and his girlfriend Mindy in a small apartment on Fifth Avenue, close to downtown. Ron and I arrived home early that evening after another day of walking around the city.

We'd walked as far as 30th and Meade, where Ron had dropped a jacket off at a tailor he used there. Later, we figured out that's where we must have been when Lennon had been shot. I can't drive by that block now

without thinking of Lennon. When we got home, Mindy blurted out between sobs that John Lennon had been shot. We were stunned, speechless. She and Ron disappeared into the bedroom and I was left alone, reeling in disbelief. It wasn't until a few minutes later when Ron reemerged that I learned that Lennon had not

only been shot, he was dead. Mindy was inconsolable, fixated on a line Lennon sung years before: "The way things are going, they're gonna crucify me."

Later that night and over the next few days, we, like the rest of the world, watched as the story unfurled on television. None of it made sense: the killer, the

motive, the media canonization. I was gutted but felt completely detached from the public displays of grief, the constant soundtrack of "Imagine" on every TV set or radio. These people seemed to be mourning a different John Lennon than we were. Did they even know him? I remember one grieving "fan" on TV sobbing to a reporter that she loved John so much because he'd written two of her favorite songs, "Yesterday" and "Hey Jude" [both by McCartney]. You had to laugh to keep from puking.

A few months later, Reagan was shot, not by a political revolutionary but by another delusional loner with an unhealthy celebrity

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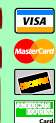


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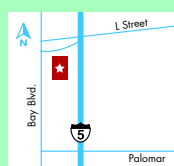
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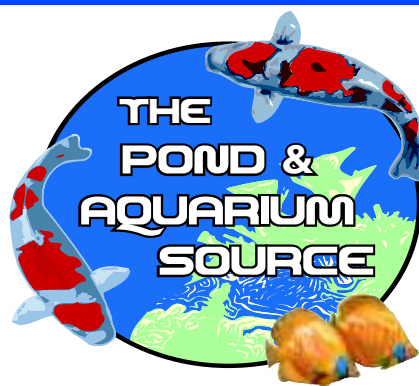
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fixation.

So this was America, I thought, a land where any disaffected loser can grab a weapon, select his target, and blast himself a small perch in history. I seemed to have arrived in a very strange place, a long way from home. Maybe John had a similar revelation as he lay dying on the cold pavement in front of the Dakota. Maybe we all did.

— Mike Stax, cofounder the Tell-Tale Hearts and the Loons, publisher of Ugly Things magazine

* * *

John Lennon's death annoyed me. Well, not the murder of his person; anyone's death is sad and I'm against murder, by the state or by a crazed fan. And I wasn't bothered by the death of Lennon's celebrity — that, as Yoko and her accountants know, is immortal. Lennon is proof of that

old saw: "Death is a great career move."

What annoyed me was the response to his death. The radio and TV kept playing *one* of his songs, reducing his varied musical expressions into just one nonrepresentative piece.

Far more aggravating

was the way that song, "Imagine," was used by hordes of mourners. They absorbed its music and ignored the lyrics. The atheistic ("no heaven,"

etc.) and communistic ("no possessions") words were utilized in religious rituals — the swaying circles, the lit candles, the sacred spot ("Strawberry Fields") near his home in the Dakota — a monument

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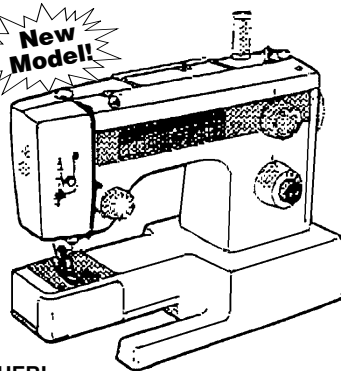
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to materialism in one of the wealthiest neighborhoods on earth. They weren't the only ones to disregard the lyrics — the song was sung by the Conservative Party in London in 1987 as a greeting to arch-capitalist

Margaret Thatcher.
— *Deena Weinstein,*
author of Heavy Metal:
A Cultural Sociology,
professor at DePaul
University

* * *

I was driving my hus-

band to work so I could have the car for the day. I planned to pick up a friend who was flying in from New York City. We were three blocks from the intersection of Hawthorne Boulevard and 190th in Torrance

when I turned on the radio and heard, "John Lennon has been assassinated." My first thought: of course he was. First Kennedy, then Malcolm X, then Martin Luther King Jr., then another Kennedy, Medgar

Evers...the list goes on. I spent the day listening to the radio, which kept playing the single "Starting Over" from Lennon's new album. To this day I cannot stand hearing that song. Fortunately, my

New York friend, Harvey Goldberg, got a taxi from the L.A. airport to Hollywood, so after I picked up my husband Paul, we went up to the city to have dinner with him. Harvey is a well-known recording engineer and was in L.A. on business. He had always wanted to go to the Whiskey, so after we ate at Old World, we walked down to the club for beers. They were playing Beatles songs, and everyone was depressed. Some smartass decided it would be clever to play "Happiness Is a Warm Gun," and Harvey went ballistic, yelling, "Take it off, you ASSHOLE!" We started yelling too, and then all the other patrons started yelling. Harvey said, "Screw this place. Let's get out of here." Not that I boycotted the joint, but that was the last time I was at the Whiskey.

Days later, KROC and several other stations announced that at 11 a.m. they would play no music and observe one minute of silence to honor Lennon. I drove down to the beach and parked and waited for the DJ to start the memorial. There were many cars, apparently there for the same reason I was, as everyone was crying. It was such a beautiful day — the ocean was aglitter, and I felt I was in a silent world of empathy. It was a powerful moment.

On the way home, it seemed as if no one else knew about the moment of silence or cared. To me, too many people were laughing or staring at my red eyes and the look on my face. Then I saw some guy throw a beer bottle out of his car, and it smashed against a tree. It was a rotten day.

— *Mary Fleener,*
cartoonist and
musician (with Cindy Lee
Berryhill, etc.)

* * *

I don't remember what I was doing, but I was *not*

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one of those informed of Lennon's death by Howard Cosell on *Monday Night Football*. I was playing college at Eastern Washington State that winter and thought, "Piss, no more Beatles songs or reunions." I didn't especially care that Lennon was dead; there were lots of smarter,

more experienced people than him whom I could learn from (though he never really bragged he was smarter than anyone). I liked many of his songs, and they evoked good feelings in me, but what mattered most to me was how the value of his records and paraphernalia would rise in

price.

During that week and for about a month after, I would be able to trade Beatles and Lennon stuff for other types of records and music items I wanted. Then, after the prices went down, I could get most of the Lennon stuff back at cheaper prices. I watched what had happened to Elvis memorabilia after his death three years earlier. That's what happened again, though I didn't make a killing. I later got back all the Lennon stuff I traded away. It amused

me, the reactions of people to someone's death. There's always enough of an artist's items out there, but for some reason, people don't want them until after the person dies.

— Duane Dimock,
Clairemont-based
eBay entrepreneur

* * *

I was getting ready for work with the civil service when my wife called to say, "Pete, you'd better come and listen to this." It was about 6 a.m., and I was getting ready for work at the job centre at

the time. Kathy had been listening to the news and shouted upstairs that John had been murdered. It didn't enter my head it was John Lennon, and I asked, "John who?" Did she mean John, the neighbor, or someone I worked with? I initially thought it was a sick joke, but as the news flashed on and on, I realized it was true. John, who I had played with and been friends with for three years, was dead. My first thoughts were, "Why? What had this guy done to anyone?"

— Pete Best, to the
Liverpool Echo,
December 2000

* * *

I had not seen John for years, but when he died, it was like having an arm cut off. I can't explain my feelings, even to myself. During the following week, I avoided the radio and television, although I could manage newspapers. They weren't as emotionally demanding

as a voice or picture going over John's life or, even worse, a rerun of an interview with John looking out from the television as if he was really still there. As for listening to any of his records, the very thought made me wince with pain.

— Julia Baird,
John's half-sister, from the
book *John Lennon, My Brother*

* * *

He was dangerous to the government. If he had said, "Bomb the White House tomorrow," there would have been 10,000 people who would have done it. These pacifist revolutionaries are historically killed by the government...anybody who thinks that Mark David Chapman was just some crazy guy who killed my dad for his personal interests is insane. Or very naïve. Or hasn't thought about it clearly. It was in the best interests of the United States to have my dad killed. Definitely. And, you know, that worked against them, because once he died, his powers grew...they didn't get what they wanted.

— Sean Ono Lennon,
to the *New Yorker* magazine in early 1998

* * *

Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence. Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance. Autumn passes and one remem-



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The screenshot shows the SanDiegoReader.com website. At the top is a search bar with the text "Search" and a "go" button. Below the search bar, the website is divided into several columns. On the left, there is a "Reader" logo with the text "THE MAN WHO HUNG THE STARS". The main content area is organized into sections: "Classifieds" (with links for "Search classifieds" and "Place a free ad with photo"), "Coupons" (with link "Hundreds of discounts for clubs, restaurants, retail, and more"), "Contests" (with link "New great prizes every week!"), "Job Giant" (with link "San Diego's largest job publication"), "Matches" (with link "San Diego's best singles"), "Articles" (with links for "Ask Saffron", "Back When in the Reader", "Best Buys", "Blog World NEW!!", "City Lights", "Cover Story", "Crasher", "Diary of a Diva", "Driven", "It's a Crime", "Letters", "Matthew Alice", "Obermeyer Cartoons NEW!!", "Poetry", "Reading", "Remote Control King", "Sheep and Goats", and "Sporting Box"), "Guides" (with links for "Baja", "Best Winners", "Chiropractic", "Health & Beauty", "Legal", "Online Ads", "Travel", and "Wedding"), "Theater" (with links for "Half-price tickets, posted daily", "Jeff Smith's latest review", "Reviews of current plays", "Submit a theater listing", and "Theater Directory"), "Movies" (with links for "Duncan Shepherd's latest review", "Past movie reviews", "Reviews of current movies", and "Showtimes"), "Restaurants" (with links for "By alphabetical list", "By kind of food", "By area", "Discount restaurant coupons", "Crush: Wine review", "Menus", "Naomi Wise's latest review", "Tin Fork's latest review", and "What the Chef Eats"), "Music Concerts" (with links for "Concert listings" and "Concert previews"), "Clubs" (with links for "By area", "By club name", "DJ Events", and "Submit a club listing"), "Bands" (with links for "By type of music" and "Submit a band listing"), "Everything Else" (with links for "Blurt: Music news and gossip", "Discount club coupons", "Hometown CDs", "Music feature", and "NightSpotting: Club review"), "Events" (with links for "By area", "By category", "By date", "Event of the Week", "Roam-O-Rama", and "Submit an event listing"), and "Contact Us" (with links for "Get contact info", "Give us feedback about this site", and "Send a letter to the editor").

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- Travel
- Wedding

Theater

- Half-price tickets, posted daily
- Jeff Smith's latest review
- Reviews of current plays
- Submit a theater listing
- Theater Directory

Movies

- Duncan Shepherd's latest review
- Past movie reviews
- Reviews of current movies
- Showtimes

Restaurants

- By alphabetical list
- By kind of food
- By area
- Discount restaurant coupons
- Crush: Wine review
- Menus
- Naomi Wise's latest review
- Tin Fork's latest review
- What the Chef Eats

Music Concerts

- Concert listings
- Concert previews

Clubs

- By area
- By club name
- DJ Events
- Submit a club listing

Bands

- By type of music
- Submit a band listing

Everything Else

- Blurt: Music news and gossip
- Discount club coupons
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Profil Institute for Clinical Research, Inc. is conducting research with a glucose monitoring device for people who have **Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes.**

You may qualify if:

- you are age 19-64
- you are willing to test glucose levels using a lancet device on your hand

Benefits of participating in this study include:

- Study-related medical care at no charge
- Compensation up to \$720 for time and travel (2 visits, 1 visit requiring a 12-hour visit)

To learn more about this clinical research study, please call our office at:

619-409-1244

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We are located on a major bus line (929) and a shuttle is available from the H Street trolley station.



bers one's reverence. Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance.

— Yoko Ono,
from "Season of Glass"

* * *

After all we went through together, I had and still have great love and respect for him. I am shocked and stunned. To rob life is ultimate robbery. This perpetual

encroachment on other people's space is taken to the limit with the use of a gun. It is an outrage that people can take other people's lives when they obviously haven't got their own lives in order.

— George Harrison
December 1980 press statement

* * *

I feel shattered, angry, and very sad. It's just ridicu-

lous. He was pretty rude about me sometimes, but I secretly admired him for it, and I always managed to stay in touch with him. There was no question that we weren't friends, I really loved the guy. I think that what has happened will in years to come make people realize that John was an international statesman. He often looked a loony to many people. He made enemies, but he was fantastic. He was a warm man who cared a lot and with the record "Give Peace a Chance" helped stop the Vietnam War. He made a lot of sense.

— Paul McCartney,
December 1980
press statement

* * *

I would like to say how terribly upset we are at the sudden death of John Lennon. I have always had the deepest affection for John since the divorce and have always encouraged his relationship with

RESEARCH STUDIES

Research Opportunity for Centrally Obese Subjects with Insulin Resistance

Dr. Robert R. Henry and his associates at the VA Medical Center are looking for Non-Diabetic volunteers to take part in a research study evaluating the safety and tolerability of an investigational drug that may control blood glucose levels.

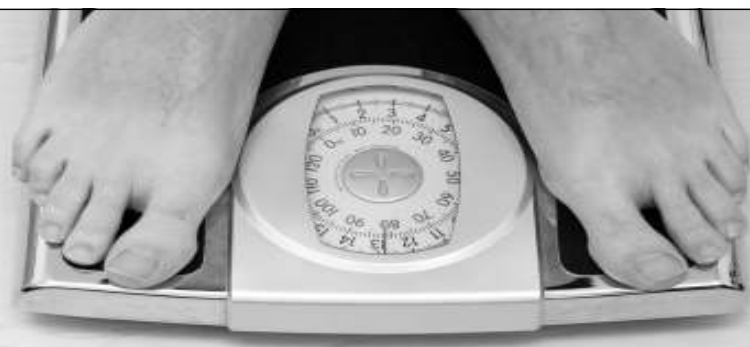
In order to be eligible to participate in this Research Study, you must be:

- Overweight or obese
- In good health
- Age 30-70
- If female, of non-childbearing potential

Qualified participants will receive up to \$1,400 for their time and travel.

To see if you qualify, or to learn more about the study please contact:

**Alana Clark at (858) 552-8585 ext. 2884
or Catherine DeLue at ext. 6740**



Concerned About Obesity?

58 million people in the U.S. are overweight and the numbers are rising.

Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study to test an investigational drug in overweight people. We are looking for volunteers to participate in an 11-week study.

Participants must:

- Be overweight
- Be 30-70 years old
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Enrollment is limited!





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Is depression keeping you up at night? Are you taking an antidepressant for depression and have trouble sleeping? Do you have daytime fatigue, lack of energy, and poor concentration? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for insomnia associated with depression.

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Is a creepy crawly feeling in your legs keeping you up at night? If so, you could be suffering from Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS). If you are 18 or older, and are in general good health, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for the possible treatment of RLS.

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Millions of teenagers in America deal with mental health problems. Symptoms can include confused or exaggerated thinking, difficulty concentrating, severe mood changes, loss of interest in activities, and/or becoming socially withdrawn.

These symptoms may signal a problem. If your child is between the ages of 10 and 17, he or she may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study. Participants will receive study-related mental health assessments, physical exams, lab services, and investigational medication or a placebo (sugar pill).

For more information, please call the **Sharp Mesa Vista Clinical Research Center** at **(858) 694-8311**.

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Julian, which I thought was best. It came so suddenly. Julian remained very close to his father in recent years and is hoping to follow a career in music. He was looking to his father for guidance. Julian was hoping to see his father shortly.

— *Cynthia Lennon,*
Lennon's ex-wife,
December 1980
press statement

* * *

John Lennon was brought to the emergency room of the St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital this evening, shortly before 11 p.m. He was dead on arrival. Extensive resuscitative efforts were made but, in spite of transfusions and many procedures, he could not be resuscitated. He had multiple gunshot wounds in his chest, in his left arm, and in his back. There were seven wounds in his body. I

don't know exactly how many bullets there were. There was a significant injury of the major vessels inside the chest, which caused a massive amount of blood loss, which probably resulted in his death. I'm certain that he was dead at the moment that the first shots hit his body.

— *Dr. Stephan Lynn,*
to reporters outside
Roosevelt Hospital,
December 8, 1980

* * *

Probably, I thought, he wouldn't be an attainable type of thing, and I did think of harming some people...I took it upon myself to judge him falsely for being something other than, you know, in a lotus position with a flower, and I got angry in my stupidity...I grabbed the album I had leaning against the rail and I said, "John, would you sign my album?" He

said, "Sure," and wrote his name and he handed it back to me. He looked at me and nodded his head down and said, "Is that all you want?" It was a ruse. I really didn't want his signature; I wanted his life. And I ended up taking both...I believe once you take a person's life, there's no way you can make up for that. Period.

— *Mark David Chapman,*
murderer, speaking at
October 2000
parole hearing

* * *

What worries me is that one day a loony will come up and God knows what will happen then...you never know in America. They're always running around with guns like a lot of cowboys. They think guns are extensions of their arms.

— *John Lennon,*
1965 Daily Mirror
interview ■

RESEARCH STUDIES

Clinical Research for high cholesterol

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Qualified participants will receive all study-related psychiatric evaluations, physical exams, lab work, and clinic visits at no cost. In addition, participants may receive compensation for time and travel expenses.

For more information, please call:
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Clinical Research Institute
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Depression Research Study

If you have been previously diagnosed and treated for depression and in recent months you are experiencing a recurrence of similar or increased symptoms, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study.

Those symptoms may include feeling sad or empty, feeling worthless or guilty, decreased interest in activities you once enjoyed, difficulty concentrating, weight loss, difficulty sleeping or lack of energy.

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Pacific Sleep Medicine offers hope, and help, for patients who suffer from a wide range of medical conditions through participation in clinical research studies. All participants receive compassionate care from our nationally-recognized physicians and a dedicated staff of experienced clinical researchers.



Insomnia?

Do you regularly have trouble falling asleep or waking and are not able to get back to sleep?

We understand how difficult this can be, both day and night.

If you are 18 years of age or older and have a history of insomnia for at least 3 months, you might qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational new medication for Insomnia.

Eligible participants receive study related care at no charge, including a physical exam, sleep exams, laboratory services and study medication.

Qualified participants receive up to **\$2,350** for time and travel.

Painkillers and Constipation?



Pacific Sleep Medicine is currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of painful constipation caused by strong pain medications.

If you are currently taking strong pain medications to relieve your pain, and you regularly suffer from constipation, you may qualify for this study.

To qualify, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older
- Currently taking opioids (strong pain medications) to treat your pain
- Constipated, or show other signs of bowel dysfunction
- Not experiencing pain as a result of cancer

Study participants will receive study medications, study-related exams, and all laboratory tests at no cost. Qualified participants may receive up to \$476 for time and travel.

ADHD Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder



Does Your Child Have Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder?

If so, you may be interested in learning about a clinical research study.

Pacific Sleep Medicine is evaluating an investigational medication in the treatment of Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

To be eligible, the participant must:

- Be 6 through 17 years of age (inclusive)
- Be able to come to the doctor's office for at least 7 study visits
- Parent/legal guardian must be willing and able to comply with study procedures and restrictions.

Qualified study participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and investigational medication at no cost.

You will be compensated for time and travel.

Trouble Sleeping?

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services is participating in a national research study of individuals who regularly have trouble falling asleep or waking and are not able to get back to sleep.

Interested participants must be:

- 18-80 years of age
- History of chronic insomnia for at least 3 months

Study related care is provided at no charge, including a physical exam, sleep exams, laboratory services and study medication.

Qualified participants receive compensation for time and travel.



For more information on these and other clinical studies, call (toll-free):

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GLUED TO THE SCREEN

I HAVE YET TO WATCH AN EPISODE THAT DOES NOT HAVE A SCENE THAT INCLUDES BLEEPs.

Over the past four or five years, reality TV shows have become popular. Shows such as *Survivor* and *Laguna Beach* have made it big because of the concepts' originality and creativeness. But all of these shows don't have anything on the daddy of reality TV, *The Real World*.

That's right, *The Real World* is the best reality TV show of all time. *Survivor* might have people struggling to swallow fish marinated in lamb's blood and topped with live bugs, but *The Real World* examines what happens when you put seven (immature) young adults into a tricked-out house for two months. Oh, and drama ensues. While *American Idol* has Simon Cowell picking on the dreamers of America, *The Real World* deals with issues such as "How much promiscuity makes a girl a slut?" or "What are the effects of too much vodka?" THOSE are the questions I need answers to! Not, "is it possible to make a grown man cry on national television by insulting his (cough, cough) lovely singing voice?"

I have devoted many an hour to *The Real World*. I got sucked into season 11, *The Real World Chicago*, and have been a devotee ever since. I was there for Tonya's (of Chicago) melodramas, the massive orgy that was *Real World Las Vegas*, and the constant (and annoying, occasionally violent) flirtation between Brad and Cameron. I watched it all with the reverence usually reserved for die-hard followers of professional sports teams.

And, though my devotion may have gotten me into trouble occasionally ("Annie, if I come upstairs one more time and find you watching *The Real World* instead of

doing your homework..."), I learned so much about human nature from it. Can racists and African-Americans co-habitate? Yes. Can straight guys deal with living with homosexuals? Oh, yes. Does bad stuff happen when you consume too much alcohol (ahem, *The Real World Las Vegas*). Ohhhhhhhhh, yes. Overall, I value the time that I "lost" to *The Real World*. I mean, come on! Everybody needs to escape from reality now and then.

— Anne Baker,
Carlsbad H.S.

The "reality show" term is misleading. Common sense tells us that there is nothing realistic about 16 "survivors" battling it out on a deserted island or two burly men competing over who can eat the most maggots. Yet, despite their lack of truth, these shows are entertaining, especially when hot women are involved (even better if they're lesbians).

The Amazing Race is my favorite. The concept is simple: ten two-person teams from all walks of life circle the globe in a race to the finish line. Of course, no reality show would be complete without the *Survivor* standard of elimination. After each leg of the race, the last-place team is sent packing... usually because they committed a moronic mistake. For example, stupidity reached new levels on *Amazing Race 6* when teammates Adam and Rebecca filled their diesel SUV with a full tank of unleaded gas. More hilarious than their blatant oversight was the way they flailed about when the SUV refused to start. The next place they visited was their hometown.

Besides providing laughs at their expense, *Amazing Race* cast members have angered me as well. In the sixth season, Kendra, a ditzy model who ultimately went on to win first place (shudders), commented to her boyfriend while driving through Senegal, "Ugh, this country is wretched and disgusting. They just keep



Fear Factor contestant

breeding and breeding in poverty."

What I enjoy most about *The Amazing Race* is the sentimental moments, when cast members who have dealt with adversity discover confidence in themselves. In season five, enthusiastic Charla, who suffers from a form of dwarfism, shocked her doubters and surprised herself when she won an athletic leg of the race. The host of the show was in tears, as was I.

Every Tuesday night, my family would crowd around the living room and watch the show together. It was our routine, and the nights were always enjoyable. I'd pass up homework to lounge around with my family and girlfriend, grades be damned. Watching teams scurry around the world in hopes of winning \$1,000,000 was much more satisfying, even if there weren't any lesbians.

— Patrick Cole,
Eastlake H.S.

Nothing compares to the gruesomeness of *Fear Factor*. As you observe yet another contestant devour some heinous insect or animal

RESEARCH STUDIES

Muscle Pain in the Neck, Shoulders, Upper Back?

A new investigational medication for Myofascial Trigger Points (also called "muscle knots" and "neck tension myalgia")

To participate in this research study of a new investigational drug injected directly into muscle trigger points, you must:

- Have muscle pain for at least six months, but less than 5 years
 - Be between the ages of 18 and 65
- Be available to return once a month for 4 months for follow up

Subjects enrolled in this study will be compensated for their time. If you are interested in participating in this research study or for additional information, please visit www.trigger-point-injections.com or contact:

La Jolla Village Family Medical Group
8950 Villa La Jolla Dr., Ste. A-126, La Jolla, CA 92037
858-622-9459 • Fax: 858-622-9458
Ask for Ben Perry

ARE YOU TOO SHY?



- ☐ Do you get very **NERVOUS** around people?
- ☐ Do you **FEAR** being the center of attention?
- ☐ Do you **AVOID** going to social events and meeting new people?



If you answered YES to any of the above, you may be eligible to participate in an experimental research study using an investigational drug compared to placebo to treat social anxiety disorder at UCSD. Medical assessment and clinical care provided. No monetary compensation.

To receive more information, call **1-877-UCSD-SHY** (1-877-827-3749)
Or visit: www.veryshy.com

body part, you realize that money can drive people insane. Some may argue that the contenders partake in the grueling competitions to prove themselves, demonstrate their will power. Others believe people will do anything for money.

I admire the participants who gulp down bull testicles or a pig's rectum. I could never do any of this, not even for a couple million dollars. Why am I drawn to this chaos Fox calls "reality TV"? It is simple: *Fear Factor* entertains the mind in a perplexing way. By playing on an individual's fear of heights, cold water, or animals, producers discover some way to nauseate the audience. The more sickened I become by some outrageous stunt, the more I find the show amusing. My parents and brother agree to a certain extent. They would watch *Fear Factor* occasionally, but reruns do not appeal to them. I am the same. I can only endure a max of two episodes before I remember that I am allowing my precious time to slip away.

One *Fear Factor* episode stands out from the rest. Contestants had to consume a sausage of dozens of leeches. My stomach wriggled as I witnessed this bizarre spectacle of men and women consuming bloodsucking worms. I recommend that you do not watch the show during dinner.

— Vivian Pham,
Mt. Carmel H.S.

With so much drama in the lives of many people these days, who would have guessed that we could handle so much more of it on TV? Reality TV shows have no real plot or point, but they captivate so that one cannot wait until the next show.

The Real World, for example, is a show consisting of seven strangers in their 20s who share a house in a major city for a certain period of time. It contains all the ele-

ments of an enticing reality show. The most exciting aspect is the relationships that begin, break, or blow up.

In *The Real World Austin*, a girl named Melinda called her boyfriend to ask him what they should do about their relationship because she liked Danny, one of her hot roommates from Boston. She hinted, he understood, and he hung up on her! Who would have thought he had the nerve? These exciting, tense moments keep my eyes glued to the screen.

When watching *The Real World*, I can relate to the people on the show. So can my friends. In *The Real World New Orleans*, a 22-year-old named Melissa got along better with men than women. She seemed unstable when not receiving attention from guys; her behavior mirrored that of many females that watch the show.

The only thing that might not be favorable to viewers is the uncontrollable mouths of the people. I have yet to watch an episode that does not have a scene that includes bleeps. But, still, I wouldn't go back to doing my homework, cleaning the house, or walking the dog because of the vulgar language.

— Lexie Sebring,
Carlsbad H.S.

The game? No one really knows what it is or how it goes.

There are no rules or correct strategies. It's just...the game. "The game" is what I like to call CBS's *Big Brother*. Basically, a dozen or so drastically different but

Look Familiar?



It was 2:15 the last time you looked. That seems like ages ago. Time is at a standstill and all you can do is lie in bed, staring into the darkness. By tomorrow you'll be so tired that you'll fall asleep at your desk, but chances are you won't sleep tomorrow night either.

We are currently conducting a research study of an investigational medicine for insomnia associated with Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD).

Participants will receive study-related exams and study medication at no charge. Qualified participants may be compensated. Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 64 and the study requires 8 office visits.



For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565



If even happy things leave you blue,
Consider participating if you qualify for our research study on DEPRESSION.

Have you or someone you care about been experiencing some or all of the following symptoms for at least a few months?

- Hopelessness
- Sadness
- Loss of interest in daily activities
- Loss of energy
- Difficulty concentrating

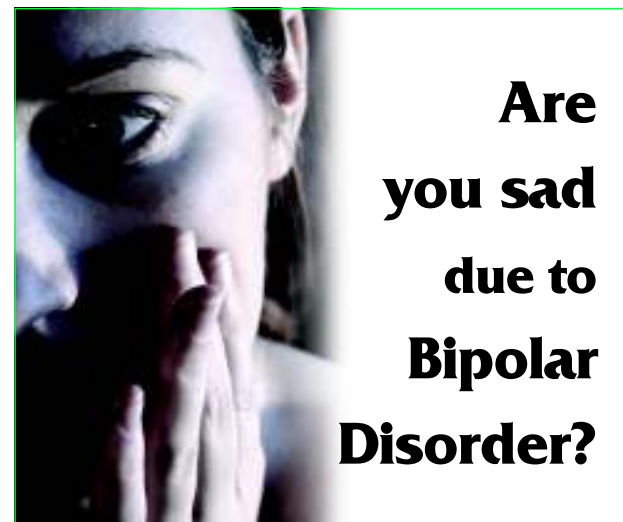
If so, people between the ages of 18 to 64 may qualify for a research study of an investigational drug for **Depression**.

All office visits and medical evaluation related to this study will be provided to qualified participants at no charge.



For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565



Are you sad due to Bipolar Disorder?

We are currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of DEPRESSION due to Bipolar Disorder.

To qualify, you must:

- be at least 18 years old
- have been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder
- be experiencing symptoms of depression

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams
- Study medication



For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

Have You Been Diagnosed with Psoriasis?



Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study on patients with mild to moderate plaque psoriasis.

You may qualify if:

- You are 18 years of age or older and are in good health.
- Have bilateral plaque lesions on the arms, thighs, knees, chest or back.

Participants will be seen by a dermatologist and may be compensated for time and travel.



For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

Heavy Menstrual Bleeding?

Do you experience HEAVY MENSTRUAL BLEEDING on 2 to 5 days of your regular menstrual period?

Does HEAVY MENSTRUAL BLEEDING keep you from your normal social and work activities?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, you may qualify for a research study of an investigational drug for HEAVY MENSTRUAL BLEEDING. This investigational drug is not a hormone.

You must:

- ✓ Be a generally healthy woman between the ages of 18 and 49
- ✓ Have regular menstrual cycles with heavy bleeding
- ✓ Not have any other bleeding disorder

If you qualify you will receive study drug and study-related procedures including physical exams, electrocardiograms, eye exams, and laboratory tests at no cost.

You will also receive compensation for your time and travel.

For more information, please call:

**MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
619-521-2841**



relatively good-looking people are locked into the Big Brother house for a summer. No television, phone, computer, or out-side communication.

So, what makes this show so different from the others? Each week a houseguest is evicted by the votes of the other houseguests. The object of the game is to be the last one standing, winner takes all: half a million dollars. Basic politics include gaining the position of head of household, participating in eviction nominations and ceremonies, forming alliances, and keeping secrets.

This summer's twist on *Big Brother* (season six) was that each of the houseguests went into the game with a partner, someone they knew previously. Each pair was under the impression that they were the only ones with a partner. Each pair kept their secret safe for some time. If a pair made it to the end, then they would receive a million dollars.

The two houseguests that were left at the end of this summer were Maggie and Yvette. Maggie flew under the radar for the majority of the game but she still pulled the puppet strings. She

was the silent one who got others to do her bidding and take the fall. Yvette, on the other hand, spoke her opinion and took leadership from the start. However, she made a fatal mistake. When there were only three houseguests left, Yvette was the head of household and had the ability to evict either her friend Maggie (a strong player) or her enemy, a weak player. Yvette chose her friend over the weak player. Choosing to keep a stronger player in the game hurt her because she lost by one vote.

—Derrick Sun,
Mt. Carmel H.S. ■

RESEARCH STUDIES

LEGITIMATE AND AFFORDABLE Medical Marijuana Evaluations

A CHP bulletin on 8/22/05 now allows patients traveling on state highways to have as much as 8 ounces of marijuana with a medical marijuana recommendation from a physician. On 6/6/05, California Attorney General Bill Lockyer issued the following statement after the ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Gonzales v. Raich*: "Today's ruling does NOT overturn California law permitting the use of medical marijuana." Protect yourself under California state law with a medical doctor serving San Diego for over 20 years. Trust in a doctor who has been performing medical marijuana evaluations since the law passed!

www.sandiego.gov/communityservices/medicalmarijuana

Robert F. Sterner, Jr., M.D.
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619-442-4215 [24 hours]



Do You Suffer from Heavy Uterine Bleeding?

Problems with excessive bleeding during your menstrual cycle are one of the main causes of **iron deficiency anemia** in women. Sufferers often complain of:

Headaches
Rapid heartbeat with exercise
Feeling weak

Pale skin
Feeling tired
Shortness of breath

If you have had any of these problems associated with heavy periods within the last 6 months you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an investigational drug to treat **iron deficiency anemia** caused by heavy uterine bleeding.

For more information, please call:

Dr. Steven Drosman
Genesis Center for Clinical Research
619-491-0490

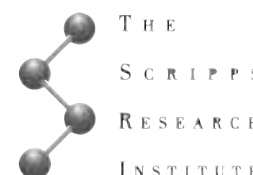
Don't be in a Holidaze. Join an alcohol research project.



Scientists at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop new treatments for alcoholism. Volunteers are needed to participate in clinical research testing different medications. Heavy drinkers who want to stop, call 858-784-7867. Heavy drinkers who don't want to stop, call 858-784-7325.

Qualified participants will be paid.

For more information and to find out if you qualify, please call or visit our website at:
www.pearsoncenter.org



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For the treatment of Migraines, Glaucoma, AIDS, Nausea, Depression, Anorexia, Chronic Pain, Cancer, Anxiety & many other medical disorders.

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer stated on 6/6/05 that the recent Supreme Court ruling does not overturn California law permitting the use of medical marijuana (Health & Safety Code 11362.5 and SB420).

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DEPRESSION
SCHIZOPHRENIA**



Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling subjects into inpatient and outpatient studies. Eligible participants will receive all study-related care at no cost, and will be reimbursed for time and travel.

For more information, please call the **Clinical Research Department at (858) 694-8350.**

SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

MV35A ©2006 SHC

**Do you or anyone
you know have
SCHIZOPHRENIA or
SCHIZOAFFECTIVE
DISORDER?**



Optimum Health Services is currently conducting a research study to find out how two common antipsychotic drugs, Olanzapine and Risperidone, may affect the way the body uses sugar.

Participants should be aged 18 to 65 years with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, and have not been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons in the last three months.

This study does not involve a sugar pill, otherwise known as a placebo, and all the study drugs have been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Some symptoms of schizophrenia include:

- Delusions, or having false beliefs that others don't share
- Hallucinations, or seeing or hearing things that others don't see or hear
- Paranoia, or unnecessary mistrust or suspicion

Hospitalization, medical evaluations and the investigational drugs will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also receive compensation for their time and travel.

To find out more information and to see if you qualify please contact Optimum Health Services at:

La Mesa: 866-217-9206
Oceanside: 866-217-9207

OHS
OPTIMUM
HEALTH SERVICES



Mild Memory Loss?

You may have mild cognitive impairment.

If you or someone you know are aged 45 to 90 and have mild memory loss, a local medical facility is taking part in a national clinical research study to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an oral investigational medication for mild cognitive impairment. Qualified participants will receive complete study-related physical exams, lab work, electrocardiograms and cognitive evaluations at no charge while taking part in this study. If you or someone you know is otherwise healthy but having evidence of memory loss, call Optimum Health Services today to find out about this study for mild cognitive impairment.

La Mesa: 866-735-0412
Oceanside: 888-755-5431

OHS
OPTIMUM
HEALTH SERVICES

“What’s Ben and Jerry’s Newest Flavor?”

I’d heard the news by 9:00 a.m. Jerry Garcia had been found dead of natural causes at a rehab center in Marin. A former roommate who currently lives in L.A. had called me to gloat about it, hanging up and letting the phone ring four more times in order to wake me rather than merely leave a message.

“Ha ha ha!” she jeered jubilantly. “You live in the eye of the storm. I bet they’re parading up Haight Street right this minute. I bet Ben & Jerry’s [the tie-dye-friendly ice cream parlor on the corner of Haight and Ashbury] is mobbed. I bet they drum annoyingly all day long. I bet CBS News calls you up for a quote any minute.

“Better quick think of something gracious,” she added, “or else you’ll need to go in a witness protection program by nightfall.”

We hung up, and the phone rang instantly. It was CBS News, asking for a quote. Luckily, I came up with something. “I just wish,” I said as carefully as I could, “that Kurt Cobain could have lived so long.”

* * *

Of course it’s sad that Jerry’s dead, at least when you consider him as a human being as opposed to as an icon. I feel sorry for his family — his three wives, four kids, and the bandmates whose gravy train will now grind to a halt without him.

But as a Bay Area native who’s lived two blocks from Haight Street for more than a decade, it’s difficult for me to think of him as human.

This was life on Haight Street, B.J.D. (before Jerry’s Death). Any time the Dead were coming to town — or Jerry was playing solo with the Jerry Garcia Band — for a week before and after the gig: Legions of stringy-haired girls sit cross-legged at every corner, asking if you want them to wrap your hair for \$10. Equally hairy guys, the owners of sad-faced, poorly groomed, probably hungry dogs wander about asking if you

want to buy some bud. All of them blocking the pavement, 24 hours a day, going, “Spare some change, spare some change, spare some change? We need gas to go to Vegas. A ride to the Oakland Coliseum. Tickets for Sunday’s show.”

Need, need, need. Give, give, give. What did these Deadheads give back to my community? Mess. Noise. Traffic. Bad LSD, overpriced bracelets, and an atmosphere of fuzzy-headed dissipation diffusing itself throughout the land. Just the sight of them makes me want to yell, “Get a fucking job or go back home to your rich, white Marin County parents.”

* * *

Greil Marcus says that the Grateful Dead provided a ready-made identity for young people searching for one. I don’t object to that so much; that is, after all, the role of punk, goth, rockabilly, and every other form of music. It’s just that I found the ready-made identity that the Dead provided to be illusory, conservative, out of touch, and — this is the real rub — aesthetically unpleasing.

What on earth was its appeal? Music notwithstanding — to my mind, the Dead were merely a competent cover band that played meandering white-folk blues — what could anyone find attractive in the smelly and passé?

* * *

The Dead are supposed to represent some hearkening back to the ideological ’60s. And they do, fashionwise. (Don’t get me started on the artistic transgressions of R. Crumb, Kelley Mouse, and Jerry’s line of ties.) Also ’60s-like, they support saving the rainforest and blind children in Tibet, two worthy issues that are, nonetheless, totally irrelevant to life in America.

Concomitantly, many Deadheads are the type of

people who act all PC and bitch about various political ills (mainly that marijuana isn't legal) but still don't bother to vote because "everyone's corrupt, maaan."

FYI, I have seen the Dead perform five times. The first time I was four years old. Pigpen went to my high school. My brother is a Deadhead.

* * *

Q: Why do Deadheads space dance?

A: To keep the flies off.

Q: What's a Deadhead's favorite color?

A: Guatemalan.

Q: How many Deadheads does it take to change a light bulb?

A: They don't change it, they just wait till it burns out and then follow it around for 30 years.

Q: What did the Deadhead say when the acid wore off?

A: Heeey, this music sucks!

Q: What's Ben and Jerry's newest flavor?

A: Berry Jerry.

* * *

My real objection to the Grateful Dead? The drugs.

Three band members' deaths in 20 years — now four, if you count Jerry — and countless other rumors, episodes, stories swirling around the band, heightening the already out-of-control atmosphere of condoning that surrounds this band's "long, strange trip." How glamorous and romantic, huh?

* * *

At this point, my hatred of the Dead phenomenon has become so intense and profound that I sometimes think I must secretly love them. You know, how the things one hates about oneself are always the most repellent when viewed in other people? When I was living right off Haight Street in the mid-'80s, living my most underground, counter-cultural, non-consumer-oriented, punk-rock life, I thought my outlook was as far removed from Deadheads' as it was possible to be. My friends and I abhorred the Deadheads who plagued Haight Street; but to outsiders, we all

probably looked exactly alike: junk-store clothing, weird hair, and so forth.

Plus, there was a similarity of purpose between the grunge and the hippie scene that even now I am loathe to acknowledge. "Our little group has always been and always will until the end..." Come off it, Gina. Who are you kidding? You and your punk-rock pals were also rich, white countercultural types looking for a community to belong to. Minus the negativity and the fact that we didn't panhandle, there wasn't that much difference.

The truth is, joking aside, I feel sorry for Deadheads. I know what it's like to lose the center of your scene. And heroes are hard to find. Musically, I don't think the Dead's legacy will be all that meaningful, so they will not haunt us through the ages like Elvis and Kurt and the Beatles. But nevertheless, the death of Jerry is the end of an era. And that means today is the first day of the rest of our lives. Hallelujah! ■

— Gina Arnold

Are You Currently Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder?

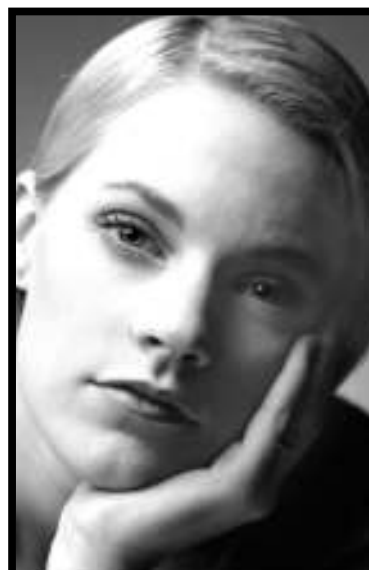
Do you currently have a combination of the following symptoms?

- Unusual periods of "highs and lows" • Racing thoughts • Poor attention span
- Excessive involvement in activities • Unusually elevated mood
- Changes in appetite • Irritability

You may qualify to try an investigational medication while participating in a research study and be reimbursed \$50 for each inpatient hospitalization day and \$100 for each outpatient visit. Total reimbursement will not exceed \$3050.

Call (858) 566-8222 for more information.

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC
"CNRI, LLC"



PSORIASIS

We are conducting a research study with an investigational topical medication for psoriasis.

We need participants:

- 18 years of age or older with mild to moderate psoriasis

Qualified participants will receive:

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- Compensation for time and travel

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Or e-mail us at psoriasisinfo@therapeuticsresearch.com

RESEARCH STUDIES



I sleep, I wake up, I sleep, I wake up...

A new study of an investigational medication for insomnia may help put you to sleep.

- Restless sleep disturbs the normal rhythms of the body.
- When poor sleep becomes a regular problem it can affect your health.
- If you wake up tired or feel sleepy during the day, you are not sleeping well at night!

If you have chronic problems falling and/or staying asleep, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

Qualified participants:

- Will receive up to \$2850 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

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Severe PMS

Do you experience anxiety, depression, severe mood swings, and irritability one week prior to your menstruation?

Do these symptoms impair your functioning in day-to-day activities?

Dr. Steven R. Drosman is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of **Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder** or **Severe PMS**.

Participants will receive at no cost:

- Study-related Gynecological Exams
 - Laboratory Tests • Study Medication or Placebo
- Compensation for time and travel will also be provided.

For more information and an initial phone screen, call the offices of:

Dr. Steven Drosman
Genesis Center for Clinical Research
619-542-0593

CARRYING MOM

1:00 a.m. The dyslexic hour. Words on computer monitor start to run together. Squinting. Brain tired. Slumping. Sleep summons. The house has been quiet for hours. My favorite time of day, my “afternoon.” Quiet time. No phones ringing. Work time. Click off the word processor. Enough. Check doors. Turn off lights. Get under sheets.

2:00 a.m. Stare into darkness. I was raised in this house. It has always felt good to be here. It feels different now. I’m downstairs, in what we used to call the basement. My bed sits where the pool table was. Those days were fun. Family. Friends. Band rehearsal. Burgers. Pool. Rock and roll. Laughter. It’s quiet now. No one’s laughing. Quiet.

2:30 a.m. Overhead, on the other side of the ceiling, is a bedroom with a stranger in it. Her name is Esther, but her official title is The Caregiver. A nice, older woman with sad eyes. Down the hall from her is another stranger. Her name is Angela, but I still call her Mom, even though she no longer understands the word. She has Alzheimer’s. Not long ago, Mom owned rental units, ran this household, traveled the world, chaired organizations, spoiled

her grandchildren, loved life. Now, she can’t dress herself. She reaches for things in the air that aren’t there, mumbles gibberish at invisible objects of concern on the floor. I’ve moved in to put a steady hand on the tiller. I’m back home. It’s different now.

My mind replays the cruel plot points of this disease. Yesterday, I found Mom staring bewildered at the kitchen clock, as though she’d stumbled into the caves at Altamira. Later, I found her purse in the freezer. During lunch, she suddenly laughed and asked me, “Remember when we used to ride Nellie across the farm, and Daddy would scold us so?” Nellie was the

horse from her childhood in the 1920s. She thinks I’m her late brother. I start to correct her but stop.

“Of course I remember. You were Nellie’s favorite.”

“Yes,” she says, pleased.

Before the day’s end, she’d tried to step into the sleeves of her blouse; ran her hands through the cat’s litter box; buried her keys in the trash. I found her offering a drink of water to her own reflection in the bathroom mirror. She couldn’t understand why the woman wasn’t thirsty. “That’s okay, Mom,” I said, and gently took the glass from her hand. She started to cry.

The live-in caregivers help. But they don’t last. Been through eight of them in eight months. Calling around. Screening. Interviewing. Hiring. They won’t work nights or weekends. One wants her bedroom painted a different color. Another, Venetian blinds and new carpet. Another, a television, cable hookup, and her own telephone. Fine. Anything. *Please help.* They all start out like a hybrid of Mother

wearing me out. I’m a nervous wreck.” One caregiver lasted three months. One lasted six hours.

3:00 a.m. Can’t sleep. Might as well make a list of things to do tomorrow. Turn on light. Grab notepad. 1. Call attorney about conservatorship. (Don’t understand this stuff — how much will this cost?) 2. Look in Yellow Pages for pest control. (One of Mom’s tenants called today: rental units have mice?) Also, outdoor lights aren’t working (call electrician) and one apartment has stopped-up sink (call plumber). 3. Call the bank: Got strange notice saying that Mom’s Social Security check is somehow being automatically deposited in a *closed account* (?!), and they don’t know why it’s happening or how to correct it. Without SS check in regular account, checks will bounce. Need to make some banking changes but can’t without conservatorship (see note 1). 4. Take Mom for appointment with Dr. Permetti. Nice man, very simpatico. Last time, he said I should start looking into a nursing home for Mom. No way, I said. Not while I’m alive. Of

YESTERDAY, I FOUND MOM STARING BEWILDERED AT THE KITCHEN CLOCK, AS THOUGH SHE’D STUMBLERD INTO THE CAVES AT ALTAMIRA. LATER, I FOUND HER PURSE IN THE FREEZER.

Teresa and the Flying Nun. “I’ll take her shopping, to the movies. We’ll bake cookies together.” In a week, they’re zombies. “She never stops moving. She keeps getting into things. She asks the same questions over and over. She’s

course, don’t mention “doctor” to Mom until she recognizes the medical building (freaks her out — she thinks someone’s going to take her somewhere and hurt her). 5. Pick up Mom’s prescription at Kaiser. 6. Start cleaning junk

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out of back yard. If time, mow lawn. 7. Return yesterday's phone messages. 8. Try to get some writing done.

3:15 a.m. Turn off light. Start to drift off, feels good. Dog next door starts barking. Not loudly, but rhythmically. Every few seconds. I open my eyes. Start thinking about people. Mom's "friends" keep calling to ask how she is. A dozen times a day I explain the situation to people I've never met. No one says, "If there's anything I can do..." People have heard about Alzheimer's. They keep a convenient distance.

3:30 a.m. Turn on light. Might as well do some reading. 3:45 a.m. Realize I've read the same opening paragraph over and over. Turn off light. Dog stops barking. Now a new noise. A humming. It gets louder. Somewhere near my face. I swat at the sound, and my hand hits something. The humming stops. Turn off light. Humming starts again.

4:00 a.m. Didn't know I was asleep until I heard the floor creaking overhead. Foot-

steps. Is The Caregiver just going to the bathroom, or is it trouble? I listen. The phone rings. I fumble for the light switch and come into the living room.

"Hello?"
"I'm sorry, but your mom got outta bed, and I just found her lying by the dining room window without a stitch on. She's freezing cold, but I don't think she's hurt. I can't lift her because of this bad back, and —"

"Okay. I'll be right up."
4:05 a.m. Carry Mom to her bed. The Caregiver thinks I'm upset with her. I reassure her that although Mom keeps accusing The Caregiver of hurting her, I know it's just the Alzheimer's talking. "Don't worry, I know you wouldn't hurt her." The Caregiver starts to cry.

4:30 a.m. Back in bed, staring into the darkness. Heart beating too fast. Must get some sleep. Can't work without sleep. Roll over on side. That feels better. Drifting.

6:30 a.m. Dog starts barking again. Something in me snaps. Grab robe, run outside and in one motion hoist

myself up to look over wall into neighbor's yard. "God-damnit, *SHUT UP!*" Dog cowers, but something else moves in the shadows. It's the dog's owner. He's put-tering around his garden at dawn. "What did you say?" he asks menacingly. He's burly, fortyish, wears the expres-sion of a guy who's just real-ized the one thing missing from his life is a good fist fight.

"I told your dog to shut up. People are trying to sleep, and he's been yapping for hours." Guys snickers and puts his dog in the house. I dehoist. The Caregiver is standing behind me. "I need more sleep than this," she says. "Between your mother and that dog, I'm just not getting enough sleep."

"I know. I know."
Mom, in nightgown and mismatched slippers, sneaks up behind The Caregiver as though trying to get my atten-tion. She looks frightened and confused. "She's trying to hurt me," she whispers conspiratorially, gesturing toward The Caregiver. ■

— John D'Agostino

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The Heroic Dope Quest



The few times I have smoked marijuana, it has made me a dull and unso- ci-able person. I really do not enjoy the effects of the drug. I grew up in San Francisco, the herb-sack of Amer- ica, and I have lived most of my 26 years within a 15-minute walk of the grimy corner of Haight and Ashbury, yet I have always remained an outsider to the marijuana culture. I can't roll a joint, I don't know how a bong works, and those scruffy pothead- people weird me out. I confess: I am a sharp-cornered, straight-edged square.

But this spring, something inside me compelled me to leave my home and undertake what struck me at the time as a heroic and noble journey. I would travel into the scorched wilds of Baja California, to the turquoise waters of the Sea of Cortez, in quest of a secret half-kilo stash of buried marijuana.

A friend of mine named Jackson told me of the hidden weed this win- ter. He'd discovered the salty green brick about five years ago, washed ashore on a desert island in the south- ern half of the Sea of Cortez. Pre- sumably it had fallen overboard from

one of the many drug-running skiffs which motor back and forth between Baja and the mainland of Mexico. Jackson was in the midst of a long kayaking journey when he found the weed, and as a diligent smoker, he carried it with him for several days while he traveled south. As he neared the great port of La Paz, however, the fear of get- ting caught in possession of so much contraband overwhelmed him. One morning, before breaking camp, he sealed the weed in a large Tupper- ware container and buried it on a bluff overlooking the sea.

The notion of seeking out this treasure crept into my head a few days after Jackson told me his story. Such a journey would be a fine way to pass another month or two of my slowly

puttering life, in which I held no per- manent job or any financial obliga- tions to woman or child.

One evening in late February, I asked Jackson to draw me a map. He recalled the local geography of the secret place from his memory, and in just moments he sketched out a wonderful little treasure map, with all the elements of a classic adven- ture — a tropical sea, a desert wilder- ness and, of course, the buried treas- ure. Using his pen as a pointer, Jack- son lectured me.

"You're going south past the vil-

"I BURIED THE WEED IN A CAIRN OF ROCKS, AND IT SHOULD BE RIGHT . . . ABOUT . . . THERE."

lage of Agua Verde right here, past this little ranch, two more arroyos. At the mouth of the second arroyo is the weed. It's at the south end of the beach, up on the bluff. It's at the base of the biggest mesquite tree you'll ever see. I buried the weed in a cairn of rocks, and it should be right...about...there." He drew a cross on the map and said, "X marks the spot."

I rode to San Diego on March 4, sitting beside a stranger I met through a Craig's List rideshare posting. He was a businessman of some sort, and he told me everything about his investments and holdings and dividends and, well, I soon stopped listening. I felt bad for him, since he was a week- end commuter and had to go back and forth 500 miles between his job and his home, while I was free to go to Mexico on a whim and look for buried treasure.

We arrived in San Diego in midafternoon, and I crossed the border into the hot, fuming filth of Tijuana, where an army of cab drivers waited.

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I said "No, thanks" to dozens before I reached the bus station. For about 20 dollars I purchased a ticket for San Quintin, 200 miles south on the Pacific coast, and then I camped for the night, there in the shrubs just off the highway. At sunrise I walked to the local gas station, where I waited around with a cup of coffee, talking in rusty Spanish to the drivers heading south. After just thirty minutes I picked up a ride with a trucker bound for La Paz. I rode with him for more than 400 miles, all the way to the green oasis town of Mulegé, where he let me out at about 4 p.m.

The marijuana still lay 100 miles farther southward. Baja's main highway passes within 30 miles of the secret spot, in fact, and I could very well have taken the bus — or hitched — almost all the way to the dope stash. But I have read many classic books of adventure by such authors as Robert Louis Stevenson and Homer, and I have learned through my studies that heroic odysseys tend to rely more on foot travel and boats than on public transportation. I believed that this journey of mine was a heroic odyssey, if ever such a thing has transpired in the realm of modern travel, and so I decided I would commence southward from Mulegé by the power of my legs.

I walked through the dusty streets of the small town, past rustic homes and bougainvillea gardens, in the shadows of tall mango trees and date palms, and then two miles along the estuary until I reached the beach on the Sea of Cortez. There I set up camp under a sandstone cliff. The town center was far away and there was no one around to bother me. Down the cobblestone shore was a lighthouse on top of a rocky promontory, and just beyond was the entrance to the estuary.

I went snorkeling that evening with my five-foot-long pole-spear. The water was 70 degrees or so, and after 20 minutes, I was just beginning to shiver when I perceived a large halibut 10 feet below me, not quite concealed under the sand. I took a deep breath, descended upon the fish and speared it through the head.

I would eat quite a few halibut in the following weeks, as well as delicacies like scallops, lobster, and snapper.

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Mainly, though, I would eat such lesser species as mullet, chub, triggerfish, and various members of the pitiful but delicious grunt family.

As I grilled my fish filets that first evening on the beach, I watched the local fleet of fishing skiffs arrive at the mouth of the Mulegé River and beach themselves like sick whales inside the estuary. From the distance, and through the tangles of mangrove trees, I could see the fishermen filleting their catch on the shore as flocks of squawking gulls swarmed in on them.

The geography of the Mulegé region presented a slight problem for me as a foot traveler. Immediately south of town runs the long and narrow Bay of Concepción, 30 miles from north to south and heavily developed with homes and resorts along the shoreline. I did not care to see that region. However, the bay is defined by Point Concepción, a long and narrow wilderness peninsula which finally tapers into the sea four miles straight out from Mulegé. That barren finger of land was where I

wanted to begin my long trek — but I would need a ride to get there, and one of those fishermen would have to be it.

So at dawn the next day, I walked back toward the village and inquired at the door of the first house I passed about finding a boat ride. A little old lady with hands covered in tortilla dough directed me to the home of a nearby fisherman. He lived around the corner from her, up a slight hill and past the small church, in a humble stucco home with beautiful olive and fig trees out front. I knocked and the old man answered. We spoke on the doorstep while his kids and wife peeked out at us from the shadows inside. The fisherman and I chatted in Spanish, and in just five minutes the arrangements were made. We would leave in the morning at 8 a.m. Ten dollars — or 100 pesos — was the price, and he was to dump me off at the end of Point Concepción as he headed out to sea to throw his harpoon at hammerhead sharks and manta rays alongside the rest of the Mulegé fleet. We shook

hands on the deal and parted.

The boat ride took 20 minutes. The sea was flat as glass, and we moved at 30 miles per hour. We traveled around the point to the far side of the peninsula. I took a look behind us and saw the distant greenery of Mulegé disappear behind the land. We motored up to a quiet sandy beach, and we both climbed out over the bow. I unloaded my pack and my three gallons of water, then unfolded my AAA road map and spread it over the sand. I have a fair bit of sense in my head, and I asked the old man, who spoke not a lick of my own language, where I would be able to get more water.

“Are there any fishing camps along the shore?”

“Not for 40 kilometers,” he said. “But look: This is Three Palms Beach,” and he pressed his old leathery fingertip into my map. “You will find water here.”

He said I would easily recognize the beach by a small cluster of date palms, and that I would find a natural spring just 30 feet from the sea.

“The beach is only six

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miles south of here," he said. "You will arrive tonight. It is like paradise; there is all the water you can drink, and fish to eat."

He then warned me darkly that in the remoter regions of the Baja coast, drug traffic is heavy and one must be careful to avoid hidden caches of marijuana and cocaine.

"Lots of drug smuggling around here," he said. "Do not investigate suspicious trash on the beach. Be careful."

We wished each other well, and I handed him the money and shoved him off from shore. He revved the outboard and shot away to the northeast. He left me utterly alone, a feature in life which I enjoy, and I commenced southward with a happy bounce in my step.

I felt no danger from drug traffickers on this lonely coastline, and I eagerly inspected all the suspicious beach trash I came across. I found no contraband, but I had a wonderful time. To my provisions I added three full cans of Coke, a half bottle of rum, some shoeshine polish,

a tube of wetsuit glue, a pair of aviator sunglasses, a faded dollar bill, and even some bottled drinking water. I found, too, a face mask of the sort worn by mountain climbers and bank robbers. I decided that Mexican drug runners must use them, as well.

That first day out I stumbled upon the beachside grave of a very lonely dead man. A wooden cross marked the spot. The grave was old and the cross toppled over, but the man evidently still had some good friends among the living; numerous candle jars and tequila bottles had been laid on top of the rocky mound. Still, the man was dead, and this troubled me.

Travel was grueling. The beaches were long and of shifty cobblestones. Every step I took required two or three times the energy required to take just one step along civilized surfaces like sidewalks and carpeted hallways. And when the tide came up against the cliff faces, I had to contend with hundred-yard stretches of waist-deep water, where waves sloshed and tugged at me and small stingrays lay

stacked like booby traps over the sandy patches.

Near sunset I came around a bend in the shore and saw several large palm trees. I counted six of them, yet I knew that this had to be Three Palms. The beach was lovely, with sand to sleep on and a rocky reef just off the shore where I could hunt fish. I saw plenty of driftwood to burn, and a few large stones that I could turn into seats and tables. I took my load off and wondered how long I might remain in this paradise; this would depend upon the spear fishing and the shellfish foraging — but I was ahead of myself. I needed first and foremost to find that spring.

I never did. Three Palms Beach runs for just 100 yards between rocky bluffs, so there was not much area for me to search. Yet I found no sign of the gurgling fountain of life. I inspected the roots of the palm trees at the base of the sandstone cliff and found the earth wet and sticky. But I looked and looked and the spring itself was nowhere to be found.

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noon, I drank the very last of my water. The temperature was about 95 degrees in the sun — there was no shade — and the terrain of arroyos and high bluffs was punishing. Whether I rested or walked, I sweated profusely, and with eight more long miles still remaining before the village of San Sebastian, I considered myself virtually doomed if I could procure no water before then. I wondered if startled drug traffickers, stumbled upon as they filled their skiff with contraband, would shoot me or save me. I hoped for the latter and pushed onward.

By a great turn of luck, I encountered a small, ramshackle fish camp late in the

afternoon. Goats milled about inside a small wooden corral, several boats lay beached on the shore, and four fishermen lounged on cots in the shade of a palm-thatched *palapa*. Half a dozen mangy mutts of unknown lineage took notice of my intrusion and began to circle me and bark savagely. The men awoke, rubbed their eyes, and threw rocks at the dogs. This quieted the animals and sent them back to their daybeds of rusty cans and dirty diapers.

The men, too, seemed stunned by my sudden presence, but they did not growl and bite at my heels; they were courteous gentlemen. I smiled bashfully and shook my empty milk jugs, and their faces lit

up.

“Water!” one said in alarm, and he leaped to his feet and led me straight to the kitchen shack where there sat two 50-gallon drums of well water and a length of rubber hose. I siphoned my bottles full and drank my fill. The hour was late, and the men invited me to eat fish for dinner with them and sleep on their beach. I accepted and we had a fine evening. Their wives, children, and the dogs joined us around the outdoor wooden table. The ambience was rustic and charming, with old nets and trash strewn carelessly every which way, and the meal was genuine and delicious. We had coffee first, with mesquite honey and fresh

goat’s milk. Then came locally caught yellowtail, seared on a hot skillet, seasoned with oregano and paprika and drizzled with Mexican olive oil. On the side were dishes of creamy refried beans, tortillas, and sliced goat cheese made that very day. As the sun set and the women went to clearing the table, the fishermen and I opened a bottle of fine cognac — or was it cheap mescal? Yes, yes, I remember now; it was cheap mescal.

The liquor was powerful medicine for my aching body, but even stronger was the weed that we smoked on the beach after dark. The youngest of the fishermen — hardly more than a teenager — produced the joint from his

pocket, lit a match and set the joint alight. He handed it right over to me, and I balked at the sight of the thing. I had been anticipating the day when I would take a seat under the great mesquite tree all by myself and light up a joint of Jackson’s buried treasure, to smoke at my own pace in the solitude of the desert. I had not taken a hit in years, and these sudden circumstances caught me totally off guard.

“Go on,” the young man goaded, for his joint was burning away in my fingers.

Well, why not, I thought; it’s just a harmless herb. I took a long, deep hit, for I recalled a man once telling me that Mexican marijuana is weak as tea — but this weed was amaz-

ingly potent. As the men took their own respective hits and kept the joint moving, I abruptly reeled backward. I stood up and managed not to fall, and I excused myself from the men’s company. I heard them giggling as I staggered into the darkness and lay down beneath some palms. My head spun out of control for a few moments, and I nearly vomited. But I kept down my dinner, fell asleep, and slept soundly until sunrise.

Before leaving, we all had coffee, and I filled my belly again with well water. The men even insisted I take a baggie packed with dope for the road, as well as plenty of rolling papers. I accepted the gift out of kindness, and I fig-

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ured on using the goods as barter later on, but the little baggie of weed inspired in me a curious feeling of power and independence. It was like the day I turned 21 and realized I could buy all the liquor I wanted without having to ask my older sister for help.

I really am a straight-edged square. My parents raised me well inside of four sturdy walls and a trusty ceiling — they really did. Yet just a mile down the beach, the wild urge to stop and have a smoke overwhelmed me. I had my very own weed, my own papers and a lighter. I felt like I had the world in my hands.

So I plopped down in the sand, pulled out my contraband and tried to imitate what I had seen other peo-

ple do dozens of times before. It was delicate work, and I fumbled with the crumbling weed and the paper for five minutes. The resulting doobie was lumpy and ill-shaped, but it held together. I lit the end and inhaled — though not so deeply as the night before — and just like that I was alone on a tropical beach, smoking weed.

I went snorkeling in the clear blue water as my head buzz developed. In just six feet of water I saw a moderately sized barred snapper, or pargo, poking its head out from a crevice. Many sport fishermen claim that the barred pargo is the strongest fish in the sea, pound for pound, and from my experience I do not contest this bold proclamation. I dived down with

my spear ready, and the fish retreated from sight, but I peered into the crack and saw it lodged comfortably against the rear wall. I took aim and speared the pargo in the head. It went wild and nearly wrenched the pole-spear from my grip. The fish burrowed into a deadend crevice, but its tail and torso were left exposed. I pulled out the spear, quickly took aim again and hit the fish mortally behind the gills. I floated at the surface while the pargo bled to death, then dived down once more, reached in, and pulled it out by the tail.

Back on the beach I stuffed the fish's belly cavity with garlic and oregano and grilled it whole on the fire — the favored Mexican method of cooking snapper. I just

barely managed to eat it all, and the feast, combined with the weed, left me feeling so groggy and altered that I could only sprawl out in the shade of a rock ledge and read my book, Mark Twain's *Life on the Mississippi*. After a hazy hour or two, I resumed my southward advance. I was high as a kite, and I have experienced no greater state of anxiety than when I came around a rocky bend and saw a group of Mexican soldiers lounging in the shade of some camouflage tarpaulins 60 feet away. Several were already looking at me, and it was too late to turn and run.

The soldiers were young men, all armed with intimidating machine guns. Three of them stood and came over to greet me as I approached.

They said they were camped out for a month on the beach while practicing training operations in preparation for some imaginary war.

"Ah, very well, very well," I stammered nervously. I smiled broadly and continued, "But this is a time of peace. You have a very tranquil life, no?"

They shrugged and said life was indeed very tranquil out here in the Baja bush — boring, really. The effects of the weed gave no sign of tailing off, and I wanted to make some lighthearted chat and quickly get out of there, but the three fellows had me surrounded. They asked where I was from and what I was up to. They were bored silly by their own lives, and they thirsted for information from

the outside world. They questioned me about San Francisco and my fantastic metropolitan lifestyle. They asked how many women lived there, and if they were pretty. Another of the fellows asked if one could easily buy weed in my hometown.

I said I believed so. The same soldier then grinned and asked if I had any weed on me at the moment.

"Of course not!" I said emphatically — and I might have believed my own lie had the soldier not dilated his nostrils, sniffed at the air, and smiled. With that I suddenly realized that he could smell the weed on me and see it in my eyes. They all could.

The rest of the soldiers, at rest among the mesquite thorns, caught wind of the

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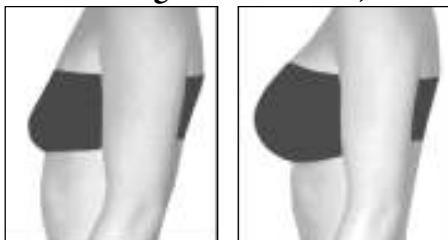
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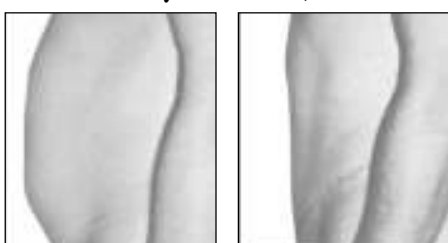
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conversation and began to stir. My face grew hot, and a sickly feeling squeezed my gut. Several more soldiers stood up and joined the convention. They, too, held machine guns, stared hard at my eyes, and grinned eagerly.

The encounter with the Mexican army turned out not as terrible as I had feared. The soldiers were harmless young men, and they good-naturedly badgered me into producing the baggie of weed and the rolling papers from my pack. They did not seize the contraband from my hands, and it dawned on me that these boys did not want to escort me in shackles to La Paz. They just wanted to smoke.

There were 12 of them, and we smoked about two-thirds of the weed. Before I moved on, I gladly donated the rest of it to them as a gesture of friendship. I really didn't care to smoke any more, anyway, until that ceremonious hour when I reached the mother lode, buried under the great mesquite tree and marked by that majestic X on my hand-drawn treasure map.

The Baja California marijuana trade is prolific, and many gringos with homes on the beach have drug stories to tell. In San Nicolás, 80 miles north of the secret stash, a salty ex-pat told me of a day eight years ago when he found on the beach at dawn a skiff filled with weed, riddled with government bullet holes, and splattered with the blood of slain smugglers.

And in Juncalito, 40 miles north of the stash, another retired American man told of an incident in which a boat from Mazatlan left nine tons of weed on a nearby island for pickup. Some local fishermen promptly caught wind of the booty and went out with a trio of fishing skiffs to take it back to camp. They were caught in the act, however, and were nearly executed.

And in San Cosme, 20 miles north of the stash, a weathered Baja beach bum living out of a trailer told me of the time he fire-bombed a gasoline cache used by the local drug mob. The *federales* had been corrupted with bribes, and they arrested the gringo and locked him up in La Paz for a week.

In addition to these gringo homesteads that I found along the coastline, I regularly came across fish camps and tiny villages. Littered though they were with the

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inevitable piles of fish heads, cans, and diapers, I always enjoyed the company of the nice families that I found here. A major perk, too, of encountering these settlements was the opportunity to buy goat cheese. Someone on the beach usually kept a herd, milked the animals each morning, and produced excellent snow-white cheese on a daily basis. After tending to the matter of water, I would always ask if any cheese was available for purchase. If so, I would offer two dollars and see what negotiations might follow. My best score came in the *pueblito* of Agua Verde, where an old lady sold me a five-pound block of fresh goat cheese — at 40 cents per pound.

Aside from cheese, there are other products to be bought in such small and rustic places. There may be oranges, or grape wine, or fresh beef. Tortillas are a standard item, of course, but not everyone will take the time to make two dozen for a hungry stranger. Sometimes I had to walk from door to door for 30 minutes in search of a man or woman willing to mix some dough,

pat the things out, and cook them on an iron skillet.

But in Agua Verde it was easy; the cheese lady made me a pile of corn tortillas for an extra buck. With my goods procured, I went diving off the beach, and I quickly speared a two-foot halibut, then made tacos for dinner. In the stillness of the evening as my fire smoldered in the pit, I glanced over the map. I was just eight miles north of the buried treasure; I would arrive the next day.

I drank coffee for breakfast, then began the final leg of my journey. I hiked inland for most of the final miles, for some severe cliffs blocked the way along the shore. Goats had worn a clear path through the hills, and the going was easy. I passed a small ranch shaded by date palms and populated by burros, but I had plenty of water, so I marched on by. I took a break at a sandy beach a mile later. Here I downshifted from my AAA road map to the hand-drawn treasure map Jackson had made for me so long ago, in the land of San Francisco.

continued on page 72

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Brazilian Bikini **\$179** | Full Back **\$299** | Shoulders **\$129**
Lip **\$39** | Chin **\$49** | Lip & Chin Combo **\$79** | Chest or Abdomen **\$150**
Legs-Full (both) **\$299** | Legs-Partial (upper or lower) (both) **\$175**

Restylane

from **\$249** per syringe

Fills wrinkles around nose and mouth. Plumps lips for a youthful, "pouty" look.

Lasts 6-9 months.

\$25 off all Restylane 1cc syringes every Monday.

IPL Photofacial

First treatment **\$99** (reg. \$249)

Eliminates sun damage, brown spots and broken capillaries. Shrinks enlarged pores and corrects rosacea.

Photofacial & Microdermabrasion Combo First treatment **\$149** (reg. \$314)

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Medical-strength treatment.

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Polaris™ Skin Tightening and Wrinkle Reduction

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Polaris wrinkle reduction combines radio frequency and laser to smooth even deep wrinkles **without pain**. Tightens and smooths face, brow, neck, breasts, etc. Reduces pore size and acne scarring. No downtime.

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Face-lifts at a glance

A face-lift can “reset the clock” on the aging process, enhance your appearance and self-esteem, and restore a more youthful and refreshed look by redistributing saggy cheek fat, smoothing out deep wrinkles, tightening underlying muscles of the face and neck, and removing excess skin.

Procedure: Improve sagging facial skin and loose neck skin by removing excess fat, tightening muscles, redraping skin. Most often done on men and women over 40.

Length: Several hours.

Anesthesia: Local with sedation or general.

In/Outpatient: Usually outpatient. Some patients may require a short inpatient stay.

Recovery: Back to work in 10 to 14 days. More strenuous activity: 2 weeks or more. Bruising: 2 to 3 weeks. Must limit exposure to sun for several months.

Effects Last: Usually 5 to 10 years.

Nose surgery

Surgery to reshape the nose is one of the most common of all plastic surgery procedures.



Model

Rhinoplasty can reduce or increase the size of your nose, change relative shape or angle, or it may correct a birth defect or injury, or help relieve some breathing problems.

Rhinoplasty can enhance your appearance and self-confidence—although the best candidates are those looking for improvement, not perfection, in the way they look.

Liposuction

Having a fit, well-proportioned body is important for your physical agility and health. The way you feel about your body can greatly affect the quality of your life. Have you tried dieting and exercising only to get discouraged? Excess fat is not always caused by poor diet and exercise. Often genetics plays a large part in areas of the body that maintain excess fat and will not respond to diet or exercise. While liposuction is not a replacement for a healthy lifestyle, it can make you look and feel better, which in turn could do wonders for your social and personal goals.

Tummy tuck

A “tummy tuck,” or abdominoplasty, can significantly enhance your appearance. The procedure involves the removal of excess skin and fat from the abdomen and tightening the muscles of the abdominal wall. This procedure can dramatically

reduce the appearance of a protruding abdomen, remove excess bulk, and re-create a waistline that has otherwise been stretched over time.

Breast augmentation

Breast surgery is one of the most frequently performed cosmetic procedures in the United States today. It can dramatically improve the appearance of a woman’s breasts and bring balance and proportion to the body. Men have also found breast reduction a quick and effective way to refine the upper torso.



Model

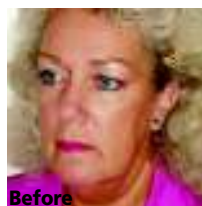
Actual Patients



Before



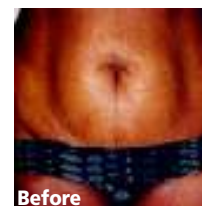
After



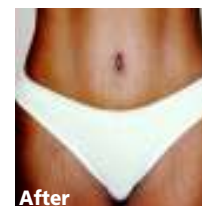
Before



After



Before



After

LASER AND SKIN CARE

Laser hair removal \$39*

Lip or chin area

How is laser hair removal performed? A doctor or an RN administers pulses of light to your skin from a handpiece that contains a cooling tip. The tip of the hand-piece will be gently glided, administering the light pulses evenly to your hair follicles.

How does it work? The laser light passes through the outer layer of skin and is selectively absorbed by the hair follicle. The laser energy heats the pigment and effectively disables the hair follicle.

What does the process feel like? First, there is a cool feeling from the contact of the laser-source tip and

\$59* Underarms or bikini area

\$149* Lower leg

Full-body treatments also available.



Model

then there is a slight tingling sensation from the laser light itself. Most patients tolerate the procedure well, but some areas of the body are more sensitive than others. Topical anesthesia is always available for those who may have sensitive skin.

How many treatments are required? Research indicates that between 20% and 30% of the hair follicles are in the growing or anagen stage at any time. As a result, multiple treatments are required. The actual number varies from one individual to the next, but our experience indicates that 3-8 treatments at 4 to 6 weeks apart are best for optimal effect.



Botox® \$99*

Botox® treatments are one of the few procedures we do that result in high patient satisfaction within a short period of time. In fact, the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS) 2001 Statistics on Cosmetic Surgery listed Botox® injections as the fastest-growing cosmetic treatment performed by surgeons in the United States.

Botox® can simply, safely and effectively improve: frown lines between the eyebrows, horizontal forehead lines, crow's feet around the eyes.

Rosacea treatment \$199

Photofacial treatments are full face, neck and/or chest treatments using pulses of visible light that effectively improve facial redness and flushing as well as the visible signs of sun damage and aging. The end result of treatment is smoother, more even-toned skin with less redness and decreased flushing, diminished blood vessels, and more balanced pigmentation.



Model



Dermal filler Restylane®

\$399 1 cc syringe

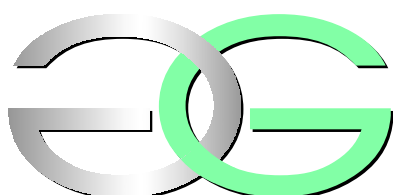
Restylane® is a safe and natural cosmetic dermal filler that restores volume and fullness to the skin to correct facial wrinkles, lines, and plumps lips. Restylane is a cosmetic dermal filler made of hyaluronic acid, a natural substance that already exists in the human body. The hyaluronic acid in Restylane is a crystal-clear gel called NASHA™, or Non-Animal Stabilized Hyaluronic Acid. It is currently approved in the U.S. for the treatment of facial wrinkles and folds such as nasolabial folds, which are the lines from the nose to the corners of the mouth.



Model

Age spot treatment

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Ask the LASIK Expert

Custom Eye Surgery Specialist



Dr. Lakhani is a cornea and refractive surgery specialist who has been performing the latest techniques in laser vision correction at Global Laser Vision. He is a board-certified diplomat of the American Board of Ophthalmology and a fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Dr Lakhani is considered to be the choice of many fellow physicians and their families when it comes to LASIK.

Astigmatism

Astigmatism is a very common vision problem that most people have a tough time describing and understanding. It is usually accompanied with nearsightedness or farsightedness. Astigmatism can usually be corrected with eyeglasses, contact lenses or refractive surgery (LASIK). Just like nearsightedness or farsightedness, astigmatism plays a role in terms of your vision. Most people who have a small amount of astigmatism may not even notice it or have a slight blur in their vision. Larger amounts of astigmatism can give you headaches or eyestrain, and distort or blur your vision at all distances.

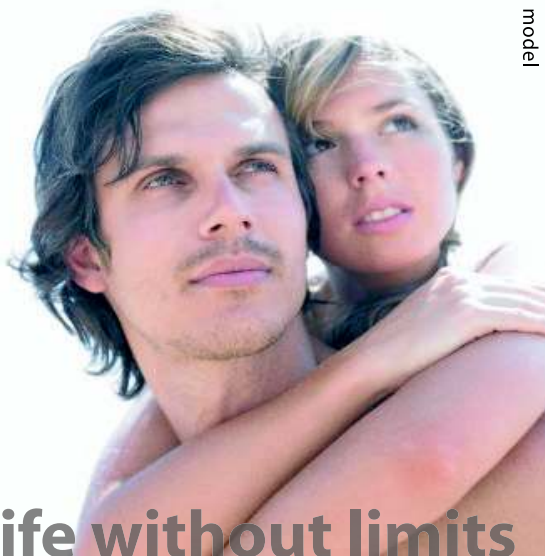
Astigmatism is commonly caused by an irregularly shaped cornea, which is the part of your eye that a contact lens is placed on. Astigmatism occurs when the cornea is shaped more like an oblong oval football than a spherical ball, which is the normal shape. This irregular shape causes light rays to focus on two points in the back of your eye, rather than on just one. Astigmatism can be categorized as regular or irregular depending on the type of shape the cornea is in and where it is located on the cornea. Regular astigmatism is usually easy to correct but irregular astigmatism can be complicated and more difficult to correct, depending on the extent of the irregularity and its cause.

Usually astigmatism is hereditary, i.e. it is passed down through generations and may get worse over time. It may also result from an eye injury that has caused scarring on the cornea, from certain types of eye surgery, or from keratoconus, a disease that causes a gradual thinning of the cornea.

Astigmatism is commonly caused by an irregularly shaped cornea...

Treatment for astigmatism usually consists of glasses or contact lenses (Toric or Rigid Gas Permeable). Many people feel that refractive surgery cannot treat astigmatism. This was true several years ago, but now LASIK and other forms of refractive surgery are **excellent** procedures for correcting astigmatism.

Today, when patients come to our center to find out whether they are good candidates for



life without limits

refractive surgery, they first have a full eye examination by one of our six doctors who then will review all of findings and discuss the treatment options with the patients. Many a

times, patients with one particular refractive error, such as astigmatism, may have more than one treatment option; so, it is imperative that the patient is aware of all of the risks and benefits associated with each of the treatment options available before making the final decision.



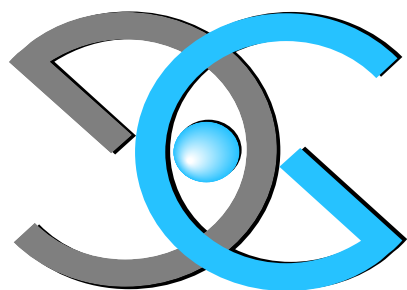
Our doctors will help guide the patients through the process of making an informed decision on the procedure that is best suited for the patients' particular needs. In the majority of cases, astigmatism should no longer be considered an untreatable condition.

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The Heroic Dope Quest

continued from page 67

I reviewed the directions. After one more length of rocky shore I would find a sandy beach at the mouth of a large arroyo — and that was it.

I was just two miles away. I grew giddy and threw sand in the air like money, then jumped to my feet and pushed on. At the start of the last beach, I felt like a child on Christmas morning. Even today I can almost feel the fluttery feeling in my stomach as I scrambled the last 10 yards up the bluff, toward the looming ancient mesquite tree. I was so young, so alive, so full of hope. Oh well.

It must have been Hur-

ricane Martin. The big storm came along in September of 2003 and dropped two feet of rain in a day on most of the Baja peninsula. It took the lives of seven people and washed away homes, cows, tractors, and palm trees. Hurricane Martin apparently washed away my half-kilo of marijuana as well.

I kicked through the rocks around the base of the tree for a half hour, but there remained not a sign of Jackson's cairn, and no part of the Tupperware container.

Eventually, I sat down in the shade of the tree and waited for the blazing sun to sink behind the western sierra. The shadows grew long, and I grew sentimental. I considered my lonesome fate here in this scorched desert

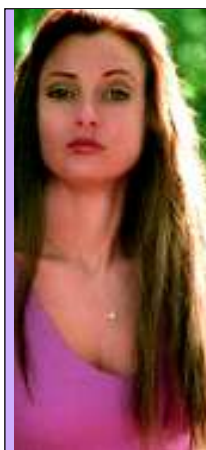
place. Almost all the heroes of my favorite adventure classics are stricken by misfortune at some point, and I felt I had now joined their ranks. Such ruminations warmed me, and I thought it a shame that no wistful readers of literature could behold my tragic outcome.

I had to remind myself in the shade of the tree that it was only a block of dope, and that it was probably for the best that I had not found it. The last thing I wanted was to become a pothead. Back in the States, if I were to adopt and maintain such a title, I would have to learn the marijuana lifestyle; I would have to make connections, snoop around in dank alleyways, avoid cops, and find quiet places to smoke undetected, and I did not think I'd been ordained for such work.

I am, after all, just a sharp-cornered, straight-edged square. I believe I have already explained this feature of myself. I was simply brought up that way. Yes, there was the time in my youth when naive visions of grandeur and heroism lured me far astray, into the terrible deserts of Baja California to seek out a Tupperware container full of — but I've already told the story. It was just a short chapter in my life. Let us now move on. ■

— Alastair Bland

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LOOK DEEP INTO MY CRYSTAL BALL

I'M ROLLING WEST IN MY UNHEATED VAN, MAKE A RIGHT TOWARD THE OCEAN ON PROSPECT.

It's a crisp Monday morning and downtown La Jolla is already too crowded. I poke around Silverado and Girard seeking the offices of Miss Kay, "Psychic Spiritualist Consultant." I had called earlier and made an appointment.

I'm amazed to find that Miss Kay operates out of a big house on the corner of Cave and Prospect, the precise edge of downtown. This is a big, two-story house, painted in a discreet Day-Glo pink. There are several garish signs on the lawn and inside the windows to let you know that, yes, this is palm-reading headquarters. I park, stroll onto the walkway, climb three steps. On my left is a red-brick handicap ramp.

I enter the house, swing into a spacious living room. The area is 30 by 20 feet, very clean and sparse. A white-gray throw rug sits in the room's center, a large couch along the west wall, before it a substantial coffee table. Alone on the table is a vase of fresh yellow daisies. The room has two unmatched easy chairs placed on either end. On the north side, a man sits in one of the chairs, beside a big-screen TV tuned to TNT. The feel is 1950s therapist holding pen, done up by someone who buys carefully at thrift stores.

I take the empty chair and wait. Five minutes pass and a woman in her mid-40s, blonde crew cut, almost a military burr cut, five-foot-ten, oval face, no makeup, wearing a white blouse and a tan denim jumper enters from a side door. She asks if I was the man who called.

"Yes."

"One minute."

The male sitting across the room folds his hands. He is perhaps 45 years old, dark hair, clean-shaven, wearing purple sweatpants and a blue polo shirt. We sit in silence. There is nothing to read. The TV is on, showing a Yogi Bear cartoon. The toon is set at Christmastime, and it's all about how Mrs.



Miss Kay lists her services: palm reading, tarot, and so on. "Okay." I take another deep breath.

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Sunter is going to sell her mountain lodge to make room for a freeway, unless Yogi and all the chipmunks and forest animals trick her into having such a good time at the Christmas party that she'll give them the joint for free. Mrs. Sunter arrives at the lodge, and the forest creatures begin to torture her, drop heavy kitchen appliances on her feet, slop food on her new dress, tie her up in Christmas ribbons.

Miss Kay appears again, motions to the man. He gets up and follows her into the hallway. The door is closed hard. I lunge at the television set, grab the remote (which is tied to the

unit), attempt to change the channel, hoping to find the Oregon/Oregon State game. Idiot appliance won't function. Sigh, return to seat, another Yogi cartoon begins. This time Yogi is on a sleigh and the forest animals are singing about how he's never had a Christmas because he was always hibernating, so Yogi doesn't know about kisses under the mistletoe and Christmas carols and getting presents and gorging oneself at Christmas dinner and being insulted by relatives.

After ten minutes the man reappears and then leaves the building. Miss Kay re-enters the living room, says, "One minute."

Yogi is standing next to a Christmas tree surrounded by chipmunks, raccoons, a dog, and a deer. They're all telling Yogi what a jerk he is for sleeping through Christmas.

Miss Kay reappears. "Please come in here."

I follow Miss Kay into a very small room, maybe six by six feet. We take chairs sitting opposite each other; our knees almost touch. She speaks with a low, indistinct Scandinavian accent. Miss Kay lists her services: palm-reading, tarot, and so on. I eagerly interrupt, "I want the crystal ball reading." This is, of course, the most expensive item, 45 bucks. Miss Kay nods her

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head, removes a large, jagged crystal from a nearby window sill. I feel disappointment; I want the big, fat, round crystal ball.

Miss Kay passes the crystal to me and says, "I want you to hold this in your hand and concentrate on two wishes." I take the rock, close my eyes, and wish for money and health.

Miss Kay begins each sentence speaking quite loudly, then trailing off into a tiny whisper, like riding a roller coaster or sitting next to the ocean. It is soothing, reminds me of my mother reading me to bed. "Whatever I sense in your reading, if it's good news or bad news, do you want to hear it?"

"Uh-hum, yes."

"If I tell you something and you don't understand it, just ask me."

"Okay." I take another deep breath.

"You are a man that I feel will have a very long life." (*All right, that's a good start.*) "It's a very long life, but not too much health. Nothing serious, but I do feel a weakness, perhaps some medication ahead of you, but nothing major." (*Hmm... would prefer something a little more robust.*) "You're a very sensitive person; you have hurt feelings very easily. You don't like to show your feelings to other people. In the past you've had a lot of faith in people, a lot of trust in people." (*How true.*) "Now, over the years, your faith has died down. Your friends, and your own family, have let you down." (*Yes, that's unfortunate, that's very sad but true.*) "At this time in your life you're sorting out people in your life." (*Actually, that is true.*)

"You are a very old spirit, a very old soul, which means you've had many, many past lives. You've had

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very high positions, positions of strength." (*I knew it.*) "You've guided other people many times. You've done too much for others. Now is the time that you've got to do for yourself. Start sorting out those people in your life from your past, open up new doors, close old

doors.

"Three years ago back, your life had a major change; you're not the same person anymore. Three years ago back, you took a new direction." (*Three years ago, what the hell was I doing? Writing a story on tugboats, riding around the bay, drinking*

coffee in the wheel house with the captain...)

"A family member of yours, I see, will have a major surgery. When the surgery occurs, you will be very concerned about that. It will be successful."

Miss Kay's voice rises to a crescendo. "I also feel a change of homes for you, a change in residence. Where you live right now makes you very frustrated, you're getting very fed up, change is good." I'm still holding the rock, leaning forward with eyes closed, feeling like an idiot, wondering what Yogi is doing.

"Someone next to you, I see gossip. This gossip has a lot of sharp teeth to it. You have not heard of this gossip at this time, but you will very shortly, and you will be very hurt by it, very concerned about it. But I'm going to advise you to close your ears to it." (*All right, I can do that.*)

"You work hard toward your goals, ever since you were 14, 15 years old." (*That's right. Life hasn't been a day at the beach for me. I have — hold it just a second. Actually, I was a lazy kid and a*

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lazy adult. I was well past 40 before I learned how to work. In fact, I never had a job until I was 28.) "You work hard to reach your goals, but today, in your heart and in your mind, you haven't reached them. Spiritually, financially, there is a struggle within your life." (Life is a constant struggle, that's very true.)

Miss Kay's voice climbs the mountain and jumps off. "You have good luck from God, never doubt it.

You've had recent financial losses, losses that have not been from the mistakes of your hand or decisions that you've made. But next year will be a very good year for you financially." (All right, good.)

Miss Kay leans forward and takes the crystal from my hand, returns it to the windowsill. I look into my caregiver's eyes. "I also feel very strongly through love, relationships, you've been hurt." (Right on the but-

ton...people, occasionally, do not understand my more subtle, generous qualities.) "Someone you put a tremendous amount of faith in, someone you've put a tremendous amount of love into, has mistreated you. And today, your heart and mind are troubled about a compatibility with a woman. I see from the past you've tried to open up emotionally, and yet you haven't succeeded. You think something will come to fix it, but it hasn't worked.

"There are some trips and travels overseas next year. There is a reason for these trips. They are not pleasure trips, they are business trips. Travel on water will be soon." Miss Kay pauses, a neutral look appears on her face. "What worries you, what are your problems?"

I stammer, gulp, and begin to lie. "Well, uh, I've just come from Alaska. My wife ran off with another man. Been with her nine years, and she just run off one night. So I came down here. Didn't know anybody, thought I'd spend the winter somewhere warm. Now

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I can't find any work — I sit around drinking too much, thinking bad thoughts."

"What kind of work do you do?"

"I work out of the Laborers Union." Which is mostly true; I did work out of the Laborers Union in Alaska, and if a woman didn't run off on me, well, a lot of them thought about it.

"How long have you been here?"

"Three months."

"How long since you've heard from this woman?"

"Four months."

Miss Kay muffles a shout, "She's not the woman for your marriage! She is the woman I see who will try to come back into your life. I don't see marriage.

"You have good luck from God, never doubt this. You were born under a very lucky star. Many people are jealous. Last year, this year, has been a very strong struggle in your life. No matter how much effort you give, it's not enough. You have a dark cloud around you."

This one hits home. I have a vision of a bygone lover walking along the beach with me in Santa Cruz. The winter sun is setting and we are arguing again. She swirls around in a rage, glares at me, blurts out, "You black cloud son of a bitch!"

"And yet you never did want nothing from no one. I see you've always done, always comforted people.

You could walk into a room of strange people, and some would hesitate to talk to you. There's truly a presence around you that is dark."

Miss Kay has found a portion of me I try to hide, the one quality I wish, above others, that wasn't me. A long while back I was a graduate-student talk therapist, had my little nest of SSI

"I can see for you that there is one woman that loves and cares for you.

... and yet there seems to be many doubts you have with her."

You have accomplished much, but still today, in your heart, in your mind, you have not reached your goals. And yet there is a darkness, in your presence, all around you. Tell me, do you believe in God?"

"I don't know."

"A superior being?"

"Yes."

"We have many religions, but one spiritual light.

clients, and I know that seeing people's bullshit is the easy part. It's getting them to change, that's where the work is. Jesus, five minutes and I'm taking her seriously. Forever a sucker.

"There is a lot of blockage there. Are you willing to have some spiritual guidance? Don't doubt it."

I ask, "When you say spiritual guidance, what do

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you do?"

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"I live in El Cajon."

"If I start to work for you, will you be able to collect this \$90?"

I love the "collect this \$90," as if it's a quail or a rabbit or an antique porcelain bowl. I reply, "Not yet, rent is due."

"I want you to think about what I said and come

back. Next year I see changes in employment. You'd do better to work for yourself. Remain in this area. Think of what I said, and try and see me again."

I fork over \$45, back out of the tiny room, and exit the house. Total time before the crystal ball, 13 minutes. I have come, in middle age, to regard the entire therapeutic "community" as a particularly noxious white-middle-class hustle whose true purpose is to destroy the English language. But I must own that 45 bucks for 13 minutes has put Miss Kay on top of the food chain. Although the talk-talk may not be much better with a shrink, at least

you can get legal scrip and make the wretch listen to your boring life while you're at it.

* * *

"Your name?"

"Patrick Daugherty."

"There will be money coming for you, but you will have to sign some kind of papers before you receive this money."

"Now, you do want the crystal ball, right?"

"Right."

Speaking is Madame Ruth, "Spiritual Psychic

Palm Reader." Madame Ruth is more outwardly exotic than Miss Kay. She has a dark tan — Mexican ancestry, I guess — stands 5'6", maybe 45 years old. She has dark hair, brown eyes, a sharp nose. One thinks

"Gypsy." One thinks, "Where is my wallet?"

I arrived at 60th and University to find a small, 40-year-old, one-story, slap-

up California house, oddly set alone in the middle of a busy retail district. The front door was open so I knocked on the door frame. No one answered. I placed my nose on the screen door, shouted, "Helloooo." I could see through the living room and into the kitchen where a young, heavysset blonde woman was holding a baby. She frowned, then hollered back, "Wait out there."

Beside me, on the cement slab porch, are two ancient, rotting lounge chairs. I take a seat and brace myself against the cold wind as it blows off University Avenue. Within two minutes Madame Ruth arrives, walks past me, and opens the door

to a tiny room. The room has a chair for clients, a small desk, and a desk chair. On the desk is a statue of the Virgin Mary, a handful of large inch-in-diameter brown candles, and a white, leather-bound Holy Bible. Behind the desk, on the wall, hangs what appears to be one of those Tijuana velvet tapestries of the Last Supper.

Madame Ruth places a small crystal ball on the table's edge. I feel another pang of disappointment. I wanted a large crystal ball, a very large crystal ball with smoke and stuff inside. This one is maybe three inches around and sits on cheap, gaudy, yellow metal legs. I also want the hand move-

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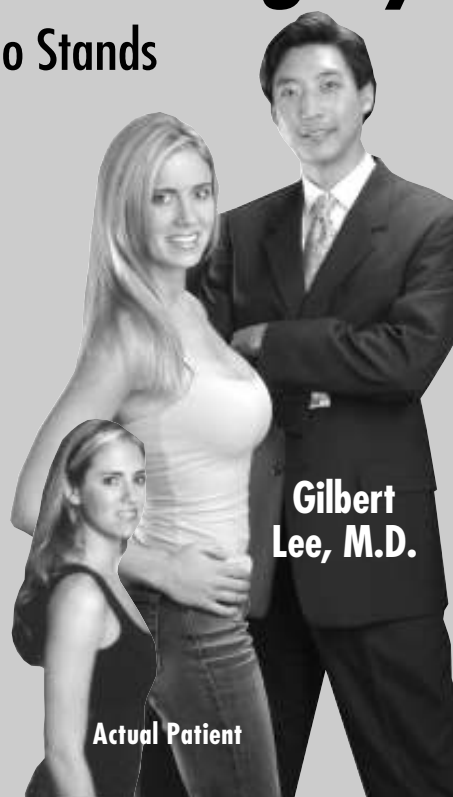
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ments. Want Madame Ruth's hands to do magician stuff over the crystal ball while her eyes go oggie-boggie.

I get nothing.

Miss Ruth speaks in what I take to be a border Mexican accent, although I'm not sure. Hers is a low, firm voice. "Now, what I want you to do is put your hands on top...[*of the cheap crystal ball*]...and I want you to make two good wishes for yourself."

Try for health and happiness this time.

"Now, if I tell you things that are bad, you're not to

have any kind of hard feelings. You understand, Patrick?"

I nod my head.

"The first thing that I can see for you is that you do have a very long life to live. You do have many things that seem to be concerning you at the present time. You seem to be smiling in your face, but in your heart, I see you being very unhappy, very unsatisfied. Ever since you have been a very young person, you have worked hard all of your life."

Madame Ruth has a

point there. Of course, when I mentioned earlier that I didn't land my first job until I was 28, I forgot to mention that it was a part-time job, three or four months a year. I didn't have a full-time job until I was 40 years old. But I've been a working fool since then, you betcha.

Madame Ruth studies her tiny crystal ball. "These past couple of years you've worked very hard." (*That's true.*) "You were very much lucky to make money" (*Boy, is that true.*) "but you weren't quite lucky to save what you

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Massage Experience Package

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wanted to save." (Well, yes.)

"You are a very good-hearted and a very good-natured person, but it seems like people always like to take advantage of your good nature and of your good will." (God, yes.) "At times you've been a little quick-tempered, but only for your rights.

"I also do see for you that there is somebody around you that is a little bit sick or a little bit ill, but there is going to be better health for this person. You've also lost somebody not too long ago. It doesn't mean it has to be through death, but could be a relationship or both. I do see that you will be making changes in your work, but changes that you will be making are going to be something for the better. There will be three changes for you in the coming year. Things will be better in health, happiness, and success." (That would be quite nice.)

"I also do see travels for you, but travels that you do make will be safe journeys. There will be money coming for you, but you will have to sign some kind of papers before you receive this money, but there is money coming to you. I also do see that there could be some kind of investment opportunity coming your way in the middle of '95. There will be three lucky days coming to you in the middle of May: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday." (Okay, I'm liking this now.)

"Now, into your love life. I can see for you that there is one woman that loves and cares for you. Sometimes you feel as though she loves you, sometimes you feel as though she doesn't, but I can see that someone loves and cares for you, and yet there seems to be many doubts you have with her. There is another woman who also cares for you, but you do not think too much of her.

"In your love in the past, you've had many disappointments, you've had many heartaches." (Yes, oh God, yes.) "Now with the woman who you do love and care for right now I do see some type of a distance between you. You seem to be a very strong person spiritually, you continue to help others, but not being able to help yourself. You seem

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to have lost a lot of faith and a lot of confidence in yourself. There are times when your mind is so confused that you just want to run away and leave everything behind. I can see that people have been trying to put you down all of your life. You've had people jealous and envious of you." (Yes, yes.) "There seems to be people around you who are creating a very heavy energy that seems to be draining you spiritually, physically, mentally. Do you understand that?"

I stare deep into the crystal ball, muster a weak "Yes."

"I can see for you that there are times that you question God and ask Him to come. What did you ever do wrong to deserve all this hardship that you're going through?" (Well, actually I have done, perhaps, one or two things that some people might say were wrong.) "There seems to be a lot of bad karma around you from your past life. In your past life you suffered a great deal through drugs and through

drinking. And there was a woman there in your past life who totally destroyed you as a man, and your feeling as a man. This woman was very, very abusive, verbally, towards you, made you lose self-confidence. What kind of work do you do?"

"I work construction out of the Laborers Union. I was living in Alaska and

"And at the time that you and her were having difficulty, did it seem like you and her were strangers at the end?"

"Oh yeah, it was like living with a mongoose that had been eating low bush berries all season."

"Okay, and at that time did she tell you that she didn't have nothing to feel for you or there was nothing

"God has given me the gift to help those who cannot help themselves.

I'm able to go into your past life and cleanse your past life."

my wife run off on me, and I came down here to get away and find some work."

Madame Ruth brightens. "Okay, now, that's the woman in your life who has put you down as a man also, you understand? Now there seems to be a lot of spiritual draining around her also. How long had you been together with her?"

"Eight years."

ing there anymore in your marriage?"

"No, not a word, she just snuck off."

"Did she ever call you since then?"

"No, nothing."

"Never called you, never told you where she was?"

I shake my big head left to right.

"What brought you to San Diego?"

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Madame Ruth studies the crystal ball. "I can see that there is someone else who is trying to brainwash her, and I do see there is another man."

"A Roto-Rooter man, if you can believe that. She ran off with a damn Roto-Rooter man."

"Hmm. Roto-Rooter man. Do you have a picture of your wife with you?"

"No, I tore them all up."

"I can see there is another man there, and he is trying to make her destroy this relationship. Right now she's totally confused. How long since she's left you?"

"Four months."

"Do you feel that something happened to her other than running away with another man?"

"No, she seems to be doing fine. I've heard that from other people."

"They have seen her?"

"Uh-huh."

"I can see that this person that she's involved with, he has brainwashed her. Is he a younger guy?"

"Yeah, ten years younger. Wears a big gold medallion pierced in his left nostril. Yodels for the German American Volksbund."

"It seems like he does not want, really, to make a commitment to her. Do you understand? He's a very evil man, and he's out to destroy her and destroy you as well."

"I can feel that. What's worrying me now is that I can't get work here, don't know if I should go back to Alaska or not."

"Why can't you get work here?"

"There's no jobs coming into the union hall."

"I see. You left everything there and just came here."

"Yes, I was confused." I squirm in my chair, starting to feel like a big, fat chicken dumpling.

"I can see you going back. Right now try to relax yourself and try to get things cleared up in your mind. There are times that you feel that you want to take your life. There are times that you feel there's nothing for you to live for. Some-

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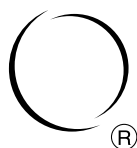
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times you think you're about
to lose your mind."

Madame Ruth glances
at the ceiling, then down to
her crystal ball. "I can see that
there could be other women
that could come into your
life, but you seem to be shut-
ting out everybody else,
because your love is too big
for her. Do you understand?"

I nod, sadly.

"I can see that there are
many times that you've tried
to seek help in many dif-
ferent ways. How have you
been trying to help yourself?"

"Well, just trying not
to think of her, watch a lot
of Yogi Bear cartoons, like
I said, order pizza, drink
some Johnny Walker, shoot
my pellet gun at the refrig-
erator, that kind of stuff."

"Have you ever gotten
into prayers and
meditation?"

"No, my life is a French
black-and-white movie."

Madame Ruth nods
her head with great under-
standing. "See, you have the
strength to help others but
not yourself. I can see that
this is maybe the reason
why the Lord has brought
you here. Let Him help you.
Because right now, I feel
that this is going to be a
long, drawn-out thing
between you and your wife
until she learns her lesson.
And then she's going to
come back calling to you.
What is holding her back
is this negative energy,
because this man is pretty
strong, and he's working

negative forces against her
and against you. I feel it's a
fatal attraction. She's just
too naive to realize the fact,
understand? You need spir-
itual help. Do you want me
to help you?"

"How do you do that?"
(Golly, Mr. Wolf, you know
a shortcut through the for-
est?)

"Through prayers and
meditation. God has given
me the gift to help those
who cannot help themselves.
I'm able to go into your past
life and cleanse your past
life. What you're going
through right now, you went
through in a past life. If your
past life is cleansed spiritu-
ally, then your present life,
you don't have to go through
that testing. And I will cleanse
your past life through my
prayers and meditations
and clear whatever dark-
ness that's surrounding you
from a past life.

"But you've got to have
faith and belief in this or I
can't help you. You're the
one that will have to go on
waiting and waiting and
waiting and waiting and go
through all that testing
because in a past life, it took
a man up to two years before
this relationship ever came
back together."

I'm getting into it now,
feel a wave of resentment.
"I'm not sure I want her
back. I mean, she's a dis-
loyal, contemptible slut. She
ran away, for God's sakes,
with the Roto-Rooter man."

Madame Ruth's face
resets to a determined
expression. "I can see the
future. You seem to love her
now more than ever."

"Really?"

"Yes."

I bend forward, place
my nose close to the crys-
tal ball. "How would that
work?"

"I work through a life,
and the life, then, is my can-
dle. This is where I put my
strength and my power to
do my prayers and medi-
tations." Miss Ruth points
to a cluster of large brown
candles, each an inch, inch
and a half in diameter. "This
is where I have my protec-
tion as I go through your past
life so I don't get affected
from it. This will lighten all
the darkness that is sur-
rounding your past life.

"In my work you're
going to have to have nine
candles because we do
believe in working with nine
other spirits. These candles

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do not burn for one day or two days. These candles will burn through the rest of the year for you. Whenever you got anything troubling you, anything worrying you, you just have to see me or call me. I will be your spiritual guide. You don't have to make a move without calling me or asking me. You're going to be going through a lot more difficult things right now, because of the holidays. And I guess that's why God brought you here because He knows you need all the strength you can get.

"Right now your wife and that man are not secure because they know as long as you exist out in the world they can never be settled. He will try to destroy you. But I do feel that God brings a soul to me, if you're willing to have the faith and belief."

"How much does it cost?" I figure a hundred bucks.

"You've got to have nine candles. If you go buy these candles yourself, they're, like, \$100 a candle."

"Wow."

"But through our church you can make a proper donation of \$50 a candle. These are 10-pound candles of pure beeswax, and we burn them for all the rest of the year for you."

"So that would be \$450."

"Uh-hmm."

"What do the candles do for me?"

"They give you strength."

"They do?"

"Yes, they do. They give you strength. What you are looking for is spiritual strength, and peace of mind most of all. I will be burning these candles; this is where I get all my information. God only gives you, once in a lifetime, a chance to help yourself. Now is the time. Don't hesitate, put everything else on hold, but you cannot put God on hold. He guides you to help yourself, and he brought you here for that reason."

"It's just the money, it's a lot of money."

"Well, if you can't do all of it, just start."

"I see, I can do one or two, sort of like..."

"You can start with any number of them, you understand."

Okay, I'm down to 50 bucks, lower than Miss Kay. We could be talking deal. "How long does it take?"

"Before you start feeling different?"

"Yes."

"You probably start feeling different within the next nine days."

"Nine days, that's great!"

"Or sooner. You'll feel things that you've never felt before. Trust me, the energy you will receive will strengthen you. I'll be giving you strength through prayers. Peace will be given to you. Why don't you let me get started for you now?"

I reach into my pocket and dig out \$65. Madame Ruth is a little bit more expensive than my psychic spiritualist in La Jolla, but she went longer, 16 minutes, 3 minutes more than Miss Kay.

"I really got to think about the money." ■

— Patrick Daugherty

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I took self-defense classes, so I had had some of the same training. When I saw my first ultimate fighting championship, I was like, 'Wow, I know that move!' and I got hooked. This was early on [over ten years ago], back when the first round would go for 30 minutes," says Diana Ocampo, co-owner of Total Combat Entertainment. On Saturday, December 10, Total Combat will host "full-contact extreme fighting" at the Cocopah Casino in Imperial Valley.

One of the headlining fighters is Alex Garcia from Brawley, California. "This kid is very talented," Ocampo says. "He started out in someone's back yard or garage or something. A lot of fighters train like that; it's hard to find a good training facility." Mixed martial arts fighters "come from all walks of life," she adds. "We've had a commander from the military, a couple of Marines, and a few business owners."

Total Combat is based in San Diego, but events are held at locations within Native American reservations or at the club Baby Rock in Tijuana. "We try to make sure to use the rules that the California Commission is coming out with so when it's finally legalized in California, we'll be [in compliance]," Ocampo explains. Mixed martial arts became legal in California when the Secretary of State stamped approval for a set of regulations overseeing the sport on November 28. Depending on how fast the turnaround is for licensing, Ocampo says, shows could begin in San

Diego in a matter of weeks. She is scouting out venues in San Diego.

Ocampo's partner, Eric Delfierro, serves as "matchmaker." Because he pairs the fighters for events, Delfierro pays attention to an individual's strengths and weaknesses in the "octagon cage," or boxing ring. He describes Garcia as "a real explosive fighter with knockout power in both hands. He always goes into his fights as an underdog. He'll be getting his butt whipped for two rounds and then come out of nowhere and beat the guy." Mixed martial arts includes boxing, kickboxing, jujitsu wrestling, and karate.

Garcia will be fighting Adam Lynn, a grappler (or wrestler) from Aliso Viejo in Orange County. "There are so many gyms that cross train, you'll find these hybrid matches," says Delfierro. In addition to boxing, "Alex wrestled in high school and junior college and practiced Brazilian jujitsu a form of joint manipulation." Delfierro explains, "When you put your opponent in 'arm bars,' you're hyperextending your opponent's arms to cause pain and cause the opponent to quit...there are different kinds of chokes where you choke your opponent until he goes unconscious."

Ed Ratcliff, who will be fighting for Total Combat at Baby Rock on December 17, trains at City Boxing in downtown San Diego. "He's from Chicago, a real good boxer, and a black belt in karate. His mom was a black belt and got him involved in martial arts, and now he does everything," says Delfierro. "He comes out to the ring in his karate gi [karate uniform]. His whole game is to keep his opponents up and try to



punish the guys with his boxing. He uses high kicks to the head and likes to finish his fights standing."

Another fighter to participate at the Baby Rock event, Shannon Gugerty from Chula Vista, "finishes most of his guys on the ground by either submission or technical knockout, which is usually ref stoppage, or where the ref thinks the guy had enough or is not defending himself because he's fuzzy from getting hit on the head," says Delfierro. Then there's Chris David. "The best way to describe Chris David is: 'He's a lunatic.' His style is unpredictable. He likes to throw flying knees, flying punches, and kicks. He was an English teacher in Japan. Now he talks to himself and refers to himself in the third person."

There are five ways by which a fighter can win a match: 1) knockout (when one fighter is knocked unconscious); 2) physical or verbal tap out (when a fighter taps the mat to indicate submission); 3) referee stoppage; 4) event doctor stoppage; 5) decision (based equally on striking, grappling, and aggression). Over 30 types of fouls can be called, among them groin attacks, eye goug-

ing, biting, hair pulling, putting a finger into any orifice or into an opponent's cut or laceration, throat strikes, pinching, and head-butting.

"There are injuries in every sport, obviously," says Delfierro. "Two months ago I punched a guy's elbow and broke my hand. It's fine now. The bone's kind of weird, but it doesn't hurt. Most guys get more injured training than they do fighting. We use four- to six-ounce gloves, and you can hit the opponent on the floor with forearms. You'll see guys get stitches every now and then. In the history of the sport, though, nobody has died. Knock on wood."

— Barbarella

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after December 15.

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

"The Many Sided-Traveler/ Caminante Cambiante," this group exhibit with work in variety of media opens with reception, Thursday, December 8, 7 p.m., at Galeria H&H (Avenida Estéban Cantú 2651, Colonia Dávila). 011-52-664-900-6133. Closes Sunday, January 22. (TIJUANA)

Diamond Chorale Holiday Concert and Shows with seasonal songs and skits presented Thursday and Friday, December 8 and 9, 7 p.m.; and Saturday, December 10, 2 p.m., at Olde Vic Theatre (on Calle Cárdenas). \$8 U.S. Reservations: 011-52-61-612-1174. (ROSARITO BEACH)

Handel's "Messiah" performed by Coro Promúsica, OBC Conservatory of Music, Thursday, December 8, 8 p.m., at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street in the Zona Río). \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

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vehicles, Friday, December 9, through Sunday, December 11. Routes: 011-52-646-176-1637. (ENSENADA)

"The Nutcracker" is presented by Ballet del Noroeste de México and Gloria Campobello Company, December 9-11, at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de los Héroes

and Mina Street in the Zona Río). Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Natalia y la Forquentina/ Kalimba in concert, Saturday, December 10, 8 p.m., at Auditorio Municipal (on Boulevard Agua

Caliente). \$25 U.S. 011-52-664-608-4692. (TIJUANA)

More Off-Roadin! Ensenada-Mexicali-San Felipe Off-Road Code Record, with categories for all kinds of vehicles, is Saturday,

December 10, 6 a.m. 011-52-646-172-3022. (ENSENADA)

Lobster Lunch and shopping tour hosted by Baja California Tours, Saturday, December 10. The \$59 fee includes transportation, lobster feast at El Patio de la Langosta in Puerto Nuevo, holiday shopping at artisan's market in Rosarito Beach and on Avenida Revolución in Tijuana. Reservations: 858-454-7166 or 800-336-5454. (ROSARITO BEACH, PUERTO NUEVO, TIJUANA)

Panda plans rock concert, Saturday, December 10, 11 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Shorebird-Watching enters its most agreeable season this month, with migrant and resident birds sharing common winter grounds. Egrets, herons, terns, pelicans, and

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a variety of other species provide endless entertainment as they go about the business of fishing and feeding in San Diego County's remaining coastal wetlands. Publicly accessible wetlands include the following (listed north to south): San Luis Rey River mouth, Buena Vista Lagoon, Agua Hedionda Lagoon, Batiquitos Lagoon, San Elijo Lagoon, San Dieguito Lagoon, Los Peñasquitos Lagoon, San Diego River flood channel (south of Sea World Drive), Sweetwater River marsh, southwest San Diego Bay, and Tijuana River Estuary. The same birds can also be seen on the shores of inland reservoirs such as Lake Murray and Lake Miramar.

Ripening Palm Fruit, hanging in great clusters on California's native fan palms (*Washingtonia filifera*), can be seen (and tasted) this month. The black, pea-sized fruit consists of a deliciously sweet but almost paper-thin skin surrounding a hard seed. (These are not "California dates" — the fruit of cultivated

palms introduced into California's deserts from northern Africa.) Our native fan palms can be seen in their natural habitat in about two dozen canyons within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. They have also been planted widely elsewhere in California, including along the main streets of Palm Springs.

The Planet Venus reaches "greatest brilliancy" during its current evening apparition on Thursday, December 8, blazing like crazy in the southwest as darkness falls. Venus, shining with a pure white steady light, will grace the sky at dusk only for a few more weeks before it swings over to the other side of the sun and becomes a brilliant "morning star."

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours offered on second Saturday of each month, including December 10. Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese Historical Museum (404 Third Avenue). \$2. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

See Holly Berry and other native plants during guided nature walks, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, December 10, 11, and 14, in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Walks: 9:30 to 11 a.m. Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Second Saturday Nature Walks at the Reserve, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy hosts walk featuring migratory birds and native plants, Saturday, December 10, 9 a.m. Free. Directions: 760-436-3944. (CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA)

An Expert Birder from San Diego Field Ornithologists leads bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek in Tecolote Canyon on Saturday, December 10, 9 a.m., at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

Canyon Favorites Hike, Saturday, December 10, 3 p.m. Hikers take moderately paced jaunt to

Walden Pond, see waterfall, possibly wildlife. Meet at end of Park Village Drive with hiking boots, insect repellent, water. 858-484-3219. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

San Diego Kite Club hosts kite flying second Saturday of each month, including December 10, 10 a.m., at Tecolote Shores North Park (on Mission Bay Drive, north of Fiesta Island entrance). Free. 619-277-0319. (MISSION BAY)

Gaslamp Folklore and Legends Walking Tours offered Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon, by tour guide Gino Lizardi, who reveals romantic past and characters of the area. \$10. Reservations: 619-239-7515. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Help Maintain a Nesting Site for California least terns during volunteer work party, Saturday, December 10, 9 a.m., at Mariner's Point. Wear work clothes, bring work gloves, weeding tools if you have them. Free. Reservations and



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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

directions: 619-224-4591 or 858-581-7602. (MISSION BAY)

Explore Jack Creek Falls when Canyoneers lead hike, Sunday, December 11, 10 to 11:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants hike through chaparral to high point over Dixon Lake. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (ESCONDIDO)

Moonlight Serenade, naturalist Larry Allen-Tonar leads fairly easy three-mile evening walk in Daley Ranch on Sunday, December 11. Adventure starts at 4:30 p.m. in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680. Free. Bring a flashlight. (ESCONDIDO)

Discover and Identify Track and Sign from many animals when tracking team at Mission Trails Regional Park leads guided nature walk, Sunday, December 11, 8:30 a.m., starting at entrance kiosk at One Father Junipero Serra Trail. Free. 619-668-3281. Canceled for rain. (SAN CARLOS)

Observe Nature Restoring Itself in San Diego Audubon Society's Silverwood Sanctuary, which was burned extensively during 2003

wildfires. Guided walks offered at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Sundays by reservation (619-682-7200). The sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road (five miles from Ashwood-Mapleview turn). Free. (LAKESIDE)

Naturalist-Guided Tour of Florida Canyon to see canyon habitats, plants, animals, endangered species, Sunday, December 11, starting at 2 p.m., in Morley Field Dog Park lot. Free. 619-295-6680. (BALBOA PARK)

Very Low Tides next week coincide with optimum times of day for tidepooling along San Diego County rocky shorelines. There's a -1.0-foot tide at 2:18 p.m. on Tuesday (December 13), a -1.1-foot tide at 2:57 p.m. on Wednesday, a -1.1-foot tide at 3:35 p.m. on Thursday, and a -1.0-foot tide at 4:11 p.m. on Friday.

The Geminid Meteor Shower, one of the year's two most regularly active showers, peaks late on Tuesday evening, December 13. This year's Geminids, however, will be mostly spoiled by glare from the full moon. Nonetheless, several Geminid meteors should be visible per hour during the period 10 p.m. to midnight — even when observed from light-polluted yet cloud-free urban locales.

Hillcrest Stroll hosted by Walkabout, Tuesday, December 13. Ca-

OUT & ABOUT

PET ADOPTIONS

San Diego Pet Expo, Del Mar Fairgrounds, December 10 and 11.

(SEE SPECIAL)



sual walk starts at 1 p.m. at Ralphs grocery store in Uptown Shopping Plaza (off University and 10th). Discover history of University Heights. Free. 619-231-7463. (HILLCREST)

Escape to the Natural Beauty of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, with secluded native plant communities such as oak riparian, oak woodland, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral. The 750-acre open-space park features ten miles of trails, primitive picnic areas, mountain viewing points. The reserve is found on Harmony Grove Road near Elfin Forest, open daily from 8 a.m. until around one half-hour before sunset. 760-632-4212. (ELFIN FOREST)

DANCE

Nutty Time of Year, City Ballet of San Diego, under direction of Steven and Elizabeth Wistrich, has *Nutcracker* performances December 9–18 at Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway). The production follows choreography by Russian choreographer Lev Ivanov. Curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$29–\$55, available by calling 858-272-8663 or Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

Follow Clara on her wondrous journey when San Diego Civic Youth Ballet presents its version Decem-

ber 9–18 at Casa del Prado Theater. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Fridays, 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$10–\$12. 619-233-3060. (BALBOA PARK)

"Vibration!" Palomar College dance students perform "engaging choreography," directed by Patriceann Mead, December 9 and 10, 8 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). \$12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Hungarian Theme Night led by Mary Marshall, who teaches "some of her favorite Hungarian line and choreographed couple dances," Saturday, December 10, 7:30 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street, suite A). All-request pro-

gram follows. \$6. 619-281-5656. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Music Jam (6 to 7:30 p.m.) precedes contradance with music by Old Twine String Band and calling by Steve Barlow, Saturday, December 10, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginner's workshop at 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

Hustle San Diego Club meets on second Saturday of every month, including December 10, for beginners' instruction (8:30 p.m.) and dance afterwards at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). \$7. 760-803-9982. (ENCINITAS)

Sarasvati Modern Tribal performs fusion-style bellydance, Saturday, December 10, 9 and 10 p.m., at Egyptian Tea Room (4644 College Avenue). Free. 619-265-7287. (SDSU)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6 to 9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Instruction by Judee Pronovost on December 11. Beginner's instruction at 6 p.m. \$6 per class; \$20 per month. 858-486-9160. (POWAY)

San Diego 'N' Line Dancers host holiday party, Sunday, December 11, 5:30 p.m., at War Memorial Building (3325 Zoo Drive at Park Boulevard). Guest

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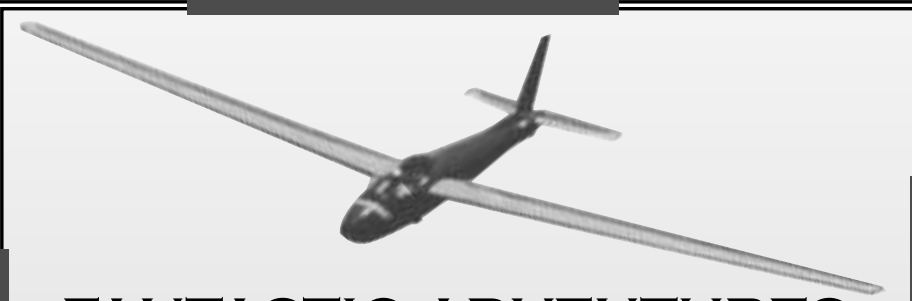


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San Diego Swing Club hosts West Coast swing-dance party every Sunday, 3 to 7 p.m., at La Mesa Women's Club (5220 Wilson Avenue). Beginner's lesson: 3 to 4 p.m. \$7. 858-274-6422. (LA MESA)

Zydeco Dances with lessons are offered every Tuesday, including December 13, at Tio Leo's (5302 Napa Street, between Morena Boulevard and Linda Vista Road). Beginning dance lessons at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes from 8 to 10 p.m. \$5 (first visit free). 619-857-8409. (LINDA VISTA)

Wednesday-Night Club, mid-week dance break for West Coast swing and New York hustle, plus ballroom and social dance mix, December 14, 7 to 11 p.m., at Mission Valley Resort Hotel (upstairs above Valley Tavern, 875 Hotel Circle South). \$7. 619-596-9777. (MISSION VALLEY)

Israeli Folk Dancing is offered every Thursday at San Diego Jewish Academy (11860 Carmel Creek Road). Beginners: 7 p.m., intermediate/advance: 8 p.m. Open dancing until 11:30 p.m. \$6. 760-631-0802. (CARMEL VALLEY)

FILM

"Non Ti Muovere" by Sergio Castellitto screens in Italian with English subtitles, Friday, December 9, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). \$2. 619-237-0601. (LITTLE ITALY)

Outdoor Holiday Film Series continues with *A White Christmas* on Friday, December 9, 6 p.m., at Judson Park (at Magnolia Avenue and West Park). Free. Bundle up and picnic. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

Barrio Logan Youth Voices, see *Employment and Community Organizing* from this digital storytelling project, Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Ten producers will be on hand for following discussion. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

"God Is Great, I'm Not," in which Audrey Tautou plays a fashion model venturing through a variety of religions in a search for something to believe in, screens for Film Forum on Monday, December 12, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5800. Free. In French with English subtitles. (DOWNTOWN)

"March of the Penguins" **Without Frigid Waters!** See the hit flick in "extra-warm water" of

Allied Gardens Pool (6707 Glenroy Street) for reopening celebration, Monday, December 12, 7 p.m. Film visible from the water or the deck. Free. 619-235-1143. (ALLIED GARDENS)

"City Slickers" screens for ongoing Carlsbad Library film series in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane), Wednesday, December 14, 6 p.m. Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

The "59 Seconds Film and Video Festival" is showcased for open screening night on Thursday, December 15, 7 p.m., at Media Arts Center San Diego (921 25th Street). Guests are curators Irina Danilova and Hiram Levy. New San Diego and Tijuana area short films, food, music, opportunity to "show your work and network with other local film/video makers." Free. 619-230-1938 x101. (GOLDEN HILL)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Santa vs. the Snowman*, *Mystic India: An Incredible Journey of Inspiration*, *Mystery of the Nile*. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

"European Old Masters" pondered during Insight Gallery Talks by curator Steven Kern, Thursday, December 8 (6 p.m.), and Sunday, December 11 (2 p.m.), at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Renaissance Scholar Otto Mower presents "A New Look at Paintings in SDMA's Collection" for Docent Guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, December 9, 10 a.m. \$10. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

"Earthquakes and Faults in Our Own Back Yard" chronicled by Patrick Williams for Anza-Borrego Institute on Saturday, De-

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

cember 10, 7:30 p.m., at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. Williams has been studying the California fault system for more than 25 years. \$15. Reservations: 760-767-0446. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Make Authentic Gyoza during class on Saturday, December 10, 10:30 a.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. \$20. Reservations: 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

Writing Novels That Touch Today's Teens illuminated by author Marlene Perez when Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators gathers Saturday, December 10, 2 p.m., in room 106A of Hahn School of Nursing building at University of San Diego (at Linda Vista Road and Marion Way). \$9. 858-485-8151. (LINDA VISTA)

"Of Time and the River," outdoor photography workshop exploring techniques of shadow and composition, Saturday, December 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., hosted

by San Dieguito River Park at Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead (12655 Sunset Drive). Free. 858-674-2275 x14. (ESCONDIDO)

What Makes the Ultimate Cup of Tea? Michael Figgins presents "Everything You've Always Wanted to Know About Tea but Were Afraid to Ask," Saturday, December 10, 2 p.m., at Egyptian Tea Room (4644 College Avenue). Tea tasting. Free. Required reservations: 619-265-7287. (SDSU)

"Preparing for a Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City" is topic for panel discussion when North San Diego County Genealogical Society meets Saturday, December 10, 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). 858-509-4937. Free. (CARLSBAD)

"Avoiding Holiday Debt," seminars on Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m., and Tuesday, December 13, 6 p.m., at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 107). Donations accepted. 760-729-2434. (CARLSBAD)

Create a Lavender Wreath with Nadine Spier, Sunday, Decem-

OUT & ABOUT

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ber 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Laven- der Fields (12460 Keys Creek Road). \$65 fee includes materials. Registration: 760-944-9369. (VALLEY CENTER)

"Camellias: Sasanquas and Other Early-Blooming Camellias" illuminated when horticulturist Tom Nuccio shares his passion for camellias with San Diego Horticultural Society, Monday, December 12, 6:30 p.m., in Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Talk

followed by plant forum. Free. 760-730-3268. (DEL MAR)

Plants to Pique Your Interest showcased when David Ross of Andersen's Nursery in Poway visits Point Loma Garden Club holiday tea and meeting on Monday, December 12, 10 a.m., at Ocean Beach Masonic Center (1711 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard). Free. 619-276-0209. (OCEAN BEACH)

Fix a Flat, learn brake and derailleur adjustment, more, when REI shop technicians offer basic bicycle maintenance clinics on Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m., at REI Encinitas (1590 Leucadia Boulevard; 760-944-9020); and REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive; 858-279-4400). Free. (ENCINITAS, KEARNY MESA)

The Role of the City Attorney in strong mayor system of city gov-

ernment is examined when San Diego City Attorney Mike Aguirre speaks Tuesday, December 13, 11:30 a.m., at Bernardo Heights Country Club (16066 Bernardo Heights Parkway). \$30. 858-487-1720. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

"Welfare for the Poor versus Welfare for the Rich" is topic at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue), Wednesday, December 14, 7 p.m. Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

"Combobulated" Creative Writing Workshop led by author and creativity coach Jill Badonsky, Thursday, December 15, 7 p.m., at Book Works (Flower Hill Mall, 2670 Via de la Valle). Writing "prompts for poetry, prose, character sketches, fun." Wine, water, cheese served. \$15. 760-434-3436. (DEL MAR)

IN PERSON

"Les Misérables" (School Edition) is presented December 8-17 by students at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (2425 Dusk Drive). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday, December 10; with 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, December 17. Tickets: \$8, \$10 general. 619-470-0555 x232. (PARADISE HILLS)

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Southern Author Allan Gurganus reads from, discusses his work for Hugh C. Hyde Living Writers Series, Thursday, December 8. His novels include *Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All* and *Plays Well With Others*. Reading starts at 7 p.m. in room 2203 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. Free. 619-594-4991. (SDSU)

From Lestat to Christ — Anne Rice signs *Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt*, Thursday, December 8, 6 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore

(7812 Girard Avenue). Rice describes the work as a "novel about Jesus as a child, a boy of seven...the story is told from His point of view." Books for signing must be purchased from Warwick's. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Author Robin Vaupel will discuss and sign *My Contract with Henry*, Thursday, December 8, 4 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (810 West Valley Parkway). Free. 760-480-2760. (ESCONDIDO)

Audience Members Help Decide Outcome of Trial when Mount Carmel High School actors present *White Wash*, December 8-10, at Mount Carmel High School (9550 Carmel Mountain Road). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. 858-484-9617. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Holiday Concert for Make-a-Wish Foundation with Kenny Loggins, Little River Band, Juice Newton, and Beat Boys, Thursday and Friday, December 8 and 9,



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Keith Urban December 10

Korn December 11

Peter White December 23

Social Distortion
December 26, 27, January 27, 28

Z90 Jingle Jam
Snoop Dogg, Twista,
Damian Marley & more
December 28

Brian Regan January 7

Stars on Ice January 15

Aerosmith
with **Lenny Kravitz**
February 10

Taste of Chaos February 16

Bob Marley Festival
February 20

David Gray March 20

QUEEN

with **Paul Rodgers** April 1



Neil Diamond

December 21

Chargers
Home
Games

Dolphins

December 11

Broncos

December 31

Poinsettia Bowl

December 22

Holiday Bowl

December 29

**91X's "Nightmare
Before Xmas"**

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Alkaline Trio, Louis XIV
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Each artist sings traditional holiday favorites, few of their own hits. \$28. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

"Disney's The Lion King" hits stage at Civic Theatre (at Third Avenue and B Street) for performances at variety of times, December 9–January 15. Tickets range from \$24–\$78, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

Peace Concert with Iraqi poet Lamea Abbas Amara is Friday, December 9, 7:30 p.m., at Pacific Beach Presbyterian Church (1675 Garnet Avenue). Amara will be joined by Persian ensemble Darvak, Miguel Lopez in Latin harp, Iraqi singer Moayed Shlemon accompanied by Andy Simon (keyboard), Asian jazz fusion by Heiwa. \$12 general, \$10 seniors/students, free for those 12 and younger. 858-483-3499. (PACIFIC BEACH)

"Outside the Line," songwriters' concert showcasing works by students in songwriting class, Friday, December 9. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in MiraCosta College Theater (One Barnard Drive). \$10. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

"Solo Across the Sahara: A Tale of Sun, Sand, and Scorpions" presented by Canadian adventure racer Jen Segger, recounting her seven-day foot race across the Sahara, during slide-illustrated lecture, Saturday, December 10, 7 p.m., at Aqua Adventures (1548 Quivira Way). Donations encouraged. 619-523-9577. (MISSION BAY)

Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration hosted by African American Writers and Artists, Inc., Saturday, December 10, 6 p.m., at College Heights Library (6600 Montezuma Road). Educational presentation on Kwanzaa, poetry readings, song, dance, books for kids (16 and younger). Bring nonperishable food item or unwrapped gift for child. 619-697-4517. (COLLEGE HEIGHTS)

Sudanese Refugees living in our county benefit from concert

A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

On many a late fall and winter morning, a damp, opaque layer of air a few hundred feet deep lies over the low-lying Southern California coast. By 9 or 10 in the morning, the sun "burns" through this marine-layer fog, ushering in a fine day of mild sunshine. Sleepy-eyed hikers never know what they're missing unless they seize the moment and get an early start on any coastal or not-too-far-inland hiking route that pokes above the clouds.

Southern Orange County's Laguna Bowl loop hike is perfect for such cloud walking. It begins just one-half mile from the beach, right at the edge of the city of Laguna Beach. Find a curbside parking spot at or near the east end of Poplar Street, in a neighborhood overlooking Irvine Bowl (where Laguna Beach's "Pageant of the Masters" exhibit takes place every summer).

Squeeze through a gate at the east end of Poplar Street and start up a very steep paved road. After 0.1 mile, the paved road enters a fenced water-tank and antenna facility, but a steep bypass trail skirts the fenced area on the right and keeps climbing. Soon that bypass trail joins a dirt roadbed, the so-called Water Tank Road. You continue climbing, but more moderately. At about 0.4 mile and 550 feet of elevation, you enter Laguna Coast Wilderness Park property, open weekends only for now, and soon to be open seven days a week. The early-morning boundary between fog and clear air often lies at about this level. If that is the case when you're there, then the next couple of miles will be an absolute delight.

Right at the boundary between clear air and cloud, look westward (opposite the rising sun) and you may see the upper arc of a colorless rainbow — the "white rainbow" — that results from sunlight refracting through water droplets much smaller than those of falling rain. Another remarkable spectacle, called the "glory" or "Specter of the Brocken," is visible whenever you can manage to cast the shadow of your own body onto a bank of fog. The ghostly specter is that of concentric rings of colored light at the spot exactly 180 degrees away from the sun. The right conditions and optical geometry may exist during the first hour or so after sunrise.

At 1.5 miles you arrive at the junction of Bommer Ridge Road (to the left) and Laguna Bowl Road (to the right). Turn right, head south along the top of the ridgeline, and enjoy vistas of the blue ocean ahead, or of tendrils of fog below,



Early-morning vista, Water Tank Road

planned Saturday, December 10, noon to 3 p.m., at San Dieguito Academy (800 Santa Fe Drive). School bands will be playing. Donations of jackets, warm clothes, grocery store gift cards, money requested. 760-633-4445. (ENCINITAS)

"Holiday Faire" presented by San Diego Choraleers adult mixed chorus, Inflections vocal jazz group, Women of Note, Men of Note, Serra-Naders, Saturday, December 10, 7 p.m., at Patrick Henry High School (6702 Wandermere

Drive). Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children. 619-546-5077, 619-795-7211. (SAN CARLOS)

The Hillcrest Wind Ensemble performs instrumental holiday favorites including "Papatan," "My Favorite Things," "Christmas Fes-

depending on the atmospheric conditions. At 2.2 miles the road forks; take the right branch, staying on Laguna Bowl Road. Soon afterward you commence a

Canyon Road for one-quarter mile, turn right on Acacia Drive, and immediately go right on High Drive. Follow High Drive for one-quarter mile, and turn right

LAGUNA BEACH

Climb above the morning mist into Laguna Coast Wilderness Park, bordering Laguna Beach.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 75 miles

Hiking length: 3.6 miles

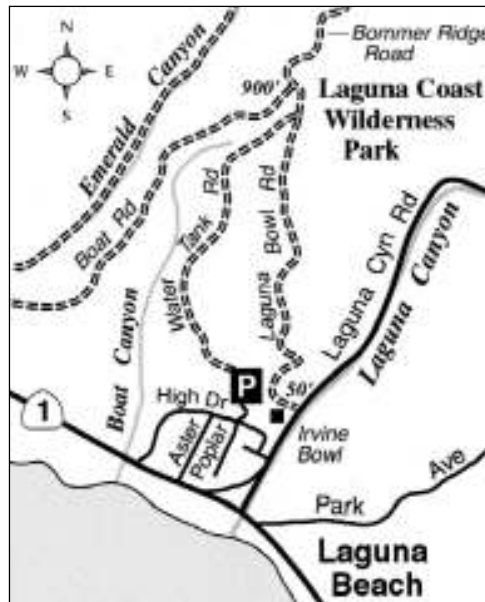
Difficulty: Moderate

quick, steep descent that takes you past the fenced Irvine Bowl outdoor amphitheater and down to Laguna Canyon Road.

To complete the loop you must follow city streets. Turn right, follow the sidewalk of Laguna

on Poplar Street to return to your car.

Your hike has stretched 3.6 miles with an elevation gain and loss of 950 feet. You've worked up an appetite, so treat yourself to breakfast in Laguna Beach.



Past, Present, and Future Cast Members of MTV's Laguna Beach, The Real Orange County will be on hand for the academic support program and hurricane relief effort benefit, Saturday, December 10, at Otay Ranch High School (1250 Olympic Parkway). Also onstage: the school's dance teams, singers, City Lights, Urban FX dance troupe.

Bazaar Expo with car clubs, designers, merchants at 4 p.m.; show at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$40 general. 619-654-7145. (CHULA VISTA)

Holiday Concerts offered December 10 and 11 by Pacific Coast Concert Band. Catch group on Saturday at 2 p.m. at Carlsbad Village Faire (200 Carlsbad Village Drive) and Sunday at 3 p.m. at Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center (3557 Monroe Street). Details: 619-390-2990. (CARLSBAD)

Funny Woman Rita Rudner provides comic relief on Saturday, December 10, 7 and 10 p.m., at Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort (777 Harrah's Rincon Way). \$40. 866-468-3399. (VALLEY CENTER)

Southern California Independent Comic Creators Paul Horn, Josep Blas, Shana Manion, and Ryan Claytor gather to sign books, Saturday, December 10, 1 to 5 p.m., at Comickaze (5517 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). 858-278-0371. (CLAIREMONT)

"Winter Songs" presented by vocalists of North Coast Singers youth chorus, with members 6–18, Saturday, December 10, 7 p.m., at San Dieguito United Methodist Church (170 Calle Magdalena). \$10 general. 760-944-1866. (ENCINITAS)

"Our New Home for the Holidays" celebrated during holiday concerts by San Diego Men's Chorus, December 10 and 11, at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. 619-296-SONG. (NORTH PARK)

Classical, Flamenco, Klezmer music promised when guitarists Fred Benedetti and George Svoboda perform Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive Street). \$8. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

December 10th 2005

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Christmas Concert with chancel choir, children's choir, Peace Ringers bell choir, playing "One Small Child" cantata, Christmas carols, Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m., at La Mesa First United Methodist Church (4690 Palm Avenue). Offering. 619-466-4163. (LA MESA)

Torrey Pines Tuba Holiday! Mass tuba ensemble playing seasonal pieces, Sunday, December 11. Rehearsal (1 to 3 p.m.) at Torrey Pines High School (3710 Del Mar Heights Road), followed by performance at 4 p.m. at L'Auberge amphitheater (1540 Camino del Mar). Community tubists welcome. Free. 858-792-6608. (CARMEL VALLEY, DEL MAR)

Fertile Ground, poets, lyricists, spoken-word artists, musicians welcome to open-mike events every Monday, 9 p.m., at Hot Monkey Love Cafe (5960 El Cajon Boulevard). \$3-\$5. 619-819-7553. (SAN DIEGO)

Explore the English Language when wordsmiths Richard Lederer and Martha Barnette — co-hosts of *A Way with Words* — speak Monday, December 12, 7 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2012. (LA COSTA)

Disdain, Applause, and Scores influence the outcome for San Diego Poetry Slam, Monday, December 12, at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). Signups for poets at 8 p.m., slamming 8:30 p.m. Donation. 619-239-3872. (EAST VILLAGE)

Four O'Clock and Seven O'Clock Jazz Bands "swing a winter's eve" during concert directed by Gunnar Biggs, Monday, December 12, 8 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). \$12. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Open-Mike Poetry hosted by Larry Dossey, Monday, December 12, at Twigg's Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Sign-ups at 7:45 p.m., open readings 8:15 p.m. Free. If interested, bring a poem for

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Poetry |

MY AUNT RAISES VIOLETS FROM AFRICA

All those loose threads
from her sewing, trailing
off bobbins toward Chattanooga,
Nashville, Myrtle Beach, Niagara
Falls. She snapped them at the hem
with her teeth, those worn
hitching posts.
She never learned to drive.
Didn't leave Grandma's
yard for thirty years.
Her Singer just hummed.


She never stopped wearing
that engagement ring he gave her at twenty,
measuring time by how deep
it sank into her finger
even after he died, still her fiancé,
an old man living with his mother.
We only whispered his name.

At night, after the Bible verses,
she'd coat herself with vapor rub,

thick and Vicks blue,
then dial up the DJ
who knew her voice,
yearning for the smooth of Englebert
soothing her into bed
back to back with Grandma.

When I spent the night,
we'd tend the violets
lined like bassinets
along the north:
double lavenders, crystal
stars, angel blues, pink
persuasion. So careful.
We never touched their velvet
not even the undersides.
We just turned them each day,
their faces straining
toward the sun.

*By Janice Moore Fuller, from Sex Education © Iris Press, Tennessee.
Reprinted with permission of the author.*



Janice Moore Fuller

publication consideration. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Don Edwards performs Tuesday, December 13, 7:30 p.m., for AcousticMusicSanDiego at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). Tickets: \$15, \$20. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Top-Ten Holiday Show featuring ten comics "each doing their best ten minutes" planned by Comedy Grill, Tuesday, December 13, 8 p.m., Rosie and Joe's Grill and Cantina (7986 Armour Street). Cover: \$5. 858-550-8088. (KEARNY MESA)

"Laugh Out Loud with Hopscotch" when local chapter of network hosts seven comedians to benefit construction of Charfasion Orphanage in Bangladesh — Tuesday, December 13, 8 p.m., at Comedy Store (916 Pearl Street). \$15. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

Big Blues Benefit concert by Candy Kane Band, Earl Thomas, Sue Palmer, Fremonts, Chet and the Committee, many others, for Mary Kent's medical expenses, Wednesday, December 14, 5 p.m., at Humphrey's Backstage Lounge (2241 Shelter Is-

land Drive). Donation: \$15. 619-284-7972. (SHELTER ISLAND)

The Cookie Fairy (a.k.a. Sylvia Leighton) is guest at seasonal concert planned with "an odd consort of instruments," Wednesday, December 14, 12:30 p.m., on lower level of west wing UCSD's Geisel Library. After short concert, Leighton will sign copies of latest installment of *Chicken Soup for the Soul* (if you come armed with book). Concert is free, parking meters are not. 858-534-8074. (LA JOLLA)

Mesa College Guitar Ensemble performs works ranging from

17th-Century compositions by Henry Purcell to jazz classics like "Take Five," Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m., at Clairemont Library (2920 Burgener Boulevard). Free. Reservations: 858-581-9935. (CLAIREMONT)

"Elevated," poetry reading featuring Kendrick Dial, Thursday, December 15, 8 p.m., at World Beat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). \$5. 619-795-9587. (BALBOA PARK)

Winter Concert by Palomar Concert Band, Thursday, December 15, 8 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140

West Mission Road). Marches and classics mix with contemporary explorations, seasonal favorites. \$12. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

SPORTS

San Diego Gulls host Phoenix Roadrunners for hockey, Friday, December 9, 7:35 p.m., at iPayOne Center. Tickets: \$12 to \$25, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

La Jolla YMCA Surf Series competition is Saturday, December 10, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Oceanside Pier. Free viewing. 760-435-5541. (OCEANSIDE)

Two Bicycle Rides are offered every Saturday, rain or shine, starting at 8:30 a.m. in northwestern parking lot at La Jolla Village Square/UC Cyclery. Select from race-training 45-mile ride, slower 35-mile ride with experienced leader. Helmets mandatory. Free. 858-495-2454. (LA JOLLA)

Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis, the 5k walk/run benefiting Arthritis Foundation is Saturday, December 10. The 5k starts at 8 a.m., fun run for walkers and kids follows at 9 a.m. Wear a costume for contest. 858-492-1090. (BALBOA PARK)

Family Pedal and Paddle on Mission Bay hosted by Allen's Kayaks on Saturday, December 10. Kayak on calm waters of Mission Bay (no experience required), then bike on wide, flat trails around the bay. Trailers and trail-a-bikes available. Adventure starts at 10 a.m. at 819 Fernando Place. \$55 for adults,

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Reading

The First Lady of Hollywood: A Biography of Louella Parsons



By Samantha Barbas
The University of California Press,
2005; \$29.95; 420 pages

FROM THE DUST JACKET:

Hollywood celebrities feared her. William Randolph Hearst adored her. Between 1915 and 1960, Louella Parsons was America's premier movie gossip columnist and in her heyday commanded a following of more than forty million readers. This first full-length biography of Parsons tells the story of her reign over Hollywood during the studio era, her life-long alliance with her employer, William Randolph Hearst, and her

complex and turbulent relationships with such noted stars, directors, and studio executives as Orson Welles, Joan Crawford, Louis B. Mayer, Ronald Reagan, and Frank Sinatra — as well as her rival columnists Hedda Hopper and Walter Winchell. Loved by fans for her “just folks,” small-town image, Parsons became notorious within the film industry for her

involvement in the suppression of the 1941 film Citizen Kane and her use of blackmail in the service of Hearst's political and personal agendas. As she traces Parsons's life and career, Samantha Barbas situates Parsons's experiences in the broader trajectory of Hollywood history, charting the rise of the star system and the complex interactions of publicity, journalism, and moviemaking. Engagingly written and thoroughly researched, *The First Lady of Hollywood* is both an engrossing chronicle of one of the most powerful women in American journalism and film and a penetrating analysis of celebrity culture and Hollywood power politics.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

Variety: Samantha Barbas meticulously paints the portrait of a complex woman, at once frightened because she thought she

couldn't write and feared being scooped, and frightening, as the attack dog of the industry in general and Hearst in particular. She was a relentless enforcer for the studios, spanking stars or praising them. “Marilyn Monroe could do no wrong, Marlon Brando no right,” Barbas notes. Judy Garland was admonished for not shedding 15 pounds, Donald O'Connor for refusing to make the last Francis (the talking mule) movie.

Library Journal Reviews:

Set within the framework of evolving American popular culture, this insightful first biography of legendary Hollywood columnist Louella Parsons is also a fascinating look at the world of movies, newspapers, politics, publicity, and ever-changing social roles. Barbas (author of *Movie Crazy: Fans, Stars, and the Cult of Celebrity*) portrays her subject as a talented and determined woman who

rose above stereotypical boundaries and created her own opportunities.... Solid details of Parsons's life aid in presenting a three-dimensional portrait of both the woman and the public figure. This well-researched and finely written work will appeal to a wide readership.

Publishers Weekly: Historian Barbas's thoroughly researched and footnoted biography of the powerful gossip columnist who virtually invented celebrity journalism asks to be taken seriously as a chronicle of American history at a pivotal time — but it is also a fast and fascinating read.... Of its kind, this is a terrific book about an unusual life, and the author has done future Hollywood historians a great service by documenting it so carefully, incidentally exposing all the falsehoods Parsons related in her own 1945 autobiography, *The Gay Illiterate*.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

Born in 1972, Samantha Barbas was raised in Sacramento and Seattle. “My mother is Japanese,” said Ms. Barbas, on the day that we talked (Ms. Barbas was at home in Seattle and I, in California). “My mother was a pianist. She's now an accountant. My father was doing import/export work with Japan. He did some work with the film industry back in the '60s, which is perhaps how I got interested in this area.”

Ms. Barbas did her undergraduate work in political science at Williams College in Massachusetts and received her Ph.D. in American history at UC Berkeley.

Between her undergraduate and graduate work Ms. Barbas lived for a year in Japan in a Zen monastery. “That's about as far from Hollywood as you can get,” she said. What she did at the monastery was “cook a

“She knew this was a time people wanted gossip, but sanitized gossip. The culture wasn't ready for scandal.”

\$35 for children. Reservations: 858-488-5599. (MISSION BAY)

Bring a New, Unwrapped Toy to donate for Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign during USO's eighth annual 8k/5k run and walk at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar on Saturday, December 10, 8 a.m. The kids' 1k candy cane stroll steps off at 9 a.m. 619-235-6503. (MIRAMAR)

Take the Exciting Viejas Grade Ride with Bicycle Touring Society bicyclists on Sunday, December 11. The 90-miler starts at 7:45 a.m. at McDonald's (551 Telegraph Canyon Road). Free. 619-561-3841. (CHULA VISTA)

San Diego Chargers host Miami Dolphins, Sunday, December 11, 1:15 p.m., in Qualcomm Stadium. Tickets: 619-220-TIXS. Broadcast on CBS. (MISSION VALLEY)

Up for Water Skiing? Convoir Waterski Club provides three ski boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding 8 to 11 a.m. on Sundays year-round. Instruction on request. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. All skill levels welcome. Nonmember fee: \$10 per run (about 15 minutes). Information: 800-699-2466, press pound sign, then mailbox number 456-838-6754. (MISSION BAY)

SPECIAL

Guided Candlelight Tours of museums in Old Town State Historic Park offered by staff and volunteers in period attire, reenacting holiday activities and traditions, for Holiday in the Park, Friday and Saturday, December 9 and 10. Musical groups, dancing, entertainment. Tours: \$5 general, \$3 for those 6–17,

free for those under 6. Events begin at 4002 Wallace Street. 619-220-5422. (OLD TOWN STATE HISTORIC PARK)

Old-Fashioned Victorian Christmas in village of La Mesa, 6 to 9 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, December 9, 10, 16, and 17, with horse-drawn carriages, bonfires, outdoor market, music, shopping, caroling, refreshments, on La Mesa Boulevard (between Acacia Avenue and Fourth Street). Free. 619-462-3000. (LA MESA)

Garden of Lights, tenth 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 5 to 9 p.m., December 9–11, December 15–23, December 26–30. Ornament and wreath making, music by strolling musicians, marshmallow roasting, children's activities, and food (for sale). Gardens found

at 230 Quail Gardens Drive. Admission: \$6 general, \$2 for those under 12. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Student Art Sale at Art Academy of San Diego (840 G Street) starts with reception, Friday, December 9, 6 p.m.; followed by show/sale on Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 619-231-3900. (DOWNTOWN)

International Gem and Jewelry Show with crystal stones, cameos, semi-precious stones, gems, minerals, jewelry — December 9–11, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. \$7. Hours: noon to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. 858-755-1161. (DEL MAR)

Winter Solstice Party with entertainment by Linda Hill (harp), Tibetan bowl meditation by Diane Mandle, Beth Bolwerk (vocals) planned by San Diego Astrological Society, Friday, December 9, 7:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). \$10. 760-310-4152. (HILLCREST)

Gingerbread House Competition is promised during holiday party at Leo Carrillo Ranch Park (200 Flying LC Lane), Saturday, December 10, 4 to 8 p.m. Storytelling, holiday craft projects. Free. Gingerbread competition details: 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Holiday on the Avenue, toys from Santa, food, games, and crafts promised, Saturday, December 10, 1 to 4 p.m., at Adams Community Park (3491 Adams Avenue). Admission: free. 619-713-0741. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

We Love a Parade (wet version), Oceanside Yacht Club hosts 29th annual Christmas Boat Parade of Lights, Saturday, December 10. More than 30 light-adorned boats circle harbor for viewing pleasure beginning at 6 p.m. Watch the parade from anywhere within the harbor. 760-722-5751. (OCEANSIDE)

The 33rd Mission Bay Christmas Boat Parade of Lights is Saturday, December 10, 7 p.m. Route begins at Quivira Basin and covers the Mission Bay shoreline to south Ingraham Street Bridge. Best viewing points are Crown Point, east side of Vacation Island, west side of Fiesta Island. 858-488-0501. (MISSION BAY)

“Nautical Nights” is theme for 34th annual San Diego Bay Parades of Lights, Sundays, December 11 and 19). Parades begin with fireworks at 5:30 p.m. Route: Shelter Island, passing Harbor Island, Seaport Village, Marina Park, across bay to Coronado, ending near Navy carrier turning basin. Free. 619-224-2240. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Pacific Beach Holiday Parade, Saturday, December 10, noon, on Grand Avenue. Clowns, Shriners,

marching bands, more. Free. 619-641-5823. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Pet Adoptions Aboard — San Diego Pet Expo, December 10 and 11, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Pet education, pet products and services, flyball, entertainment, more. Show opens at 10 a.m., closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. \$7 general, discounts for seniors, children, military. 619-328-5576. (DEL MAR)

Turn a Handcrafted Pen on a lathe at Rockler Woodworking and Hardware (8199 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard), Sunday, December 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$10 fee includes pre-drilled pen blank and hardware kit, along with instruction. 858-268-1005. (KEARNY MESA)

Skip the Mall, Week Two, purchase “unique gifts that improve the lives of people around the world” during Alternative Christmas Market, Sunday, December 11, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m., at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church (120 Stevens Avenue). Buy a flock of hens for a Ugandan orphanage, medicine for a clinic in Central America, more. 858-509-2580. (SOLANA BEACH)

Stamp Collecting Show, stamp and cover dealers offer wares, Sunday, December 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Al Bahr Shrine Temple

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SAN DIEGO NewsNotes

SAN DIEGO'S LAY CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER VOLUME 15, NUMBER 11 / DECEMBER 2005

The Little Flower Show

Local Actress Portrays Saint Thérèse in One-Woman Play
BY SAUL SORRELL

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux was canonized in 1909 when St. Augustine's (now St. Augustine's) priest, Fr. Leonard Cullen, wrote the play. The play is now being performed on the coast of California. The play is now being performed on the coast of California. The play is now being performed on the coast of California.

How to Be a Sidewalk Counselor

Local Pro-Life Prayer Warrior Gives a Class at Saint Bridget's
BY ANNE KIRCHGESSNER

This was the theme of the St. Bridget's Pro-Life Prayer Warrior class. The class was held at St. Bridget's Church in Pacific Beach. The class was held at St. Bridget's Church in Pacific Beach. The class was held at St. Bridget's Church in Pacific Beach.

The Beach Market

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lot of tofu and vegetarian food. I was also practicing the Zen routine."

"Do you still practice?"
"I do."

She wasn't a big movie fan as a child. "I discovered movies in Berkeley when I was 24. I wandered into Movie Image and found all these old films. I had never, ever seen an old movie. I became determined that I was going to see every old film in that store. I got one of those pre-paid accounts, and by the end of the first year I'd racked up 400 films. I don't know why that world of Hollywood, in the '30s particularly, mesmerized me. It's probably the photography. Black and white. Beautiful tones. I became hooked.

"I was interested in cultural history but I didn't have a particular area. I became interested in film and the impact of film on American society at that time. So, I did my dissertation on movies and culture in the early 20th Century; so, fan clubs."

"From which your first book came."

"Yes. I became interested in Parsons through that book, as I saw how much fans adored this

woman. I had to figure out what she was all about. There's no biography. There was a dual biography written by a journalist in the '70s, but it focused on the rivalry with Hedda Hopper. It didn't get into what drove this woman. So, I set out to do research. I started in 2002."

"The footnotes are impressive."

"The research was tedious. She didn't leave any papers. I started by reading her columns from 1915 to 1963. She wrote every day. Several thousand columns. I used to have perfect vision and now I have these big glasses.

"So often today she's caricatured and criticized. No one would take her seriously today, but people then did take her seriously. Her fans took her seriously; they appreciated what she was doing. They didn't think her writing was excessive.

"She created Hollywood gossip. She was the first person to write a daily movie gossip column in 1915. She was the first person to convince America that stars were important.

"She had a good sense of spotting cultural trends, and she

knew this was a time people wanted gossip, but sanitized gossip. The culture wasn't ready for scandal.

"Her great fan base was in rural America. She played to women who wanted to believe that the stars were like the family next-door – a little more glamorous but conservative. Making casseroles. Chatting over the back fence."

As a writer, said Ms. Barbas, Parsons "never improved. But I don't think writing was the point. The point, for her, was that she wanted the scoop. She was a newspaperwoman at heart. She loved that thrill of having it before anyone.

"She craved attention. She could never get enough. She'd work herself to the point of illness. The only time she ever took a rest was when she was too sick to work."

Parsons came down with tuberculosis. Hearst, her boss, took care of Parsons's needs as she recovered. About this, Ms. Barbas said, "That helped me understand why she was willing to carry out Hearst's deeds. He'd saved her. She was paying him back.

"Hearst was good to his

women reporters. He was personally devoted to his mother, who was a strong woman and a bit of a feminist. Because of that he was open to women reporters. He put them on the front page, monitored their careers. He also knew that this was a time when women were starting to read newspapers, but also becoming consumers.

"He wanted to draw women onto the papers. 'Sob stories' were launched by Hearst. He also developed a 'woman's interest' page and needed star women reporters for that."

Parsons was a collector, Ms. Barbas explained. "She had a huge estate – every now and then I meet people who say, 'I own one of Louella Parsons's perfume collections or something.' She had an enormous estate full of knickknacks and lost it all in the end. It's still being auctioned on eBay."

Ms. Barbas bid on none of Parsons's eBay treasures. "I knew it would be in bad taste, and it probably wouldn't help me that much."

Parsons's head, I noted, seemed overlarge for her body. Ms. Barbas responded, "She had

"She had an enormous estate full of knickknacks and lost it all in the end. It's still being auctioned on eBay."

a round, big face. She wore these horrible corsets, trying to shrink herself, as she was quite heavy at times."

Parsons had many younger women friends. "Her friendships with women were always difficult," said Ms. Barbas. "I'm not sure that she had many enduring friendships. She was male-oriented. She always had to have a lover; she had to have the approval of some male editor. She saw her female peers as rivals. Younger women could be mentored or non-threatening."

Parsons left few private papers. "I wish she had," Ms. Barbas said. "The only thing that I ever got that seemed to be written from the heart are several letters that she'd written to other

people, that weren't particularly revealing. There were some to Hearst that detailed her dirty deeds.

"She did have this collection of scrapbooks – mostly her news clippings. But there was one yellowed paper stuck between the pages on which she typed to herself that said 'worries of the week.' Something about her sadness over not being able to be with Peter Brady. She had worries. She kept a lot to herself."

Brady, a married man who was unwilling to leave his wife, was the love of Parsons's life. "She had this fascination for Irish men. He was big. He could make her laugh.

"Her final husband, her
(continued on page 102)

(5440 Kearny Mesa Road). Free. 619-469-0337. (KEARNY MESA)

Sunset Holiday Party Concert, Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m., at Spiritual Discovery Training Center (4710 Hillcrest Avenue). Potluck buffet (bring food or drink to share) with friends in the "spirituality, metaphysical, and holistic community" to kick off holiday season and winter solstice. Crystal singing bowl music by Elivia Melodey's Crystal Vibrations. Free. RSVP: 619-507-6395. (LA MESA)

Talking Tolkien, discussion group of "all things Tolkien" gathers Sunday, December 11, 4 to 6 p.m., at Callahan's Pub and Brewery (8111 Mira Mesa Boulevard). Bring a few favorite passages by the master to read, discuss. RSVP: 619-851-0813. (MIRA MESA)

Holiday Family Traditions shared during program for 12 O'-Clock Scholar series at San Diego Museum of Man, Monday, December 12. Participants learn stories, recipes, ways of celebrating; sample holiday foods. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Ocean Beach Holiday Music Festival, food, and toy drive, is Wednesday, December 14, 3:30 to 8 p.m., during Ocean Beach farmer's market, on Newport Avenue. Performers include Joey Harris, Christopher Dale, Chuck Schiele, Podunk Nowhere, many others. Donate new toys, nonperishable food items. Free. 619-224-4906. (OCEAN BEACH)

Cedros Third Thursday, event celebrating designers, artists, and retailers along South Cedros Avenue is December 15, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. 858-755-0444. (SOLANA BEACH)

Live Jazz, Wine, and Cheese promised Thursday, December 15, 6 to 9 p.m., at San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (200 Harbor Drive, suite 120). Wines of Baja California, "ever-changing selection of cheeses and cocktails." \$7 wine flights. Reservations: 619-231-6400. (DOWNTOWN)

"Lands of Enchantment," exhibition of gingerbread houses created by local artists is on view in lobby at Westgate Hotel (1055 Second Avenue). "Gingerbread City 2005" continues through holidays. Viewing is free. 619-557-3617. (DOWNTOWN)

Holiday of Lights at Del Mar Fairgrounds is display of seasonal festive lights, with holiday-themed displays and more than 350 displays on view through Sunday, January 1. Visitors view lighted creations from their vehicles, driving along 1.5-mile route through fairgrounds, around racetrack.

Hours: 5:30 to 10 p.m. Sunday–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. 858-793-5555. (DEL MAR)

Skating by the Sea, outdoor ice-skating rink overlooking Pacific Ocean at Hotel del Coronado (1500 Orange Avenue) available through Monday, January 2. Three-hour skating sessions begin at 2 and 6 p.m. on weekdays, with additional 10 a.m. session on weekends. Fee: \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids ten and younger; rent

skates for \$5 per person. 800-468-3533. (CORONADO)

The Poinsettias Are in Bloom Again, and the wood lath Botanical Building in Balboa Park hosts its 19th annual poinsettia display through Wednesday, January 4. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Wednesday (closed December 25, 26, January 1, 2). Free. 619-239-0512. (BALBOA PARK)

The "Cannon Art Gallery 2005 Invitational" is on view through Sunday, January 22, in William D. Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane), with work by Christie Beniston (ceramics), Wendy Richmond (photography), Robert Treat (large-scale abstract painting), Jeff Yeomans (small-scale narrative painting). 760-602-2021. (LA COSTA)

FOR KIDS

The Brothers Grimm Tale *Mother Holly* is presented by Weaver's Tales through Sunday, December 11, at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. There's *Trouble in the Toy Shop* when Puppet Express

performs December 14–18.

Show hours: Wednesday–Friday, 10 and 11:30 a.m.; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find the theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" is next production by South Bay San Diego Junior Theatre, running December 9–18 at Theatre on Third (250 3rd Avenue). Play, with book by Charles M. Schulz, is for all ages. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Fridays, 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 youths. 619-239-8355. (CHULA VISTA)

"The Worst Children in the World," the (fictional) Herdman children offer the challenge in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* It's the next production for Northern

San Diego Junior Theatre, December 9–18, at Firehouse YMCA Community Center (7877 Herschel Avenue). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Fridays, 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (LA JOLLA)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11, at Rohr Park (4548 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. (BONITA)

Backyard Habitat, naturalist Betty Kirchheval offers "new look at the sights and smells around us," Saturday, December 10, 1 p.m., at Escondido Children's Museum (studio 1 at California Center for the Arts, Escondido,

340 North Escondido Boulevard). \$5. 760-739-9513. (ESCONDIDO)

The New Musical *Peter Pan*, with cast of 40 local professional and amateur actors ranging from 6–65, was created by local playwright and director Paula Brandes. Music is combination of blues, rock, contemporary sounds.

Performances at 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 10; 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, December 11. Performances offered at John D. Spreckels Building, 3858 Front Street. \$18 for adults, \$10 for kids 12 and younger. 619-291-4728. (HILLCREST)

Cookies with Santa, kids may decorate festive cookies to take home with Santa and his elves, Saturday, December 10, at Macy's School of Cooking (Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). Each participant receives

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Reading

(continued from page 101)

third, was a Los Angeles urologist — Harry Martin. She met him in the late '20s. He had come to Hollywood earlier in the decade and was working as an abortionist and VD specialist for the studios.

"She married him when she was almost 50. They were absolutely passionate and remained so until he died in 1951. Dockey, as she called him, was an incurable drunk. There are stories about Dockey passing out on the floor and Louella saying, 'Don't wake him up, he has to operate in the morning.' Apparently this happened often.

"He'd give her all the news on the abortions and whatnot before anybody else found out. She would get the results of tests before these starlets even got them back. This was all highly unethical.

"I'm amazed how Dockey put up with the whole thing. He seemed to be saintly. Sure, they argued. But he didn't mind being upstaged by this woman. He served as her agent; he'd go out

and get food while she worked on her radio scripts. He was a very modern husband in that way."

Parsons and Dockey squandered their money. "I think she was so fascinated by putting on the show, she didn't care what it cost. Hearst squandered his fortune too."

"She had awful taste."

"Right, but it also was modeled on Hearst."

Ms. Barbas explained that Parsons was not popular with all the stars. "Garbo would have nothing to do with her. Many stars stood up to her. Jeanette McDonald refused to appear on her radio show, as did Mary Pickford. I think once they reached a certain security, with their image, they didn't worry about being banned from Louella's columns. It didn't matter. They knew that she was never going to slam them. She had a job to protect the film industry. This was a time when there was censorship, and she'd never print anything scandalous."

"What did she make of Brando?"

"She thought he was a snot. Hollywood was changing in the '50s, and she was used to the

old studio system where stars were disciplined and controlled by studios. Here comes Brando, and he's cocky and so he doesn't live the celebrity lifestyle and defies what his producers want for him. So she refuses to acknowledge him in her column, except in critical ways, and he snubs her. This is typical of what happened with many younger stars in the '50s. They said 'Louella who?' and her column didn't mean that much anymore."

"How did she feel about homosexuality?"

"She was like most people at the time in Hollywood; she tolerated it, she was familiar with the gay community, but I don't think she approved of it in her daughter [Parsons's only child Harriet was a lesbian].

"I wish I had insight into Harriet's torment. It was so obvious that she was struggling all her life. She was still bitter, even after Louella died; she was going to write a memoir called *I Didn't Tell Mother*. But in the end, her obituary read 'Louella Parsons's Daughter,' even though she was a respected producer in the '40s."

"Did she bring home her girlfriends?"

"No. Oh, no. I think by the time she came out, she was probably in her 40s. They didn't have that close a relationship. Harriet was devoted to Louella. This was definitely a love/hate relationship."

Parsons loved movies. "She was addicted," Ms. Barbas said. "When she was in her 70s, she was still reviewing five films a week. All her career she was not only writing a gossip column, but she did film reviews. So she was writing two columns every day. And for each one she had to watch a film."

"Who is the Louella of today?"

"I don't think we have one. There's the *Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety*, but these don't reach a mass audience. We have *People* and other, similar publications. The concept of celebrities has expanded. Anyone can be a celebrity. Gossip and news have fused. Now we have a gossip culture. We don't need to go to somebody's column to find out who's sleeping with who."

"Why do you think we want to know?"

"Well, in the '20s, I think Louella was very smart. She brought this up in an interview,

"The concept of celebrities has expanded. Anyone can be a celebrity."

she said, 'I think that as a modern society, we don't know our neighbors, we have no community.' She believed we were looking for some intimate connection with people. Maybe this is one way."

"So much that was written in the gossip column was illusion."

"Yes, and all the classic American fables — 'rags to riches,' 'work hard and succeed,' 'the good will be rewarded.' Those are all woven into the celebrity myth. We know it's a sham. Yet we're willing to participate in it. More than ever we know it's a sham, but it's still addictive."

"What would Parsons make of today's films?"

"She would criticize the sex and violence. Part of me thinks she would faint, but on the other hand, she always appreciated a

good story. So she might see some merit in some films today. But she was basically Victorian. She was born in the 1880s. Yes, she would faint at a lot of stuff.

"I wish that I had more to go on with Louella. I want to dig deeper. I want to write a history of female ambition in the 20th Century. What drives women to do these things, particularly at times in history when they're not encouraged? How are their efforts perceived, and where did their inspiration come from? What's the role of men and other women in this ambition?"

"A personal question, how did you survive while you did this work for the book?"

"I was teaching full-time in Orange County. I didn't get any fellowships. I did it on my own."

— Judith Moore

a plate of cookies to decorate; there will be face painting, balloon characters. Sessions run 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Fee: \$14.50 per person, kids under 2 free. Registration: 619-299-9811 x4231. (MISSION VALLEY)

Create Balsa and Foam Flyers during San Diego Aerospace Museum Family Day workshops, Saturday, December 10, at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (sessions last 45 minutes). Included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. (BALBOA PARK)

Celebrate With the Grinch and Santa Claus, Saturday, December 10, noon, at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (1040 North El Camino Real). The grumpy green one from the current Old Globe Theatre production of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* will perform as

Santa reads Seuss's classic tale. Free. 760-943-6400. (ENCINITAS)

Teddy Bear Teas, bring your family and stuffed pal to teddy bear teas, December 11–24, 2:30 p.m. each day, at Westgate Hotel (1055 Second Avenue). Storytelling, food and beverages, visit

from Santa Claus. Fees: \$28 for adults, \$22 for children Reservations: 619-557-3650. (DOWNTOWN)

MUSEUMS

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

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 Otay 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 signifi-

cance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic leader and department store 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)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum —dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

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Binney's Basement Baghdad

"Shivaduti's fearsome laughter sent shivers down the spines of the enemy."

Bear with me here. I've been reading a book by the Italian author Roberto Calasso, whose retelling of Greek myths, *The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony*, got some critical attention several years ago. I'm now reading his Indian equivalent, *Ka: Stories of the Mind and Gods of India*, which is giving me just the tools I've always needed to look at subcontinent art.

Though his book has nothing to do with art, it does help me get a loose grasp of the slippery essences of the Indian imagination. Here's an instance. Calasso is describing Prajapati, mythic Progenitor, Lord of Creatures, and antecedent of Brahma. Prajapati has physical characteristics but also represents a certain quality of mind: "Prajapati was mind as power to transform. And to transform itself. Nothing else can be so precisely described as overflowing, boundless, inexpressible. Everything that exists had been in Prajapati before." He's paradoxically a magisterial expansiveness and enfolding.

The keys to the Indian imagination are multiplicity, multi-valence, and change-without-end. Consider a painting from London's Victoria and Albert Museum: the great Goddess Devi, in her warrior manifestation (one of many) a fierce, heavily armed girl riding a tiger or lion, is shown attacking the water buffalo demon Mahisha. There are thousands of representations of the incident. In this one, Devi, astride Mahisha's back, has already struck; the beast's severed head lies on the ground, and the goddess now is contending with yet another, different demon rising from the buffalo's truncated neck. The painter rendered the emerging demon as being *pushed* by what can only be an endless series of demons under him, just waiting their turn to do evil, for this episode, like so many in Indian literature — most painting is based on lengthy, complicated foundational texts like the *Mahabharata*, and the *Ramayana* — dramatizes existence as constant strife between good and evil.

What dials Calasso's words into this story is the power of primal transformation, transformation-without-end, unchanging change, which is the nature of the world and the mind. The narrative bounty available to Indian artists over the centuries — stories within stories that themselves ramify into other stories involving transformations of gods and devils and creatures — makes our store of scriptural iconography that western painters have drawn on seem small and narrow. For a majestic serving of the plenitude and varieties of Indian art, have a look at the San Diego Museum of Art's current exhibition, *Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting*.

It includes an amazing Devi image I'll get to in a minute that's similar to the one I just mentioned.

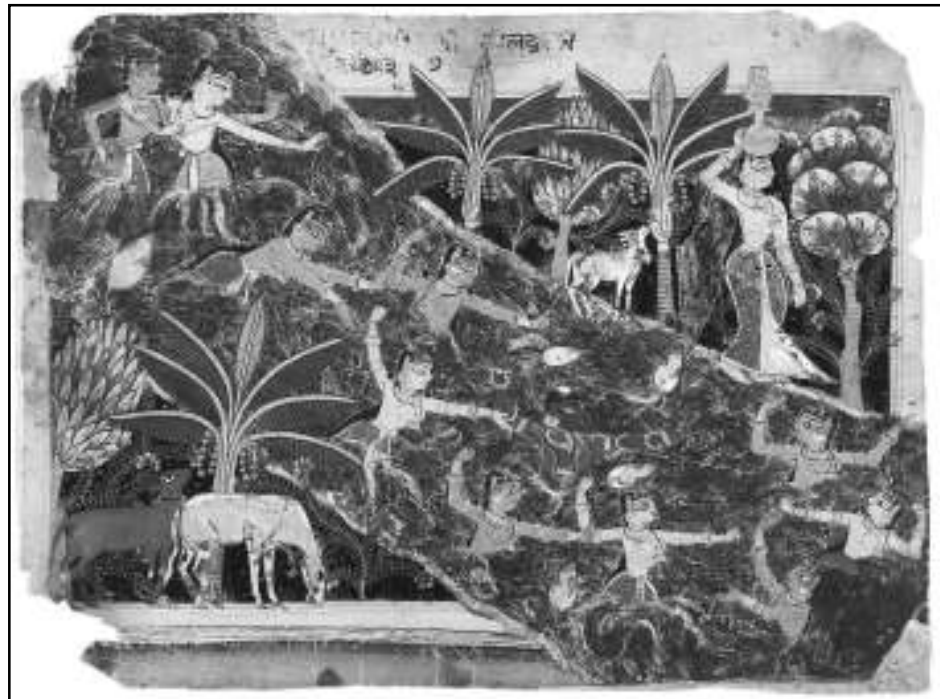
One of San Diego's better kept secrets is that SDMA owns one of the largest, most important collections of South Asian art outside of India. Its strongest holdings, among its nearly 1500 objects, span the course of Indian painting from the 6th through the 19th centuries, drawn from India's

different religious traditions and local cultures. The collection is especially rich in watercolors made between the 16th and 19th centuries for rulers of kingdoms that comprised pre-modern India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Kashmir. The most prominent school of painting flourished under the Mughals, who in 1526 established a Muslim empire in India and imported Persian painters who developed an Indo-Islamic style that dominated Northern Indian art for centuries. The museum's collection is largely due to a bequest by Edwin Binney 3rd, heir to the Crayola fortune — who knew that Crayola was a fortune? — who before his death in 1986 spent many years building one of the world's great collections of South Asian paintings. Dr. Binney, during his two stints on the museum's Board of Trustees, kept an office in the museum library that came to be known affectionately as "Binney's Basement Baghdad."

One Devi picture included in the exhibition illustrates a passage in the Sanskrit text, *Devi Mahatmya* ("Glory of the Great Goddess"): "At that time Shivaduti's fearsome laughter sent shivers down the spines of the enemy." A goddess's work is never done. She's constantly required to come to aid the gods in keeping evil at bay, and the devils, even after Devi slew the buffalo-headed demon in the Victoria and Albert picture I mentioned earlier, just keep on coming. In *The Goddess Slays a Demon*, she's mounted on her tiger, who is chewing away at the neck of some warrior-demon, and has the help of the female hero Shivaduti, messenger of Shiva, a principal Hindu deity often called "the Auspicious One," who embodies both creation and destruction and is the contradiction that transcends contradictions — he's a householder with wife and children; a mendicant who roams the wilderness; a phallus that impregnates the cosmos... Shivaduti, I was saying, in the lower half of the picture, draws her bow, its arrowhead inches from her opponent's breast, while also launching at his skull (with one of her four arms) a trident. A hapless non-combatant looks on, cross-eyed. Another grisly combat scene, from the 16th century, depicts an episode from the *Bhagavata Purana* in which Krishna, always painted blue



Celebrating with Fireworks, attributed to Hashim, c. 1600



The Sports of Love, Rajasthan, c. 1550

Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting is on view at the San Diego Museum of Art until January 22.

and one of the eight avatars of Vishnu, the Hindu deity responsible for maintaining order in the universe whose avatars (human representatives of the gods) police the world of demons... Krishna, I was saying, attacks the fortress of the demon-king Naraka, riding the majestic sun-bird Garuda, and while skirmishes swirl around the central action, Krishna launches his discus that

cleaves the demon down to the pelvis, spews of purple blood, gristle and stringy flesh gushing from his banana-split torso.

The exhibition balances such raucous scenes with depictions of the quiet, sometimes amorous interludes that in the major Hindu texts usually alternate with battles. There are stately Mughal court portraits, ethereal ren-

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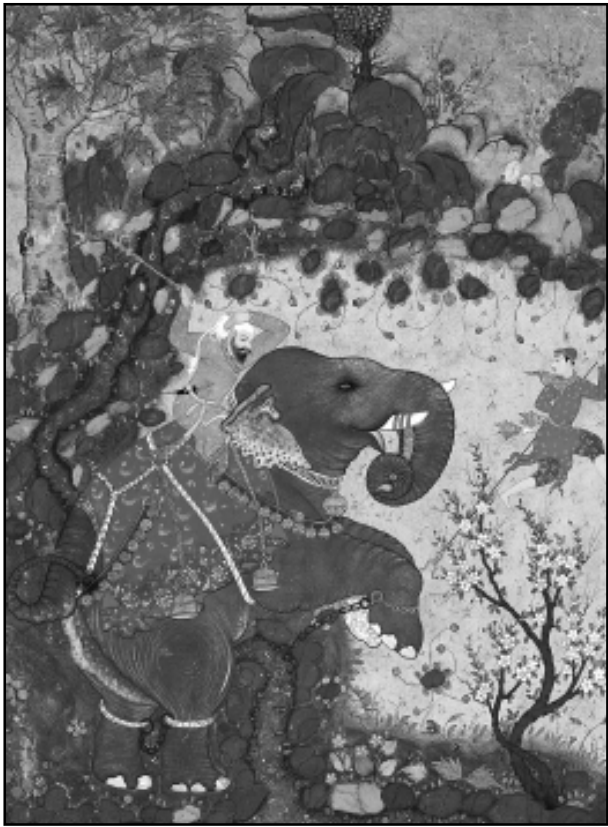
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The Enraged Elephant, Mughal or Deccani, c. 1600

derings of Shiva and his paramour Parvati, sensuously detailed album renderings of deer and birds, lovers' trysts, landscapes, and hunts. Many are stylized, not naturalistic, but within the stylizations artists created inventive, dazzling effects. In a watercolor commemorating a Muslim festival ("Celebrating with Fireworks") a group of women look out across waters lit with geysering golden sparklers, flowering rocket flares, airborne buttons of light, and water-lantern smoke that flows and billows like rich gray-white tresses. The most thrilling (and frequently reproduced) image, from the 16th century, *The Sports of Love*, illustrates a scene from the *Bhagavata Purana* that describes how one autumn night Krishna, stirred by the scent of jasmine, decided, as the text says, "to play." At the sound of his sweet flute, his *gopis*, or cowherdesses, drop everything and hurry to the river where Krishna "stretched out his arms, embracing them, touching their hands, locks of hair, thighs, waists, and bosom."

The depiction is pure erotic indulgence. In the river's curlicues and swirls, tumbling in a diagonal swath down the picture, Krishna frolics with several beauties who clearly can't wait to get their hands on him. They splash water and toss lotus buds at one another. It's a sporty, fresh, impulsive moment fully realized, but the moment transpires in a flowing river, as a flowing river, which like all things is driven by unchanging change. ■

Events that are underlined occur after December 15.

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 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

"The Dog Show" opens with reception for 11 local artists, Friday, December 9, 6 p.m., at Gallery 680 (in Dutra Brown building, 680 West Beech Street; 619-233-3769). Show closes Tuesday, December 20. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Artist Books on a Japanese Theme" — this San Diego Book Arts Invitational Exhibit opens with reception on Friday, December 9, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. Included works "reflect a plurality of contemporary methods and attitudes toward the art of the book." Closes Monday, February 27. 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

"Sapere D'Italia" — exhibition celebrating art, fashion, design opens with reception for artists, Friday, December 9, 6 p.m., at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Cocktail attire requested. 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

Student Art Sale at Art Academy of San Diego (840 G Street) starts with reception, Friday, December 9, 6 p.m.; followed by show/sale on Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 619-231-3900. (DOWNTOWN)

"Selected Work 001." New video installation and video works addressing "the role of technology in our lives" by Anthony Bacigalupo opens with reception, Saturday, December 10, 8 p.m., at Axis Mundi Gallery (635 Seventh Avenue). 619-723-5005. Closes Thursday, December 22. (DOWNTOWN)

"Paint Out at the Rancho" — plein air landscape exhibit with work by ten artists who gathered in October at a Julian ranch opens with reception on Saturday, December 10, 4 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 78, at junction of Highway 79). Closes Sunday, January 8. 760-765-1676. (SANTA YSABEL)

Unique Ceramic Works by Jackson Gray, who works mostly in white stoneware, are on view during December at Ceramic Artists of San Diego Gallery (3824 Ray Street). Reception for artist: Saturday, December 10, 6 p.m. 619-543-9791. (NORTH PARK)

"Impressionistic Expressions" are on view through Friday, February 3, at Discovery Center Gallery (4764 Santa Monica Avenue). Reception for artists Janice Allen, Diane Vida, Mikhail Khodzhayants

is Saturday, December 10, 7 p.m. 619-223-6992. (OCEAN BEACH)

Annual Studio Artists Exhibition and holiday party, Saturday, December 10, 5 p.m., at Distinction Artist Studios and Gallery (317 East Grand Avenue). Art in variety of media, jewelry, gift items. Closes Tuesday, January 3. 760-781-5779. (ESCONDIDO)

"Figures and Silhouettes" by artists B.K. Simpson and Joel Sharp go on view with reception on Saturday, December 10, 6 p.m., at Sharp Gallery (3807 Ray Street). Also on view through Thursday, January 12, is blown glass by Patricia Yockey. 619-523-1903. (NORTH PARK)

"Sixth Annual Invitational Drawing Show," featuring 35 drawings by 12 contemporary San Diego County artists, opens with reception on Sunday, December 11, 1 p.m., at Earl and Birdie Taylor Library (4275 Cass Street). Show is "intended to foster appreciation for the fundamental and difficult skill of drawing." 858-581-9934. Closes Saturday, February 11. (PACIFIC BEACH)

The Most Famous Photograph by Steve McCurry is *Haunted Eyes of a Young Afghan Girl*, which ran on cover of *National Geographic* in 1985. Images from McCurry's recent trips to India and Tibet and others included in exhibit opening with reception Monday, December 12, 5:30 p.m., at Gallery Old Town (2513 San Diego Avenue). Closes Tuesday, February 14. 619-296-7877. (OLD TOWN)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, "Haiti: Where Spirits Dance" is an exhibition of rare, early, and some never-before-seen paintings, sculpture, and *vodou* flags by Haiti's "self-taught masters" including Hector Hyppolite, Georges Liautaud, Philome Obin. "Vodou is a theme which runs through most of the artworks" in this exhibit.

Niki de Saint Phalle's "Tableaux Eclatés" are "exploding/moving paintings," in which the artist sought to go beyond limits of painting. "After Hours: Works by Center Staff and Volunteers" surveys "the budding and established artists roaming the hallways of the center on a daily basis." Show includes paintings, sculpture, textiles, furniture. "Little Is Big Too: Paintings by Dan Adams" boasts small-scale portraits of dogs done with heavy impasto and bright colors.

All four exhibits close Sunday, February 12. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, more than 90 bottles, bowls, platters, and tiles made between 1940 and 2004 are included in retrospective "The Art of Vivika and Otto Heino." Vivika Heino died in 1995, but Otto Heino continues to make pots in his Ojai pottery, throwing 100 pounds of clay at a time.

"Norway — Art of the Land and the People" celebrates 100 years of Norwegian independence. Exhibit includes arts of daily life such as metalwork, jewelry, *bunads* (festival costumes), textiles, *rose-maling* (decorated pottery and furniture), and Norwegian-American immigrant chests from 18th Century. Closes on Sunday, May 21.

Art and significance of

Japanese dolls from the Edo period showcased in "Ningyô: The Art of the Japanese Doll." As cultural artifacts, *ningyô* embody the customs, tastes, fashions, and politics of the time. Through Sunday, January 29.

"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. Through May.

The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum, North County Satellite, "Timeless Glass — From Byzantine to Dale Chihuly," includes a blown-glass chandelier, *macchias*, and sea forms by Chihuly; objects from Venini glass factory in Venice, art glass by contemporary artists including Italo Scanga, William Gudenrath, work by Louis Comfort Tiffany, examples of ancient Egyptian, pre-Roman, Roman, and Islamic glass. Through Sunday, February 19.

"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. Ongoing. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, WriterzBlok is a collective of artists offering youth of Southeast San Diego technical skills in visual arts, opportunities to learn about aerosol painting through educational programs. Through Sunday, December 11, view murals by WriterzBlok's artists in lobby and Fayman Galleries, augmenting their banner project on museum's Jacobs Building construction fence on Kettner Boulevard.

"Cerca Series: Michael Arcega" surveys artist's "diverse output from wall drawings" made from computer spam to delicate drawings made with human hair and his most recent project *El Conquistador*. Bay Area artist is "obsessed with ships and wordplay." Exhibit closes Sunday, December 11.

Twelve is a video installation by Barbara Kruger addressing themes of power, society, culture, family, and relationships. Experience the piece, projected individually on four walls, through Sunday, December 11.

Find the museum at 1001 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 619-234-1001. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, over four decades of work made by artists from Los Angeles to the Mexican border showcased in "Southern Exposure," continuing through December. Some of the art is politically motivated, some is concerned with formal considerations. Highlights include important early works by John Baldessari, Ed Ruscha, Robert Irwin.

Raymond Pettibon's work, often showing darker side of society and American hypocrisies, is on view through Sunday, September 3, 2006. Pettibon — known for "his idiosyncratic renderings and room-sized installations" — exhibits a large-scale wall drawing.

Find the museum at 700

Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, more than 250 works of photography revealing "tumultuous history of the representation of race in America" gathered in "Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self," on view concurrently at Museum of Photographic Arts and San Diego Museum of Art. Exhibition spans wide range of genres and movements, with pieces dating from mid-19th Century to present, continuing at both museums through December.

Seven photographs by Moroccan-born photographer Lalla Es-saydi may be seen through Sunday, January 7. Series consists of portraits of Muslim women and children taken in her unoccupied family-owned house in Morocco; the artist's intention is to explore cultural patterns within Arab and Western societies, to convey her own experience as an Arab woman.

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

Oceanside Museum of Art, "OMA Regional 4," continuing through Sunday, January 8, is a juried exhibition featuring paintings, prints, and sculpture by artists in the region. The art by 31 artists showcases "a provocative selection reflecting recent trends in contemporary art." Jurors were Mary Beebe, Derrick Cartwright, Arthur Ollman. Find the museum at 704 Pier View Way; 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art, "Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting" may be seen through Sunday, January 22. Exhibit features 124 paintings, two bound manuscripts from museum's Edwin Binney 3rd Collection, ranging from 14th through late 19th Century. Concurrently: "Indian Colours," exploring materials, pigments, tools, techniques of Indian painting used by South Asian artists to create the intricately detailed paintings on display.

More than 250 works of photography revealing "tumultuous history of the representation of race in America" gathered in "Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self," concurrently at San Diego Museum of Art and Museum of Photographic Arts. Exhibition spans wide range of genres and movements, with pieces dating from mid-19th Century to present, continuing at both museums through December.

Paintings, sculptures, and objects from Nepal, Tibet, and India featured in "Devotional Arts of Nepal." Buddhism and Hinduism have "enjoyed a peaceful coexistence for over 1500 years" in Nepal's Kathmandu Valley; exhibit "explores fruits of this commingling." Closes Sunday, April 2.

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

Timken Museum of Art, between late 1650s and mid-1660s, Rembrandt Harmensz Van Rijn created a number of half-length portraits of religious figures. Paintings were created during difficult time in Rembrandt's life. "Rembrandt's Apostles," on exhibit through Sunday, January 16, includes *The Apostle Bartholomew*, along with four other linked paintings.

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

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

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Italian Pianist Alesio Averone performs music by Mozart, Prokofiev, Beethoven, and Liszt, Friday, December 9, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Preconcert talk with Averone at 7 p.m. \$35 general. Reservations: 619-239-3633. (LA JOLLA)

"Villancicos y Cantadas de Navidad: Christmas in Old Spain and Latin America" celebrated when El Mundo performs for San Diego Early Music Society, Friday, December 9, 8 p.m., St. James by-the-Sea (743 Prospect Street). The Bay Area ensemble is led by guitarist Richard Savino. \$20. Reservations: 619-291-8246. (LA JOLLA)

Vivaldi's "Gloria" and other seasonal selections may be heard when USD University Choir performs Friday, December 9, 8 p.m., in Founders Chapel of Founders Hall, University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Concert repeats Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m. \$10 general. 619-260-4171. (LINDA VISTA)

Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9" is performed by San Diego Master Chorale and San Diego Symphony, December 9-11, at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$20-\$85. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

"Joy" provides theme for Camarada's "Candelight Concert" on Saturday, December 10, 6:30 p.m., at Botanica (2310 Kettner Boulevard). Beth Ross-Buckley (flute) and Fred Benedetti (guitar) play variety of holiday music including traditional Celtic and Irish tunes, baroque favorites, Klezmer melodies, American spirituals, more. \$50 fee includes wine, hors d'oeuvres. 619-231-3702. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Gaudette" presented by 80-voice North Coast Choral and 38-voice Chamber Chorale, December 10 and 11, at First Presbyterian Church of Oceanside (2001 El Camino Real). Program includes Nester's "Magnificat," "Gloria" by Rutter, traditional and contemporary carols and songs. Concerts at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$10. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

Hallelujah! Seasonal "Messiah" sing-along hosted by La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church (6628 Santa Isabel Street). \$12. Reservations: 858-534-4637. (LA COSTA)

San Elijo Chorale plans concert, Sunday, December 11, 3 p.m., at

Seaside Church of Religious Science (1613 Lake Drive). Program includes "He, Watching Over Israel, Slumbers Not" from Mendelssohn's "Elijah," Christmas selections from Handel's "Messiah." \$10 general, \$8 seniors. 760-436-9421. (ENCINITAS)

Classical, Flamenco, Klezmer music promised when guitarists Fred Benedetti and George Svoboda perform Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive Street). \$8. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Mas "Messiah," chancel choir joined by soloists and orchestra to present Handel's masterpiece, Sunday, December 11, 7 p.m., at Clairemont Lutheran Church (4271 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Offering. 858-273-7423. (CLAIREMONT)

"Blessings of the Season" offered when sopranos Cheryl Brown and Debby Davis join pianist Myron Fink for holiday music "from many lands and traditions" for Pleasure of Your Company chamber music series, Sunday, December 11, 2:30 p.m., at Scripps Miramar Ranch Library (10301 Scripps Lake Drive). Donation. 858-538-8158. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Tenth Annual Celebration of Musical Education offered by the San Diego Youth Symphony, Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Symphony honors John Ramirez with performances of Dvořák, Bizet, Holst selections.

\$24 general. 619-233-3232. (ESCONDIDO)

Advent Lessons and Carols presented on Sunday, December 11, 5 p.m., by adult and children's choirs at St. Michael's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (2775 Carlsbad Boulevard). 760-729-8901. Offering. (CARLSBAD)

Feast of Lights, Westminster Choir and soloists perform Handel's "Messiah," New Dawn Singers present three new carol settings, audience carol sing-along, candle-lighting ceremony. Concerts at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 11, and at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 12, at First Presbyterian Church (320 Date Street, at Fourth Avenue). Offering. 619-232-7513. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Children's Choir joins civic organist Carol Williams in concert, Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Holiday Celebrations by Westwind Brass with music from Handel's "Messiah," Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," tunes for Hanukkah, tribute to Frosty the Snowman. Concerts begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive); on Thursday, December 15, at San Diego Museum of Art; and on Sunday, December 18, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church (700 D Avenue). \$15. 619-237-7892. (LA JOLLA, BALBOA PARK, CORONADO)

San Diego Chinese Min Yue Ensemble plays Chinese music on traditional Chinese and other instruments, Wednesday, December 14, 7 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 858-552-1668. (DEL MAR)

Classical Guitarist Robert Wetzel plays music of Broca, Mudarra, Milan, Narvaez, and Sor, Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Free. 858-573-5007. (MISSION VALLEY)

Mesa College Guitar Ensemble performs works ranging from 17th-Century compositions by Henry Purcell to jazz classics like "Take Five," Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m., at Clairemont Library (2920 Burgener Boulevard). Free. Reservations: 858-581-9935. (CLAIREMONT)

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

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Pervert's Potential

Local singer/guitarist John Pertle, of the four-man group Johnny Love Sound, pled guilty on November 28 to

Brother Love Sound played their first live gig in September of 2002 at Zodiak Café in La Mesa. Their debut album, *Sushi Girl*, was released the following year on the Luminosity Music label. Pertle's blog at myspace.com has an entry that reads in part: "I am a Force of Nature and I will turn the entire

"White Power" T-shirt. Four years after his appearance, Nomad still has run-ins with people who didn't find his TV prank funny.

"I was in Tucson a couple of weeks ago selling CDs [entitled *Where the White Women At?*] at a club," Nomad said after a recent road trip. "I walked up to this girl and tried to talk to her. I ask her what her name is and tell her mine and she says, 'I hate your CD.' I asked her, 'You didn't think it was funny?' She was a Jamaican chick and she



NOMAD MAY ACTUALLY BE COLORBLIND

turns to these other guys and next thing you know, about nine Jamaican cats surround me — and they had their hands in their shirts like they're strapped or something — and said, 'Yo, you want to die tonight?' 'Uh, not particularly,' so I got out of there."

"I've been traveling since I put out my first CD. It came out in 1995, and I traveled to

England and Amsterdam with it. I've traveled all around the world. I've been to Japan twice, Australia twice, France...so why are these cats making CDs in San Diego and just sitting on it?..."

"When I was in Australia, I spent \$68. People were taking care of me, taking me

to clubs, fancy restaurants. So I made \$400 and spent \$68. They love black dudes in Australia!"

— Larry Harmon

Just Married: Grit-Hop and Porn

UCSD pornographer and newspaper editor Steve York made national news when he exposed himself on campus TV in February. The

controversy that erupted earned York an appearance on MSNBC's *Scarborough Country*.

"After my 15 minutes of fame were over, I decided to come back with another production," says York. "I wanted something professional and fun."

York, banned from UCSD's TV studios in November, says his Stevie Why Productions will release a 35-minute DVD next month that features his skin and the music of O.B.'s Defamation League. The trio's "grit-hop" is a mix of hardcore/punk guitar with hip-hop beats and lyrics.

"When we [have sex] it's not to Yanni," says Defam's MC Kchemical Ali. "When I think of porn, I don't want to hear some cheesy '70s porn guitar track.... If it weren't for Steve York, I might have taken a job at Legoland or Chuck E. Cheese. Porno shouldn't be such a taboo. America was founded by Puritans and Quakers and

shit like that."

The three Point Loma High grads of Defamation



YORK ISN'T AS SQUARE AS HE LOOKS

League will release *The Anatomy of Grit-Hop* on January 1.

— Ken Leighton

Some People Dig Wars

"We were at a bar in San Diego," Nickel Creek mandolin player Chris Thile told *starwars.com*, "when low and behold, Carrie Fisher appears accompanied by two of her friends. It turned out that she had been invited by a buddy of mine, to whom I let slip, trying to express the depth of my *Star Wars* fanaticism, that I could play 'Princess Leia's Theme' on the mandolin.... I found myself kneeling down in

blurt

the inside track

five felony counts of distributing child pornography and four felony counts of possession of child porn with intent to distribute. The 36-year-old Pertle initially pleaded not guilty to uploading and downloading child pornography to and from approximately two dozen Yahoo! group sites. Pertle's postings and attempts to sell photo and video CDs were traced from November 2002 through early 2005. He'll be sentenced January 18.

Earth on its Ear. It is my destiny."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Big in Australia Rappers who start feuds to make a name for themselves are nothing new. Tupac versus Biggie, Nas versus Jay-Z, 50 Cent versus everyone...but what happens when local rapper Nomad calls out the whole black race? In 2001, Nomad was the subject of a *Jenny Jones* episode titled "You Shouldn't Hate Your Own Race." He wore a

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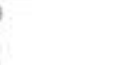
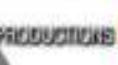
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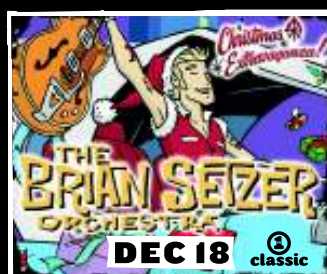
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Calendar
MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

front of her playing.

"She had a kind of distant look on her face at first, but



PRINCESS LEIA HAS BREAD TO SPARE

after 15 seconds, a smile (of reminiscence, I think) was added. At one point, one of her friends leaned over and asked her what I was playing, to which she responded, 'It's my theme!' I finished and launched into another round of apologetic prostration, but she silenced me by thanking me and — oh, how I'll cherish this memory for the rest of my life — feeding me a piece of bread. 'Nobody's ever done that for me before,' she said. Ms. Fisher, should you ever read this, I can now die happy."

Nickel Creek plays House of Blues on December 15.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Yes, We Have No

Gorilla For 15 years, the biggest names in modern rock have come together for KROQ's "Almost Acoustic Christmas." This weekend, System of a Down, Nine Inch Nails, Korn, Depeche Mode, Coldplay, the White Stripes, Jack Johnson, and others will play for the L.A. radio station.

So, how come San Diego's modern-rock stations don't bring in big names for Christmas concerts?

Says 94/9 program director Garret Michaels, "We try and do a New Year's Eve show instead." Michaels says San Diego stations don't have the pull of KROQ, the biggest rock station in the U.S. "They are the 900-pound gorilla.... They can get bands to play for free."

On December 12, 91X will host a concert at Copley Symphony Hall that features Bauhaus, the Bravery, Louis XIV, and a reconstituted Germs (back together in spite of the fact that front man Darby Crash died of an overdose 25 years ago).

Kevin Stapleford, in



DARBY CRASH, THE OTHER BIG-NAME GERM

charge of 91X since August, says, "Basically, 91X is starting from scratch." He says the station will do a dark-themed "Nightmare

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: JINGLE BALL 2005



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JAY ALLEN SANFORD



Before X-Mas" show. Stapleford rejects the idea that bringing back the Germs is like bringing back the Ramones without Joey, DeeDee, or Johnny.

"I don't think [Germs guitarist] Pat Smear would do anything that would make him look stupid." The new Germs is fronted by the singer/actor who portrays Crash in an upcoming band biopic.

— Ken Leighton

Where's the

Cocaine? Sacramento dance punk septet called "!!!" (pronounced "Chk, Chk, Chk" or any other series of repeated monosyllabic words) have modest goals for their first show at the Casbah. For a few years they've played the Ché Café and other San Diego venues where attendance can be hit or miss.

"I think if we've played to more than 30 people in San Diego I'd be shocked," says guitarist Mario Andreoni. Even a *Vice Magazine* street-fair party they played here a few years ago was disastrous.

"We played with Beehive and the Barracudas — I like their band, and that was the first time I'd ever seen them live — but they played for almost two hours," Andreoni says. "I was expecting all this rampant cocaine and craziness. I think we played to 15 people at two in the morning. It was the polar opposite of what I thought a *Vice* party would be."

Andreoni and the rest of !!! have been writing a new

show, the last date of their West Coast mini-tour.

— Jeremiah Griffey

Warmth After the Fire

Last Friday was a memorable anniversary for Dave Drury, one of the four rappers in the KneeHighs. "It was December 2 [2004], around 8:30 in the morning. [A fire] started with an old wall heater.... I woke up coughing. I couldn't go anywhere except out the window. I hung there about a minute, screaming 'fire' until I couldn't hold on any longer." Drury fell three stories onto gravel.

"It took forever for the fire truck to get there. Like, 20 or 30 minutes.... Everything in my best friend JD's room burned up. Smoke destroyed my clothes, my baseball cards..."

Drury, then 25, worked at KUSI as a news editor.

"I had just started. I was in a probationary period. I was in the hospital for three and a half hours. They billed me \$6000. I'm still making payments."

The first KneeHighs show was a month later at downtown's Roseary Room.

"It was a fundraiser for us. They let us keep the whole

door of \$800."

Drury says he's happy the KneeHighs are the featured performers at a December 17 Golden Hall show for 6000 homeless children. The San



THE KNEEHIGHS CAN RELATE TO THE HOMELESS

Diego Coalition for the Homeless began the tradition in 1979; this is the first year that a live hip-hop band is featured instead of "adult-oriented music," says organizer Mark Tarpin.

— Ken Leighton

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Edwin Decker, Dave Good, Jeremiah Griffey, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Mary Montgomery, Derek Plank, Jay Allen Sanford

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The Illinois summer heat and humidity clamped down over Chicago's West Side like a damp electric blanket. Ozone filled the air with the promise of lightning. Gunmetal clouds brooded, purple with bad intent. Merrimac Street was still. No baseball today. Aunt Rose said it was polio season.

I had already read Neville Shute's *On the Beach* and *Seven Days in May* over the summer of 1963 — or was it '64? My father had finished with them and handed them off to me. "It's time you graduated from the Hardy Boys," he had said. Still, I had packed *The Twisted Claw* by Franklin W. Dixon with the other books — only that one hidden in my A2000 pitcher's glove. I had just finished *An American Guerilla in the Philippines*, and the day's weather conspired to place me even more fully in Manila, 1942 — my cousin was the American intelligence officer here, my aunt and uncle were Japanese collaborators.

My uncle's police radio crackled with static downstairs and in our attic bedroom. My cousin Jimmy and I listened to the Ventures play "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue." The Ventures twanged the hell out of this one on their Mosrite guitars. Nothing could be cooler than this 45 rpm record, I thought. Last week I found a recording at the library of the Ventures playing live in Japan. It had "Slaughter" on the CD. I listened and found it unlistenable. What was I thinking? I thought the theme to the TV show *77 Sunset Strip* was boss too.

After multiple vinyl encores of Nokie Edwards, Mel Taylor, and Don Wilson that August day...and having finished *The Twisted Claw*...

"Frank found the switch and turned on the lights. The boys looked around...on the far side of the room, armor engraved with the symbol of the twisted claw, stood on a pedestal.

"...Joe suddenly grabbed his brother's arm. 'Hold on!' he whispered. I might be seeing things, but I'm sure that figure on the pedestal moved!"

...I closed the book, switched the turntable to 33 rpm, put on the soundtrack to *Lawrence of Ara-*

bia, and picked up a book I had found in a suburban garbage box: *The Pass Beyond Kashmir* by Berkely Mather. The difference in the writing was like a physical blow. I seem to remember a thunderclap overhead as I read:

BOOKS & MUSIC JOHN BRIZZOLARA

"...The sun was dipping down behind the high ground towards Malabar Hill, but it hadn't taken the heat with it. You could almost see the heat. It seeped out of the streaked, yellow-washed walls of the bazaar and it made objects in the middle distance dance and shimmer. It was helped by the smoke of the little fires from the alleys that ran down toward the Crawford Market where the women were cooking the evening meal of curry and dahl and the street traders were waking from the long siesta...scratching, hawking and spitting. Ten thousand of them doing it in concert...can drown all other sounds in the two waking hours of dawn and sunset in Bombay."

The music Maurice Jarre scored for David Lean and Peter O'Toole's *Lawrence* fit the characters Smedley, Rees, and Polson and their deadly rendezvous in the Himalayas to perfection. I made it so in the geography of my 12-year-old mind. India, the Arabian Desert — what difference? I wondered what curry and dahl tasted like. I wanted to see Arabs and camels spit, hordes of Thugees and Sepoys at the Afghan frontier, scimitars and lances winking in fierce sunlight.

Somewhere around that time I had read *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom* by T.E. Lawrence. I remember enjoying it, but I could not have understood it. I couldn't make it through Lew Wallace's *Ben-Hur*, but I sat through Charleton Heston's portrayal several times. Listening to Miklos Rozsas's score while reading Harold Lamb's *Ghengis Khan* and *Hannibal* worked well. About that time, the Beatles were on transistors and hi-fis everywhere you went. I read *Catcher in the Rye* four times that year and *I Was a Teenaged Drug Addict* (author forgotten) and *Junkie* by William Burroughs — all to early Beatles singles and Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" or "Blue Rondo

à la Turk."

When I think of H. Rider Haggard's *King Solomon's Mines*, I think of early Animals records and, for some reason, Billy Joe Royal's cornball lament "Down in the Boondocks." I heard that one and the Byrds' "Mr. Tambourine Man" wafting across the still surface of Round Lake in northern Illinois in whatever summer that was. The Beatles' *Revolver* was in there somewhere too, and I read *King of the Khyber Rifles*, Sartre's *Nausea* (to the tune of "Is That All There Is?" — I could swear — coming from my mother's bedroom as she lay in bed all of June and July of 1966). Then there was *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* (for school, but I loved them) as well as a copy of Terry Southern's *Candy* I had hidden under my mattress. This latter novel went well with beef jerky and early Rolling Stones.

My father and the films *Captain Blood* and *The Sea Hawk* led me to the books of Rafael Sabatini. The unforgettable opening line from *Scaramouche*, "He was born with the gift of laughter and the sense that the world was mad," is carved not only in memory but, I later discovered, over an entrance to the campus of Yale University. The novel itself is far superior to the movie with Stewart Granger (so wrong) and should be enjoyed with Royal Crown cola, the Beau Brummels' "Laugh, Laugh," and the Lovin' Spoonful's "Summer in the City" and "Do You Believe in Magic?" If you have the opportunity in this life, read *The Sea Hawk* and/or *Captain Blood* while listening to Erich Wolfgang Korngold's score to Errol Flynn's depiction of Peter Blood and Geoffrey Thorpe.

Another Sabatini, *The Black Swan*, concerning the lusty adventures of Captain Tom Leach and the heroic Charles de Bernis, was read, at least in part, while my mother played for my brother and me a recording of *The 1812 Overture*. Tempestuous crescendos and cannon fire



Eric Clapton, from *Blues Breakers* album cover

were superb accompaniment to swashbuckling scenes:

"...Again the blades sang together. He thrust high. De Bernis parried lightly, using the forte of the blade with great effect, and countered promptly. Leach beat the blade set aside in the same manner.... It plowed a furrow in his right cheek."

Anything that includes either sword fights or gunfire and read while listening to early Fleetwood Mac's "Oh Well" will almost draw actual blood.

I should include the soundtrack to *West Side*

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MUSIC SCENE

Story. This was played constantly by my prescription barbiturate- and then-over-the-counter amphetamine-addled mother until multiple copies of the LPs were scratched beyond listening. I tacitly approved the knife-fight background music as long as I didn't have to sit through the visual: choreographed, flaming pirouettes and flailing wrists as the Jets apparently danced the Sharks to death.

I recall a Harry Belafonte calypso record (yes, the one with the banana song) of Mom's, which was on quite a bit, and I associate it with the failed attempt to read *Atlas Shrugged* (Mom's book). Ayn Rand's concerns were far from my own.

About that time I read *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert Heinlein, *The Painted Bird* by Jerzy Kosinski, a few H.P. Lovecraft stories, and later, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* as it appeared in *Rolling Stone*. The Yardbirds, especially performing their version of Muddy Waters's "I'm a Man," seemed to complement Thompson's gonzo prose. Pink Floyd's first album, *Piper at the Gates of Dawn*, with its wonky organ and surreal imagery, suited Lovecraft, Heinlein, and almost any and all science fiction and fantasy. In the late '60s and early '70s this genre was enjoying a kind of Golden Age (the New Wave), often featuring dark, even mainstream characterization and wild punctuation.

Chicago blues rode my cheap, portable turntable while I read Dreiser's *American Tragedy* and Thomas Hardy's *Mayor of Casterbridge* for school. Buddy Guy and Junior Wells, Albert King and Ray Charles provided backup for Nathanael West. Somewhere between *Miss Lonelyhearts* and *The Dream Life of Balso Snell*, I discovered John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Sonny Rollins, and Cannonball Adderley. Jazz proved to be great reading music, and not just for its lack of distracting lyrics — I played *Nina Simone Sings the Blues* all through *U.S.A.* by John Dos Passos. I was also smoking marijuana and so remember little of the Dos Passos.

Carlos Castaneda's books coincided with Procol Harum

and Robin Trower, having nothing to do with each other atmospherically, but chronologically on the same page of some confabulated photo album. *The Dwarf* by Par Lagerkvist was accompanied by King Crimson. Charles Lloyd and Keith Jarrett played to the sound of turning pages: *Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo, *Red Harvest* by Dashiell Hammett, and *The Long Goodbye* by Raymond Chandler. A relatively late-in-life reading of *Moby Dick* I associate with the Kinks and the Who and their rock operas. I don't necessarily recommend the combo, but that's how it went for me.

At some point in my 20s, somewhere around Springsteen and Little Feat, Michael Herr's *Dispatches*, *The Hack* by Wilfrid Sheed, Graham Greene's *Quiet American*, and Anthony Burgess's *Enderby*, I opted to read and to write with as much silence in the background as I could manage. To this day, while writing or with an open book in front of me, if music is coming from anywhere I will opt to listen to the music. Music trumps language on a visceral level, though both are pleasures — when they're not instruments of torture. Rap and hip-hop, "the New R&B," martial or German beer-garden music, and Broadway show tunes are torment, just as awful prose is tantamount to chewing on aluminum foil. Anyway, today I will read or I will listen, but not simultaneously.

My own memoirs, when and if they are written, will best be read while listening to a recording of the highest quality and played at maximum volume — it is a composition by John Cage, usually performed live and always listed first in the program. I must find the title; I believe the word "ambient" occurs in it. For some two minutes or so, I believe, Cage sits at the piano and refrains from playing anything. Eventually the audience stops shifting, clearing their throats, and rustling programs. After the first minute these sounds give way to something as near silence as men and women are capable of this side of the grave. A silence that is attentive, expectant, possibly embarrassed, self-conscious, and pregnant. More rewarding than any memoir. ■



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JAN 15
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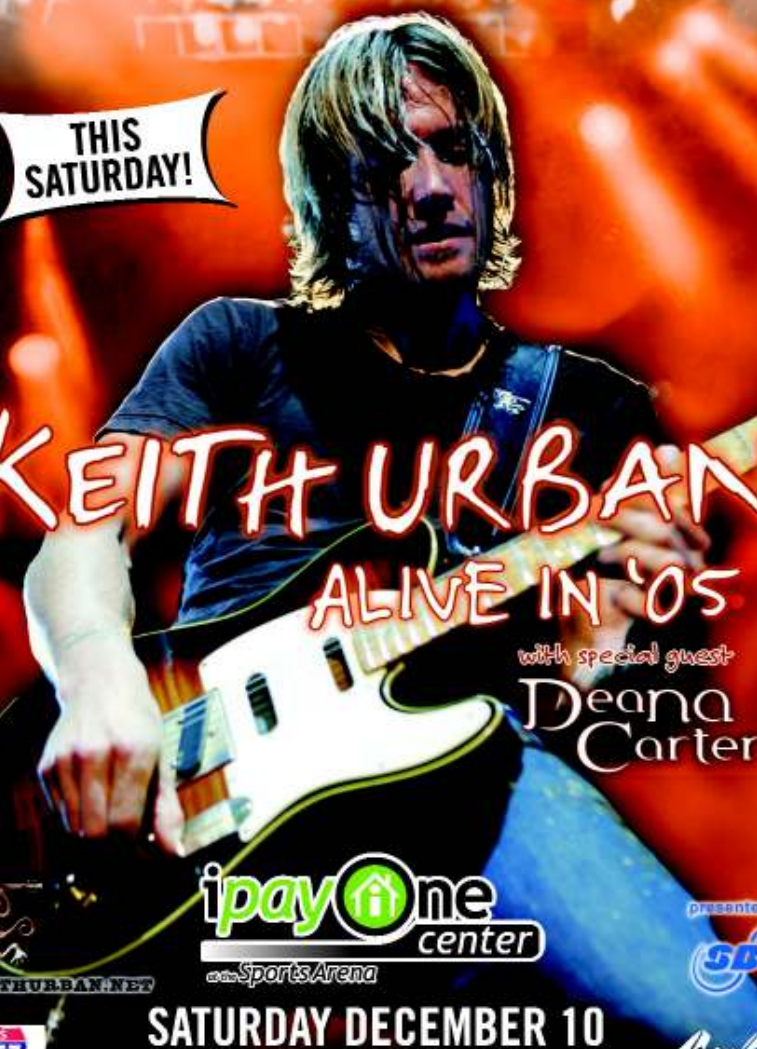
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Calendar CONCERTS

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Press the the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4000 for this week's concerts).

At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

EXTENSION 4000

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Pat Green: House of Blues, Thursday, December 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

FRIDAY

Echo & the Bunnymen [194]: House of Blues, Friday, December 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Bob Weir: 4th & B, Friday, December 9, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

SATURDAY

Keith Urban and Deana Carter [774]: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, December 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

SUNDAY

Korn [275]: 4th & B, Sunday, December 11, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

TUESDAY

Bauhaus [103]: 4th & B, Tuesday, December 13, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Don Edwards: Acoustic Music San Diego, Tuesday, December 13, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Unwritten Law [261]: House of Blues, Tuesday, December 13, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

WEDNESDAY

Unwritten Law [261]: House of Blues, Wednesday, December 14, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

EXTENSION 4001

UPCOMING CONCERTS

DECEMBER

Nickel Creek [817] and **Andrew Bird:** House of Blues, Thursday, December 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Nickel Creek [817] and **Andrew Bird:** House of Blues, Friday, December 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue,

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| FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 POP ROCKS 9:45 PM-1:30 AM | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 POP ROCKS 9:45 PM-1:30 AM |
| SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 CRUSH 9:45 PM-1:30 AM | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 REAGANOMICS 9:45 PM-1:30 AM |

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| TUESDAY, DEC. 13 & 20 Mystique (Element of Soul) Jazz/Funk/R&B 6:30-11 PM | WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14 & 21 The Soul Revue 6:30-11 PM |

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Calendar CONCERTS

Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Riders in the Sky: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, December 17, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

The Brian Setzer Orchestra [475]: House of Blues, Sunday, December 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Dokken: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, December 20, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Neil Diamond [610]: San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, December 21, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

Ozomatli: House of Blues, Thursday, December 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Peter White [650], **Rick Braun** [654], and **Mindi Abair:** Spreckels Theatre, Friday, December 23, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500 or 619-220-8497.

Ozomatli: House of Blues, Friday, December 23, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Social Distortion [481]: House of Blues, Monday, December 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Social Distortion [481]: House of Blues, Tuesday, December 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

"Z-90 Jingle Jam": San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, December 28, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

Reverend Horton Heat: House of Blues, Thursday, December 29, 1055

Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

The Rugburns [263]: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, December 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497.

Karl Denson's Tiny Universe: 'Canes, Saturday, December 31, 3105 Ocean Front Walk. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

"New Year's Eve with Saosin, Bleeding Through, and many more": Soma, Saturday, December 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Chris Isaak [466]: House of Blues, Saturday, December 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

JANUARY

Los Lobos [476]: House of Blues, Friday, January 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Al Kooper: Acoustic Music San Diego, Saturday, January 14, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

G. Love & Special Sauce: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, January 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Pennywise [268] and **No Use For a Name** [216]: 4th & B, Thursday, January 19, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Eliza Gilkyson [504]: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, January 20, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Pennywise [268] and **No Use For a Name** [216]: Soma, Friday, January 20, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662 or 619-220-8497.

INXS [484]: Pala Events Center, Wednesday, January 25, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580 or 619-220-8497.

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

With new-wave nostalgia going strong, now is a good time to be an over-the-hill '80s band. But what if you want to keep making a living playing music, but you don't want to keep playing the same old songs you played 25 years ago? What if you don't want to be thought of as an '80s band? What if, like **Echo and the Bunnymen**, you didn't see yourself as an '80s band even in the '80s?

In the past few years, the Bunnymen have had the CD reissue and retrospective box-set treatment. They've been praised by younger artists and had a song or two pop up in the odd young-audience indie movie. But since singer **Ian McCulloch** and guitarist

Will Sergeant revived the Bunnymen more than ten years ago they have made an effort to avoid the nostalgia circuit, concentrating instead on new material that went in new directions. This approach has not won them many new fans, nor did it win them good reviews...until this year's *Siberia*.

On the new album, Sergeant sounds as if he's been unleashed as he rips through the kind of neo-psychedelic leads that made songs like "Killing Moon" and "A Promise" so great. McCulloch, too, is in fine form, but there's something different about him this time around. Although he's famously vain and often seems unaware that he's no longer a pouty-lipped pinup boy, the new song "Parthenon Drive" (which sounds suspiciously like the Bunnymen classic "The Cutter") finds him reflecting on his life and



ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN

declaring himself "glad to be alive around 45." Actually, he's 46, but who's counting? Maturity suits him.

ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN, House of Blues, Friday, December 9, 8:30 p.m. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497. \$25.

Social Distortion [481]: House of Blues, Friday, January 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Social Distortion [481]: House of Blues, Saturday, January 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

The Dead Kennedys: House of Blues, Sunday, January 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

FEBRUARY

Air Supply: California Center for the Arts, Friday, February 3, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Willie Nelson [763]: Pala Events Center, Thursday, February 9, 5 miles

east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580 or 619-220-8497.

Little Feat [459]: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, February 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

Aerosmith [529]: San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, February 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

Big Head Todd & the Monsters [582]: 4th & B, Wednesday, February 15, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

"Bob Marley Day Festival," San Diego Sports Arena, Monday, February 20, 3500 San Diego Sports Arena Boulevard, Sports Arena. 619-220-8497.

Robyn Hitchcock [509]: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, February 23, 143 South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497.

Sinead O'Conner: House of Blues, Sunday, February 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

MARCH

Styx [523]: House of Blues, Thursday, March 2, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Arlo Guthrie: California Center for the Arts, Monday, March 13, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Kem: 4th & B, Thursday, March 23, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

APRIL

Queen and Paul Rodgers: Cox Arena, Saturday, April 1, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0427 or 619-220-8497.

Michael McDonald [605]: Pala Events Center, Saturday, April 1, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580 or 619-220-8497.

MAY

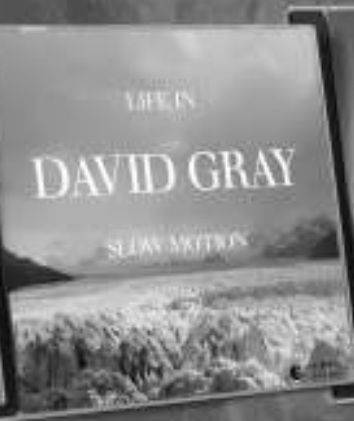
Ministry: House of Blues, Sunday, May 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

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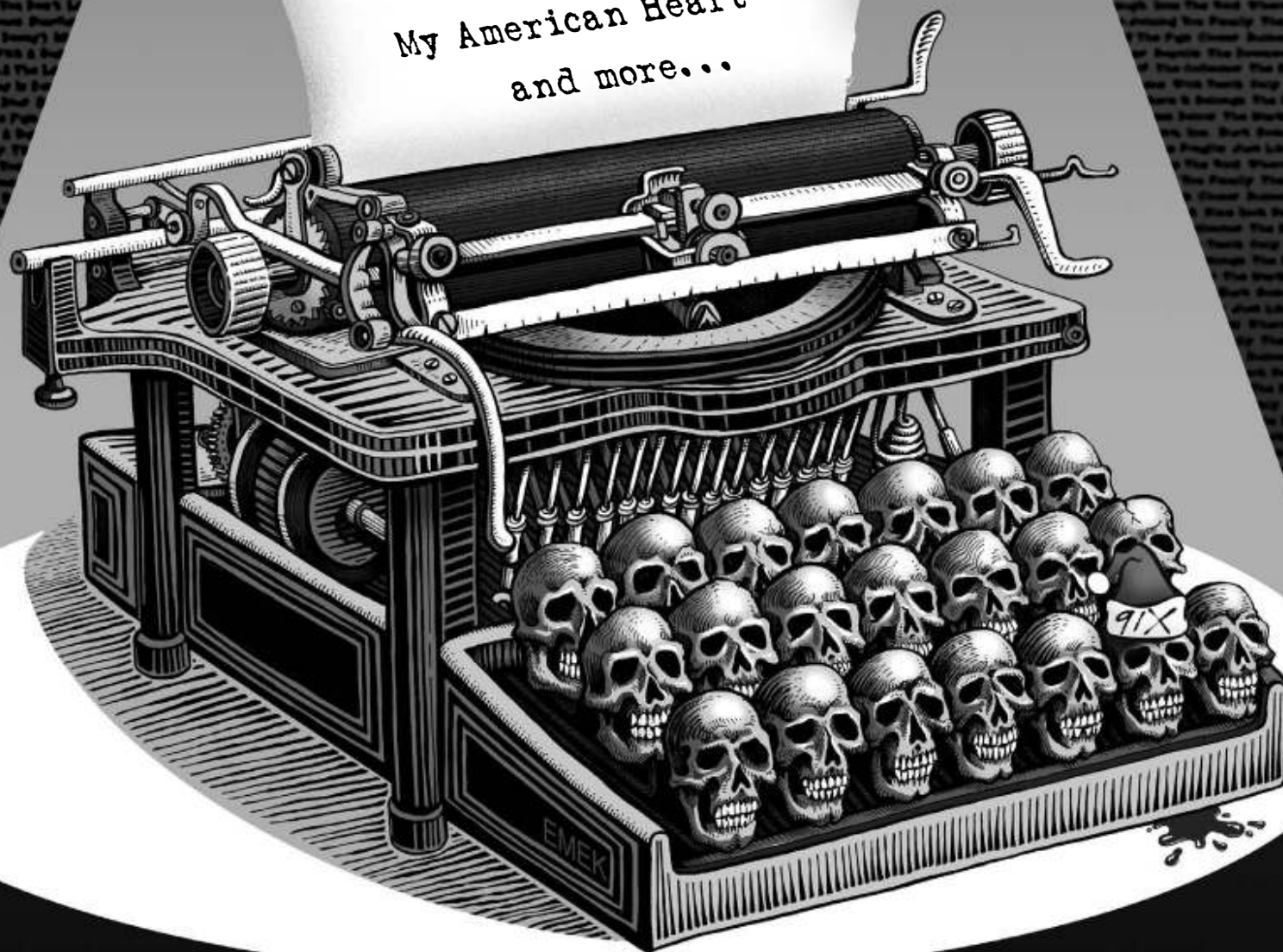


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Calendar

BANDS

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EXTENSION 4002

ALTERNATIVE

- !!!: The Casbah
- The Apple Seeds: Winstons
- The Atoms: Ché Cafe
- The Attacks: Ché Cafe
- Augustana: Soma
- Authority Zero: Soma
- Bauhaus [103]: 4th & B
- The Big Dame Hunters: 'Canes

- Bouncing Souls [332]: House of Blues
- Brady Sails: Soma
- Broken Silence: 'Canes
- Buckcherry: 'Canes
- Cattle Decapitation: The Jumping Turtle
- Chasing Shadows: The Jumping Turtle
- The Cigarettes: Epicentre
- Conjure One: Brick By Brick
- Cortical: Brick By Brick
- crashkillsfour: Ché Cafe
- Disgorge: The Jumping Turtle
- The Dragons [115]: The Casbah
- Drive Love Drive: The Kensington Club
- Dynamite Walls: Soma
- Echo & the Bunnymen [194]: House of Blues
- The Evergreens [297]: 'Canes
- The Eyeliners: Epicentre
- The Farmers: Humphrey's
- Forgive Durden: Soma
- Freakwater: The Casbah
- The Goodmen: Hot Monkey Love Cafe
- Gorilla Transammo: Leucadian Bar
- Gully: The Casbah
- Gutrot: The Jumping Turtle
- Hangface: Brick By Brick
- Hell on Heels: Lestat's Coffeehouse
- The Higher: Soma
- The Hollywood Kittens: Brick By Brick
- The Honey Brothers: Brick By Brick
- Hornswaggled: Brick By Brick
- Hot Like a Robot [146]: The Kensington Club
- In Between Days: Leucadian Bar
- Inberst: Brick By Brick
- Innaway: House of Blues
- Jacob's Loc: Brick By Brick
- Korn [275]: 4th & B
- Letum Ascensus: The Jumping Turtle
- Light of Doom: The Jumping Turtle
- Meet the Richter: The Jumping Turtle
- Negative Filter: Brick By Brick, The Jumping Turtle
- Operatic [163]: Soma
- OU812: The Jumping Turtle
- The Outline: Soma
- Dan Padilla: Ché Cafe
- Panic at the Disco: Soma
- Perfect Wonder: Squid Joe's
- Plane without a Pilot: Soma
- Pump: Winstons
- The Randies: Epicentre
- Rat City Riot: Ché Cafe
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- Roosevelt: The Jumping Turtle
- The Ruis: The Jumping Turtle
- Safety Orange: Lestat's Coffeehouse
- Scar'd Sanity: The Jumping Turtle
- Seven Times: Blind Melons
- Shot Down Sky: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
- Shy Romeo: The Casbah
- Silverside: Brick By Brick
- Songbird: 'Canes
- Southern Culture on the Skids [266]: The Casbah
- Spine of the Times: The Kensington Club
- The Starlight Sirens: Brick By Brick
- Stolen [254]: Blind Melons
- Superna: The Jumping Turtle
- Tailgunner: The Kensington Club
- The Travel Agents: Tiki House
- The Turnstiles: The Kensington Club
- 2 Cents: 'Canes

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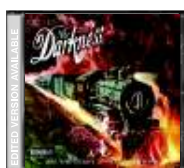
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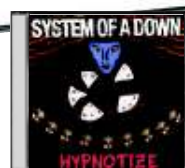
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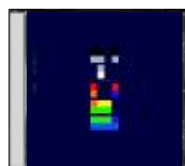
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Calendar

BANDS

Unbound: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver: The Casbah
Unwritten Law [261]: House of Blues
The Waking Moment: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Wanted Dead: House of Blues
Wasting June: The Jumping Turtle
The Weary Boys: The Casbah
Weatherbox: Soma
Bob Weir & Ratdog: 4th & B
The Wild Truth: Humphrey's
Andrew Paul Woodworth: Blind Melons
The Worst Episode Ever: Soma
The Youth Brigade [133]: House of Blues
The Zincs: The Casbah

EXTENSION 4003

ROCK

After the Crash: Tiki House
Big Backyard: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Blue-Eyed Son: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company
Bottomline [597]: Boar Cross'n
Brax: The Ould Sod
Cave-In: The Casbah
Matt Costa: Epicentre
Doomriders: The Casbah
The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
First Wave Hello [487]: The Kensington Club

fluf [493]: The Casbah
The Fryday Band: Winstons
Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub
Mike Gardner: Mas Fina Cantina
The Ghosts of Sada: Dick's Last Resort
The Taylor Harvey Band: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Hot Rod Lincoln [547]: Tio Leo's Lounge
Jumpstart: Humphrey's
Red Lane: Patrick's II
Leo Rising: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)
Little by Little: Island Sports & Spirits
Loose Cannon: Surf N'Saddle
Danielle LoPresti [452]: Humphrey's
Lorene Drive: The Casbah
Los Kung Fu Monkeys: Squid Joe's
Loud Residence: Squid Joe's
Manuok: University of San Diego
Menace to Society: Fannie's Nightclub
Metal Fatigue: JP's Pub
Misty & the Mobys: Bub's Whiskey Dive
Nude Blues: Bahia Belle Cruise
Off Track: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
The Prime Ministers: Blind Melons
Private Domain [489]: Dick's Last Resort
The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Rockoholics: Second Wind (Santee)
Ron's Garage: Island Sports & Spirits, Dick's Last Resort
Serious Guise: The Kraken
Sockatuna: Winstons
The Stepping Feet: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), Blind Melons
The Stiletto's: Henry's Pub, Riley's Sports Bar
Synnyg: Surf N'Saddle

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Alan Lomax claimed that he grew up in the Library of Congress — his father was curator of the Archives of American Folk Song. Together, father and son recorded thousands of hours of the music of itinerant folk singers, gospel choirs, bluesmen, cowboys, prison work gangs, hobos. Many of their subjects were unknown; some eventually found fame, including Lomax himself. When he died in 2002 at the age of 87 he left behind a legacy of more than 3000 such recordings. Reduced to simplest terms, his lifetime was a mission to memorialize folk music. Judging by the kind of rural arts that appealed to him, he would have loved **Tom Brosseau**.

Being a country boy himself, Lomax might have felt kinship with Brosseau's family, the way they played music together after work.

He might have gotten a trim in Brosseau's grandfather's basement barbershop. He would have favored the Plains mentality of Brosseau's songs, the barren simplicity of his acoustic guitar renderings. He might have asked Brosseau why his songs all bear the patina of the Gold Rush or of the frontier saloon. Everything about the folk singer's act seems borrowed from the '80s — the 1880s (as Brosseau puts it). Even a recent publicity photo of Tom resembles a Civil War daguerreotype, the expression measured, the details slightly blurred, the image enduring.

Brosseau is from North Dakota. Despite comparisons to Jeff Buckley, Brosseau's music is too farm boy, too scrubbed — his prairie-home sentiments lack the baggage of Buckley's stripe of introspective emotion. But Brosseau has a thin and surprising falsetto that glides into a song without warning. He writes music that is as rugged and unadorned as a Stephen Crane story. There are no modern structures or



TOM BROSSEAU

updated pop hooks, and therein lies the only trace of any irony in Brosseau — that he moved away, to California, to sing songs about North Dakota. Alan Lomax would have been all over that.

TOM BROSSEAU, North Park Vaudeville, Friday, December 9, 8 p.m.; Saturday, December 10, 8 p.m.; Sunday, December 11, 2:30 p.m. 619-220-8663. \$15.

EXTENSION 4004

POP / TOP 40

B Natural: Bahia Belle Cruise
The Flock of 80's: Henry's Pub
Heatwave: Harrah's
Tiff Jimber: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, Borders Books & Music (Carmel Mountain), Borders Books & Music (El Cajon)
Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and Spirits

Lil' Elmo & the Cosmos: Harrah's
Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
Superfreaks: Harrah's

EXTENSION 4005

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Afromumba: Tazablanca

Agua Dulce [711]: Winstons
Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
The Arc Trio: Dizzy's
The Archtones: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille
The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies
The Big Easy Jazz Band: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Blue Agave: Tazablanca
Blue Largo [636]: Tio Leo's Lounge

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Calendar

BANDS

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

John Cain /703/: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge, Hotel del Coronado

The Jorge Camberos Quintet: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

Jo Dark: The German-American Societies

Jesse Dayton /769/: The Casbah

Delta Nove: Winstons

Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect

The Jim Gala Jazz Trio: Kitima Thai Restaurant

Joe Garrison: Cafe LaMaze

John Giulino: Pasquale on Prospect

The Jim Guerin Duo: Jack & Giulio's Italian Restaurant

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge

The Paul Ingraham Quartet: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Daniel Jackson: Hotel del Coronado

The Chris Klich Jazz Quintet: Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Latin Soul: Tazablanca

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Stellita Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Mesa College Big Band: Dizzy's

The Shep Meyers Quartet /660/: Hotel del Coronado, Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Jose Molina Serrano: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

The Chris Murray Combo: Squid Joe's

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Mike Nelson: The Lodge at Torrey Pines, Qwiigs Bar & Grill

The Robert Parker Jazz Trio: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

The David Patrone Quartet /647/: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, Riley's Sports Bar

Ben Powell: Tomiko Bar & Grill

Primo: Sevilla

The Fuzzy Rankin Trio: Humphrey's

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

The San Diego Concert Jazz Band: Padre Gold

Dave Scott: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, Pasquale on Prospect

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BANDS

The Second Avenue Jazz Band: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

Peter Sprague & His Quintet: Dizzy's

The Stage 4 Jazz Quintet: Buon Giorno Restaurant

The Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet: Coronado Island Marriott

The Jaime Valle Quartet [704]: Tutto Mare

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar & American Grill

Jason Weber: Mister A's

Patrick Yandall [632]: Humphrey's

Yavaz: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

EXTENSION 4007

COUNTRY

The Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash [761]: Tiki House, House of Blues

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Whiskey Ridge: Renegade Inn

EXTENSION 4008

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Abby: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

Alexis: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

Bass: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

Anne E. BeChant: Borders Books & Music (Gaslamp, Carmel Mountain)

Fred Benedetti: Dizzy's

Annie Bethancourt: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Evan Bethany: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

The Brewers: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Campaign for Quiet [274]: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Christopher Cash: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

EXTENSION 4006

REGGAE / SKA

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Pepper: 'Canes

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Sunday, December 11
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Tuesday, December 13
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Wednesday, December 14
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FRI. DEC. 9

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SUN. DEC 11

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THURS. DEC. 15

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SUN. DEC. 18

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WED. DEC. 21

LISTEN LOCAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



THURS. DEC. 22

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FRI. DEC. 23

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THURS. DEC. 29



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FRI. DEC. 30

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EXTENSION 4009

BLUES / SOUL

The Bayou Brothers [948]:
Patrick's II

Blue Rockit [955]: Dick's Last
Resort

The Blues Brokers: Carvers, The
Kraken

The Blues Casters: Tio Leo's
Lounge

Mitch Budd: O'Connell's Pub and
Nightclub

The Charles Burton Blues Band
[931]: The Kraken

Chet Cannon & the Committee:
Patrick's II

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen [912]:
Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Chris James & Blue Four: Patrick's
II

Johnny "B" Blues: Coyote Bar and
Grill

Kalama Blue: Winstons, Winstons

Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak
[952]: Patrick's II

The Bill Magee Blues Band [947]:
Harrah's

Mercy Road: Blind Melons

Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe

Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors
[910]: The Kraken, Coyote Bar and
Grill

Nite Life [934]: Pal Joey's

Len Rainey & the Midnight
Players [921]: The Calypso Cafe,
Patrick's II

Dean Smith: The Calypso Cafe

The Texas Twisters: Patrick's II

Billy Thompson: Coyote Bar and
Grill

Triple Shot [933]: The Calypso Cafe

Uncle Bob & the Earthmovers:
House of Blues

The Valtones: Los Cabos Mexican
Mesquite Grill

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SAT. DEC 17

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THE AWARD GOES TO...
(CD RELEASE)
JENIX
IN REVERENT FEAR
THE WINDED
NEW LONDON
\$8 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

MON. DEC 19

I LIKE GIRLS
SUNBLIND
GREEN GREEN GRASS
STAY THE SAME
J.D. ROMANCE
\$8 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 7

ADOLE-
SCENTS
CADILLAC TRAMPS
WARPED YOUTH
THE WRECKING CREW
\$13 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

FRI. JAN 20

HOB/VIEJAS PRESENT

PENNYWISE

NO USE FOR A NAME
THE SUICIDE MACHINES
VERSUS THE WORLD
\$17 - 7PM - TM

FRI. JAN 27

IN FLAMES
TRIVIUM

DevilDriver ☆
☆ ZAO
\$17 - 6:30 - LUNATIKS

SAT. JAN 28

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(CD Release)
Plus Special Guests
\$10 - 7pm - Lunatiks

FRI. FEB 17

ARMOR FOR SLEEP
BOYS NIGHT OUT
\$12 - 2PM - LUNATIKS

FRI. MAR 3

THE BLED
SINCE BY MAN
AS CITIES BURN
PROTEST THE HERO
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Calendar

CLUBS

DJ EVENTS

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or fax information to 619-881-2401 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Basis: Wednesdays, progressive house, breaks, and trance with guest DJs. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. The Marin Lounge, 548 Fifth Avenue (below Tesoro Restaurant), downtown. 619-234-5670.

Club '80s: Thursdays, new wave, electro, and new romantic with DJs Bryan Pollard and Sickboy. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Club Notorious: Sundays, 6 a.m. to 1 a.m., breaks and house. Bacchus House, 3054 University Avenue, North Park. 619-299-2032.

Darkwave Garden: Wednesdays, punk, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard, AryRose, and Synex. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Deep: Thursdays, drum 'n' bass with DJs Wallkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Honey Bee Hive, 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown, 619-517-2030.

Dig: Thursdays, house music with DJs Mark E Quark, Red Sonya, and Andy Boswell. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, middletown, 619-543-0933.

Flying Bridge: Third Saturday of the month, house, breaks, and hip-hop with DJs SR-71, D-niall, and Dan Gorp. 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1105 N. Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760-722-1151.

Friends Chill: Tuesdays, downtempo, electronic, and ambient with DJs Wank Chops, Istr, and Tom King. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street

(corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

Inferno Young Adult

Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins hip-hop, R&B, and booty bass in the main room; guest DJs spin reggae and reggaeton on the patio. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Liquid: Fridays, funk, downtempo, and drum 'n' bass; 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Marin Lounge, 548 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5670.

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.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach:

Saturdays, Saturday Night Mix, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Enigma and Cisco. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

One Nation: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, new wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

Red C Lounge: Thursdays, Bounce Rock Skate, roller skating jams, crunk, and fun with DJs @Large and Onesix. Fridays, Choice Fridays, deep house music with Dustin Brown. Saturdays, soulful house with Mark Alan. Sundays, drum 'n' bass with Calculon. Tuesdays, groove Tuesdays, groovy house with Red Sonya. Wednesdays, Hump Wednesdays. No cover; 21 and up. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2838.

Sabbat: Second Saturday of the month, Rich's, 1051 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-2195. Fourth Saturday of the month, the Flame, 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-295-4163. DJs Adam Atom, Dekay, and Robin Roth, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.

Solo Para Mujeres: Wednesdays, reggaeton, rock en Español, and hip-hop. 8 p.m. Baja Club, 1060 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-425-2512.

Spatuland: First and third Saturday of the month, electro DJs, tribal dancers. 10 p.m. Recognize, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights. 619-521-4747.

Therapy: Fridays, industrial, electro, and gothic with DJs Bryan Pollard, DarkAngel, Evil Boi, and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

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), South Park. 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.

The Beach Club, 1903 South Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760-757-2955. Friday, DJ's and dancing to Top 40/R&B/hip-hop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Call club or see ad for information.

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004. Music events, see ad or call club for information.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Friday and Saturday, *Bottomline*, classic rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., the Robert Parker Jazz Trio.

Borders Books and Music, 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel

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Fri.
12/9

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Sat.
12/10 Roots Reggae

stranger



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Sun.
12/11 7:30 AM

BILLS & BEARS FOOTBALL

TONIGHT

THE PRIME MINISTERS

Mon.
12/12

Hosted
by Tommy
and Laura



Featured Artist tonight: TOMMY EDWARDS

Tues.
12/13

BLIND MELONS BATTLE OF THE BLUES

Sign up at 7 PM
Open Jam at 7:30 PM
Battling tonight:

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Open Jam to follow battle.

Wed.
12/14

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UPCOMING:

12/17: National Touring Band
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12/27: **ZAC HARMON
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Thur.
12/8 Jam Band

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Fri.
12/9 World Funk and Rock



DELTA NOVE

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THE FRYDAY BAND



Sat.
12/10 7:30 PM:
KALAMA BLUE

TONIGHT

Latin
Grooves



AGUA DULCE PLUMP

With
special
guests

Sun.
12/11 REDSKINS FOOTBALL

6-8 PM: **JOEY
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Mon.
12/12 6-8 PM:
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Tues.
12/13

4-6 PM:
Reel Movies

6-8 PM: "Think & Drink" Trivia

TONIGHT

The Ultimate Irish
Party Band



THE LEPERKHANZ

Wed.
12/14 4-8 PM: Art Showcase

TONIGHT

Rock

THE APPLE SEEDS

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UPCOMING:

12/16: **BARGAIN MUSIC
THE WAGON**

12/17: **WISE MONKEY**

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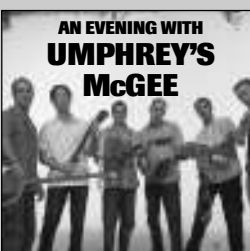
Dine before
the show

WILD
NOTE
CAFE

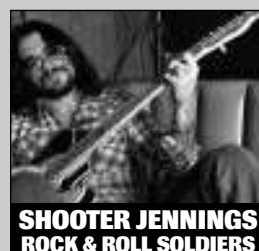
TICKETS

858 481 8140

143 South Cedros Avenue
Solana Beach



Thu 12/8 • 9:00 PM



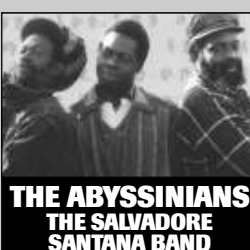
Fri 12/9 • 9:00 PM



Sat 12/10 • 6:00 PM



Sun 12/11 • 8:00 PM



Mon 12/12 • 9:00 PM



Tues 12/13 • 8:00 PM



Wed 12/14 • 9:00 PM



Fri 12/16 • 9:00 PM



Sat 12/17 • 9:00 PM



Tues 12/20 • 8:00 PM



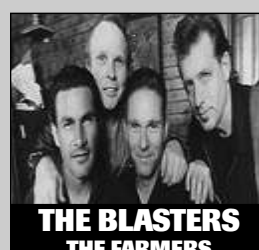
Wed 12/21 • 8:00 PM



Thu 12/22 • 9:00 PM



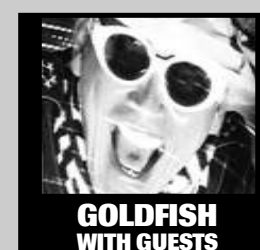
Fri 12/23 • 9:00 PM



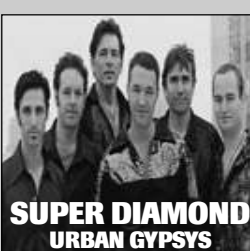
Thu 12/29 • 9:00 PM



Fri 12/30 • 9:00 PM



Fri 1/6 • 9:00 PM



1/13 & 14 • 9:00 PM



Wed 1/18 • 2 Shows
8:00 PM & 10:45 PM



Fri 1/20 • 9:00 PM



Sat 1/21 • 9:00 PM

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS: 12/7 THE MAR DELS 12/10 LEFT FOR DEAD
12/23 THE PELICANS 12/28 ATOMIC GROOVE

UPCOMING SHOWS:

1/27 **WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK**
1/28 **JOHNNY GILL**
2/4 **COMMON SENSE**

2/6 **MASON JENNINGS**
2/9 **JOSH GRACIN**
2/10 **LITTLE FEAT**

2/18 **DAVID LINDLEY BAND**
2/23 **ROBYN HITCHCOCK**
4/8 **RICHARD BUTLER**

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Calendar CLUBS

Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 7 p.m., *Anne E. BeChant*, folk. Sunday, 7 p.m., *Tiff Jimber*, piano-based pop rock.

Bub's Whiskey Dive, 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-BUBS. Friday, *Misty & the Mobys*, rock.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Len Rainey & the Midnight Players*, blues. Friday, *Triple Shot*, blues. Saturday, *Jeff Moore and Dean Smith*, blues. Sunday, *Thomas Yearsley*, pedal steel guitar. Monday, *Richard Samuels*, contemporary. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk. Wednesday, *Triple Shot*, blues.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *the Blues Brokers*, blues.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Rhythm Method*, classic rock, 10 p.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors*, blues, 10:30 p.m., DJ event. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Billy Thompson*, rock/blues, 10:30 p.m., DJ event. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., live jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*, blues.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

Tuesday, *Bradley Leighton*, R&B/jazz/dance.

Harrah's Rincon Casino & Resort, 33750 Valley Center Road, Valley Center. 877-777-2457. Oasis Lounge: Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Heatwave*, Top 40/dance. Friday, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Superfreaks*, disco/dance. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Bill Magee Blues Band*. Cabana Cove Bar & Grill: Friday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Lil' Elmo & the Cosmos*, dance/Top 40.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, live music. Saturday, *the Stepping Feet*, rock.

The Hole, 2820 Lytton Street, Point Loma. 619-226-9019. Friday, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., *Return to Eden* with *DJ Blue*, *DJ Saynt*, and *DJ Jack Tripper*, house/trance/tribal/breaks.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is alternative/heavy rock unless otherwise noted. Thursday call club for information. Friday, *Cattle Decapitation*, *Disgorge*, *Gutrot*, and *Letum Ascensus*. Saturday, *Wasting June*, *Scar'd Sanity*, *the Ruis*, *Chasing Shadows*, *Negative Filter*, *Meet the Richter*, *Superna*, *OU812*, *Light of Doom*, and *Roosevelt*.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors*, blues. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*,

classic rock. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*, Monday, *the Charles Burton Blues Band*.

Leucadian Bar, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *In Between Days* and *Gorilla Transammo*, alternative rock.

Longshot Saloon, 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Call club for information.

Los Cabos Mexican Mesquite Grill, 12955 El Camino Real, Suite G7, Del Mar. 858-792-2226. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Valtones*, blues/soul.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock.

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the California Rangers*, country.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Thursday, 6:30 p.m., *the Second Avenue Jazz Band*. Friday, 8 p.m., *Off Track*, rock, 9 p.m., *Sabac Red & Mr. Hyde*, DJ event, hip-hop. Monday, 6:30 p.m., *the Big Easy Jazz Band*.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jerry Melnick* and *Tom Bishop*, jazz/variety.

Squid Joe's, 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-4996.

7TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE
CON SALSA THIS YEAR AT
THE LAFAYETTE HOTEL!

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SALSA 2 NIGHTS, 2 LOCATIONS

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The Like



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The Kensington Club

Thursday, Dec. 8
**HOSTILE COMBOVERS
OG TOONS**

Friday, Dec. 9
**SPINE OF THE TIMES
TAILGUNNER
HOT LIKE (A) ROBOT
FIRST WAVE HELLO**

Saturday, Dec. 10
**DRIVE LOVE DRIVE
THE TURNSTILES**

Thursday, Dec. 15
**S.D. DERBY DOLLS BENEFIT
SCREAMIN' YEEHAW
EROTOMANIA
GANGLY GANGBANGERS
OF OUTER SPACE**

Friday, Dec. 16
**TRANSFER
THE GREGORY PAGE SHOW
MUSIC FOR ANIMALS**

Saturday, Dec. 17
**DAN PADILLA • SHARKPANTS
SWING DING AMIGOS**

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MON. NIGHT FOOTBALL
1.50 DOMESTIC PINTS
.25 WINGS

TUESDAYS
**LAURA JANE ROCKS
KARAOKE**
2.00 WELLS / 3.00 LIQUID COURAGE

WEDNESDAYS
THE STILETTOS
3.00 SKYY VODKA DRINKS

THURSDAYS
CLASSIC ROCK
3.00 BACARDI FLAVORS

FRIDAYS
REVENGE OF THE 80'S!
5.50 GREY GOOSE DRINKS

SATURDAY 12/10
SUE PALMER
& HER MOTEL SWING ORCHESTRA
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
6.00 BUD PITCHERS

NFL SUNDAYS
**MILITARY APPRECIATION
COUNTRY DJ**
2.00 BLOODY MARY PINTS
6.00 COORS PITCHERS

12/16 BLUES CASTERS

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Thursday, December 8
**Of Hearts And Shadows
Trigger My Nightmare
Pallida Mors
I Am Cataclysm
Grandslam • Blackout**
\$7.00/\$8.00

Friday, December 9
**The Eyeliners
The Randies • Cigarettes
Reward System Drive**
\$8.00/\$10.00

Saturday, December 10
HOB presents
Matt Costa
\$8.00

Saturday, January 7
**Panic In The Streets
War And Cinema
Dirty Sweet
Silver Sunshine
For The High Seas**
\$8.00

Thursday, January 26
The Casbah presents
Of Montreal
\$12.00/\$14.00

Sunday, January 29
HOB presents
**Mute Math
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Music is rock/alternative. Friday, *Loud Residence*, rock. Saturday, *the Chris Murray Combo*, *Los Kung Fu Monkeys*, *the Fabulous Rudies*, and *Perfect Wonder*, rock/ska/alternative.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, *Synergy*, rock. Saturday, *Loose Cannon*, rock. Wednesday, open mike.

Tomiko Bar & Grill, 87 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas. 760-633-3587. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Ben Powell*, blues/jazz.

Woody's Sports Bar, 2329 South Centre City Parkway, Escondido. 760-735-8599. Friday and Saturday, Y3K, classic rock.

Zip & Zack's Filling Station & Pickup Joint, 1020 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-591-9393. Saturday, live classic rock.

BEACHES

Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, *Seven Times and Stolen*, alternative/rock. Friday, *the Stepping Feet*, rock. Saturday, *Stranger*, *Mayan Kings*, and *the Organica Sound System*, reggae. Monday, open mike. Tuesday, *Mercy Road*, blues. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Andrew Paul Woodworth*, *Chris Pierce*, and *Charlotte Martin*, acoustic/pop.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Buckcherry* and *Songbird*. Friday, *Pepper*, reggae. 2 Cents and *the Big Dame Hunters*. Wednesday, *Broken Silence* and *the Evergreens*.

Ché Cafe, UCSD Campus, La Jolla. 858-534-2311. Saturday, 7 p.m., *the Attacks*, *Rat City Riot*, *Dan Padilla*, *crashkillsfour*, and *the Atoms*, punk/alternative.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 7:30 p.m., *J. Downs*, hip-hop.

Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge (atop the Hotel La Jolla), 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, international dance music.

Excelsior, 1025 Prospect Street #201 (second floor), La Jolla. 858-454-8092. Wednesday, live jazz.

Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla), 909 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-

7625. Friday, *Kerry Michael Warren* and *the Cory Wilkins Band*, rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, *Leo Rising*, rock. Saturday, *Thunderoad*, rock.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Armenta de San Diego*, world lounge music. Sunday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Rick Ross*.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. The Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Friday, *Nick Fiore*, *John Giulino*, and *Dave Scott*, jazz.

Qwiigs Bar & Grill, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1101. Thursday and Sunday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Tavern at the Beach, 1200 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-6066. Live music, call club for information.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, call club for information. Friday, *the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash*, rockabilly. Saturday, *the Travel Agents*, alternative. Sunday, *Jimmy Lewis*, acoustic. Wednesday, *After the Crash*, rock.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, *Tic Tac Toast* and *Sockatuna*, rock. Friday, *Delta Nove*, Latin jazz, and *the Fryday Band*, rock. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Kalama Blue*, blues, 9:30 p.m., *Agua Dulce*, Latin jazz, and *Plump*, alternative rock. Monday, *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Wednesday, *The Apple Seeds* and *Zindu*, alternative.

SAN DIEGO

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. Call club for information.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departs 6:30 p.m. Friday, *B Natural*, Top 40. Saturday, *Nude Blues*, classic rock.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday,

Harold & Chris, Irish folk. Sunday, open mike. Monday, *Sean O'Donnell* and *Allison Gill*. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, call club for information.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Honey Brothers*, *Jacob's Loc*, and *Inberst*. Friday, *Hornswaggled*, *Cortical*, *Negative Filter*, and *Silverside*. Saturday, *the Hollywood Kittens*, *Hangface*, and *the Starlight Sirens*. Monday, *Conjure One*.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Chris Klich Jazz Quintet*.

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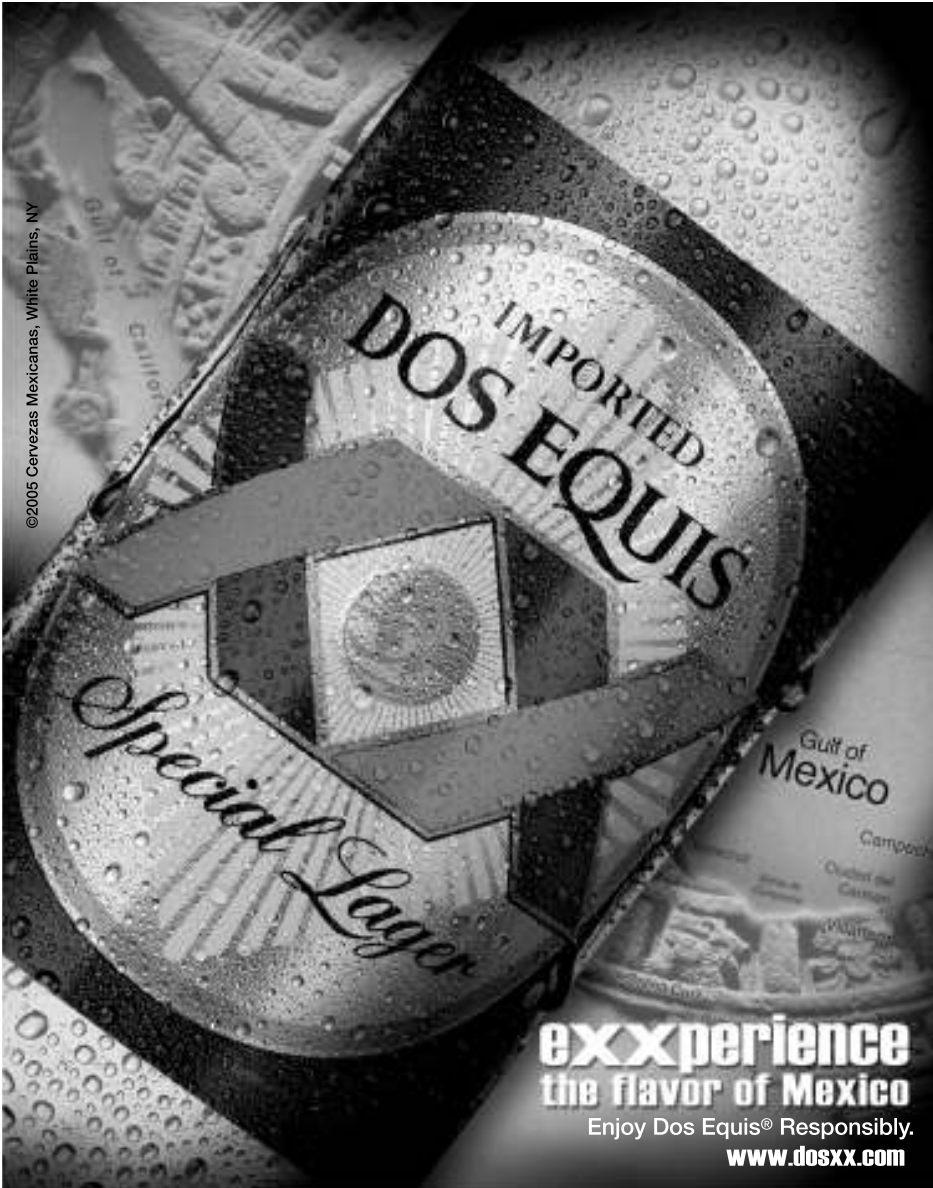
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Calendar

CLUBS

Egyptian Tea Room, 4644 College Avenue, San Diego. 619-265-7287. Friday, 10 p.m., *Zorah Ptah*, downtempo groove.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, *the Eyeliners*, *the Randies*, *the Cigarettes*, and *Reward System Drive*. Saturday, *Matt Costa*.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *Jose Molina Serrano*, Latin jazz.

Harry's Bar & American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo*.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, *the Flock of 80's*, pop rock. Tuesday, *the Stiletto*s, rockabilly.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 5960 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-582-5908. Monday, 7 p.m., *the Goodmen*, acoustic rock.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, *Pat Green* and *the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash*, rockabilly. Friday, *Echo & the Bunnymen* and *Innaway*, alternative. Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., *Uncle Bob & the Earthmovers*, blues. Sunday, *Bouncing Souls*, *the Youth Brigade*, and *Wanted Dead*, rock. Tuesday and Wednesday, *Unwritten Law*.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 9:30 p.m., *Jumpstart*, classic rock. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Fuzzy Rankin Trio*, jazz. 9:30 p.m., *Quinazo*, soul/rock/reggae. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Javid*, flamenco guitar. 9:30 p.m., *the Farmers with the Wild Truth*, alternative rock. Sunday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Patrick Yandall*, jazz. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight,

Danielle LoPresti, alternative. Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., *Big Blues Benefit*.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center Road, Mission Valley. 619-291-8635. Call club for information.

JP's Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, *Metal Fatigue*, rock.

Jack & Giulio's Italian Restaurant, 2391 San Diego Avenue, Old Town. 619-294-2074. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Jim Guerin Duo*, jazz. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Bob MacLeod*, pianist.

The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-543-0933. Thursday, DJ event. Saturday, 11 p.m., *Very Be Careful*, Latin grooves.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is alternative/rock. Friday, *Spine of the Times*, *Tailgunner*, *Hot Like a Robot*, and *First Wave Hello*. Saturday, *Drive Love Drive* and *the Turnstiles*.

Kitima Thai Restaurant, 406 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2929. Friday through Sunday, and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jim Gala Jazz Trio*.

Lestat's Coffeehouse, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Annie Bethancourt* and *Andrew Foshee*. Friday, *Campaign for Quiet* and *Amber Rubarth*. Saturday, *Safety Orange* and *Hell on Heels*, alternative. Sunday and Monday, open mike. Wednesday, *Molly Jensen*, *Rusty Jones*, and *Jenn Grinels*.

Mister A's, 2550 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-239-1377. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9:30 p.m., *Jason Weber*, jazz saxophone.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard,

Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Mitch Budd*, acoustic/soul, and *Big Backyard*, pop/funk. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *the Waking Moment*, *Rock Ford*, and *Unbound*, alternative rock. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *Alex Esther*, *Evan Bethany*, *Ron Franklin*, and *Shot Down Sky*, acoustic/rock.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Brax*. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session. Wednesday, *DJ Andre Fraire*.

Padre Gold, 7245 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. 858-277-8681. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the San Diego Concert Jazz Band*.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, *Nite Life*, blues/swing.

Ramada Inn, 5550 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego. 619-516-4466. Aventuras Salsa Club: Friday, 9:30 p.m., *DJ New Yo Rican* and *DJ David Suave*, salsa.

Riley's Sports Bar, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635. Thursday, classic rock. Friday, '80s music. Saturday, house/hip-hop. Sunday, *the David Patrone Quartet*, jazz. Wednesday, *the Stiletto*s, rockabilly.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

The San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372. Saturday, 9 p.m., *DJ Saul Q*, *Nate Soixante*, and *Liquid Grey*, electroclash/indie rock/new wave/alternative.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *the Wild Ones*, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Call club for information.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/alternative. Thursday, *Augustana*, *Operatic*, *Dynamite Walls*, and *Brady Sails*. Friday, *Panic at the Disco*, *Weatherbox*, *Forgive Durden*,

and *the Higher*. Saturday, *Authority Zero*, *Redfield*, *Plane without a Pilot*, *Worst Episode Ever*, and *the Outline*.

Tazablanca, 3946 Illinois Street, San Diego. 619-294-8292. Music is Latin jazz. Thursday, *Latin Soul*. Friday, 8 p.m., *Blue Agave*. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Aforumbaba*.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, *Hot Rod Lincoln*, rockabilly. Friday, *the Blues Casters*, blues. Saturday, *Blue Largo*, jazz/blues. Monday, tango. Tuesday, zydeco. Wednesday, *the High Society Jazz Band*.

Top of the Cove, 1216 Prospect Avenue, La Jolla. 858-454-7779. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 pm, *Kristi Rickert*, piano.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Capriccio String Quartet*, classical music. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Quartet*, Brazilian and mainstream jazz.

Twigs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Blue-Eyed Son*, *the New Dadaists*, *Alexis*, and *Kim DiVincenzo*. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Christopher Cash*, *the Derren Raser Band*, *Kyle Phelan*, *Korrie Paliotto*, and *Delancy*. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Paul Ingram Quartet*, jazz. 9 p.m., *Bass*, *Ben Varela*, *Abby*, *Elise Levy*, and *Tiff Jimber*. Wednesday, open mike.

University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park, San Diego. 619-260-4600, extension 8742. Saturday, 10 p.m., *Manuok*, rock.

Upstart Crow, 835 West Harbor Drive, Suite C, San Diego. 619-232-9743. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Kev*, acoustic rock/folk.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* with vocalist,*Halina*, jazz.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

Borders Books & Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Thursday, 7 p.m., *Anne E. BeChant*, folk. Friday, 8 p.m., *Patty Hall*, funk/blues/folk.

Saturday, 8 p.m., *the Derren Raser Band*, folk/jazz/rock.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative. Thursday, *Freakwater*, *the Zincs*, and *Gully*. Friday, *the Dave & Deke Combo*, *Jesse Dayton*, *the Golden Hill Ramblers*, and *Todd Stedman & the Fattones*. Saturday, *Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver*, *the Dragons*, *fluf*, and *Steve Poltz*. Sunday, *Cave-In*, *Doomriders*, and *Lorene Drive*. Monday, *!!!* and *Shy Romeo*. Wednesday, *Southern Culture on the Skids* and *the Weary Boys*.

Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Music is jazz/blues. Thursday, *the David Patrone Quartet*. Friday, *Yavez*, Latin jazz. Saturday, *Primo*. 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. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jimmy Lavello*, pop American music.

Deco's, 731 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-696-DECO. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, *Private Domain*, rock and roll. Saturday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock. Sunday, *the Ghosts of Sada*. Tuesday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 7:30 p.m., *the Mesa College Jazz Ensemble*. Friday, 8 p.m., *George Svoboda* and *Fred Benedetti*, classical guitar. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Peter Spague & His Quintet*, jazz. Sunday, 4 p.m., *the Arc Trio*, jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Live Irish/Celtic folk.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Friday, 9 p.m., *Bob Weir & Ratdog*, rock. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Korn*, alternative rock. Tuesday, 8 p.m., *Bauhaus*, alternative.

The Honey Bee Hive, 1409 C Street, downtown. 619-702-6010. Friday and Saturday, live music.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., live disco/Top 40.

Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Reggie Smith*, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz/funk/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, jazz/dance/Top 40.

On Broadway, 615 Broadway Avenue, downtown. 619-231-0011. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, DJ events and live music. Call club for information.

Onyx, 852 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-235-6699. Call club for information.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Texas Twisters*. Friday, *Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak*. Saturday, *Len Rainey & the Midnight Players*. Sunday, *Red Lane*, rock. Monday, *the Bayou Brothers*. Tuesday, *Chet Cannon & the Committee*. Wednesday, *Chris James & Blue Four*.

Princess Pub & Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, *J.D. Boucharde*, piano.

Red C Lounge, 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2830. Music every night except Monday, call club for information.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Friday and Saturday, live pop/rock.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, live salsa. Friday, *DJ Hector*, Latin/Euro-house. Saturday, *DJ Joe*, Latin/Euro-house. Sunday, *Club Brazil*. Monday, *rock en español*. Tuesday, *Primo*, Latin jazz/salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Call club for information.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Fran Luskota*, pop/jazz/Top 40. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Faith Page*, jazz.

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-1190. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Tribal Seeds*, reggae/rock.

SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Saturday, *the Stage 4 Jazz Quintet*.

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The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday through Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/Latin.

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Sandy Chappel* and *Sammy Canonizado*, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., *Burnett Anderson* and *Joe Garrison*, jazz.

Club Caribe, 5080 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-472-2400. Thursday, live reggae band. Friday, salsa/merengue/bachata/reggae.

Coronado Island Marriott, 2000 Second Street, Coronado. 619-435-3000. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet*.

Edelweiss Restaurant, 230 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-426-5172. Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m., *Gordon Kohl*, *Kjell Holmes*, or *Vicki Eriqat*, European and ethnic accordion.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday and Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Also, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Stellita & Dave Lindgren*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jim Gibson*.

Palm Court: Daytime entertainment. Music hours are from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Saturday, *Ray Briz*. Sunday, *Joey West*. Monday and Wednesday, *Ray Briz*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*.

Palm Court: Evening entertainment. Music hours are from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday through Sunday, and Tuesday, *Ray Briz*. Monday and Wednesday, *Joey West*.

Prince of Wales: Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Daniel Jackson*.

Crown Room: Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., *John Cain*.

Island Sports & Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Thursday, *Little by Little*. Friday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Saturday, *Undecided*, rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday and Saturday, *4-Way Street*, acoustic. Friday, *the Brewers*. Sunday, *Jim Moore*, acoustic folk. Tuesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic. Wednesday, *the Taylor Harvey Band*, acoustic rock.

Over the Border, 3008 Main Street, Chula Vista. 619-427-5889. Friday and Saturday, *Los Ingratos*, rock en español.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books & Music, 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Tuesday, 7 p.m., *Tiff Jimber*, piano-based pop rock.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *the Tall Dudes*, rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, *Menace to Society*, rock. Saturday, live rock.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Mollison Avenue, El Cajon. 858-273-7283. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *the Ray Barrie 12-Piece Big Band* featuring *Jo Dark*.

Jolt'n Joe's, 8076 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-466-2591. Call club for information.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *Whiskey Ridge*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *the Rockoholics*, classic rock.

THE COMEDY STORE

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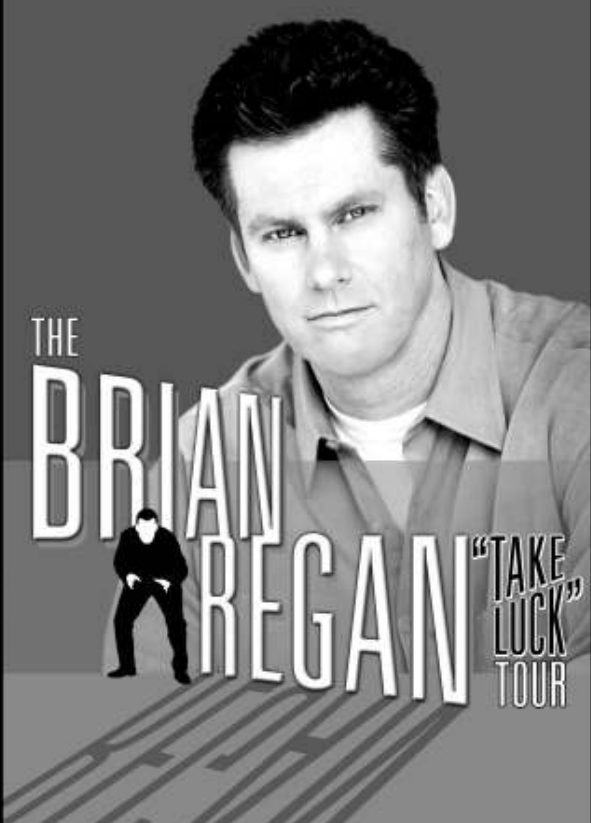
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Sequel Feels Like A Work in Progress

"If you're not alive and kickin', shame on you!"

If you just saw the first act of Common Ground Theatre's *Black Nativity*, you might be astonished to hear the audience gave the show a standing ovation. Act One of Langston Hughes's African-American Christmas story takes place in a modern gospel church. Parishioners reenact the birth of Jesus with music, including the potentially raucous "Jesus Is on the Main Line (Tell Him What You Want)." Act One could raise rafters. But Common Ground makes every song so solemn, every tempo so passive that when Carl Hebert sings "Oh Holy Night," even though he does it well, they could rename it "Oh Holy Week and a Half."

Elizabeth Bronner provides the only graceful movement in the first part. In practically every painting, the Virgin Mary's a static figure with a sad face (because she foresees the pain her Son will suffer). Bronner's the exact opposite. Her Mary's a young woman delighted to be giving birth. She brings the Madonna to life by dancing free-form in a white, flowing skirt. Otherwise Common Ground's often stiff, pseudo-pageant acting recalls Hughes's poem "Movies." Harlem, he wrote, laughs at Hollywood "in all the wrong places / at the crocodile tears / of crocodile art / that you know / in your heart / is crocodile."

But anyone who's followed director Floyd Gaffney's work knows he's got more than this. And his cast and live backup band have many

recognizable talents (there's Dajahn Blevins; isn't that Deborah Branch?). So what gives? Uninspired Act One, it turns out, is a deliberate — and, quite frankly, too much of a trick — setup for Act Two, which jumps, hollers, and unfurls the spirit. Where the acting in the first part rivals Mt. Rushmore, the performers in the second become spontaneous. They can't, as one says, keep their happiness to themselves.

The nine songs of Act Two resemble a baseball lineup: speed early, power deep down the middle. The piano-playing Charles Ray leads off with such a lively "What a Mighty God We Serve," you wonder if you re-entered the same theater. The cast, now dressed in white satin choir robes with red trim, leaps from church pews and sets an unbroken, jubilant tone for the rest of the evening.

After Deborah Terrell, who bats cleanup, makes her mighty, oceanic "We Shall Behold Him" a tough act to follow, Dajahn Blevins hits the ground running with "Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus" — and almost dares his audience to stay seated and not clap to the beat. Then Deborah Branch grabs the mike, sings "Perfect Praise," and proves she can still belt one into the bleachers.

In the second act, the performers catch up to Carolyn Cherry's four-piece backup band, which

REVIEW

JEFF SMITH



Black Nativity

Black Nativity, by Langston Hughes
Lyceum Space, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown
Directed by Floyd Gaffney

Cast: James Rhems, Berrel Matthews, Dajahn Blevins, Eryck Suttles, Elizabeth Bronner, Carl Hebert, Deborah Branch, Bonnie Nelson, Linda Osborne, Darius Days, Kimberly Littleton, Karen Glass, Ivan Clayton; scenic design, Ted Crittenden; costumes, Joan Wong; lighting, Calvin Manson; music director, Carolyn Cherry
Playing through December 18; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:30 p.m. 619-544-1000.

Sister's Christmas Catechism, by Maripat Donovan with Marc Silva and Jane Morris
North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach
Cast (in rotating repertory): Kathryn Gallagher, Nonie Newton-Breen, Kristin Moneagle, Murphy O'Malley; scenic design, Marc Silva; costume, Catherine Evans
Playing through December 31; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 858-481-1055.

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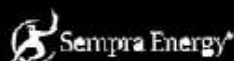
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has been cooking all night. And they rock Ted Crittenden's set: the interior of a church, backed by tall stained-glass windows and lit by Calvin Manson's warm reds and golds. It's almost as if Langston Hughes himself admonished the cast at intermission — as he did in a poem — "If you're not alive and kicking, *shame on you!*"

The North Coast Rep uses the same classroom set for *Sister's Christmas Catechism* it did for Maripat Donovan's *Late Nite Catechism*. But now the desk's piled with Christmas presents. On the floor's a cheapo plastic representation of Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus, lit dimly from within. Carolers sing yuletide songs. And someone wrote "It's Time to Party!" on the blackboard. The sister who substitute-taught in *Late Nite* better not see *that*.

Sister's an old-school spare-not-the-rod nun who disciplines first, then doesn't ask questions. And she's back. She bullies into the room, like a one-person crowd. She kicks the carolers off the stage. She tilts forward and peers over her glasses, inspecting students for infractions. Chewing gum? Swallow it! Sister plows into the audience with a Kleenex box and hands a woman several. Is the woman chewing gum? Nope. The Kleenex is to conceal flesh exposed by a low-cut dress ("Go on," Sister says, "cover *that* up!"). A latecomer sneaks toward his seat. Sister's eyes laser him, as if tardiness were a venal sin. "We'll find ways for you to repent later," she mumbles.

Like *Forever Plaid* and *Triple Espresso*, *Late Nite Catechism*'s a theatrical phenomenon. It's been performed across the country for years. Because it relies heavily on audience participation, no two shows are the same, and theatergoers return again and again to watch Sister — one part stand-up comedian, one part instructor in the Baltimore Catechism, ten parts autocrat — berate the unwashed.

Late Nite's become so polished, its sequel feels like an early work in progress. The ideas are in place. The first hour's a class. Sister instructs and questions students about the Christmas story, with emphasis on the Virgin Mary. She rewards correct answers with humble gifts, like coal wrapped in cellophane. The second hour's the party, which includes a "living Nativity" (audience members dress in "found" items: T-shirts, lampshades, shower curtains) and a mystery: "Who made off with the Magi's gold and left Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus in that lousy stable without any chance to upgrade to a suite?"

The show was funny the night I caught it. Kristin Monagle's Sister fired off swift ad libs, and a human encyclopedia in the back row had every answer (including who created the first re-enactment of the Nativity — St. Francis of Assisi



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John Padilla and the cast of *La Pastorela*, photo by Jack Ezroj.

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Calendar THEATER

in 1223). But compared to the original, it pales. Dressing people for the Nativity took way too long. And the tone was almost bland. In the original, Sister's all extremes: she proselytizes from the heart and critiques suspect doctrine with equal relish. And throughout she's tough love in a black robe, tapping her palm with a ruler.

Christmas Catechism's much nicer than that. The only palpable threat comes when Sister picks people for the Nativity, and nonjoiners lower their eyes or suddenly inspect the ceiling for structural flaws. The new version would probably fare better if it were the first of its kind. But compared to the original, *Christmas Catechism* may have too much of the holiday spirit. ■

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 present an "interactive feast and celebration," set 100 years ago. GRAND BALLROOM, HOTEL DEL CORONADO, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, THROUGH DECEMBER 30; DOORS OPEN NIGHTLY (EXCEPT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY) AT 6:30 P.M. 619-437-0600.

A/WAKE: A De-Installation with Choir and Soloists

Sledgehammer Theatre "de-installs" itself from St. Cecilia's Playhouse (which will be torn down) with a farewell wake, directed by Scott Feldsher with "really loud" live music by Pea Hicks and Tim Root.



A Christmas Carol

ST. CECILIA'S PLAYHOUSE, 1620 SIXTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 10; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1484.

Black Nativity

Reviewed this issue. LYCEUM SPACE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 619-544-1000.

A Christmas Carol

San Diego Repertory Theatre presents an "American Carol," set in the first half of the 20th Century with ragtime, jazz, and bebop music. Kirsten Brandt directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 24; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

A Christmas Carol

The Julian Theater Company presents Dickens' tale of "one haunted Christmas Eve," adapted by Don Winslow and directed by Scott Kinney. JULIAN TOWN HALL, 2129 MAIN STREET, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, AT 2:00 P.M. 760-765-1688.

Grass Roots Greeks

The very popular series of Greek play readings is back, with a new location: Adams Avenue Studio of the Arts. To acquaint audiences with the masterworks of Greek drama, the readings have 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 each reading. Next play: Euripides, *Electra*, translated by Marianne McDonald.

Worth a try.

ADAMS AVENUE STUDIO OF THE ARTS, 2804 ADAMS AVENUE, NORMAL HEIGHTS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-584-3593.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

The Old Globe Theatre presents its popular holiday show about the de-monsterizing of an erstwhile meanie. Jack O'Brien directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH DECEMBER 31; WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-2255.

Irish Step Dancing

Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grille presents "San Diego's answer to the Celtic wave," an evening of contemporary and traditional Irish dancing, music, and song. DUBLIN SQUARE IRISH PUB AND GRILLE, 554 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M. 619-239-5818.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

The Culy Theater hosts "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater," as Joey and Maria tie the knot. LAFAYETTE INN AND SUITES, NORTH PARK, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Killer Reunion

Mystery Cafe's newest interactive comedy takes place at a high school reunion that doesn't go according to plan. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, BANKER'S HILL, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas

For its annual holiday show, Lamb's goes to "jazz-filled 1928 St. Louis," where a family debates the merits of Christmas celebration. LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 29; TUESDAY THROUGH 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. 619-437-0600.

La Pastorela Noel

For its 15th annual nativity play, Teatro Mascara Magica presents the popular Mexican folk tale of shepherds journeying to Bethlehem and (30 minutes before each performance on the Old Globe Plaza) *La Posada*, Joseph and Mary's search for shelter. CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, THROUGH DECEMBER 23; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-234-5623.

The Lion King

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The Little Foxes

Cygnnet Theatre's on such an amazing roll it's hard to choose one of its productions of 2005 — *Burn This, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Curse of the Starving Class* — over the

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others. Sean Murray’s expert staging of Lillian Hellman’s melo-drama about lethal greed ranks with the very best. Murray accepts the play’s good versus evil scheme but has encouraged acting as textured as his precisely detailed set and Jeanne Reith’s elegant 1900 costumes. Rosina Reynolds heads a stellar cast as Regina. When the occasion arises, she can rival Machiavelli’s prince for power grabs, but Reynolds also gives her a late-blooming conscience that complicates our responses (her haunted look, as lights dim, betrays an awareness that no end could justify the means she employed). Tom Stephenson, as Regina’s sly-fox iceberg brother Ben, and Glynn Beddington, as closet alcoholic and family enabler Birdie (who will finally have her say, even if it takes all the sherry in the South), shine in supporting roles. The Hubbards’ maid, Addie (defly understated Cynthia Marie Brooks), says there are only people who eat the earth “like locusts” and people who watch. Can Regina’s daughter, Alexandra, find a third alternative? She’s Hellman’s agitprop heroine, make no mistake. But Rachel Van Wormer fills the 17-year-old with such genuine confusion that, when she finally takes a stand, it resonates.

Critic's pick.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

The Messiah

Community Actors Theatre presents Annice Snodgrass’s story of the “true meaning of Christmas,” adapted and directed by Jennie Hamilton. COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET (CORNER OF 54TH AND COLLEGE GROVE DRIVE), OAK PARK, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-264-3391.

My Three Angels

The Coronado Playhouse offers Sam and Bella Spewack’s comedy about three convicts who try to stop an evil plot. James Gary Byrd directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, PAVILION, 1335 FIRST STREET (NEXT TO THE CORONADO FERRY LANDING), THROUGH DECEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

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



The Lion King

ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it’d be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone’s TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on Ac-troTurf. 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 Sym-path,” “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 THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

Pete 'n Keely

The Ramona Mainstage Theatre presents a musical comedy re-vue, featuring original songs and standards, about America’s “swinging sweethearts” — or so they were, once. Brian Wells directed. RAMONA MAINSTAGE THEATRE, 626 MAIN STREET, RAMONA, THROUGH JAN-UARY 22; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-789-7008.

Poor Players Reading: King Henry VI

The Poor Players read all three parts of Shakespeare’s *Henry VI*, featuring Richard Baird and Jonathan McMurtry, directed by Baird. WESTMINSTER THEATER, 3598 TALBOT STREET, POINT LOMA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, AT 7:00 P.M. 619-255-1401.

Poor Players Reading: King Richard III

The Poor Players read Shake-speare’s history drama, about a Machiavellian *avant la lettre*, usurper. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, AT 7:00 P.M. 619-255-1401.

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 sugges-tions from the audience; and “Go-rilla Theatre” — five directors in-vented 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 amaz-ing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more fre-quent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the

very best books 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 EL CAJON BOULE-VARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COL-LEGE AREA, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. (THE “FAMILY” SHOW) AND AT 9:45 P.M. (“RATED PG-13”). 619-465-7469.

The Santaland Diaries

Dennis Scott reprises his popular performance in David Sedaris’s comedy about a slacker who lands a job as a Macy’s elf during the hol-iday season. Sean Murray directed. CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH DECEMBER 23; SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, AT 7:00 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, THROUGH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, AT 8:00 P.M.; THURSDAY, DECEM-BER 22, AND FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, AT 8:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

Sister's Christmas Catechism: The Mystery of the Magi's Gold

Reviewed this issue. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH DECEMBER 31; SUN-DAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

6th@Penn Classic Reading Series: The Birds

6th@Penn continues its new read-ing series with *The Birds* by Aristo-phanes. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, ONGOING RUN; SAT-URDAY, DECEMBER 17, AT 4:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

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The Sum of Us

6th@Penn Theatre stages David Stevens' comedy-drama about a widower and his son. Douglas Lay directed.
6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH DECEMBER 21; SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AFTER DECEMBER 8: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Too Old for the Chorus: But Not Too Old to Be a Star

Every seven seconds, a Baby Boomer becomes “officially old” by turning 50. Mark Winkler, Marie Cain, and Shelly Markham's musical revue bemoans, and eventually (and predictably) accepts

this condition. In the finale, five performers vow to find new “Potential” in their sixth decade of life. All five are polished pros: Steve Anthony does a spectacular tap number (“When 50 Wore Tux”); Teri Ralston adds emotional depth to songs with skimpy lyrics; Susan Jordan handles the comedic chores with ease (and does a sultry samba with Anthony); David Holmes and Brian Byers always contribute. Problem is: they're much better than the material. *Too Old* has three or four catchy/moving numbers (especially “Lunch Hour Lift,” about quickie plastic surgery; the Wordsworthian “The Child Is Father to the Man”; and Holmes's touching rendition of “Dog Passages,” in which the singer marks the years by the dogs he's had). The rest, though always well done (and the cast snappily dressed by Jill K. Mesaros), are negligible. They hold down slots till better songs come along — of which *Too Old* could use at least six. The revue has a frame: the five performers are auditioning for a chorus, and, of course, for the next phase of their lives. To merit a callback, *Too Old* needs major reinventing. THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 1; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT



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8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

Traditions of Christmas

Christian Community Theater presents a “musical spectacular,” with

a live orchestra, live animals, and 150 singers and actors, and a special guest appearance by Santa Claus. EAST COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 210 EAST MAIN STREET, EL CAJON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, THROUGH DECEMBER 22; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT

6:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 800-696-1929.

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 sear-

ing 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.

The Vagina Monologues

Cal State San Marcos presents a student-performed version of Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning monologues about female sexuality. ARTS BUILDING, ROOM 240, CAL STATE SAN MARCOS, 333 SOUTH TWIN OAKS VALLEY ROAD, SAN MARCOS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, THROUGH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, AT 8:00 P.M. 760-750-4990.

Welk Musical Christmas

The Welk Resort Theatre presents its 11th annual Christmas show, featuring traditions from many cultures. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH DECEMBER 31; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448

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'Tis the season to host relatives and friends escaping from frigid far-off lands to America's Finest City. And once they check in, what do they want first? San Diego's finest food.

Consider Laurel Restaurant and Bar, which is under new management, freshly remodeled — with valet parking at last! — and within strolling distance of Balboa Park's "December Nights."

From street level, you can see down into the dining room through the restaurant's tall windows, an envy-inducing fishbowl effect that makes you want to join the folks savoring their dinners below. The new decor is sleek and handsome in off-white with black trims, including the gleaming white tile flooring (with black no-slip strips) of the staircase leading down to the restaurant. If you need to wait for your group to gather, there are comfortable couches to the right and a cute little bar to the left. Huge glass cylinders filled with floating roses punctuate the space, and a double-sided banquette sets off the back third of the room — suggesting a semi-private space for large parties while moderating the sound level on both sides. A full-size mirror hangs on the back wall, decorated with scrolled wooden cut-outs, a 3-D effect. The world-music loop on the sound system slips from North African to Cuban to jazz.

The food is equally stylish. The eclectic, ever-changing seasonal menu includes flavors from France, Italy, Japan, Southeast Asia, and California, unified by a sensibility that speaks with an unmistakable Gallic accent.

We met up with the Lynnester and her friend Samurai Jim, a roving engineer whose work takes him all over the globe (poor guy). Once seated, we were immediately greeted with poached edamame (fresh soybeans) — the signature of the Urban Kitchen restaurant group that now owns Laurel. (Urban's head honcho Tracy Borkum prefers them to bread and butter because they don't fill you up before the meal. If you must have bread, you can buy a "grilled rustic" version as a \$4 side dish.)

Jim, just returned from Greece, approved of the snack plate of mixed olives, although its \$8 tab seemed a tad steep. For serious appetizers, we began with a spectacular house-smoked, cured elk carpaccio. Now I'm no stranger to elk, but Laurel's has to be the best rendition yet for



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

showcasing this meat's distinctive flavor and texture. The thin tenderloin slices were splayed on a long rectangular plate, topped with slivered almonds and young arugula. The meat was lean, deep red, and slightly sweet from a light smoking over applewood, with citrus notes from lemon oil and lavender coulis. Coarse-ground black pepper kicked it up. What does elk taste like? Not like chicken — nor beef nor lamb, nor even much like deer venison. You just have to taste it for yourself.

Kurobata pork belly was another winner. Kurobata is the Japanese name for gently raised heirloom-breed Berkshire hogs (originally from England), the porcine equivalent of Kobe beef. Berkshires have been reintroduced to American farms, but the Japanese name has stuck. A good-sized chunk of the uncured bacon arrived in a slanted-edge white bowl, mingling with small potato pancakes and shreds of dark greens. The braised meat was lightly crisped with a sweet-tart pomegranate and pasilla chili glaze. Its streaky,

succulent interior tasted like honest, old-fashioned fatty pork — not that thankless "other white meat."

"Do you like escargots?" I'd asked Lynne as we worked out our order. "I love them!" she answered. "I loved them so much when I was a kid that, for my 12th birthday, my mom gave me a set of escargot shells — you know the kind, in a plastic cylinder on

top of a can of snails." She also loved Laurel's out-of-the-shell treatment: Tender bits of mollusk meat, cut grape-size, mingled in a porcelain cocotte with English peas, pea purée, carrots, olive oil, and shell-shaped pasta (*conchiglie*), a neat culinary pun. The critters themselves weren't the least bit rubbery; I can't say as much for the pasta, but by now, potato gnocchi will have taken its place. With Laurel's ever-changing menu, any glitches are temporary.

"Crispy sweetbreads" had the look and mouth-feel of chicken nuggets, deep-fried in batter and wafted with candied "pancetta dust." I loved the roasted cippolini onions and thick

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

Laurel Restaurant

★★★★ (Excellent)

505 Laurel Street (at Fifth Avenue), uptown, 619-239-2222, www.laurelrestaurant.com.

HOURS: Sunday–Thursday 5:00–9:30 p.m., weekends until 10:30 p.m.

PRICES: Appetizers, \$9–\$14 (caviar \$85); entrées, \$19–\$33; sides, \$4–\$7; desserts, \$8. Pre-theater three-course chef's menu \$35 (\$50 with wine), five-course tasting menu, \$65 (\$95 with matched wines).

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Authentic modern eclectic cuisine with French technique and Asian touches, showcasing premium in-season ingredients, including free-range chicken and pork. Extensive global wine list, most bottles over \$45, including several rare sakes; about 20 half-bottles and a wide range available by the glass. Full bar, creative cocktails.

PICK HITS: Smoked elk carpaccio, Kurobata pork belly appetizer, veal cheeks, Wagyu beef fillet, "Citrus X 4" dessert.

NEED TO KNOW: Valet parking \$6. Several steps down from street level; disabled access via carport on Fifth Avenue (phone before coming or disabled door may be locked). Sundays, selected wines at half price.

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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crème fraîche sauce on the side, although the combo struck me as an odd coupling of Maxim's de Paris with Mickey D's. Jim and Lynne, however, happily polished off the dish.

The wine selection ranges from carefree, oyster-friendly Muscadet (\$28) on up to great French bottlings like Château Latour '90 (\$999). We were delighted to realize that we'd serendipitously arrived on "Sinful Sunday," when a selected list of wines are half-price. These are tag-ends from the encyclopedic wine list, with only a bottle or two left of each. For us, that meant enjoying a first-course bottle of Sancerre

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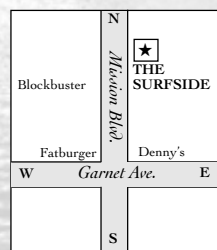
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(Loire) marked down from \$60 to \$30, a white so easygoing and food-friendly that both the wine-shunning guys at our table enjoyed some sips before returning to their own quaffs. For entrées, Lynne and I ordered reds by the glass; my Feraud-Brunel Côte du Rhone was all I'd hoped, her Château Robin meritage (Bordeaux-style blend) — not quite.

"Last time I ate veal cheeks, they were too rich," said Jim, tasting our first entrée's fall-apart-tender meat, the product of long and clever braising. "These are much better." My partner said, "That's because the ones you had were probably done with cream or a heavy wine sauce." Jim agreed. Here, served with a hint of a gentle *jus*-based sauce, the meat was bedded among roast parsnip wedges, creamy parsnip purée, and deep-fried parsnip flakes — a study in three modes of one root's piquant flavor. "Wow," I said, "next time I shop in Hillcrest, I gotta get me some parsnips, and celery root and rutabagas, too — enough with plain old mashed potatoes!" If there's any justification for the existence of winter, this dish is it.

A Wagyu (a.k.a. Kobe) beef fillet entrée offered thin,

plate-covering slices of superb beef, rare as ordered and salted just right. They were augmented with more snail meats. Alongside was a hunk of roasted parsnip and a heap of lean mashed potatoes, colored bright green from parsley puréed in extra-virgin olive oil. "This is the best Kobe I've tasted," said my partner. Jim was entranced, too. I was not that mad for the mash nor intrigued by the meat, which I found more tender than flavorful — but it was still an excellent twist on steak.

About the duck confit — do I dare voice a doubt without offending the entire French nation? Confit consists of salted and herb-rubbed cut-up poultry (usually duck or goose) cooked and stored in its own melted fat, then re-cooked in the fat to crisp the exterior. Laurel's is quite the classic version — a large leg-thigh piece with the typical hard-crust exterior and dry-ish, shreddy meat, bedded atop small green French *de Puy* lentils, which are spiked with chewy, smoky bacon bites, and wisps of wilted spinach. I've tasted moister confit (just once, from a French chef at Ernie's in San Francisco), but this dish is another that's slated to change next week: The confit will play a supporting role in a cassoulet (French white bean stew), which to my palate is the best possible use for it. (All the seafood dishes are chang-

ing to winter species, too, so I won't bother talking about our selections, now off-menu.)

We gobbled through most of the desserts, enjoying them all. The smash hit was part of a "Citrus X 4" taster assortment. A buttermilk panna cotta topped with a subtle orange *gelée*, resembling haute-cuisine Jell-O, tasted like a Creamsicle, according to the Lynnester. We revisited it until the last scrap was gone. The other citrus offerings included a fluffy warm lemon pudding (so light it was barely there), a grapefruit sorbet, and a compote of mixed citrus, heavy on the grapefruit.

Samurai Jim picked a "chocolate tasting" that included a demitasse of old-fashioned hot chocolate topped by a mini marshmallow (his top pick), a square of molten chocolate cake, and a scoop of white chocolate ice cream (which melted away neglected). A butterscotch *pot de crème* consisted of white chocolate pudding flavored all through with butterscotch, rich and distinctive. You really have to be a butterscotch fan, but it grew on us. (Literally — I'm sure it added an inch to my hips.) Goat-cheese cheesecake with tart pomegranate seeds and lemon thyme was ethereal and not the least goaty, a square of fluff with tangy garnishes. Another plus for the dessert course is the choice of five dif-

ferent French-press coffees, each grown in a different area, including a good decaf mocha java. But if you still have some wine left, you can pretend you're in Burgundy and consider the cheese sampler before or instead of the sweets.

Good food, good wine, good people — this a good place to show off San Diego to those outlander in-laws. And after they're gone, I'll be back at Laurel.

ABOUT THE CHEF

Wine Sellar & Brasserie owner Gary Parker inherited Laurel when chef Douglas Organ, his business partner in both restaurants, pulled up stakes and left for Boston. Too busy with the Brasserie and fed up by the near-endless high-rise construction mess on Fifth Avenue, Parker put Laurel up for sale last spring. Restaurateur Tracy Borkum, owner of Chive, Kensington Grill, and Urban Kitchen Catering, reputedly paid a million for it, and plenty more to renovate it. Now the construction is gone, renovations are done, and Laurel looks like — a million bucks.

Under the overall aegis of Urban Kitchen's Provence-born executive chef Fabrice Poigin (previously at Bertrand at Mr. A's), chef Amy DiBiase heads Laurel's kitchen.

"I've always worked in restaurants," she says. "I grew up in an Italian family, so food was always around. My grand-

father owned a little clam shack in Maine, and on my mom's side, my mom and my aunts were all general managers at restaurants. So I was a little restaurant rat, growing up. I was in the back of the kitchen hanging out with my mom, I'd get stuck doing little jobs, like, I'd be over with the guys portioning meats or bagging things for them, or doing silverware, or helping my mom with her paperwork. I remember counting [cash register] drawers with my mom when I was 15 years old. It was a really good background in the reality of restaurant work.... A lot of people come out of culinary school, never working in a restaurant, and they're just — sometimes they've spent all that money on school, and when they start working, they just can't handle it.

"Right out of high school I went to Johnson and Wales Culinary School in Rhode Island. Jason Schaefer [Laurel's former executive chef] came from there, too. Right after I graduated I was researching San Diego. (My parents have been living in North County for about 12 years now.) I was going to go to the Hyatt in La Jolla, but I read about this restaurant and about Douglas Organ's reputation, and I came out here to try and get a job at Laurel. And I got here a month after Doug left. It's funny, I moved here from Providence when he moved to

Boston. Jason had just gotten promoted, and he hired me.

"I've been at Laurel for four years. I worked my way up, starting as a line cook. I worked under Jason and then under Mary Jo Testa. When she left, I was given the opportunity to be chef de cuisine. I was running the kitchen for a little over a year by myself.

"The way Fabrice and I work together is, he'll have his ideas and I'll have my ideas, and then we'll have meetings together and try to integrate both our ideas, coming up with the dishes together. Most of the dishes, it's both of us."

I asked who made the desserts. "We don't have a pastry chef. I've got two girls here, 19 and 20, right out of school. One of them, it's her first job out of culinary school, the other was a pastry chef in Vegas. They work with Fabrice — he hands them the ideas, and they try to work through it."

"We're working to get the menu as solid as possible.... We're going to bring back the tapas sampler; we're working on that now. For the winter fish, we're going to have Arctic char and Atlantic cod from Bar Harbor, Maine. We're putting in a cassoulet, a venison chop instead of the lamb, and a new presentation for the beef fillet. I just hope that the local people understand and like what we're trying to do." ■

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Solo Flight

"I flew Panthers, Corsairs, and Sky Raiders. We sometimes took AA 50-caliber fire."

Honest! It's just like you're there, chasing the bad guys in the skies over the Middle East," said Hank the other day. "It's incredible."

I kind of "yeah yeah'd" him. And forgot about it. But now — funny how things coincide — here I am, passing the Navy Pier. I can't help thinking, Hmm. Might be a kick to try it, just once.

So I walk up under the shadow of the USS *Midway*, this truly ginormous whale of an aircraft carrier, and now I'm anteing up — *ow!* — 15 bucks to get aboard.

The hangar deck is cavernous. They've got planes and exhibits and guys in flight suits standing by flight simulators. But I keep walkin'.

"Watch out, there's two kinds of simulators," Hank had warned me. "The ones where you actually 'fly' the plane cost around \$40. You want the one where you don't. 'Cause, man, that one actually moves, throws your butt about. It's something else. Plus, it's only six bucks."

Ah. Here it is, the "Navy Flight Simulator." A white "blind" cockpit sitting on six pneumatic rods, promising an operation over enemy desert territory. I go up to the counter, just as this guy in a flight suit sets up a little sign.

"Back at 2:30."

What? But...?

"Lunch," he says. And he's gone.

Which in a way is lucky, because I'm feeling

peckish too. "Do they have, like, mess rooms here?" I ask another guy collecting audio-guides.

"No, but we have the Fantail Café, out on the, uh, fantail."

"Fantail?"

"The deck overlooking the stern."

"Oh right. Yeah. Of course. Which way is the...?"

"That way, through the souvenir shop."

Hey. What a surprise. An on-board café, just below the actual flight deck. It hangs out over the

water at the shore end. Place has a yellow canopy, a dozen polished metal tables, ten big Old Glories fluttering over the stern, and hurricane wire-mesh fencing to make sure we don't fall overboard. It's a long way down to the sparkling blue waters.

You get to the counter 'round one huge windlass that has "115,000 Pounds as a Bit" written in raised iron on one side. You can just imagine it winding mega-ropes slowly in, pulling this ship into, say, her old homeport of Yokosuka, Japan.

"I can serve you now," says Sarah, the gal at the counter.

Uh, right. Actually, the choice is not that huge, but hey, this is a snack bar on a Navy carrier, not a five-star cruise ship. They have sandwiches, like oven-roasted turkey with lettuce, tomato, and cheese, or roast beef, or Black Forest ham (this comes with green apple slices to sex it up), all the same price, \$7.95. Three-cheese

pizza, nine inch, is \$8.95. A chicken Caesar salad with Parmesan cheese goes for \$8.95, and a bowl of beef chili is \$5.95. Not the cheapest, but on the other hand, for tourist-trap fare, waddaya expect?

The "smokehouse roasted brisket" on a hoagie roll could be interesting. It's \$8.95. They have a "Tomahawk" hot dog for \$6.95. Add chili for a buck more. Everything comes with half a plate of chips.

"Most popular? Probably the American half-pound Angus Burger," says Sarah. That's \$8.95. I notice the two Chinese characters tattooed onto her lower right arm. "One's 'dragon,' " she says, "because I was born in the year of the dragon. The other's 'loyalty.' Because I'm that kind of person.... Or how about the hot pastrami?"

I get the burger and a coffee (\$2.00, \$1.00 refills) and go find a table with a view. Look out the stern, and there, like ships steaming toward you in a battle line, I see downtown's high-rises. Look south, and Seaport Village, Coronado, and Mexico pop up like postcards.

"This was the spud locker down here on our carriers," says Bill Hall. He and his daughter Cathy are splitting a ham sandwich. Her son Chris, 28, is eating an Angus Burger. Grandfather Bill, turns out, was a carrier fighter pilot.

"I was on the *Philippine Sea*, and then the *Val-*

ley Forge. We would come in with our wheels 15 feet above the spudlocker deckhead, cut power, and just drop onto the deck. Hit the spud locker, you'd ruin everybody's dinner."

He's come to show Cathy and Chris what it was like back then, when he was four years younger than Chris is now. "I flew Panthers, Corsairs, and Sky Raiders," he says. "This was the time of Korea. We sometimes took AA 50-caliber fire. You'd see the black smoke puff..."

Now here's the problem. I got my half-pounder burger, loaded with the hot patty, cheese, tomatoes, red onion, the works, plus an ocean of chips, all on a black plastic plate. I gunked ketchup and mustard in and chowed into it. Things were hunky-dory. Then I got talking with Bill. We were just at the part where the bullets ripped into his wing tank, when — *whack!* — I look up, my hamburger's gone. So's my coffee. Disappeared. Server must have whisked them off to the trash.

I'm about to make a big fantail fuss, except that it's 2:30, and I have a rendezvous with the skies over Iraq on the other side of the souvenir shop.

I get there. Another group's already flying a mission. Man! Just watching the way the six pneumatic rods toss that cabin around, I'm kinda glad I don't have a full stomach. ■

The Place: Fantail Café, aboard USS *Midway*, at Navy Pier, 910, North Harbor Drive, downtown San Diego, 619-544-9600

Type of Food: American

Prices: Oven-roasted turkey sandwich with lettuce, tomato, and cheese, \$7.95; roast beef sandwich, \$7.95; black forest ham sandwich with green apple slices, \$7.95; chicken Caesar salad with Parmesan cheese, \$8.95; bowl of beef chili, \$5.95; smokehouse roasted brisket on hoagie roll, \$8.95; "Tomahawk" hot dog, \$6.95; add chili, \$7.95; American half-pound Angus Burger, chips, \$8.95; three-cheese pizza (nine-inch), \$8.95

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San Diego Reader December 8, 2005 141

The Bubbly Backstory

"No one noticed that not a single paper or speech specified what Perignon had really done."

Long before the First World War nearly destroyed Champagne as a winemaking region, another war gave birth to it: the First Crusade, launched by Pope Urban II in 1095. According to Don and Petie Kladstrup's book *Champagne: How the World's Most Glamorous Wine Triumphed Over War and Hard Times*, the First Crusade set up the Champagne region to be the great marketplace at the crossroads of Europe's major east-west and north-south trade routes. It also facilitated the transfer of vineyards to the Church (by way of the Crusaders' will), after which they were cared for by monks, "the true oenologists of the day."

That set the stage. But Champagne did not begin making the jump from wool region to wine region for another century or so. What happened? Marketing. Marketing has been Champagne's genius "from the very beginning," said Petie when we spoke, "when it was a wool-trading place, and they decided, 'Well, maybe we can entice one or two extra merchants if we offer them a little bit of free wine.'"

If bubbles are what Champagne is famous for, it's marketing that has made Champagne famous. It comes as small surprise that Champagne was the first product advertised on a poster, and I can think of few things so firmly wedded in the consumer consciousness as Champagne and

celebrations — maybe diamonds and engagements. Exhibit A: In 1867, a US consular officer named Robert Tomes published a book entitled *The Champagne Country*, in which he recounted, among other things, a visit to the city cemetery.

After beholding stones bearing names such as Heidsieck and Clicquot, he remarked, "I had never thought of those jolly names, so associated with gaiety, weddings, feasts, and merrymakings, being crowned with death's heads and bloody bones."

Those bubbles make a splendid example of the region's marketing genius. The monk Dom Pierre Pérignon did much to improve the quality of winemaking in Champagne. He did not give bubbly to the world. Yeast gave bubbly to the world, and Dom Pérignon fought it all his life. But Champagne after World War I needed a champion, and the good monk was a fuzzy enough historical figure that the Champenois could graft a history onto him without much objection.

They decided to honor the "250th anniversary of Dom Pérignon's 'invention' of sparkling Champagne" with a three-day party. "There were papers by leading scholars and speeches by government officials," reports *Champagne*, "all rendering homage to Dom Pérignon's genius. There was also a lot of Champagne poured, so much, in fact, that no one noticed that not a sin-

Crush

MATTHEW LICKONA



Champagne marketing in action

gle paper or speech ever specified exactly what it was Dom Pérignon really had done. But none of that mattered. The celebration achieved its purpose. Sales of champagne soared and Dom Pérignon became the man of the hour."

The previous century had seen marketing help transform Champagne from a sweet wine to a dry one. Louise Pommery led the way, though she was following her customers when she made the switch; she'd heard the rumblings from across the channel. "Champagne was trying to distinguish itself," said Petie. "England was the chief

customer, and England already had so many sweet wines — Port, Madeira, Sherry. Champagne was trying to figure out a way to make itself unique, and also, if the wine was dry, they could sell it as something to drink throughout the meal."

These are the tame stories. There are better ones — Champagne at society orgies, Champagne bootlegged into America, Champagne smuggled through Russia ahead of invading armies. You'll have to buy the book for those, because I want to get back to the Kladstrup's central

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theme: the intertwining of war and Champagne. Even here, amid the ravages of war, marketing exerted its influence. After Napoleon's defeat, Russia, Prussia, and Austria all invaded France. Champagne became occupied territory, and the producers' cellars were plundered. But Jean-Remy Mœt, we learn, "remained sanguine through the worst of it as he recalled an old French proverb: 'Qui a bu, boira' (he who has drunk once will drink again). Jean-Remy was convinced, as he told friends, that 'All of these soldiers who are ruining me today will make my fortune tomorrow. I'm letting them drink all they want. They will be hooked for life and become my best salesmen when they go back to their own country.' He was right."

Whatever else has changed in Champagne since the wars — the trend towards corporate ownership being the

most obvious shift — the importance of marketing has remained the same. Said Petie, "The incredible success of Champagne advertising is a reflection, in a way, of the idea of working together. It comes out even now. When we were talking to various Champagne producers about publishing the book, you could almost guarantee that one of the first phrases out of their mouths would be, 'Well, we want to make this a Champagne-wide event. We don't want to stress one brand over another.' They are very, very conscious of the idea that they sink or swim together."

To that end (at least partly — surely a devotion to quality is also at work), Petie said that "There are more regulations in Champagne than anywhere else. I think it's the most strictly controlled wine in the world. One of the great dramas it's facing right now is that

the Champagne growing area is planted to the maximum. If demand keeps growing, what do you do? Do you decide you can open up other land for planting grapes, and perhaps reduce the quality? Or do you raise the prices? That's the great discussion." Added Don, "And the Champagne community is sharply divided, with one side saying, 'You're going to destroy the image and the quality of Champagne if you go further,' and the other side saying, 'There's a market for it, let's expand the boundaries.'"

In parting, Don offered this, the latest relation of war and bubbly, and a final testament to the power of marketing: "Even today — as Americans were boycotting French products because of the war in Iraq, and especially French wine, the one exception to all of this was Champagne sales. While everything else plummeted, sales of Champagne actually increased."

Petie chimed in, "One producer said, 'People who drink Champagne don't boycott.'" ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader's Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 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

En Familia Amici 564 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-753-9050. You'll feel like a guest at an intimate

party eating a leisurely dinner in this small, noisy, pretty dining room. Chef Monica Szepeszy and her brother Michael offer personalized, home-style renditions of South American cuisines, including house-made breads and beverages. Be sure to try the house's *chicha morada*, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. The fare includes numerous types of empanadas, tapas-like small plates, and full-size entrées — most from the family homeland, Peru. Desserts vary nightly and can include a cloud-like *tres leches* cake. Vegetarian and allergy-restricted diets accommodated. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Reservations necessary. Moderate. — N.W. (5/04)

La Especial Norte 604 North Coast Highway 101 (at Leucadia Blvd.), Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic "pond" in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — for instance, the authentic Mexico City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory eggplant soup includes airy little "croutons" of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tor-

tilla variations. No wheelchair access to rest rooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (5/02)

Neimans 300 Carlsbad Village Drive (at Carlsbad Boulevard), Carlsbad, 760-729-4131. Set in a Victorian gingerbread mansion overlooking Highway 101, this hotel-restaurant's best deal is the Sunday all-you-can-eat-and-drink champagne brunch, featuring made-to-order omelets, seafood creations, mimosas, etc., moderately priced for a day's worth of protein, calories, and buzz. No brunch reservations, so expect a wait. (Holiday brunch prices are much higher, but then they do take reservations.) After dark, the site is basically a nightclub, with a younger crowd scarfing up traditional American fare, priced high, until midnight or later. Open daily, lunch and dinner. — E.W.

Oceanside Cafe 1938 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place is as "mom and pop" as they get. "Hi honey. You going to have the usual?" That's Shannon. They do lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast's what a lot of folks come for. "Dieter's Downfall," a 3-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato, Jack, and Cheddar, is wicked. Two other things to try: the "Sausage of the Week" is made next door at the Red and White Market (anything from

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RESTAURANTS

bockwurst to French apple-chicken sausage). And the dieter's real downfall comes with Marsha's carrot cake or her double chocolate cake — rich, moist, and fresh out of her oven every morning. Breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Potato Shack Cafe 120 West I Street (off South Coast Highway 101), Encinitas, 760-436-1282. Check out the cute potato-toon mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud-lovers to load up on portions sized for lumberjacks from The Lumberyard across the street. American fries (served “All you can eat!”), French fries, potato patties, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet reds. If size counts, consider the daunting inch-thick “manhole” pancake that's bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to “deli” sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early weekends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (10/01)*

Ruby's Diner 1 Pierview Way, Oceanside, 760-433-RUBY (7829). One thing about Ruby's: You can build an appetite just getting there. It's at the end of the 1/3 mile-long Oceanside pier. (There's a 50-cent electric wagon, too.) Ruby's is part of a themed “forties diner” chain stretching from LAX to Scottsdale, Arizona. But it's still fun. Shiny Chevy Corvette-style red leatherette and chrome booths, white walls, portholes, old Coca-Cola signs, “Dewey-Warren” presidential buttons, and that view to Hawaii. And pretty darned good-sized servings too, from omelets to the “Super Burger” with Swiss cheese and avocado on a grilled Parmesan sourdough bun. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/01)*

Savory 267 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-634-5556. Chef-owner Pascal Vignau was executive chef of the Four Seasons Aviana when he decided he wanted his own little place. His casual strip-mall restaurant has been perpetually packed for dinner since open-

ing day. Here he serves a monthly changing menu of Southern French and Mediterranean cooking spotlighting seasonal local produce. Highlights include a clever, ethereal Dungeness crab *panna cotta*, a lush *bourride* seafood stew, and an ultra-rich macaroni-and-ham casserole. The adventurous mainly-Cal wine list is remarkably affordable, with many choices available by half-bottles and glasses (and modest corkage if you BYO). Dinner reservations urged; no groups larger than ten accommodated. Lunch Tuesday through Friday; dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W. (12/03)*

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub 640 Grand Avenue (at Roosevelt Street), Carlsbad Village, 760-729-7234. Occupying the whole of a handsome, sprawling, block-long Elizabethan-style building, this friendly “small-townish” saloon offers some above-average pub-grub, especially the perfect, moist corned beef with firm-tender cabbage, the huge, lively salads, and the house-baked brown bread. Boxy (Irish “peasant” potato pancakes, rarely found in California) are done up rather doughy rather than crisp to serve as “wraps” for corned beef and other dishes. Live music on holiday evenings and during happy hours. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot offers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late, plus Sunday breakfast/brunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (3/02)*

Trattoria Positano (Cardiff-by-the-Sea) 2171 San Elijo Avenue (at Chesterfield), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-632-0111. If you're tired of Italian restaurants, you'll be revitalized by this one. Original recipes, wonderful fresh fish, nightly specials, excellent lamb and pastas. Very warm atmosphere. A treasure. Reservations accepted only for parties of six or more; expect a wait at prime dinner hours, especially on weekends. Lunch and dinner six days, Sundays dinner only. Upper moderate. — *E.W. (6/98)*

NORTH INLAND

Abbey's Real Texas BBQ 6904 Miramar Road (at Commerce Street, behind Denny's), Miramar,

858-566-5235. Texas barbecue consists of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that are repeatedly mopped with a marinade and cooked in a big cast-iron smoker (rather than grilled over a fire). Here they use mesquite to barbecue the poultry quickly and the brisket ve-r-r-y slowly. In addition to the usual BBQ sides (potato salad, coleslaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Miramar branch the room is large and unadorned but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily; continuous service for lunch and early dinner weekdays; normal dinner hours weekends. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *E.W.*

Galeon (Escondido) 503 West Mission (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a bright coffee-shop atmosphere with comfortable booths, big windows, a lunch counter and a salad bar. Shrimp and *langostino* (“squat lobster,” in fishermen's terms) are the house specialties, and are well treated. Also consider an intense little marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish), or the savory *albondigas* soup (lime it up, too). Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive (standard dishes) to moderate (seafood). — *N.W. (6/01)*

Island Boy Grille 10066 Pacific Heights Boulevard (south of Mira Mesa Boulevard, at Carroll Canyon Road), Sorrento Mesa, 858-452-7708. It's the last thing you'd expect up here in Corporate Lunchland, but Pua Macario's Hawaiian food sanctuary is the real thing. Pua (“Flower”) serves genuine items like purple *taro poi*, seven-hour cooked *lau-lau* (beef, pork, and fish slow-steamed in taro and banana leaves), rice delivered by the ice-cream scoop, potato salad delivered hot with shrimp and crab in it, and mahi mahi, lots of lovely flame-seared mahi mahi. Delivered in a standard polystyrene box, eat in or out. And heavy! The Wasa Plate will include, say, two big pieces of mahi mahi, a pile of shredded kalua pig and cabbage, or kahuna shrimp, or teriyaki chicken, plus two scoops of rice, salad and any side dish. If you're a really big kahuna, the Kanaka Plate will deliver three main entrées and three scoops of rice. Sparse decoration: eggshell blue walls with photos of real hula-dancing, and a longboard by Hawaiian Julian Cruz (it's yours for \$450). Warning: only

open 11 a.m. to around 2:30 p.m. Always crowded. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/02)*

Pho Hoa Hiep 9910 Mira Mesa Boulevard, #A, 858-578-1468 (also at 6947 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-8406). This *pho* (soup) place of the brothers Hoa and Hiep is a clean, busy eatery near hi-tech offices. It's popular at lunch and dinner, partly because of frequent two-for-one deals. Try the #1, *Dac Biet Xe Lua*, an “extra large bowl” of soup filled with rare steak slices and well-done brisket, flank, tendon, and tripe along with mint and bean sprouts. A popular breakfast *pho* is “French bread with beef juicy cube soup.” They also have rice dishes. And try the traditional fruit drinks, maybe the *Xam Bo Luong*, a combination of loganberry, black dates, seaweed, and lotus seeds in syrup. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Rancho Valencia 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Nestled in the lush garden setting of the Rancho Valencia Resort is one of San Diego's dining gems. They advertise the cuisine as California-French. Whatever. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is prepared and presented to delight Californians, French people — actually, any person on the planet with taste buds. Their crab cake topped with sun-dried apricot-mango chutney was equal to the best you'd eat around Chesapeake Bay. Their Thai chicken mushroom will make you weep with happiness, call it a night, and go home satisfied. But then you'd miss out on enjoying an entrée of prime mesquite-grilled steak, fresh fish, veal, lamb, or chicken. Portions are generous, as is the wine list. Casual-elegant dress. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Very expensive. — *S.M. (6/04)*

Sand Crab Cafe 2229 Micro Place (at Oppen, off Barham), Escondido, 760-480-2722. Sandy Crabbe (honest, that's his name) owns this fun, funky dive in the wilds of industrial Escondido near the San Marcos border. A visit offers the primordial, preschoolish joy of whacking crabs to pieces with mallets and eating them with your hands. (Bibs are optional.) Everybody gets into the party spirit. There's a huge à la carte list of appetizers, soups, snacks, and main courses, often at bargain prices. Entrées include several crab-bucket combos, cooked to a well-seasoned boil with corn, potatoes, and

spicy Louisiana sausage. Most of the shellfish were flash-frozen on shipboard, but they're still tasty. The melted non-butter “spread” accompanying them appeals to the area's many health-conscious residents. (Or you can BY-OButter and they'll melt it for you.) Fine tangy housemade key lime pie is a perfect finale. Full bar; not much wine, but good margaritas. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Tong Szechuan 609 North Broadway #E-F, Stater Brother's Shopping Center, Escondido, 760-480-9438. The “New Style Favorites” of North County Chinese restaurants feature fresh fruits. Tong's has several variants, mainly cornstarch-battered fried proteins in honey-based sweet-and-sour sauce, lightened with loads of seasonal fruit chunks — pineapple, papaya, pear, etc. They're tasty dishes. For the rest, the Szechuan specialties (hot-and-sour soup, *kung pao*, *ma la*, etc.) are better than the old “Chinese-American” standards on the menu. Lunches are big, bargain-priced, and popular. In this quiet, pretty room, you may overhear northern or western Chinese dialects at nearby tables. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive (lunch) to low-moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Vincent's Siririno's 113 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-745-3835. French-born chef-owner Vincent Grumel serves Gallic classics in an intimate, small-town bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing fine ingredients, such as a huge, flavorful veal chop (no factory calf, that). Mushrooms and vegetables (from local farmers or Grumel's own garden) are the season's best and sensitively treated. Desserts are worth every calorie — save room for the spectacular Bavarian. Full bar, fine wine list. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Expensive. — *N.W. (6/01)*

GOLD COAST

Besta Wan Pizza House 148 Aberdeen Drive (off the 101), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-6707. This ever-popular North County restaurant which opened back in 1965 is a family operation all the way. Their thin-crust East

Coast-style pizzas are famous locally. Also check for the big-pile spaghetti or lasagna specials if you just want to fill up. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/01)*

Cafe Zinc 132 South Cedros (at Loma Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-793-5436. The Rancho Santa Fe set like to hang out here in the garden patio with their Porsches at the curb and their shih tzus under the table (dogs are welcome). Even for non-doggie people, the California pepper trees and garden sculpture make this indoor-outdoor eatery a really pleasant kick-back place (which gets its name from the zinc-top bar inside). The menu, a mixture of Italian and vegetarian, offers dishes like frittata with cucumber salsa, and baked eggplant “pizzette” (personal-size pizza) with marinara, mozzarella, and Parmesan cheese. The vegetarian chili and the Zinc veggie burger (served on a La Brea bun) are tasty too. Open seven days, breakfast through late lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/01)*

Samurai Japanese Restaurant 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Lomas Santa Fe Plaza, Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. This restaurant boasts “the largest California sushi bar” as well as a menu of over 100 items. The food is artistically prepared and presented, the sushi uniformly fine. You can easily make a meal from the sushi and appetizers. Seating is available at the sushi bar or the central dining area, which provides capacious booths. A tatami room (with floor-seating on tatami mats, Japanese style) offers special prix fixe feasts (\$60 per person and up), by reservation only. Open daily. Moderate to extremely expensive. — *E.W.*

Tony's Jacal 621 Valley Avenue (between Genevieve Street and Juanita Street), Eden Gardens, Solana Beach, 858-755-2274. Come here at night, when the mysterious low mud-brick arches with the stained glass windows make you think Old Mexico, when the Del Mar racing bar makes you think 1930s Hollywood, and the dining patio, under the 100-year-old chinaberry tree, looks straight out of Guadalajara. Back in 1946, Tony Gonzales's wife Catalina started preparing food for fellow Mexican workers. Since then, everybody from Liz Taylor to J. Edgar Hoover has passed through these portals. Try the “La Colonia” combination of just about anything with rice and beans. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real)

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crab quesadilla in a corn tortilla is delicious too. Cheapest probably chicken strips with French fries. And “Jacal”? It means “shack.” Open seven days, but with a gap between lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

LA JOLLA

La Taverna 927 Silverado Street (at Girard Avenue), La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Don't look for meatballs and red sauce except at lunch because dinner is Tuscan-style, showcasing pastas with simple, fresh sauces. Highlights include chef-owner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi are a special, just say yes. Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Service is downright endearing on weekends, when Jimmy Vitale (the owner's husband) charmingly plays maitre d'. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

The Pannikin Cafe 7467 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla,

858-454-5453. Oh sure, the inside of this converted bungalow is cool, with its woody-green tables of different heights and cool damsels with animal temp-tattoos on their arms serving you. But here at Pannikin's La Jolla outpost, the outside's the "in" spot, with its brick and earth tones and weathered timber and sixties rainbow tables. But you have to make it through the laptop-clacking, cell phone-blabbing crowd who use this as their garden office and Very Important Meeting spot. Musicians, grad students, and school kids also show up to munch twigs and nuts and think serious thoughts. Breakfasts are mostly steamed-egg variations, including the popular Greek eggs and a filling breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and "pan-nwiches" such as ham or tuna are fresh, generous, and worthy, though the retros among us will be looking for a salt lick all the way home. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Roppongi 875 Prospect Street (at Fay), La Jolla, 858-551-5252. In terms of atmosphere and food preparation, one of the best restaurants in La Jolla. The Euro-Asian fusion menu offers a vast choice of 20 appetizers, or *tapas*, including several sushi rolls. Don't overlook the Thai coconut soup, At-

lantic salmon, and duck confit at dinner, or the *niçoise* salad at lunch. Beautiful interior; lovely heated patio; excellent service. Be sure to reserve, especially for dinner, to avoid a very long wait. Open daily. Moderate (tapas) to expensive. — *E.W. (12/99)*

Sadaf 613 Pearl Street (at Cuvier), La Jolla, 858-551-0643. You worry — those formal fixtures and black-tux waiters, the gold-encrusted paintings, and the crisp, pink table linens all scream "expensive!" Actually, prices are easygoing, especially at lunch. The appetizers are free: a basket of *lavash* (unleavened bread), and beside it, butter and a large sliced raw onion. Eating bread with onion makes you hungry, say the Persians. Then try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or *albalou polo* (rice, dried cherries, and chicken). Pistachio-and-rosewater ice cream is a great finale. Nonspecials and evening meals cost more, but at any price this is real Persian food, with typical riotous herbage and sybaritic spicing. Another branch in the Gaslamp turns into a nightclub after dinner, but the food's better at this La Jolla flagship. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (10/00)*

Tutto Mare 4365 Executive Drive (at Executive Way), Golden Triangle,

858-597-1188. The modern Italian cuisine here emphasizes pasta and fresh seafood from the mesquite grill or oak-fired oven. Lunch hours roar with chic crowds from the surrounding office buildings, but the kitchen is most on its toes then, too. Pastas are mainly house-made, with fresh-tasting sauces, and substantial seafood salads are available. Entrées (whether seafood or meat) may be overcooked by the fierce wood fires, and most come with minor variations of the same lemon-butter sauce and a one-size-fits-all veggie medley. Full bar, interesting wine list, good Happy Hour nibbles. Complimentary valet parking. Call for careful directions (very hard to find). Extremely noisy. Lunch and dinner weekdays, dinner weekends. Pastas and salads moderate, entrées expensive. — *N.W. (10/02)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

24-Hour Valley Kitchen Family Restaurant 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-819-1017 or 619-298-8282. Great when everything else is closed. The place feels like a Mid-

western chain eatery: all carpets, dark-wood walls, etched glass. Prices are a little up there, but hot French dip is great and burgers are generous. Best news may be that if you feel like breakfast at midnight, no problem. Ask for the pork chops, two eggs, hash browns, and biscuits and gravy. Chops are crumbed and buried in hash browns. Splosh on lots of applesauce, and leave room for the biscuits — their bacon-fat gravy will have you licking the plate. Bonus: You can sit here with a book and a coffee all night long if you like. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (1/04)*

94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego's hidden jewels: there's classic American fare (honey-glazed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the "Officers' mess," but better yet is the free buffet Happy Hour — pig heaven weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Selections might include a "stroganoff" of Polish sausage, veggies, cheese potatoes, nachos, etc. (Of course, you have to buy something — say, a pitcher of Bud for two.) Thursdays and Fridays, the outside "Runway" grill features kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of

Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Andres' Patio Restaurant 1235 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hard-to-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is *ropa vieja* ("old clothes"): shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with ever-present rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other interesting dishes include *alcapuria* (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy *yuca con mojo* (yuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (8/01)*

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Avenue (at 49th Street), City Heights, 619-283-4352. Ann Nguyen started this back in 1980, and her prices haven't changed — they're incredibly low. But the taste of her sandwiches is up there in French-Vietnamese heaven. The Vietnamese

Restaurant Coupons and Menus SanDiegoReader.com

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
Bay Ho Bar & Grill **Free appetizer or dessert**
Broken Yolk **\$2 off breakfast or lunch**
Canes **Free wing basket**
Chateau Orleans **50% off**
Costa Brava **Free tapa for lunch**
French Gourmet **Free dessert**
Great Moon Buffet **10% off total bill**
Gringo's **\$2 off weekend breakfast**
Haiku Japanese Steakhouse **15% off**
Hawaiian Island Barbecue **Free entrée**
Kirin Sushi **Free California roll**
Lahaina Beach House **Free breakfast**
Lanna Thai **50% off entrée**
Newport Pizza & Ale House **50% off pizza**
OB Grille **\$2 off sandwich or burger**
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill **2 for 1 entrée**
PB Sushi **15% off**
Pho Sao Bien
Sam's by the Sea
Sandbar Sports Grill **Free taco**
Taylor's Restaurant & Brewery **50% off entrée**
Yoli's **50% off entrée**

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa

Ashoka the Great **50% off lunch or dinner**
Filling Station **Free appetizer**
La China
Philadelphia Sandwich Co. **Free sandwich**
Sultan Grill **50% off any plate**
Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

La Jolla

Beaumont's **10% off total bill**
Brockton Villa **10% off total bill**
Ginza-Sushi **Sushi dinner for 2 \$15.95***
La Basil **\$5 off lunch or dinner***
La Jolla Brew House **Free entrée**
Marrakesh **10% off lunch**
Su Casa **25% off entire check***

Downtown & Point Loma

Acqua Al 2 **Sampler dinner & wine \$14**
Alambres **Free soup**
Beach City Market **\$2 off deli/sushi**
Blue Water Seafood **25% off**
Cafe Loma **1/2 off coffee**
Chopahn Afghan **3-course dinner \$25.95**
Dancing Dog Deli **\$1 off Egg Scrambles**
Embers Grille **50% off entrée**
The Field
Fifth & Hawthorn **Free dessert**
Gaglione Brothers **1/2 off sandwich**
Hard Rock Café •
Hornblower Cruises
House of Blues **20% off restaurant receipt**
Humphrey's
Jolt'n Joe's •
Lotus Thai Cuisine **50% off entrée**
Luxor Cafe **Free dessert**
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant
Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Olé Madrid **2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée**
RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Rockin' Baja Lobster **Big Baja Bucket for 2 \$29.99***
Sevilla **Dinner show with wine for 2 \$75**
Sonrise on the Point **Free breakfast/lunch**
St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro **20% off***
Star of India **50% off entrée***
Thai Time II **Free fried spring rolls**
Ticasso **Free entrée**

Uptown & North Park

Crêpes de Paris
Garden Grill **50% off entrée**
Harar Ethiopian **Sampler for 2 \$15.99**
Hob Nob Hill **\$2 off entrée**
India Princess **50% off dinner***
Lips **50% off dinner**
Panda Park Buffet **\$1 off**
Rudford's **\$2 off entrée**
Sanfilippo's **Large pizza \$11.95**
Taste of Italy **Free Oreo cheesecake***
Taste of Szechuan **50% off entrée**
Teriyaki Cowboy **Sake and beer \$5.50**
Urban Grind **50% off lunch or brunch**

East County & State College

Best of Sicily **\$5 off**
Cat Daddy's Bar & Grill **1/2 off burger**
Greek Town Buffet **50% off dinner buffet**
Jump Tokyo Japanese **\$1 off lunch**
Mulvaney's **\$5 off check**
Royal Palace **50% off entrée**

North County

Big Jim's Bar-B-Q **Free entrée**
Café de Thai **20% off bill**
Calypso
Danky's
Golden Baked Hams **\$8 off whole ham**
Greek Village **Free saganaki**
Jamroc 101 **Free island sampler**
Kaito **Free soup or edamame**
Le Petit Calypso **Free appetizer**
Mas Fina Cantina **50% off entrée**
Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi**
Noodles & Company
Passage to India **50% off dinner***
Thai Pasta **Free entrée**
Wild Note Cafe
Zibibbo **Free tiramisu**
Zip & Zack's **Free appetizer**

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

The Amigo Spot **15% off entire bill**
Bali Thai **50% off entrée**
Bennigan's **Free appetizer or dessert**
Berta's **50% off entrée**
Chiba Japanese **\$2 off lunch or dinner**
Churasco's **50% off entrée**
Frank's Happy Chef **50% off entrée**
Old Town Mexican Cafe
Paradise Yogurt **50 cents off a smoothie**
Pizza Bella **Dinner for 2 \$29.95**
Seau's **25% off bill**
Shanghai Chinese **\$1 off Mongolian BBQ**
Thai Time II
Tio Leo's **Dinner combos \$8.50 each***
Todai **10% off lunch or dinner**

South Bay & Coronado

Lai Thai **50% off entrée**

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

are special at this: they do French better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. The BBQ Pork French sandwich delivers the immediate taste of cilantro, garlicky mayonnaise, sweet barbecue sauce, carrots, onions, cucumber, and lashings of sliced pork, with the occasional heat of a green jalapeño. But above all, it's that crunch of bread — fresh, feathery, and very French — that makes this hard to beat. Add dessert of home-made banana shrimp cake and Vietnamese coffee and — *voilà!* Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant Pacific Gateway Plaza, 3709 Convoy Street (at Aero Drive), 1st floor, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Arguably the best Chinese restaurant in the county, here's where local Asians (of all nations) go for both casual family dinners and special feasts of Hong Kong specialties. When you dig in, you'll know why. Menu (trilingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, and English) emphasizes seafood and gourmet delicacies of the South China coast, plus lunchtime dim sum carts daily. The staff is bilingual and crisply helpful, and the specialties are well worth exploring. Reservations accepted for all meals, including weekend dim sum brunches. Few dishes include MSG; diners can request none in made-to-order dishes. Live fish tanks, full bar, serviceable wine list. Mainly moderate, with moderate splurges like live fish and Peking duck easily balanced by inexpensive down-home dishes (unless you insist on shark fin or bird's nest). Open daily from lunch until midnight or later. — *N.W. (9/02)*

Via Italia Pizzeria Trattoria 4705-A Clairemont Drive, Clairemont Square, Clairemont, 858-274-9732; also at 565-569 South Coast Highway 101 (between E and D), Encinitas, 760-479-9757. Don't look for spaghetti and meatballs or Alfredo here — the menu features wonderful, authentic dishes from all over northern Italy (not Naples or Brooklyn). The nightly specials and well-priced Thursday night tasting menus are particularly

inspired — they're what Chef Alan Martinelli really feels like cooking. The pizzas (whole pies only) are a must — thin-crusts and dressed with perfect proportions of sauce, cheese, and lovely, simple toppings. The long, helpful Italian wine list includes bottles at every price range. The downside? At the original branch (in the "Food Court" near the Clairemont mall's theaters), the room is noisy, service can be abrasive, and reservations, while recommended, are not always honored timely. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W. (6/02)*

THE BEACHES

Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar 3770 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-692-1410. It's not by the bay, but the food is definitely by-the-book Brazilian. You know because the first things you see are *guaraná*, the Amazonian energy drink, and *acaí*, the Amazonian palm berry energy bowl. If you're not strapped for cash, go for the popular *feijoada* stew, black beans cooked slowly with "six types of pork and two kinds of beef," offered Saturday and Sunday. If you don't have the dough, have what most of Brazil eats every day: the "PF," *prato feito* ("ready plate"). It's beef, chicken, or fish with rice and Brazilian beans. End with the cheapest dessert, the wicked *brigadeiro*. Come early evening or weekends and you might learn the *forró* ("fo-ha"), a Brazilian dance. Open seven days; closes early Monday and Tuesday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Fairouz Cafe And Gallery 3166 Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-225-0308. Seek out this family-owned-and-operated restaurant for wonderful Lebanese and Greek food. The owner, a noted artist, displays his paintings on the dining room walls. The extensive menu offers excellent lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and a wide selection of exotic vegetarian meals. Copious all-you-can-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast at low cost. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.W.*

Hanaoka-2 1203 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-274-9755. This is the suave cousin of the Hanaoka family

restaurant in National City. The atmosphere is fifties moderne revival, with a Ginza sleekness. It's still reasonably priced if you choose carefully (most sushi is 20 percent off during early-bird hours, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.). The Philadelphia roll is delicious with its smoked salmon, seaweed, cream cheese, rice, and sesame seeds. But this place is really aimed at yuppies. People order "cabo-wabo" spicy crab with yellowtail, or toro roll (meat from the belly of a tuna), which the chef sears with the sharp blue flame of a blowtorch. Every guest gets a loud traditional welcome from the chefs. And a farewell. Open evenings only. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Hawaiian Island Barbecue Pacific Plaza, 1768 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-9830. What do folks really eat in Hawaii? What they serve here: plate lunches. Which means two scoops of rice, one scoop of macaroni salad, and then whatever, like garlic shrimp, mahi mahi or fried shrimp, Hawaiian BBQ chicken, chicken *katsu*, Hawaiian BBQ beef or short ribs, even hamburger steak. But to go all-out Hawaiian, try the chicken *lau lau* (chicken and butterfish wrapped in taro leaves), slow-cooked *kalua* pig (don't call it pork) with cabbage, or *limu poke* (seaweed and raw tuna). Barbecue? Their BBQ Mix (Hawaiian BBQ beef, chicken, short ribs, with rice or macaroni salad) is a deal. Authentic? Count the Hawaiians around you. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

The Mission Cafe and Coffee House 3795 Mission Boulevard (at San Jose Place), Mission Beach, 858-488-9060. Gourmet and Latino breakfasts served in funky surroundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-banana pancakes, and roast beef hash with rosemary potatoes and eggs. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, scones, muffins, available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.W.*

People's Organic Foods Co-op Deli 4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. This is the land of "organic," "cruelty-free," "environmentally safe," "shade-grown." Vegan Country. People look either disgustingly healthy, disturbingly pasty, or just plain smug. But the food tastes pretty good. And they sell it by the pound so

you can mix and match. Course, you have to learn new words, like tempeh (cultured soy which can be made to taste like anything). And dishes have a sensible momsy East Coast feel — garlic eggplant with beet root and onions, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, millet spinach bake, shepherd's pie, "mango madness," tempeh sausage, steamed vegetables, vegan macaroni and cheese. Bottom line: it's guilt-free. Open seven days, breakfast, lunch, dinner (but "serious" breakfasts Saturday and Sunday only). Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/03)*

Society Billiards Cafe 1051 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-272-POOL (7665). Okay, this is a pool joint, but a classy one with sidewalk seating and a decent kitchen. It has the normal appetizers — buffalo wings, nachos, potato skins — but also dishes like chicken taquitos and veggie dip, and good salads like teriyaki chicken with French bread or pita. The French connection continues: Marc, the chef, is French and throws a mean Greek, Thai, or New York pizza, or 17 other varieties. His mesquite chicken wrap goes great with one of the many ales. And the great thing is, you can come late: the kitchen's open till 1:30 p.m. every night. Lunch, dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

The Surfside 4527 Mission Boulevard (at Garnet Avenue), Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it's a "scene" here — for good reason. You'll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and "California coastal cuisine," i.e., fun and flavorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half-price during weeknight Happy Hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it'll put you at the head of the line), where the chefs are unusually friendly. They shine on simple, pure Japanese sushi, although they make the usual "party rolls," too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the *toro*, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there's a breezy, informal dining room with large windows looking out on the street, plus a small private dining room for parties. Four Japanese beers, 10 sakes available. Reservations urged for large groups. Parking is tight; just one handicapped slot in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (10/02)*

Sushi Ota 4529 Mission Bay Drive (at Bunker Hill Street), Pacific Beach,

858-270-5670. What becomes a legend most? At its best, this renowned sushi bar offers fish of exceptional quality, perfect tart-sweet rice, tight wraps, and disciplined creativity. These joys don't come easily. First, find the place: Driving south from Balboa, look left, and pull into the mini-mall with the large 7-11 sign (opposite Rubio's). Sit at the sushi bar to snoop on your neighbors' choices, watching for off-menu extravaganzas, e.g., sea snails cooked over flaming sugar or the irresistible "sushi sundae" (*uni, toro*, mountain potatoes, salmon roe). Don't miss the *ama-ebi*, with crisp shrimp heads atypically flash-baked (not batter-fried). Cooked dishes are dull except for *chawan-mushi* (custard broth with ginkgo nuts). Alas, when Ota-san's away, his elves may play — amateurishly. Best bet: Reserve a bar seat for an early dinner Wednesdays through Saturdays, when the master is most likely to be present. Disabled access chancy; long, crowded waits unless you've reserved. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Los Reyes 2496 Broadway (at 25th), Encanto, 619-231-0716. If you've ever craved those fabulous Mexican fish soups that can be such energy restorers, these strip-mall Mexican restaurants have a great one. It's *Caldo 7 Mares* (Seven Seas Soup) and it comes as a big bowl of savory red fish soup clunking with giant crab legs, clams, chunks of white fish, shrimp, the pink and purple suckers of octopus, and vegetables. It's also called *Vuelta a la vida*: "Return to life." On a hot day, their Cocktail Campechana (shrimp and octopus in a light, spicy tomato broth) will return you to life, too. Four brothers and one sister from Michoacan run the place. A very Michoacan dish is *carnitas* — pork shoulders. Or try their gringo lunch deal of a bacon cheeseburger with fries and a can of soda. The prices make this a tightwad's paradise. Three meals daily, with the Broadway flagship branch open until midnight on weekends; all other branches closing early every evening. (Smaller branches at 47th and Market, 25th and Imperial, and 1270 Picador Boulevard.) Cash only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Phoenicia 3381 Adams Avenue (at 34th Street), Normal Heights, 619-282-4120. To find this tiny restaurant — the longest-running eatery on Adams Avenue — look for a window featuring a cedar tree (the symbol on the Lebanese flag), an American flag, and the word "Phoenicia" written in Arabic and English. The inside is cramped, but they have sidewalk tables, too. Try their baked eggplant stuffed with lamb, pine nuts, onions, and garlic, or the *kafra* kabob, with ground meat, parsley, onions, and pita bread. The real treat is the *kibbeh neyeh*, raw lamb with cracked wheat, onions, and seasonings, but you'll need to call 24 hours ahead to get it. Homemade rose juice and Lebanese coffees are delicious, too. Breakfast through very early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-284-4215 or 619-284-4288. You're in a big glass palace here. It's especially good on Sundays, when three- or four-generation Vietnamese families gather for lunch. Gaggles of waiters hover a glance away, but take your time. The menu has over 250 items on it. Default choice: *pho*, the famous, filling soup-meal of Vietnam where beef cooks in the soup. Another safe bet is stir-fried crispy or soft egg noodle with seafood and assorted vegetables. "33" Vietnamese beer is on hand to make Saigon lovers sentimental. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Trioux Chau Restaurant 4653 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-4204. This is as near as you'll come to eating breakfast in Phnom Penh or lunch in Vientiane. Cambodians come in the morning to talk politics and play Cambodian chess. At lunch, Laotians replace them. Maps of "Kampuchea" decorate the walls, as well as long-distance telephone ads. The menu includes Chinese, Khmer, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for "*djak kvai coffay dok ko*" — fried bread with Cambodian coffee, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Later in the day, you might try pan-fried noodles with broccoli and beef or shrimp and gravy ("*koitiow bahat sai kho*"). If in doubt, ask for Kathy, who speaks Chinese, Khmer, Lao — and English. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Turf Supper Club 1116 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-234-6363. At this cozy saloon (a landmark since 1950, "re-es-



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tablished” in 1998), if your meat’s done wrong, it’s your own fault. Every night’s an indoor cook-out, as patrons huddle by the communal fire-pit tending their steaks (a choice of three ritzy cuts, well-marinated in garlic and olive oil), burgers, chicken breasts, or portobello mushrooms; others choose the veggie kabobs or teriyaki skewers of beef, chicken, or fish. And that’s the menu. The only side dish is a simple salad — not even fries. But the meat’s a treat, especially the huge, juicy Delmonico rib eye. If you’re an utterly hopeless cook, a staffer will mind your meal for you, but you’d miss half the fun. Full bar, no reservations. Open nightly. Inexpensive to barely moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Barnes Bar-B-Que 2625 Lemon Grove Avenue, Lemon Grove, 619-462-9206. Clayton Davis’s sign says it all: “Let Us Bring Tha South to Ya Mouth.” You can tell this is the real deal from the two heavy iron doors in the brick wall behind the counter and the big wood fires burning oak inside. This is Memphis-style soul food, mild and mouth watering — and cheap. Expect dollar portions, from smothered chicken or pork, neck bones and cabbage, to country yams, corn on the cob, and corn bread. Other lip-smacking dishes include chopped beef brisket sandwich, pork ribs or shoulder, beef ribs, red snapper, and hot links or ham — all with two sides and bread. Oh yes, they also serve catfish sandwiches and sweet potato tarts. Or you could just stand outside and smell the smoke. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Jimmy’s 6935 Mission Gorge Road (at Town Center Drive), Santee, 619-448-8994. We’re at the end of the line here, the trolley’s Orange Line. Feels like a safari. You walk back through the grass to the streets of Santee. Thank goodness for this family-friendly restaurant with good, old-fashioned American food. Their six-page plastic menu tells all — forget your diet and dig into the breakfast “Eggs and Cakes” (two eggs, three pancakes), the “Touchdown” (two eggs, two hotcakes,

four strips of bacon or three link sausages), or the “Monte Cristo” hot sandwich (ham and turkey grilled on batter-dipped Texas toast with Swiss cheese, hot syrup, and French fries). Later in the day, the New York strip or sirloin steak with all the trimmings, and desserts like homemade cinnamon bread pudding with raisins and whipped cream. Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Lemon Grove Fish-N-Chips 2605 Lemon Grove Avenue, Lemon Grove, 619-462-6212. Snapper, cod, whiting, and catfish seem to go down better here at sunset on the deck looking across the valley to Old Lemon Grove. Even more so the salmon. It’s wild, but the prices aren’t. Even the plain ol’ fish and chips taste fresh, with crispy batter and good malt vinegar. The coleslaw (it’s made with raisins) freshens your mouth up for the next round. You get the feeling these guys really care. Plus plenty of the sides you’d expect, like zucchini sticks and hush puppies. Open daily for lunch and dinner; Monday dinner only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Lucky Star Seafood Restaurant 3893 54th Street (at University Avenue, in Kmart Shopping Mall), College Area, 619-229-8228. The Cantonese and Mandarin menu runs to 225 dishes, not to mention the dim sum lunches from roving carts bearing goodies. The huge room is perfect for large parties (call ahead to reserve) or banquets. Not to be missed are lobster dishes, steamed whole fish, Dungeness crab in special sauce, and frog’s legs. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to upper moderate. — *E.W. (9/99)*

Ranas.Com 9683 Campo Road, Suite A, Spring Valley, 619-589-1792. With 33 Mexican restaurants in the area, this Mexico City eatery has got to be good. It’s a cheery place with lime green walls and orange accents. Cooking from the capital tends to be less biting hot than some northern food, with unexpected taste combos, like *pollo en salsa de cacahuete* (an almost Thai-tasting chicken in peanut sauce which comes with rice, beans, and tortilla). Or try the delicious *pelangoches*, a mess of bacon, pork, pineapple, mushrooms, bell peppers, onions, and cheese. Aztec *huarache* (cactus with potato, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, and salsa) is also easy to love. Open daily; closes early on Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Sunny Garden Cuisine of China 5500 Grossmont Center Drive (next to Target), La Mesa, 619-464-2288. Decent Chinese food, in East County, in a mall? Yes. Fans of fried goodness will of course swoon over tempura shrimp — panko-crusted, huge and tender — but they might also start with the smoked chicken: smoky meat swaddled in an orangey fried coat, served atop a deeply munchable bed of salty-sour fried mustard greens. The menu is typically broad. Chicken, shrimp, beef and pork are all given the *mu-shu* treatment — mixed with bamboo shoots, bean sprouts, and thin, chewy mushrooms and wrapped tableside (if you like) in papery pancakes. *Yu-hsiang* (with shrimp, beef, or pork) includes vegetables that are flavorful (not afterthoughts) in a refreshingly non-sweet vinegar sauce. Specialties include Peking duck and fried noodle nests filled with either seafood or beef. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/02)*

Valley House Restaurant 10767 Woodside Avenue (at Magnolia), Santee, 619-562-7878. This is for Cornbelt folks, plus wannabes who enjoy plain-speaking, plenty-of-it Iowan food. Take the morning special, “Iowa Breakfast”: breaded pork tenderloin, two eggs, and hash browns, fries, or grits, plus a choice of biscuits, muffins, or toast — it’s delicious. Lunch or dinnertime you can’t go wrong ordering the signature “Iowa Porker” hot sandwich (breaded pork tenderloin in a bun with soup, potato salad, or steak fries) or the “Iowa Beefers” (seasoned ground beef simmered in chicken broth, piled into a burger bun). Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/01)*

FAR EAST

Dulzura Cafe 16985 Highway 94 at Dulzura, 619-468-9591. Think *Grapes of Wrath*, Okies, the 1930s. Dulzura Café is the real thing, serving big, hot meals to weary westerners since 1910. The walls are cluttered with license plates, pots, brass cream-separators, corn-shuckers, horse collars, railroad lanterns, ancient egg-beaters, six-foot snake skins, deer antlers, and a seedy stuffed bobcat head. The food’s for filling. Big, juicy hamburgers with lanky home-cut fries, thick slices of meat loaf,

or if you arrive early, steak and eggs or a hefty Denver omelet. This is frontier food before slim spelled “success.” Breakfast and lunch Monday through Thursday, three meals on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the “NRA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.” sign, past bows and arrows, dream catchers, lariats, and brass spittoons, and swing into a chair. Now think vintage American food. Hefty anytime-breakfasts include two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bulging veggie omelet. Their sour-dough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks hereabouts talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks swoon. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Potrero’s Cafe 25125 Highway 94, Potrero, 619-478-2697. Watch for the three great old Live Oak trees. This café sits under them and looks straight out of a 1930s Western movie. Lot of good old boys in ten-gallon hats gather here. The menu’s non-PC. It features rib-sticking food from biscuits and gravy to a mountain of hot cakes, or the famous mushroom-and-onions hamburger with baked beans. Open for breakfast and lunch; closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights, 619-298-8440. The frequently changing menu tries to embrace several disparate styles, and can’t quite get its arms around any of them. The dishes are often ambitious; a few soar, but many falter due to flaws in conception, execution, or both. Largely ho-hum wine list needs selections with enough sweetness to stand up to items featuring Asian spice — where are the Rieslings? Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness: yellow and orange walls, plenty of smiles amid the

bustle. Soups receive lavish attention, and sometimes live up to their billing — the blood orange and roasted butternut squash soup is delicious, dark and complex. The generous, marvelous lavender-infused crème brûlée makes this a dessert destination — pause to sniff a spoonful before slipping it between your lips. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/01)*

Bread and Cie 350 University Avenue (at Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. At least twenty breads emerge daily from this bakery’s 10,000-pound French stone hearth oven. Most are dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the outstanding anise-fig and black olive loaves that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwiches (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the café or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (6/02)*

Cafe on Park 3831 Park Boulevard (at University), Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it’s trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don’t expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or brie cheese. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hangtown Fry — luscious marinated sautéed oysters scrambled in eggs. Lunch has deals too: the roasted eggplant is cheap and good. Three meals Tuesday through Saturday; only breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday (line at door on Sunday). — *E.B. (10/01)*

Cafe Pacifica 2414 San Diego Avenue (next to Old Town graveyard), Old Town, 619-291-6666. The fare here is

mainly very fresh seafood, either fished up and somewhat chancy, or grilled simply and reliably excellent. Among the highlights are a clean-limbed clam chowder, some amusing yellowfin-stuffed wontons, crab-stuffed portobello mushrooms, and luscious mustard-crusted Oregon catfish. On the downside, Mexican pink abalone are tiny, over-breaded, and overpriced. Several good grilled meats are available for fish-scorers. Optional valet parking \$4. Wheelchair lot and ramp behind restaurant (ask valet to direct you). Often very noisy. Serious, rather steep California wine list; full bar. Daily, dinner only. Upper moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (10/02)*

Jack and Giulio’s Italian Restaurant 2391 San Diego Avenue (at Arista), Old Town, 619-294-2074. After more than four decades in business, this father (Giulio) and son (Jack) operation manages to stay fresh. The antipasto salad with its thin-cut prosciutto and salami will get your juices flowing, or try the mango salad, with fresh mango, raisins, and sweet onions. All the traditional Italian entrées like veal parmigiana and fettuccine Alfredo are there, but go for the house specialties like Spaghetti New Orleans with shrimp, crawfish, and crab meat, or the expensive scampi dishes. Broke? Get a simple Angel Hair Mediterraneo or rigatoni with meat sauce to enjoy out on the patio. Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Moderate. — *E.B. (5/04)*

Khyber Pass 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. The room’s very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods, with even a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the region). Dinners feature kebabs, tandooris, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly comfortable to the cosmopolitan palate. Among the don’t-miss items are the outstanding *aushak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamordd chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Save room for

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the sexy desserts. Can be noisy inside; small sidewalk patio. Private dining room upstairs bookable for parties. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W. (9/02)*

Ono Sushi and Pacific Spice 1236 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0616. If you are searching for huge portions, fresh tasty food and reasonable prices, don't overlook this colorful Japanese/Pacific Rim café. Excellent specialty rolls, entrées, appetizers. Very crowded weekends; lively young crowd. Dinners nightly; open for lunch Saturday and Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (11/98)*

Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant 2302 El Cajon Boulevard (northeast corner of Louisiana), University Heights, 619-297-4007. Pomegranate's address is serendipitous, since the food of Deep-South Georgia is the Louisiana cuisine of the Slavic world — alive with fresh herbs, garlic, touches of hot pepper. This rustic-looking restaurant is animated with antic humor (check the multilingual graffiti on the walls) and offers unique, flavor-bomb dishes. Don't miss the world-beating beefy, herb-jungle borscht (beet soup, but it's way more than that), the Lobio bean dip, and Olivier salad. The chefs slow-smokes his moist barbecued beef and pork and cold-smokes whole trout, a treat as a group appetizer or summer entrée. On weekends, there's sublimely smoky *shashlik* (a.k.a. shish kebab). The printed menu is only a hint as to what's really cooking, and regular patrons get the best off-menu choices. So become a regular. Street parking is dire. Reservations advised for weekend dinners. Brunch weekends featuring blini (Russian crêpes). Dinner nightly, service until 11 p.m. on weekends. Moderate. — *N.W. (1/04)*

Rice Jones 3687 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1887. It's probably no coincidence that Anglo-Asian families seem to come here. Rice Jones's owner Anh Long had two good ideas: one, to provide rice with just about everything (usually sautéed with mushrooms and

herbs, so customers can fill up without busting the bank), and two, to bridge the taste gap between Vietnam and California. She offers lemongrass chicken next to California bruschetta (sautéed mushrooms and tomatoes on toast). Or a turkey burger next to a Vietnamese grilled eggplant. Most exotic: "shrimp wrap," a shrimp patty wrapped around a sugarcane stick with rice noodles. It's a cliché, but they treat you like family here, no matter which side of the pond you come from. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Terra 3900 Vermont Street, Uptown Shopping Center, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. Co-owner Jeff Rossman, formerly in charge of the front of the house, has moved into the kitchen to serve as chef at this comfortable neighborhood spot, serving venturesome, if uneven, tropical-influenced American cooking. You can settle in a spacious southwest-tinged dining room or people-watch from a sheltered outdoor patio (with smoking permitted). Generously sized tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe's across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather, and special dinners on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Caipirinhas, et al.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends, holidays and special events (e.g., Sunday "blues and barbecue" during the summer). Open daily for lunch or brunch, snacks, dinner. Moderate. — *N.W. (6/01)*

DOWNTOWN

Athens Market 109 West F Street (between First and Front), 619-234-1955. Alex Spanos and lots of local hotshots come here for honest Greek home cookin'. Yes, it's classy — white table cloths, linen napkins — but you can fill up on just a bowl of *fakae*, owner Mary Pappas's "secret recipe" lentil soup, and an appetizer, like *spanakopita* (spinach and cheese pastry pockets). And entrées like *arni psito* — roast leg of lamb — are guaranteed to stuff you. They come with rice, roast potato, a vegetable, soup or salad, and French bread and butter — all at a

darned good price. Oh, and don't despise the gyro. Meat flavor's great, and it takes a football player to empty this plate. Lunch Monday through Friday; dinner nightly, to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Cabo Cafe & Grill 808 West Cedar (near Pacific Coast Highway), Little Italy, 619-595-1618. This miracle restaurant is run by homeless kids from the Monarch School Project next door, with a little help (okay, a lot) from Rubio's and its founder Ralph. He helped raise a million dollars to get the school and the restaurant running. Think Starbucks meets Taco Bell (oops, sorry Ralph). The place is like its kid-staff: smart, cheery (they painted all the seals and porpoise murals), with a great fountain-gurgling patio outside. Try the grilled burrito (grilled chicken or steak with guacamole, roasted salsa, sour cream, black beans, Mexican rice, and melted Jack cheese in a warm tortilla) or, as a great filler, the Cabo Maestro Bowl, with marinated grilled chicken or steak in a bowl with black beans, Mexican rice, cheeses, guacamole, and shredded cabbage. And yes, they do make the Rubio fish taco. Daily specials. Open weekdays, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. E.B. — *E.B. (5/02)*

Candelas 416 Third Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-4455. Don't look for tacos here — Chef Eduardo Baeza specializes in *alta cocina*, a luxurious, inventive combination of traditional Mexican fare and French techniques. In a handsome Spanish-style dining room (romantic but rather noisy) with gracious service, the menu emphasizes seafood, including a signature dish of luscious stuffed Maine lobster. Plenty for meat lovers, too, with fine Black Angus cuts inventively garnished. But the menu and ingredients have been somewhat compromised over the years to accommodate the "Dude, where's my taco?" conventioners. The choices are more Dude-friendly — that is, less venturesome than they might be, and execution can be uneven. In the lounge at 10 p.m. on weekends, the music cranks up and the scene goes disco (with a cover charge for nondiners; IDs checked). Reservations advised, required on weekends; slightly dressy. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly until 11 p.m. Interesting but expensive wine

list; food expensive or higher. — *N.W. (1/04)*

Chive 558 Fourth Avenue (near Island), Gaslamp, 619-232-4483. The old Chive was wonderful enough, but now, with chef Fabrice Poigin (most recently of Bertrand at Mr. A's) taking charge of the kitchen, it features a new cuisine for the upscale residential neighborhood rising around it. Diners can choose an adventure-meal or an evening of sophisticated comfort food. Urbane multicultural fusion dishes dance cheek to cheek with remade American classics and the occasional sleek French luxury dish. A new "grazing menu" features small bites for folks on a diet or on the run. The menu changes seasonally, but you can trust the kitchen any time of year. Very noisy. Full bar. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. weekends. Full meals expensive; "grazing" can be moderate. — *N.W. (10/04)*

Edgewater Grill 861 W. Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, 619-232-7581. An easy walk from the Convention Center, the dining room is spacious and handsome, and the view from the crowded dining terrace is optimal (the bay, the Coronado Bridge, a park, etc.). The menu, though, is convention-centered — like a Howard Johnson's of the 21st century. The fare features middle-of-the-road faux-fusion salads, seafood, grilled steaks, pastas (most with shellfish), and individual pizzas, plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card in a plastic holder on the table. The lighter dishes are the most successful — this is not a bad place to "graze" on appetizers and a mini-pizza when you're starved for a view. Difficult wheelchair access to terrace. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Entrées high moderate to very expensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Highway (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the Deco "pink palace" at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deliciously smoky campfire flavor. Don't like beef? You can choose nicely grilled chicken, pork, or salmon, or two vegan pastas (the *puttanesca* is better than the marinara), or scampi. The appetizer list is mainly trite pub-grub, but the fry-cook does a great job with calamari. And in fair weather, the lush garden dining patio is a little piece of Eden.

Full bar, rather basic wine list. Casual ambience, above-average wheelchair access from large, free parking lot. Dinner nightly, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (12/02)*

The Honey Bee Hive Bar and Grill 1065 14th Street (at C), East Village, 619-702-6010. Seems like half the students and staff of City College are popping across the road to this cellar-dive. Why the bee theme? A hive of real bees once lived in here. Try the Bee Keeper burger (a half-pound cheeseburger), the King Bee honey-lemon grilled chicken sandwich or wrap, the Queen Bee, a Cajun honey-grilled chicken sandwich or wrap, and the Drone Chicken or Bee Sting (spicy Cajun grilled mahi mahi). Also loved by the more affluent college staff: Big Daddy's 12-ounce steak with baked potato and salad. Open weekdays for lunch and dinner; Saturday and Sunday dinner only. Bar closes at 2 a.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Las Cuatro Milpas 1857 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-234-4460. This isn't a restaurant, it's a legend. The same Estudillo family has been serving old-fashioned Mexican food here for three generations — seventy years. Rice, beans, pork tacos (they don't serve beef), pork tamales, chorizo with eggs — that's about it. So how come they have lines outside every day? Blame a potent mixture of sentiment and the lard they refuse to abandon. Folks say that lard flavor is the real Mexico. Also famous: their Saturday *menudo*. Warning: go easy with their deep wine-colored hot sauce. It's room-rocker strength. The name? From a famous mariachi song, "The Four Cornfields." Open morning to mid-afternoon, Monday to Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/03)*

Pete's Quality Meats 1742-1/2 Indiana Street, Little Italy, 619-234-1684. Pete's Meats was just a butcher's shop until Pete's daughter and sister-in-law got the idea to set up a grill there. Now aficionados line up for Sicilian specialties like Italian-sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches, and especially *spinitini* — veal rolled around two cheeses, onions, tomatoes, pine nuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, and breadcrumbs. Pete stuffs all of that into a hot bun with marinara sauce, sautéed peppers, and onions as packing. Nuff said? Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Rama 327 Fourth Avenue (near K Street), Gaslamp, 619-501-8424. This large, handsome restaurant is the younger brother of Celadon in Hillcrest. It's named for the king of Thailand and offers Thai cuisine fit for royalty, made with top ingredients (including Chino Farms produce). The menu includes all the popular favorites but adds authentic dishes rarely found locally, such as chicken and squid with flat noodles and caramelized palm sugar, and a wicked Thai version of Chinese twice-cooked pork, a fat-fest made with unsmoked bacon. Soups and curries are based on freshly made coconut cream of swoony richness. The extensive wine list, unusual in this genre, offers affordable, food-friendly choices plus an interesting reserve list. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W. (10/04)*

Rei Do Gado Churrascaria 939 Fourth Avenue (between E and Broadway), Gaslamp, 619-702-8464. The meats just keep on coming at a Brazilian *rodizio*: skewer after skewer of *churrasco* (Brazilian barbecue), a near-endless procession of rotisserie-grilled meats and poultry. At each table there's a wooden cone with one end red and the other end green. Turn the green side up to start the servers parading to your table, offering you tastes cut from long strips of salty, simply seasoned pork, poultry, ribs, sausages, and numerous cuts of beef. Turn the cone red side up to take a break from the protein parade. The gargantuan spread includes a buffet in the front of the restaurant with a changeable array of alluring side dishes, salads, fruit, and such intriguing hot entrées as Brazilian oxtail stew or seafood in coconut milk, with exotic but oddly comfortable flavors. There's always a potful of *feijoada*, the national dish — slow-cooked, meaty black beans (in a somewhat bland version, which you can liven up with a splash of hot sauce). No matter how often you eat here, you'll never have the same meal twice. Reservations advisable for weekends. Full bar (have a *Caipirinha*). No doggie-bags. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate (considering the food amount); prices higher on weekends. — *N.W. (10/02)*

Sevilla 555 Fourth Avenue (at Market Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-5979. (Also in Carlsbad.) This site has three faces: a crowded but civilized tapas bar for spontaneous snacking, a romantic dining

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room with serious Spanish entrées, and a basement nightclub dishing out assembly-line paella. The best food is upstairs. You can get tapas in the restaurant and entrées at the bar, and in either case the choices are varied, interesting, and highly cosmopolitan, executed with wonderful consistency. Be sure to look for something that includes potatoes; the humble spud gets Cinderella treatment here. No reservations (or wheelchairs) at tapas bar; reservations strongly recommended for dining room. Moderate. — *N.W. (2/01)*

The Westgate Gourmet Delicatessen Third Avenue, between Broadway and C Street, downtown, 619-557-3698. This is where you take your respectable Aunt Martha for lunch. The place reeks of gentility. Green carpets, with white linen cloths, fresh flowers, chandeliers, giant potted palms. It's part of the Westgate hotel, and looks like a grocery for the rich who just can't live without specialty olive oils and expensive wines. But prices for sandwiches, light breakfasts, and lunches are down there with the best Market Street liquor-deli. The Hawaiian chicken salad (with walnuts, pineapple, chutney, fresh seasonal fruits, and non-fat mayo) is filling and healthy. But the best deal is the soup and half-sandwich combo, especially the Friday cioppino: a tomato-based soup filled with fish such as sea bass, shrimp, shark, lobster, and scallops. Open Monday through Friday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/01)*

Wildside Cafe & Rebel Juice Bar 1048 Seventh Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-696-1466. Now here's a place that actually makes healthy food seem cool. Partly it's the names: "lunatic lentil soup," sandwiches like "turkey tantrum" (roast turkey with salsa), "tuna scandal" (tuna mushed with egg whites and no-fat mayo), or our two favorites: "veggies on a bike" (cucumbers, spinach leaf, tomatoes, red onion) and "bagel without a cause" (bagel, cream cheese, fresh fruit). Actually, all come with fresh fruit. And do like the local lofies: take your daily shot of fresh-squeezed wheat grass juice with a chaser of strawberries or pineapple chunks. Open Monday through Friday, breakfast to late lunch; Saturday breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/01)*

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Cilantro Live! 315-1/2 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-827-7401. Look in Cristina Guzmán's kitchen: no ovens,

no burners. Only warmers. Her theory? Never heat food above 112 degrees or the enzymes will die. Enzymes? They're life. They give you energy and do your digestion for you. What's amazing is how much real-looking and -tasting food she can create with raw nuts and twigs. And fruit. And especially seeds. She creates "tuna" wraps (using sunflower-pumpkin seed pâté), burgers (using flax seeds), "meat" loaf (using walnuts) — all pretty credible and edible. Drinks? The margaritas (green apple with ginger, lime, and cinnamon) have to be good: Ms. Guzmán comes from Mexico City. Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Coronado Boathouse 1887 1701 Strand Way, Coronado, 619-435-0155. For a relaxing good time with lovely views and tasty food to match, put on your aloha shirt and head over the bridge. The old Coronado Boathouse boasts a handsome, historic structure with architecture mirroring the nearby Hotel Del, plus enthusiastic servers, terrific water views, and satisfying mainstream American cooking. The herbed artichoke appetizer is wonderful, as is the very fresh macadamia-crusted halibut sauced with coconut milk. The juicy roast beef here is USDA Prime (translates to "melt in your mouth") and even the desserts offer some old favorites cooked with classy ingredients and imaginative twists. A perfect place to entertain your in-laws or hold your birthday dinner. Full bar. Dinner seven days (weekends until 1 a.m.), moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (10/04)*

Da Kine's Plate Lunches 1635 Sweetwater Road (at Prospect), National City, 619-477-8494. Also at 4120 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-8494. You go here for your Pacific Island fix — hundreds of Hawaiians do, every day. You'll find Hawaiian license plates and surfboards on the walls, "Aloha Maid" Guava Nectar, and island food. Although the kalua pig here isn't cooked in an *imu* — a hole in the ground — it sure tastes like the real thing and comes with cabbage, rice, macaroni salad, and kimchee. But beware of the *haupia* cake — it may cause serious addiction. Lunch and early dinner Tuesday through Sunday; open Mondays in summer only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/00)*

Filipino Desserts Plus 2220-Q East Plaza Boulevard, National City, 619-479-6748; also at 8955-F Mira Mesa Boulevard (inside Seafood City), Mira Mesa, 858-271-5754. Filipinos often mix sweet and savory, so it's no surprise that this desserts place has regu-

lar dishes too, including *adobo* pork, *pancit*, and *lumpia*. But the pride of the place is the desserts, from the *ube halea* (purple yam custard) and *maja blanca* (coconut-corn combo) to the *sapin sapin* (multicolored layer cake) and fried sweet *saba* banana on a skewer. But watch it if someone offers you "chocolate milk" — it's slang for pig's blood. Open six days, breakfast through early dinner; closes early on Sundays. — *E.B. (9/04)*

Island Wok 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food, and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, *kung pao* chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Moonlight on the Sea/Club 13 640 Civic Center Drive (under I-5 at Harbor Drive), National City, 619-477-2851. Is this what sailors dream of when they're at sea? The little blue under-the-freeway shack has been serving up *cervezas*, BBQ, and burgers to sailors and shipbuilders since 1934, most of the time as "Club 13." Traditionally, Hell's Angels visited it on their north-south tour of California's oldest bars. In 1993, Linda, the latest owner, added the romantic "Moonlight On The Sea" moniker. She

prepares and hand-rolls her own *lumpia*, and it shows. It has a nice fresh veggie, marinated-meat taste. And of course the grilled cheese sandwiches, wings, cheeseburgers, and dinnertime doubleburgers fit right into this wonderful throwback bar. Lunch, dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Peohe's The Landing, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. This gorgeous, view-endowed restaurant offers upscale, Hawaiian-inspired fish and gargantuan steaks in a plush tropical-style setting with indoor waterfalls and three separate patios. Given the visual splendor, much of the food is better than it needs to be, featuring top-quality seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, sassy Frangelico-touched macadamia *beurre blanc*. A chocolate shell filled with macadamia nut ice cream may be worth the calories, too. Full bar. Reservations advised. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Expensive. — *N.W. (3/01)*

Swaddee Thai 1001 C Avenue (10th Street), Coronado, 619-435-8110. Tourists never stray to Swaddee's quiet residential location a block from the bright lights of Orange Avenue. Their loss is the locals' gain. The dining room is a quiet, lovely haven from the hustle; the service is caring and gracious. Even if the long list of Siamese specialties is merely standard, the kitchen, too, is devoted to the art of gently giving pleasure. The peanut sauce accompanying the *saté*, for instance, is classically bal-

anced; the complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all cares; and the calamari in the many seafood arrays is cleverly knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness along with good looks. Even the jasmine rice is an exceptionally fragrant brand. Unless you specify otherwise, spicy dishes have a nice nip tuned to brave but tender *farang* tastebuds. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (9/00)*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Cien Anos Calle José Maria Velazco #1407, Zona Rio, Tijuana, 634-3039 or 634-7262. This lovely, comfortable, dressy-casual "destination restaurant" serves extraordinary Mexican haute

cuisine, graced with a brilliant variety of sauces based on elaborations of Mexican ingredients, including tropical fruits, nuts, and above all a vast variety of chile peppers, each with its own distinctive flavor (not all of them spicy). You could eat here a dozen times and not begin to exhaust the possibilities. Just a few of the treats are mushrooms steeped in beef marrow, alligator meat mini-tacos, *pozole* with crab meat, and an irresistible beef and shrimp stew. (Food critic Ruth Reichl consumed a meal of exotic Aztec delicacies, including ant roe and mezcal worms, and you can try them too when they're in season.) The wine list is devoted wholly to ambitious Baja wineries; you're also welcome to BYO. Bar choices include damiana and hibiscus liqueurs. Menu and staff are bilingual. Reservations strongly advised; ask for directions. Moderate. — *N.W. (1/04)*

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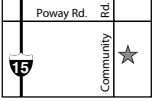
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Calendar
RESTAURANTS

erman-singer Adrián Pedrin Aramburo's seafood place looks fresh, with its blue-and-white floor tiles, polished brass portholes, and varnish. Some seafood combos can be costly, but most fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. Everybody seems to go for fileted sea bass — the baked "Catalina" with

mushroom cream sauce, or "Olivia," stuffed with octopus and shrimp, are really good. So are "Madrazo" oysters, with chipotle and bacon. But you can't go wrong with the less expensive whole fish plates, like the charcoal-broiled "Sarandeado" (just watch out for the bones). Each entrée comes with soup, hors d'oeuvre, salad, rice, and coffee, plus a Kahlua-based drink-dessert. Bonus: the owner's charming menu inserts. Open daily, late breakfast through dinner. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B. (3/05)*

La Fonda Baja Highway 1, Km. 59 (Alisios exit from toll-road, about halfway between Rosarito and Ensenada), 661-628-7352. It's hard to imagine a better start to the day, in any sweeter ambiance, than at La Fonda ("The Inn"), which offers Mexican and American breakfast dishes and a lavish Sunday brunch buffet with both. Arrive early for patio seating under a straw umbrella with a full-out ocean view. The bilingual menu is written on chalkboards and dinner choices change nightly, featuring American and Mexican seafood entrées and deluxe meats aged in-house. Most staffers speak some English. Full bar, including Baja-grown wines. Open daily, three meals, starting about 9 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate; cash only. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Malecon de Puerto Nuevo Northwest edge of Puerto Nuevo; take Calle Entrada (entry road) to the ocean-front bluff, edge right, and walk

about 30 feet down a steep dirt road running seaward from the street-market on the oceanside edge of town. Look for a yellow building with blue trim and a terrace with umbrellas. Worth looking for. This great, honest little restaurant harks back to the original, uncommercialized "lobster village" before it got its capital letters and written menus. Open since August, 2002, it's owned by an active fisherman, who serves (as much as weather permits) fresh-caught local lobsters and genuine "daily catch" with standard sides — superb frijoles, red rice, real melted butter — and that's all. The first-course ceviche, when available, is astonishingly flavorful with fish caught that very morning; in harsher weather, a hearty, warming fish chowder substitutes. Breaking from Puerto Nuevo tradition, when the lobster is fresh caught it's simply split and grilled, not lard-fried first, and all the better for it. Some staffers are bilingual. Open brunch through dinner. No reservations, cash only. Low moderate. — *N.W. (11/02)*

Manzanilla Riveroll 122 (off Lopez Mateo), Ensenada, Baja Mexico, 646-175-7073. At this art-filled, very "Euro" bistro, a pair of gifted, classically trained chef-owners are pioneering "new Mexican cuisine," creating sophisticated combinations of superb local products and traditional Mexican flavors. Fresh-caught seafood, local-grown vegetables and mesquite smoke from the wood-burning grill are fea-

tured players on the seasonal menus; a spectacular rib-eye steak, tender and intensely beefy, is also a constant. Little wonder this has become *the* destination restaurant south of Tijuana. The menu is in Spanish, but owners Benito Molina and Solange Muris Evans speak fluent English, as do some wait staff. (The only communication problem will be the exotic music blasting on the sound system.) Reserve for weekends, especially during tourist seasons. Full bar featuring tequilas, Baja vintners. Wednesday through Saturday, late lunch through dinner, until 11 p.m. Moderate. — *N.W. (9/04)*

Original Ortega's In Puerto Nuevo, next to Casa de la Langosta, on the first street to your left (Calle Principal) after entering town through the entry gate. Open since 1952, this is the original "Lobster Village" restaurant, and not much has changed. Eventually Ortega's grew into an octopus with multiple arms in Puerto Nuevo and Rosarito Beach, all pretty similar. The menu is longer than most, with numerous starters (including a tasty ceviche and an excellent tortilla soup), varied seafood entrées and *antojitos*, desserts, and even fancy coffees (including "Viagra," which features reputedly aphrodisiac Damiana herbal liqueur). The spiny lobsters (once local but now from who-knows-where) are first fried in lard, then finished off on the grill, and served with a greasy-tasting melted "Kitchen Maid" margarine blend, fri-

joles, rice, tortillas, and salsa. Full bar, English menu, staff marginally bilingual. Moderate to high, but with low-moderate specials. No reservations, cash only. — *N.W. (11/02)*

Vallarta Natural Boulevard Agua Caliente #1252, Tijuana, 686-1560. Vallarta Natural makes travel to Tijuana really appetizing, serving only the healthiest, freshest ingredients. The kitchen makes its own bread and rolls, soy chorizo, vegetable stock, and gluten daily. Recommended are goblets of fresh juice, *caldo tlalpeño* soup, *taquitos panzones* (soft tacos) filled with sautéed mushrooms or soy chorizo, and especially *milanesa*. The *milanesa* is made from fresh gluten and is almost indistinguishable from veal — breaded, fried, it is delicious. Cool, clean, pleasant atmosphere. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (9/98)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Buca di Beppo 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822; 1921 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-479-2533. Family-style, Southern Italian cooking in huge dining rooms with ditzzy decor. Food is simple (one sauce fits all), portions huge, and roaring-loud ambiance is child- and teenager-friendly. Go for plain fun, not gourmet dinners. Meatballs and spaghetti the best bet. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W. (6/00)*

Bully's East 2401 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. Also at 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla (858-459-2768), and 1404 Camino del Mar, Del Mar (858-755-1660). Despite the plasma TV sports screen, this place is very sixties. For example, dark, woody, plush red booths. And always crowded. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. The "Petite Cut" 8 ounce, their smallest, fills you plenty, with its baked potato and salad. But just once, come here with your main squeeze and order up the "full cut for two." It hangs ten over the edges. Or go bonkers and order the 32-ounce cut — just to watch your neighbors' eyes bug out. Not flush? Try the "Bully Burger," French Dip sand-

wich, or calamari sandwich. Lonely? Go to the horseshoe-shaped Low Bar. Lunch and dinner daily. The price ranges. — *E.B. (2/03)*

El Pollo Loco 2795 Main, Logan Heights, 619-595-0847. Additional locations in College Area, Midway, Carmel Mountain, Chula Vista, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, and more. This Mexican-style chicken chain offers healthier, tastier fast food. The flame-broiled poultry has crisp, richly seasoned, very salty skin; the flesh can vary from barely done to overdone, but usually is just right. The bird (or any assortment of its parts) comes with sage gravy, tortillas, and a choice of side dishes that includes rich, sweet black beans, crisp and clean coleslaw, great gooey-cheesy macaroni, and passable mashed potatoes. Help yourself to salsas (there are four varieties), chopped onions, lemons, cilantro, hot peppers. But stick with the chicks — the taqueria-style choices are barely better than Taco Bell. Check for daily specials, wherein a small amount of cash will buy a huge amount of highly palatable poultry. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/03)*

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits 2333 Highland Avenue (at 24th Street), National City, 619-477-6505; 2210 E. Plaza Boulevard (at Euclid Avenue), National City, 619-470-3002; 3489 Santo Road (at Aero Drive), 858-573-0035; Metropolitan Center, 1737 Euclid Avenue (north of Federal Boulevard), Chollas Creek, 619-527-6565; and 6095 El Cajon Boulevard (at College Avenue), 619-286-3322. This is the one major national chain to cling firmly to a regional American identity: Wherever you go, if you find a Popeye's, you'll be eating Louisiana flavors. But some flavors travel better than others in fast-food translations: The spicy, crisp fried chicken and air-light drop biscuits are fine as can be. The étouffée (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. The gumbo is weird — flavors aren't bad, but it's more like a Creole risotto, with wet rice instead of liquid (where's the soup?). Dirty rice and jambalaya are nasty and dry. Food quality varies subtly from branch to branch, as does the attitude of the counter-persons. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (2/02)*

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Potter's Field

Even once you have figured out who's who, it's still hard to know which one, or ones, to root for.

The year-end deluge seems to have been holding off in deference to Harry Potter. Deference to, or terror of. A trickle of nonchallengers has barely moistened the soil beneath his feet.

If nothing else, *Syriana* is serio. Molto serio. Nominally a "political thriller," it presents not so much a drama as a diagram, didactic in purpose, of the chain-link interconnections, the slow-burn chain reactions, in the Middle Eastern oil trade. It begins, since it must begin somewhere, with the reallocation of oil-drilling rights, in a fictitious desert hot spot, from an also fictitious Texas corporation called Connex to the unfictitious People's Republic of China; and it proceeds — as the dominos start to topple — to the internal power struggle between progressive forces and reactionary forces within that Arab emirate, the proposed merger of the shunned corporation and one of its smaller competitors, the investigation into the propriety of that merger by a mild-mannered D.C. lawyer (Jeffrey Wright) doing the bidding of a Capi-

REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

itol Hill éminence grise (Christopher Plummer), the hiring of an overseas American energy analyst (Matt Damon) as a consultant on the progressive side of the power struggle, the skulduggery of a multilingual CIA operative (George Clooney) with a license to kill, and the wanderings of laid-off

Islamic oil workers, economic casualties of the reallocation, who ultimately fall in with organized terrorists.

What screenwriter Stephen Gaghan did for the illicit drug business in *Traffic*, he attempts to do again, as both screenwriter and first-time director, for the even more intricate oil business, adopting some of the same "realistic" conventions (the unsteady camera, the intermittent subtitles, the egalitarian cast of characters, a lack of dramatic emphasis, an absence of heroics), and following the same pattern of crosscutting between plotlines in an apparently deliberate strategy of *suspensus interruptus*. Limpidity is not his aim. Complexity is, and no matter if the cost is confusion and incomprehension. You really need a scorecard to tell all the



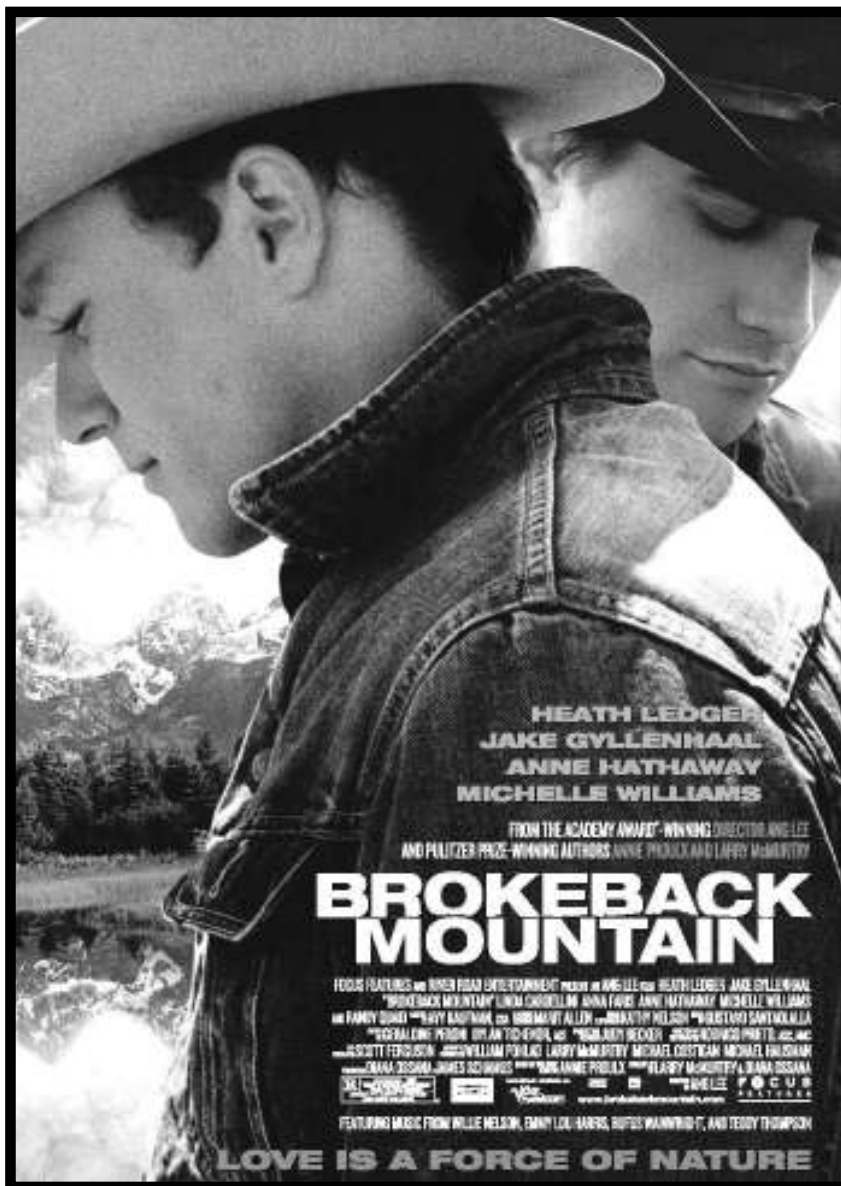
Syriana

players, and even once you have figured out who's who, it's still hard to know which one, or ones, to root for; which outcome would be for the best; which course of action, if any, would clean up the mess. Damon perhaps emerges as the most sympathetic figure, a development tipped off early on by the death of his child. But you

can at least briefly sympathize also with Clooney — a spy of Graham Greenean scruffiness — when he is having his fingernails pulled out. In the end, Gaghan convinces us he knows a lot more about how the world works than about how fiction works.

The Dying Gaul permits another screenwriter, Craig Lucas of *Longtime*

Companion and *Prelude to a Kiss*, to turn director as well, bringing to the screen his own stage play, a behind-the-scenes peek into the studios and boudoirs of Hollywood: the negotiations over a labor-of-love screenplay about the death from AIDS of the writer's lover (his dream director: "Gus Van Sant, I guess, since Truffaut



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is dead”), the producer’s insistence that the central relationship of the script be heterosexualized (“Most Americans *hate* gay people”), the 1,172 reluctant replacements of “Maurice” by “Maggie” at a single keystroke on the computer, the ensuing affair between the writer and the bisexual married producer, and the dire consequences thereof. (None more dire than the ill-advised tableau vivant of the titular piece of sculpture at the fadeout.) The wife’s discovery of the affair and her initial retaliation for it are rather patly facilitated in an Internet chat room by the name of Men on a Park Bench (or Menonaparkbench), where she manages to convince the still grieving writer that she is his departed lover communicating from the Other Side. More *Prelude to a Kiss*, you might say, than *Longtime Companion*. Altogether too much of an already stagy, static movie takes place in front of computer screens, or, as a stylized but uncinematic substitute, in front of talking heads reciting online chat. The plotting admittedly achieves a certain level of ingenuity if not a commensurate level of credibility, and it steers a course in a no-man’s-land between the “serious” indie relationship film and the “generic” mainstream thriller. The cast of Peter Sarsgaard,

Campbell Scott, and Patricia Clarkson sees to it that the course doesn’t drift toward the mainstream.

Loggerheads, at the Ken for the next week, spins out three listless storylines, intercut for a semblance of kineticism, and cleverly set at one-year intervals, 1999 through 2001, in separate corners of North Carolina. (Writer-director Tim Kirkman is a native North Carolinian.) Kip Pardue, an HIV-positive pretty boy, devotes his remaining days to saving the turtles at Kure Beach. Tess Harper, the provincial pastor’s wife in a place ironically called Eden, frets about the suspected homosexual neighbors who’ve moved in across the street and about a diminutive nude David on a lawn nearby. And a careworn, and quite touching, Bonnie Hunt hunts for the son she long ago gave up for adoption in Asheville. In time it becomes plain that the storylines are connected and that the larger story — the combined story — is of broken connections. The indie limitations of the production do not squelch the sincerity.

Protocols of Zion, a higgledy-piggledy video documentary wrapping up its week at the Ken tonight, goes on the trail of neo-anti-Semitism in the post-9/11 world, in specific the prevalence of a rumor that no Jews died in the Twin Towers, and the persistence of a literary hoax of the late 19th Century, authored anonymously in Russia, that purports to lay out the Jewish plans for world domination, straight from the horses’ mouths: the notes of a secret

meeting of the Elders of Zion. Film-maker Marc Levin inserts himself in front of the camera (sometimes with his father, Al) as interviewer and instigator, on a fact-finding mission — or fiction-finding, more often — that takes him to street-corner crazies in New York City, an Arab-American newspaper publisher in Jersey, a mail-order White Supremacist, the creator of the Jew Watch website, Trenton State Prison, and eventually Los Angeles for the premiere of Mel Gibson’s *The Passion of the Christ* (where “the hottest Jew in Hollywood,” Larry David, eludes him at the other end of the phone line). Among the messy mass of information turned up, the most eye-opening bits are probably the clips from a Nazi propaganda film and a couple of Arab TV miniseries, wherein the tables are turned, the shoes are on other feet, and Jews are enlisted to fill the roles of the fiendish villains as conventionally as, in more familiar contexts, Nazis, Commies, or radical Muslims. The cumulative effect of the thing, little offset by a final arm-flapping attempt at uplift, is pretty disheartening.

Aeon Flux, adapted from an MTV cartoon I’d never heard of, remains so cartoonish — what with its computer-generated futuristic utopia, computer-animated internal organs, computer-manipulated stunts and body doubles, computer this and computer that — it’s a wonder it bothered with live actors at all. Charlize Theron, who may have been worried after *Monster* and *North Country* that you were beginning to view her as a frump, demonstrates that she can be as sleekly dehumanized as Kate Beckinsale in *Underworld* or Halle Berry in *Catwoman*. (“I want to know what it feels like to be a *person*,” she says at one point, a tad disingenuously.) Frances McDormand, who played opposite Theron in *North Country*, cannot be dehumanized to quite that extent, but she can at any rate be given a monstrous Pre-Raphaelite hairdo. Director Karyn Kusama, once

upon a time the maker of the gritty little *Girlfight*, might have persuaded herself she was still carrying the flag of feminist empowerment, but she could not very well persuade the rest of us unless maybe the computer was named HALLE 9000. ■

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.

Aeon Flux — Reviewed this issue. With Charlize Theron, Marton Csokas, Jonny Lee Miller, Sophie Okonedo, and Frances McDormand; directed by Karyn Kusama. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; 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 SQUARE 14)

Bee Season — Co-directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel, fresh from *The Deep End*, turn to a novel by Myla Goldberg. And on the evidence it’s difficult to see how anyone could have thought there was a movie in it, even someone in the full flush of the spelling-bee documentary, *Spellbound*. Fictional spelling bees, about which we must speak intuitively rather than empirically, are bound to be low on suspense, and the ones here are so telegraphed that you always know what’s going to happen before it happens. The principal speller is an Oakland sixth-grader (Flora Cross) whose eyes-closed technique permits her to “see” the word, often with the help of computer animation, the letters swirling around her head like a flock of tiny seagulls. Her father, a Judaic scholar, amounts to the type of fantasy figure for whom the female addicts of Lifetime movies would be willing to kill. He’s Richard Gere, to begin with (designer eyeglasses, ermine coiffure); and he does all the cooking around the house; he plays the violin to his son’s cello in after-dinner duets; and when the neglected daughter shows an unexpected aptitude for spelling, he volunteers to be her full-time coach (“I’m pretty good at this sort of thing, you know”), filling her head with occult lore about letters being a conduit to the ear of God. Despite all this, and to the hair-pulling exasperation of the Lifetime addict, no one in the family is happy with him, especially his wife, the exhaustingly tense Juliette Binoche, who lost her parents in a childhood car wreck, and who now goes off on mysterious errands, staying out till all hours of the night, breaking into anonymous houses for unknown reasons, having flashbacks to the fatal crash, and eventually serving to illustrate her husband’s classroom lessons on “tikkun olam,” the repair of the shattered. The newly neglected son (Max Minghella), in what could have been a rich source of humor, finds an alternative path to God’s ear, that of the Hare Krishnas, lured there by a Veggie Barbie played by Kate Bosworth. (Neither the son nor the daughter appears to have a friend in the world.) The entire thing attains a degree of pretension that might have been amusing if it weren’t so boring. 2005.

● (GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; THROUGH 12/8)

Capote — Truman Capote, that is, during the six years it took to research and write his “nonfiction novel,” *In Cold Blood*. Regardless of how true a story, it is truly a good story, whose claim on our attention is not that it’s factual but that it’s fascinating. It is the story, at bottom, of an artist at work; a writer in pursuit of a subject; an established novelist, a Manhattan dandy transplanted from the Deep South, who, for reasons unclear, clips out an item from *The New York Times* of November 15, 1959,

about the massacre of a family in rural Kansas, and who promptly gets the go-ahead from the editor at *The New Yorker* to hop a train to the scene of the crime. The story, then, of an exotic fruit in the Midwest breadbasket, with his nasally lisping castrato drawl and his ankle-length camel’s-hair coat and flowing boa-like scarf. (“Bergdorf’s,” he volunteers, fingering the scarf under the inquisitive gaze of an agent from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, who, tugging on his hat brim when taking his leave, says in turn, “Sears, Roebuck.”) The story of a man who, in the end, fits his chosen title as well as either the murderers or their executioners. It is not a story with a moral to it, although some viewers will feel compelled, for their own comfort, to draw one; it is simply, and complicatedly, the story of an artist at work. In its general outline — what price art? — it may be a bit old-hat; in its particulars it is like-new. Philip Seymour Hoffman, even after you have gotten over the initial funniness of his celebrity impersonation, serves as our constant reminder to take the story with a grain of salt, to put quotation marks around the name of Capote. His whole-souled commitment to the part, his concentration, his emotion, his expressiveness, his nuance, his multiplicity — all of that helps to make a good story better. Whether or not truer. With Catherine Keener, Chris Cooper, Clifton Collins, Jr., and Bruce Greenwood; written by Dan Futterman; directed by Bennett Miller. 2005.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Chicken Little — “The sky is falling,” in Disney’s computer-animated retelling of the tale, turns out to be a metaphor for an alien invasion, and the title character becomes a synonym of civic-minded vigilance. More basically, he and his styro-foamy chums — the ugly duck, the fat pig, the fish out of water, et al. — are just cartoon conformists anxious to show off their pop-culture hipness. With the voices of Zach Braff, Joan Cusack, Steve Zahn, and Garry Marshall; directed by Mark Dindal. 2005.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; 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; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe — Children’s fantasy from the C.S. Lewis novel, with Tilda Swinton as the witch and Liam Neeson as the voice of the lion, directed by Andrew Adamson.

(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; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; 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; FROM 12/9)

The Constant Gardener — An adaptation of a John le Carré suspense novel, and a long stride for filmmaker Fernando Meirelles (*City of God*) from the slums of Rio de Janeiro. Le Carré, to be sure, has always had an elevated social consciousness, and a missionary zeal to match, and so the stretch for the Brazilian is largely geographical: to Kenya, where a multinational pharmaceutical company is using the natives as unwitting guinea pigs, or sacrificial lambs, for an experimental drug called Dypraxa. The spectator will require only the slightest touch of paranoia, or slightest taste for the paranoia genre, to find this premise credible. He will face a stiffer challenge to find it cinematic. Vague on particulars, slow in progress, thick in texture, the film follows a course of knowingness rather than “showingness.” And the jiggle and jump in the visual style, though tempered a bit from *City*

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152 San Diego Reader December 8, 2005



Aeon Flux

of *God*, can drum up little excitement on their own. Of course, many a filmmaker before Meirelles, like many a casual reader, has failed to locate the thrills in a le Carré thriller. Yet this one holds plenty of appeal as a love story, one which we know from the outset is to be an unhappy one. The murder of a British diplomat’s wife in the African backcountry opens the door on a flashback to their first beginnings: he (Ralph Fiennes, almost cringingly diffident) dutifully reading a dull lecture on behalf of a government official in absentia, and she (Rachel Weisz, free and easy) reading him the riot act afterwards on the U.K.’s role in Iraq: “Vietnam the sequel.” Not a meet-cute, but a meet-rude. And before they have time really to get to know one another, they’re in bed, they’re married, and, with a baby on the way, they’re in Kenya, where the differences in their personalities are brought out in sharpest contrast: the professional fence-straddler and the inveterate firebrand. His private inquiry into her murder, apart from the light shed on corporate malfeasance, answers all questions about the genuineness of her love for him, and of his for her. As we’ve seen in such other le Carré vehicles as *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*, *The Looking-Glass War*, *The Russia House*, and (the most cinematic of these) *The Little Drummer Girl*, a gooeey sentimentalist lurks within the sour-ball. Danny Huston, Bill Nighy, Pete Postlethwaite. 2005. ★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Derailed — A Chicago family man with a diabetic daughter strikes up a risky flirtation with a woman on the commuter train, ultimately takes her to an out-of-the-way fleabag, but before any passion can be consummated they are beset by a sneering robber, beaten and raped respectively, and subsequently blackmailed. Nasty, twisty, unstomachable thriller, teaching the elementary lesson that when you are robbed and beaten, you should call the police. Don’t wait for blackmail. Oh, and when you’re married, don’t date. That, too. With Clive Owen, Jennifer Aniston, Vincent Cas-sel, Melissa George; directed by Mikael Hafstrom. 2005. ● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Dorian Blues — Homosexual coming-of-age comedy starring Michael McMillian, written and directed by Tennyson Bardwell. (KEN, 12/9 THROUGH 15)

The Dying Gaul — Reviewed this issue. With Peter Sarsgaard, Campbell Scott, and Patricia Clarkson; written and directed by Craig Lucas. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Get Rich or Die Tryin’ — The slight transformation of a mere gangsta into a gangsta rapper. Notwithstanding the biographical parallels to the life of its star, Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson (the internecine drug wars, the prison stint, the nine bullet wounds, etc.), it is lethally banal. “50 Cent,” a two-bit actor, supplies an unarticulated, uninflected, unfelt narration, and his on-screen demeanor mirrors the guarded, the

America, the cred doesn’t survive inspection. With Terrence Howard, Joy Bryant, and Bill Duke. 2005. ● (CHULA VISTA 10; GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; VOGUE)

Good Night, and Good Luck — Unabashed hero worship of the “crusading” CBS newsmen Edward R. Murrow, directed and co-written by George Clooney, who also plays Murrow’s television producer, Fred Friendly. (In the lead role, David Strathairn has Murrow’s somber countenance, speaks with his cadence, and goes through a full carton of his coffin nails.) Framed by a literal “Salute to Edward R. Murrow” in 1958, and by the guest-of-honor’s scolding assessment of the current state of TV journalism, it centers on his famous face-off four years earlier with Sen. Joe McCarthy, now known in ever widening circles as the Boogeyman. (McCarthy, seen only in grainy archive footage, looks even cruder than usual in opposition to the crisply photographed thespian smoothies.) Clooney, son of a TV newscaster himself, and high-profile Hollywood liberal, would no doubt be pleased if the sitting duck of the past were taken to be a stand-in for the fluttery fowl of today — Rush Limbaugh, Oliver North, and Co., the religious right, Karl Rove, take your pick — and pleased, too, if Murrow’s example were held up to the news networks of half a cen-

tury later. (But be careful, George, what you wish for: the network that appears to come closest to Murrow’s stance of advocacy, if nowhere near his humanity or integrity, would be Fox.) Clooney can surely rival any of his targeted enemies, past or present, in piety; and even, albeit in a somewhat different sense, in reactionary-ism: taking up the social-conscious subject matter of the Lumet-Ritt-Frankenheimer generation (he had already done so in his live-television experiment of *Fail-Safe* a few years back), setting it in the precise period of their salad days, shooting it in black-and-white (not just matching the custom of the time, but Expressionistically matching the *Weltanschauung* of white hats versus black hats), scoring it with outmoded moody jazz, and treating it in the hectoring, lecturing style of the Rose-Serling-Schulberg screenwriters. In truth the message is gotten across with an altogether unacceptable amount of speechifying; and for all the feverishly overlapping dialogue and the occasional hustle-bustle of cast or camera, it is steadfastly a static film, nailed to a platform. With Robert Downey, Jr., Patricia Clarkson, Frank Langella, Jeff Daniels. 2005. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA, FROM 12/9)

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire — The fourth installment in

J.K. Rowling’s series of children’s books yields a two-and-a-half-hour movie which, for all its furious activity, gets virtually nowhere. It gets, more specifically, through the “legendary” Triwizard Tournament, only to arrive at the dampening admonition, “Dark and difficult times lie ahead.” Potterites, under the freedom-of-religion pact, ought not to be begrudged their mythology; and two and a half hours of lavish illustration might well strike their eyes as a feast. The skeptic or the mere apathetic is more apt to notice the presumptuousness of filmmakers who expect their audience to meet them seven-eighths of the way. (Have you done your homework, kiddies?) The skeptic or apathetic will also be quicker to sense that the unabated spectacle of special effects becomes almost routine, almost humdrum, regardless of how imaginative some of those effects may be: the sailing ship that surfaces and submerges like a submarine, the ghostly face of Sirius molded in the glowing embers of the hearth for a fire-side chat. Such a viewer will also be more prone to argue that this sort of anything-goes fantasy, with few established rules, fosters a feeling of passiveness if not instinctive, involuntary withdrawal. The new director, Mike Newell, is the best of the three to take the controls in the series to date (Chris Columbus for parts one and two, Alfonso Cuarón for part three), although a runaway train is open only to the most limited guidance. We are reminded of

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his capabilities not so much by any demonstration of them as by the presence of Miranda Richardson, his scintillating star in *Dance with a Stranger*, and quite delightful here in the new role of Rita Skeeter, nosy news reporter for the animated scandal sheet, *The Daily Profit*. With Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Brendan Gleeson, Michael Gambon, Ralph Fiennes. 2005.

★ (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; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; 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; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

A History of Violence — Further unpleasantness from the always unpleasant David Cronenberg. Despite the pretentious-sounding title, this is in no sense an historical record of violence as a human fundamental (dating back, say, to Cain and Abel, or farther back to the appearance of the monolith among the apes in *2001*), but merely a history in the archaic sense of a story, as in H.G. Wells's *The History of Mr. Polly*, and also in the sense of a past: a violent story, that is, about a man with a history of violence. More exactly, the bloody chain of events unleashed when the family-man proprietor (Viggo Mortensen) of the Main Street diner in Small Town, U.S.A., is forced to fight back against two homicidal psychopaths at his lunch counter. The unpleasantness on this occasion consists, not atypically for Cronenberg, in some gratuitous gore — stomach-turning makeup effects for a bullet through the top of the head, a nose pounded up into a skull, etc. — as well as in the oppressive mood of ominosity and dread. The latter is quite admirably achieved, especially in view of the conventionality of the plot: the past catching up with a retired killer, a staple of the American action film, whether Western or contemporary crime thriller. Through



The Dying Gaul

such devious means as the sedate and didactic tone, the clear-eyed and controlled cinematography, the deliberate pace, and a spot of uncommonly graphic sex between happily marrieds, the film *feels* unconventional, *feels* unpredictable. And it makes good use of William Hurt's widely recognized looniness for an unexpectedly funny climax, notwithstanding the expected gore. (Beyond unexpectedly funny, it may be self-defeatingly funny.) The ultimate purpose of the thing — the unique distinction of the thing — comes down to precisely those sources of unpleasantness and nothing more: the gratuitous gore and the feel-

ing of unconventionality. But the unconventionality, such as it is, proves to be just a feeling rather than a fact: it tends to evaporate rapidly at the curtain. (One recommended point of reference would be Richard Fleischer's perfectly conventional yet subtly subversive *Violent Saturday*, 1955, where the celebration of the small-town family man who foils the big-city bad guys, with an assist from the pitchfork of an Amish pacifist, is as ambiguous as you please.) And the gore is simply too splashy for its own good. With Maria Bello, Ed Harris. 2005.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Ice Harvest — Directed by the consistently lightweight Harold Ramis, this incomprehensible embezzling caper, off-puttingly flippant in tone, nonetheless generates an atmospheric sense of weather and of environment: Christmas in Wichita, under a freezing rain, on skating-rink roads, around and about the seedy strip clubs and massage parlors, names like Tease-o-Rama, The Sweet Cage, The Velvet Touch. John Cusack, a near synonym for Robert Downey, Jr., heads an unstellar cast tailing off through Billy Bob Thornton, Oliver Platt, Connie Nielsen, and Randy Quaid. 2005.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Jarhead — The Gulf War through the eyes of Marine Pfc Anthony Swofford (a somewhat desensitized Jake Gyllenhaal), on whose memoir the script is based. Fundamentally this is a lot of old stuff made over for a new war, a new era, a new age in filmmaking. Which means, whatever else it means, a bleached-out image, long before we're under the desert sun; a compact disc's worth of golden oldies; a crutchlike dependence on first-person voice-over; a surplus of four-letter words; a bluntness in the depiction of piss, shit, puke; a nose-rubbing focus on the physical, the palpable, and a blindness to what we might blushingly call the spiritual; a spotlight, taking its cue from the recreational screening of *Apocalypse Now* at Camp Pendleton, on the absurdity, the futility, the brutality, the insanity. (John

Ford's alternative view of the military is "wrong" in the sense that a derby hat is "wrong," the fashion sense.) While the commitment to the material is never in question, while the effort is never less than intense, the details that might make the old seem fresh again are only occasional: the hard-ass drill instructor who compels the new enlistee to "blow" reveille without the aid of a trumpet, and then for an encore Stevie Wonder's "You Are the Sunshine of My Life"; or the Wall-of-Shame at the base of operations in Kuwait, a bulletin board of faithless wives and girlfriends, the Dear John correspondents, back home. Those sorts of details grow thicker the closer the movie gets to the front line: the horrific tableau of charred bodies and vehicles frozen in flight; the black rain; the oil-slicked stray horse; the plumes of flame from the burning wells. In the final tally it doesn't add up to much. With Peter Sarsgaard, Jamie Foxx, and Chris Cooper; directed by Sam Mendes. 2005.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; 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)

Just Friends — Broad comedy about a high-school fatso who slims down to become a callous Casanova in adulthood. Unlike him, the humor never slims down, remains broad throughout; heavy; clumsy; lazy. With Ryan Reynolds, Amy Smart, Anna Faris, and Chris Klein; directed by Roger Kumble. 2005.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; 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)

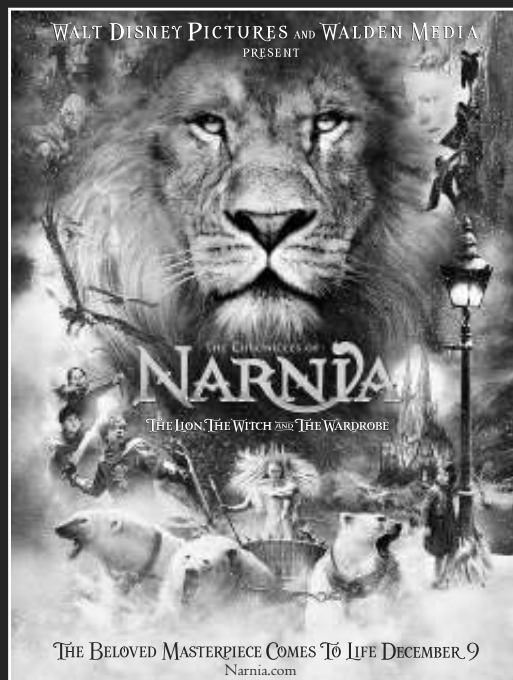
Kiss Kiss Bang Bang — Self-reflexive, self-indulgent, self-congratulatory, and self-mocking pastiche of the private-eye genre, the directorial debut of screenwriter Shane Black (*Lethal Weapon*, *The Last Boy Scout*, *Last Action Hero*, *The Long Kiss Goodnight*, in chronological rather than alphabetical order). The hard-boiled first-person narrator, the chronically insouciant Robert Downey, Jr. ("I was tired, I was pissed, I was wetter than Drew Barrymore at a grunge club"), refers to himself as "your narrator," and knows full well he's in a movie. The title is lifted from a collection of Pauline Kael's film criticism, a title lifted in turn from an Italian movie poster. And the chapter headings — "Trouble Is My Business," "The Lady in the Lake," "The Little Sister," "The Simple Art of Murder," "Farewell, My Lovely" — are all titles of works by Raymond Chandler, although it's highly doubtful that anyone knowledgeable enough to recognize them would, in the first place, be susceptible to flattery over such knowledge, or, in the second place, be susceptible to this filmmaker's brand of sophomoric bluster. The touches of black comedy are of slapstick breadth. The decadence scarcely seems subject to further decay. With Michelle Monaghan, Val Kilmer, and Corbin Bernsen. 2005.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

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Philip Seymour Hoffman

capote

BEST PICTURE NOMINEE
GOTHAM AWARDS 2005

BEST DIRECTOR NOMINEE
GOTHAM AWARDS 2005

BASED ON THE BOOK BY GERALD CLARKE SCREENPLAY BY DAN RUTTERMAN DIRECTED BY BENNETT MILLER

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Batman in marital trouble, continually called away to fight for California statehood and never able to get away on a vacation with the wife and kid, now ten years old even though it's only seven years since the previous installment. "If you walk out that door," hears the henpecked Fox, "you are not sleeping here tonight!" (Post-9/11, the villain is a foreigner, French in origin, with a secret lab of WMDs.) The camera cannot seem to get close enough to the two stars, Antonio Banderas and Catherine Zeta-Jones, and within the first half-hour it goes over the limit of allowable dollies from medium closeup to closeup or from closeup to extreme closeup. The copy of the famous shot from *Cat Ballou* of the drunken horse and rider held up by a wall would alone be grounds to flunk the film for plagiarism. With Adrian Alonso, Rufus Sewell, and Nick Chinlund; directed by Martin Campbell. 2005.

● (PALM PROMENADE 24)

Loggerheads — Reviewed this issue. With Kip Pardue, Michael Kelly, Tess Harper, Chris Sarandon, and Bonnie Hunt; written and directed by Tim Kirkman. ★ (KEN, 12/9 THROUGH 15)

Naked in Ashes — India's holy men, the yogis, in their own words, but in the voices of English dubbers. There are at present thirteen million of them (a dying breed, according to one), and video documentarist Paula Fouce can focus on only a small handful, principally Shiv Raj Giri, chosen for authenticity and regarded with something near reverence. Cultural differences lighten the tone, nonetheless: "No penis control, no good holy man." 2005. ★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 12/8)

Pride and Prejudice — By this time the Jane Austen novel qualifies as a repertory piece, a mettle-test for would-be Darcys and Elizabeth Bennets, little different from *Romeo and Juliet*. The team behind the present production of it, apart from their attempt to replace the titular conjunction with a dashing ampersand, earn no points for imagination or courage in finding their way to so trafficky a corner of the library. (Can no one, for a change, find his way to the shelf of Thomas Love Peacock? George Meredith?) And the prospect of again sitting through the machinations of the author's mating game (match four from Column A to four from Column B) sounds quite tedious in advance. Nevertheless, the filmmakers have not failed to make it involving. Austen herself made it hard for them to fail, as long as they stuck close to the text. Joe Wright, a British TV director in his feature debut, certainly did more than his share to gum up the works, with an anemic, coarse-grained image and a lot of mushy telephoto camerawork: a pale substitute for the MGM sheen of 1940. And Matthew MacFadyen makes a dull Darcy, a blank, more stuporous than brooding, a kind of waxwork Stan Laurel. Any doubts, however, as to the star potential of Keira Knightley — and after the likes of *Domino* and *The Jacket* and *King Arthur*, how could there not have been doubts? — are decisively routed. She may be too pretty for Elizabeth, she may be too young, but she is just sufficiently feisty, just sufficiently fiery, without being too and too. It's a tightrope she walks, and she keeps perfect balance. Two old pros, Brenda Blethyn and Judi Dench, bring solid support as two very dissimilar women, the high-strung Mrs. Bennet and the haughty Lady de Bourgh. Any well-bred young woman who can endure the one on a daily basis and stand up to the other in a moment of crisis must be made of stern stuff. Donald Sutherland, Rosamund Pike, Jena Malone, Tom Hollander. 2005.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Prime — An older-woman-younger-man affair, stickier than normal because the older woman's therapist happens also to be the younger man's mother. The thera-

pist/mother, a bespectacled, beanbaggy Meryl Streep, is the only one of the three who sees the whole picture, who knows that her twenty-three-year-old son, Bryan Greenberg, has become romantically involved with her divorced thirty-seven-year-old client, Uma Thurman. (Quite a long-shot coincidence even in a town the size of Albany, never mind New York City. Still a longer shot: they meet in the queue of an Antonioni bill.) The therapist herself has been a step slow to catch on, since her client at first fudges the age of the younger man as twenty-seven, while her son fudges the age of the older woman as also twenty-seven. The truth, once it dawns, puts the therapist in a ticklish position, wanting to maintain a supportive professional relationship with her client, while not wanting her son to throw himself away on a clock-ticking *shiksa*. Somehow the tickles never reach the spectator. Streep, working with a muted New York accent, has plenty of good ideas about the demeanor, the posture, the wardrobe of an East Side psychologist, and she has a wealth of facial expression with which to compensate for the self-conscious cuteness, the unnaturalness, the flatness of the dialogue (written by Ben Younger, who also directed). Even were the dialogue snappier, the busyness, the fussiness, of Streep's performance would be sure to play hell with any rhythm. Whenever she's off screen, however, and hers is the smallest of the three leading roles, you yearn for someone to play a little hell. 2005.

★ (LA JOLLA 12)

Protocols of Zion — Reviewed this issue. With Marc Levin and Al Levin; directed Marc Levin.

★ (KEN, THROUGH 12/8)

Rent — Jonathan Larson's Broadway musical comes to the screen, a quick-time parade of undistinguished and largely indistinguishable songs in celebration of bohemian bonhomie on the Lower East Side, tested by AIDS, drugs, romantic intrigues. Director Chris Columbus does a workmanlike job of "opening up" the action into realistic spaces, thoroughly explored, fully utilized. (Though there was no need, when one of the characters takes off for a Santa Fe sojourn, to follow him there.) Outside of Rosario Dawson and Taye Diggs, the stage cast will be unfamiliar to the average moviegoer and, despite their several talents, likely to stay that way. Anthony Rapp, Jess L. Martin, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, Idina Menzel. 2005. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; 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)

Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic — This video concert film, directed by Liam Lynch, gives the moviegoer a ticket to the titular comic's stand-up routine, or one-woman off-Broadway show if you prefer. The coy prologue and epilogue with two other actors, and the intermittent cutaways for illustrational fantasies and flashbacks (with costume changes and hair re-dos), do not make the stage act into much more of a film. If it has little interest as cinema, however, it has plenty of it as comedy. The self-described "sassy and brassy" comedian, one of the less illuminating participants in *The*

SEEN ON DVD

LOUIS HOCK

Artist and professor,
UCSD Visual Arts Department

Artist/musician/performer
Miranda July's first feature, *You and Me and Everyone We Know*, grows out of her art-world video works. Emphasizing the inability of one character to grasp another's desires, July has their fantasy world turn inside out to save them from isolation.

In *Gun Crazy*, a couple of post-WWII outsiders find solace in their love for each other and guns. As a hard-boiled precursor to *Bonnie and Clyde* and fuel for the French New Wave's fascination with film noir, Joseph Lewis crafted this gem as a signature work.

Wong Kar-wai's *Chungking Express* sets up two quirky Hong Kong stories: one a goofy dance between a heartbroken cop and a burned gangster, the other a chain of desire with the players backing into each other.

YOU AND ME AND EVERYONE WE KNOW (USA/England) 2005, MGM
List price: \$24.96

GUN CRAZY (USA) 1949, Warner Home Video
List price: \$19.97

CHUNGKING EXPRESS (Hong Kong) 1994, Miramax Home Video
List price: \$9.99

Aristocrats, proves herself fearless, reckless, heedless, and utterly un-PC in pursuit of her limited goals, extracting laughs, extinguishing illumination. "The best time to have a baby is when you're a black teenager." "By 'retarded' I mean 'they can do anything'." "When God gives you AIDS — and God does give you AIDS, by the way — make lemonAIDS." And so on. Naughty, yes. Dirty, yes. Yet she's an adept actress insofar as her deadpan proclaims a certain innocence, while the malicious gleam in her eye belies it. She is also, for her purposes, an adept writer. Through her sudden, unsettling changes in perspective and scale (e.g., 9/11 was doubly "devastating" for her, personally, not just in watch-

PETER MAXWELL

Assistant manager, Canyon
Vista Restaurant, UCSD, and
videomaker

Some 30 years after its release, Fassbinder's *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul* addresses the contemporary themes of immigration and cultural assimilation. It's a timely work considering the recent riots across France. Fassbinder's use of bright colors and stylized staging — references to Sirk — makes it visually interesting.

Sofia Coppola's *Lost in Translation* is more playful and less somber than her earlier *The Virgin Suicides*. With Bill Murray's low-key demeanor as a middle-aged man who befriends a woman half his age while on a business trip to Japan, the film is perhaps Murray's strongest role during his current career revival.

Ten Minutes Older: The Cello is a compilation piece by eight different directors on the nature and passage of time. The cello music works well as a bridge to connect the eight individual pieces.

ALI: FEAR EATS THE SOUL (Germany) 1974, Facets Video
List price: \$39.95

LOST IN TRANSLATION (USA) 2003, Universal
List price: \$14.98

TEN MINUTES OLDER: THE CELLO (Hong Kong) 2002, Panorama Distributions
List price: \$39.95

PAUL PICKOWICZ

Professor of Chinese history,
UCSD

The Goddess (Shennu) stars Chinese screen legend Ruan Lingyu as a Shanghai prostitute. In this telling, the prostitute is clean and virtuous, while the comfortable urban middle class is dirty and vicious. An excellent example of silent-era Chinese film melodrama.

Zhang Yimou's *Not One Less* deals with a 13-year-old village girl pressed into service as a substitute teacher in a run-down school. Set in the present day, it points to the yawning gap between urban and rural China when it comes to standards of living. As China zooms into the 21st Century, many are being left behind.

Beijing Bicycle, a finely textured and rather lyrical work, is an example of the new, independent Chinese films being produced outside the framework of the suffocatingly bureaucratic state-run studio system.

THE GODDESS (China) 1934, San Francisco Silent Film Festival Archives
List price: \$29.95

NOT ONE LESS (China) 1999, Columbia Tristar
List price: \$29.95

BEIJING BICYCLE (China) 2001, Columbia Tristar
List price: \$29.95

ing the Towers go down but in finding out just beforehand the number of calories in her daily latte), you never quite know where you stand with her. It's best to be sitting down. 2005.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Shopgirl — The classic romantic triangle, older man, younger woman, young man. The older man is the immaculately groomed, impeccably tailored Steve "Suave" Martin (author of the original novella as well as its adapter to the screen), who glides up to the glove counter at Saks, follows the salesgirl's advice on a purchase, then sends it to her home address as a gift along with a dinner invitation, entering her

world almost as a fairy godfather to show her a life of luxury whenever he's in town on business, and to turn her head from the unkempt, maladroit young man, the very hairy Jason Schwartzman, who always needs to borrow a couple of dollars on a date. The latter spends most of the movie as a roadie on tour with a rock band, transforming himself through books-on-tape to the point where he could pass at the end as a bargain-basement gigolo. Claire Danes, the woman in the middle, puts a lot of reacting into her acting, a wide-eyed Goldilocks who approaches any bowl of porridge with utmost caution and suspicion, and tastes it with total concentration. The relationships manifest some amusingly

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Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

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HOUSTON CHRONICLE • WASHINGTON TIMES • ST. LOUIS DISPATCH • E! ONLINE • DETROIT NEWS

LAURA LINNEY JEFF DANIELS JESSE EISENBERG OWEN KLINE

The SQUID and the WHALE

A film by Noah Baumbach www.squidandthewhalemovie.com

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out-of-step interactions and offbeat timings, but this slender, mannerly, neat-and-tidy little movie, ushered along by a minimalist trancelike musical score, is more a meditation than a comedy, or a romance, with a sadder-but-wiser moral delivered oddly in third-person voice-over by Martin, whose aura of detachment at last edges up to clinical dissociation. Directed by Anand Tucker. 2005.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Squid and the Whale — Complex relationship film. Parents and children, husband and wife, brother and brother, in the main, but supplementarily wife and lover, male professor and female student, older boy and new girlfriend, among others. The uncommon specificity as to time and place and cultural milieu — 1986, Brooklyn, the bourgeois intelligentsia — is to some extent a limiting factor but more so an animating factor. These people live and breathe. (Or, in view of the time, lived and breathed.) The parents, the husband and wife, are respectively a has-been “serious” novelist, now a musty academic, and a soon-to-be first novelist, presently excerpted in *The New Yorker*, and to make matters worse the wife’s wing-spreading encompasses an occasional affair. When the



Loggerheads

couple try a joint-custody separation, the older boy sides with his aggrieved father, while the younger boy, barely into puberty,

sides with his mother. Though well played by the sagely bearded Jeff Daniels, with his outer show of cultivation and his undertow

of savagery, the character of the father is seen as a bit of a caricature; and though likewise well played by the cosmetic-free

Laura Linney, the mother is seen more distantly, less distinctly. But the characters of the children are unqualified successes, especially the older one, whose age, by no mere coincidence, closely matches that of writer-director Noah Baumbach at that same period. The hunched shoulders, the sniffy nose, the sleepy eyes, the shrugging speech of Jesse Eisenberg capture perfectly the role-playing pretentiousness of the young, and the damning details of intellectual laziness all throughout the script complete the portrait. The younger brother, played under a cloud of moroseness (with passing squalls) by Owen Kline, registers as a total original, a self-proclaimed philistine, after careful consideration of Dad’s disdainful definition (“Someone who doesn’t care about books or interesting films”), and no less pretentious, in his inverted snobbery, than his *faux*-cultured older brother. This painfully funny film, put simply, is a comedy of character, a human comedy. And while the filmmaking itself is nothing special, the not too jiggly hand-held camera does achieve, in its positioning and its movement, a sort of natural rapport with the humans, an easy congeniality, a Frenchified nonchalance. William Baldwin, Anna Paquin. 2005.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Syriana — Reviewed this issue. With George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright, Chris Cooper, and Christopher Plummer; written and directed by Stephen Gaghan.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ES-

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Call 444-FILM
or the theater for missing
information. Bargain
showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:50, 3:20) 5:35, 7:50, 10:10; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. (10:40, 12:40, 2:45) 4:55; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 3:30) 7:05, 10:25 Sun. (12:10, 3:30) 7:05, 10:10; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:20, 2:00) 4:50, 7:35, 10:00; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (10:35, 1:25) 4:20, 7:20, 10:25 Sun. (10:35, 1:25) 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:05) 4:25, 7:25, 10:20; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (10:45, 1:15, 1:45) 4:15, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:05, 10:35 Sun. (10:45, 1:15, 1:45) 4:15, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:05; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (10:30, 11:10, 12:45, 1:30, 2:10, 3:45) 4:30, 5:10, 6:50, 7:30, 8:10, 9:50, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:10, 12:45, 1:30, 2:10, 3:45) 4:30, 5:10, 6:50, 7:30, 8:10, 9:50; **The Ice Harvest** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 7:35, 9:45; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:00, 1:35) 4:10, 4:55, 7:15, 8:00, 10:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:00, 1:55) 4:35, 7:05, 9:40

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)
A History of Violence (R) Fri.,-Sat. (2:25) 5:05, 7:50, 10:35 Sun. (2:25) 5:05, 7:50, 10:20; **Derailed** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30) 4:45, 7:40, 10:30 Sun. (1:30) 4:45, 7:35, 10:05; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:45, 2:30, 3:30) 4:15, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:55, 10:45 Sun. (12:45, 2:30, 3:30) 4:15, 6:30, 7:15, 8:20, 9:55, 10:30; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:50, 3:55) 7:10, 10:10; **Saw II** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:05) 5:35, 8:15, 10:40 Sun. (12:40, 3:05) 5:35, 8:05, 10:30; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:00, 2:15) 4:10, 5:00, 7:20, 8:10, 10:25, 11:00 Sun. (1:00, 2:15) 4:10, 5:00, 7:20, 8:10, 10:10, 10:25; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 3:45) 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:15, 10:55 Sun. (12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 3:45) 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (2:20) 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; **Zathura** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:35, 1:45, 3:00) 4:20, 5:30, 7:05, 8:05, 9:45 Sun. (12:35, 1:45, 3:00) 4:20, 5:30, 7:05, 8:15, 9:40

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Aeon Flux (PG-13); **Chicken Little** (G); **In the Mix** (PG-13); **Jarhead** (Not Rated); **Just Friends** (PG-13); **Kiss Kiss Bang Bang** (R); **Rent** (PG-13); **The Constant Gardener** (R); **The Ice Harvest** (R); **Walk the Line** (PG-13)

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15 Sun. 12:30, 3:45, 7:00

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
Good Night, and Good Luck (PG) Fri. (2:45, 5:00) 7:20, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (12:30) 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (1:00) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; **Shopgirl** (R) Fri. (2:20, 4:50) 7:30, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; **Ushpizin** (PG) Fri. (2:00, 4:30) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30) 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700)
Call theater for program information

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)
Aeon Flux; **Chicken Little**; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**; **Derailed**; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**; **The Ice Harvest**; **In the Mix**; **Jarhead**; **Just Friends**; **Pride and Prejudice**; **Rent**; **Syriana**; **Walk the Line**; **Yours, Mine, and Ours**; **Zathura**

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30, 10:45; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00 (1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:30; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:15, 10:15; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:45; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:15, 10:45; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Aeon Flux; **Chicken Little**; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**; **Derailed**; **First Descent**; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**; **The Ice Harvest**; **In the Mix**; **Jarhead**; **Just Friends**;

Pride and Prejudice; **Rent**; **Saw II**; **Syriana**; **Walk the Line**; **Yours, Mine, and Ours**

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (2:45) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00 Sat. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00 Sun. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10, 7:40; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri. (2:35) 4:40, 7:15, 9:15 Sat. (12:15, 2:35) 4:40, 7:15, 9:15 Sun. (12:15, 2:35) 4:40, 7:15; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri. (3:15) 7:00, 10:10 Sat. (12:00, 3:15) 7:00, 10:10 Sun. (12:00, 3:15) 7:00; **In the Mix** (PG-13) Fri. (3:00) 5:20, 7:45, 9:55 Sat. (12:45, 3:00) 5:20, 7:45, 9:55 Sun. (12:45, 3:00) 5:20, 7:45; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (3:30) 7:20, 10:20 Sat. (12:30, 3:45) 7:20, 10:20 Sun. (12:30, 3:45) 7:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (3:20) 7:30, 10:15 Sat. (1:00) 4:15, 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (1:00) 4:15, 7:20

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Dorian Blues (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. (5:25) 9:45; **Loggerheads** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:30 Sat.,-Sun. (3:10) 7:30

UPTOWN

Garden Cabaret

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)
Call theater for program information

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Capote (R) Fri. (1:55, 4:30) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20) 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; **Good Night, and Good Luck** (PG) Fri. (2:20, 4:45) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (12:00) 2:20, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30; **Shopgirl** (R) Fri. (2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:40) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; **The Dying Gaul** (R) Fri. (2:00, 4:40) 7:20, 9:50 Sat. (11:30) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50 Sun. (11:30) 2:00, 4:40, 9:50; **The Squid and the Whale** (R) Fri. (2:30, 4:55) 7:35, 9:35 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50) 2:30, 4:55, 7:35, 9:35

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Mystery of the Nile (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 4:00 Sat.,-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00; **Mystic India** (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00 Sat.,-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Santa vs. The Snowman** (Not Rated) Fri. 3:00 Sat. 10:00, 3:00 Sun. 3:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:00, 2:00,

2:30, 4:30, 5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30) 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri. (12:30, 2:45, 5:00) 7:15, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 12:50, 3:20, 4:25) 7:00, 8:00, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:45, 12:50, 3:20) 4:25, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30; **In the Mix** (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 4:50) 10:20 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15) 4:50, 10:20; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. (1:45) 7:25; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:10, 4:40) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:40, 2:10) 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri. (11:05, 2:00, 4:55) 7:50, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:05, 2:00) 4:55, 7:50, 10:45; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 1:35, 4:40) 7:45, 10:50 Sat.,-Sun. (10:30, 1:35) 4:40, 7:45, 10:50; **Syriana** (R) Fri. (11:00, 11:30, 1:50, 2:20, 4:40, 5:10) 7:30, 8:00, 10:20, 10:50 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00, 11:30, 1:50, 2:20) 4:40, 5:10, 7:30, 8:00, 10:20, 10:50; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 Sat.,-Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45) 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:45, 3:55) 7:05, 10:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:25, 4:50) 7:15, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; **Zathura** (PG) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:45) 7:20, 9:55 Sat.,-Sun. (11:35, 2:10) 4:45, 7:20, 9:55

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (1:35, 3:45) 5:55, 8:10, 10:25 Sat. (11:25, 1:35, 3:45) 5:55, 8:10, 10:25 Sun. (11:25, 1:35, 3:45) 5:55, 8:10, 10:15; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri. (1:20, 3:20) 5:35 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20, 1:20, 3:20) 5:35; **Derailed** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 7:40, 10:00; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 3:30) 7:05, 10:20 Sun. (12:00, 3:30) 7:05, 10:10; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:40) 5:05, 7:50, 10:10 Sun. (12:10, 2:40) 5:05, 7:50, 10:05; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:55) 7:00, 9:55 Sun. (12:40, 3:55) 7:00, 9:45; **Syriana** (R) Fri. (1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 10:05 Sat. (11:10, 1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 10:05 Sun. (11:10, 1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 9:55; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (1:05, 2:10) 4:15, 5:20, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30 Sat. (11:00, 1:05, 2:10) 4:15, 5:20, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 2:10) 4:15, 5:20, 7:30, 8:30, 10:25; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (2:20) 5:10, 8:00, 10:45 Sat. (11:30, 2:20) 5:10, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:20) 5:10, 7:55, 10:35; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:20, 2:35) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30

Grossmont Trolley

8555 Fletcher Parkway (619-466-1401)
Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30)

4:20, 7:05, 9:35 Sun. (1:30) 4:20, 7:05; **Good Night, and Good Luck** (PG) Fri. (1:55) 5:00, 7:25, 9:45 Sat. (11:20, 1:55) 5:00, 7:25, 9:45 Sun. (11:20, 1:55) 5:00, 7:25; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:15) 4:45, 8:15; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sat. 7:20, 10:05 Sun. 7:20; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri. (2:05) 4:55, 7:45, 10:30 Sat. (11:15, 2:05) 4:55, 7:45, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 2:05) 4:55, 7:45; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00; **The Ice Harvest** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:50, 3:00) 5:10, 7:30, 9:55 Sun. (12:50, 3:00) 5:10, 7:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:00) 4:15, 7:15, 10:10 Sun. (1:00) 4:15, 7:15; **Zathura** (PG) Fri. (2:20) 5:05 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 5:05

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:30, 5:00) 7:35, 10:00; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. (10:35, 12:45, 3:00, 5:20) 7:25, 9:45; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:45, 12:20, 3:30, 4:00) 7:05, 7:30, 10:30, 11:00 Sun. (11:45, 12:20, 3:30, 4:00) 7:05, 7:30, 10:30; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:10, 2:45, 5:15) 7:40, 10:05; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:35, 3:35) 7:25, 10:25; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:40, 3:50) 7:10, 10:20; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (9:55, 12:55, 3:55) 6:55, 9:55; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 Sat. (9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45) 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 Sun. (9:45, 10:15; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (10:00, 1:10, 4:10) 7:20, 10:40; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20, 4:55) 7:15, 9:50; **Zathura** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:15, 2:55, 5:30) 8:05, 10:35

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Chicken Little (G); **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13); **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG); **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:30 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. 10:15 (12:15, 2:15, 4:15) 6:15, 8:15,

CONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 12/9)

Ushpizin — Israeli comedy, directed by Giddi Dar, about the struggles of an Orthodox Jewish couple, played by real-life couple Shuli Rand and Michal Bat-Sheva Rand. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 12/9)

Walk the Line — The same line, that would be, as the previous year’s *Ray*, a musical biopic on a recently fallen giant of popular song, C&W instead of R&B, Johnny Cash instead of Ray Charles, two years dead instead of mere months, but the same backstage tale of early poverty and tragedy, meteoric ascent, marital discord, drug abuse, salvation. Fewer people this time, in describing Joaquin Phoenix’s impersonation of the Man in Black, will be inclined to link the adjective “uncanny” to the noun “likeness.” Though he has obviously studied hard for the part, copying the horselike head-toss and breastroker’s air-gulp in performance on stage, he lacks both the stature and the weight: a sort of Cash shortage. It doesn’t help that his singing (separate from his head-tossing and air-gulping) is of dog-howling caliber. Reese

Witherspoon’s June Carter — a ten-year-old voice on the radio in Cash’s cotton-picking childhood, a touring mate in the mid-Fifties along with Jerry Lee, Buddy, and Elvis, and finally his second wife in the late-Sixties, when the movie ends — dances rings around him. And sings them, too. With Ginnifer Goodwin and Robert Patrick; directed by James Mangold. 2005. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Weather Man — An ungifted Chicago TV personality (“My job’s very easy, two hours a day, basically reading prompts”), accustomed to getting pelted on the street with fast-food items thrown by passing motorists, shoulders a number of private-life burdens: a Pulitzer Prize-winning father dying of lymphoma before the fortyish son has a chance to impress him (the mother, though alive and well, scarcely merits a glance); an ex-wife who has already found herself a new man; a teenage son in rehab, with a homosexual predator for his drug counselor; and an overweight daughter whose form-fitting clothes in the crotch area have earned her the nickname of “Camel-Toe” (an educational montage il-

lustrates the phenomenon). But his over-riding concern is frankly himself. It’s significant that the movie opens with our moeey protagonist gazing at himself in the mirror, and significant, too, that it tells so much of its story in the form of his first-person nar-ration. One stream-of-consciousness pas-sage, not really narration but interior monologue, almost makes the whole thing worthwhile: a flashback to the time he was sent to the deli to pick up some tartar sauce with a to-go order. He starts out with a clear focus on his assignment (“Tartar sauce, tartar sauce, tartar sauce, tartar sauce ...”), but the sight of a shapely bot-tom in a pair of blue jeans at the crosswalk sets him off on a free-associative riff that takes his mind a long way from a condi-ment. Nicolas Cage, distancing himself from his action-hero persona, plays the part as a classic sadsack with glimmers of exis-tentialist awareness, and he never remotely looks like someone who would have caught the eye of the network for a million-dollar job on Bryant Gumbel’s morning show. His director, Gore Verbinski, ensures he won’t look like that with an overcast image that appears to encase him in tinted or frosted glass. Michael Caine, Hope Davis, Gem-menne de la Peña, Nicholas Hoult. 2005. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Yours, Mine, and Ours — Two old flames, a Coast Guard Admiral and a free-lance designer, both widowed, reignite in later life, after he has got eight well-drilled children and she’s got an anarchic Rainbow

Coalition of ten (four biological, six adopted). That’s a lot of kids when they all act with sitcom aggressiveness and when the gags mostly derive from the comic pro-totypes of the banana peel and the cream pie. With Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo (it was Henry Fonda and Lucille Ball in the 1968 version); directed by Raja Gosnell. 2005. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEAN-SIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SAN-TEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Zathura — Relatively speaking, an imagi-native children’s film (from a book by Chris Van Allsburg, author also of *The Polar Ex-press* and, more relevantly, *Jumanji*) about two battling brothers from a broken home, ages ten and six-and-three-quarters, who find themselves adrift in outer space inside the “creaky” old house of their absent fa-ther, after the younger one dusts off a wind-up board game in the cellar, labelled Za-thura, A Space Adventure. (If ever there was an excuse once again to cue the open-ing bars of *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, this would have been it: *Also Sprach Zathura*.) They encounter a hailstorm of meteors, a haywire robot, a marooned astronaut, and a troop of light-seeking, flesh-eating reptiles

10:15; **Get Rich or Die Tryin'** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 12:45, 6:00, 10:45; **Harry Potter and the Gob-let of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30, 10:45; **In the Mix** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:30 (3:45) 8:30; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00 (1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00 (10:30, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00

Palm Promenade 24
770 Dennergy Road (858-558-2262)
Aeon Flux (PG-13); **Chicken Little** (G); **De-railed** (R); **Get Rich or Die Tryin'** (R); **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13); **In the Mix** (PG-13); **Jarhead** (Not Rated); **Just Friends** (PG-13); **Pride and Prejudice** (PG); **Rent** (PG-13); **Saw II** (R); **Syriana** (R); **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG); **The Legend of Zorro** (PG); **Walk the Line** (PG-13); **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG); **Zathura** (PG)

Rancho Del Rey 16
East H Street (619-216-4707)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:20, 4:50) 7:15, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:20) 4:50, 7:15, 10:05; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri. (10:05, 12:15, 2:30, 4:55) 7:05, 9:15 Sat.,-Sun. (10:05, 12:15, 2:30) 4:55, 7:05, 9:15; **Derailed** (R) Fri. (1:55, 4:50) 7:50, 10:35 Sat.,-Sun. (1:55) 4:50, 7:50, 10:35; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri. (9:35, 12:00, 1:05, 1:35, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00) 6:55, 7:55, 8:30, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (9:35, 12:00, 1:05, 1:35, 3:30) 4:30, 5:00, 6:55, 7:55, 8:30, 10:30; **In the Mix** (PG-13) Fri. (2:00, 4:40) 7:20, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (2:00) 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:25, 5:10) 7:55, 10:25 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:25) 5:10, 7:55, 10:25; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri. (9:50, 1:15, 4:25) 7:35, 10:40 Sat.,-Sun. (9:50, 1:15) 4:25, 7:35, 10:40; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (9:30, 12:35, 3:35) 6:35, 9:35; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (9:25, 9:45, 10:15, 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 7:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:10, 10:15, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (9:25, 9:45, 10:15, 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:45) 4:15, 4:45, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (9:55, 1:25, 4:35) 7:40, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (9:55, 1:25) 4:35, 7:40, 10:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri. (10:00, 12:45, 3:05, 5:25) 7:45 Sat.,-Sun. (10:00, 12:45, 3:05) 5:25, 7:45

Vogue
226 3rd Avenue (619-425-1436)
Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R) Fri.,-Sun. 5:30; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. 1:15, 7:30; **Saw II** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 3:30, 9:45

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun. 9:55; **Derailed**

(R) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 11:35; **Get Rich or Die Tryin'** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 9:30; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 9:10; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 11:20; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 11:55

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00; **Dreamer** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:05, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 9:50 Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25; **Good Night, and Good Luck** (PG) Fri. (1:20, 3:40) 5:55, 8:10, 10:25 Sat. (11:05, 1:20, 3:40) 5:55, 8:10, 10:25 Sun. (11:05, 1:20, 3:40) 5:55, 8:10; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 3:15) 7:10, 10:25 Sun. (12:00, 3:15) 7:10; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 3:00) 5:25, 8:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:10, 3:00) 5:25, 8:05; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 3:20) 7:20, 10:10 Sun. (12:15, 3:20) 7:20; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:45) 7:40, 10:35 Sun. (12:40, 3:45) 7:40; **Syri-ana** (R) Fri. (1:55) 4:50, 7:45, 10:35 Sat. (11:00, 1:55) 4:50, 7:45, 10:35 Sun. (11:00, 1:55) 4:50, 7:45; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (12:30, 2:35, 3:35) 5:40, 7:00, 8:45, 10:05 Sat. (11:30, 12:30, 2:35, 3:35) 5:40, 7:00, 8:45, 10:05 Sun. (11:30, 12:30, 2:35, 3:35) 5:40, 7:00; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (2:45) 7:15, 10:10 Sat. (11:50, 2:45) 7:15, 10:10 Sun. (11:50, 2:45) 7:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri. (1:10, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30, 9:40 Sat. (11:00, 1:10, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30, 9:40 Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30

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)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri. (3:45) 7:00, 10:15 Sat. 12:15 (3:45) 7:00, 10:15 Sun. 12:15 (3:45) 7:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri. (2:15) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sat. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:00; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:00 (10:30, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30 Sun. 10:00 (10:30, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sat. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri. (3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 Sat. 10:30 (12:45, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 Sun. 10:30 (12:45, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:30 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. 10:30 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00 (1:15); **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30, 10:45 Sun. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. 3:30, 5:45, 8:15; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 8:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00 (10:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 6:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30 Sun. 10:00 (10:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 6:00, 7:00, 7:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45

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)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:40, 2:15, 4:40) 7:20, 9:55; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. (10:25, 12:45, 3:25) 5:45, 8:00, 10:20; **First De-scent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:15, 2:05, 4:55) 7:50, 10:35; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:00, 11:45, 2:35, 3:30) 6:10, 7:05, 9:45, 10:40; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. (9:55, 4:05) 9:30; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:30, 5:00) 7:25, 10:00; **Kiss Kiss Bang Bang** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (12:55) 6:55; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (10:05, 1:05, 4:30) 7:45, 10:55; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (10:10, 1:35, 4:35) 7:40, 11:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (9:50, 11:50, 12:50, 3:15, 3:50) 6:30, 7:10, 9:35, 10:05; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (9:45, 10:15, 12:05, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:20, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:35, 7:00, 7:35, 8:05, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45; **The Ice Harvest** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (10:00, 12:25, 2:50, 5:10) 7:40, 10:10; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:10, 4:20) 7:30, 10:50; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:25, 4:50) 7:15, 9:40

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)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40 Sun. 12:00, 3:10, 6:30; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 Sun. 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 11:15, 1:25, 3:25, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 Sun. 11:15, 1:25, 3:25, 5:30, 7:30

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:30 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. 10:30 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30, 10:45 Sun. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. 3:30, 5:45, 8:15; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00 (10:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 6:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30 Sun. 10:00 (10:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 6:00, 7:00, 7:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)
Good Night, and Good Luck (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 12:30, 5:30, 10:30 Sun. 12:30, 5:30; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:15 Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; **Shoggirl** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00 (3:00) 8:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45

ENCINITAS

Encinitas 8
220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 11:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:20 Sun. 11:50, 3:20, 6:50; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05 Sun. 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 12:20, 3:35, 6:40, 9:45 Sun. 12:20, 3:35, 6:40; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10 Sun. 1:00, 4:10, 7:10; **The Chronicles of Nar-nia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 12:45, 4:00, 7:20, 10:30 Sun. 12:45, 4:00, 7:20; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35 Sun.

called Zorgons; and over the course of all that, they learn brotherhood. The inter-planetary house should bring to mind, pro-vided it ever entered your mind, the elegant antique Winsor McCay cartoon, *Flying House*, from his *Dreams of a Rarebit Fiend* series. The whole thing, for that matter, fits the definition of “dreamlike,” albeit in ways very dissimilar to those of Winsor McCay. The loudness, the violence (nonlethal, non-sanguinary), the tons of special effects, and the dearth of visual skills (Jon Favreau, di-rector) are simply to be endured as condi-tions of existence in the 21st Century. They are particularly worth enduring for the cryogenically frozen older sister taking a tumble down the stairs like a toboggan, and, still in one piece, getting lugged back up again like a mannequin. With Jonah Bobo, Josh Hutcherson, Dax Shepard, Kris-ten Stewart, Tim Robbins. 2005. ★★ (GASLAMP 15; PALM PROMENADE 24)

1:10, 4:20, 7:30; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:10, 10:25 Sun. 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:10

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
Good Night, and Good Luck (PG) Fri. 6:50, 9:00 Sat.,-Sun. 4:00, 6:50, 9:00; **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (R) Fri. 12:00

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)
Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00 (12:00); **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30, 10:45 Sun. 9:45 (1:00, 4:15) 7:30; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 2:00 (4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. 2:00 (4:45) 7:45; **Syri-ana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:00

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)
Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:15, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **Chicken Little** (G) Fri.,-Sun. 11:40, 2:10, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20; **Get Rich or Die Tryin'** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 11:10, 2:00, 4:55, 7:45, 10:20; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00, 11:30, 2:30, 3:00, 6:15, 6:45, 9:45, 10:10; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:45, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:05; **Saw II** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40; **Syri-ana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 12:10, 3:30, 6:50, 10:00; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:15, 9:45, 10:15; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 12:15, 3:35, 6:55, 10:05; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 12:30, 2:55, 5:

HELP WANTED

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thous-ands of classified ads not printed here!

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES. Don't you love when the sky is the limit for your pay-check? Join us in our Mira Mesa AppleOne branch. Must be forthright, dependable, outgoing. Basic computer skills and eager to learn. Must love sales. Excellent compensation including base pay. Call Robin Gibbons, 858-578-4437.

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ACCOUNTING CLERK. 2 years experience, accounts payable/receivable, coding, check runs, working knowledge of ADP, Quickbooks, Great Plains or MAS90 a plus. Email resume: oceanside@appleone.com or call: 760-966-3682.

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ACCOUNTING gurus, we want you! Must have experience in accounts payable/receivable, payroll, G/L and bookkeeping. We have many clients looking for qualified individuals with opportunities open from the South Bay to La Jolla areas. Must have 2-3 years solid experience in accounting. Apply today 619-409-1401 or email chulavista-ca@appleone.com.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE at local coffee roaster. Part-time (experience preferred). Collection calls. Attention to details a must. \$10/hour, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. 619-239-6686 ask for Leanne/ Michelle.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, full time opening in the Equine Department. Horse experience a must. Proficiency in Word and Excel. Requires good customer service skills. \$10.50/hour and excellent benefits. Fax resume to 858-756-7520, or call 858-756-4117 x352.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. For North County publishing company in Sales Department. Advanced knowledge of Word/Excel a must! Duties include working with Sales Reps, coordinating appointments, client relations and setting up trade shows. \$30,000/year. 760-480-0454.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Ultimate Staffing specializes in Temp, Temp-to-Hire and Direct Placement opportunities. We are looking for people who have at least 6 months office experience. Must have strong computer skills. \$10-\$15 per hour. For fastest consideration, please e-mail your resume to: lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT needed for professional firm. Must be advanced in Word and Excel. Creation of spreadsheets is mandatory as well as coordinating travel arrangements. Please call Downtown office, 619-238-7135 or email: downtown_ca@appleone.com.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS and Receptionists to \$16/hour. Full time and temporary positions throughout San Diego County. MS Office and/or multi-line phone experience. Apply online, www.atworkstaffing.com, or in person, 701 B Street, Suite 308. Call for more information or appointment, 619-234-9675.

ADMINISTRATIVE. 10 positions. Good communication skills, data entry, filing, some accounting. Full time, to \$18/hour. MDI Staffing, 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204. Fax: 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

ADMINISTRATIVE. North County: Clerical/Administrative/Reception, Certified Medical Assistant, Medical Billing, Collector Reps, Case Managers, Income Audit, Warehouse/Production. Call 760-741-1622. Mid-County: Receptionist/Coordinator: TOPS Staffing, 619-299-8770; e-mail sandiego@topsstaffing.com.

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; email carlsbad@volt.com. Chula Vista: 619-427-0200; email chulavista@volt.com. El Cajon: 619-401-1524; email elcajon@volt.com. San Diego: 858-576-3140; email clairemont@volt.com. San Marcos: 760-471-0800; email sanmarcos@volt.com. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920; email scrippsranh@volt.com.

AEROBIC INSTRUCTOR (Children). Enthusiastically teach elementary students jazz, hip-hop, and aerobic dancing at after-school programs. Must be able to drive to different locations in your area throughout the week and have the ability to interact with children, parents and school staff. Training provided; minimal experience needed. Part time, Monday-Friday afternoons, \$10-\$18/hour. Locations: Encinitas and San Diego. Contact Audrey Trees with Heartlight Aerobics at 619-303-6289.

AGENTS/PROCESSORS: Earn \$3500/month helping the United States federal government file paid mortgage insurance refunds. No experience necessary, training provided. 858-492-8091. www.miprefunds.net.

ANIMAL LOVER. Mobile Grooming looking for an energetic individual with good

people skills who loves working with animals. Experience not necessary. Training provided. Attractive compensation. E-mail resume to: NL7R-G1@yahoo.com or fax: 858-270-0171.

APPOINTMENT SETTERS. #1 home improvement company seeks experienced Appointment Setters. Average wage in 2005 with commission was \$16 per hour. Now hiring for 2006. Call now 858-974-0054.

APPOINTMENT SETTERS. Experience preferred, will train. Bilingual a plus. \$300 sign-on bonus, \$150 referral bonus, daily splits. Up to \$25/hour. Mission Valley. Call 619-398-0216.

APPOINTMENT SETTERS for kiosks at malls and trade shows. Door-to-door canvassers needed for 30-year home im-

provement company. Salary plus great bonuses. Call 858-495-0551.

APPOINTMENT SETTING. Earn \$1,000 or more a week setting appointments with business owners. If you are great on the phone and want to earn great money working from 7am-2pm, you will earn base plus commissions! Call Abanco International, LLC, today! 858-712-0150 x4033.

AQUARIUM SERVICE TECH. Full/part time. Maintain aquariums throughout San Diego County. Must have own vehicle. \$9-\$12/hour to start. Fax resume: 619-280-0155, or call 619-280-1126.

ARCHITECT. Energetic, hands-on licensed California architect sought to drive construction documentation phase of several San Diego condominium projects. Extensive knowledge of local condominium construction techniques and

detailing required. Remuneration will adequately reward selected candidates. Please fax resume to, 619-234-3544, Attention: Kelly Williams.

ASSEMBLY. 50 positions in Rancho Bernardo. First and second shifts available. Call for an interview at Ultimate Staffing in San Diego, 858-513-7077 or Carlsbad, 760-431-4333.

ASSET PROTECTION OFFICERS. Come and join the GMI team! Now hiring throughout San Diego county. Immediate placement available. Full/part time with valid California Guard Card. Excellent starting wages with growth potential to \$17.50/hour. Aggressive bonus programs. 401(k), health benefits, and professional certification. (*Guard Card Classes Wednesdays, 7am, \$140.) 8001 Vickers Street, San Diego. Eligibility is conditional. 858-244-1915.

ADS UPLOADED DAILY TO SANDiegoReader.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

BUSINESS ADS

BUSINESSES include paid services or functions, rentals, and profit-making enterprises. For rates and discounts call (619) 235-8200, 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday.

DEADLINES: Business classifieds are accepted until 6pm Tuesday, two days prior to the issue. Call by Friday for early-placement discounts. Ads may be placed by phone using a credit

card (619-235-8200) or in person (1703 India Street, at Date Downtown). Hours are 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday, and until 6pm Tuesday.

PLEASE NOTE: The *Reader* will not be financially responsible for failure to run an ad or for errors in an ad, except, if at fault, to the extent of the cost of the first insertion of the ad.

FREE ADS BY MAIL OR INTERNET

ONE FREE CLASSIFIED ad per week is available to private parties and nonprofit organizations that do not charge for their services.

MAIL: Ads must be printed clearly on 3x5 cards or postcards and are limited to 25 words. Additional words cost 60¢ each. Ads must arrive at our PO Box by 7 am, Monday. Mail all ads to

Reader Free Classifieds, PO Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186.

INTERNET: Free ads can also be placed online at SanDiegoReader.com. Free ads placed online appear *only* on the *Reader's* Web site. See below for instructions on placing online ads that also appear in the paper.

\$8 ADS BY INTERNET, FAX OR IN PERSON

QUICK, EASY, AND CHEAP! \$8 ads are available to private parties only. Ads are limited to 25 words. Cash, check or credit cards are accepted. (Services, rentals, lessons or any other profit-making enterprises do not qualify for \$8 ads. See instructions for business ads above. Other rules apply to Roommates and Matches ads.)

BY INTERNET: Go to SanDiegoReader.com and click on the link to place a free classified ad.

BY FAX: Complete the form below, photocopy it, and then fax it

to us at (619) 233-7907. Payment is with Visa, Discover, or MasterCard.

IN PERSON: To place an ad with cash or check, fill out the form below and bring it to our office at 1703 India Street (at Date), Downtown. The deadline is 6 pm Monday.

REALLY, REALLY LATE ADS: Private parties that have missed the 6pm Monday deadline may still place ads until 6pm Tuesday. Either come to the above address or call (619) 235-8200. The cost for these late ads is \$16 for 25 words, plus 60¢ per extra word.

Deadline: 6pm Monday

Write your ad below, listing the item for sale first, followed by its description (including price) and ending with the phone number. Each phone number counts as one word; ads over 25 words

will be edited. Refer to the Table of Contents to determine the classified category you want. If you are unsure, the appropriate category will be assigned. No cancellations accepted. No refunds.

| | | | |
|--|----|----------------|----|
| NAME: | | DAYTIME PHONE: | |
| <div><input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> VISA</div> | | CARD NUMBER: | |
| | | EXP. DATE: | |
| CATEGORY: | | SIGNATURE: | |
| This form is for \$8 ads only. | | | |
| 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 | | | |

To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need:

Nearest cross-streets: _____ & _____ zip code _____

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ence preferred. E-mail resume: info@strozpezbistro.com or fax: 858-404-0839.

BAKER/BARISTA for Nova Cafe in University City. Early mornings. Must have reliable transportation. Call for more information. Ask for Deanna, 858-455-0633.

BARISTA. Part and full time positions. Coffee barista needed for busy coffee cart near UCSD. Excellent work environment. Good pay. Call Tom, 760-294-1889.

BARISTA/JUICE BAR. Need reliable/experienced person looking to join upscale market in Horton Plaza. Fun environment. Good pay. Call Robert: 619-666-6488; Fax resume: 619-501-1459; E-mail: robert@beachcitymarket.com.

BARISTAS. Experienced. We want you! Great pay! Part/full time, morning and evening shifts available. Locations in Fashion Valley Mall, Sorrento Valley and Carlsbad. Call 760-752-1070. Send resumes to: steph@coffeecartbiz.com.

BARTENDER. Experienced. Apply in person, ask for Dave. Backstreet Brewery, 15 Main Street, Vista.

BIKE CAB. Driver's license required, full/part time. Training Mondays through Thursdays at 6:30pm, 619 C Street. For more info, call between 9:30am-6pm, 619-237-1245.

BIKE CAB. Petco Park--fresh air, sunshine! Lease the cab, keep the money. Male, female. Full/part time. Driver's license. 641 17th Street. Student Jobs Coalition, Inc. 619-595-0211.

BIOTECH COMPANY. Multiple positions: Sales and Marketing, Office Computer System Administrator, Website Designer (full or part time) available in a biotech and pharmaceutical company located in La Jolla. Sales and Marketing position requires good writing, communication and interpersonal skills. Business or science background or prior experience in sales and marketing in biotech or pharmaceutical companies will be a plus. Attractive salary package and excellent opportunity for career advancement. The company works on the development and marketing of biological research reagents and drugs to treat human diseases. Send resume with telephone number and e-mail address by fax: 858-866-0150 or e-mail: contact@raylight.com.

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CAREER EVENT! Saturday, 12/10 and Tuesday, 12/13, 8am-2pm, GEICO, 14111 Danielson Street, Poway 92064. GEICO is hiring Claims, Customer Service and Sales Representatives. Bring your resume! On-site interviews will be conducted. Great benefits include medical, dental, life and 401(k), profit sharing and tuition reimbursement, on-site credit union and fitness center. Advancement opportunities. Fully paid licensing training. Previous insurance experience is not required. EOE. Drug test, physical, credit and background checks required. If unable to attend one of our Career Events, please apply online at: www.geico.com/careers.

CAREGIVER. Experienced, for male quad. California driver's license and good driving record a must. Salary plus room and board. For further information, call 619-466-9189.

CAREGIVER. For elderly gentleman in La Mesa. Full time, live in. Very light house-keeping and meal prep-lots of free time in between! \$350-\$400/week. Call Bernice at 858-292-5503.

CAREGIVER. Live-In, needed in the Poway area to work with adult female with a developmental disability. Friday morning through Sunday evening off. Salary plus benefits. EOE. Please call Angela, 858-549-6205.

CAREGIVERS. Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great benefits. Sign-on bonus. Jobline: 619-342-7466. Central/East: 619-460-6222. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

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CARPENTER. The Bahia Hotel has a full time opening for: qualified Carpenter. We are seeking an individual with 2 years minimum general carpentry experience. Must own hand tools. EOE. Apply Monday-Wednesday, 9am-1pm or send resume to: Bahia Hotel HR Office, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, 92109. Fax: 858-539-7731. www.evanshotels.com.

CASHIER/BOOTH/TRAFFIC DIRECTOR. Viejas Casino. All shifts available. \$8/hour. Apply at www.sunsetparking.com or call 760-753-4004 x333.

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CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED adolescents in a residential treatment facility in Hillcrest. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits. EOE. Fax resume: Attention: Hillary at 619-692-0582 or e-mail to: hr@newalternatives.org.

CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED adolescents in a residential treatment facility in Hillcrest. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits. EOE. Fax resume: Attention: Jenn at 619-692-4124 or e-mail to: hr@newalternatives.org.

CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED children in a residential treatment facility in North County. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits. EOE. Fax resume attention: Martin at 760-749-5228 or e-mail to: hr@newalternatives.org.

CHILDCARE. Before/after-school program. Part-time, \$7.50-\$9/hour. Minimum age 18, good driving record, experience/education with children. Scripps Ranch Swim & Racquet Club, Brenda, 858-271-6222, brenda@srrc.com.

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CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa, Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.75/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.

CLERK-DATA ENTRY/Imaging/Mail. For growing insurance company in Mira Mesa. Full time. \$9-9.50/hour. 7:30am-3:30pm. Great benefits (gym etc.). Career opportunity. Please send resume to Tammy Johnson, Arrowhead General Insurance Agency: tjohnson@arrowheadgrp.com or fax 619-881-8669.

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CNA/HHA/AIDE. Caregivers and Live-Ins. Be appreciated! Immediate openings. 4-, 8-or 12-hour shifts. Must be experienced for home care. Paid time off! Medical/dental insurance. Top pay. Direct deposit. EOE. AALL Care In-Home Services. North County, 760-471-7033. San Diego: 619-297-9601.

CNC MACHINISTS. Solar Turbines has immediate openings. Aircraft or turbine experience preferred. Must be able to pass background and drug screening. Long term position with possibility of direct hire. Call YOLIT, San Diego: 858-576-3140. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920. Chula Vista: 619-427-0200. El Cajon: 619-401-1524.

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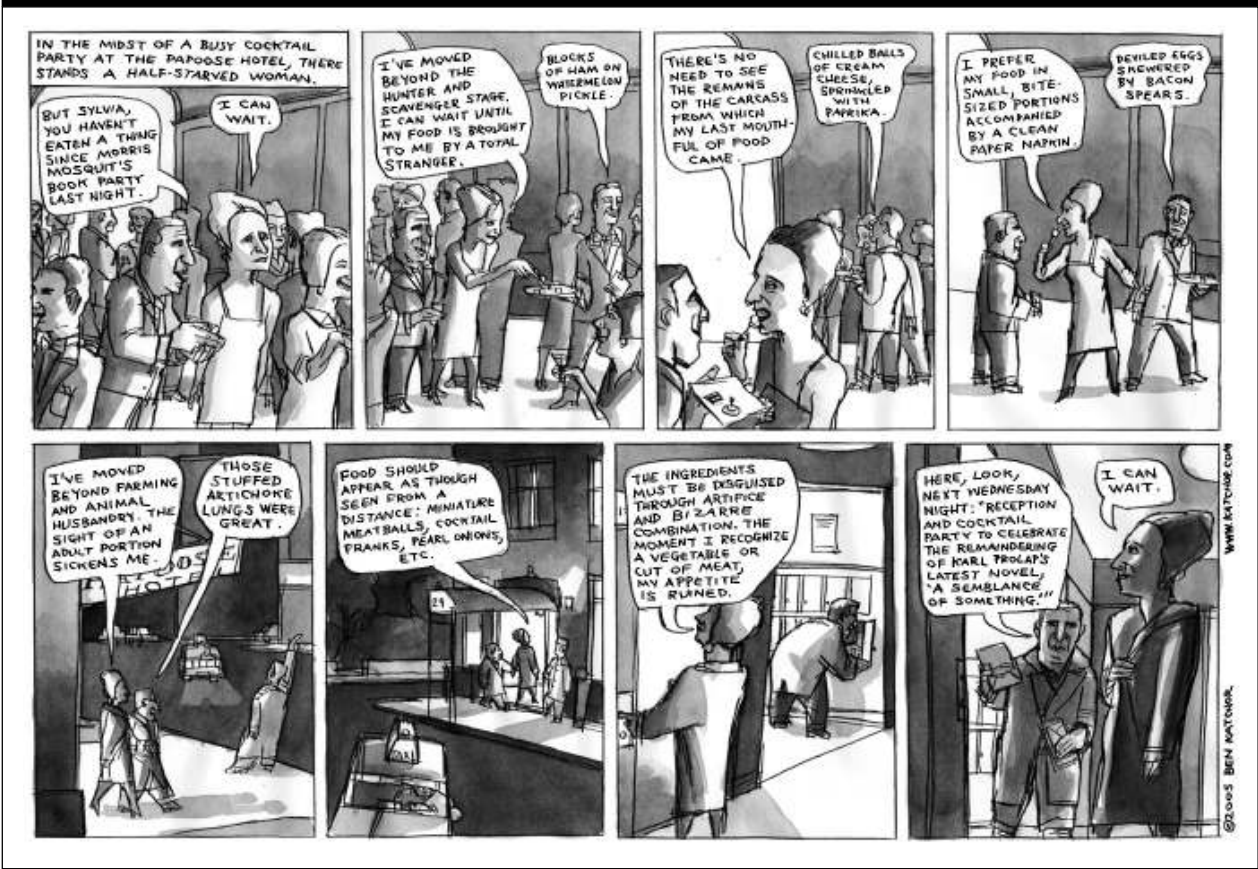
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COUNTER ATTENDANTS for Pacific Beach Subway. Full/part time. Day/evening shifts. Starting hourly at \$8.50. Apply 9am-3pm: 1804 Garnet Avenue, #410, San Diego 92109. 858-270-5450. Management candidates: compensation commensurate with experience. \$28K and up, plus benefits and vacation. Mail resume to 1804 Garnet Avenue, #410, San Diego CA 92109 or fax to 858-573-0278.

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ENTERTAINMENT. Sea World is looking for enthusiastic individuals with positive attitude, high level of energy and commitment to qualify for the following positions. Full time: Groundskeeper and Medical Technologist. Part time: Security Officer II, Pump Mechanic, Park Operations Host/Hostess; Park Services Hostess and Sales Associate III/Games. Seasonal: Accounting Clerk II and Dishwasher. EOE. M/F/V/D. For a description of the available positions, visit SeaWorldJobs.com. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm; 500 Sea World Drive, San Diego 92109. Jobline: 619-226-3861.

ESTHETICIAN. Experienced. Full time, \$400/week guarantee plus commission. Insurance, paid vacation. Mission Valley, 619-980-8907.

ESTHETICIAN. Part-or full-time booth rental in beautiful, upscale Del Mar salon. Need own clientele. Call Kim at 858-353-7546.

ESTHETICIAN wanted for part or full time booth rental in beautiful, upscale Del Mar salon. Need own clientele. Call Kim at 858-353-7546.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO CEO. Good computer skills. Good personality with the public. Outside/inside sales experience. Able to make sales calls at home. 619-231-2151.

FINANCIAL PLANNER/MORTGAGE SPECIALIST. Now hiring new and experienced financial planners. Also hiring new

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FIRE SPRINKLER FITTERS. Apprentices. Journeyman/Foreman. Benefits. Good driving record and reliable a must. Call: 619-562-6247/Fax resume: 619-562-6273.

FITNESS CENTERS hiring Group Exercise Director, Consultants and Group Exercise Instructors. Part/full time. Being Fit Fitness Centers. Clairemont location, 858-483-9294; Mira Mesa location, 858-549-3456.

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FITNESS: PERSONAL TRAINER. Part time for private one-on-one training facility. Degree/certification preferred. Knowledge of weight training/nutrition and health issues. Many career opportunities available. No sales required. 858-454-7774.

FOOD SERVICE WORKER. Sodexo Health Care Services is now hiring at Sharp Memorial Hospital. Part time and full time needed. Varied hours, holidays and weekends a possibility. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm at Food and Nutrition Services, Sharp Memorial Hospital, 7901 Frost Street, San Diego 92123. EOE. M/F/D/V.

FOOD SERVICE. Tired of working Thanksgiving and Christmas? UCSD employees enjoy 13 paid holidays plus exceptional

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Apply Mon.-Fri. 7 am-4 pm
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Sharp Coronado Hospital
250 Prospect Pl., Coronado 92118

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Entry level. Experience with central plant equipment (boilers, chillers), basic knowledge of electrical work, plumbing, carpentry. Hospital experience a plus. Full-time, benefits. Fax résumé: 619.522.3813
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Need an energetic self-starter with a Guard Card and some restaurant experience.

Must commit to a flexible schedule. Experienced, serious applicants only.

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Hospitality



HMSHost, the nation's largest airport concessionaire for retail and food and beverage services, is seeking qualified candidates for the San Diego Airport location:

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For additional information, visit our website at: www.hmssandiego.com

HMSHOST – San Diego International Airport – Terminal 2 – Lower Level Under Delta Ticket Counter
3665 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101
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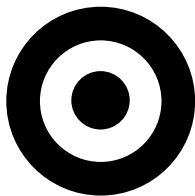
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FOOD/BEVERAGE SERVICE: QUALCOMM. Center Plate at Qualcomm Stadium is hiring part-time Cashiers, Beer Tenders and Runners. Applications taken 9am-4pm Monday-Friday. Center Plate at Qualcomm Stadium, Gate F.

FORKLIFT OPERATORS. Certified. Immediate openings! Come join our family at Volt! Fax resume: 858-695-6920. E-mail resume: scrippsrancho@volt.com. Call Volt Services Group, 858-578-0920.

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GENERAL. Healthcare Services Group now hiring Housekeepers, Laundry Aides, Janitors. Apply in person: Evergreen Carmel Mountain, 11895 Avenue of Industry, 92128, 858-673-0101; Country Villa Murrieta, 24100 Monroe Avenue, 92562, 951-600-4640; Telecare San Diego Choice, 3853 Rosecrans, 92110; Evergreen San Diego, 3520 4th Avenue, 92103; Pleasant Care of San Diego, 2828 Meadow Lark Drive, 92123; Country Villa La Mesa, 5696 Lake Murray Boulevard, 91942; Villa Rancho Bernardo, 15720 Bernardo Center Drive, 92127; Pleasant Care of Vista, 247 East Bobier Drive, 92084.

GENERAL/TRAVEL USA. Publication Sales Company hiring 18 sharp, enthusiastic individuals to travel the U.S. Training, travel, lodging and transportation furnished. 1-800-781-1344.

GRANT SPECIALIST. Responsible for coordination of activities related to grants. Require 1-2 years of work experience. You may report to a supervisor or manager. Fax resumes to: 619-232-8758 or email to: ctepper@ssu-org.com. For information call: 619-236-0496

GRAPHIC ARTIST/TYSETTER. Skilled in Corel Draw, Illustrator, Photoshop. Typesetting with good typing/spelling skills, detail oriented, multitasking and dependable. Experience with skill-screening process a plus. Miramar. Fax resume: 619-209-6510, or call Tom: 1-800-566-9677.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/PRODUCTION. Copy Club Murphy Canyon seeks professional experienced in Quark, Pagemaker, Photoshop and Illustrator in PC and Mac platforms to work in busy retail environment. Production experience preferred. Strong people skills, friendly, self-motivated a must. \$10-\$13/hour plus benefits, training. Knowledge of copy industry a plus. Call Nimish, 858-560-9600. Apply in person: Copy Club, 3737 Murphy Canyon Road #C, San Diego 92123. E-mail: jobs@copy2copy.com. Fax: 858-560-9669.

GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Clerk, Supervisory and Management positions available in Deli, Kitchen, Meat, Grocery, Produce and Vitamins. Cashiers and Cashier Supervisors also needed. Start \$9-\$9.50 with no experience. Great work environment, bonuses and benefits! 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@jimbo.com; www.jimbos.com.

GUITAR COMPANY HIRING for Taylor Guitars. Painters for guitar finish department (mostly nights). ASP.NET Software developer and accountant. Excellent benefits. 90 days. Hotline 619-596-5299 x800. Fax resume 619-258-4345.

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HAIR STYLIST AND ESTHETICIAN needed for newly remodeled La Mesa salon. Contemporary, friendly, professional. great atmosphere. Abundant parking. Booth rental, first week free! 619-850-3226.

HAIRSTYLIST AND RETAIL. Ultra Hair & Beauty Supply. Experienced Hairstylist (Eastlake), \$400/week guarantee plus commission, insurance, paid vacation, 760-809-7904. Part-time retail (Carmel Mountain), 858-674-1883.

HAIRSTYLIST. booth rent, Salon Bordeaux & Wellness Center. Good attitude, work well with others, desire to build clientele. Reliability and promptness a must! Jessica, 619-282-6100.

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WAS A POPULAR HANGOUT FOR
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DANCER JACK SWED ONCE
FOUGHT OFF SEVERAL DRUNKS
HITTING ON HAYWORTH
TOO AGGRESSIVELY.

SHE ALSO REGULARLY
VACATIONED AT THE
ROSARITO BEACH HOTEL
WITH HER HUSBAND
PRINCE ALY KHAN, AND
THE COUPLE LEASED A
HOME IN DEL MAR DURING
40s RACING SEASONS.
SHE WAS FREQUENTLY
SPOTTED EATING AT **CHIKI
JAI**, ON AVENIDA REVOLUCION
AT 8TH, USUALLY DRINKING
VINO TINTO AND HAVING
ENCHILADAS WITH EGGS.

HAIRSTYLIST. Also hiring Color Technician with some clientele following. We are currently seeking motivated professionals to share large, bright, friendly salon space in downtown La Jolla. Salon Victor Magna, 858-459-6325.

HAIRSTYLIST. Booth available. Large salon 2 blocks from the ocean. Lots of elbow room, reasonable rent. Alexander Andrews For Hair, 967 Hornblend Street, Pacific Beach. 858-272-6990.

HAIRSTYLIST. Excellent opportunity! Low booth rent in unique upscale salon. I-5/Washington Street exit. Great location. Ample parking. Move-in incentive. A must-see salon! Call Mindy, 619-723-9046.

HAIRSTYLIST. Kiss booth rental goodbye! We offer guaranteed wage plus commission, paid training and benefits. 20 locations in San Diego County. Beat that or call Great Clips at 1-800-290-6480.

HAIRSTYLIST. Management experience a plus. Save the world from bad haircuts!

Fast-paced, friendly Encinitas Great Clips Salon. No booth rent. Guaranteed clients. Base wage plus commissions. Advancement opportunities. Paid training, insurance, vacation. Leslie, 858-603-0652.

HAIRSTYLIST. Salon J in Del Mar. Looking for stylists. Full or part time. Full with incentive. Booth rental only. Please call Jamie 858-509-1552 or Jen 858-344-6623, or Salon J, 858-259-4247.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST/Esthetician. for our trendy, upscale salons in Solana Beach (in the Design District) and beautiful Hillcrest. Booth available in both. 858-922-5898.

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HAIRSTYLISTS. Looking for Stylists for Moderna Salon's new location. Professionals with experience desired. Booth rent or commission. Please call 619-233-0014.

HAIRSTYLISTS. New Fantastic Sams in Poway. Fun atmosphere. Team focused. Advanced color training provided. Competitive pay. No clientele needed. Call Karen at 858-245-0156.

HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURIST. Hairstylists with some clientele. Manicurist to take over clients. Booth rental or commission. Great location downtown San Diego. Call Celina, 619-232-9228.

HEALTH CARE. No experience necessary! Care for individuals with developmental disabilities in our East County homes. Part time and full time positions: \$7.40-\$8.45 per hour DOE, or on-call po-

sitions \$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, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020 or apply online at www.guidinghands.org. Call 619-938-3057.

HEALTH CARE: Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Caregivers (own vehicle/insurance preferred) and CNAs, HHAs, Caregivers (3 years' experience required). CA ID or driver's license, Social Security card required. Fingerprint and TB test a plus. Overtime for holidays. Call for an interview in North County or San Diego: 760-434-4393 or 619-231-0151. Or apply in person 10am-3pm, Tuesday-Thursday: 2333 1st Avenue, Suite 205, San Diego, CA 92101. *Please bring valid fingerprint card, TB test, Social Security card and California ID.

HEALTHCARE: LVN, CNAs. Casa de Manana, upscale retirement community in La Jolla offering independent and assisted living for seniors, has immediate openings for LVN, graveyard shift Sunday and Monday; full-time CNA, Saturday-Wednesday days; and part-time CNA,

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HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Per diem work--you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. 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. La Jolla Nurses Home-Care, 858-454-9339.

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HOSPITALITY. Hiring now! Oceanside, North County promotions company is expanding. Full/part time promoting VIP invitations to company executives. No nights/weekends. Phone Hiring Director: 760-722-5400. On busline.

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HOTEL FRONT DESK CLERKS wanted for fast-paced hotel environment at San Diego Navy installations. Must have 1 year work experience in hotel/motel desk operations. Must be customer oriented with fun and energetic personality. Full time/part time positions to start. \$9.50-\$10 per hour plus outstanding benefits. Background check required. Call 619-556-8406. Fax resumes to 619-556-9537. www.mwrtooday.com.

HOTEL. Front desk. 4 days/week, 3-11pm. Customer Service experience required. Apply Best Western, 6474 El Cajon Boulevard or fax resume to 619-582-6873.

HOTEL. Hyatt Regency La Jolla now hiring: Convention Services Houseperson, HVAC Mechanic, Cafeteria Attendant, Bartenders, Bar Back, Cocktail Server, Banquet Servers, Laundry Presser, Project Houseperson, Cafeteria Cook, Coffee Bar Attendant, Stewards, Cook II, Cook III, Room Attendants, Laundry Washer, Regency Club Concierge, Housekeeping Houseperson, Servibar Attendant, PBX Operator, Executive Office Administrative Assistant, Sales Meeting Connections Manager, Sales Administrative Assistant and Sales Manager. Excellent benefits. AA/EOE. M/F/D/V. Please apply online at www.lajolla.hyatt.com.

HOTEL. La Valencia Hotel, a 4-star preferred historic hotel, seeks qualified--Houseperson: full-time, mornings. Host/Hostess. Excellent pay and benefits. Pre-employment drug test and background check required. Resume: Attention Human Resources, La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla CA 92037. Fax: 858-551-3745.

HOTEL. Mission Valley Resort seeking enthusiastic, customer service-oriented individuals for Graveyard Server/Cashier, Front Desk Agent, Convenience Store/Mini-mart Clerk. Competitive wages, medical/dental/vision, 401k. 875 Hotel Circle South. Fax: 619-819-1044; E-mail:

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Apply in person
Monday-Wednesday from 9 am-1 pm:
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998 W. Mission Bay Dr.
San Diego, CA 92109
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HOTEL. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring: Accounts Receivable Clerk, Banquet Servers, Bell Person, Front Desk Agent, PBX Operator, Reservation Agents, Reservation Group Coordinator, Room Service Server, Room Service Supervisor. In management: Assistant Controller, Assistant Director of Housekeeping, Pastry Chef, Restaurant Manager, Restaurant Chef. EOE. Please apply: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 1-5pm, 404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Job line: 858-581-5931. www.paradisepoint.com.

HOTEL. The Catamaran Resort Hotel on beautiful Mission Bay Park. Bus person, Cook, Cocktail Server, Dishwasher, Food Expeditor, Food Server, Restaurant Supervisor, Room Service, Spa Attendant. EOE. Monday-Wednesday, 9am-1pm. Bahia Hotel HR Office, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. Apply online: www.evanshotels.com; or fax: 858-539-7729.

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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 drug, 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 Heather at 858-534-9442.

INSIDE MARKETING REPS. Sears Home Improvement Products seeks enthusiastic individuals: Clairemont Mesa, UTC, Carlsbad, Temecula, Carmel Mountain retail locations. Excellent benefits, base pay plus lucrative bonuses. Call: 1-800-379-8310.

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INSIDE SALES/SERVICE REPS. Part time. Complete medical surveys. Ideal will have Life Agent License, medical terminology, communication skills, PC knowledge. EOE. Fax: 888-347-5714. E-mail: HRJOBS@sbia.com. Reference #05-155.

INSTALLERS NEEDED for water heater installation in San Diego area. Full time and part time available. Call 11am-3pm and ask for James, 800-727-0977.

INSURANCE SALES. Mortgage company looking for licensed Insurance Agent to manage Insurance Division. Fantastic opportunity! Can also do loans. No Real Estate license needed as we are a California Finance Lender. Fax resume to 858-536-5113, attention Personnel Department or call Tim at Express Funding: 858-546-5100 x102.

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JOB COACH/COMMUNITY Training Specialist. \$8.75/hour to start, depending on experience. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. EOE. 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. pficareer@yahoo.com. Call 619-440-6802, or fax 619-440-6864.

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LEAD COOK/SOUS CHEF. Immediate opening. Full-time \$9-\$15 per hour depending on experience. Nights and weekends. San Marcos. Email resume: info@friarsfolly.com

LIFEGUARD. The City of Chula Vista Recreation Department is hiring for part-time positions. Great salary, fun job, flexible hours, retirement benefits. Lifeguard I: \$12.52-\$15.22/hour. Lifeguard II: \$13.77-\$16.74/hour. EOE. Apply: HR Department, 276 4th Avenue, Chula Vista, www.chulavista.ca.gov. Call 619-691-5006.

LIGHT OPERATOR wanted for alcohol-free teen club in Escondido. No experience required. Must have excellent sense of rhythm, preferably a musician. Leave message at 760-591-1332.

LINE COOK, EXPERIENCED. Line Cook with at least 1 year experience needed for Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grill, in the heart of the Gaslamp. Please apply in person, Monday-Friday, 12noon to 5pm only: 554 Fourth Avenue, San Diego.

LIVE-IN SUPPORT PERSON/Community Support Facilitator positions. Innovative support 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 and Life Works, SDSU Foundation.

LOAN AGENTS/SALES. No real estate license required. Leave message 24 hours a day for return call, 888-313-7226. Fax resume: 858-454-2437.

LOAN OFFICER TRAINEE. Motivated and assertive individuals with excellent communication skills who want to take their abilities to the next level: get into the mortgage industry now! Entry level position pays hourly plus bonus to start. Monday-Friday, 2pm-8pm. Mission Valley location. DRE# 01380621. For interview, call Ryan at 619-325-2901 x120. Fax resume: 619-325-2904. E-mail: ryanp@pinnaclelend.com.

LOAN OFFICER TRAINEES. Full or part time. No license needed. No experience required. Bilingual preferred. Will train. Call: 619-757-3300, or thangdang2002@yahoo.com.

LOAN OFFICER. Great office environment, high splits. No license/experience OK. Training/licensing assistance. Leads provided. In-house processing escrow. Multi-state. Fax: 858-676-9958. Bill: 858-217-0246. billbaxter@amerfundusa.com.

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LOAN OFFICERS. Fast growing mortgage company is looking for Loan Officers! We offer top commission, advancement opportunities and extensive training! Also, looking for Loan Originators to train and soon become Loan Officers. We offer top pay for our originators, up to \$40/hour. No experience required. Located in Rancho Bernardo. We are looking for people with great communication skills as well as being self-motivated and eager to learn. This is a sales position, that's not for everyone. If you feel you qualify please call: 858-451-1580, Extension 137.

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92121. Fax resume to 858-630-2334. Reader@eq1Lenders.com.

LOAN OFFICERS. Minimum 1 year experience. Great in-house lending environment. Benefits plus up to 80% split! La Jolla firm expanding. E-mail resume to jvasquez@westmooreinc.com

LOAN OFFICERS. Real Estate. \$100,000-\$300,000 annual potential. Splits can be as high as 90%. Can do loans as well. We're a CFL lender; no Real Estate license needed to do loans. Many leads available in our Loan Division. Our company has been in business 20+ years. Call Ken Harrington at Express Funding: 858-336-7885.

LOAN OFFICERS. We are looking for motivated people who want a great career opportunity. Experienced professionals and newcomers welcome—we will train! No license required. Bilingual a plus. \$120K annual potential, high commission splits, quarterly production bonuses, medical/dental benefits. Xclusive Financial Solutions, 9089 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 210, San Diego, CA 92123. Franci: 858-496-3900 x107. E-mail resume: francikasawdsh@xs1.com.

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MANAGERS, SHIFT MANAGERS and Assistant Managers needed for fast-growing national pizza chain at Point Loma location. Flexible hours and days, competitive wages, great growth opportunities. Contact Robert Yeider at 619-758-1448 or e-mail resume and application to ricardo@califigeros.comz

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MANICURISTS needed for busy Coronado salon. Full time, commission. Must do sculptured nails. Contact Janice at Donna Salon, 619-435-6017.

MANUFACTURING ASSEMBLERS and Material Handlers. Apply 8am-4pm, Monday-Friday, December 12-16: 8400 Miramar Road, #270, San Diego. Remedy Intelligent Staffing invites you to register for these temporary positions. Manufacturing Assemblers: 1st shift, \$9.50/hour. Material Handlers: 1st shift; salary depending on experience. 12-hour shifts: 3 days/4 days per week, \$8.50-\$9.25/hour. Must bring proof of right to work in the U.S., photo ID, 2 employment references. 80% ability to speak, read, write English. Pre-employment criminal background check and drug screening required. Fax re-

sume: 858-635-3236. Call 858-635-3239. E-mail resume to remsoresumes@remedystaff.com.

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MARKETING. Sports and entertainment marketing firm has openings in PR/Advertising, Promotional Sales and Account Management. Willing to train the right people. No experience necessary! Call Kirsty Lawrence at 858-279-5941.

MESSAGE PRACTITIONERS. Experienced practitioners needed to work in our newly remodeled professional clinic. Contact the School of Healing Arts. 858-581-9429.

MESSAGE THERAPIST. Need extra income to get through the holidays? The right clientele and the right environment is everything. Some weekend work is required. Website: www.victoriarosemessage.com or call Vivienne for interview. 619-972-0136.

MESSAGE THERAPIST/HHP. Part time position(s). "Hands on" experience required! Flexible hours. Business hours 11am-8pm. 7 days. Updated license/insurance, 750 hours minimum. Deep tissue, sports massage, Swedish. Need intelligence, skilled, personable, ambitious, dependable! Fax or mail resume. Fax: 619-295-3595. Contact: Marsha Selzer, Massage Extraordinaire, 901 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, CA. 92108.

MESSAGE THERAPISTS/HHPs needed for day spa in Old Town. Licensed, responsible, and reliable. Great attitude. Call Relaxation Plus, 619-295-5594 or 760-715-4526.

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MATERIAL MOVERS. Clean DMV required. Engine Mechanics, Electricians, Quality Test Technicians, CNC Machinists, Chemical Processors and Electrical Assemblers. Solar Turbines has immediate openings. Aircraft or turbine experience strongly preferred. Must be able to pass background and drug screening. Long term assignments with potential for direct hire. Call VOLT. San Diego: 858-576-3140. Scripps Ranch: 858-578-0920. Chula Vista: 619-427-0200. El Cajon: 619-401-1524.

MECHANIC. Full or part time for lawn mower shop near I-8 and I-5. Bilingual a plus. Benefits. Start \$10/hour depending upon experience. Call Pro Power, 619-276-2011.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST. Sea World is looking for enthusiastic individuals with positive attitude, high level of energy and commitment to quality. Full-time position. EOE. M/F/V/D. For a description of the available position, visit SeaWorldJobs.com. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm: 500 Sea World Drive, San Diego 92109. Jobline: 619-226-3861.

MENTAL HEALTH WORKER. Immediate opening in teen school-based program in Chula Vista. BA in Psychology or related field preferred, but not required. Fax resume to Gary at 619-421-7742.

MORTGAGE LENDER. Earn up to \$30,000/month! Great opportunity with direct mortgage lender. Solid, exclusive leads provided. Guaranteed starting base of \$2500/month. Excellent training programs. Complete internal processing, underwriting, funding and Call Center to support you. Equity 1 Lenders Group, 9444 Waples Street #300, San Diego, 92121. Fax resume to 760-860-5031. JG@eq1Lenders.com.

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NURSING: LVN. Nice retirement community. Independent care, pass meds. Weekends, evenings needed. Competitive wages. Apply at: Wesley Palms Retirement Community, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, CA 92109. Fax 858-581-8630. Donna, 858-581-8569.

OFFICE ASSISTANT. No Boundaries, Inc., a Fine Art Wall Decor production company is seeking an office Assistant with excellent customer service and organizational skills. Daily responsibilities include responding to customer inquiries via phones and e-mail, processing orders and invoicing, mailing, faxing and filing. The ideal candidate will possess 2 or more years of office experience, excellent oral and written communication skills, good computer and math skills. Follow through with customers and a friendly attitude are essential to the job! Knowledge of QuickBooks, Excel and Lotus a very strong plus. This is a great opportunity for someone to learn how a manufacturing company in the gift and home decor industry works. Our company sells to stores across the country and to national catalogs. Our office is near downtown San Diego. Hours are 8am-4:30pm. For more information call: 619-640-6649. Fax: 619-282-0382. E-mail: info@oopsydaisy.com.

OFFICE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER. Needed immediately. Full time. Experience preferred. Please apply in person: Cookies by Design, 9450 Scranton Road, Suite 112, San Diego 92121.

OFFICE MANAGER/SALES position for established talent agency. Must know Microsoft Word, spread sheets. Part time plus hours. Customer service experience. Call 619-223-5732 or fax resume to 619-226-4492.

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PART TIME/PERMANENT. Client intake, Legal office, 7am-noon or noon-5pm Monday-Friday, \$8-\$15/hour. Sales or customer service helpful. UTC area. 858-622-0300 x88.

PART-TIME GOURMET COOK. Breakfast only, 3-4 days/week, 4-5 hours/day, \$9-\$11/hour. Experience required. Fax resume: 760-602-7842.

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PARTS MANAGER. Fast growing company needs full-time Parts Manager. Experience required, automotive or lawn equipment is great. Great benefits: medical insurance, 401(k), bonuses. Paul, 619-442-9161.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT. Attentive, good writing skills, basic computer knowledge, California license, good DMV record. Full time, \$8/hour. Kearny Mesa office. Fax resume 858-751-5886, e-mail jarmendariz@armendarizdesigngroup.com.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/CAREGIVER. Young man. Cerebral Palsy. Part/full time, days/nights/evenings. Meal preparation/feeding, housekeeping assisting, driving. Driver's License, references, background check. jillyc@san.rr.com.

PERSONAL TRAINERS. Degree in Exercise Science or related field preferred, not required. Knowledge of weight training/exercise physiology. Understanding of key nutritional/health issues. Del Mar. 858-481-2255.

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PLUMBERS/SERVICE TECHS needed now! 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.

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POLICE OFFICERS. San Diego Police Department is hiring! Ready for a career change? Upcoming test block dates are: Friday and Saturday, January 27 and 28. Applicants must attend both days of testing. Police Recruit earns \$42,723 per year. Police Officer I earns \$43,596 per year. Police Officer II earns \$61,110 per year. For more information, Call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police.

PRINT/COPY CENTER- Customer Service Rep. Assistant to sales department for commercial copy center. 1-2 years experience in a customer support position desired. Industry experience also preferred. Duties to include sales order processing, purchasing, and estimating. Must be able

to work in a detailed, fast paced environment. Must have good math/computer skills; excellent verbal, organizational and resolution skills; friendly, outgoing, detail oriented. Full time, Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00. Competitive pay. Benefits: Vacation, health, 401(k). Apply: A Copy World, 980 Buenos Avenue (off W. Morena Boulevard); Phone: 619-275-5560; Fax: 619-275-5466; www.acopyworld.com.

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. Test Date: December 10, 2005, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$32,884-\$41,953/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. County of San Diego Probation Department Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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RECEPTIONIST. part time. Friendly, outgoing person needed for busy chiropractic clinic in Carmel Valley. Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday, 2:00-7:30pm. \$9/hour. Fax: 858-481-9797. Call 858-481-0303.

RECREATION SPECIALIST. City of Chula Vista. \$13.68-\$16.63/hour plus retirement benefits. Part-time positions, 15-30 hours/week. Knowledge of running a fitness facility and/or fitness classes, recreation programming, center supervision, running after-school programs, mobile recreation programs, day camps and/or athletics. Requires equivalent to completion of 12th grade, supplemented by 30 units from accredited college or university, plus 2 years experience in related recreation area. Apply in person: 276 4th Avenue, Chula Vista 91910. Visit www.chulavistaca.gov or call for application at 619-691-5096.

RESEARCHER/ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant for small scientific retained search firm in UTC area. Responsible for working on multiple projects, including creating target lists for recruiters, compiling profiles on companies, maintaining database, making travel and meeting arrangements and answering calls. Must have strong computer skills and no fear of making calls to obtain information. Bachelors degree in Library Science or Mar-

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RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISORS. YMCA Oz Shelter Services, a residential program for teens 12-17, has openings in Ocean-side and Clairemont for part-time Overnight Residential Supervisors. Must be able to work weekends. \$9.25/hour. For Ocean-side, e-mail resume: ozncresume@ymcs.org or fax: 760-721-8034. For Clairemont, e-mail resume: ozsdresume@ymca.org; or fax: 858-270-8216.

RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT. Pacific Beach Subway. Compensation commensurate with experience. \$28K and up, plus benefits and vacation. Mail resume to: 1804 Garnet Avenue #410, San Diego 92109 or fax to 858-573-0278. Counter Attendants: Day/evening shifts. Starting hourly at \$8.50. Apply 9am-3pm: 2015 Garnet Avenue (at Morrell), San Diego 92109. 858-270-5450.

RESTAURANT SERVER, COOK, UTILITY: Casa de Manana, an upscale retirement community in La Jolla offering independent and assisted living for seniors, has immediate openings for full-and part-time Servers, various hours; full-time Utility Person; and Lead Cook/Supervisor, bilingual preferred. Competitive wages, benefits for full time, friendly work environment. Apply in person at 849 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, CA 92037, or fax resume to 858-456-4293.

RESTAURANT, CHILI'S Grill & Bar, Encinitas, hiring Servers, Host/Hostess, To-Go, Bussers, Cooks. Apply in person any day, 2-4pm: Chili's, 1004 North El Camino Real, Encinitas.

RESTAURANT. Servers, Banquet Servers, Cooks/Chefs. New company hiring. Great pay \$11-\$20/hour. Flexible hours. Call 858-442-1283.

RESTAURANT. The Mission breakfast and lunch cafe now hiring manager, full time. Must be available days and weekends. 3-5 years experience preferred. Fax resume, 619-220-8993.

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RESTAURANT: WAIT STAFF, COOKS, part time, will train. Several shifts available to meet all scheduling needs (12-4pm, 4-8:30pm, 4:30-8:30pm and 5-8:30pm). Weekends available also, Saturday 6am-2:30pm, 12-8:30pm, 4-8:30pm, Sunday 10am-4pm). Breakfast and Lunch Line Cook (60-80 breakfasts; 25-40 lunches). \$12 to start. cagan@kiscosl.com.

RESTAURANT Manager needed. Must be an organized, self starter with at least 3 years experience, computer and P.O.S. Systems knowledge. Full time. Good salary, benefits and bonuses. 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.

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RETAIL SALES. Women's trendy casual boutique seeks individual with energy and experience. 30-40 hours/week, Saturdays a must! Great salary! Call Julie, 858-350-0071.

RETAIL. Gourmet market seeking part time and possible full time help. Food experience a plus. Call 1:00-9:30pm, 619-578-8590.

RETAIL. PETCO's new La Costa store needs Sales Associates, Team Leaders, Groomers, Assistants, Trainers, Companion Animal Specialists. Apply: www.petco.com/jobs. Come. Work. Stay.

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RETAIL/OFFICE COORDINATOR. Grow with the company! Dearinger is looking for artistic, creative individual to help with all aspects of business. Customer and computer skills. Fast learner! No experience necessary, will train. Medical, dental. 401(k). dearinger.com. Apply in person, Tuesday-Friday, noon-7pm: Dearinger Salon, 307 Market Street, San Diego 92101.

RETAIL: SPORTS ARENA TARGET is seeking fast, fun, friendly team members for Sales Floor, Cashiers and Overnight Stockers. Apply at the store kiosk: 3245 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92110.

RETAIL: TARGET EASTLAKE is hiring! Team Leaders/Supervisors, minimum 1-2 years supervisory and 1-2 years retail experience. Overnight Stockers, 12am-8am. Sales Floor/Cashiers, daytime shifts. Cart Attendant, daytime shifts. Garden Center, daytime shifts. Apply at the store kiosk and get an instant interview! 910 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista, CA 91914. EOE.

RETAIL: TARGET MIRA MESA is hiring! Overnight Stockers (12am-8am), Back Room Stockers (afternoon/evening shifts), Cashiers and Sales Floor (part time, all shifts). Please apply in person at our employment kiosk: 8251 Mira Mesa Boulevard, 92126. EOE. Smoke-and drug-free workplace.

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Or e-mail résumé to: hr@newalternatives.org



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SALES/INSIDE. Success is a lifestyle. We sell 8am to 1pm or 1pm to 6pm. No weekends. \$12/hour to start. Call Rick: 1-800-566-9677.

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SOCIAL SERVICES. Mental Health worker for outpatient mental health clinic to work with "at risk" children and families. BA required. Bilingual a plus. Competitive salary, benefits. EOE. Fax resume Attn: MHW at 858-277-1262 or e-mail: hr@newalternatives.org.

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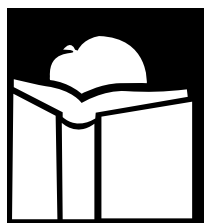
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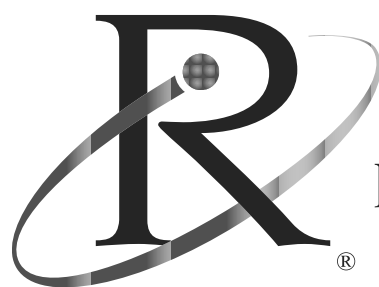
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THE READER PUZZLE

Across

- All the rage
- Leaves in a bag
- "Pardon me, Paolo"
- "The Alienist" author
- Pluralizing letter
- Areas that provide shade
- Consolidated "Wicked Game" singer?
- If all goes right
- Consolidated opera singer?
- "It takes a licking and keeps on ticking" company
- "Make up your mind!"
- Dumbfound
- Palm, e.g.
- _____ Sabe
- Stewart of "The Daily Show"
- Hawaiian island
- Absolut country
- Consolidated Las Vegas performer?
- It goes from A to A
- "... _____ a pudgy tat!"
- Unmannered sort
- Copy cats?
- Knee-slapper
- Robust
- At sixes and sevens
- To the point
- Consolidated "Murder, She Wrote" actress?
- Linked
- Consolidated "Drugstore Cowboy" actress?
- Assumed, as a character
- "Vacancy" shower
- Hawaiian island
- Broadway premiere of 1959
- Org. established in 1897 as the National Congress of Mothers
- Aware of

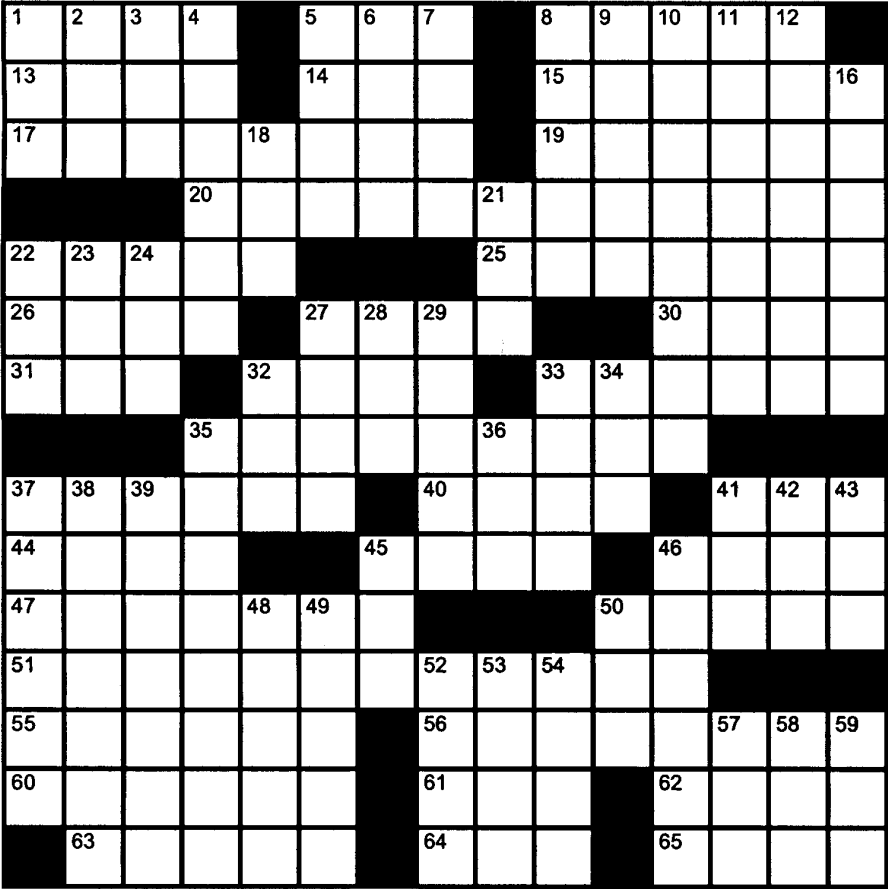
Down

- New Deal prog.
- Scoffer's cry
- Bargain bin abbr.
- Record listings
- Glum drop
- TV actor Morales
- "_____ silly question ..."
- "Joe Dirt" star David
- Subpoenas, say
- Complete
- Is plenty angry
- "My treat!"
- When a shootout might take place
- Lisa Simpson's instrument
- "Science Guy" Bill

- _____ Mahal
- "Sands of _____ Jima" (1949 film)
- What androphiles fear
- "The Best Man" actor Diggs
- Campaign for office
- "Old MacDonald" refrain
- Dallas hoopster
- ERA or RBI
- Dumbfound
- Practiced before playing
- Subject of protests in Seattle in 1999: Abbr.
- Narcotic
- Machiavellian
- "King Lear," for one
- One that's tired?
- Capp and Capone
- "A Raisin in the Sun" actress Ruby
- TV buying channel
- "Yo!"
- Nobelists Wiesel et al.
- Koufax on the mound
- MTV show since 1998
- Problem for a deejay
- Set (on)
- Bone near the elbow
- Break
- Comic Margaret
- Old-time marauder

RULES OF THE GAME

- The prize for solving the *Reader* Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.
- All entries in the *Reader* Puzzle contest must be received by the *Reader* by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- One entry per person.



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Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 12/1/05.

Of the 190 entrants, 183 were correct. The winners are:

- Diana L. Holt, *Fallbrook*
- Dixie Smith, *San Diego*
- Matt Coleman, *San Diego*
- Christina Plato, *Escondido*
- Gloria P. Meisen, *Oceanside*

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AUDITION NOTICE. Head shot/resume desired, not necessary. Lamplighters Theatre, 8053 University Avenue, La Mesa, 7pm December 12/13, callbacks 12/14. Musical, 5 comedic actresses, 18-60ish needed, questions 619-464-4598.

AUDITIONS FOR VOICE-OVER. Narration for documentary film. Southern accent preferred/will gladly consider others. Open to middle-age-elderly voices. Tuesday 12/6/05, 5pm-8pm. E-mail alex@filmalex.com, or 858-405-6731.

AUDITIONS. 3 men, 20s/50s/70s, for new play about family connections, in a time of crisis. 1 minute dramatic/monologue. Auditions 10am, 12/17/05, 6th at Penn Theatre, 619-683-2256.

AUDITIONS. "Brothers All," 1/8-1/9, 7-10pm. Open to all, ages 19-29; 50-65. Show dates 2/19-3/15 (Sundays-Wednesdays). 1915 Morena Boulevard. Bring headshot and resume. www.6thatpenn.com; Barry, 619-463-2374.

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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Farewell, Pell Mell...next to go, Father Joe?) **Recent demolition of Pell Mell Supply Co. (1344 National Avenue) and Azteca Taco Shop by 12th and Imperial Trolley headquarters. Triangle Condominiums will occupy the locale, a couple of blocks from Father Joe and St. Vincent de Paul charities. (Last week's winners: Peter Jones, A.C. Alvarez, Arnold L. Melvin, John Nevara, Marge Mowde)**

Q: Oldest Aussie in town?

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.)



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NOTICES

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A.R.T.S. Anonymous meets Mondays at 6:30pm. If you want support to identify and express your creativity, contact Bob at 619-528-9584 for details.

ADDICTED to Internet pornography/sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-sandiego.org.

ADDITION PROBLEMS? Women for Sobriety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549-3533.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Get group support at San Diego Area meetings. Open to adults who grew up in alcoholic or other types of dysfunctional households. Feel better about yourself in a supportive 12-step environment. 619-276-6232, www.adultchildren.org.

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.

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HIPPOCALYPSE. Entertainment present, Realism ajizza, gstring, and frankie england live at The Hot Monkey Love Cafe at 7:30, Friday January, 13, 2006. 5960 El Cajon Boulevard, \$5/donation, free CD.

LADIES, AVOID BURNOUT! Learn how to balance life's commitments. Find understanding, encouragement, friendship. All ages. Tierrasanta area. Meets Wednesdays at 7pm. Michele, 858-627-9505.

MOVIE BUFFS Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards, like book clubs? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS Incorporated, non-profit, wishes to thank Hanger Prosthetics for everything. Seeking electric wheel chair, dental surgeon for unusual dental dilemma. Dharma Basket, 619-248-8291.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS Incorporated, non-profit, wishes to thank Hanger Prosthetics for everything. Seeking sports wheel chair, dental surgeon for unusual dental dilemma, impacted canine. 619-248-8291.

NUTCRACKER BALLET. Directed by Teresa Wells, third year at Joan Kroc Performing Arts Theatre, 6845 University Avenue. Saturday, December 17th, 1:00PM and 7:00PM; Sunday, December 18th, 1:00PM. Tickets \$15-\$17, groups 10+. \$12. Featuring dancers from Boston/Pittsburg Ballets. Ticket information call 619-590-2941.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step group for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. Free. Information, 619-757-6603.

PARENTS, FAMILIES. And Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Find help, support, and understanding. Meetings monthly in Hillcrest. www.pflag.com or call for further details, 619-579-7640.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION. "Manifesting What You Want," December 8, 2005, 7-9 p.m., 1221-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available, for more information, 619-259-1880.

PATHWORK OF CALIFORNIA. "Grace and Gratitude," December 19, 2005, 7-9pm, 4716 32nd Street, San Diego, 92116. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. For more information, call 619-280-9075.

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-dependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate recovery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.recovery4u.cc

SPENDERS IN RECOVERY meeting of Debtors Anonymous meets Tuesdays at 6:30pm. If you want tools to stop overspending, contact Irene for details, 619-528-9584.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.slawso.org.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

VOLUNTEERS. San Diego's abused/neglected children need you to serve as a Court Appointed Special Advocate. All training provided. Information sessions: Wednesday, 1/11 and 2/8. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019, www.voices4children.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. UCSD's Doula Program needs women to help other women during labor. Be a part of this special time and make a difference in women's lives. 619-543-6269, #3.

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

CHRISTMAS IN CABO! At 5-star Hotel on beach. Next to PGA Golf, world class fishing. \$700/week includes tax. 12/19/05-12/26/05. Call: 619-469-5079/619-508-7118.

DISCOVER COSTA RICA PARADISE! 35 lovely hotel/apartments. Best area of San Jose. From \$195 weekly. www.hotels.co.cr/scotland.html or for investment, www.2buyrentsell.com. Call 760-822-1508.

PARK CITY, UTAH Beautiful 4 bedroom log home. Lake and ski resort views. Sleeps 9-16. Conveniently located to all. Available year round. 858-495-9334 or 858-472-3567.

PERSONALS

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

AIR, LIKE INVISIBLE choo-choo train, streamlining mind, thought, spirit, etc., into visible, fantastic jig-saw puzzles, (humans) wearing colorful, dazzling, bubbles (flesh)... belting songs, dances, food, celebrating cosmic Christs guidelines.

DAVIEBABE. Eastcoast. We were so in-sync till I made our ship sink. You were a friend of mine. Still crazy after all these years!

DEAREST SHEEPLE, Poster person for soap on a rope. Double the price per barrel? About dream standing on White House lawn with both shoes untied. Likly Split.

FEEL FOR THE Winter, but don't have a cold heart. Let love be your guide. Peace Now!

HGS. Going to turkey doesn't make you a turkey. Being one-sided in love with you

Find a Mate by New Year's!



Wendee Mason, MBA
Instructor of DateSmart

FREE SEMINAR – Learn how to:
Meet single people today
Find the best place to meet singles now
Overcome self-imposed fears
Market yourself and save thousands
Save big money on dates
Be more assertive on dates
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Catholic Singles Network in conjunction with the Catholic Singles Club of San Diego hosts

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
Doubletree Club • 8 pm-1 am
1515 Hotel Circle South, San Diego

Come ring in 2006 with Catholic Singles at our special New Year's Eve Party. Evening includes facilitated ice-breakers, champagne toast at midnight, party favors, hors d'oeuvres with carving station, and a cash bar. DJ entertainment provided by Primo DJs. Free parking.

Register by 12/18 and save \$20, plus you'll be entered in a raffle drawing to attend the party for free!

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www.catholicsinglesnetwork.com
or call: 1-888-208-9555 x87

The Best

Singles Parties

For People Over 30

...happen every Tuesday at the 94th Aero Squadron

...happen every Saturday at the Skies Lounge
in the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 8110 Aero Drive
New Year's Party December 31 • 8 pm-1 am
\$25 admission • Reserve your spot at any party or by phone

...happen every Sunday at the Riverwalk Golf Club
1150 Fashion Valley Road
Dance from 7-11 pm • \$10 Admission
(Ladies free before 7:30 with ad. Sunday party only.)

Meet new and exciting people. Complimentary buffet.

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No party 12/10, 12/17, 12/25



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doesn't make me a turkey, either. TYS MICHALE IRDLY 24/7/365.

ON GOLDEN POND. Albeit many times unpopular, I've had your back on every occasion. Why? Because I believe in you and in our hearts truth. My loyalties, to you is only of strength, not weakness; know the difference. It's important. Its time to let me know my value of us is not one-sided! As always, I love and miss you, your beautiful brown-eyed face. "g".

SIGNS. Great earthquakes shall be in diverse places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven. Luke 21:11.

SWEETHEART. For my being, you're the reason, as we enter the Holiday season. Take no jive, stay alive, I'll love you until I die. TMC.

MATCHES
WOMEN
SEEKING MEN

SWEET LOVELY LADY, 67, pretty, fun loving, kind, San Diego South Bay area. Seeking kind, sincere, lighthearted gentleman, 70-78 years, 5'10"+, for long-term relationship. (12/14) ☎49304

BLONDE, LONG HAIREd, energetic with long legs needs partner for biking, danc-ing, hiking, golf and friendship. High edu-cation required. Sunny disposition a plus! (12/21) ☎49319

BLACK BEAUTY, 25 YEARS. Seeking a Caucasian, mature, financially stable, generous gent., 40+, for relation-ship. (12/21) ☎49334

ATTRACTIVE, FIT MOM, 40, 5'7", brown/blue. Movies, tennis, homelife, camping, boardgames. Seeking honest, humorous, attractive Caucasian, non-smoking gentleman, 31-46, 5'10"+, ro-mantic, monogamous relationship. 858. (12/14) ☎49307

BEAUTIFUL, STRIKING blonde, intelli-gent, genuine, unique, sophisticated, sexy, elegant, glamorous, great figure, 47. Desire extremely accomplished, up-scale, stable, sincere, single gentleman

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.”

who appreciates the best. (12/21) ☎49315

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR a sincere de-pendable companion? European lady, 55, seeks honest, financially secure gen-tleman. I enjoy movies, walks and eating out. (12/21) ☎49313

SINCERE, ATTRACTIVE, youthful lady, 5'6", trim, athletic. Enjoy outdoors. Seek-ing tall, healthy male, 50-68, wanting to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (12/21) ☎49323

PHOTOS ONLINE. Attractive, smart, cheerful, affluent, Chinese, 53, 5'3", slim/toned, retired pharmacist. Seeks in-telligent, flat-ab, nonsmoker male, in ex-ploration of mutually enriching/fulfilling friendship. (12/21) ☎49336

ATTRACTIVE SINGLE BLACK female, 54. Enjoy dining, movies, plays, concerts, walks, amusement parks, sunsets. Seek-ing honest, caring, black male, 40-55, for friendship and possible relation-ship. (12/21) ☎49335

SINGLE WHITE FEMALE. 40ish, with fam-ily, Christian, enjoys golf, musicals/movies, outdoors, karaoke,

dancing. Seeking committed/marriage minded only, educated. (12/21) ☎49337

SHAPELY, CUTE, CUDDLY, 58, North County divorcee wants travel, love, sin-cere and serious partner. Dining, home and out dancing-your choice. Kindness and joy priority. (12/21) ☎49326

GEORGIA PEACH To San Francisco to San Diego. 60 years young. Outgoing, warm, adventurous, amateur photogra-pher. Museums, outdoors, indoors, travel, no smoking. Pet lover. (12/14) ☎49300

SPIRITUAL, GOOD LOOKING, growth ori-ented, educated, holistic lifestyle, com-passionate, heart connected, your best friend. Fit, 5'6", slender, blonde, loving, artist, musical, outdoors oriented, beach lover. (12/21) ☎49314

AFRICAN BEAUTY For love, romance and fun. Mother and friend, 32, sexy, and mother of 1. Seeks strong, stable white male, 27-45, for relationship. (12/14) ☎49294

I AM A WARM CARING person who loves nature, family, friends, home reading, walks, travel. My interests vary. What are yours? Sincere, grounded, let's share. (12/21) ☎49317

PETITE, HUMOROUS, delicate, caring Japanese. Enjoys classical music and other good music, can cook various dishes. Must be able to live comfortably in San Diego. (12/14) ☎49296

BEAUTIFUL BLACK FEMALE, 5'5", slim. Seeking nonsmoking partner, 35-49, for dancing, hiking, camping, movies and stimulating conversation. Race open. (12/21) ☎49316

CHRISTMAS IS NEAR. Send me some magic this year. White, attractive, 5'3", outgoing, serious minded, play no games. Seeking white or Hispanic, 23-50 years. Same. (12/21) ☎49325

INTEGRITY, HONOR, morals, loyalty, never-married, exotic Polynesian beauty queen, gourmet cook, artist, model, edu-cated, athletic. You: Quality, never-mar-ried, fit, animal lover, 40-59. (12/14) ☎49299

38-YEAR-OLD, TALL, blue eyed, black-haired disabled female. Seeking you for dating, possibly relationship. Likes swim-ming, movies, walks, dancing, dining/touring my own city. (12/14) ☎49298

FUN LOVING, OUTGOING, heartbroken but mendable. If you are someone that I can communicate with through words or by just holding one another? Let's talk. (12/21) ☎49318

ASIAN WOMAN. 59, 5'3". Seeking man who has a lot of caring, loving, respect, understanding and financially stable in life. Asian or white OK. (12/14) ☎49306

COSMOPOLITAN, EUROPEAN, attractive, intelligent, health-oriented. Interested in masculine scholar, gentleman, cultured, refined, financially stable, generous, gen-uine. Downtown San Diego, Seaport Vil-lage. 50-70 if useful. (12/21) ☎49327

ASIAN, SEXY, SULTRY, healthcare pro-fessional, nice legs, curvaceous figure, 5'3", 110lbs., childless, properties owner. Seeking nonsmoker counterpart to ex-plore potential, dentist a plus, 35+, Cau-casian. (12/14) ☎49303

TRUST YOUR INTUITION. Seeking quality senior lady who lives life to the fullest. Slim, healthy, intelligent, pretty, interest-ing for world traveler. Del Mar. You: 66-74. (12/21) ☎49311

PASSIONATE, SINCERE, loving Latina. Seeking that special gentleman, roman-

tic, intelligent from 42-52 for a long-term relationship. Must love everything life of-fers. (12/21) ☎49328

ATTRACTIVE SINGLE MOM, 40, full-fig-ured. Still searching for Caucasian/His-panic man for long-term relationship. Not looking for casual dating or anyone not sincerely interested. (12/14) ☎49297

SLIM, PETITE, attractive, real estate agent, 59, likes travel, outdoors, arts. Seeking attractive, reasonably fit com-panion for conversation and a glass of wine. (12/14) ☎49295

THE BEST OF ALL THE REST. Honesty, kindness, beauty, brain, 5'6", 130lbs., sexy woman of color, 40s. Seeking attrac-tive gentleman, 5'11"+, clean face, non-smoker, 40-55. (12/21) ☎49312

ASIAN, ATTRACTIVE, sweet, cultured. Enjoy traveling, cooking, reading, movies, nature. Want to meet a nice white gentle-man, ages 30 and up. Nonsmoker. No drugs. (12/21) ☎49309

BEAUTIFUL 47-YEAR-OLD striking bluish/green-eyed lady. Like sports, beach, sunsets, animals. Seeking easy-going man, nonsmoker, between the ages of 43 to 52 with similar inter-ests. (12/14) ☎49305

RELATIONSHIP WITH 58 TO 65 year old white male. I am 5'3", weight 155lbs. Hope to hear from you. (12/21) ☎49321

SENSUOUS, INTELLIGENT, sweet 57 lady would like excitement, adventure with handsome, witty, sense of humor gent., 47-62. Are you ready for fun, friendship or romance? (12/21) ☎49333

ATTRACTIVE FILIPINO WIDOW, 60, sexy, educated, secure, homeowner. Enjoy dancing, travel, dining, cuddling, movies, will kiss away your lonely nights. Seeking tall, white, handsome, financially secure gentleman. (12/21) ☎49331

GOOD-LOOKING LADY with pleasing per-sonality and nice figure. Seeking 59+, tall gentleman who is romantic, sexy, unen-cumbered and has time to love and play. (12/21) ☎49329

MESSAGE THERAPIST/HEALTH practi-tioner desired for sensual lasting love af-fair with sexy singer, 43, conscious, or-ganic, smoke-free, sensitive touch, connect us to heavens, under 55. (12/21) ☎49332

✂

Try online placement for your Reader Matches Ad!

Meet Your Match.

Get a free ad in the *Reader* and on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com, and a free voice mailbox for recording and receiving messages. Questions? Call 619-235-8200, 8:30-5:00, Mon.-Fri.

Free Online Placement:

Ads submitted online receive e-mail responses and voicemail responses. Tell more about yourself and upload a photo, too! These features are free. Online placement deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

More Free Placement Options:

Can’t get online? Fill the form below and mail or fax it to us. If faxing, please photocopy first. Fax/mail deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

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.

1234

PRINT CLEARLY:

First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

12345678910111213141516171819202122232425/FREE2627282930

FREE AD DEADLINE:

7 am Saturday

Mail:

Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 Fax: (619) 233-7907

Online:

SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE:

5 pm Tuesday

Fax:

(619) 233-7907 Phone: (619) 235-8200

Walk-in:

1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

We must have the following information. Please print.

Name

Address

City Zip

Phone (day) ()

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:

☐ Shared interests

☐ Woman seeking a man

☐ Man seeking a woman

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox

\$ FREE

Headlines _____x \$12 each line

\$

First 25 words of printed ad.....

\$ FREE

Additional words _____x \$1.20 each.....

\$

Late fee/walk-in fee: \$20.....

\$

TOTAL

\$

No cancellations. No refunds. Make check or money order payable to San Diego Reader. To order using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

Card number

Expiration date

Signature

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the “Shared Interests” category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in “Shared Interests” ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego Reader does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego Reader as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego Reader and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

San Diego Reader December 8, 2005 185

DOWN TO EARTH, SEXY, FUN, love to relax and spend quiet nights at home. Seeking passionate and respectful, also spontaneous. They do say opposites attract. (12/21) ☎49322

MIRABAI SEEKS JUNIPER berrying addictive-free erudite Coyote, 45-65, interested in mind body enrichment to include dancing and local adventures. Average size, weight and intelligence. (12/14) ☎49308

ATTRACTIVE, PETITE, 48. Desire sincere, emotionally/financially, nonsmoking, Christian gentleman, for friendship, companionship. Sharing Christian values, church attendance, humor, and interests. North County area. (12/21) ☎49310

ARE YOU A MATURE MAN who enjoys traveling? Perhaps an RV enthusiast? Contemplating geographical relocation? Enjoy music, good conversation, humor? Love's in the air! (12/21) ☎49324

ARE YOU MY COWBOY come true? Are you tall, white, extremely handsome? Must be 45-48, fit. If so we need to talk. No games please! (12/21) ☎49330

37-YEAR-OLD QUALITY LADY, 5'4", 125lbs., brunette/blue eyes and attractive. Seeking physically fit, kind gentleman, 35-47 years for relationship. Must be presentable. (12/14) ☎49301

LOVING, SECURE, WONDERFUL guy sought by Latina, 49, to spend quality time, possibly long-term relationship. Healthy, attractive, active. You same. Age/race open. Endless possibilities! (12/21) ☎49320

MATCHES MEN SEEKING WOMEN

RELATIVE WRIGHT BROTHER want to make contact with Korendian lady from Koreodon. Interested in your technology, friendship. Tired of unkind woman of my own race here. (12/21) ☎49779

NORTH COUNTY BACHELOR! Trim, great shape, educated, financially secure homeowner, 50ish, light brown, blue, 5'9", 150lbs. No kids! You: 40ish, attractive, not overweight and available! (12/21) ☎49782

ENJOY BEING PAMPERED? Sophisticated gentleman, 42, nonsmoker. Seeking woman, 18-30, for dining, travel, companionship. Should have a wide range of interests. Be kind. Paris, anyone? (12/21) ☎49785

SUCCESSFUL WHITE MALE seeks happily ever after with intelligent, fit, attractive lady, 30s-40s. I'm positive, supportive, affectionate, blue eyes, muscular, well dressed, Catholic. (12/21) ☎49770

Chivalrous, Sexy Man Warm, courteous, attentive gentleman with good heart, 6'2", slender, 58. Seeking sexy, kind-hearted lady, age 50-60s, for committed relationship, fun, and happiness. (12/21) ☎49790

HANDSOME, RESPONSIBLE, caring, 35, Caucasian male, nonsmoking college-educated homeowner. Seeking an attractive Asian female for dating leading to a quality relationship. (12/21) ☎49783

DINNER AND A MOVIE. Divorced white male, young mid-60s, attractive, lots of energy. Seeking nice Caucasian lady for a great relationship. Call and let's talk. (12/14) ☎49762

KEY INGREDIENTS FOR LIFE: timing, communication, chemistry, trust, respect, laughter, passion, romance, KPBS radio, classic rock, arts, creative, spontaneous. Looking for athletic, petite, nonsmoker, 38-48. (12/14) ☎49757

I'M 40, ATTRACTIVE. Looking for single woman, 30+,. Me: black, 6'5", 240lbs. Woman must be positive, fit, ready for fun. See you soon. Call me. (12/21) ☎49789

MALE, 45, 5'11, 199. I seek older, mature female, who is mentally stable, settled, no baggage, for a no-strings friendship. Maybe more if it comes. (12/14) ☎49753

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

Romantic, Honest, Fun Guy

You and me against the world. 52, fit, handsome guy, well established. Seeking fit, attractive woman for meaningful, fun relationship, hopefully more. Kids OK. (12/14) ☎49759

JEWISH MAN, 61, seeking Jewish woman 35-55, for long-term relationship, only serious inquiries apply. Possibly marriage. Interests, tennis, movies, live theatre, travel. (12/14) ☎49744

HOME ALONE, TALL, HANDSOME male, divorced father, young 60, La Mesa, not rich, just gentleman. Seeking sexy, passionate, romantic woman for intimate evenings, kisses, me. (12/21) ☎49793

59 YEAR OLD Man looking for nice woman with a good sense of humor, nonsmoker who likes herself and her life, who lives North County. (12/14) ☎49736

FULL-BODIED WHITE FEMALE, 180+lbs., wanted by attractive black artist, property owner, building mountain home. Seeking to share it with large passionate woman wanting permanent relationship. (12/14) ☎49755

FOR ASIAN EYES ONLY. This handsome white gentleman, 5'9", 173lbs, 56 years old, silver white hair, blue eyes, healthy, fit, romantic is looking you. 44-58. (12/21) ☎49775

COOL, FINE, GENTLEMAN, single black male, 39, degreed, seeks clandestine, long-term relationship with slightly older, attractive woman. Will cater to your needs. (12/14) ☎49742

ASIAN/LATIN, 5'9", medium build, black, brown, professional. Seeking athletic, outgoing female for travels, dining, possible long-term relationship and more. (12/21) ☎49784

ALL AROUND GOOD GUY. Looking for long-term relationship and love, hug and kisses. Ready to give all my heart. Call me. (12/21) ☎49764

HELLO! IT'S GETTING COLD in the mountains of Prescott, Arizona. Looking for soul mate and best friend. Spiritual, creative, natural, warm. No bad habits, please. (12/21) ☎49766

MAYBE HANDSOME LATINO, 51. We're both friendly, calm, intelligent, relatively attractive, confident, honest. I'm healthy, 5'8", 160, long-divorced, attentive, stable, hiker. Let's dream together. (12/14) ☎49754

SEEKING FEMALE FRIEND and with time, girlfriend? Average 58-year-old unencumbered male. Adventurous, spontaneous, "can't" never did anything. No pressure, no stress, no games! (12/21) ☎49767

I WOULD LIKE TO MEET an Asian lady for a date. I enjoy boogie boarding, soccer, football, poker and anything to do with sports. (12/21) ☎49776

EASY-GOING, 55, looks 45, 5'10", 185, multiple homeowner, travel, sports, concerts, movies, sport cars. You, slim, smart, beauty, to share great memories. (12/14) ☎49746

STRONG WOMAN DESIRED! Are you outgoing, spontaneous, diverse, balanced yet assertive? Are you active, healthy and tired of the average men out there? (12/14) ☎49760

WANTED: FEMALE, 45-59, white, nonsmoker, slender, active, smart, playful, caring. Love music, movies, animals, great food for fun and more for attorney, 54. (12/21) ☎49778

ANATOMICALLY BLESSED, self-preserved, American-Italian, striking, pleaser, 6'2", 210lbs., olive, black hair. Wants fun, know who you want lady, for time of our lifetime. (12/21) ☎49786

MENSCH, 54, MAROONED by Cowles Mountain. Seeking bold, profound, slenderish female to spill guts with. Hey, I'm only \$1.99 and who knows how much Karma. (12/14) ☎49761

HELLO SEXY LADY So you're searching for a great guy? I'm Latin, 39, 5'11", 165lbs, young looking, athletic, humorous, intelligent! Let's salsa tonight. Race unimportant. (12/14) ☎49737

SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN, charming and handsome, graduate degreed, wishes to make happy a lady in her 30s, who is sensitive, attractive and well educated. (12/21) ☎49791

HOME-COOKED GOURMET Meals, long drives, walks or quiet evenings at home. Attractive black man, 43, seeks intelligent, reasonable woman to share these with. (12/14) ☎49749

NO COOL LINES. Just loving, caring, happy, fit, shy, honest, 54, part-time dad. Seeking happy, fit lady for no-nonsense, beautiful, sharing, long-term relationship. Smooch! (12/14) ☎49735

ROMANTIC, SINGLE, HONEST Italian, hard worker. Seeking lady, 35-50, to enjoy life, long-term relationship. Nonsmoker/nondrinker. Race open. Enjoy music, travel, dining and more. (12/14) ☎49740

I'M 49, ATTRACTIVE, bright, and I'm seeking a basically happy, sensitive woman (any race), who needs to be needed. I have something extremely special to offer her. (12/14) ☎49748

MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN. Sometimes it takes a while to find someone special. Professional seeks Christian young lady for friendship, dining, dancing, romancing, possibly more. (12/14) ☎49739

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE DEGREE, 69, easy-going, humorous, slim build. Like dancing, travel. Seeking classy lady, 60-72, for platonic relationship; considerate. Don't be alone for the holidays. (12/14) ☎49758

YOUNG, LIVELY ITALIAN MAN looking for fun, open-minded woman, 18-28. See if you can keep up. I'm 25 and full of life. (12/21) ☎49788

SO MANY OF LIFE'S little pleasures await. Let's share. I am a young, eclectic, energetic 60, anxious for your smile. Happy holidays together. (12/14) ☎49752

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relationship. I'm 55, 5'3", 145lbs., good looking. I love music, walking, just having fun at home, and more. La Mesa area. (12/21) ☎49774

PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, 6'1", 165lbs., 53, red/blue, swing dancer, road bicycle racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking someone with the right chemistry/connection. (12/14) ☎49747

49, POLICE OFFICER. Healthy Caucasian, secure, gentleman's standards/morals, live in Fashion Valley. Seeking 40-49, content, fit, motivated lady to enjoy life with, relationship. (12/14) ☎49751

GENTLEMEN PREFER BRUNETTES, intelligent, professional, 5'11", 180lbs., youthful, Christian values, closet romantic. Seeking outgoing, fit, nonsmoker, 41-51, for dining, dancing, good conversation. (12/21) ☎49768

HANDSOME LEO KING, 44, needs beautiful princess to share paradise, laughter, romance in my magic kingdom of kind-

ness and loyalty. Seeking slim beauty, 30-40. (12/21) ☎49780

HO NO HO. White santa is seeking miss black santa for a long sleigh ride. So tell the 5'4" santa what you want. Milk, cookies. (12/21) ☎49772

HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL, South Bay, 52, divorced, healthy, fit. Enjoy life, travel, theater, concerts, movies, all sports. Clean, neat, homeowner, a gentleman, live alone with pets. (12/21) ☎49769

RACIALLY UNDEFINED, Socially indifferent human, 53. Seeking pleasant woman of discreet integrity, nothing else matters. I'm immune to fashion, fiscal advice, authoritative opinions, greed, grudge, mean ideas. Well-traveled, way left, educated, healthy, tall, hirsute, low profile, high ideals. Love truth, beauty, love and language. (12/14) ☎49743

ATTRACTIVE, EDUCATED, intelligent, divorced, white, 45, would like to meet lady who would enjoy having her feet pampered. Allow me the opportunity, you won't regret. (12/21) ☎49773

FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL. Black male, 51 and fit. Seeking white female, maximum age 50, slim to average. Enjoy dinner, movies, walks, bicycling; for friendship or more. No smoking. (12/21) ☎49787

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, LOVING, affectionate, white male, 54, unencumbered, honest, easygoing, financially secure. Enjoy dining, walks, quiet times, romance, love, closeness, intimacy. Seeking female for same. (12/21) ☎49777

VOLUPTUOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, 22-48, nonsmoker, proportionate, monogamous, fashionably sexy, honest, sensual, let me spoil you. I'm tall, handsome, 49, successful, kind, values, sexy, uninhibited. Let's dine, dance, clothes shop, movies, etc. Commitment-minded. I'm your heaven. (12/14) ☎49756

MIDDLE-AGED ITALIAN MAN, 40s. Seeking sexy older woman, no limits, for fun, romance and sunsets on the beach, maybe more. (12/21) ☎49792

GENTLEMANLY, NONSMOKING, retired senior widower. Love music, theater, concerts, travel, cruising. Seeking unencumbered, uninhibited, compatible lady counterpart for friendship, companionship to enjoy our lives together. (12/21) ☎49781

NOVICE OUTDOORSMAN Seeks feminine outdoorsy lady to show me the way to new adventures. Me, 45, 5'8", 160lbs. You, personable, ready for caring, sharing relationship. (12/14) ☎49738

57, CAUCASIAN, 5'8", medium built, brown hair, blue eyes, mature, young attitude, spiritual, eclectic, upbeat. Enjoy music, film, metaphysics, dining out, teacher, author, student, joyful. (12/21) ☎49771

YES MA'AM. Strikingly handsome, 50, 6'1", 190lbs., emotionally/financially secure. Seeking mature, assertive, beautiful, sublime, curvaceous woman to show her the respect she deserves. (12/14) ☎49745

LATINO MALE, fit, slim, 5'8", 50, college-educated, homeowner. Seeking companionship with slender woman, 5'3"+, any shoe size. (12/14) ☎49741

HANDSOME, SPIRITUAL, surfer, ex-hippie, young 58, 5'11", great smile. Love Baja, nature, animals and fun, laid back, honest, sincere passionate. You: same interests. (12/21) ☎49765

HIGH REGARD FOR WOMEN including equal treatment. Unselfish, sensitive, personable, adventurous, liberal, well travelled. Music, arts, politics, tennis, outdoor adventures, animals. Agnostic, 6'1", young 59. (12/14) ☎49763

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Roommates

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ALPINE, \$575/month. 10 minutes east of Alpine. Private 1 bedroom, 1 bath, small trailer on 5 acres. 1/4 utilities. \$300 deposit. Pet negotiable. 619-473-1214; 619-857-7707; 619-235-2415, x16222.

BANKER'S HILL/MISSION HILLS. \$675. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Bay views, barbecue, gardens. Walk to restaurants. Laundry on site. Sunny, bright unit. Craig, 619-254-4645; 619-235-2415, x17060.

BANKER'S HILL. \$500. Large bedroom with private bath available in 2 bedroom apartment. Near Hillcrest, Balboa Park, beautiful area. Nonsmoker, no drugs. Cat OK. 619-296-3074.

BAY PARK. \$600, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, very clean/quiet, washer/dryer, jacuzzi, near the 5 freeway. Canyon view, 619-275-2082.

BAY PARK. \$725, large master bedroom, includes utilities, with own bath, king size oak bed, refrigerator, on quiet cul-de-sac, no/smoking/drugs/pets, 858-272-1594.

BAY PARK. \$500, includes utilities, large add on room, furnished, no wall heater, share bathroom downstairs. No smoking, drugs, pets, quiet area, male preferred, 858-272-1594.

CARDIFF. Private entrance/bath, \$675 plus utilities/deposit. Community living with privacy. Vegetarian/seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry, distilled water. Nonsmokers, no pets. 760-753-0321.

CARLSBAD. \$650+-. Share 2 bedroom townhome with courtyard window, bedroom and private bath. Garage, pool, spa, tennis, washer/dryer. Quiet. No pets. 760-729-8934; 619-235-2415, x31777.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$495. Room for rent in newly remodeled home. Nice view. Jacuzzi, pool. Close to shopping center. Prefer male. Nonsmoking. Leave message, 858-673-4799.

CARMEL VALLEY/DEL MAR east, \$800, plus deposit. Large furnished bedroom. Kitchen/laundry privileges. Utilities included. Nonsmoker, no drugs/pets. Close to shopping, theaters, beaches. 619-235-2415, x26217.

CARMEL VALLEY. Master suite, \$825 plus deposit, new home, near 56/Camino Del Sur. Non-smoker/drinking/drugs. Own phone, share utilities, clean and quiet. 858-449-7499.

CHULA VISTA, SOUTH. \$525, plus deposit. Includes utilities, cable. Private room, share bathroom. Pleasant, quiet area. Near everything. Available now. 619-739-2865; 619-235-2415, x17947.

CHULA VISTA. \$600, 1/2 utilities. Redecorated master suite. Great yard, barbecue, convenient location. Pool, spa, washer/dryer. No smoking. Jacqui, 619-994-9447; 619-235-2415, x15126.

CHULA VISTA. Roommate to share 4 bedroom home. Large room. Swimming pool, jacuzzi and cable. Close to freeway. Very clean. No pets. \$600 includes utilities. 619-454-2874.

CHULA VISTA. \$475. Spacious new home. Female preferred. Fireplace, new kitchen, patio, washer/dryer, cul-de-sac. Near Southwestern College/805. No pets/smoking/drugs. 619-216-1193.

CLAIREMONT. \$560 plus deposit and 1/2 utilities. Female wanted for private room and bath. No pets, smoking. Pool, laundry, cable. Large apartment. Available now. 619-540-1520.

CLAIREMONT, MOUNT AREA. \$500 plus deposit. 1/3 utilities. 3 bedroom 2 bath house. Maid and gardener included. Quiet location. No pets. Patty, after 5pm, 858-576-6924.

CLAIREMONT. 2 bedrooms available in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house near Mesa College, \$600 each plus \$300 deposit, utilities included. No smoking/drinking/pets. 858-504-0239, 858-505-0213.

CLAIREMONT. Room in quiet newly renovated house. Short walk to Balboa and Genesee. No smoking, pets, drugs. \$550, share utilities with 2 others. Available 1/06. Contact B.J. at 858-277-2044.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$550. Room in remodeled home with new kitchen, new appliances, granite countertops, ocean views. Great location, close to I-5, bay, shops, bus line. Female only. 858-549-3197.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Master bedroom with own bath, \$625/month. Close to freeways, shopping center, and more. No drugs/smoking/pets. Small deposit, Joe 858-279-3125.

CLAIREMONT. Female, share 3 bedroom home. Master bedroom, private bath, \$750. Bedroom, shared bath, \$700. 1/3 utilities. No pets, smoking, drugs. Month-to-month. 619-235-2415, x16694.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$480/month. Large furnished master bedroom, private bath, quiet, rental is room only. No cooking or microwave. Great area. 858-270-9038; 858-504-1760.

CLAIREMONT. \$500, plus deposit, 1/3 utilities. Clean, quiet, 3 bedroom, 1 bath house on canyon. Washer/dryer, cable. No smoking/pets/drugs. Call Dave, 858-449-4691.

CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom house, in quiet neighborhood, central location. storage space, laundry facility, hot tub, utilities included, \$615/month, 619-454-3735.

CLAIREMONT/MESA COLLEGE. Available now. \$800, 1/2 utilities. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, share with 1. Canyon view. Pet negotiable. Nonsmokers. Call between 10am-7pm, 858-874-8721; 619-235-2415, x31702.

CLAIREMONT/PACIFIC BEACH. \$650, near park/beach. Share spacious 2 bedroom, utilities, laundry, garage. Secure cozy community, pool/jacuzzi. No smoking/pet. Speak slowly, 858-270-6146.

CLAIREMONT. \$450. Bedroom in clean duplex. Centrally located. Low deposit. Available now. 858-483-4184.

COLLEGE AREA. \$650/month. 1 bedroom, bath in 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Includes utilities (Internet, cable, etc.) Hardwood floors, off-street parking, washer/dryer. 619-987-5756.

COLLEGE AREA. \$600/month, 1/3 utilities, \$500 deposit. Female wanted for all female house. Large room, double closets, cable jack, shared bath. Available 1/1. Christine, 619-813-3113.

COLLEGE AREA. \$525. One female wanted. Fireplace, washer/dryer, DirectTV, cable internet, parking. Big room in big house. Move in by January. Jennifer, 619-269-4858.

DOWNTOWN. \$575-\$700, \$250 deposit, Victorian apartment, furnished. Includes: utilities, phone, digital cable with movies/radio, broadband and wireless, housekeeping, laundry. Review: www.newportplace.com. Interested? Send e-mail.

EL CAJON. \$310/month, includes utilities, washer/dryer, wireless internet, available now, share room with female, 6 month lease, \$250 deposit.

EL CAJON. \$275, \$525 includes utilities. Available now. Share, and own room. Great neighborhood, 1 block to shops/restaurants. No smoking/drugs. Washer/dryer, internet. 858-243-1911.

EL CAJON. \$700. Share 3 bedroom townhome. Furnished. Washer/dryer. Shared bath. Pool. Close to Grossmont College. No smoking, drinking, drugs or pets. 619-328-8134; 619-235-2415, x24393.

EL CAJON/GRANITE HILLS. Furnished room for rent, with private bath, \$500/month, utilities included. Kitchen, washer/dryer, pool privileges, female preferred, non-smoking, no drugs, 619-994-4236.

ENCINITAS. \$550/month, 1/4 utilities. Room in clean, quiet modern house. Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges, phone line available. Deposit. Won't last long. 760-753-1686, 619-235-2415, x11736.

ENCINITAS. \$850/month, utilities included. Room available, share bath. Female preferred. Block from beach. Front and backyard, fireplace. Drinking/smok-

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ENCINITAS/CARDIFF. Big house, 2 living rooms, big kitchen, huge yard, jacuzzi, 2 miles to beach. 4 bedroom house, new carpet \$575/month, deposit, 760-479-0233.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$535. Room in condo near I-5, 8, 163, malls. Pool, Jacuzzi. Laundry in unit. Internet hookup. Security patrolled. No smoking/drugs. 858-342-9327.

FLETCHER HILLS/LA MESA. \$640 plus \$300 deposit. Room and private bath in spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Half utilities. Nonsmoking female preferred. 619-462-0108.

GOLDEN HILL. \$600, \$300 deposit. Female looking to share with female, furnished room in 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Nice area. No smoking/pets. 619-725-6067.

HILLCREST. \$700. Room in large 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Nice size room, double closets, storage. Includes all utilities. No deposit. Male only. E-mail, corysparkssparky@aol.com.

KEARNY MESA. \$700, plus utilities. Beautiful, clean bedroom/bath in Spectrum. Private entrance. Central location. Sign 6-month lease, \$700 deposit. No pets/smoking. Toni, 858-401-0892.

LA COSTA. \$650, 1/3 utilities, \$500 deposit. Brand new home. 10 minutes from beach. Room available. Share new bathroom. No drugs/alcohol. Mai, 858-663-6074; 619-235-2415, x13955.

LA COSTA. \$450. Elegant house on cul-de-sac. Small bedroom with shared bath. Washer/dryer and kitchen privileges. Large yard. No drugs, smoking, or pets. 760-753-8374.

LA COSTA. Beautiful 4 bedroom home. Light filled room, large closet, internet. Quiet neighborhood. Great yard/fruit trees. Vegetarian kitchen. No pets/smoking. \$645. 760-931-7878.

LA JOLLA. \$600, plus deposit, share utilities. Room available in quiet, clean spacious home. Beautiful neighborhood. Vegetarian kitchen. No pets/smoking. Male preferred. 858-581-2546; 858-220-9184; 619-235-2415, x12131.

LA JOLLA. \$675/month, \$600/deposit, 3-blocks from Windansea beach, share bath, washer/dryer on-site, parking space. Looking for roommate to share, with clean, quiet, female, 858-232-8540.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$695, plus utilities, deposit. 2000-square-foot home. Fireplace, in-ground pool, gazebo, fountains, wireless Internet, off-street parking. No pets. 858-455-9914.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$600/month, 1/2 utilities, \$300 deposit. Share lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with male. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, gas fireplace. Available 1/6. 858-452-1179.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$580, 1/3 utilities, \$550 deposit. Bedroom in 4 bedroom home. Own bath. Clean house. Quiet neighborhood. No smoking/pets. Female only. 858-554-0018; 619-235-2415, x28864.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$650, fully furnished room, shared bath, internet, laundry, kitchen facilities. Utilities/cable paid, no drugs/pets/smoking, 858-453-5007.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA BEACH. \$550. Nice little space with own entrance. Walk to town or beach. All utilities paid. Stay at least 1 year. 858-454-6294; 619-235-2415, x10609.

LA MESA. \$450. Large room with large closet. Quiet older home with laundry. Easy parking. Pets possible. Storage available at \$40. Say phone slowly/clearly, 619-235-2415, x18333.

LA MESA. \$450, 1/4 utilities, deposit. Sunny larger room with hardwood floors. Share quiet comfortable house. Private entrance. Laundry, yard. No pets or smoking. 619-466-7500.

LA MESA. \$450/month, \$450 security deposit. Room in 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo, share utilities. Cable included, on-site laundry. Available immediately 619-464-2254.

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LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$400, \$200 deposit, 1/2 utilities. No smoking, drinking, or pets. Gated community. Storage area. Available December 15. 619-274-6333.

LA MESA. Large bedroom in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Recently remodeled. Good area. Easy parking. Includes Internet and cable. Use of house facilities. No smoking/pets. Available 1/1/2006. \$550. Brian, 619-316-3377.

LA MESA/FLETCHER HILLS. \$500/month, room for rent, very nice house with great view, male or female, no smoking, Carol, 619-328-2471.

LA MESA/LAKE MURRAY. Quiet furnished-unfurnished. Female preferred. In

beautiful condo overlooking lake. Trails, workout room, heated pool and indoor jacuzzi. Security, parking. Available now. \$550 includes utilities. Lisa 619-244-4646 evenings.

LINDA VISTA. \$525 per month includes utilities. Share clean quiet 3 bedroom 2 bath house with 1 roommate. Private bath, Internet. No smoking, no pets. 858-495-0520.

MIRA MESA. \$400-\$500, share house, pool, jacuzzi, deck, cable, wireless Internet, washer/dryer. Female only. No pets. 858-549-3197.

MIRA MESA. \$520, includes utilities, \$350 deposit. Room in new house. Private garage. Washer/dryer, cable. Kitchen privileges. No smoking/pets, 858-695-0975.

MIRA MESA. 1 bedroom \$700 plus deposit, utilities and cable included. Washer/dryer, swimming pool, Barbecue, kitchen privileges, must love pets, near all, female preferred. 858-549-3676.

MIRA MESA/MIRAMAR COLLEGE. \$495 plus utilities. Furniture available except bed. Private phone line. Jacuzzi. Redecorated home. Near buses. Nonsmoking male. No pets/drugs. 858-695-9892.

MISSION BEACH. \$590/month. Sweet 2 bedroom, 1 bath with yard, steps to beach and bay. No smoking/pets. Available between 12/7-12/16. 858-337-4367; 619-235-2415, x20736.

MISSION HILLS. \$900. Master/Separate entrance, own 1/2 bath. Spacious 2 family house, Hardwood floors, new kitchen, fireplace, all appliances, including shared laundry, \$625/deposit. 619-384-6776.

MISSION VALLEY. Furnished master bedroom/private bath, parking, kitchen privileges, includes utilities washer/dryer/more. 2 bedroom/2 bath apartment. \$895/month, 619-370-7058, e-mail gina8_a@hotmail.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$750/month, plus utilities. Female roommate needed to share 2 bedroom condo at La Scala. Own bedroom/bath. Garage, laundry, great amenities. 619-248-8185; 619-235-2415, x12929.

MISSION VALLEY. Club River Run, share 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished, except bedroom. \$650 plus half utilities. Available, Greg, 619-709-1878.

NATIONAL CITY. \$450, 1/2 utilities. Large bedroom for rent in 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Deposit \$200. Female preferred. No smoking/pets. Available now. 805-415-4265; 619-235-2415, x15627.

NORTH CLAIREMONT. Room in 2 bedroom, with washer/dryer, Internet connection, share kitchen and bathroom, 1/3 utilities. On bus route, near UCSD, \$550, Doug 858-274-2558.

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NORTH PARK. \$600 plus security. Share 2 bedroom gated condo with female plus 2 cats. Bedroom, private bathroom/en-

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NORTH PARK. \$450. Nice room available in very nice, clean house. Available immediately. Quiet, average-sized room, cable, Internet, off-street parking. Mike, 619-285-9243; 858-405-0582.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$650/month, utilities included. Quiet, clean, furnished bedroom, bath. Parking, view, gated. Fireplace, laundry, cable, skylights. Near shops, freeways, bus, beach. 619-546-5700.

OCEAN BEACH. \$475, \$350 deposit. Master bedroom. Cozy, clean 3 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 4 blocks beach. Share SDG&E, cable. Laundry facility, off-street parking. No pets. 619-235-2415, x28765.

OCEAN BEACH. \$600, share utilities. Room for rent in 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Washer/dryer, garage. \$600 deposit. Quiet area. Gary, 619-347-0169 or 619-226-6447.

OCEANSIDE. 3 blocks to ocean, share nice, spacious, 2 bedroom apartment. New carpet/paint, laundry in complex, includes cable, electric, no pets/drugs, \$550/month, 619-920-3449.

OCEANSIDE. Senior community. 45 or older. \$575, includes utilities. Call Ron, 760-415-0604.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$975. Room for rent in big 3 bedroom house. 1 block to beach, food, nightlife, shops. Cable, Internet, parking. No pets. 858-274-2662; Scott@BetterWay.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$675. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome with garden, 2 parking spaces. Room is a good size with large closets. Available 1/1. Chris, 858-344-6567.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$700, utilities included. Female to share large house on Mt. Soledad. Good parking, washer/dryer, dishwasher. Near freeway. No pets. \$650 deposit. 619-235-2415, x12949.

PACIFIC BEACH/MT. SOLEDAD. \$675, 1/4 utilities. Large bedroom in clean, sunny spacious house. All amenities, maid. Prefer female nonsmoker. Sorry no more pets. 858-483-3326.

PACIFIC BEACH. Share townhouse. 1 bedroom, \$650/month. Includes utilities, cable, telephone, washer/dryer, all amenities, no pets/smoking. 858-483-6629.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great place. Great location. Great people. 1 room available 1/1/06 in nice condo near beach and bay. Private balcony. Washer/dryer in unit. Fireplace, dishwasher. Off-street parking. Female preferred. \$700, \$700 deposit. 619-922-6275.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. Seeking female to share cute 2 bedroom furnished house. Great location. Blocks to beach. Quiet and clean. Parking/cable included. Nonsmoker. 619-277-0448.

PACIFIC BEACH. Share 2 bedroom. 1 block from beach. Clean and beautiful upgraded apartment. \$775 plus 1/2 utilities. 858-273-6186.

POINT LOMA. \$800/month, utilities included. Bedroom, private bath. Near everything. Great house with yard, deck with spa! Would consider small dog. Nonsmokers. Female preferred. 619-224-1628.

POINT LOMA, PARK. Room available. \$650. 4 bedroom. 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Garage, washer/dryer, Olympic-size pool, spa. New carpet/paint. 619-994-1617.

POINT LOMA. \$550, 1/3 utilities, no deposit, no drinking/smoking. Assigned parking, gym, tennis, pool/jacuzzi, laundry, male preferred, very clean place, call 619-206-4707.

POWAY. \$500. Room close to bus, shopping and I-15. No smoking, drinking or drugs. Call 858-679-9459; 619-235-2415, x27254.

POWAY. \$900. 2 rooms in private home. 400 square feet with bath, private entrance. Quiet acre, pool/spa. Utilities included. January-May 2006. Nonsmoking. 858-312-1925.

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RANCHO BERNARDO. \$500 plus 1/3 utilities. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 story townhouse. No pets. Easy access to freeway and shopping. Plenty of parking. Available now. 858-414-1764.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$650. 1 bedroom with bed/bath available in family home overlooking golf course. Full house privileges. Spa, yard, washer and dryer, parking. No drugs. 619-322-2553.

SAN CARLOS. \$800, \$500 deposit. Master bedroom with private bath and 2 closets available in 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Cable and utilities paid. 619-957-9471.

SAN MARCOS. \$800. 2 rooms available with private bath. Washer and dryer and full house privileges. High-speed Internet. Gated community. Patio, jacuzzi, grill. Close to 15 and 78. Non-smoking. Cats on premises. 760-471-4377. tinarnesq@sbcglobal.net.

SAN MARCOS. \$535. Share house-big screen TV, plus movies, unlimited telephone and Internet, maid service, utilities included. No pets/smoking. 760-744-0633.

SAN MARCOS. \$600. Share large luxurious sunny home, includes private bath/garage. DishNetwork/utilities included, internet connection. CSUSM/Palomar. Fireplace. Jacuzzi. No smoking/pets. 858-361-5500.

SANTEE. \$375. Roommate to share 2 bedroom condo, furnished, nice quiet area. Female preferred. No smoking or pets. 619-743-5839.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1750/month, 1/2 utilities. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Master bedroom, bath, own entrance. No smoking/drugs. \$2000 deposit, credit check. Arianne, 858-354-9354.

SORRENTO VALLEY. \$600, \$250 deposit, utilities included. Beautiful large condo. Nice neighborhood. Near Sorrento Valley

high tech district. Available immediately. 858-689-9426.

SOUTH PARK. \$700. "Come home to a home." Large 2-story Craftsman. 2 bedrooms of a 4 bedroom house are yours. Share bathroom. Rain forest garden. Large dogs welcome! 619-232-3937.

SPRING VALLEY. \$500/month, share utilities, large bedroom, jacuzzi, washer/dryer/kitchen privileges, access to freeways, shopping. Available now. 619-861-5405 or 619-861-0567.

TIERRASANTA. \$500, 3 bedroom, available January 1, roommate wanted to share spacious townhouse. \$500 deposit, 1/3 utilities, cable, jacuzzi, tennis court, no pets Kevin, 619-921-7810.

TIERRASANTA. \$585 plus \$350 deposit. Shared utilities/cable/Internet. Washer/dryer. Comfortable room, furnished/unfurnished. Near all. No smoking, drugs, pets. Male preferred, 858-292-0145.

UCSD. \$575. Room in house. Utilities paid, includes cable TV. \$350 deposit. Share bathroom. Near shopping centers, beach. Kitchen privileges, washer/dryer. References. 858-546-9059.

UTC/LA JOLLA. Room available with shared bathroom. 2 car garage. Patio, pool, jacuzzi, and washer/dryer. Close to everything. Available immediately. \$405 plus 1/3 utilities and \$200 deposit. Call Drew 858-245-0750.

VISTA. \$600. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Washer/dryer, parking, backyard. Have dogs. No cats. Prefer female. First and last month rent, plus deposit. 760-295-8060.

Roommate Services

LOOKING FOR A PLACE. We have 100s available. Personalized service. Call now and save 40% off your registration fee. 619-574-6876; 858-413-0195. www.roommatesandiego.com.

Rentals Commercial

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

DOWNTOWN ART WORKSPACES. \$175-\$295. Great area. Associate with other artists. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 114-200 square feet. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x102.

PACIFIC BEACH. Share office space in small, warm office in holistic center. Available 7 days. Furnished and near I-5. 2 lots available. \$160.00 619-680-8243.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$165 rent. \$165 deposit. Garage. Storage only. 2056 Thomas Avenue #1. 619-300-2452 or 619-865-6894.

Ads Uploaded Daily To SanDiegoReader.com

Place your Reader roommate ad *today* and get responses *tomorrow!*

Call (619) 235-2415 day or night.

For just \$20 per week, you receive:

- A 25-word printed ad in the *Reader*
- Also on SanDiegoReader.com
- Use of a 24-hour voice mailbox service
- Placement on the Roommate Hotline

1. Pay with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, check or cash. The cost is \$20. No matter which payment option you choose, you must first call (619) 235-2415 to place your ad.

2. Write your 25-word Roommate ad on 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.

| | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |

4. To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need cross-streets and zip code:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| & | |
| NEAREST CROSS-STREETS | 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), Downtown San Diego

For questions regarding Roommate ads, call (619) 235-8200.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Storage/work loft-like area. \$1200/month. Approximately 1,000 square feet. Bath, off-street parking. Bob, 858-229-5398.

OLD TOWN. Rare office suites in historic Victorian Heritage Park house. Views. Fireplace. Shared meeting room. Kitchen/bathroom. Utilities/parking included. 280 feet. \$650. 619-491-0099.

LA MESA OFFICE SPACE in beautiful downtown La Mesa, janitorial service provided, off-street parking. No CAM charges. Call 619-464-8300.

BAY PARK AREA. Rooms available, acupuncturist office. Medical/holistic practitioners. Convenient location. Professional, serene environment. Large windows, patio. Potential referrals. Separate entrance. Must see! \$300-\$500. 2437 Morena Boulevard. 619-275-4501. jnahama@elimataallergies.com.

MIRAMAR OFFICE SUBLET. 6920 Miramar Road. \$275.00. 211 square feet. 760-634-5030.

HILLCREST OFFICE SPACE: Holistic Health Center office space available. Located on second floor, 842 Washington Street. Please contact Dr. Brett Smith at 619-297-3465.

NORTH PARK. Office space available between 315 to 1130 square feet. Great for new business or expanding. 3930 Oregon Street. 858-598-1111 x193, www.utiopiamanagement.com.

LITTLE ITALY/DOWNTOWN OFFICES. 2 offices. (1) \$200, other \$795 includes parking space or rent both, \$885. Waiting room, kitchen. Excellent location. Freeway. www.bradshawsbest.com. 760-809-0494.

BANKER'S HILL. Prime location! Prestigious building. Perfect for professional office, salon, spa, manicurist, retail. Approximately 1250 square feet. Way below market! \$1.95/square foot. References. 619-298-5353.

LA MESA. 90 cents/square foot. 500-1000 square feet. Professional office building, upstairs unit. 7317 El Cajon Boulevard. 619-262-0909.

STOREFRONT/OFFICE. Over 1350 square feet! Street level. High ceilings. 2 private bathrooms. Central location. 2053 Garnet Avenue. \$1895. Space could be divided for less rent. 858-272-9614.

PACIFIC BEACH GARAGE. \$165 rent, \$165 deposit. Garage storage only. 2056 Thomas Avenue #1. 619-300-2452 or 619-865-6894.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$125. Single car garage, dry storage. 4373 Alabama. 619-660-0523.

MISSION BAY. Office suite. 481 square feet at \$1.20. Next to I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard, #204. Juno, 619-275-3455.

THERAPY/TREATMENT OFFICE space. Pacific Beach Yoga/Healing Center, Turquoise/Cass. Private entrance, basin, skylight, ceiling fan. Free yoga classes/utlities. \$550/month or share. Kate, 858-488-7778.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1669.50. Approximately 1000 square feet of storefront space available at 3010 Fifth Avenue. 2 bathrooms. Private office. Great location with lots of exposure. Contact todd@xilarent.com.

ROOM IN ENCINITAS HEALTH CENTER established since 1993. Ideal for midwife, chiropractor, LMFT, cranial specialist or other. Steve, Herbs & More, 760-753-7272. Or e-mail steve@herbsandmore.org.

RENTAL SERVICES

LIST2RENT.COM-FREE! Search San Diego County rentals for free! Post your rental properties for free! Easy and organized-detailed descriptions, photos, driving instructions. www.List2Rent.com.

RENTALS Houses

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also see thousands of classified ads not printed here!

BONITA. House. \$2495. 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 3 fireplaces, 3 car garage. Quiet cul-de-sac. Available now. Pets ok. 1201 Fallbrook Ct. Call Ed, 858-597-6100; 619-778-8444.

CARDIFF. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, vaulted living room ceiling, large kitchen, fireplace, yard. \$1695. Call 760-753-6575.

CARDIFF. 3 bedroom, 2-1/5 bath. 1900 square feet. 2 car garage, ocean view, walk to beach and village, gardener. \$2,900. 858-847-0149.

CARLSBAD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Just blocks from the village. Freeway close. \$1895. Call 760-753-6575.

CARLSBAD. Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home in the Harbor Pointe Community. 2-car garage. 6842 Watercourse Drive. \$1995. 858-598-1111 x190. www.utiopiamanagement.com.

CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE. \$1395. Ocean view, sunny, quiet 2 bedroom duplex. Across from beach. Large view deck, garage, laundry. Nonsmoking. No dogs. Available 1/8/06. 760-721-7726.

CHULA VISTA. Otay Ranch, \$1925/month, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, on a cul-de-sac. Washer/dryer, refrigerator included, no pets, community pool, available now, 858-733-0424.

CHULA VISTA. \$2195. 5 bedroom, 3 bath house. Fireplace, family room, fenced yard, patio, 3 car garage. Agent 619-425-4295.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, four parking spaces. 850 square feet. New carpet, appliances, paint.

Across from park. (3742 Wightman, corner 38th) 619-698-4915.

CLAIREMONT. House. Nice neighborhood. Close to all freeways. 4 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool/gated. Pets on approval. Available now. \$1900/month. Marsl, 619-415-7453.

CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Family room. Beautifully done. Hardwood floors, new carpet, tile. Exotic landscape. Close to shopping, freeway and La Jolla access. Available 1/1/06. \$2000. 4910 Galatin Way. 858-866-5636.

COLLEGE AREA/SDSU. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on canyon. \$1775/month. Fireplace, garage, laundry hookups. Available now. 5567 Baja Drive. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.Great-Rents.com.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 and 3 bedrooms houses, \$1495 and \$1595. Charming homes, new carpet, laundry, bonus room, yard, covered patio. Lots of storage! No pets. Agent, 619-296-3189.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Backyard. Ask about pets. 4534 Seminole Drive. www.homes4rent.com. 619-435-9442.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2-car garage. Laundry hook-ups. Quiet neighborhood. Central location close to freeways, restaurants, shopping, transportation. \$1695. 619-972-7792.

COLLEGE. \$2400. Sharp 4 bedroom, 2 bath canyon house. Walk trolley. New granite kitchen/baths. New paint, tile, skylights. All appliances, ceiling fans, eared/open patios. Redwood view deck, fenced-perfect outdoor entertaining. Large attic storage. Pets. Must see! 619-517-6111.

COLLEGE. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, charming cottage style, large kitchen, appliances, laundry, no pets. 4185 & 4191 50th Street. 619-698-6913.

COLLEGE. \$2995. 6 bedroom, 2 bathroom house, 2 story, hardwood floors, separate study, 1 car garage, washer and dryer, patio, large backyard. First month free. 6430 Montezuma Road. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE/EL CERRITO. \$2000. Large, 1930s Spanish 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Fireplace, formal dining, eat-in kitchen, enclosed patio. All appliances, ceiling fans, fenced yard, detached 2 car garage/finished office. Pets. Must see! 619-517-6111.

COLLEGE/ROLANDO. \$1,350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upgraded house. Fenced yard. Available now. Pets OK. Call: 619-557-4523.

DEL CERRO. \$2400. Free rent thru 12/15/95. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Attached 2 garage. Laundry. Pets OK. Lease through 6/2006. 6381 Lambda Drive. 619-572-3598.

DEL CERRO. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, garage, patio, yard, fireplace, appliances. Quiet neighborhood. New paint. Covered patio, canyon view. Gardener. Nonsmoking. No pets. Steve, 619-990-5801.

DEL CERRO. \$2000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with 2-car garage and large yard. No smoking, 1 year lease. 7515 Rowena. Call Michael, 858-597-6100 x321.

DEL CERRO/COLLEGE AREA/SDSU. Lovely home, landscaped, freshly painted interior, beautiful view, master suite with 2 additional bedrooms, 2 bath. Amenities, dishwasher, washer/dryer, refrigerator, 2-car garage, with extra parking for RV. Walking distance to Hearst Elementary. \$2400/month. Please call anytime, 619-972-9033.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new cool urban loft at M2i. In heart of Balpark district. 2 story, 2 bath with spiral staircase and concrete floors. 1 garage parking. Pet considered. Available now! \$1,800. 619-820-9564.

DREAM TENANT. Physician moving to area late December, needs house, 2 bedroom to lease. Have mellow older dog, rent negotiable, Caroline, 617-504-1620.

EL CAJON. Rent/buy. Charming 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath, upgraded, large backyard, enclosed patio, great for entertaining. Across from Greenfield Middle School, near SDSU/Grossmont College. 1486 Greenfield. Open Door Realty, 858-484-4450.

EL CAJON. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, country style, hardwood floors, fireplace, enclosed patio, yard, garage, pet negotiable, section 8. 1371 Somermont Drive. 619-698-6911.

EL CAJON. \$1300. Cute 2 bedroom house. Newly remodeled. 2-car garage. Call 619-464-8300.

EL CAJON. \$2000 plus deposit. 3 bedroom 2 bath, 1 story, large yard, pets ok, storage shed, pergo floors. Available January 1. Caroyin 858-560-9439; 858-449-9437.

EL CAJON. \$1800. House, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, secluded, fireplace, view. Garage, fenced patio. 1393 Helix View Drive. 619-233-4182.

EL CAJON/JAMUL. \$1200. Live under oaks! Beautiful custom upgrades. Newly renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Very private location on property. 619-468-3988.

ENCINITAS. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage. Quiet area, cul-de-sac. Newly renovated. Dishwasher, washer/dryer. Next to park. \$950 deposit. 1769 Red Barn Road. 760-994-5791.

ENCINITAS. Swamis ocean view. 2 bedroom plus den, 1-1/2 baths. Walk to beach, landscaped, patio. 2-car garage. No smoking/pets. 1075 Cornish Drive. \$2395. 760-753-1678.

ENCINITAS. \$2250. Beach 2.5 miles. Newer 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Available now. Washer/dryer. Backyard, gardener included. 9-month lease minimum. Small pet. 760-942-5807; 808-217-0500.

ENCINITAS. \$2650. 4 bedroom, 3 bath in quiet neighborhood. Freshly painted, new carpet, garage, fenced yard. 370 Chapalta. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

ENCINITAS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in planned community. \$2000. Just reduced!! \$500 off first month! 2-car garage, front and back patios, gas fire-

place, fenced yard. Cat or small dog ok. 396 Trailview Drive. 619-793-4010.

ESCONDIDO. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Fenced yard near Oakhill area. Walking distance to shops & Orange Glen School. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

FLETCHER HILLS. \$1950. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Family room. Pool, includes service. \$500 move-in credit! RV parking. Remodeled. New paint/landscape. 2649 Chatham. 619-281-0030.

FLETCHER HILLS. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath custom home plus great room. Includes billiard table. Family room with granite fireplace. Gourmet kitchen with granite. New appliances. Washer/dryer hookup. 2-car garage with lots storage cabinets. Fenced yard with gardener included. \$2595. Move-in special! 248 Dewane Drive. Available now. 619-683-9274, 619-846-6140 (cell).

GOLDEN HILL. Lovely 1920s 3 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman bungalow. Hardwood floors. Coved ceilings. Laundry. Yard. Patio. Garage not included. Available 12/15. \$1600. 619-223-8856.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Cute house in front of small complex. Quiet neighborhood, close to downtown. 1142 20th Street. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1300. Pet friendly, 2 bedroom house-type with private yard, 5 minutes to downtown. Clean, secluded, private, sunny fenced yard, storage shed. Recently remodeled. New Berber carpeting, kitchen and bathroom floors. Large closets, eat-in kitchen. Rent includes water and gardener. 619-921-1695.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-story. Stainless steel appliances. Formal dining room with built-in hutch. Hardwood floors. Fireplace. Yard. Washer/dryer hook-ups. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

HILLCREST. \$1750. 2 bedroom, dishwasher, washer/dryer, large quiet dogs. French doors, wooded canyon. Jacuzzi. Available 12/1/2005. 1426 Pennsylvania east. View first at www.members.aol.com/penn1426. Then, 619-296-5816.

HILLCREST. \$2350. 3 bedroom 2 bath Craftsman. Fireplace, patio, fenced yard, double garage, laundry, water and gardener paid. Quiet, near all. No smoking. 619-282-0921.

HILLCREST. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, charming Victorian style, hardwood floors, dining room, laundry hookups, large yard, pet negotiable. 226 West Lewis Street. 619-698-6911.

HILLCREST. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1 block from Balboa Park, great neighborhood, completely remodeled, garage, laundry, fenced patio, pet ok. \$1895/month. Call 619-549-4959.

HILLCREST. \$1150, security deposit \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Available 1/1.

Off-street parking for 2 cars, fenced yard, washer/dryer. 3833 Herbert Street. 858-344-4378.

HILLCREST. \$2300. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with 1-car garage. Large formal living room and dining room. New appliances. Selected pet OK. Available now. 3795 Dana Place (off Washington and Hawk Street). John A Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

IDEAL TENANT. M.D. relocating to area, looking for house, 2 bedroom, to lease. Prefer Kensington/North Park/Mission Hills. Have older mellow dog, Caroline 617-504-1620.

KENSINGTON. \$1595. Upper duplex house, 1100 square feet. Nonsmoking. No dogs. New wooden floors, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Available Jsuary 1. Colleen, 619-280-1800.

KENSINGTON. \$2500. Beautiful furnished 3 bedroom house in the heart of historic Kensington. Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, French doors thorough-out. 619-247-9300 or sam@samguillen.com.

KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors, beautiful landscaping in back and front yards. Great neighborhood, close to parks. Pets OK! 4508 Vista Street. \$1750/month. 619-696-7368; www.sandiegobestrentals.com.

LA JOLLA. Panoramic North Shore city and ocean views. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, all amenities, pool/spa/Jacuzzi, 1-year lease, \$4750/month. 858-531-1150.

LA JOLLA. \$2800. Near UCSD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1300 square feet, fireplace, large yard, new paint/carpet, washer/dryer, large garage. Gardener included. 9512 Poole Street. 619-281-4698.

LA MESA. \$1575. 4 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house, garage, yard, washer/dryer hookups, new carpet, water and gardener paid. 4848 Jessie. AMI Porperty Management. 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath country-style home, fireplace, utilities paid, hardwood floors, all appliances, enclosed porch, washer and dryer, large yard, pet negotiable. 1/2 off first month. 3908 Quarry Road. 619-698-6911.

LA MESA. \$500 move-in special. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath duplex, \$1380/starting. Private cul-de-sac, quiet. Includes garage, laundry hookups, large yard. 3804 American. 619-980-7520, 619-971-1011.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Extra office, family room, fireplace, amazing city lights view to the ocean! Large yard. \$2295/month. Lease. Bill, 619-575-1674.

LAKESED. \$1875. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in nice location. Yard, fireplace, 2-car garage, newer appliances. Lots of space! Must see! Available now. 10140 Ranchitos Court. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

LAKESED. \$1800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Nice community. Quiet. Large fenced backyard, 2-car attached garage. All appliances. Pets on approval. 619-890-5932.

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East County Area

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Contractor

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Bed and bath, 170 square feet. Second story, sunrooms, family rooms. Reasonable prices! Free estimates and designs. Plans and permits, 100% financing on approved credit. Lic-818366. Call 888-601-9900; or 619-588-9900.

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doors. Mirror doors. Patio doors. Windows and screens. Textured glass. Heavy glass to 3/4" thick. Install/repair/sales. Lic-471954. Jeff, 858-576-4321.

LEMON GROVE. 4 bedroom, 2 living areas. Gardening included, 1-year lease. \$1995. 298 Winewood Street. 619-589-2778.

LEMON GROVE. 3 bedroom, 1 bath in heart of Lemon Grove. New carpet & paint. No pets. See manager at 7830 North Avenue. \$1300. 619-462-1795.

LEMON GROVE/SPRING VALLEY. \$1895 rent. \$1500 deposit. OAC. Large 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Detached oversized 2 car garage. Huge yard. 1 outdoor dog upon approval with extra deposit. At 1508 Drexel Drive. Agent, 619-299-4034.

LEMON GROVE. \$2250. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Living and family room. New paint and carpet, fireplace, all appliances including washer/dryer, central heat, yard. Available now! 7130 Sue Rich Lane. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

LEMON GROVE. \$850. 1 bedroom house in quiet neighborhood. Ceramic tile, Berber carpet, stove and refrigerator. New paint, windows and blinds. Patio. 2310 Bonita Street. Call 619-520-5144.

LINDA VISTA. \$2100. Beautiful brand new 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. Garage, new appliances, yard. Central location near USD/Fashion Valley. 2047 Drescher. 619-335-3922.

LOOKING TO RENT. Pet friendly house long-term, yard/large patio, prefer 2 or 3 bedroom; up to \$1400/month. Willing to sign lease 6months/year. 858-699-5182.

MIRA MESA. \$2050. Bright, spacious 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house, spectacular views from 4 rooms! Fireplace, laundry, garage. Community pool. Quiet neighborhood. 8990 Capceno. 760-942-3360.

MIRA MESA. \$1595. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. New paint and carpet. Laundry hook-ups. Garage. Pet on approval. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION BEACH. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Bayside. No pets. Nonsmoking. Carpet. Appliances. Cozy. Nice. Quiet. Walk to beach. 817-1/2 Ormond Court. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION BEACH. 3 bedroom 2 bath house. Living room, dining room, washer/dryer, yard, parking. Steps to bay. Great location. \$2300. 619-461-3546.

MISSION BEACH/NORTH. 2 bedroom unique house plus den \$1495, near bay, all, parking, cat ok. Tiny studio, deposits, Clara \$600. 858-488-5435 or 858-456-0802.

MISSION HILLS. Charming two story 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2100 square feet. Formal dining room. New carpet, new paint. Washer/dryer. 1 carport/2 open parking. Balcony. Patios. Deck. Fenced yard. 4136 Ibis Street. Available 12/10. \$2495. 619-423-0123.

MISSION HILLS. \$1150. Front duplex, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Tiled floors, shared laundry, small fenced yard. Small pet negotiable. 3278 Ibis Street. Agent, 619-462-2971.

MORLEY FIELD/NORTH PARK. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Off-street parking. Beautiful hardwood floors. Courtyard.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. All appliances. Covered parking. Near SDSU. Pet on approval. Must see! \$1995. 4386 42nd Street. CSPM. 619-229-2440.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1400. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish house with fireplace, new kitchen, washer/dryer, garage! Will consider small pet. 4542 36th Street. 619-335-3922.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom 1.5 bath Craftsman bungalow. Hardwood floors. Large fenced yard. Private deck with spa in back. Washer/dryer, all appliances included. Pet considered. 4790 East Mountain View, 92116. \$1700. 619-820-9564.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. House. \$1600. 3 bedroom 2 bath with laundry. Available January 1, 2006. 619-985-7348 or 619-276-2582

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom \$1495. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Dining room, faux fireplace, arched ceilings, new carpeting and vinyl. 4840 35th. Agent, 619-296-3189.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1675. 3281 Monroe Street. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house with a carport. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. Trident Pacific, www.homes4rent.com. 619-435-9442.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath attached home with private patio in small courtyard complex; central Adams; excellent transportation links; parking; small, quiet pet on approval. 3266-B Adams. 619-239-4846.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$1750. Hardwood floors. Dining room. Fenced yard. Laundry. 1 year lease. 4495 33rd. 619-297-7368.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1500. 2 bedroom 1 bath charming Craftsman style home with front yard and small backyard. Detached garage. Washer and dryer. 1/2 block from Adams Avenue. \$1000 deposit. References required. 619-889-0603.

NORTH PARK. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Carpet. Coin operated laundry. Cat OK. 4024 1/2 Hamilton Street. Trident Pacific, www.homes4rent.com. 619-435-9442.

NORTH PARK. Beautiful 2 bedroom 1 bath Craftsman. Remodeled with hardwood floors, washer/dryer. Fenced yard with deck. Must see. \$1500. Call Yvonne at 619-847-5740.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom cottage with hardwood floors, ceramic tile in kitchen and bathroom, garage, garden area. View from balcony. 619-296-2787.

NORTH PARK. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Private yard. Available 12/15.

\$800 deposit. Cute! Great location! Small pet OK. 619-295-1230.

NORTH PARK. \$1000. Beautiful detached cottage, gleaming wood floors, built-in china hutch in dining area, laundry room onsite. Available now! 4058 Hamilton Street #4070-1/2. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

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NORTH PARK. \$975. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with stove, refrigerator, off-street parking, on-site laundry. \$200 off 1st month's rent! 3143 Boundary Street. 619-804-3325.

OAK PARK. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Washer, dryer. 1-car garage, large yard. Gardener included. Move-in bonus! \$1395. CSPM. 619-229-2440.

OCEAN BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Quiet residential Greene Street. Walk to beaches, parks and Ocean Beach Village. Lease required. New paint/carpet, etc. \$2150. Call 858-454-3841.

OCEAN BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom beach cottage, steps to beach. 5121-1/2 Brighton. New carpet, two-tone paint, and appliances. Street parking. Open Saturday, 10am-2pm. Appointments: 619-417-4392.

OCEAN BEACH. \$2300. Block to beach. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking. Close to Sea World. Central location. Short term lease. 760-801-1072.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1095. Remodeled cottage. Walk to beach. Pets OK. Stop by 5121-1/2 Brighton. 619-226-7368.

OTAY RANCH/, CHULA VISTA. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Garage, corner lot. Close to shopping, malls, freeways. Rent/lease to own. \$2490. 858-717-5898/858-405-2597.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Upstairs master suite. New appliances. Garage. Laundry hookups. Private backyard. No pets/smoking. 1-year lease includes gardener. 619-846-7585.

PACIFIC BEACH. New 4 bedroom, 3 bath condo, \$2050; 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome with patio, \$1800; all with custom cabinetry, tile/Berber, parking/garages available. 2636-40 Figueroa, 858-270-2576.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2900. 3 bedroom. View Sail Bay/Mission Bay Roller Coaster. 3-car garage, wood floors, refrigerator/dishwasher. Riviera Drive. Pets OK. 619-980-4400.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2050. 3 bedroom. Refrigerator, microwave. Enclosed yard. Front/back decks. Washer/dryer connection. Storage shed. Off-street parking. 1812 Chalcedony. 858-484-1139.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2800, rent. \$2800, deposit OAC. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 3 level. 2050 square feet. 2-car garage. New carpet. No pets. At 2338 Walmar Lane. 619-299-4034.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, parking, washer/dryer, fenced yard, wood floors. 1743 Reed. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com

PACIFIC BEACH. 1600 square feet. Bay windows, wood floors. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, office, 2-car garage. 6 blocks bay/10 blocks ocean. \$2250 includes utilities. 619-274-2045.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Garage, yard, view, washer/dryer hookups. Pet ok. 4915 Foothill. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2075. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with garage and patio. Move in special! 3721 Promontory. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1700/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1/2 block to beach. Short-term rental, weekly/monthly. Fully furnished, hardwood floors, yard. Washer/dryer. No pets/smoking. Quiet. Available. 858-483-5151.

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PERFECT TENANT. Physician relocating to area, needs house, 2 bedroom, to lease. Prefer West of I-5, have older mellow dog, need by late December, 617-504-1620.

POINT LOMA. \$2300. Charming, Spanish 3 bedroom, 2 new bathrooms, Loma Portal. Hardwood floors, new kitchen. Garage, deck, fenced yard. Washer/dryer, refrigerator. 619-857-3706.

POINT LOMA. \$1550. Bay view! 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Hardwood floors. Small pet ok. Available now. 1421 Evergreen. 858-488-2299.

POINT LOMA. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, charming Spanish style, laundry hookups, fireplace, breakfast nook, storage, parking, near all, cat OK. 2165 Catalina Boulevard. 619-698-6911.

POINT LOMA. \$1950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with 2-car garage. Large fenced yard. Laundry room. Selected pet ok. Stove, refrigerator. 2222 Bolinas. John A Reis & Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

POWAY. \$1795. 5 bedroom, 2 bath. Recently remodeled. Close to shops & Midland School. Large yard. Pets on approval. Panda Realty. 858-748-8850.

POWAY. Blue Crystal Trail. \$2650. One level ranch on 8 acres. Great view. Pets, horse OK. 4 bedroom, 3 bath custom house. Panda Realty. 858-748-8850.

RANCHO BERNARDO. House. \$2050. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath on canyon, gardener, newer carpet and paint. ASPM, 858-565-6420.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$2600. 4 bedroom, 3 bath. 2400 square feet. High ceilings, fireplace, 2-car garage, community pool/spa, heating/air. Nice backyard, pets ok. 858-578-3136.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$1640. Nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Carpets, forced air heating+window AC, garage, fenced, park, view. No pets. 10627 Villa Bonita. 619-579-3296.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$1925. 3 bedroom, 2 bath beautiful home, hardwood floors, large dining room, fireplace, all appliances, washer/dryer hookup, air conditioning, 2 car garage, yard, cat ok. 11664 Avenida Marcella. 619-698-6911.

SAN CARLOS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, new paint, perglo in kitchen, full size washer/dryer, fireplace in living room and 1 outside. \$1850, 619-987-6289.

SAN CARLOS. \$1995. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 car garage. Water/trash and landscaping included, large yard. 8824 Highsmith Lane. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

SAN DIEGO, SOUTH EAST. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Dining room. Remodeled, washer/dryer. Fenced parking. \$800 deposit. Available now. 4170 Jamul Avenue, San Diego. 858-454-7005; 619-203-4493.

SAN MARCOS. 866 Via Barquero. Beautiful 4 bedroom, plus office and huge loft. 3300 square feet. Double car garage. Panoramic view. Mahogany floors. 2 story. Fireplace. \$2200. Agent, 858-945-2750.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Fenced backyard. Covered patio. Double garage. Hookups. New vinyl windows. Pets? 9557 Cambury. \$1750. Golden Girls, 619-593-3620 x102. 619-985-3620. 619-401-1717.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. 1350 square feet. Fireplace, air conditioning, Dishwasher, washer/dryer. Fenced yard. Community pool/jacuzzi. \$1595 (12/15). 858-254-5892.

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SERRA MESA. \$1700. House, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, garage, pool. 3040 Forrester Court. 619-233-4182.

SOLANA BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Steps to the sand, gas fireplace, gas barbecue on deck, washer/dryer, dishwasher, 2 covered parking, pool, tennis. 858-205-7373.

SOUTH PARK. \$1185. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Large unit. Garage, laundry, upgraded, utilities paid. 3631-B 30th Street. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

SOUTH PARK. \$1175. Charming, quiet, 1 bedroom cottage with office and hardwood floors, overlooks canyon, Off street parking. Laundry on site. 3021-1/2 30th Street. 858-366-8515.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1650. 1 month free! 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, 2 car garage. Easy freeway access. Pet ok. Nonsmoking. 113 Royal Oak Drive. 619-347-2865.

SPRING VALLEY. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2-car garage, laundry hookups. No pets.

Near Sweetwater Road and Blossom Lane. Available 12/10. \$1650. 619-820-0003.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Cute home with beautiful views. Yard, lots of storage, stove and washer/dryer. Call 619-231-2727 x222.

SUNSET CLIFFS. Move in special-\$500 off 1st month! Surfer's paradise! \$3400, 3 bedroom, 2 baths. Beautiful views, recreation room, garage plus 1 parking spot. 817 Cornish Drive. Glna. 619-231-2727.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom Spanish Craftsman house, gleaming hardwood floors, remodeled and upgraded bathroom and kitchen, stainless steel appliances. Entertainers' delight! Over 1000 square foot deck. 619-296-2787.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1,580. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman house. Hardwood floors, 1-car garage, updated bath, many upgrades throughout. Washer/dryer hookup. Agent, Silvia 619-435-4890.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom, cozy cottage. Open beam ceiling. Carpet. On-site laundry. 1542 Campus Avenue. Xlarent.com, 619-683-7638.

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BALBOA PARK. Clean, quiet, furnished studios from \$59/day or \$210/week. Private bath, shower, microwave, refrigerator, phone, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, barbecue. Weekly maid service. Downtown/Banker's Hill location near trolley/bus/freeway. Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. 1840 4th Avenue. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

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BANKER'S HILL. 1/2 month's rent free! Studio apartment. Clean. New carpet. Close downtown and Balboa Park. No animals. \$695. Contact Bryon, 619-233-9293.

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SHUTTERS

Blind Lady



William Veal with his daughter and son, 1880s. Veal was 17 when he moved to the U.S. from Germany in 1856. According to his 1903 obit, “He was a blacksmith by trade, and settled down [in Pala], marrying a Mexican woman in the little town which boasts of having

such a beautiful old mission.” Veal acquired former mission land that he sold before his death. He “passed away at his home in Oceanside [while] reading the daily paper... stricken with apoplexy.”

— by Robert Mizrachi

SERVICES

BANKER'S HILL. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, in 9 unit quiet, older building. Hardwood and ceramic; high ceilings; laundry,

cat ok. Garage \$50. Nonsmoking. 2245 2nd Avenue. 619-239-4846.

BANKER'S HILL. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Fireplace, hardwood floors, all appliances. Recently remodeled, everything new. No pets. Available now. 2418 Brant Street. 619-301-0874.

BANKER'S HILL. \$850. Nice 1 bedroom sunny, 1 bath apartment. Security, Laundry hook-ups. References. By appointment. Near Balboa Park. 619-660-0523.

BANKER'S HILL. Furnished studios starting at \$720 and up. Close to park and downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facilities. 619-234-7572.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$1095. 1 bedroom townhouse. Very private. Spacious. Hardwood floors. Laundry on site. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available 1/1. Call Steve, 619-696-7500.

BANKER'S HILL. \$670-\$690. Lovely remodeled studios. Classic building designed by Gill. Gas included. Laundry in building. Near bus. 619-236-0452.

BANKER'S HILL. \$695-\$875. Spacious studios and 1 bedrooms with full kitchen/bath. Huge walk-in closet. Apartment also has built-in Murphy bed! Custom paint and much more! 1964 5th Avenue. 858-270-5500 x45, www.msbrowar.com.

BANKER'S HILL. Spacious, updated studios from \$795, 1 bedrooms, \$1100. Half off first month's rent! Historic building, hardwood floors, high ceiling, complete kitchen, laundry on site, gated community. Small pets OK. Available now. 2311 4th Avenue. 858-259-1217.

BANKER'S HILL. \$725, studio, in 9 unit quiet, older building. Hardwood and ceramic; high ceilings; laundry, cat ok. Nonsmoking. 2245 2nd Avenue. 619-239-4846.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. 1 block from park. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, attached 2 car garage, laundry. Elegant, spacious, upgraded hardwood throughout. \$2300/month. Cat OK. Available 12/1. Agent, 619-463-2971.

BANKER'S HILL. Studios and 1 bedroom, \$700-\$900. All utilities paid. Harbor/Downtown views, beautifully landscaped, laundry. Available now. 2142 Fifth Avenue. Agent, 619-230-1261; 619-260-1368.

BANKER'S HILL. Studio. \$730/month. Classic Spanish building, old world charm. Gas is paid. Laundry, parking. Available early December. 2003 Second Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom apartment, view, laundry. Close to all. 2117 Front Street #4. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1025. Gorgeous 1 bedroom apartment home. Magnificent hardwood floors throughout. Community is a restored 1920s Mediterranean-style building. Laundry on site. Third and Kalmia. 858-270-5500 x29, www.msbrowar.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$950. Gorgeous 1 bedroom apartment with hardwood floors, custom curtains, rounded ceilings and original built-in cabinets. This darling community has been fully restored to reflect the early 1900s. Lush landscaping! 3558-3572-1/2 Fifth Avenue. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msbrowar.com.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. Studios from \$775. Perched high above beautiful San Diego Bay. Laundry, barbecue, community deck. Charming gated building with an artisan's touch! Close to all! Call for details. 128 Maple Street. 619-234-1994.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$560. Small studios without kitchen, small refrigerator and microwave provided. On-site laundry. Close to I-5. 236 Kalmia. No pets. Call 619-234-0236. Pager: 619-903-4000.

BANKER'S HILL. \$825. Studios. Remodeled 1920s vintage building. Utilities paid. Laundry. Security building. 1 parking. No pets. 1820 Fourth Avenue. Call for appointment, 858-366-8518.

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BAY PARK. \$1265. 1 bedroom duplex, huge deck with panoramic ocean view, washer/dryer. Hardwood floors. Garage, large yard. Quiet area, private gardens. 619-300-0656.

BAY PARK/PACIFIC BEACH. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex with garage. Beautiful view of Mission Bay. Balcony. Available 1/1. \$1850. 858-756-1296.

CARDIFF. Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Panoramic ocean views. New kitchen, granite, stove, hardwood, tile, bathrooms. 2-car garage. No pets. \$2900. 760-533-2115.

CARDIFF. Full ocean view. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Balcony patio overlooking ocean. Fireplace. Attached garage. Near tennis, park, surfing. \$1900. 858-775-7429 (Cell) or 858-535-0833.

CARDIFF/LA COSTA. \$1200. 1 bedroom condo. Pool. Spa. Vaulted ceilings, spacious balcony, fireplace, walk-in closet, washer/dryer hookup. Storage. Pets OK. Rick, 760-419-0849.

CARLSBAD. 3/3 penthouse condo. Ocean views, walk to beach. Hardwood/granite, underground parking. No smoking/pets. 6 month or 1 year lease. \$2300. 1/15/06. Renny 760-310-1988.

CARLSBAD. New 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms. One month free with 12 month lease on select floor plans! 9-foot ceilings. Crown molding. Ceiling fans. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Stainless steel appliances. Pool, spa, fitness center. Ocean/canyon views! Clubhouse. Garages available. The Tradition, 1901 Cassia Road. 760-918-9400, thetradition@sbcglobal.net, www.sdreader.com/rent/2123.

CARLSBAD. Rent to own. Big, beautiful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Upgrades throughout. Easy qualify, low down payment, large rent credits. \$3100. Pets OK. 760-730-9850.

CARLSBAD. \$2000. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom newer condo west of I-5. 2-car garage. Appliances, pool, walk to beach, on lagoon. Year lease. kbanuk@biosite.com; 323-793-1100.

CARLSBAD. Fantastic ocean and lagoon views! Fresh ocean air, just steps from the beach, beautifully remodeled 2 bedroom apartment homes. 2303 Ocean Street. Judy, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. \$1125. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Completely renovated. Beautifully landscaped. Carport, on-site laundry. Close to village/beach. No pets. Lease. 760-505-7736.

CARLSBAD. \$1850. Ocean Pointe. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1550 square feet, 2 patios, Fireplace, dining area, kitchen area, Jacuzzi bathtub, washer/dryer, appliances. more! 858-449-3903.

CARLSBAD. Charming 2 bedroom, from \$1255. All appliances, gas fireplace, and upgrades, blinds, mirror doors and much more. Intimate garden community, 2 blocks from beach and "Village." 327 Walnut Avenue. 760-729-2155. www.rasnyder.com.

CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE, SOUTH of 78. \$1100-\$1200. Some ocean views, all rooms, quiet, bright 1000 square foot, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets/smoke. 699 Eaton Street. 760-967-8121.

CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE, SOUTH of 78. \$975. 3 blocks to ocean, quiet, private, bright, newly renovated, large 1 bedroom apartment. No pets/smoke. 699 Eaton Street. 760-967-8121.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Adjacent Stagecoach Park. Gated community, fireplace, washer/dryer, refrigerator, 1-car garage! Tennis, pool, spa, gym! \$1395. 858-675-0200, www.twhmc.com.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1495. Large, luxury 3 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/spa/sauna. 2391 Caringa Way, Torrey Pines Property Management, 760-431-7575.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$1595. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 1 car attached garage, pets OK. Near shopping/golf, Poway schools. Available December 15. 858-354-7924.

CARMEL VALLEY/DEL MAR. Quiet, clean 2 bedroom 2 bath upper level condo. Washer and dryer. Month-to-month lease at \$1650. Pool. 858-335-2658.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$1700. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car attached garage. All appliances. Air conditioning. Washer/dryer. Large deck. Pool, spa, tennis. No pets. 858-945-4590.

CARMEL VALLEY. 3 bedroom pristine townhouse in Palermo complex. Light, bright, features. Open floor plan. Upgrades. Wood/tile floors. \$534,000-\$550,000. George Lorimer, RE/MAX Consultants, 619-846-1244.

CARMEL VALLEY. Looking for affordable luxury living? 1, 2 bedrooms from \$125! Move-in specials! Quiet! Near Del Mar beaches, shopping, easy freeway ac-

cess, award winning school district! Free tennis, swimming lessons! Washer/dryer. Parking. Fitness center. Pool. No pets. Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.sdreader.com/rent/2106.

CARMEL VALLEY. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath luxury East Bluff townhouse. Washer/dryer, refrigerator, attached 2-car garage. Community pool/spa. Approximately 1668 square feet. Large kitchen. Hardwood. Large master. Vaulted ceilings. Sits on greenbelt. Freeway close. \$2600. 858-829-2185.

CARMEL VALLEY. Large 2 Bedroom, 2 bath Condo at Lakes. Ground floor unit. 1,100 square feet. Washer/dryer in unit. Cats ok. \$1,450. 858-526-5190.

CASA DE ORO. \$1150-\$1300. Large 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms. Near Highways 94 and 125. Central location. Laundry, balconies, pool, jacuzzi. Move-in special! 619-464-8343.

CASA DE ORO. Mount Helix. 1 bedroom from \$795, 2 bedroom, 1 bath from \$995. Park/garden like settings. Pool. Spa. Close to all shopping. Cats welcomed with deposit. Conrad Villas Apartments. 3917 Conrad Drive. Visit our website: www.progressmanagement.net or call 619-697-6323.

CHULA VISTA. Starting \$820, including garage, large 1 bedroom apartment. (2 bedroom, patio \$1050 all utilities paid.) Walk-in closets, laundry on site. Pool, jacuzzi, gas grill, park-like setting. 619-425-0670.

CHULA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$925, \$500 deposit. Gated, laundry room. Close to freeway. No pets. \$100 off first month! Gabby, 619-422-5062. www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA, NORTH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1050. Beautiful courtyard building near village. Sorry, no pets. 122 Third Avenue. 619-426-5233. www.WexfordLiving.com.

CHULA VISTA, NORTH. \$1150. Very nice large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Located in gorgeous complex. Washer/dryer hookup. Patio. Garage available. Near shops, freeway and trolley. 670 F Street. 619-691-5345.

CHULA VISTA. \$100+ move-in special! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, pool, barbecue, ceiling fan, dishwasher. \$805, \$600 deposit. Available now. 581 Arizona Street. 619-691-9415. www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1095/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Appliances, refrigerator, dishwasher, stove, alarm system. Open Saturday 9-5pm. 370 Moss Street, off of Third, near K-Mart. 619-425-1960. Cell, manager, 619-250-1465.

CHULA VISTA. \$680-\$710/month. 1 bedroom, off-street parking, laundry rooms, pool. Parklike setting. Near freeways and transportation. All utilities included. 706 F Street. 619-422-0792.

CHULA VISTA, NORTH. Near 3rd Avenue downtown. Very quiet, new carpet, clean 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$795. \$200 off first month. Garages available. 619-934-4473.

CHULA VISTA. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated, central air/heat, dishwasher, balcony, laundry, off-street parking. Available now. No pets. \$1095. Deposit \$600. 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. Great location! 1 bedrooms starting at \$775. Renovated interior. Single story apartment, patio. 619-420-2205.

CHULA VISTA. Move-in special! \$725. 1 bedroom. Laundry, parking. Convenient location close to freeways and Navy Base. No pets. \$600 Sea Vale Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

CHULA VISTA. \$725/month. \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Lots of trees. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom, \$725. Two weeks free rent! Downstairs unit with on-site laundry and parking. Great freeway access. Section 8 OK. 583 Park Way. 858-200-9408.

CHULA VISTA. \$795, 1 bedroom. \$550, studio. Beautiful garden courtyard setting. Pool, controlled access, air conditioning. 540 Naples. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-422-5709.

CHULA VISTA. \$895, 2 bedroom. Beautiful garden courtyard setting. Pool, controlled access, air conditioning. 540 Naples. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-422-5709.

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CHULA VISTA. \$900. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Brand new carpet throughout! Brand new paint! Upstairs unit. Parking and laundry onsite. No pets/smoking. 267 H Street. Manager. 619-990-0364.

CHULA VISTA. \$1850 rent. \$1700 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath duplex. 2-car garage, yard. No pets. See now! Available 12/15. 1711 Longview Street. Agent 619-296-6343.

CITY HEIGHTS. Studio, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, \$600/month, \$450 deposit, includes utilities, washer/dryer, off-street parking, privacy. 619-563-6823.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$950. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Laundry hookups, refrigerator, dishwasher, balcony. Secure. \$500/deposit, 4102 Marlborough Avenue. Habla espanol. 619-281-5140, 619-981-2770.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$900. 2 bedroom, in central location. 1st month free! New carpet. Parking space. On-site laundry. No pets. Call Andrew, 858-336-9100.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1025 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Large, 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse-style apartment. Nonsmoking. Underground parking. No pets. At 4245 47th Street #B or 4243 47th Street #A. Agent, 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$700. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint. Downstairs unit. Laundry on site, off-street parking. 4245 Central Avenue #2. 619-561-3618.

CITY HEIGHTS. Move-in special! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$750, 4270 47th Street. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900, 3770 42nd Street. Good location near shopping center. 619-701-1221.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$495 move-in special first 3 months! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, up-stairs, laundry. Seniors welcome. Available now. 4154 46th Street #8, #11. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$700, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Large lower unit. Located at 34th and Adams. Laundry on-site, parking. Available now. 4669 34th Street #4 and #8. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. Redevelopment area, 2 bedroom, 2 bath upgraded unit, large rooms, Pergo, refrigerator, gas stove, microwave, dishwasher, air conditioner, laundry hookups. \$1100. Mark, 619-284-4091.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath-\$750. Upper unit in small complex with on-site laundry. 3722 Marlborough. 858-200-9408.

CITY HEIGHTS. Ask about holiday special! \$650. Private 1 bedroom, 1 bath in quiet complex. Refrigerator and stove. On-site laundry. Move-in special. 4483 Euclid Avenue. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopianmanagement.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Centrally located, spacious upper unit, assigned off-street parking. Small gated community. Small pet and Section 8 OK. 2 months free! 619-291-5555, www.utopianmanagement.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$650. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special: 1/2 off 1st month's rent! Water and trash included! Small complex, gated community, gas stove, refrigerator, coin laundry and parking available. 5333 Rex Avenue. Please call, 858-571-1970.

CITY HEIGHTS. Senior building, 62+, \$575, 1 bedroom. \$400 deposit. Gated, elevator and laundry. 41st Street and El Cajon. 619-280-3083; 619-584-5900.

CLAIREMONT, WEST. 1 bedroom with loft (use as 2nd bedroom?). Like new. Off-street parking. Bay view. New carpet. Pool, jacuzzi. Laundry. \$1250. 858-454-6597.

CLAIREMONT. \$1225 plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Off street parking. Balcony. Wood burning fireplace. Laundry room. Indoor cat OK. New appliances/carpet. Gated. 858-569-8607.

CLAIREMONT. \$1295. Front 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Newer kitchen and bath with granite/tile. Front/back yards. Garage. No dogs. 3527 Jemez Drive. 858-488-6463.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$925-\$1195. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Park. Traditional 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$890, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, from \$1035. Designer 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$980, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, from \$1180. \$300 deposit per pet. 25 meter lap pool, spa, sun-deck. 3309 Cowley Way. 888-500-0471. Visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/ 1070.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Call for specials! Traditional 1 bedrooms starting \$890; Designer 1 bedroom starting \$980. Traditional 2 bedrooms from \$1035. Designer 1 bedrooms starting \$1180. Pets welcome. Cool breezes, Olympic size pool, gym, movie theatre. Reserved garages. Toll free: 888-500-0471. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Junior 1 bedroom, \$885/up. 1 bedroom, \$990/up. Air conditioning, tennis courts, volleyball, gym. Pool, spa, sauna. Clubhouse. Patio or balcony. Laundry facilities. Colima Linda Apartments. 7575 Linda Vista Road. Please call 858-279-7410 or email colimalindaapts@att.net. Photos, floor plans: http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1005.

CLAIREMONT, WEST. Large studio, 850 square feet. Hardwood floors. Off-street parking. Quiet, residential neighborhood. Includes Internet, cable, washer/dryer. \$1000 plus deposit. 858-775-2799.

CLAIREMONT. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Pet ok! Yard! Across from Town Square! Available now. \$1350. Jolene, 858-922-6966.

CLAIREMONT. \$1400. Move-in special! 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, up and down unit. Laundry on-site. 1 parking space, pool. Near Mesa College. 3262 Ashford #D. Available now. 858-490-1600, www.kandrpproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$835-\$1150. 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Parking, on site laundry, very centrally located. Month-to month lease. 5252 Balboa Arms Drive. Ask about move in special. 858-277-3562.

CLAIREMONT. 3150 East Fox Run Way. 4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath. Washer, dryer, fireplace. 2-car garage. Great area! Beautiful. \$2100. app@ajpro.com. A & J Property Management, 888-826-6050.

CLAIREMONT. \$950/rent. \$700 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Carport. Laundry room. Big yard. Pet OK with pet deposit. 3136 Natchez Street #B. 619-584-5900.

CLAIREMONT. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment available now. Yard and garage included. Clean and quiet duplex. 3319 Jemez Drive. Orion Property Group, 619-749-6545.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1095-\$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony/porch. Gas stove, refrigerator. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Gated. Near all golf course. 619-285-3822.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1650. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath, walk-in closets, painted, carpeting. Pool, laundry, storage, parking. Year lease. No pets. Security deposit. Available now. 619-840-4546.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedrooms available from \$855. Half a month free! Air conditioning. Pool. Barbecues. Gated access. Laundry. Parking. Near bus, shopping, freeways! Cat friendly. Near SDSU. Saturday and Sunday by appointment. 6, 9, 12-month leases. Aztec Pacific Apartments, 6663 Montezuma Road. Toll free: 866-807-3191. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1042.

COLLEGE AREA. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse. Security building. Many amenities. 4742 Seminole Drive. Year lease. Cat OK. 619-469-0031.

COLLEGE AREA. Call for current specials. 1 bedroom apartments available in gated community. 1 bedrooms, \$850. Pool. 2-laundry rooms on site. Gated parking. Small pets allowed on approval and with extra deposit. Near SDSU, bus line, shopping. www.sdreader.com/rent/2019. The Corinthian, 4981 Catocotin Drive. Please call 619-286-0441. southca@cox.net.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 block walk! Studios, \$850. View, quiet, Berber, free cable/Internet, laundry, parking, jacuzzi, air. Shared utilities. 619-665-1650 or http://members.cox.net/dorothystudio.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1100/up. 2 and 3 bedrooms. Carpets. Appliances, newly refurbished. Laundry facilities. Off-street parking. Near all. Pet? 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750/month plus \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment, on-site laundry, water and trash included. Please call 619-582-0575.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Totally remodeled. Large kitchen. New appliances and granite countertops. New carpet. Off-street parking. Near shopping. 6036 Estelle. No pets. \$1050. 619-683-9274.

COLLEGE AREA/LA MESA. \$1950. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. 1700 square feet. 2-car garage. Community pool, spa, recreation room, private entrance and backyard. 6736 Lambert Way. 619-977-4777.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$775. Gorgeous 1 bedroom, 1 bath with newer carpet/vinyl. Private patio. Remodeled kitchen. Quiet complex. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 619-287-2282.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1875. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds. Balconies. 2-car garage. Pool. Tennis courts. 6640 Reservoir Court. Agent, 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$740. 1 bedroom. Pool, on-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. Central location. Nice area. 4333 College Avenue. Call for details, 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laundry. Barbecue area. Pets considered. 3635 College Avenue. 619-582-3993.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750-\$775. 1 bedroom, \$850, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near shops. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$675. Nice 1 bedroom. Upstairs, large rooms, new carpet, coin laundry. Quiet building. No pets. 4438 Menlo Avenue #4. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment. Brand new carpet! Upstairs unit, parking and laundry onsite. Very quiet and secure building. No pets/smoking. 4512 Altadena. Manager, 619-283-2144.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750/month. \$400 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, downstairs unit. 4644 Soria Drive #2. Private parking. Laundry facilities. No pets. 619-584-5900.

COLLEGE GROVE. \$850 rent. \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 650 square feet. No pets. 5078 Madison Avenue. 619-865-6894.

COLLEGE GROVE. \$850 rent. \$500 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Duplex, 650 square feet. No pets. 5078 Madison Avenue. 619-865-6894.

COLLEGE, AREA. Spacious 1 bedrooms, \$795. Kitchen pantry, on-site laundry, off-street parking. pool. Close to all. 6295-6305 Stanley Avenue. Manager, 619-255-3249.

COLLEGE. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities paid, laundry, 1 car garage, no pets. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #3. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, gorgeous park like setting, all sparkling new, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, laundry, cat ok. Move in special! 4775 Seminole Drive. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Parking. 4425-4429 College Avenue. Call Ed, 858-597-6100 x322.

COLLEGE. Spacious 1 bedrooms, \$820. Gated building, pool, air conditioning, laundry, parking. 4601 63rd Street. 619-229-9248 or 619-850-6197.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. \$900. Bright 2 bedroom, 2 bath with garage. On-site laundry, air conditioning, all appliances, 1 car garage. On bus line. \$900 deposit. 139-1/2 D Avenue. 858-270-5500. www.msbrower.com.z

CORONADO/IMPERIAL BEACH. New beach front, 2 bedroom, pets ok, fire-place, granite kitchen, ocean breezes, wood floors, underground parking. Won't last, \$1800/month, 760-943-0302, 949-246-2697.

CROWN POINT/PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious, luxury 3 bedroom condo. New carpets, blinds, paint. Views, bay, city, Sea-world. Patio/deck, appliances, garage spaces, \$2550, deposit, 619-398-5044.

CROWN POINT/Pacific Beach. 2 bedroom, \$1395! Walk to beach. Parking. Ceiling fans. Gated entry. Laundry. Peaceful. Barbecue. 3833 Jewell Street. 858-483-2869.

CROWN POINT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath close to beach and bay! Bright, clean, quiet. On-site laundry. \$900/month. No pets. 858-273-3233.

CROWN POINT. \$2200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Walk to bay. Balcony view of Sea World fireworks. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer/dishwasher. Pergo floors. 408-426-0246.

DEL MAR, SEA POINT. \$2900. Walk to beach, 2 bedroom plus sitting area. 2-car garage. 2 fireplaces. Ocean view deck. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

DEL MAR. Old Del Mar: Studio, quiet neighborhood, view, walk to center and beach. Nonsmoking, no pets. Includes utilities. Available January 1st. 858-755-3883.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Live west of I-5! Low \$500 deposits! 1 bedrooms from \$1215. 2 bedrooms from \$1450. 3 bedrooms from \$1845. Ocean views! Patio, balcony. Pool. Tennis court. Sports, picnic areas. Parking. Near entertainment, shopping. Pets welcome! Solana Highlands, 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands.com, 1-888-637-8571. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

DEL MAR/CARMEL VALLEY. From \$1695. 3613 Bernwood Place, #90, 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.ILoveDelMar.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Starting from \$1175! Studio/lofts, 1 bedroom/loft, 2 bedrooms, 2 bedroom/lofts. Ask about our specials! Dishwasher, Balcony, Pool, Jacuzzi, Sauna. Fitness center. Laundry. Garages available. Near freeway/beach. Cat OK. Ocean Crest Apartments, 873 Stevens Avenue. 858-481-1155. www.sdreader.com/rent/1038.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Studios, \$1100. Newly remodeled. Close to beach, Cedros Design District, race track. Full kitchen and bath, breakfast bar, ceramic tile. 833 South Cedros. 858-755-1466, www.rasnyder.com.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Beautifully remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhomes from \$1465. Crown molding, small quaint community, heated pool, on-site laundry, assigned covered parking. Close to shopping, fine dining, beach, race track. 766 South Nardo. 858-755-0533, www.rasnyder.com.

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. Brand new! \$250-\$500 off with 6-12 month lease! Studios, 1, 2, 3 bedrooms from \$1000. Near Petco Park, Gaslamp, more!

Roof-top terrace. Controlled access. Underground parking. Washer/dryer. Microwave. Patio/balcony. Walk-in closet. Air conditioning. Fitness center. Pets welcome. Entrada, 453 13th Street. 1-888-521-0878. www.sdreader.com/rent/2102.

DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT. City Front Terrace. Luxury condo, 1 bedroom with den, fireplace, washer/dryer, stainless, granite, gorgeous, 5th floor terrace view. Pools, gym, spa. Concierge, valet. \$2250/month. 619-322-5301.

DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2-parking spaces. Beautiful remodel: granite countertops, hardwood floors. Washer/dryer. Gym. \$2350/month. Phil, 619-855-5881.

DOWNTOWN, LITTLE ITALY. Beautiful 1 bedroom Treo condo. High ceilings, stainless appliances, tile/carpet. Underground parking. Pool/spa/fitness/recreation room. Pets ok. \$1900. 619-471-6621.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. December move-in special! Only \$603-\$724/month for 6 months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Clubhouse/library. Income qualify! Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, 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, \$400-\$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. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included. Near San Diego City College. No pets. \$375-\$550. 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Cortez Hill. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with hardwood floors, washer and dryer. \$1450. Security building. 1650 8th (Cedar at 8th). Call Agent: 619-987-6678.

DOWNTOWN. Studios, historic building, full kitchen and bathroom. \$600-\$700, includes utilities. No smoking or pets. 901 10th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-531-1616.

DOWNTOWN. Air conditioned studio apartments with kitchenette and full bathroom. No smoking or pets. \$700, includes utilities. 728 Market at 7th. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Free wireless Internet! Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Sleep small. Dream big. Stay the day, week, month. Single/twin, \$59. Full/double, \$69. Full/twin, \$79. Two twins, \$89. Rest. Lounge. Connect. Play. Eat. Watch. Shower. Launder. Live. 500 West Hotel, 500 West Broadway. www.500westhotel.com. 1-888-895-0875. 619-234-5252. www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

DOWNTOWN. \$800. 1 bedroom in vintage building. Just restored apartments, 10 blocks from water, authentic hardwood floors, fresh paint, new tile, new appliances. Call now 619-230-0998.

DOWNTOWN. Views, views, views! Luxury condo at The Grand (south building). 24th floor, 2 bedroom plus den, all amenities. \$3700/month. 619-306-8193.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms and studios near Gaslamp District. \$450-\$650, 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. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. 1 year old, 1 bedroom, 1 bath loft, Union Square, granite/tile, washer/dryer, balcony/courtyard view, security building/parking, spa/gym, storage. Easy freeway access, near Petco/trolley. Lease. Available 12/26. \$1450. 619-669-1470.

DOWNTOWN. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. Secure building. Quiet. No pets/smoking/drugs. Available 1/1. 1650 8th Avenue. 619-286-7133.

DOWNTOWN. Condo, \$1245/month. Granite countertops, washer/dryer. Great location in Marina District. Walk by building on 3rd and J. Call now-won't last! 619-417-4392.

DOWNTOWN. 702 Ash Street. Furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath El Cortez condo. Amazing view windows, two terraces, pool, gym, valet. New carpet/paint. \$1425/month. 619-980-2011.

DOWNTOWN. \$1990. Marina. Luxury condo, 1 bedroom plus loft, 1-1/2 bath, 1 car parking. 2 balconies. Washer/dryer. Gym. Secure location. Available now. 858-336-3358.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. Studio. Stove, refrigerator, carpet. All utilities. Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. \$1400. Large top floor 1 bedroom loft. Secure building. Vaulted ceilings, mirrored glass closets. 2 large patios. On-site laundry. Pets OK (deposit). 619-793-4807.

DOWNTOWN. The Grande at Santa Fe. Luxury 1 bedroom condo. Granite countertops, stainless appliances, gorgeous views. Marble fireplace. Parking. Storage. Pool/spa/gym. \$2200. 619-471-6621.

DOWNTOWN. Cortez Hill. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, washer/dryer, balcony, roof top deck/spa. Secured building, 2 full size parking spaces. Agent, 619-426-0661.

DOWNTOWN. New 1 bedroom 7th floor luxury condo. Gorgeous downtown/bay views. Granite, stainless appliances, washer/dryer. 1-parking. Year lease. No pets. \$1590. 619-980-6708.

DOWNTOWN. \$575. Huge Studio, vintage building. Just restored apartments, 10 blocks from water, authentic hardwood floors, fresh paint, new tile, new appliances. Call now 619-230-0998.

DOWNTOWN. Urban living at its best! Brand new condo at The Pinnacle. Spectacular views, washer/dryer, granite, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, amazing amenities! \$3500/month. 619-921-3352.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new 2 bedroom 2 bath, 5th floor corner unit. Hardwood floors. 2 parking spaces. Close to trolley and Gaslamp. \$2250/month. Available now. 858-472-3567; 858-495-9334.

No-Deductible Health Plans!

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|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | No Rx (P958) | Generic-Only Rx (PE48) | Comprehensive Rx (PE49) | |
| Single | 19-29..... | \$51 | \$54 | \$62 |
| | 30-34..... | \$64 | \$67 | \$77 |
| | 35-39..... | \$72 | \$76 | \$87 |
| | 40-44..... | \$101 | \$106 | \$124 |
| | 45-49..... | \$128 | \$133 | \$157 |
| | 50-54..... | \$161 | \$167 | \$201 |
| | 55-59..... | \$239 | \$248 | \$298 |
| | 60-64..... | \$312 | \$321 | \$380 |

Level 1 monthly rates for No Rx (P958), Generic Rx Option (PE48) and Comprehensive Rx Option (PE49) effective 3/1/05. The rates shown are for Area 6: Imperial, Riverside (except ZIP code 92883), San Bernardino and San Diego Counties. Rates are illustrative only and may vary based on an individual's underwriting review. Some areas may have higher or lower rates. Refer to the plan for a more complete list of coverages, conditions, restrictions, limitations and exclusions.

Michael Freeman
Authorized Independent Agent

3511 Camino Del Rio So., Suite 303
San Diego, CA 92108

(800) 660-4313

CA Insurance Lic. #0619120



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DOWNTOWN. Condo, Discovery, 2 bedroom plus den, 2 bath, large deck, 2 parking spaces. Storage unit, fireplace, pool, spa, gym, no smoking/pets. \$2850/month, 619-522-0469.

DOWNTOWN. \$1095. Studio condo. Brand new unit on the 5th floor in Metrome building. Located in Gaslamp District. Secured entry. Washer/dryer and stainless steel appliances. 858-598-1111, x192. www.utopiamanagement.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$2195. Brand new, just finished 1 bedroom/office plus loft in beautiful Downtown in the desirable M2i Condo Community! Very urban/modern building with granite countertops, all new appliances, balcony, spiral staircase, underground garage parking and more! The unique condo that has multiple uses! Close to all Downtown has to offer! 1050 Island Avenue #107. 858-270-5500. www.msrbrowar.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$695-\$825. Studio and 1 bedroom apartment home with laundry facilities on-site and plenty of storage space. Great location, close to everything San Diego has to offer! \$500 gift card at move-in for your holiday shopping. 843 13th Street. 858-270-5500 x50, www.msrbrowar.com.

DOWNTOWN. Near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$160/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1750 rent. \$1600 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Marina District. Balcony, open layout, spa, garage parking. 655 Columbia Street #107. Agent 619-296-6343.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. \$675 and up studio; clean, nonsmoking building, hardwood and ceramic floors; charming built-in storage, laundry, 1 cat OK. On trolley line; 830 Park Boulevard (12th). 619-236-9117.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$760. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Modern lofts, only for the urban at heart! Cool 1 bedrooms! \$1050 and up. High ceilings, huge windows. Patios/balconies. Stained concrete or wood floors. Euro kitchens. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. Highly desirable location! Near trolley, restaurants and shops. Wendy. 619-733-9181. Candace, 619-750-9642. www.sdlotfs.com.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Two large, bright units in large Victorian home: 1-1/2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit, \$1400, and 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200. Walking distance to Gaslamp. Hardwood floors, secure neighborhood. Small pets OK. No smoking. 740 Cedar Street. 619-723-9001.

DOWNTOWN/BANKER'S HILL. Brand new hotel just opened! Grand opening special! Weekly rates starting at \$220 and daily rates starting at \$49. Close to everything Downtown has to offer. Fully furnished. Kitchenettes. Free cable TV with DVD players, DVD library. Free local calls. Free high speed wireless Internet access. Air conditioning, high ceilings, ceiling fans. Safety deposit box in room. Guest laundry, ATM, vending area. Military, student, senior, AAA discount. Call

today, 619-232-1336. www.hoteloccidental-sandiego.com.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Studios. \$645 and \$755. Limited access building, charming, quiet residential neighborhood. Utilities paid. On-site laundry. No pets. EOH. 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/EL CORTEZ. 942 Beech (10th/Beech). Clean studio apartments, new carpet, from \$800. Walk to City College and Downtown. 619-239-3527.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Near Petco Park. Brand new! 1 bedroom 1 bath. Highly upgraded. Wood floor, granite countertop, stainless steel appliances, gym, 1 car garage, large patio. \$1600. 858-361-4887.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Brand new 1 bedroom, 4th floor, bridge/ballpark view, walk to ballpark! Hardwood floors, washer/dryer! Pets OK. Spa, parking. \$1500. 619-402-7653.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$121/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp from \$1,100! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Lofts starting at \$1250. 1 month free rent! In the heart of Gaslamp. Washer/dryer in units. Dogs and cats OK. Underground parking. 777 6th Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-544-0017.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Corner Ash/Union, great views, 1 bedroom lofts, \$1350-\$1500. 17-foot ceilings, stainless appliances. Pets OK. 619-501-6731, jessika@thebillboardlofts.com, www.thebillboardlofts.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright corner studio-\$795, one bedroom-\$995. Bearclaw tub-shower. Charming, secure, quiet building with laundry. 1534 Front Street, near Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$1500-\$1750, unfurnished 2 level loft with concrete floors and views. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome, \$2000, furnished luxury loft with bay views and parking. Call 619-255-0526. www.sdurbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/PARK PLACE. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhouse. Balconies and rooftop deck, two parking spaces, fireplace, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, all amenities. \$3495/month. 619-306-8193.

DOWNTOWN: Luxury condos in the Downtown area. No hidden fees! Call Patty Doyle/agent, 619-379-0275.

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$1025. Deposit \$850. 1/2 off 1st month's rent! Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit. Backyard, gated, stove, refrigerator, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 4140 39th Street #E. 619-804-3325

EAST VILLAGE/DOWNTOWN. Brand new, 1 bedroom, 1 bath loft, block and a half from ball park. Includes walk-in closet, washer/dryer, refrigerator, \$1600/month, Anthony 619-347-6742.

EAST VILLAGE. Beautiful designer warehouse live/work loft, 2200 square feet, parking included. Private 3 unit building,

\$2500 monthly/lease, appointment, 619-994-6991.

EASTLAKE/CHULA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo with attached garage. \$1800/month. 1 month free with signed 1-year lease. San Diego's Best Rentals, 619-696-7368; www.sandiegobestrentals.com.

EL CAJON. \$975. \$300 off first month! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Custom paint, dish-washer, air conditioning, new flooring. Pool, spa, laundry and parking onsite. Great location! Close to everything! 1059 East Bradley. Manager, 619-279-2183.

EL CAJON. Award-winning community! \$799. Extra large 1 bedrooms. \$99 deposit special! OAC. 6 month lease. Ceiling fan. Linen closet. Garbage disposal. Refrigerator. Stove. Pool. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Pet friendly, up to 35lbs, 2 pets. Dog exercise area. Uncovered assigned parking. Evergreen Gardens, 291 Jamacha Road. www.sdreader.com/rent/2113. 619-442-9935.

EL CAJON. Super large 1 bedrooms. \$725. Quiet, clean. Smaller community with beautiful pool and impressive landscaping. Apartments have central air/heat and fully appliance kitchens. On site laundry. Assigned and off-street parking. Large storage areas available. Se habia espanol. Regency Apartments, 708 North Mollison Avenue. 619-579-2929 or visit our website: www.progressmanagement.net.

EL CAJON. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhomes with attached 2-car direct access garage, full-size washer/dryer connections, wood-burning fireplaces and swimming pool for a limited offer or \$1390 per month. Call Canyon Springs today at 1-888-725-3695 or visit us at 2000 East Main Street in El Cajon.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$199 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24 hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. \$1300-\$1400. Condo style living. Spacious, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, on-site complex away from busy streets. No pets. Good credit a must! 858-353-6112.

EL CAJON. Very large 1 bedrooms from \$725. Very large 2 bedrooms from \$925. OAC. Spacious closets. Large lap pool with barbecue area. Beautiful clubhouse. Assigned off-street parking. Near Performing Arts Center and downtown El Cajon. Casas Nuevas Apartments, 233 North Mollison Avenue. Please call 619-444-8074 or visit our website: www.progressmanagement.net.

EL CAJON. Make Stratford Arms your new home for the holidays! \$300 off first month before 12/15/05! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome, \$1040. Freshly painted. New appliances, carpet. Patio. Small gated community. Laundry facilities. Pool. No pets. 1397 East Washington. 619-593-6602.

EL CAJON. \$1325. Very large, nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer hookup. Patio. Pool. Play lot. 1065 East Washington Avenue. 619-447-4205 and 619-708-2324.

EL CAJON. \$725-\$925. 1 bedroom and 2 bedrooms. Pool, laundry, parking on-site. Month-to-month lease. 1019 Peach. 619-588-4773. Ask about move-in special.

EL CAJON. \$895. Nicer 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, patio, dishwasher, central air/heat, on-site laundry. 241 East Bradley Avenue. Chris. 619-504-4995.

EL CAJON. \$960. 2 bedrooms. Community complex. Gated pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom. Ask about move-in special. Clean, quiet, off-street parking. Pool, barbecue, play area, laundry room, gated. Central air and heat. Wheelchair accessible. 346 South Mollison. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON. \$750. Deposit \$500. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. All appliances, on-site laundry, gated community. Sorry, no pets. 140 Wells Avenue. 619-444-1851, 619-804-3325.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom-\$725. Studio-\$630. Large upstairs apartments in quiet complex. Air conditioning, pool and secure parking. Month-to-month lease. Call about our move-in special! 1362 East Main Street. Jason 619-334-3151, 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom. \$810, 2 bedrooms. Beautiful garden setting with sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-985-3900. www.fourwindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$810. 2 bedroom. Beautiful garden setting with sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-985-3900. www.fourwindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. \$715, 1 bedroom. Quiet garden setting. Washer/dryer on site. Barbecue. Controlled access. No pets. 340 Orlando. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-818-9939. www.northwindsapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$695, 1 bedroom in fabulous pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 234 West Park Avenue #16. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-447-7891. www.palmtowers.com.

EL CAJON. \$900. Large, deluxe 2 bedroom. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds. Parking. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Near town, shops, bus. 619-579-0174.

EL CAJON. 1/2 off first month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$895-\$925. Very nice, large apartments. Barbecue. Pool. Laundry. Near all. Off-street parking. Agent, 619-590-2411.

EL CAJON. Gated community. \$475. Newer small travel trailers. Also, \$1400, 3 bedroom house. Plus utilities/deposit. \$30 fee for credit check/rental history. Laundromat. Near trolley. 619-444-4843.

EL CAJON. \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Lincoln-Washington Apartments. Very large units, pool, on-site laundry, covered parking, in great location. Clean and quiet. 685 South Lincoln Avenue. Agent, 619-444-8191 or 858-560-1178.

ENCINITAS. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Village Park townhome. New carpet. Enclosed garage/laundry room. Front/backyard. Tennis, pool, \$1600 plus utilities. No pets. 858-452-4700.

ENCINITAS. Fantastic location! Ocean-front street near shops. Awesome luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Granite and marble in kitchen/bath. \$2095. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. Furnished 1 bedroom. Great beach location. Elegant, squeaky clean, washer/dryer, gourmet kitchen. \$1850. Call 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom duplex with great view, large deck. Near San Dieguito Academy. \$1425/month. Call 760-753-6575.

ENCINITAS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath-\$1075. Small complex. Assigned parking. Patio. Laundry. Bright and airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway, Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

ENCINITAS. \$1495. New, bright 1 bedroom, 1 bath across from beach. Dishwasher, washer/dryer. Balcony. Cable Internet. Trash/water included. Cat OK. Available 1/1. 760-487-1173.

ENCINITAS/LEUCADIA. West of 101. Beach 2 blocks. 1 bedroom 1 bath plus small office. Upstairs end unit. Balconies. Pretty view. Pool/spa. Carport. \$1295. Agent, 619-670-6420.

ENCINITAS/LEUCADIA. \$1350. Large coastal studio. Panoramic ocean views! Huge private deck, private staircase, parking. Beautifully landscaped building. Available now. Year-round lease. 760-943-7179.

ENCINITAS/LEUCADIA. The Palms @ North Vulcan. Offers new brand 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos from \$1650. West of I-5. Each units includes a garage, washer/dryer, private balcony or fenced yard, stainless steel appliances, and double-pane windows (quiet)! Please call 760-525-0564 or visit this beautiful community @ 1415 North Vulcan. Immediate occupancy! No dogs. www.sdreader.com/rent/2141.

ESCONDIDO, SOUTHWEST. Triplex. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint, tile, carpet. Washer/dryer hookup. Yard. Quiet neighborhood. Close to all. \$1400. Lyn, 858-735-1386.

ESCONDIDO. Gated, garden-style living! Junior 1 bedrooms, \$795, 1 bedrooms, \$895-\$925, 2 bedrooms, \$1020-\$1050. Washer/dryer included. Central air and heat. Dishwasher. Microwave. Walk-in closet. Large private patio/balcony. Pool. Covered parking. Near bus and shopping! No pets! Teton Pines Apartments, 2100 East Grand Avenue. 760-747-5566. www.sdreader.com/rent/2090.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. 1 bedroom with private balcony/patio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, pool. Small pet OK. 720 East Mission. Manager, 760-741-0187.

ESCONDIDO. Spacious 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom. Great roommate floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry facilities. Start at \$760. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. \$795-\$850. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Ask about move-in special! Beautiful courtyard setting in quiet complex. Air conditioning, coin laundry, pool and covered parking. 702-706 Fig Street. Villa Hermosa. 760-741-5002.

FASHION VALLEY, WEST. Presidio Place condos. Furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath with fireplace, air conditioning, new kitchen appliances. Pool, spa, tennis, common garage parking for 2 cars. Avail-

able now. Lease to 7/1/06. \$1650/month. No pets! R.A. Properties, 858-483-3989.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1425. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. No pets. Underground parking. Gate. New carpet/paint. Dishwasher. Balcony. Pool/gym. 6406 Friars Road, #237. Juno, 619-275-3455.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1250 rent. \$700 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath fourplex. Parking. No pets. At 1351 or 1355 Brunner Street. Agent, 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1200 rent. \$700 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage available for \$50. No pets. At 1340 Eureka Street #11. 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$725 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. Studio, triplex. Gas, electric, water paid. No pets. 5510 Mildred Street #A. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY, WEST/USD. \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with laundry hookups. Dishwashers. Close to all. No pets! Lease required. 5845 #1 Lauretta Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$975. Laundry room, microwave. Near bus stop. Cat OK. 5946 Lauretta #5. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

FLETCHER HILLS. \$995, 1 bedroom. \$1150, 2 bedroom. \$500 move-in special. Lush gardens, sparkling pool, cathedral ceilings are just a few of the amenities in this newly refurbished community. No pets. 2950 Fletcher Parkway. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-464-8985; www.fletcherhillstsc.info.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. This bright, airy upstairs apartment in small complex offers great city views. Pet-friendly, laundry room, security gate with intercom. \$1050. 619-282-5954.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, quaint and charming duplex, totally remodeled, gleaming hardwood floors, washer/dryer connections. 619-296-2787.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. A pet-friendly community! Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Den, hardwood floors. \$1095/month. Cats OK. Large dogs welcome! 619-719-6555; www.petfriendlycommunities.com.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, \$1245. 1 bedroom apartment, \$835. Quiet, private, sunny, renovated. Nice block. 1 year lease. Nonsmoking. No pets. 619-980-6700.

GOLDEN HILL. \$775. Quiet 1 bedroom, lower. Like-new appliances, carpeting. Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. 1119 34th Street. Corner of C Street. Need good credit! 619-443-1289.

GOLDEN HILL. \$775. 1 bedroom. Quiet courtyard. Great floor plan. assigned parking. Laundry room. Move-in special! 619-296-3189.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled Victorian apartment. Bay view, fireplace, optional garage, cat OK with deposit. \$1100 move-in deposit. Agent, 858-279-8925.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently remodeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hallway/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On site laundry. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$875. Large 1 bedroom, recently remodeled apartment. New appliances, pool, on-site laundry, quiet neighborhood. Available immediately. Pet OK. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1,150. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath with garage. Garden courtyard setting. Washer/dryer on-site. Close to Downtown. Moran Realty Inc.: 619-231-1818.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. Large 1 bedroom in 1920s building. Hardwood floors, beautiful original woodwork, built-in glass front bookcases, desk. Dining room with built-in buffet. Clawfoot tub. Free hi-speed wireless Internet. Close to Downtown and freeways. 619-239-2278.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Victorian penthouse with panoramic City view! High ceilings, wood floors, deck with panoramic city view. All new! Open 9am-6pm. 1752 National Avenue. \$999. 619-236-8159.

GOLDEN HILL. \$950. 1 bedroom. Upstairs. City/harbor/ocean views. In old Victorian building. 2042 F Street #4. 858-866-5636.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Upstairs 1 bedroom with office. Spanish-style fourplex. Hardwood floors. Tiled kitchen/bath. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Shared yard. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$665. Upstairs studio. Hardwood floors. Very bright. Full kitchen and bath. Clawfoot tub. Secure building. Shared yard. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. Ugly but goodie! \$695+ 1 bedrooms, 1 with view. Cute inside, ugly

exterior. Your patience during remodeling means low rent. Cats OK. 619-231-8723.

GOLDEN HILL. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Large kitchen. Lots of windows. Cats OK. Street parking. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

HILLCREST. \$740. Studio. Utilities paid. 1 bath, full kitchen, laundry, new paint and carpet. 1 parking. No pets. 1610-1/2 Upas Street. 619-867-2921.

HILLCREST. Elegant apartments! Starting: 1 bedrooms, \$985/up. \$100 security deposit. 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 Avenue. ParkEastApts@att.net. www.sdreader.com/rent/1006. 619-298-3225.

HILLCREST. \$995. Large apartment. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. First floor unit. 401 Spruce Street. 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

HILLCREST. \$850. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled. Laundry. Great location! Close to shopping, restaurants, busline, freeways. Nice, quiet complex. 4170 Park Boulevard. 619-335-3922.

HILLCREST. Spacious 2 bedrooms starting at \$1295. Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

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HILLCREST. \$950. Large 1 bedroom apartment in great area. Laundry room, parking. Near the blue walking bridge. 903 Hayes Avenue. McKee, 619-435-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

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LA JOLLA. Studio. Ocean view, beautiful Coast Boulevard neighborhood, walk to beach, carport, quiet street, bright airy end unit, \$1175. No smoking. 441 Ravina

Street. Photos: <http://home.san.rr.com/emiller>. 858-735-7255.

LA JOLLA. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Parking, garage, upstairs unit, pool, jacuzzi. Near UCSD. 3103 Evening Way. Available now. 619-297-7368.

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LA JOLLA/BIRD ROCK. \$900. 1 bedroom. Small, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Shared courtyard. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 12/29. 415 Colima. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

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Jesse Ciordan

Drywaller

Spring Valley

Hell, yeah. I'm a maniac; I just lost my license because I'm a crazy driver. I had too many points on my license from speeding, not stopping at stop signs, illegal U-turns, and jumping curbs. I don't get mad at other people [for doing what I do] if they do it fast. I've flipped people off and a little bit of "Motherfucker, I'm going to kill you." I've thrown shit at people's cars and all that. One time, some guy tried to run me off the road; he was trying to pinch into a lane, and I had to go into the emergency lane on the freeway. [Taking a break from driving] does mellow me out; last time I lost my license and got it back, I followed all the laws until I got comfortable. I give myself time to get to work. It usually happens that I'm out in the desert driving and I hate rules, I hate lines, staying in the lines; I get frustrated because I'm, like, "Why should I listen to a line?"



Corey Williams

Student

Chula Vista

No, I'm a pretty calm person. I have no tolerance for people who can't drive; there're a lot of people like that down here in San Diego, so I guess you can say I get some road rage. [The worst drivers] are near the border and the bad drivers lean more towards the Baja license plates, but the U.S. has their fair share of bad drivers. If someone's a really bad driver, the worst I ever do is honk; I never flip anybody off. I don't chase people because that can just compound things if I crash. That's what happens a lot of the time, somebody's merging with turn signals and you're going to counter that by tailgating when that's only going to cause more problems. I'm a pretty defensive driver; I use all my blinkers. I think you got to take into consideration Murphy's Law, if you have to work at 8:00, don't leave at 7:30, because you have to assume that something is going to go wrong. There should be a law against women putting on make-up while driving.



Melissa Attallah

Student

La Mesa

Yes. I hate it when cars don't signal or slam on their brakes because they're not paying attention during rush hour. I usually just yell to myself; I don't do anything that I think they'll see because I don't want them coming after me. I'm scared to flip people off; I'm afraid they'll do something to me. I've cut people off, but my car is fast so I feel like I can make it. People still get mad though. It happens about twice a week. I drive a BMW, and sometimes I look down, and I'm going, like, 90, even though it feels like I'm going 60. I can weave through the slow cars. Other cars should not worry, the BMW cars are really reliable, and so if they see us cut them off, we're going to speed up and go with the flow of traffic. Don't be angry and have so much animosity and anger for Beemer drivers, even though they might have Civics and stuff, you know we work hard.



Jenny McDaniel

Student

Ocean Beach

No, I'm pretty calm. Usually when people cut me off, it seems like they get more mad [than I do]. The people that I cut off get road rage. I've had people mouth the words "Fuck you" after I've cut them off. San Diego's a mad city. There are a lot of pedestrians in O.B., and people get mad at them when they're running in the road. I think if you just realize that you cut people off and people are going to cut you off... I don't think people are that malicious that they're doing it on purpose. I have speeding tickets, parking tickets, and three accidents; I'm not a stoner, but I probably sound like one because I live in O.B. and I get in car accidents. I was 16 on the freeway during traffic the first time I rear-ended someone. I rear-ended my friend because I thought she had turned while I was looking for oncoming cars but she hadn't. Most recently I was backing out of my driveway and hit somebody. I need to be more of an offensive driver.



Seth Egge

Student

College Area

Not very often. It never seems like that big of a deal, if someone pisses you off. Flipping them off doesn't do anything. The one time that I experienced road rage, a guy got all crazy on me. He chased me down and tried to get me out of my car. He tried to fight me. [It started because] he wouldn't let me over, so I looked over and gave him the "come on, let me in" look before I flipped him off. It was in traffic, so he rolled down his window and yelled, "You don't know who you're messing with." Then he started cussing me out. He followed me off the freeway and I was on my way to work, so I pulled over. I wouldn't get out of my car, even though he wanted me to. He was a big, burly, older guy, and he looked pretty angry. I say, calm down and relax because there's no need to get so mad.



Natalie Pacheco

Student

College Area

A little. I think everyone does. I've honked and flipped people off. If they're just assholes, I usually flip them off. I don't do it all the time; usually [the people who give me road rage] they're just ditsy. I usually don't cut people off because of karma. A couple of the times, people have flipped me off and it's been their fault and I was, like, "All right." If you get angry, it's better to go to the gym or take it out somewhere else.

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LA MESA. \$975-\$1025. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath or 2 bath apartments. Air conditioning, balcony, gated. Garage parking. Lease. Available now! No pets. 619-303-4969.

LA MESA. \$850. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, new paint. Nice complex, laundry onsite, parking. Cat OK. 619-443-7451.

LA MESA. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom,

dry on site, close to SDSU. Deposit \$850. Available now! 7500 Parkway Drive. Jay 562-760-5247.

LA MESA. \$750. studios, \$350 deposit. \$1090, 2 bedroom, \$500 deposit, Carport space. Storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available 1/06. 5365 Marengo Avenue. 619-698-7926.

LA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Clean units, close Grossmont Center. Laundry facilities, assigned parking. center. 619-469-3735. www.flo.it.com.

LA MESA. \$725 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom cottage apartment. No pets.

At 4859 Jessie Street (at El Cajon Blvd). Agent, 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$1100. Mint duplex, 1 bedroom, 1 bath with 1-car garage and private patio, laundry room. Great neighborhood. 619-997-8807.

LA MESA. \$1365, 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Vaulted ceilings, 2-car carport. Near Grossmont center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! 5545 Morro Way. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA. \$880. 1 bedroom apartments. Across Grossmont Center, trolley and Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Resort living pools. Mellmanor Apartments. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. Call 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. \$795. Huge, 1 bedroom condo on 3rd floor. Half off first month! Walk-in closet. Balcony. All amenities. Cats OK. www.goldenhilppm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

LA MESA. \$755. 1 bedroom. Air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry, community barbecue, parking. 7334 La Mesita Place. 619-466-6450.

LA MESA. \$1695. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly renovated apartment homes. These homes feature washer/dryer hookups, dishwasher, garbage disposal and a 1-car garage. "Dog-friendly" with reference and additional deposit. 5025 Co-manche Drive. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msbrowner.com.

LA MESA. \$995. Deposit \$800. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper with balcony. Stove, refrigerator, off-street parking. New paint. 6006 Lake Murray #E. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA. \$800. Move-in special: \$200 off first month's rent! Spacious units. On-site laundry. Pool. \$500 deposit. Se habla espanol. Maria, 619-589-6766.

LA MESA. \$1145. Fabulous 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs duplex. Complete remodel with new gas stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Ceiling fans, imported floor tile, 2-tone paint and mirrored wardrobes. Must see! French doors and huge, private deck! Garage has washer/dryer hookups. Super location near Grossmont. 6142

Horton Drive. Call 619-209-4190, x114. www.sandiegopartments.com.

LA MESA. 1 bedrooms \$925, 2 bedrooms from \$1050, 3 bedrooms \$1725. Great central location. 2 pools, spa, tennis, fitness, air conditioning. Large laundry facility. Ask about move in specials! Heatherwood Apartments, 5333 Baltimore Drive, 619-461-3541.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs apartment. \$1025. Available December. Close to SDSU, shopping, easy freeway access. Ample off-street parking. On-site laundry. 4853 Jesse. Call on-site manager, Crystal 619-957-9938.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs apartment. \$1125. Available now. New carpet, paint, refrigerator. Close to shopping. Easy freeway access. 4515 3rd. Call on-site manager, Glenna, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. Ask about our Move-In Special! Large, remodeled 2 bedrooms, north of I-8 near Costco, \$1150. Sunny, air conditioned. Storage. Garage available. Small pet OK. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802. SanDiegoApartments.com.

LA MESA. Free, free rent! 2 bedrooms, \$999! Call for 3 bedroom special! Quaint community with large, airy rooms. Spectacular La Mesa views! Cat friendly. Ceiling fans. Dishwasher. Disposal. Pools. Laundry facilities. Courtyards. Parking. Close to shopping, parks and freeways. Parkway Plaza Apartments, 7576 Parkway Drive. 619-460-5241, www.sdreader.com/rent/2009.

LA MESA. Move-in special! Good credit equals first 2 months at \$725 each. \$900 security deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Water included. Pool, parking, laundry. 7629 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. Starting \$1445/up. 2 bedroom, luxury apartments, fireplace, laundry hookups, patio/balcony, pool, spa, garage parking. 5519 Lake Murray Boulevard. For pricing, 619-698-7600.

LA MESA. Spacious. \$865. 1 bedroom. \$1170, 2 bedroom townhouse. Laundry. Parking. Near Grossmont center, trolley,

Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! 5545 Morro Way. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA/SDSU. 1 bedroom, \$890/up, 2 bedroom, \$1075/up. Secluded hillside convenient to all. Air conditioning. Dishwashers. Disposals. Patios/balconies. Exercise room. Laundry. 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/CASA DE ORO. Special: 3 bedroom, 2 baths, \$300 off move-in, 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. 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LEMON GROVE. \$1195. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath duplex. Yard, ceiling fans, Berber carpet, laundry facilities. Pets OK, 1909 Ensenada Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

LEUCADIA. \$925. Duplex. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 625 square feet. Off-street parking. Small yard. Small pet OK. Walk to beach. 1223 North Vulcan #B. Agent, 858-755-1139. www.scuba-rentals.com.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 baths, \$995-\$1045. Kitchen, hardwood floors, assigned parking. Good location. No pets. Special: 1/2 off Office: 2451 Ulric Street. 858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedrooms, \$1350. 3 bedrooms, \$1550. Deposits \$600-\$800. 3 bedroom special, \$1200 moves you in! Large units, newly remodeled, stainless steel appliances, fitness gym, 5 pools. Garage and carport parking available. Pet friendly. Referral fee of \$200! Cabrillo Palisades, 7901 Harmarsh, San Diego, 92123. 888-264-0594. www.sdreader.com/rent/2067.

LINDA VISTA. \$675. Studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments,

2285 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. \$1000. Upper 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, recently remodeled with 2 balconies. Parking. 6756 Kelly Street. Agent 619-281-4698.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Duplex. \$1100/month, \$1000 deposit. Very nice, great kitchen, laundry facility, no dogs, off-street parking, 6 blocks to USD. 858-715-9472.

LINDA VISTA. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Brand new paint and carpet! Air conditioning, dishwasher. Parking and laundry on site. 7555 Linda Vista Road. Manager, 619-279-2183.

LINDA VISTA. \$845. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$500 deposit. Laundry. Available now. No pets. 1 car parking. 5663 Mildred Street #B. For appointment, 619-584-5900.

LITTLE ITALY. 2 master bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, washer/dryer, balcony, gym, secured parking. Beautiful unit and great location. \$2200. Call 619-239-2901.

LITTLE ITALY. Big city and night views! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath (875 square feet). Hardwood floors. Built-ins, storage, security. High ceiling, fans. 240 West Grape. \$1150. 619-787-7326.

LITTLE ITALY/DOWNTOWN. \$1975. Deposit \$1975. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 2 parking spaces, balcony overlooking India Street. Located: 1601 India Street #406. Agent, 619-296-6343.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$895. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, tile, paint, laundry room. Right off I-5/15. Early, move-in bonus, call Jody, 858-531-1632.

MIRA MESA. \$1095. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Super clean. Pool, laundry, parking, private patio. Near I-15. No pets. Year lease. \$1095 security. 858-274-9213.

MIRA MESA. \$1495, 2 master bedrooms, 2 bath, Condo. New appliances, washer/dryer, air, fireplace, community pool/spa/gym, covered parking, totally remodeled. Call 858-270-8921.

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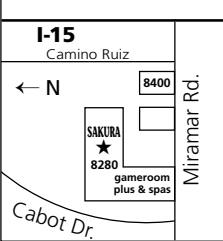
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MISSION BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 2 story, \$1800/month. 6 month lease. Ceramic tile, gas fireplace, steps to beach. No smoking/pets. Available 12/27, 711 Island. 619-922-6034.

MISSION BEACH. \$1225. Large studio apartment centrally located. Steps to the oceans. Ocean view deck, Jacuzzi deck, parking available. Utilities included. No pets. ybycinc@yahoo.com. 858-566-5855.

MISSION BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, new paint. \$1000/month. Available now. Pet friendly! 858-353-5555.

MISSION BEACH. \$995. Classic Mission beach style 1 bedroom. Very private. Close to beach and bay. Available now. Westbourne Realtors. 858-488-4800.

MISSION BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage, dishwasher. Year-round. No pets. 777 Isthmus Court. 858-488-2006. http://home.san.r.com/seastarproperty/.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$925. 1 bedroom. Downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Shared courtyard. Coin laundry. No parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/10/06. 731-1/2 Ensenada Court. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

MISSION BEACH/SOUTH. Studio apartments, available now! Off-street parking. All utilities paid. No pets. \$850 lease. 2980 Mission Boulevard. Call 858-488-5463 or 760-912-9552.

MISSION BEACH. \$795. Nice studio. 4-unit complex. Full kitchen & bathroom. Tiled throughout and bathroo. Off-street parking. Call for an appointment, 619-224-7655.

MISSION BEACH. \$945. Cute upper 1 bedroom apartment. Steps to bay. Parking space. Very clean. Gas appliances. No pets. 847 Jamaica court. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$2100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, water/trash and landscaping included. Large yard. 3261 Ocean Front Walk. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Bayfront unit with large, private patio. Garage. Free laundry. 3282 Bayside Walk. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. Studio apartment at 2826 Mission Blvd. \$895/month. Includes utilities & parking. No pets. 858-488-5463.

MISSION HILLS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. On canyon, quiet, near shopping and bus lines. No pets. 619-298-6436.

MISSION HILLS/OLD TOWN. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Second floor. On-site laundry. All wood & tile floors. Recently upgraded. Pets OK. \$1200. 3784 Keating Street. 858-613-1069.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. 1/2 month free on 2 bedroom, 2 bath units! Lots, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1580. Underground parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Full size washer/dryer. Internet. Elevator. Fitness center. Great location! Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons, 4021 Falcon Street. www.MissionHillsCommons.com. 619-220-0707. www.sreader.com/rent/2032.

MISSION HILLS. \$1200/up. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

MISSION HILLS. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, new carpet/paint. No pets. Near Downtown! Laundry. 3549 Reynard Way. 619-464-1652.

MISSION HILLS. \$895. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upstairs. Balcony. Coin laundry. Carport. Near shops, bus, downtown/airport. 3960 Hawk Street. No pets. 619-464-1652.

MISSION HILLS. \$980. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs Duplex. Washer/dryer, water/gardener paid, off-street parking, storage, no smoking/pets. 3610A Curlew. HDO Property 619-298-3820.

MISSION HILLS. \$1875. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse with city views, hardwood floors, fireplace, storage unit, dishwasher, air conditioning, 2 parking spaces in underground, gated garage. No pets. 909 Sutter Street #304. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. \$1050. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath, covered parking, laundry

on site, balcony. 3737 Keating Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1 parking, laundry on-site. 6-month lease. 1767 Torrance. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION VALLEY. The Lido community. \$2100. 2 bedroom 2 bath. Brand new with patio and appliances. River view. 1 year lease preferred. 858-442-0196.

MISSION VALLEY. Rent to own! 1 bedroom condo, \$900. New appliances/carpet/paint. Tiled kitchen/bath. Ample closets. Pool, spa, clubhouse, exercise room, tennis. 619-294-2419.

MISSION VALLEY/SERRA MESA. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage. Patio. Balcony. Close to parks, minutes to stadium/malls. \$1450. 8644 Hurlbut. 619-922-9892.

MISSION VALLEY. Junior 1 bedrooms, \$825/up. 1 bedrooms, \$950/up. Heated pool, spa, saunas, gym. Clubhouse with billiards and TV. Patio or balcony. Covered parking. Near Mission Trails Park. Villa De Flores Apartments, 7707 Mission Goerge Road. 619-583-0821. www.sreader.com/rent/1008, VillaDeFlores@att.net.

MISSION VALLEY. 3 bedroom, 2 baths from \$1645! 2 bedroom, 2 baths from \$1245. \$300 deposit special OAC! Tropical. Dishwasher. Microwave. Intercom. Pool. Spa. Sauna. Fitness center. Central air conditioning and heat. Balcony, patio. Gated, parking. Laundry. Cat OK. Mission Pacific, 4454 44th Street. 1-866-813-5684. www.pacificliving.com. www.sreader.com/rent/1010.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. Nice 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900. Pool, amenities, and garage. No pets. Available January 1. Call 619-977-8861.

MISSION VALLEY. Newly renovated studios/suites-\$315+/week, \$1100/month. Off-street, covered parking. Full kitchen. Complimentary continental breakfast. Hot coffee/tea, 24 hours. On-site laundry. Free high speed Internet, 80 cable channels. HBO. Fax/copy service. Pool/spa. Near SDSU. Days Inn & Suites, 1-888-298-5168. www.sreader.com/rent/2139.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1895. Resort on the river. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath, river view, washer/dryer, double garage, gated, pool, gym. Near offices/shopping. 949-291-5451.

MISSION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus office. Never been lived in! 1531 square feet. 2 parking. Gated. Washer/dryer. Patio. All amenities. \$2350. 760-419-5053.

MISSION VALLEY. Condo, \$1695. 2 bedroom plus loft, 1228 square feet. At Rio Del Oro. For pictures, go to www.TheEquityCompany.com. 619-528-2337.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath riverfront condo, enclosed patio, view. All amenities. 2 parking spaces, 2 storage units. Available 1/15/06. \$1500 deposit. 619-881-8345.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath. Upper corner. Fireplace, air/heat, balcony, washer/dryer. No pets/smoking. 2230 River Run Drive #195. Kim, 619-300-6437.

MISSION VALLEY. Spacious studio, plenty closets, Murphy bed. Great location. Next to Incahots. Covered parking. Month to month available. Available

1/1/2006. \$795 with 6-month lease. 619-933-5081.

MISSION VALLEY/MISSION PLACE. \$1200. Newly refurbished 2 bedroom condo. Pergo flooring, tile, park-like view. 10699 San Diego Mission Road #113. www.palmtreerealty.com. 619-461-3546.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in quiet community with club house, pool and spa. Near I-15, 2 parking spaces (tandem), water paid. 6295 Rancho Mission Road #104. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400; www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2000. Luxury 2 bedroom plus office/den, 2-1/2 bath condo. 1350 square feet, 2-car garage, gated community. All appliances provided. Near trolley and shopping. 7585 Hazard Center Drive. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

MISSION VALLEY/COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedrooms from \$940! Minutes to shops, dining, transit. All amenities. Collwood Pines Apartments, 4929 Collwood Boulevard. 619-287-3020. www.rasnyder.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$850. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Near USD. Close to beach and shopping. On-site laundry. No pets. 619-683-7805.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1100. Spacious second floor 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near USD, shopping, restaurants, and theaters. Walk to the Y. Bike to beach. A quiet, no pets complex. 619-683-7805.

MISSION VALLEY. Stonecrest Village. 2 master bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage. All amenities: tennis, pool, workout room. No smoking/pets. Available now. \$1900. 619-316-1966.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1295/month. Townhouse (end unit), 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Completely remodeled, must see! Assigned parking, laundry, pool, gated complex. 8085 Caminito de Pizza. No pets. 619-279-0031.

MISSION VALLEY/HOTEL CIRCLE. Furnished 1 bedroom condo, linens, dishes. Cable TV/gas paid. Fireplace, skylights, pool, gym, underground parking. No pets/smoking. \$1100/month. 619-303-7822.

MISSION VALLEY. 1 bedroom furnished. Near trolley & SDSU. Amenities. Covered parking. \$1095. Please call agent, 619-303-0821.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1475. Beautiful, spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fireplace. Balcony. Washer/dryer. Parking. Storage. Pool/spa. Gym. Security. Easy freeway. No pets. 760-218-0885.

MOUNTAIN VIEW. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, downstairs. 2 off street parking. Laundry on site. Section 8 OK. No pets. 3712 Hemlock Street #2. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom, \$725. 2 bedroom townhomes, \$995-\$1050. Very spacious. Views, balconies, garages, washer/dryer hookups. Must see! No pets. 940 Palm Avenue. 619-336-0436.

NATIONAL CITY. \$695/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NATIONAL CITY. \$845. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Newly remodeled with updated appliances! Great location, minutes to everything. Small pet consid-

ered, 2826-1/2 Prospect. Agent, 619-279-2183.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom. \$1075, 2 bedroom. Remodeled units. Tile, ceiling fans. Off street parking. Laundry on site. Near busline. Cat ok. Available 12/1. 619-284-2092. www.floiti.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. 1 bedroom. New paint. Clean. Quiet. Ceiling fans. Air conditioning. Balcony. Stove & refrigerator. Mirrored wardrobe doors. Gated courtyard. 4577 Bancroft. 619-281-0030.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. New gated community. 2 units, first floor, 2 bedroom, 2 baths condos with parking, large balconies, all appliances. Cats OK. \$1450 and \$1550 plus security. 619-296-8555.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1050, deposit \$700 plus 1st month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Includes 1-car garage. Remodeled. Section 8 OK. No pets. 619-549-2815.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$800. Large 1 bedroom. \$100 off first month! End unit. New carpet. Parking. Garden setting. Gated. Caring management. No pets. 4730 32nd. 619-584-7790.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$800. 1 bedroom. Spacious. Pool, off-street parking, on-site laundry. Close to major freeways. Sorry, no pets! 4841 West Mountain View Drive. 619-282-6440. Sunriseliving.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$740. 1 bedroom, deluxe apartment, air conditioning, dishwasher, ceiling fan, tiled countertops, walk-in closet. Reserved parking, no pets, 4343 Cherokee Avenue, 619-229-9060.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment in client gated building. New paint, laundry, ceiling fan, reserved parking. No pets. 4319 Copeland. 619-265-8680.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$749. Large, upgraded 1 bedroom. Garage available. Laundry and parking on site, gated community. Close to freeways. Available immediately. 4545 35th Street. 858-259-1217.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. 4443 36th Street #8. Xlarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath corner unit. Sunny. Ceiling fans. Off-street parking. Laundry. 4652 33rd Street #8. Xlarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, newer appliances, garage. Gated community. 619-255-0382.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$975. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Walk-in closet, new appliances, gated community, off-street parking. Available now. 619-255-1472.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$100+ move-in special! 1 bedroom, \$750/month. Small complex. Laundry facilities. No pets. 4567 Hawley Boulevard #2. 619-405-5379. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Nice, bright and clean. New dual glazed windows. A must see! Available 12/10. 4325 Kansas Street #4. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 baths condo with fireplace and attached garage. Extra large completely fenced in patio. Pets are negotiable. 619-787-6479; jennifergrimm@kw.com

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1150. Deposit \$750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Upstairs. New paint/carpet/flooring. Off-street parking. No pets. Available now. 4681 35th Street. 619-226-7368.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$650. Clean 1 bedroom apartment. Fresh paint. Parking space. Gas appliances. Laundry facilities. Security gates. No pets. 4334 35th Street. Call manager, 619-583-8744.

NORMAL HEIGHTS/KENSINGTON. \$785. Spacious sunny studio, completely remodeled, granite counters, limestone floors, crown molding. Small complex, north of Adams avenue. Assigned parking, laundry. 619-683-2370.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Gated. Parking. Available approximately 1/15. No pets. 4371 Swift Avenue #3. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775, \$500 deposit, \$600 1st month. 1 bedroom. New paint, tiles, carpet and stove. Gated, laundry on-site. 4653 32nd Street. 619-315-5938.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. \$750 and \$950. Very nice, on-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 4263 42nd Street. 760-672-0425.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$745. (\$200 off first month's rent!) 1 bedroom. New carpet and paint with patio, on-site parking and laundry. Close to Adams Avenue shops and restaurants. Stop by 4655 33rd Street #6. If interested, call 619-226-7368.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4774 33rd Street #5. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher, air conditioning. Washer/dryer. Off-street parking. No pets. \$795. www.timcassidy.com. Available 12/15. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

NORMAL HEIGHTS/TALMADGE. \$750/\$1100. Large deluxe 1 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. All amenities, air conditioning, parking, controlled entry, laundry, near all. 619-287-1996; 619-461-9415.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1045 rent, \$900 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large upper unit with stove, refrigerator, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 2605 Madison Avenue #9. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$850. Spacious, brand new condo with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, balcony, dishwasher, laundry facility, on the first floor. 858-598-1111 x111, www.utopiamanagement.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. Upgraded studio, new carpet, vinyl flooring, vertical blinds. Available now. Small pet under 25 pounds OK. Section 8. 4633-1/2 33rd Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

NORTH PARK. \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. 2-car garage. Fireplace, laundry hookups, balcony, patio, new paint/carpet. Year lease. No pets. 951-300-6231, 951-780-8032.

NORTH PARK. 1/2 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 2 bath upgraded unit, new carpet, blinds, vinyl, appliances, private balcony, pool, laundry, gated. Quiet. \$1390. 3929 Kansas. 858-483-5111 x42. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$725. 1 bedroom, clean, renovated, fresh paint, new carpeting, new blinds. Eat-in kitchen. 10-unit building on 32nd Street. Laundry on-site. No dogs. 619-838-3358.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit in small quiet complex. New paint, carpet, vinyl and blinds. Parking and laundry on site. No pets. Deposit \$500. 4656 Kansas Street. Call for showing. 858-483-5111 x41. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$865. Large 1 bedroom. North of Meade. Dining/living room. Quiet, gated courtyard, easy freeway access. Pets ok. 4426 Boundary St. Viewing, 619-818-8575.

NORTH PARK. \$975. Newly renovated, small 1 bedroom condo. Gas fireplace, central air/heat, washer/dryer, new refrigerator, dishwasher, stove and oven, carpet and flooring. Gated complex, garage plus 1 additional parking space. Available now. 1 year lease. 4251 33rd Street #1. 858-684-3620.

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NORTH PARK. \$700. Large 1 bedroom. Upstairs. Gated building. Parking. Laundry. Parking. 4020 38th Street. Agent, 619-260-1368 or 619-281-0974.

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NORTH PARK. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No pets. 4151 Arizona Street. \$800 deposit. Nino, 619-295-1694.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom apartment, gated, laundry, fireplace, parking, 3981 Hamilton #2. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

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NORTH PARK. \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs and downstairs apartments with parking and laundry! No pets! 4146 Swift Street #4, #9. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

NORTH PARK. \$750 rent. \$600 deposit OAC. 1 bedroom apartment. Parking. No pets. At 4222 Alabama #15. Agent, 619-299-0951.

NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom, beautiful remodel, great kitchen, dishwasher, laundry, air conditioning, roof deck, no pets, street parking. Available 1/1. 619-954-3650.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Upper 1 bedroom, gated complex, on-site laundry. No pets. Nonsmoking. 3119 Howard. 619-281-4698.

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NORTH PARK. \$550. Studio. Downstairs, laundry room onsite. Available now. 3949 Kansas Street #4. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 blocks to beach. Carpet, no pets. 4974 Muir Avenue. 619-222-6427.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1300. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All amenities. Dishwasher. Fireplace. Large closets. Pool. Laundry facilities. Barbecue area. Parking. Quiet neighborhood. 4825 Del Mar Avenue. 619-224-0306.

OCEAN BEACH. \$875. Upstairs 1 bedroom, super clean. Lots of windows. Carpet like new. Very near beach. No pets. Nonsmoking. 5079 Lotus Street. 619-226-7819.

OCEAN BEACH. Sunny garden apartment, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, brick patio, parking. No smoking. Pets considered. \$1500. Available 1/1/06. 619-222-7879.

OCEAN BEACH. Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, balcony. Parking, laundry. Walk to park/shopping. \$1350. Available 12/15. 4332 Banning. Chris, 619-818-1500.

OCEAN BEACH. \$625. Small studio apartment. No pets. Nonsmoking. Cozy. New paint/carpet. Appliances. Share parking. Walk to beach. 5037 Narragansett Avenue #4. Juno, 619-275-3455.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. No pets. Garage. 6 month lease. 5072 West Point Loma Boulevard. \$1350/ month. 858-273-4820 or 858-525-5238.

OCEAN BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$1095. Steps to beach! Will consider small pet. Fee. Free search at www.sdrentals.com. 858-324-1780.

OCEAN BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs with laundry. Great location. No pets! 4154 Udall Street #1. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story unit with garage. Washer/dryer hookups! New carpet and vinyl. No pet! 4831 Muir Avenue #A. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs apartment with hardwood floors. 1 block to beach! No pets! 2192 Abbott Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs apartment with parking and laundry! Right on beach! No pets! 5043 Santa Monica #14. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs attached cottage with parking and laundry! Right on beach! No pets! 5113-1/2 Saratoga Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacifcrealty.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, includes 1-car garage. Steps to ocean. Upper apartment with view. New appliances, carpet, flooring. Tastefully appointed. 6 month lease OK. Sorry, no pets. 5062 1/2 Santa Monica. John A. Reis & Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

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PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1450. Gigantic, upper 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment near bay. Hardwood floors, lots of closets, light and bright. Quiet! "Leave it to Beaver" neighborhood. Gated courtyard. Laundry. Squeaky clean! No pets/smoking. 3732 Yosemite. 858-454-2024.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$845, 1 bedroom. \$995-\$1150, 2 bedrooms. Quiet. Security gated building. Laundry room. Near bay/bike trail. Available now. No dogs. 858-454-3841.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath with 2 car garage. In quiet residential area near bay and beach. Approximate availability January 1, 2006. No pets. 12-month lease. 1434 Oliver Avenue. Please call 858-880-9116.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All appliances. 950 square feet. New carpet/paint. 2 parking spaces, laundry room. No pets. Nonsmoking. 858-272-7616.

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ter/trash/electric included! 1024 Chalcedony Street. 858-273-5970.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom available. 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-5:00pm, Monday-Friday. Beachfront Apartments, 4217 Oliver Court (behind the Promenade). 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. No deposit, on approved credit! Hot winter special! Studios from \$865. 1 bedrooms from \$1025. 2 bedrooms from \$1525. Heated pool with aerobics. 2 spas. Weight rooms. 5 light tennis courts. Basketball courts. Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham Street. www.progressmanagement.net. Toll free: 1-888-759-7435. www.sdreader.com/rent/2081.

PACIFIC BEACH. Premier coastal living! Huge 1 bedroom from \$1105, 2 bedrooms from \$1535! Low deposits \$550-\$700! Gated. Lush courtyard. Pool. Spa. Sauna. Fitness center. Barbecues. Clubhouse. 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. \$740. Studios, furnished or unfurnished. No pets. Non-smoking. Off-street parking. See at 4160 Ingraham Street. 858-274-4344.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1025. 1 bedroom plus den. Third floor, deck view. New carpet. Parking. No pets. 6-month lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. Jingle deals! Large studios/1 bedroom, \$769/up. New kitchen. Assigned parking. Laundry, pool. Cats welcome! Call 858-536-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2400. Ocean view! Beach front, 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Furnished. Private parking, security, laundry facility. Pool/spa. Barbecue. Annual lease basis. 760-485-7686.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets. 1 parking space. Laundry available. Good location. 1466 Diamond Street. Blane Realty, 619-758-5795.

PACIFIC BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in small, quiet community with parking, laundry on site. Large kitchen and living room. \$1295. \$500 gift card for your holiday shopping! 1519 Missouri. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msrbrowar.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Spacious 1 bedroom apartment home with skylight, extra closet space, breakfast nook and more! Assigned parking. 1542 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msrbrowar.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775 studio. All utilities paid. Parking. Patio. Walk to bay. No pets. 1604 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1090. 1 bedroom. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator,

dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Parking. Shared courtyard. 4 blocks to ocean. No pets. Available now. 1542 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995-\$1050. 1 bedroom. Large, downstairs. Completely remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Pool. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Available 12/10. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, coin laundry, parking. No pets. Available 12/10. 1448 Thomas. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Downstairs condo in 4-unit building. Appliances, laundry hook-ups. Attached garage plus extra space. Fireplace. New carpet. No pets. 1 year lease. 956 Sapphire. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Appliances. Parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/11/06. 1059 Loring. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1175. 1 bedroom. Upstairs. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Private balcony. Coin laundry. Parking. 2 blocks to ocean. No pets. Available 1/18/06. 950 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. Studio with all utilities paid. Stove, refrigerator. Small, fenced yard area. Pet OK upon approval with additional deposit. Available 1/10/06. 1358 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, remodeled bathroom, coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 1/10/06. 959 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2400. 3 bedroom plus extra room, 3 baths. Townhome in quiet 4-condo property. Appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, patio plus balcony. Garage plus driveway parking. Available 1/15/06. 2045 Emerald. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Charming 1 bedroom upper unit, 1 bath. Quiet complex. 1-parking space. No pets. 6-months minimum. \$950 rent, \$475 deposit. 1541 Oliver Avenue. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$945. 1 bedroom. Large, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Parking. Shared courtyard. 7 blocks to ocean. No pets. Available 1/10/06. 1452 Grand. 858-270-2071. Del

Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1150. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator. Nice shared lawn area. Quiet duplex. Garage. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/10/06. 941 Missouri. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Garage. Shared lawn area. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 1/01/06. 947 Missouri. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$800. Studio with all utilities paid. Full kitchen with stove and refrigerator. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. 3 blocks to ocean. Available 1/01/06. 5049 Cass. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. 1 bedroom. Remodeled. Cute duplex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Hardwood floors. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 12/20. 4417 Dawes. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950, large 1 bedroom upper, balcony, laundry, garage, quiet complex. New decor, \$500 deposit, cat ok. 1867 Reed Avenue. 858-270-8142.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1125. Bright, sunny, downstairs 1 bedroom cottage/duplex. Appliances. Garage. Laundry facility. Great location. Near bay/park. 3710 Ingraham. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH/SAIL BAY. \$1595. Large 2 bedroom townhouse, attractive interior, private patio, small complex. 2 blocks to beach. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Available. 4073 Gresham. 858-274-7980.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$885. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets. 1 parking. New carpet/paint. Share courtyard. Clean. 1550 Hornblend Street #1. Juno. 619-275-3455.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, ocean view, washer/dryer. West of Mission Boulevard. Steps to beach! 722 Beryl. 1-year lease. No dogs. 619-688-9191.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3200. 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, tri-level condo. End unit. 2-car garage. 1481 La Playa. Bill Luther Realty, 858-488-1580. www.billluther.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Studio apartment, \$795. Cat OK! Parking. Utilities paid. Fee. Free

search at www.sdrentals.com. 858-324-1780.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, \$1275. Parking, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher. Fee. Free search at www.sdrentals.com. 858-324-1780.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BEACH. Crown Management wishes you a safe, happy holiday season. Check back in January for new listings! 24-Hour Rental Line: 858-454-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$100+ move-in special! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1400/month. Second floor, small complex. Laundry facilities. Parking. No pets. 1152 Oliver. 619-405-5379. www.melroyproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$900-\$925. Large 1 bedroom with fenced area or balcony. Laundry room, off-street parking. Near bay. 3933 Jewell Street. www.palmtreearealty.com. 619-461-3546.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Balcony, courtyard, laundry. Available 12/16. No dogs. 2239 Garnet Avenue. Open house: 12/11, 10am-11am. 619-224-7583.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$695. studios. Move-in special OAC. Utilities included. Parking. Newly refurbished. Laundry, 3755 Ingraham Street. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2400. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, microwave, refrigerator, patio. Water included. 1469 Hornblend #1. Available now. No pets. 858-336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1200. Upper 2 bedroom in quiet complex. Balcony, dishwasher, laundry, parking. Missouri/Ingraham area. Close to all, six blocks to beach! 858-483-9009.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, parking, pool, laundry. No pets. 2 blocks to the beach. 930 Thomas Avenue #21. 858-270-1619.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BEACH. \$1740, including utilities. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to the Boardwalk and beach. One parking space. No pets. Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. Clean studio. 4 blocks to ocean. Parking space. Gas appliances. Laundry facilities. No pets. 1122 Felspar Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Small yard with shed. Excellent condition. Gas appliances.

Parking space. No pets. 5160 Dawes Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$985. Quiet and spacious downstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$300 off first month! Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. 1920 Felspar. 858-459-1102.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 blocks to ocean! Garage. New carpet and paint. shared yard. Laundry facilities. No pets. 957 Tourmaline Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex, easy freeway access. 2325 Grand Avenue. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, garage. One block to beach. Year lease. 834 Emerald. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, two story, parking, 2 blocks to beach. 915 Diamond. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$2125. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, laundry on-site. Must see! 3924 Shasta Street. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1395. Sunny, upstairs 2 bedroom over private garage. Hardwood floors. Appliances. Bay view. Freshly painted. 3959 Haines Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. All utilities paid. Double garage, laundry. 4 blocks to ocean. \$800, studio. 1128 Felspar #11/#4. Agent 858-488-2844.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, patio, barbecue, upstairs. No dogs. Cats ok. 1832-1/2 Missouri. Steve Richards Realty, 858-483-2844.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$975. Quiet, downstairs 1 bedroom. 8 blocks to ocean. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator. Laundry close. Cat OK. 1566 Hornblend. 858-232-9932.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2495! Great panoramic ocean and Bay view home, west of I-5. Watch the fireworks from Sea World! Full-size interior laundry. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pic-

tures at www.SanDiegoRealtor.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800. 1 bedroom. New paint/carpet/blinds. Parking. Easy freeway. Laundry. Near Mission Bay Park. Deposit \$800. No pets. Available now. 619-223-0985.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1630. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer, garage, plus 1 parking. Garden. Attractive 4-plex building. Fireplace. 4 blocks to beach! No smoking/pets. 858-483-5151 or 858-248-0069

PACIFIC BEACH. \$725. Studios. 4 blocks to beach. Laundry, pool. 5050 Cass Street. No pets. 619-261-4793.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095-\$1195. 1 bedroom, 4 blocks to beach! Newly remodeled. 5050 Cass street. Laundry, pool. No pets. 619-261-4793.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Block and a half to beach! On-site laundry. Bright, clean upper unit with ceiling fans. No pets. \$1500/month. 858-273-3233.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. Upstairs, cozy 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Small view of the bay, high ceilings. Appliances. Parking. Laundry facility. 2053 Garnet #3. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury condo at The Plaza. Second floor. New carpet/paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dishwasher. Pools. Parking. Tennis. Billiards. Health club. Sauna. 24-hour security. Available now. No pets. 1801 Diamond Street. 619-888-6604.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1100. 1 bedroom luxury condo at The Plaza. Third floor. Vaulted ceilings. New carpet/paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dishwasher. Pools. Parking. Tennis. Billiards. Health club. Sauna. 24-hour security. Available now. No pets. 1801 Diamond Street. 619-888-6604.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Upgraded! 2 blocks to Crown Point Shores. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995, deposit \$750. Parking. Pool. Laundry facilities. Cat OK. 3883 Jewell Street. 6-month or annual lease. Call Manager, 858-272-0068.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 blocks to beach. Parking space. Enclosed patio. Approved pet? 4875 Cass. \$1400/month. \$1400 deposit. 858-273-2910.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225/month. 1 year lease. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2124 Grand Avenue. No pets. Nonsmoking. Call Michael, 858-597-6100 x321.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet 4-plex near Cass and Diamond. No pets. \$1500/month. Leave message at 858-483-6547, calls will be returned in evening.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$910/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with parking. 1524 Missouri Street. 1 year lease. Nonsmoking. Call Michael, 858-597-611 x321.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments, \$1465. Studio, \$940. Block to Sail Bay. Pool, laundry, parking. Casa Riviera, 3773-77 Haines. 858-483-9303. www.rasnyder.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2100. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Good condition. Off-street parking. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Available now. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Good condition. Upper level. Off-street parking. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Available January. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2400. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse, 3-car garage, fireplace, washer/dryer, patio and deck. No pets. 1843 Grand Avenue. Available January. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850/month. Spacious 1 bedroom. Clean, quiet. Pool, laundry, parking, gated. Near bay. No pets. 2275 Grand Avenue. 619-276-5520.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$850. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Beach three blocks! Upper unit. Dishwasher, ceiling fans, balcony, parking, laundry. No pets. Optional garage. 619-276-5520.

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. Sunrisediving.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225. 1 bedroom. Located in Sail Bay. Partial bay view, steps

to sand. Close to all. 3918 Gresham #6. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom, 3 blocks to Ski Beach and Sail Bay. 3734 Ingraham. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4200 x119.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225. 3 blocks to beach! Spacious 1 bedroom with private patio. Apartment comes with an assigned space in garage and on-site laundry facilities! 4321 Cass Street. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msbrowar.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1050. Just one block to the beach! This charming 1 bedroom has a private patio and is within walking distance to both Garnet Avenue and the beach! 4688 Bayard. 858-270-5500 x29. www.msbrowar.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. Walk to beach, restaurants, shops. 1063 Hornblend. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. Large 1 bedroom. Ocean front building. Patio. Wood floors, storage. Underground secure parking with cameras. Pool/sauna. Hot water/cable included. 858-336-9197.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedrooms. Partial bay view. 1-1/2 blocks to Sail Bay. Upper unit. New paint and carpet. Open house Saturday, December 10, 11:30am-12:30pm. 3811 Riviera. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to beach. 719 Chalcedony. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4200 x110.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom. Excellent central location. 2009 Thomas. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New amenities, second floor view, walk to Garnet. Open house Saturday, December 10, 10-11am. 2073 Emerald. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750. 1 bedroom in garden setting. Great location. Pool, recreation room, laundry. No pets. 2710 Grand Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-273-8657.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Immaculate property, The Madrid. Parking, coin laundry, spa. No pets. 1530 Chalcedony. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-270-5847.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, stove, refrigerator. Blocks from beach. 4751 Mission Boulevard #7. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great values, nice, clean, convenient apartments in multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from \$865. 1 bedrooms from \$925; 2 bedrooms from \$1395. Parking, laundry. Some buildings with gated entry, pool and/or deck. No pets. 858-483-3796.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. Block/ocean. \$1055-\$1095. Rebates! Lovely, bright one bedroom downstairs condo, tiled kitchen/bath, remodeled, dual-pane windows, blue Berber. 800 block/Diamond Street. Appointment, 858-270-0214.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. Recently remodeled studio. Downstairs corner unit. Blocks from bay. Parking. New bathroom/kitchen/paint. \$835/deposit. 4121 Kendall St. #1. 619-804-5319.

POINT LOMA. Call for great move-in specials! Beautiful 1, 2, 3 bedrooms from \$975-\$1600. Pets welcome! Clubhouse. Fitness room. Business room. Tennis. Heated pool and spa. Convenient parking. Near shopping, beaches, and quick freeway access. Stonewood Garden Apartments, 3889 Midway Drive. Call today, 619-223-4766. www.sdreader.com/rent/2118.

POINT LOMA. \$950. 1 bedroom. Large balcony, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Water/trash included. 2228 Chatsworth Boulevard. 760-632-1900.

POINT LOMA. \$875. 1 bedroom. On-site laundry, off-street parking. Water/trash included. 2228 Chatsworth Boulevard. 760-632-1900.

POINT LOMA. \$1150. Gated, recently remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Balcony with view. On-site laundry, parking, all amenities. Available 1/1/06. Small pet considered. 619-994-3699.

POINT LOMA. Great specials! 1 bedrooms, \$925/up. Ocean, bay, city views (select units). Dishwasher. Tile counters. Air conditioning. Covered parking. Elevators. Pool. Spa. Sauna. Rooftop sundeck. Gym. Laundry. Internet. Barbecue. Picnic park. No pets. PointLomaTowers@att.net. Point Loma Towers. 3811 Marquette Place. www.sdreader.com/rent/1003. 619-223-6577.

POINT LOMA/SHELTER ISLAND. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New tile, new carpets. New appliances. Laundry, off-street parking includes basic cable TV. No pets. 6-month lease. 1434 Rosecrans Street. Manager, 619-302-9946 or 619-222-1692.

POINT LOMA. Move-in Special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Available. Close to ocean. Off-street parking, spa/barbecue area, on-site laundry. Cats/dogs 20lbs. OK. Water and trash included. 2449 Soto Street. 619-224-1973.

POINT LOMA. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 parking. New stove, refrigerator, paint, carpet. Light/bright. Gated security building. 3140 Midway Drive #A-312. 619-237-5032, 619-200-5500.

POINT LOMA. \$1050 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking spot. Laundry. No pets. At 2842 Avenida de Portugal. Agent, 619-299-8515.

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Great location, laundry, no pets, garage, fireplace. 6 month lease. 4754 West Point Loma Boulevard. \$2450. 858-525-5238.

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POINT LOMA. \$1125. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment with new carpet! Laundry on-site! No pets. 3612 Kemper Court #11. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo, 2-car garage, hookups, washer and dryer. No pets. Available December 15. \$1750/month. 619-224-7791.

POINT LOMA. 1 bedrooms from \$1020. Beautiful apartment homes. Pool, spa and view deck. Fitness center. Media room. Gated parking. Gorgeous gated community. 3950 Leland. 619-223-1390.

POINT LOMA. Townhome. \$1775. Large 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Balcony. Near beaches/freeways. Gated parking. Washer/dryer. Great views. No pets/smoking. Available 1/06. 619-665-8836.

POINT LOMA. \$1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper. Small, quiet building in Village. Laundry on-site. Near stores and Shelter Island. Close to Downtown and airport. 3116 Dickens Street. Sorry, no

pets. John A Reis & Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

POINT LOMA. \$1200. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Large eat-in kitchens, upgraded. In Village. No pets. 3115 Jarvis Street. John A Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

POINT LOMA. \$995. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace, balcony, underground parking, on-site laundry, gated. Move in special! 2833 Cadiz Street. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upgraded unit available now. Quiet complex and close to beach. No pets. 3834 Voltaire Street. Orion Property Group, 619-749-6545.

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POINT LOMA. \$800. Studio available 1/5. On-site laundry and parking available. Blocks to cove. Quiet and small property. No pets. 301 Rosecrans Street. Orion Property Group, 619-749-6545.

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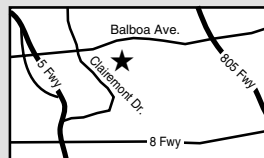


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SERRA MESA. Large, bright, airy 2 bedroom apartments from \$925-\$1075. Ceiling fans, carport, laundry facility. Close to shops and freeways. 858-279-3777.

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SHERMAN HEIGHTS. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$695. Utilities included. Open Sunday, 1pm-2pm: 532 21st Street #4. app@ajprop.com. A & J Property Management, 888-614-9370.

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SOUTH PARK. \$1250 rent. \$1000 deposit. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet, no outlet street. Fenced. Washer/dryer hookups. 1833 Felton Street. Agent, 619-296-6343.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Small, quiet community. Laundry on site. 4476 Alabama Street. 619-692-0732, 619-587-1187.

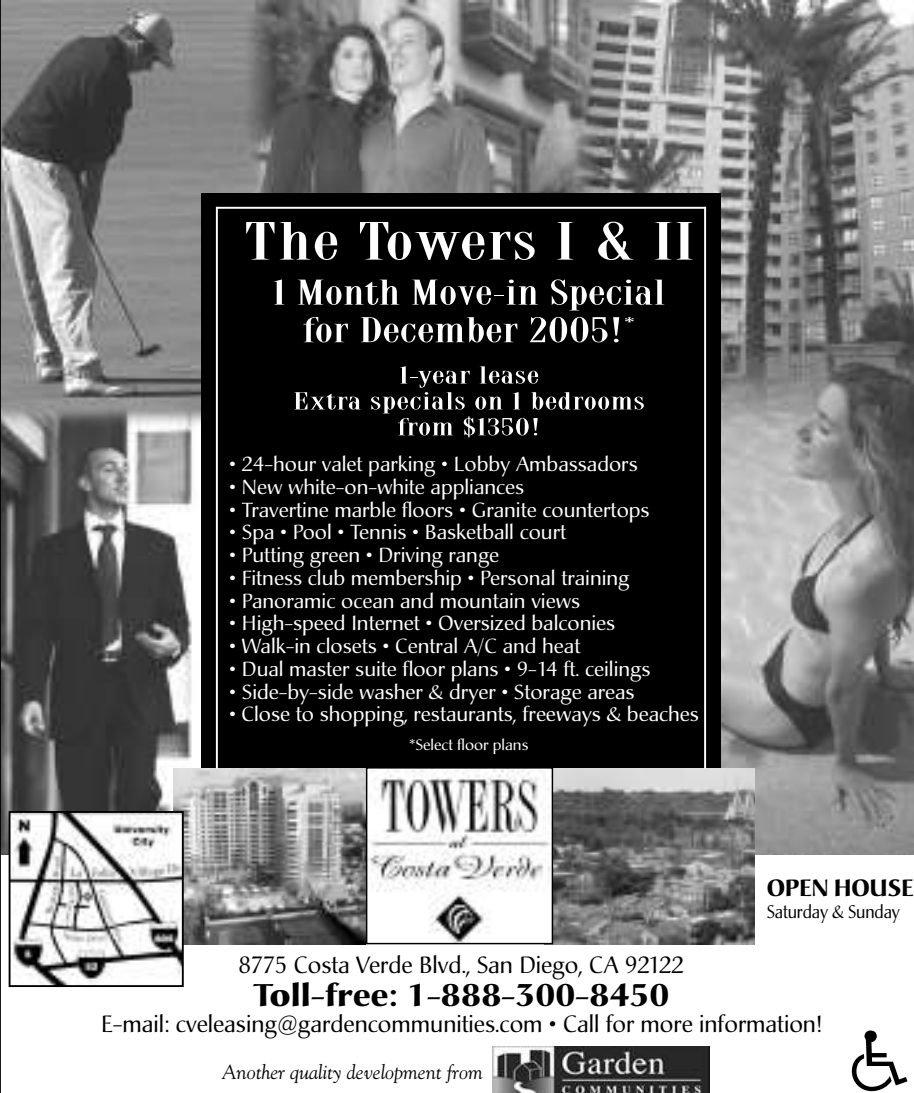
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Historic buildings, studio apartments, 3 rooms plus bath (claw-foot tub), hardwood, tile. Built-ins (flour bin, desk). Zoned for living/business. \$650-\$950/month, 4646 Park Boulevard, 619-368-5270.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage style apartment in very quiet complex. Small yard. Laundry facility. Refrigerator and stove. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath seniors' community or disabled apartments. Upper and lower units available. On-site laundry, in gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$675. Studio, lower unit with on-site laundry available now. Good location, near all. With separate kitchen and bathroom. 4443 Campus Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

UTC/LA JOLLA. \$1795, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, recently remodeled, open floor plan, 1250 square feet, 2-car garage. Great location, must see, pets ok. 619-871-8379.

VISTA. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Private hillside location with views. A must see. 1212 Calle Jules. Torrey Pines Property Management, 760-945-1831.

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LA MESA. Cheery cottage-style brick home, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2-car garage. Private patio, corner lot. 619-589-7799, buyer paid agents only. \$515,000/owner. 7390 Stanford Avenue.

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MIRA MESA. More for less! Highly upgraded, 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1972 square feet. Located on cul-de-sac. 20x22 living room, 11x15 dining room, 11x15 family room. Air conditioning. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Gazebo with spa. Skylights. Dual pane windows and more, for only \$565,000. Call Kraig at One Source Realty, 858-592-2130.

MIRA MESA. Gold Coast 4 bedroom, 2 bath with 2-car garage. Excellent floor plan with possibility for two master suites. Close to shopping. New paint inside/outside. Granite kitchen countertop and newer cabinets. Popcorn ceiling removed! Hurry, will sell quick. Call broker, Top Notch Realty, for details. 619-807-0327.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Great home! Big lot. Motivated seller. Shown by appointment daily. Open house Saturday and Sunday, 1-4pm: 3834 Madison Avenue, 92116. Walk to trendy Adams Avenue. \$447,000. hdr1@cox.net. 619-823-8166. 619-281-8869.

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OTAY RANCH/, CHULA VISTA. 4 Bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Garage, corner lot. Close to shopping, malls, freeways. Rent/Lease to own. \$2490. 760-752-7796/858-717-5898.

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SAN DIEGO. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2200 square feet. \$525,000. View, large rooms, garage, 2-story, fireplace. Call Paul/agent, 619-549-4376.

SAN DIEGO/EL CERRITO. Spanish hacienda, custom, double lot, 3 bedroom 1-1/2 bath, 1900 square feet, hardwood throughout. \$650,000, easy financing available. Broker, 619-200-2042.

SAN MARCOS. San Elijo Hills, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2,134 square feet. Beautiful sunsets/peek-ocean views, ocean breezes. Nice backyard/courtyard, quiet, more, \$665,000/owner, 858-775-7797.

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SPRING VALLEY, FAMILY PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1200 square feet double-wide. New carpet, paint, blinds, etc. Low space rent! Must see! \$89,000. See pictures at www.aireis.com, click on properties for lease/sale. 619-504-5417.

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4 BEDROOM, 2 bath Chula Vista house for sale. 100% financing available. Call agent, Geri at 619-952-9832.

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DRUMMER WANTED. By top San Diego band. 150 paid shows per year, lots of international travel. Quick, accurate learner, under 35, non-smoker, e-mail mvangerov@hotmail.com.

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FEMALE DRUMMER WANTED. For a pop, R&B funk cover band. If you want to showcase a new funk band with paying gigs in the San Diego area then this is the band for you. 858-672-7700.

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GIGGING. Alternative/pop band seeks talented, experienced, serious lead guitarist, 21-40. Coldplay, Nirvana, Beatles, Neil Young, all original/gigs paid, check, <http://www.hargo.net>, E-mail info@tenthgatemusic.com.

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GUITARIST NEEDED. To complete indie rock band. Influences, Acceptance, Sparta, The Cure, Deftones. Ideal second guitarist 20-25, lots of experience, practice 4 days/week. 714-400-6785.

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MIAMI-CHARGER. Game, December 11, 2 tickets, Plaza West 20, row 4 and Plaza 20, row 17. Face value \$71/each, leave message 619-524-3429.

NEIL DIAMOND. Front row. Sports Arena. I pay one center, 12/21, section C, row 1 seats 1/2. Asking \$250/each/best call, leave message 858-560-0123.

ROUND-TRIP. Ticket, anywhere South-west flies, 1 roundtrip/2 oneways, drink coupons and security fee included, expires September 2006, \$340, Dave, 619-823-1988.

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GOLF CLUB. \$125, left handed men's cougar, complete set, extras with bag, 858-453-2919.

GOLF CLUB. Sets, 2, like new, men's and ladies', including putter and bag, \$49/each, 619-463-3317.

GOLF CLUBS. Olimar Trimeter HTI driver 315cc 9.5 deg. \$140. Pin Seeker's TPWII, irons 4-SW, graphite shaft \$250, 619-980-7100.

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KAYAK SALE. Holiday specials! New and used kayaks from \$299 to \$895. Order a new kayak for Christmas delivery. Place a deposit now, pay the balance just before Christmas. Single kayaks from \$299 to \$799 and Tandem kayaks from \$599 to \$899. Paddles and seats from \$39 to \$99. San Diego Sailing Center, 1010 Santa Clara Place, Mission Bay. 858-488-0651. For photos and pricing visit www.kayaksforsale.com.

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MOVING SALE. Emerald City, The Boarding Source. Surfboards starting at \$299, snowboards starting at \$199 and skate boards starting at \$19.99. Men's and women's apparel up to 50% off, everything must go. One location only! 3126 Goblin Blvd, just south of the roller coaster. 858-488-9224.

POOL TABLE. Tournament size 5'x9'. Ol' Hausen, beautiful condition. Oak/clear stain, with 5 cues/wall-mounted cue rack, ball rack, bridge cue/balls, \$850, 858-531-5740.

POOL TABLE. Brand new! Solid wood, 1' slate, carved legs, leather pockets and accessories included! Retail, \$4900, sacrifice, \$1099. Won't last! 858-864-8722.

POOL TABLE, 5' long, fun table, great for garage, no accessories, \$20. 760-487-1937.

ROLLERBLADES, Salomon, new, excellent condition, barely used, size 10-1/2, \$35. 619-337-9961.

ROWING MACHINE, Aerobic Rider 2. Excellent condition. Computer displays time, reps, calories. \$45. 858-259-2763.

SAILOAT PARTNER wanted for 1996 Hunter 37', 2 private staterooms, head/shower, galley with refrigerator, freezer, microwave, Corian counters, TV, stereo, \$50,000, 50% share. 541-292-3744.

SKI RACK, Isuzu brand, new, for car with rails on a roof, \$50. 619-589-0564.

SKIS, 159cm, Blizard X03 fiber comp with Marker bindings and thermo gel for shock absorption, retail \$720, asking \$295/best. Best for male/female, 5'2"-5'5". 858-775-4299.

SKIS, Canon Heritage with Thias bindings, 90cm, new condition, bought last

season, moving, must sell, \$60. 619-701-4994.

SKIS, K2 TRC Sidecut 9.0, 195 length, Marker M41 SC2 adjustable bindings (powder, packed ice), used 10 days, like-new condition, paid \$620, asking \$150. 858-483-2071.

SKIS, Dynastar CS5, 203cm, Tyrolia 570 bindings, bag, Nortica 581 boots, sz 12, bag, almost new. Great giant slalom skis \$100/firm, 858-566-9606.

SNOW SKIES. Women's, Dynastar, 6.2, 165cm, asymmetric, marker 34 bindings, boots lange eu us 8-8.5, \$120/both. Men's skis, 8.3 extreme, K2, \$50. Much more. 619-448-9182.

SNOWBOARD, Jagermeister, 158cm, limited edition, original design, made by Taylor-Dykema in USA, bindings not included, never been used, \$175. 619-865-6073.

SNOWBOARDS WANTED. Cash for your quality snowboard gear and clothing. Trade-in toward purchases of other sporting goods, too. Big selection of new and used snowboard gear for sale. Play It Again Sports, 619-667-9499, www.playitagainsd.com.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE, needs 4 players to complete our team. Infielders and outfielders. 619-342-7241.

SOFTBALL PLAYERS needed for women's senior softball league. Ages 45+ to 70+. Saturday games. Information, 858-273-5346.

SOFTBALL TEAM. Needs a shortstop and a left fielder, 619-295-0385.

SOFTBALL. Tournament 12/11/05, SanDiegoSoftballTournaments.com, information 619-517-5781.

SPEED SKATES, Carrera, used but in great condition, women's size 6, black with hot pink and black wheels, ABC 5 bearings, hot stuff, \$55. 619-255-5502.

SPORTING GEAR. Inflatable Dinghy West Marine Zodiac with dual polyester chambers. 8'6"x4'11". Roll up slatted floor. Max 4hp. Oars, pump, never used. Regular \$1179, Special \$750. 760-751-2047.

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SURFBOARD, 7'6" Ray Samchez Diamond Glass in good condition, \$180/best. 619-807-5079.

SURFBOARD, 6'1" with FCS fins, asking \$85. Jimmy, 619-929-4433.

SURFBOARD, new 8' yellow Hibiscus Flower/Pink girls' fun board, includes 3 FCS fins, airbrushed deck, sharp looking, \$360. 760-583-7544.

SURFBOARD, nice Dewey Weber 9'6" noserider, excellent condition, no open dings, removeable single fin, very beautiful board, \$550/best. 760-580-2007.

SURFBOARD, 7'2" custom pearl hybrid triffin, 21-3/8"Wx2-1/4" thick, no dings, seagull in flight deck design. 2 wet suits,

O'Neill and Body Glove, \$390 all. 619-546-4471.

SURFBOARD, swallowtail shape, good condition, \$200. Jason, 619-379-6757.

SURFBOARD, 9'2" longboard with leash, great condition, \$450. 619-347-0736.

SURFBOARD, 9'10" x 23 3/16, single, 3 stringers, excellent condition, brand new, \$570, 619-449-8509.

SURFBOARD. 6.8 single wing swallow tail tri fin fun board 2 1/2 inch thick, traction pad, extra fins, leash and padded travel bag, \$200, 760-632-0664.

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SURFBOARDS. 9' epoxy longboard, high performance, removable fins, board bag, extra fins, leash, very good condition, \$350. 6'8" hybrid triffin fun board, bag, \$200. 760-632-0664.

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NIKON N80 CAMERA. \$200. Tamron AF28-200mm super zoom lens \$125. Nikon SB-50 DX speedlight new \$100. All excellent condition, original boxes/manuals, 858-272-6264.

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COMMODORE MONITOR. C128. Excellent monitor. Long time in storage and little used. Seen on ebay for around \$40. Jerry, 858-748-3107.

COMPAQ PRESARIO. 3550 with tons of software, 5 years old. Windows 98/Mi-

crosoft office, 15" flat screen/slimline CPU box. Much more included \$350, 760-436-4581.

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LASER PRINTER. Hewlett Packard Color Laser Jet Printer 4500. Good condition. \$399.99 or best offer. 619-585-8071.

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BEACH CRUISER, Iron Horse, practically new, only ridden twice, metallic red paint, black rims and fenders, paid \$140 new, asking \$80. 858-922-4065.

BIANCHI GRIZZLY, 2001, truly one sweet hardtail, absolutely clean, not a scratch, Dedacciai Zero/uno Italian steel frame, Marzocchi Atom air/oil fork, \$1000. 858-220-3100.

CANNONDALE CAAD 5, new, 58cm, FSA cranks, Speedplay pedals, Magic bars/stem, Surly hubs, Mavic wheels, very stiff and light, \$800. Tyler, 619-504-6123.

CLASSIC CRUISER, dark red body with brown handles and seat, 3 speed, great condition, Bay Pointe brand, spokes need adjusting, \$100/best. Kate, 619-517-5658.

ELLSWORTH ID. 2003, model size medium or 17", Mavic 317 wheel set, Chris King hubs, Ellsworth skewers, Maxxis 2.3 Larsen. Much more, \$2500/best 619-227-5331 858-967-6691.

ELLSWORTH ID, 2003, awesome, 17", Hope disc brakes hydraulic, Mavic 317 wheelset, Chris King hubs, Ellsworth skewers, Maxxis 2.3 Larsen TT, \$2500/best. 619-227-5331 or 858-967-6691.

GIANT CYPRESS 2005 SX, flat bar road bike, black, medium aluminum, frame, grip shift, 27 speed. Shimano 105, 22 pounds, \$375, 951-927-9561.

GIANT NRS-3, 2001, full-suspension mountain bike, rarely used, excellent condition, \$550. 858-449-6481.

GIRLS BEACH CRUISER. Medium blue/silver. 24" Sun Retro Cruiser. Paid \$200, Still new, sell for \$95. 619-294-6770.

HARO DEL SOL, 1999, women's medium-size 10 speed, aqua, used 20 times in 6 years, originally \$327, sell \$150. Includes Giant onboard lock/rack. 619-501-6469.

KLEIN QUANTUM. 11 road bike, 55cm, white frame/blue trim. Shimano 600 series components. Light/fast, low mileage, superb, freshly trued wheels/tuned, \$750, 760-822-1106.

LEMON ROAD BIKE. 1999, Chambrey 55cm Saturn team, red/black. Lightweight aluminum/BSC carbon fork, Shimano-ul-tegra components, gorgeous. \$825 for what costs \$2000 plus. 760-591-9700.

MOTOBECANE mountain bike, used only twice, excellent condition, still have original receipts and locks, paid \$344.79, asking only \$200/best. Elizabeth, 619-549-1569.

MOUNTAIN BIKE. 2001, giant NRS-3 full suspension. Rarely used, excellent condition \$550, 858-449-6481.

MOUNTAIN BIKE, girls' 20", 6 speed, very good condition, ridden very few times, purple, seat has few scratches, \$70. Gary, 858-558-9309.

ROAD BIKE. Serotta Colorado legend CRL, 57cm white. Shimano dura, ace/ul-tegra components/wheels. Easton bars, carbon, stem, seatpost, reynolds fork, king headset, speedplays, good condition, \$1800/best, 619-741-9082.

SPECIALIZED. Sirrus, red road, 1 year old, less than 500 miles, all aluminum frame, rims, 18-19 pounds, more extras, must sell, call 619-788-1044.

SPECIALIZED FSR LTD 18" mountain bike, 2000, full suspension, Rock Shox Judy SL long travel front shock, Fox Vanilla R rear shock, \$675/best. Jim, 619-200-7768.

SPECIALIZED ROCK HOPPER, 21", dark green/black, Gothic lettering, bought new locally in July (have receipt), ridden 6 miles, includes lock, \$400. Kenneth, 619-723-5100.

TREK 830 mountain bike with Currie USPD Pro Drive electric kit, good condition, tape on the seat to protect it (seat not torn), \$420. 619-995-4176.

TREK ROAD BIKE. 1400, 54cm, all Shimano components, triple crankset, all aluminum frame. Smooth ride and touring bike, \$375, 760-809-9201.

TREK ROAD BIKE, 54cm, all Shimano components, triple crankset, all aluminum frame, smooth ride and touring bike, \$375. 760-809-9201.

TREK. 850 mountain bike, men's excellent condition, 1997, purple paint color, cromoly frame, 16 inch frame size, 21 speed Shimano components, cash \$175, Frankie 619-925-3573.

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COINS WANTED. U.S. only, prefer before 1964, collector will pay cash 858-874-6508.

DATA ENTRY. Volunteer needed for North County Lifeline Transportation program, Vista. Computer program similar to Access. Other clerical duties included 760-726-4900 x274.

DESIRING HOUSE Sitting position, 63/65, retired school teachers, 35+ years experience. Seeking temporary housing, San Diego 12/20/05-1/30/05, exchange for housing, would maintain property/repair, 316-755-2419.

FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, and miscellaneous, by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS. Artifacts. Must be authentic. Steve, 619-222-8562.

MARKETING INTERNSHIPS. Available at North County Lifeline in Vista. Research, develop and execute a marketing plan for an agency program. Experience helpful 760-726-4900 x274.

MILITARY MEDALS. Many old military medals are worth hundreds of dollars. I have \$3000 to spend. Other old military

items wanted, especially USMC. 619-280-8089.

OLD TOYS AND TRAINS. Lionel, American Flyer, Marx, Aurora, Corgi, Dinky, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, slot cars. Buddy-L, Smith-Miller, Structo, Tonka. Old plastic vehicles: Pyro, Renwal. Dave, 858-756-2411.

PHONE. Wanted phone for hard of hearing, also want Konica camera, FS or FT. 858-272-9795.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES. Roundtrip voucher, anywhere Southwest flies, last minute reservations Ok, some year-end blackout days \$380, call Andy 858-518-3582.

THRIFT STORE. In San Marcos is in need of volunteers. Customer service duties and organize/unpack donations. 100% of profits go to foster families, 760-726-4900 x274.

TV-VCR Combo, small size for kitchen, approximately 13 inch screen, white, good condition, free or inexpensive, Joan, 619-464-2525.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. For after school programs in Oceanside, Carlsbad and Julian. Ages 11-14, assist students with homework, supervise and participate in activities, 760-726-4900 x274.

WANTED, BOAT. Rowing or sailing Sabot type dinghy, under 10 feet, 619-656-2831.

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CHINA. Rosenthal (Classic) new service for 10 plus serving pieces, \$500. Mikasa, Country Classic, service for 12 plus extras, \$250. 760-310-9335 or 858-552-0388 or 760-782-0409.

GEMSTONES. 2 morganites, both 5cts, 14x10 ovals, \$400 each. 2 ametrines, 1 marquise 18x9, 5.2cts, \$200. 1 emerald cut 10x8, 3.30cts, \$100. 619-865-4577.

INCREDIBLE BASEBALL CARDS. Mickey Mantle, Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, thousands of valuable cards. Every old star there is, modern cards too, \$2500, 619-507-9711.

PATIO CHAIRS (2), antique rattan/bamboo, light bone color, nice shape, \$500 for both or best offer. Bob, Oceanside, 760-941-3255.

POTBELLY STOVE, antique cylinder wood burning stove, circa 1830-1920. \$3500. Lakeside, 858-573-8911.

ROCKING CHAIR, tiger oak, good condition, good to sit in, 20"Wx33"Dx32"H, \$150. 760-749-3905.

SIDEBOARD, oak, good condition, 54"Wx18"Dx34"H, \$295. 760-749-3905.

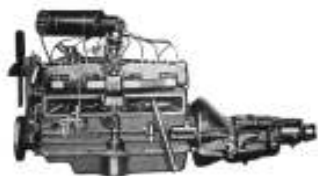
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CLAIREMONT. Saturday, December 10th, 7am-12noon. Furniture, antiques, small electronics, X-mas decorations. We have it all! 2030 Garfield Road, 92110.

DEL CERRO/SAN CARLOS. Saturday 12/10, 7am-4pm. Clothing, furniture, and other items, 6826 Cibola Road, San Diego.

EL CAJON. Moving sale, black leather sofa. Blue lazyboy loveseat. Samsung/Panasonic 32"/22" TV/more. Saturday 12/10, 7-9am. 1750 Joe Crossen Drive, 92020.

EL CAJON. Estate, art and yard sale. Saturday 12/10, Sunday 12/11, 8am-2pm. Many collectors items, antiques, art pieces, trinkets, etc. 645 S Orange Avenue.

ENCINITAS. Estate/moving sale Saturday 12/10, 9am-4pm. Miscellaneous, furniture, entertainment center, washer/dryer, grandfather clocks, office desk, and more. 249 Rosebay Drive.

GARAGE SALE. 3 family yard sale. Saturday, 12/10. Bicycles, toys, clothes, lamps, bean bags, miscellaneous. 1234 Loring Street.

GARAGE SALE. Estate sale, old class, china, furniture. All goes. Friday-Saturday December 9-10, 8am-1pm. 8831 Prospect Avenue, Santee.

LA JOLLA. Giant sale, construction left overs, and much more. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, December 9, 10, 11. 549 Westbourne Street.

LA JOLLA. Moving sale! Furniture, appliances and more, all items very reasonably priced. Saturday, December 10, 8am-4pm. 5536 Linda Rosa Avenue, La Jolla.

LA JOLLA/UCSD. Huge! 7am-1pm downsizing our home. Furniture, kids/adults books, toys, kitchen, garden, clothes, sporting equipment. 3243 Via Alicante #55 (in garage).

LA MESA. 8am, December, 10/11, Christmas/kitchen stuff, games, jewelry, clothing, bedding, futon frames, plants \$1-\$25, miscellaneous. 6765 Rolando Knolls Drive.

LA MESA. December 10/11, 9am-4pm, furniture, Christmas/kitchen stuff, games, jewelry, clothing, bedding, mini-blinds, futon frame, plants, 6765 Rolando Knolls Drive.

LINDA VISTA. Saturday/Sunday 12/10-12/11, 8am-3pm. Huge book/toy sale! Books, toys, games all ages, great presents. 6184 Caminito Del Oeste.

MOVING SALE. Emerald City, The Board Source. Everything in the store 20-70% off. All skate shoes \$29.99. Select men's and women's apparel 40% off. Sunglasses, watches, skateboards, surfboards, snowboards, sandals, wetsuits, body boards, everything on sale, every-

thing must go! One location only, 3126 Mission Blvd, just south of the roller coaster, 10am-9pm daily. 858-488-9224.

NORTH PARK. Yard sale, 7-family sale. Fine art, better books, antiques, miscellaneous gifts, furnishings, jewelry Christmas Vintage, lol prices! 4070 Kansas Street, December 10.

NORTH PARK. Yard sale. Saturday/Sunday, 12/10-12/11, 7am-noon. Furniture, clothes, books, automotive, computer stuff, home decor, miscellaneous. 3122 Gregory Street (cross street Redwood, McKinley School).

PACIFIC BEACH. Estate moving sale, Saturday-Sunday, 8am-1pm. Furniture, records, clothes, knickknacks, tons of miscellaneous household items, cheap prices. 1260 Hornblend.

PACIFIC BEACH. Moving sale. Saturday, 8am-2pm. Furniture, lamps, art, crystal, clothes, Christmas decorations, office equipment, computers, camera, boating equipment, dock line. 3790 Riviera Drive 858-273-1061.

PACIFIC BEACH. Yard sale, 12/10, silver plate ice bucket, wool designer rug, wrought iron lamp, book ends-books, designer materials, towels, blanket, more. 1920 Thomas Avenue.

PACIFIC BEACH. December 10, 7:30am, 1439 Beryl Street, 92109.

SPORTING GEAR. Inflatable Dinghy West Marine Zodiac with dual polyester chambers. 8'6"x4'11". Roll up slatted floor. Max 4hp. Oars, pump, never used. Regular \$1179, Special \$750. 760-751-2047.

UNIVERSITY CITY. Saturday, 12/10. Not before 9am! Furniture, hardback books, large toys, appliances, wine glasses, pictures, wood carts and more. 4375 Governor Drive. 858-453-4567.

APPLIANCES

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ALL APPLIANCES LIKE NEW. Washer/dryer sets, \$225. Refrigerators, water/ice, \$149. Freezers, \$119. Dryers, \$99. Washers, \$119. 3-year warranties. Can delivery. 619-250-7500.

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.

BREADMAKER. Toastmaster, from estate, hardly ever used, \$30, cash only. 858-278-1113.

DRYER, GE, electric, extra large capacity, heavy duty, quiet, white. Used less than 2 years, looks new. Can assist with transport if needed. 619-749-1981.

DRYER. Magic Chef. Electric, very clean, barely used. \$100/best. White. 619-886-4167, 602-295-4958.

ELECTRIC DRYER. Kenmore, white electric dryer to go. Working great! \$75. 858-457-7953.

ELECTRIC RANGE. \$89. White, 30", free-standing Frigidaire. Looks and works great, very clean and no dents. 858-715-4706.

KENMORE. Heavy duty super capacity electric dryer, approximately 1 year old,

acquired from my mom's estate. Possible delivery \$100. 619-470-6735.

MICROWAVE. White, brand Sanyo, 18Wx 13D x 10H, like new, \$25. 619-938-9655.

RANGE GAS. GE white, 30" freestanding, model JGBP920WEC1WW, glass cooktop, you pick, \$350, Pomerado and Scripps Parkway.

REFRIGERATOR/KENMORE. Side-by-side, counter depth, white, ice and water dispenser, 35-3/4" wide x68" high. Approximately 20 cube feet, good condition, \$200, 760-942-7447.

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REFRIGERATOR. Frigidaire, 16QF, beige, light hinge, very clean and working, excellent buy, \$110, 619-422-4122.

REFRIGERATOR. 2 door, almond color, self defrost, in great condition, price to sell \$200, call 619-583-6885.

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TEA MAKER. Commercial, Bunn TWF-35. \$200/best. Appears to be New Old Stock. 760-415-6219.

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- Check suspension
- Top off fluids
- Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
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- Inspect fuel filter
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Dear Saffron,

My wife and I divorced when our only child was two. She's now almost eight. We have a joint custody agreement that is very specific about "Ruby" spending half the week living with me and half with my ex. Although my ex-wife decided to end our marriage, she has fared poorly since the split. She tried to get sole custody of our daughter so there was a huge legal fight and "Hope" (my ex) is still nasty to me about it. Since the divorce, Hope, who is not good with money and spends most of what she has on clothes, has had trouble making ends meet. This despite the fact that I give her more than I am required for alimony and child support. She is constantly asking for loans, which she never repays. I give her the extra money because I don't want our daughter to lack for anything during the time she spends with her mom.

Hope, by all reports, is quite depressed. She hasn't had anything good happen in the romance department since we broke up. Without any prodding, my daughter tells me that her mom spends a lot of time crying and doesn't have much social life. All our old friends say they don't see Hope anymore because she picks fights or acts strange. My life is going okay. I have a steady girlfriend, a job that pays well, and I'm generally happy. Except for one thing: My daughter has started saying that she wants to spend all her time living with her mother and only visit me! She says "Mom needs me more" than I do and "Mom is so lonely." Ruby has become adamant about this. When she is living at my house she seems nervous and calls her mom a lot to check in. I want Ruby to be happy, but I love her so much I would miss her if she didn't live half-time with me. Hope says if Ruby wants to live full-time with her, we should let her. Should I give in or stand my ground?

SAD NORTH PARK DAD

Dear Sad Dad,

I strongly suggest you consult a psychologist who specializes in child and family counseling. I think that you, your ex, and your daughter need expert assistance in sorting out what's going on here. Maybe a compromise can be reached where the three of you can do more things as a trio (if the adults can bear it). I'm uncomfortable with the eight-year-old being

responsible for the revision of a custody agreement. Hope sounds like she's struggling and might be in trouble. She may be suffering from serious depression or something else. Ruby seems to feel it's her job now to take care of her mother and provide her stability and company during a rocky period. That's a big burden for a kid. Precisely because Hope is having such a rough time, making her the sole full-time parent might not be the wisest fix. You want to help your daughter feel *less* anxious and *less* like her mother's keeper. What's in Ruby's best interest may not be the same as what she asks for.

Dear Saffron,

After many wonderful years, my faithful dog has died of old age. I wanted to bury him in my back yard, but when I mentioned this at the vet's when he passed away they told me that it would be illegal to bury him myself. They said I had to turn the pet's body over to them. I did, but with reluctance. Is it really against the law to inter a pet on your own private property? Or was this vet just giving me a line because there's a big money-making enterprise connected with pet cemeteries?

TEARFUL EL CAJON DOG OWNER

Dear Tearful,

I am told, as you were, that health regulations do not permit burying dogs in the yards of resi-

dences. Your only legal choice is to surrender the body to a pet cemetery or crematory, directly or through your vet. If you have your pet cremated you can arrange to have his ashes returned to you. If you have him buried at a pet cemetery you have options that will allow you to mark and visit his grave. My condolences on the loss of your four-legged friend. If you want another dog someday, I hope you will consider adopting one from an animal shelter or rescue organization. There are thousands of great dogs waiting who are homeless and in need of loving human care.

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Write to Saffron c/o the
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VACUUM. \$100, Oreck, upright. Very light, in good, used condition. Head folds flat, microweep for bare floors. 3 years old. 858-672-0315.

WASHER, DRYER. Ovens-plus, electric. Washer/dryer, \$85/a piece, \$150/both. Double range/microwave/wipe top, Kenmore \$195. Double oven G.E. \$150. And much more, 858-272-4866.

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BOOMBOX. 6 CD disc changer, am/fm, dual dubbing cassette, with detachable speakers and remote control. Excellent condition, \$100, call Art 619-584-8402.

CYBERHOME DVD. Player, still in box, 27 inch \$30. TV, sanyo, \$180. Home theater system Norcent, 100 watts, 5 speakers DVD player \$60. 858-274-4970.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT. Turntables, Technics direct drive SL-Q350 \$150. Pioneer, dual \$100. Receiver NAD 7220 PE \$125. Tube-preamp Golden SEP-1 mint in box, \$500 firm. 619-275-5454.

FAX/PHONE/COPIER. Combo, as new \$50. Cordless phone/answering machine, digital, extended range, as new \$50. Color printer, boxed \$50. Keyboard, boxed \$10. 619-466-8663.

HIGH DEFINITION. Widescreen television, Sharp 64", model #64 LHP 4000, black, excellent condition, 5 years old, \$1600, 858-657-9344, or cell 619-972-8013.

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RCA COLOR TV. 13", excellent condition, \$29 only, 858-689-8410.

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ZENITH, VCR. Good condition, \$60, 619-296-7070.

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ANTIQUE OAK Dresser, 1930s with beveled mirror \$300, leave message 619-561-7663.

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Thirty Years Ago

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—“CLASSIFIEDS,” *December 11, 1975*

Twenty-Five Years Ago

In 1965 Marquis provided legal services for the drug-rehabilitation group, and it was his association with Synanon that led him to buy the India Street property in the first place. As the Interstate 5 freeway was being constructed north of downtown, property owners in the area of Washington and India streets began to put out For Sale signs. Marquis mentioned to the Synanon directors that the property could make a rehabilitation center. Marquis bought three-fourths of the block. When he brought the Synanon officials down, they protested that there weren't enough toilets, and Marquis was left with the property.

—“THE MAYOR OF INDIA STREET,” *Mark Orwell, December 11, 1980*

Twenty Years Ago

Pernicano, who opened the family restaurant in 1957, says he's no professional musician. “I never practice,” the 67-year-old restaurateur

explains. “Whether [the customers] like it or not, they get to hear it. I play whenever I feel like it,” he says. So when American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) tried to collect royalty payments for copyrighted songs played in the pizza house, Pernicano treated the request like a joke.

When ASCAP accused the restaurant owner of playing the Cole Porter song “Night and Day,” Pernicano recalls saying, “Sure I play night and day. I play anytime. I play the song, too.”

—CITY LIGHTS: “A SLICE OF THE PIE,” *Brae Canlen, December 12, 1985*

Fifteen Years Ago

Katchinas Kutenai, an Apache medicine woman, has erected a sweat lodge in the front yard of her Golden Hill home. Seven women gathered there last Sunday afternoon to join Kutenai in an all-female ceremony. Some had heard of her through word of mouth, others through the Phoenix Phyre bookstore in Encinitas. Two of these women were not strangers to me. But when one of them announced that she was on the “crest of her moon,” I began to wonder.

—CITY LIGHTS: “THROUGH THE FLAP,” *Brae Canlen, December 13, 1990*

Ten Years Ago

I have to wonder what made my family so hypersensitive to the Beatles. In 1965, I (the youngest) and my sisters were two, five, and eight — too young to be Beatlemaniacs without encouragement from our parents. My parents don't like rock music — or even music — that much. Their record collection consists of albums by Tom Lehrer and Herb Alpert and a Joan Baez record.

Perhaps their attitude toward the Fab Four was different because the band members — like my father — were British. By the mid-'60s, our family obsession was in place. We had a pair of guinea pigs called Ringo and Starr; at the age of four I was Ringo for Halloween.

In the summer of 1968, while we were staying in London, my dad took the three of us to see *Yellow Submarine* in its first week of release.

—REVIEW: “THE INCREDIBLE NICENESS OF THE BEATLES,” *Gina Arnold, December 7, 1995*

Five Years Ago

For ten years, 1974–1984, I lived in Ocean Beach, a surfer, hippie, radical enclave that despite explosive growth along the coast remains largely unaltered. With a 1950s palm-



San Diego Reader, December 7, 1995

lined main street (Newport Avenue) leading to a hot surfing beach and fishing pier, salt-rusted cars loaded with organic groceries, bougainvillea-covered cottages, eroding cliffs, and sea stacks of nesting pelicans, OB is a square mile of Southern California time warp. Its lack of big hotels, dot-com mansions, condos, and corporate chain stores is no historic fluke, however. Rather it's the result of a long, sometimes violent 30-year struggle that's helped define OB as a center of opposition in a boomtown border city.

—“FREAKS, UPPITY WOMEN, AND POLITICOS: AN OCEAN BEACH REUNION,” *David Helvarg, December 7, 2000*

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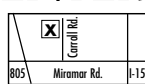
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LEAD STORY

— “Cow-tipping” (the legendary prank of sneaking up on a dozing cow and pushing her over) was exposed as a near-impossibility by researchers at the University of British Columbia, according to a November report in *The Times* of London. Calculating the newtons of force required to topple an average cow (estimating the angles between left hooves, right hooves and the point of push; and the resistance of the cow to downward pressure), Dr. Margo Lillie found that two people could exert the required force only if the cow made no reaction at all to the initial touch, but that more than likely, a successful tipping would require at least five people.

Cultural Diversity

— Prozac Nations: An official adviser to the Blair government warned in September that Britain urgently needed 250 special treatment centers, staffed by 10,000 therapists, to deal with what he called the country’s “biggest social problem”: a national epidemic of “unhappiness.” And in October, German companies donated the equivalent of about \$35 million for a media campaign to make their countrymen feel better about themselves. (Sample script: “Outdo yourself. Beat your wings and uproot trees. You are the wings. You are the tree. You are Germany.”) — Prominent Spanish entertainer Juan Manuel Fernandez Montoya (“Farruquito”), 23, was married in Seville in September to a teenage bride in a televised ceremony that included, for the cameras, the so-called Gypsy custom of the “test of the handkerchief,” in which the bride’s friends use the garment to ascertain whether the “three drops of blood” (said to be present in a virgin) will appear. (Mrs. Fernandez Montoya evidently passed, but women’s organizations in Spain were outraged.) — Japan’s Pro Baseball Owners’ Association decided in August that, beginning next season, leaders of cheering sections at its games will be required to submit to background checks and be licensed. Permits will be required for anyone who plays drums or trumpets at the game, waves flags

or banners, or leads organized chants. Owners say organized-crime gangs were moving into the cheering sections and shaking down fans for tips. — Strange Customs: (1) New Zealand’s road safety manager acknowledged in October that the recently enacted Community Roadwatch program does indeed permit police to issue a traffic ticket solely on the say-so of another driver (if there is evidence that the reported vehicle was at the scene and provided the complainer is willing to go to court). (2) Reuters reported on the annual November ritual in Finland in which the income-tax agency makes public everyone’s tax records for the previous year. (Personal disclosures of income are considered vulgar in Finland, but apparently the November ritual is welcomed.)

Latest Religious Messages

— Adam Turgeon, 27, and Lisa Wagner, 26, were arrested in October for vandalizing the Annunciation of the Lord Catholic Church in Decatur, Ala., which they both said they were moved to do by Jesus Christ himself. Turgeon explained that the couple, independently, had experienced visions of Jesus, and when they found themselves in services on Oct. 2, they reenacted the part of their dreams in which they wrecked the church’s altar as a protest against “manmade religion” and idolatry. Turgeon said he was especially bothered by people who balance their check-books during church services and by religions that believe only parts of the Bible.

Least Effective Protest

— On Nov. 2, about 45 demonstrators lined up outside the Alliant Techsystems headquarters in Edina, Minn., to protest, for the 512th consecutive Wednesday, the company’s work making military weapons that “indiscriminately” kill civilians. However, Alliant says it long ago stopped making those munitions (e.g., land mines, cluster bombs), although it still makes bullets. In fact, much of Alliant’s work these days is on “alternative” military weapons that limit civilian casualties. According to a report in Minneapolis’s *Star Tribune*, the demonstrations have taken on a life of their own as a regular

gathering for the area’s peace protesters, thus amusing and bemusing many Alliant employees.

People Different From Us

— (1) The Royal Meteorological Society, seeking evidence of global warming for a journal article, happened upon data collected by a fellow named David Grisenthwaite, 77, of Kirkcaldy, Scotland, who has logged detailed information about every single time he mowed his lawn since 1984; he has inadvertently documented that grass-growing season is longer lately. (Grisenthwaite said he also memorizes transit bus timetables.) (2) In England’s Lincoln Crown Court, in October, municipal parking employee Julie Wall, 46, was sentenced to three years in prison for embezzling the equivalent of about \$1 million over ten years (spending nearly the entire amount on Elvis Presley records and memorabilia, most of which were found unopened at her home). Said her lawyer, “She simply wanted to own [the items].”

Least Competent Criminals

— (1) Barbara King, 35, was arrested in Largo, Fla., in October on a warrant for forgery and prescription fraud. When police knocked on her door, a man told them that she wasn’t home, but a four-year-old girl standing alongside said, “Mommy’s in the closet!” (2) Police in Memphis, Tenn., reported in October that they had closed down a crack house on Rosamond Street, a task made easier because the resident usually announced the start of business hours by hanging out a sign reading, “Crack House.” (3) Christina Goodenow, 38, of Medford, Ore., was arrested in October for using a stolen credit card, but a conviction would be especially disastrous for her since she just won \$1 million in the lottery with a \$1 ticket she bought with the credit card (thus voiding the ticket).

Readers’ Choice

— In November, a jury in Westmoreland County, Pa., awarded Ken Slaby \$46,200 for genital injuries inflicted by his vengeful ex-girlfriend, Gail O’Toole, in 2000. While Slaby was napping (according to

a report in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*), O’Toole had glued Slaby’s buttocks cheeks together, his penis to his abdomen, and his scrotum to his leg, all as payback for his having moved on with his life after their breakup. O’Toole said it was all part of consensual sex between them, but she had earlier pleaded guilty to simple assault for the incident.

Ironies

— In October, martial arts instructor Andrew Jacobs was arrested for allegedly assaulting two ten-year-old girls in their bedroom in Vienna, Va. (but being fended off by them based on skills they learned as students at Mountain Kim Martial Arts Center, where Jacobs was their teacher). Jacobs told police his plan was to tie the girls up so he could steal things from the home. — In a September road-rage incident in Salt Lake City, a woman sped by in a blocked-off lane to get around a 25-year-old motorist on Interstate 15, then rolled down her window and screamed at him. The man, according to a report in the *Deseret Morning News*, made an “obscene hand gesture.” The woman then pulled out a .357-caliber revolver, shot off the tip of his middle finger, and sped away, outdistancing the man but later crashing into a barricade.

Smooth Reactions

— (1) Car salesman Philip Vandergraff, 35, was arrested in September on a battery charge after an incident at a Ford dealership in Atascadero, Calif. According to customer Jeff Walston, the two were haggling over a car purchase, and when Walston offered \$5000 less than Vandergraff’s price, Vandergraff punched him in the face. (2) According to police in New York City, after Joe Daniels complained to neighbor Paul Kim in September that Kim’s dogs had bitten Daniels’s cat, Kim allegedly attacked Daniels and in the course of the fight, bit him.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to newsweird@aol.com

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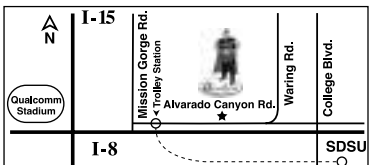
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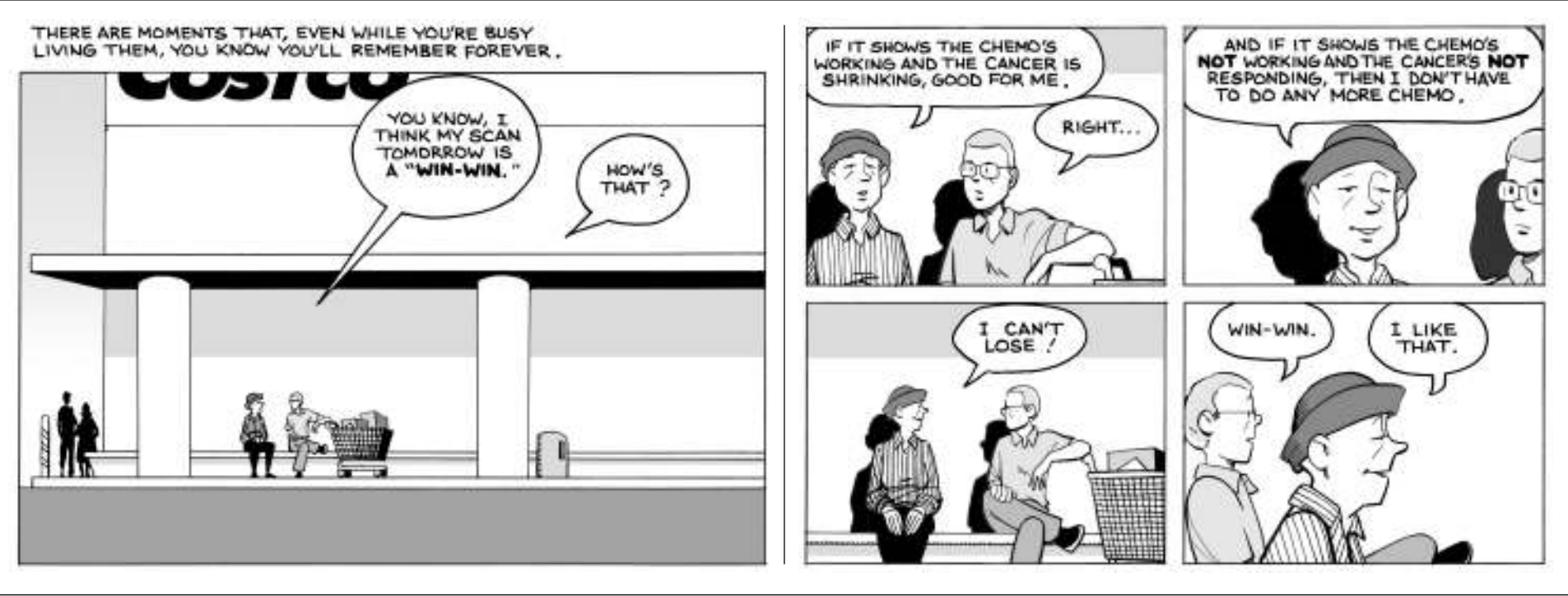
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15K & 30K may not require all parts or services listed.

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San Diego Reader December 8, 2005 209

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BARBEQUE GRILL. Charcoal with electric rotisserie, hood, warming oven, storage cupboard, 2 serving shelves, adjustable charcoal tray, wheels, cover. \$50. 619-296-9415.

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• Inspect suspension • Free 38-point inspection
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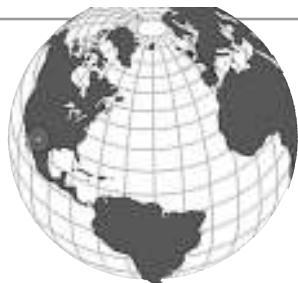
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BOXES OF STEREOTYPE

Yesterday I had a stomach flu. The sudden weather change from 108 degrees to 55 with rain did not help. They don't have seasons in the seventh circle of hell, but immediate changes from one despicable sort of weather to another. This is pneumonia from Rainy Chill with Burnt Leaves and Background Hurricanes season. Then comes pneumonia from Rainy Chill with Leaves on the Ground and Surprise Thunderstorms season. Then we have Chance of Paralyzing Ice Storms for two months. Then Mud season. This lasts until about April, when Hellish Temperatures with Tornadoes and Hurricanes arrive and last until October.

A perfect opportunity to spend my mother-in-law's \$55 JCPenney gift card. I learned again that they don't make normal clothing for normal people anymore, if they ever did. What they make for females is crap. Pure, simple, no backs.

First, the colors suck. They're neither primary nor muted neutral. The more the store serves what my husband would call our sisters in the streets, the worse they suck. The red is neither vermilion nor maroon; the blue is a disgusting sky color that only looks good on a few people and tires quickly; the chartreuse/light moss Crayola yellow-green shade is two f-stops too dark in hue and comes into the room sooner than the rest of me.

Second, the styles suck. Their demographics are from another galaxy. They infected the place with faded cropped jeans — a triple threat if ever one existed. No one should wear jeans in a hot climate. If it dares to get cold, you don't want your legs half bare. If you did, you wouldn't want them to look pudgy. You certainly wouldn't want them to look pudgy in the color of dirty old coins. If they are sensible enough to throw out a few sops of elastic-waist pants to people like

myself, it can't be in a normal fabric like twill. The poor-catering stores cornered the market on a peculiar polyester fabric suitable for car seats: shiny, the sort that makes an insistent noise when thighs are rubbed together.

Third, even a successful encounter in the distant back of the store, furtively placed amid the navy, the few, proud, and black 60/40 cotton/poly twill will most certainly not be in my size.

Finally, one escalator ride above in the men's department will be all kinds of decently made, fairly priced, neutrally colored items of clothing I'd be wearing if I weren't too small for any of them. I should have gone to the boys' department, you say? Didn't I mention retail is a patriarchy, where only the men rule? The kids' clothes suck as much as the women's. It's really scary to walk into the children's section of a Major American Department Store. They're already divided up into the suffocating boxes of stereotype. The girls' clothes are all pink and clingy, and someone decided that all little boys are gang members. There's some kind of wacky insignia/graphic on every

boy's above-the-waist item, and the only pants available are those horrible hip-hoppy things that are nine sizes too big and, inevitably, cropped.

I tried. Universe knows I tried. "Can you tell me where I'd find black sweatpants?" I bleated in the direction of the Misses salesperson island.

"They'd be over there if we have them," someone



said, waving in a vague direction.

Nope, there was only shoddily made stuff in filthy pastels, with no pockets.

Undaunted, I tried again. "Got any turtle-necks?"

"Over there if we have them," indicated the same vague wave.

Sadly not — only V-necks, which would stretch out to unbecomingness in minutes and warm nothing, and that anathema to the

thick-necked, the mock turtle, again in hideous pastels and only in large and XX large.

I had to leave with the card spent, and this story does have a semi-happy ending. I snared two pairs of black twill elastic-waist pants in my current size, 8 petite short. Unfortunately, the hoodie I just *had to have* in tasteful sweatshirt-grey and

heather I dared to buy in a small. The thing is a tad too tight. And stupid me cut the labels off beforehand, thinking it would fit.

I'm just like every other fat girl, thinking someday I will be really thin, that I too can wear a Small. There's still 20 pounds standing

between that phenomenon and me. I should have been sensible and not bought it at all, because it maxed the card out, and I had to fork over a few extra bills to pay for it.

But, I tell myself, if I hadn't, I still would have had value on the card, and I would have had to come back to the place.

No, never, never.

<http://hruskova.blogspot.com>

JOHN F. KENNEDY Collection, books, magazines, record, miscellaneous, \$25 takes all, 760-845-3024

MARINE STUFF. Marine alternator, Prestolite. New, 51 amps. \$75. Anchor chain, 5/16" and 1/4", high tensile double

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Parts and labor. Most cars. \$99 Installed

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\$21⁹⁵ Most cars.

GTX Castrol/high-mileage oil change \$31.95.
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• Check for major leaks
• Check A/C lines and belt
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\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!

24-hour Internet or fax for private parties. See form on page 158.

NEW RUBBERMAID. 8 blue stack chairs, or 2 green rattan chairs, with cushions, \$30. Aluminum folding walker or commode, \$25. La Jolla Shores, 858-454-1422.

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212 San Diego Reader December 8, 2005

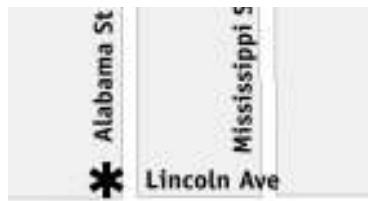
ASSAULT/DISTURBING THE PEACE

Location: [4000] Alabama Street, University Heights

Time/Date: 4:18 p.m. on 11/24/05

Report: I responded to a disturbing the peace call.

Upon arrival, I spoke to Daniel C., who is the son of



Rosina C., the resident of the reporting address. Daniel C. essentially told me the following.

Daniel C. and his brother, Mark, and his sister, Gina, came to visit their mother for a Thanksgiving at approximately 11:00 a.m. Rosina C., their mother, has been separated from their stepfather for five months now. The stepfather was not invited. He kept calling and threatening to show up. The stepfather's name is Patrick J. He showed up at the house around 4:18 p.m., knocked on the door and broke a window. There was an altercation between Daniel C. and Patrick J.

Victim's Statement: My ex-husband, Patrick, and I have been separated for a number of months now and are in the process of a divorce. We have been married for ten years. He wanted to come over for Thanksgiving and I told him no. I told him my three children (from a previous marriage) would be here and it would not be a good idea for him to show up. I didn't want to see him anyway. He kept calling all day and telling me, "Don't leave me alone today." I said I was sorry but he was not welcome in my house. He has been abusive and drinks too much and the marriage just isn't going to work. He showed up anyway. He was drunk, I could tell. He pounded his fists on the door. My son Daniel told him to go away or he'd call the police. We thought Patrick had left. He threw a rock through the living room window. Daniel went outside and hit Patrick in the face with his fist. Patrick tried to hit Daniel back. Patrick then walked away.

BANK ROBBERY

Location: 2550 El Camino Real, Carlsbad

Time/Date: 12:07 p.m. on 11/23/05



Investigation: The Bank of America was robbed. The suspect used a demand note, displayed a firearm, and threatened to blow up the bank during the robbery. The suspect fled the bank after completing the robbery. While officers were responding to the robbery, a citizen called to report a reckless driver. The reckless driver was in the general area of the robbery and officers investigating the robbery used the registration information from the vehicle being driven recklessly to produce a photo lineup. Officers showed the photo lineup to bank employees. An employee at Bank of America identified the registered owner of the vehicle being driven recklessly as the suspect who had robbed the bank.

On November 24 at 11:30 p.m., a patrol officer spotted the suspect vehicle near the Motel 6, 1006 Carlsbad Village Drive. Officers confirmed that the suspect was staying at the motel. Patrol officers surrounded the suspect's room. The Carlsbad Police Department Tactical Response Team (TRT) responded to the scene. TRT personnel were unable to make contact with the suspect via the phone. At approximately 6:36 a.m. on November 25, TRT personnel broke a window on

the motel room and got the suspect's attention. TRT personnel were able to safely take the suspect into custody.

The suspect was booked at Vista Jail for robbery and possession of drugs.

ASSAULT, BRANDISHING AND SEXUAL BATTERY

Location: [1200] Loch Lomond,

Encinitas

Time/Date: 10:30 p.m. on 11/26/05



Investigation: Patrol deputies from the Encinitas Sheriff's Station responded to the report of an attempted rape. Upon arrival, they contacted the female victim who stated that she and her husband were in their car in their driveway when they were approached by three Hispanic male juveniles. Two of the suspects had knives and threatened to stab the victims. The husband exited the vehicle and fought with two of the suspects. The third suspect leaned in the car, called the female a whore, and grabbed her breasts and genitalia. The female was able to get out of the car and pick up a pipe that was lying nearby. She yelled at the subjects and threatened to hit them if they did not stop. The three suspects ran off.

Deputies detained three individuals who matched the suspect description. A curbside lineup was conducted

and two of the detained individuals were identified as participating in the assault. The third was determined to be uninvolved.

Two juveniles were arrested and booked into Juvenile Hall for assault with a deadly weapon, sexual battery and brandishing a weapon in a threatening manner.

ROBBERY

Location: 14857 Pomerado Road, Poway

Time/Date: 3:10 p.m. on 11/29/05



Report: Sheriff's Communications Center received a report of an armed robbery at Phillip's Jewelers. A Hispanic male had entered the store and asked to see a diamond ring. While looking at the ring, the suspect sprayed the proprietor in the face with a chemical agent and fled with the merchandise to an awaiting vehicle.

Employees of the business provided a vehicle description that was immediately broadcast to units in the area. Deputy Robert Tockstein observed the vehicle traveling south on Pomerado Road. Deputy Tockstein alerted other units in the area and conducted a "felony vehicle stop" near the intersection of Pomerado and Poway Roads.

The two sole suspects of the vehicle were subsequently arrested and booked into the San Diego Central Jail.

— Michael Hemmingson

HARLEY-DAVIDSON, 1997 Dyna Wide Glide, black, windshield, leather bags, custom wheels/seat, lots of extra chrome, new cam and top end, 30K miles, \$12,500. 619-749-5528.

HELMET, Fulmer 300, medium, black/silver design. Full face shield, forehead and chin vents. Bought new (\$90), worn once,

perfect condition. Yours for \$40. 619-390-5814.

HONDA CBR 900 RR, 1999, salvaged 19K miles, modified front fairing and tail, oil changed every 2K-3K miles, Yoshimura pipe, new tires, \$2900. 858-663-6243.

HONDA CRF150, 2004, runs/looks excellent, well maintained, very low hours, all

stock, only used 6 times on a fire road. 858-603-0500.

HONDA MAGNA, 1985, 700cc, great fixer upper, no electricity going from battery to anywhere in bike, needs some cosmetic work (rust), 60K miles, \$500. 858-344-9971.

HONDA SHADOW AERO 750, 2004, new in February, only 2K miles, very clean, 4-

year factory warranty, black and silver, \$6500/best. 619-470-3303.

HONDA ZB50, 1988, upgrade kit street, 19mm carburetor, \$600/best. 619-269-2097.

JACKET AND 4 HELMETS, Four XL motorcycle helmets. 2 shorties, 1 full face, 1 chrome (looks like a cop's hat). \$150/best for all. 619-303-4026, 619-971-3595.

KAWASAKI KX500, 2000, looks good, runs well, low miles, IMS desert tank, full suspension, true king of the desert, FMF fatty exhaust, \$550. 858-603-0500.

KAWASAKI NINJA ZX7R, 1996, ZX750-P1, 7600 miles, perfect condition, \$4400. 619-269-4096, 858-531-7418, or 858-486-5979.

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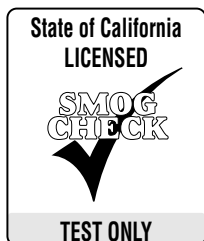
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The Mazda6 Twins

Last year, Michael Bottomley bought a new Mazda6.

“I had a Ford Escort GT, a ‘93,” he tells me. “My twin brother and I and our father went in together when we bought it. My twin brother’s name is Mark. He and I used that car all through college at the University of Calgary.

“When I moved down here, I brought the Escort with me. I drove it until it had about 300,000 kilometers on it, almost 200,000 miles. I put it up for sale; but while it was up for sale, it was sitting on the street and someone broke in, broke the back window, ripped out the stereo, ripped out the speakers. I couldn’t sell it in that condition, and that made me get busy looking for another car.

“I was looking online for different cars. The Escort had a Mazda

engine in it, and it was a great engine. A buddy of mine had a Mazda and liked it. I contacted Cars Direct online and specified I wanted the black leather interior and the V-6 engine.

“At this point, my brother and I didn’t even know we were both looking for a car. Then a few days before I was going to purchase the car, I called my brother and said, ‘Yeah, I’ve actually been looking at new vehicles.’ He said, ‘Me too. I’ve been looking at cars as well.’ I said, ‘Really, which one have you been looking at?’ He said, ‘The Mazda6,’ and I said, ‘No way, you’re kidding me, because that’s the one I’ve been looking at. What kind of Mazda6 were you looking at?’ He said, ‘Oh, I’ve been thinking about the hatchback, black with black interior.’ I said, ‘Come on.’

“There are a lot of things about us that are the same or quite similar. We both did music for undergraduate degrees. We’ll see each other at

Christmas or in summer and find out that we’ve bought clothing that’s similar. We’re mirror-image twins. Which means he’s right-handed, I’m left-handed, he’s got a natural part on one side, my natural part is on the other side. We’re very similar in personality. And this — we hadn’t even talked to each other about buying cars, let alone buying the same car.

“After talking to him, finding out that he was going to get the black Mazda6, I found this metallic gray color and I loved it way more. Besides, I thought, there’s no way I want to have exactly the same color as Mark does. So I ordered the metallic gray.

“The whole time while I was waiting, I thought we were getting the same car except different colors. But when mine showed up — they drove it down from Lancaster — it wasn’t the hatchback. I told the guy who delivered it, and he said, ‘Are you sure?’ I said, ‘Yeah, the whole



--- DRIVER: MICHAEL BOTTOMLEY
--- VEHICLE: 2004 MAZDA6
--- BOUGHT: OCTOBER 2004 FROM CARSDIRECT.COM
--- PRICE: \$27,000
--- MILES: 20,000

time I’ve been thinking I’m getting a hatchback.’ So he brought out the papers and we looked and it turns out that I had accidentally ordered the sedan.
“But I actually love it. So, even though my brother and I both have the Mazda6, I’ve got the sedan and he’s got the hatchback, and I’ve got the metallic gray and he’s got the black one.”

To suggest future Driven stories, e-mail ken@kenkuhlen.net

KAWASAKI VULCAN 800, 1996, custom paint, new tires, saddlebags and windshield, well maintained, 23K miles, classic, \$2700. 858-692-9839.
KAWASAKI VULCAN, 1999, 20K miles, great running condition, comes with windshield, regular maintenance tune ups, runs beautifully, small dent right side gas tank, \$1950. 619-925-7007.
KAWASAKI, W650, cool retro bike, stunning look-alike to the late 1960’s Boneville, Triumph. Great condition, stop by to see \$3250/negotiable, Tom 858-581-1237.
KTM 250SX, 2004, excellent running and looking condition, never raced, new front seals from Precision Concepts, new top

end, piston, bearing, ring, gaskets, \$3600. 619-701-4454.
NINJA 250, 2005, must sell by December 9, great deal, cosmetic damage, 4K miles on engine, \$2000/best. 858-525-3232.
POLINI X3, 2001, 50cc, water cooled, excellent condition, runs perfectly, outgrown, \$900. 619-448-4636.
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SUZUKI GS500E, 1997, 22,779 miles, new battery, fork seals, air filter, fresh oil change, slight cosmetic damage, solid engine, daily commuter, \$1500. 619-275-1289.

SUZUKI GSX-R 750, 1994, new transmission, needs electrical work, not running, must sell, \$1000/best. 619-579-1451.
SUZUKI GSXR 600, 1997, very clean condition, runs strong, M4 exhaust system, Zero Gravity double bubble screen, 520 chain/sprocket conversion kit, \$3500. 858-405-1139.
SUZUKI KATANA, 1100cc, runs well, looks good, new tires, brakes, carburetors sync, very fast, great commuter, possible trade for quad, street legal Enduro, \$2900. 951-440-3690.
SUZUKI LT 500, 1987, good condition, bolt-ons plus high compression dome, paddles and knobbies, lots of torque, good duner, fast bike, \$3300/best. 619-675-4717.
YAMAHA 660 RAPTOR, 2005, super fast, low hours, cheapest price, excellent condition, retail \$7000, mine for only \$5399.99. 619-368-7723.

YAMAHA YZ 80, 1999, current green sticker, runs great, never raced, \$1300. Tom, 619-948-2706.
YZ 125, 1998, great condition, must sell, runs great, super fast, Wiseco piston kit, Pro-Valve suspension, oversized bars, Renthal lightweight 48-tooth sprocket, more, \$1750/best. 951-202-8032.

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ALFA ROMEO SPIDER. Convertible, 1985, 90k miles, power windows, air-conditioning, custom wheels. New, tires/catalytic converter/fuel pumps, needs rear window, \$2400. Rafael, 619-575-7721, Dave 619-861-7794.
AUDI LX. 1993, 5 speed, 4 door, loaded, leather, new tires, brakes, awesome stereo, 35 miles per gallon! Clean and straight, \$1750, 619-818-6209.
AUDI. 1993, 4 door, 5 speed, loaded, leather, silver/grey, new brakes/tires. Excellent condition in and out! Dependable and economical, \$1750, call 619-667-5158.

BMW 320i. 1982. Garage kept, 98,000 miles, all new Michelin tires, BBS rims, 5 speed, must see to appreciate. \$2700. 858-622-1037.
BMW 528e. 1985. Automatic, 4 door, sedan, blue, registration/8/06. Runs/drives good. Air, cruise, sunroof, power all, recent tires, battery. 222k miles. \$1995. 619-957-6223.
BMW CONVERTIBLE. 325i, 1988 ultra clean, 5 speed, fast, low miles. New glossy white paint, perfect black leather interior, CD changer, restored condition! \$4,000. 619-929-6257.
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- Inspect differential fluid

All services done same day. All services may not be applicable or necessary for your vehicle. Some trucks & 4x4 slightly higher. Timing belt replacement extra if required. Most cars. Please call for details.

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tion, fully loaded, airconditioning, automatic, V8, 4.9 liter. Power everything, AM/FM stereo/cassette, airbags, \$3200/best, 760-415-6332.

CADILLAC DEVILLE. 1996. This car has 110,000 miles, you could not tell. Leather interior and power everything. Must sell so call today! \$4000. 301-536-1671.

CHEVROLET CORVETTE. 1988, red/black interior, looks/runs great. Will take trade in, must be 7 seat van/large lincoln/cadillac, with cash, \$5,500, 619-819-8436.

CHEVY CAMARO. 1996. Red, 5 speed manual transmission, very good condition, reliable, well maintained, air, power steering, cruise, AM/FM/cassette, alloy wheels. \$3200. 858-366-5376.

CHRYSLER 300M. 2001. Silver with black leather heated seats. Power windows, mirrors, sliding roof and vents. Air conditioning, cruise, tilt, AMM/color:D. Limo tint. \$14,900. 619-987-0308.

DATSUN SPORT COUPE. 280ZX, 1979, early edition. Dependable, investor's special, 95% restored. Great speed/looks/mileage per gallon. 6 cylinder, 5 speed. Best offer, minimum \$3,500. 858-259-5490.

DODGE COLT. 1990, new clutch and clutch cable, sunroof, current registration, fourth gear out, load muffler, runs well, 135k miles, \$800, 619-264-9167.

DONATE YOUR CAR. \$1000 gift. Free fast pick up. Max IRS Deduction. Abused Women's Network. Se habla espanol. 1-877-448-4254. (AAN CAN)

FORD ESCORT. ZX2, 2001, new low price, only \$5599, excellent condition. White 2-door, only 55k miles, 5-speed, rear spoiler, Karr alarm system, must see! 619-808-8860.

FORD EXPLORER. 1993, blue, rebuilt engine, new steering column, new clutch, newer tires. A little banged up cosmetically, but runs great \$1800, 619-461-6632.

FORD FOCUS. ZTS sedan, 2004, fully loaded, charcoal grey, automatic, leather, alloy wheels, power everything, 23k miles, airbags. Still under warranty, excellent condition, \$13,500, 619-813-8845.

FORD MUSTANG. 2000, great condition, had brakes/tires/all fluids/engine/more inspected. Automatic, 107,000k freeway miles, glossy black paint, \$7,900/or trade same value, 619-713-2876.

FORD MUSTANG GT. 2002, high performance, 5-speed, 40,350 miles, air conditioning, power steering/windows/locks, air bags, premium whels. Excellent condition, \$13,500/best. Paul, e-mail pablopeter@hotmial.com, 858-232-2316.

FORD MUSTANG. GT, 2002, high performance, 5 speed, 40,350 miles, owned by a mechanic, clear title, power/steering/windows/locks, air conditioning, \$13,500/best, 619-232-2316.

FORD MUSTANG. Convertible 1998, great San Diego car, black convertible top, CD player in excellent shape, 98,000 miles. Well maintained, asking \$4800, 619-200-9226.

FORD MUSTANG, 1995. 4 cylinder, white, low miles, garaged, good maintenance maintained, very nice condition \$3995, 858-484-2253 or 858-487-3605.

FORD TAURUS. 1994, runs/looks great, must see, engine/transmission, great condition, 4-door, registration till next year, moving, reason I am selling \$1500, 619-279-3472.

FORD TAURUS. 1995, 82,000 miles, all power, runs well, no rust \$2000, 858-273-7063.

FORD TAURUS. 2003, 46,000 miles, bank repo, in like new condition. Every power option, remote locking, trunk/security. Smogged/car fax certified, \$6,500 Gerry 858-874-5852.

GEO METRO. 1994, white with grey cloth, CD player, 5-speed, tinted glass, 40+ mpg, 130k miles. New clutch/brakes/tires, always maintained, smogged. \$1350. 760-604-8888.

HONDA ACCORD. 1983, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, 2 door, black paint, new rims/tires, battery not running, possible bad head gasket, sell as is \$400, 619-583-3751.

HONDA ACCORD. 2000. New 18" wheels and tires with lots of extras. Air conditioning, power steering, 4 cylinder, automatic, Sony CD/DVD with good sound system. Custom inside/outside. \$14,000.

HONDA ACCORD. 1983, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, 2 door, black paint, new rims/tires, battery not running, possible a dry gasket, sell as is \$400/cash 619-583-3751.

HONDA CIVIC. 1998, 4 door, automatic, 98,000 miles, second owner. Runs perfectly, just had front/rear brakes/fluids/spark plugs, changed. Best car ever! \$5000, 619-921-9268.

HONDA DEL SOL. 1997, 91k miles. Red, gas saver, runs great, 5 speed, all power air conditioning. Original owner, 2 seater/removable top \$4,500, 858-454-1832.

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HYUNDAI ACCENT GL. 2001. 4 door, automatic, 42,000 miles. New paint. \$4500/best. 619-279-1601.

INFINITI. QX4, 2002, silver, 43,000 miles, air, power everything, tilt wheel, cruise, leather, video system, 6 disk cd, sunroof and very clean, \$21,000, Todd 760-390-7325.

JAGUAR VANDEN Plas, 1986, 4 door, automatic, only 58k miles, transmission rebuilt, new tires, sunroof. Needs some electrical work. Moving, must sell, \$900/best, 760-598-6292.

LEXUS. GS300, 2004, sedan, black, 46k miles, (all freeway miles), heated seats, leather interior, GPS, power everything, many more luxury upgrades! Kristine, \$29,700, 858-592-0100.

LEXUS GS300. 2004. Stunning! Great car in excellent condition. 2004 Lexus

Lexus sedan with chrome detailing, spoiler, sun roof, leather, CD, wood, GPS and all the upgrades. \$29,700. 858-592-0100.

LEXUS SC 300, 1992, automatic, forest green, power everything, moonroof, leather. New starter/brakes/tune-up, more, 197k miles, \$3450/best, excellent running condition, must sell. 619-321-7925.

MAZDA 626. ES/LX 1997, fully loaded, power doors/windows/locks, CD, sunroof. Dual front airbags, 149k miles, smogged 5/05, runs great! \$3150, 619-405-2231.

MERCEDES BENZ. 500 SEL, 1983, nice, but needs a few small cosmetics, runs great. Beautiful gold, brown interior, all electric, sunroof, much more, \$1200/firm. 619-424-5229.

MERCEDES BENZ. 1988, silver 190E, 2.3, 131,000 miles, new brakes, tires, moonroof, runs great, \$3900, leave message 619-424-8801.

MERCEDES BENZ 300CE. 1991. Black coupe with leather. Power everything. Air conditioning, sunroof. Looks clean. As is! \$4000/best. 858-675-8225.

MERCEDES-BENZ E320. 1995. Priced to sell! Sedan, 4 door, blue with tan leather interior. 6 cylinder, 3.2 liter. Rear wheel drive, automatic transmission. \$6500. 619-871-7613.

MERCEDES. 560 SEL, 1986, good body with excellent interior, no rust but needs paint. Not running. \$700/firm, 619-584-4099.

MERCEDES. 300D, 1982, very clean diesel car, runs/shifts great 200,000 miles. New tires, tags till December 2006, no cracks/rips, interior, excellent \$2,500 619-737-6533.

MERCEDES. 300se, 1989, needs some engine work, asking \$800/best. Ask for Jim, 619-519-3957.

NISSAN ALTIMA. 1999, Sand with gray interior, CD player, alarm, new brakes, rotors and tires, tow hitch and more, call Tracy, \$5600/best, 619-916-8436.

NISSAN ALTIMA. 1994. Fully loaded, 4 door, cd player, super clean, 100,000 miles, automatic. \$2500/best. 619-475-1270.

NISSAN MAXIMA GLE. 2000, loaded and clean, runs/looks great, leather, power seats, moonroof, CD (Bose). Needs good home, must sell. \$8750, 858-405-1187.

PONTIAC BONNEVILLE. 1997, 4 doors, full power, excellent presentation, 100k miles, \$2800, 619-244-6394.

PONTIAC GRAND AM. 1993, 4 cylinder, 2.3L, 4 speed, 2 door, white, smogged, registered, cold air conditioning \$1300/firm 619-232-4821.

PONTIAC SUNFIRE. 2000. 70,000 miles, great gas mileage, black, power sunroof, \$3500. 619-922-8472.

SAAB TURBO. 900, 1989, 16 valve turbo. Awesome, stylish/classic, runs great, looking for a cool, fast, classy ride for reasonable price. \$2300, 619-546-6565.

SATURN SCI. 1995, great condition, 135k miles, 5 speed, sunroof, AM/FM cassette, purple, fun to drive, asking \$2995/best, 619-787-5970.

TOYOTA AVALON. XL sedan, 1996, 4 door, automatic, 98,000 miles, power/steering/windows/locks, air conditioning, leather interior, air bags, good tires, more \$5,500/best 858-490-8049.

TOYOTA COROLLA. LE 1998, white sedan, 4-speed automatic, CD, power doors/locks/windows, keyless entry alarm, good gas mileage, airbags. Runs/looks great, \$6900/best, 619-888-1603.

TOYOTA COROLLA. Station wagon, 1982, roof racks, 143k miles, replaced 4-drive belts/distributor cap/rotor, spark plugs, transmission flush, much more. Great running car, \$1500/best, 619-244-5918.

VOLVO 240DL. 1982. Cream with brown cloth. Automatic, air conditioning and power everything. Many new parts. Runs excellent. Just smogged. 230,000 miles. \$1,350. 858-205-3176.

VOLVO WAGON. 1987, 1 owner, garaged and babied, beige on tan leather, 228k freeway miles, great gas, good tires, registered until 8/06, \$1,350, 619-200-8079.

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- Check cooling system & hoses
- Check tire pressure & rotation

- Check lights
- Adjust hand brake
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- Inspect power steering system
- Inspect fuel lines • Inspect all belts
- Check clutch free-play & adjust
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- Adjust timing
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• Adjust emergency brake

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• Adjust emergency brake
• Flush brake fluid

• Check suspension
• Top off fluids
• Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
• Lubricate chassis
• Change engine oil
• Change oil filter
• Inspect fuel filter
• Check timing

• Change differential fluid if drainable
• Change manual transmission fluid
• Adjust idle to specs
• Clean battery terminals
• Check & tighten all belts
• Rotate four tires
• Balance four tires

Most cars and light trucks. We also honor extended warranties. We follow manufacturer's service schedule on inspection, adjustments, and replacement parts. Timing belt extra. Good thru 12/31/05.

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Free retest when we do the repairs.

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Includes 2 gallons of coolant. Dexcool extra.

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A VD CLINIC IS LIKE IF YOU COULD TAKE A STANDARD ELEVATOR AND STRETCH IT in every direction. Chemical lemons accost the sinuses; every surface has been wiped down with a disinfecting alcohol solution. Light from above is light only in the letter of the definition, the oscillating current spun through the tubes hidden above and sent through synthetic squares ensures that the spirit of the light sits in the room as gray as illumination can be and tinctures the occupants below in a green, blinking bath. We, five of us, are all wearing sunglasses and staring straight ahead at a television. No talking to each other; no eye contact. The plastic card in my hand reads, "25."

Chairs, designed without hard angle, rounded in every way, and constructed of peeling chrome tubing and fabric pads so purple they're black, sit in a row. Directly opposed at the left and right walls are dented tan doors. The one on the left is where prospective patients come in; they get a number from the receptionist's counter behind the row of chairs. To the right, a woman doctor opens the door from time to time and calls a number ("23"). The person with the corresponding number then leaves the TV seating and disappears, riding the clean billowy coattails of the lab worker out of the space. *CLACK*, the metal door latch catches behind.

"This is the worst movie I've ever seen," I blurt. Clanging two saucepans together would be a more-welcome clamor than the bleating of a human voice when in elevators, men's rooms, or VD clinics. My fellow waiting-room occupants turn in their seats, away from me, angling the tinted lenses of their eyewear at the crisp molding that runs along the top of the walls or the looped knots of the abstract patterned carpet. ("24." One escapes. *CLACK*.) "C'mon," I say, propping my shades across the crown of my pate. "Sure, we're stuck in here. We've probably all made poor choices, but this," I gesture to the tube, "this is torture."

Everyone spins further through their individual axes, turning their backs to me. "Look," I start in again, reveling in the inattention. "You, sir. What do you have, a slow drip in the pipes? And you, ma'am," my eyebrows "V" and I point to her. "Let me guess. You lit your basement couch on fire." Her sunglasses dip and dodge. "Is this punishment? What have we done so wrong that we deserve to sit here and be forced to watch *The Nutty Professor 3*?"

I am vapor. To them I do not exist in this dimension, and their jaws clench against me. ("25." The doctor at the door. My plastic card.) Leaning into a good rant, I wave the doctor off. ("25, either get in here or leave. Stop harassing the other patients!") "Eddie Murphy hasn't been funny since..." ("TWENTY FIVE!")

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
THE TRIANGLE
SCIFI 7:00 P.M.
When you're a billionaire and a fleet of your cargo ships goes missing in the Bermuda Triangle, what the hell do you do? You call Lou Diamond Goddamn Phillips and let his machismo do the talking. You got a problem with that? Speak to the ponytail, lady.

THREE WISE GUYS (2005)
USA 9:00 P.M.
Judd Nelson (*Breakfast Club*), Katey Sagal (*Married with Children*), and Tom Arnold (Roseanne's ex-wife), are caught up in a caper. A CAPER, I SAY! Oh, the zaniness that's to come. Oh. Brace for it. It's going to be a nipple-pinching spectacle of madcap-pery. Oh!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9
THE O'REILLY FACTOR
FNC 8:00 P.M.
"Pork sword" is my new favorite euphemism for, well, you know.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND GLOBALIZATION
K35DG 8:30 A.M.
If you leave me a voice message on my cell phone, be prepared for a hair-pulling, face-scratching roll in the gravel. If I have to take two minutes to dial out, punch in my PIN, punch in my PIN (AGAIN!) because it didn't work the first time, punch it in a third time and wait for that nasally bitch robot operator to cue up your voice saying, "Hey, it's me," followed by the clicking of your hang-up, I swear to whatever deity you bow to that I will bite the ever-loving bejesus out of your ear so hard it will turn purple.

PARIS'S MOST SHOCKING
VH1 7:00 P.M.
Paris Hilton wrote a book. You can't see it, but I'm pointing to my right eye. *WINK!* Unless it's an instructional pamphlet on how to get your servants to clean blood, spit, and hepatitis C out of your hair, I doubt she had much of a hand in it.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (1996)
USA2 10:00 A.M.
If you're ever hunched over a toilet and can't get down to the business of sobering up, all you have to do is imagine you're licking the rim. It's not pleasant, but pretending to clean off the black-and-curly from that yellow stained patch of porcelain behind the seat with your tongue bring up that beer, bourbon, and burrito you thought were such great ideas. *BLEYACK!* In the alternative, you could watch this movie.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12
TOM JONES: THE LEGEND
PBS 8:00 P.M.
Tom Jones stuffs one of those spun aluminum



The First Wives Club

Starbucks travel coffee mugs into the front of his stretchy black trousers before he hits the spotlight. I'm not making that up. His name should be "Tiny Jones," if you know what I mean. You didn't hear that from me.

FIGURE SKATING
ESPN 6:00 P.M.
In the coming revolution, the knife-edge of your ice skates will serve well as a meat cleaver and as the brittle striker to a flint fire-starter. Until then I can't imagine one earthly purpose for them. Keep them keen, my rhinestoned prancers. Keep them keen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14
RECIPE FOR A PERFECT CHRISTMAS (2005)
LIFE 9:00 P.M.
* 3 ounces gin
* 1/2-ounce dry vermouth
* 1 teaspoon peppermint schnapps
Combine in a shaker with ice. Shake, strain ice, and serve in a chilled martini glass with a candy cane swizzler. Woo! Merry Christmas! That's the good stuff.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
GERALDO AT LARGE
KUSI 8:30 P.M.
He's out there. He's "at large." He's roving. Casting his gaze into the concealing shadows. Scratching his nails and sharpening his eyeteeth against the grit and stone of the sidewalks. Rolling man-hole covers across his shins. HE IS GERALDO. And, ladies and gentlemen, beware. For he is AT LARGE!

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VOLVO. 850R, 1997, white with tan/leather/suede interior. Loaded, high performance suspension, engine, power everything, heated seats,

memory driver/passenger seat settings \$8000, 619-846-6170.

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VW BEETLE. Convertible, 2004, black, amazing mechanical/interior/exterior condition, airbags, black leather interior,

premium wheels/sound, heated seats! Much more, \$23,000/best, or E-mail Shelliscastle@hotmail.com.

VW BEETLE. Convertible, 1978, all new shocks, top is brand new, nice

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VW BUG. 1974, 1600cc, dual port engine, runs great, looks good, red, newer seats, new carpet. 4-speed, am/fm radio, works, like new tires, Tom, Escondido 760-839-0303.

VW JETTA K2. 1998. Black, beautiful. 133,000 miles. Excellent condition. Sunroof, keyless entry, AM/FM/CD, seat warmers, power windows/locks/steering/brakes. \$5995. 619-847-3100.

VW JETTA TURBO. 2000, 79k miles, automatic, black, power windows/locks/mirrors. Premium sound, alloy wheels, new tires, front/side airbags, excellent condition, \$9,750, 858-705-2848.

VW JETTA. 1999, forest green, 4 cylinder, 5-speed, air conditioning, power windows, stereo/CD, sunroof. Runs great/regular oil changes! 131 miles, \$4900/best, 619-778-0327, luckyaloha@yahoo.com.

VW TURBO JETTA. 1.8, 2001, Wolfsburg Edition, galactic blue, 5-speed, power everything, sunroof, clean record, 1 owner, mint condition, more. 63,000 miles, \$12,500, 619-665-3668, e-mail britt262@gmail.com.

\$5001 POLICE IMPOUNDS. Cars, trucks, SUVs from \$500. Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

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T.G.I.F.

"We had to put Vixen through this anger-management deal."

By John Brizzolara

(PARENTAL WARNING: If reading this column on Santa to a minor, please be advised of content around the seventh paragraph.)

Patron of children and sailors, especially in Sicily, Greece, and Russia, Saint Nicholas (as opposed to Saint Nicholas I, the Ninth Century's: Nicholas the Great) is given no birth or death dates in the *Columbia Encyclopedia*. The last major investigation into the facts of his life conducted by Wulff Eismann in Dusseldorf back in 1939 concluded only that he was likely to be of Aryan stock despite contradictory evidence, and the investigation was closed pending new facts. These facts have hardly been forthcoming as "The Bloated Red One" — as Eismann referred to him obsessively in his declining years while wracked with syphilis in an Argentine hospital until his death in 1959 — has systematically shunned interviews with the cunning of the insane.

This past Friday in Horton Plaza, Claus took a moment to address questions in between his politically correct rhetoric in carefully appropriate encounters with underage San Diegans and tourists. For the past 81 years Claus has been operating under the alias Paul or Bob or Pete. Soon it will be time to choose another. Beyond that, he has no further comment on the age question. Q.E.D., Claus's chosen interview technique, is to answer no questions in any

direct manner.

When asked if he had any comments or suggestions to those exhibiting what must be record-breaking levels of rudeness this holiday season, he said, "Maybe they oughtta try some of those stress-buster methods I see on television. Like, I use one of them; I snap candy canes in half the way some people snap pencils. It helps."

"Any truth to the rumors about yourself and the Tooth Fairy?"

"People like to think so. People will believe what they want. Truth is, we're two very different personalities. We're just good friends, really."

The controversial Leisure Paperbacks novel published in 2000 triggered the question. *Santa Steps Out*, by Robert Deveraux, sank with little notice outside of the critical community. The circulating scuttlebutt at the time was that Claus himself wrote it. The explicit and bawdy nature of the novel dealing with the rotund one's infidelity to Anya Claus resulted in having the book pulled from school libraries and children's bookstores. Passages such as these were the perceived problem:

"And if, at times, he turned away from the holly and the ivy, set aside his pack, and pressed the lurch and lunge of his gotta-have-it desire up against that of the fairy with the ravenous eyes and the necklace of teeth, where was the harm in that? There was enough of him, by Heaven, to go around. He could be Anya's loving mate: he could be the Tooth Fairy's hump-and-grunt of a f— friend; and he could be Santa Claus, jovial, roly-poly bestower of gifts and goodies upon children young and old."

Among those who came to the defense of the book were critic/editor David G. Hartwell, who had this to say: "It seems to me that carrying the sentimentalities of childhood into grown-up life leads one to behave as if those around you were cartoons."

I asked Bob (possibly Robert Peterson, or, he may have said Peter Robinson or even Paul Robertson or Peterson; I felt oddly clouded on this and the tape is garbled at this spot) about the legend concerning his restoring of four bodies, those of young boys, to life after a particularly gruesome multiple murder and dismemberment; a story that dates from anywhere between the Fourth and Ninth centuries, the heart of the dark ages. His response was typical.

"I keep the reindeer at a dairy, out in the country. They make fun of the cows because of their weight, the cows make fun of the reindeer because of their crazy-looking horns and say they can't make milk with crazy horns like that. And let me tell you about Dancer. She's actually a dancer, you know. Well,



she got herself cast in the *Nutcracker* this year, and we had to talk her into joining us for our little production. Then there's Vixen." It turns out Vixen is male, something I didn't know. "We had to put him through this anger-management deal so he could operate during Christmas like he should. There are a lot of stories like that. We've got geneticists coming around working on the genetics of flying reindeer; the applications could be.... Of course, Rudolph's under study now. We haven't figured out how to replace his nose if something should happen to it. It's never been done. He does a lot of dangerous things, flying around in the dark and snow, in mountainous areas, what have you."

Interviewing Santa Claus must be something like interviewing Ronald Reagan. No matter what your personal agenda or politics may be, the subject has a disarming personabilty and charm that make the experience pleasant.

He's right out there by the Lyceum Theatre, in front of the Levi's store and the Vienna Beef hot dog stand, next to which, I think you can get a free demo massage while waiting for your little one to have a word with the lovable dingmeister.

EXHAUST MANIFOLDS. Chevy small block, 1969 Impala, Chevelle, Camaro. For 350 engines. Came off of 1969 Impala. \$20. 858-578-0468.

FORD 1 TON DUELLY. For parts. 1970. Tires 33x12.5x16.5. New radiator, \$110. Call for more parts. 619-264-8829.

GOODRICH RADIAL TIRES. 2. 235/60-14B.F. Goodrich 1/A radials with less than 3,000 miles. New, \$100 each. Selling both for \$60. 619-988-6720.

LOW PROFILE TIRES. (1) Michelin Pilot Sport 245/45zr17 (95% tread), (1) Pirelli Pzero Rosso 245/35zr19 (80%), (1) Yokohama AVS Sport 245/35zr19 (80%). \$100/each/best. 619-843-0311.

MAZDA. Aluminum mags, 7 spoke, 4 lug pattern, approximate 15 1/2 x 6 1/2, \$80/best 619-222-9566.

PACER CHROME RIMS/TIRES. 17". Rims and tires are in great condition. 205/40/17 tires on rims. Rims are 4x100. Fits most Honda, Acuras, Volkswagens. \$400. 619-675-4717.

PT CRUISER RIMS. \$250. Chrome PT Rims, 6 spoke with Michelin Tires. Good condition \$250. 619-246-1188.

PT CRUISER BACK SEAT & SHELF. The seats and rear shelf come from a 2004 PT Cruiser. Seats have a 60/40 division. \$1000. 858-752-0081.

RIMS FOR BMW. 530i, 2006, 18 inch, original rims on car with only a few hundred miles. Mint condition all 4 for \$500/best, call 619-582-1557.

SILVER LORINSER RIMS. 18". Silver not chrome. With tires. \$875/best. 619-787-1231.

SNOW CHAINS. 2, brand new! SSC Super "Z" LT, in box, never used. \$80. Manny 619-223-7232.

SUNROOF. For Toyota Camry, 1994, like new, \$75/best. La Jolla 858-454-5537.

TIRE AND RIM. Toyota Eclipse G-2P, 205/60 R14. Never used. \$10. 858-483-2071.

TIRES. 4 31 x 10.5 x 15, Goodyear, Wrangler RTS tires, approximately 10,000 miles of tread left \$50, 619-275-6633.

TOW HITCH. For a Toyota Pick Up. Class 3 hitch in excellent condition. \$50. 619-448-4636.

TRAILER HITCH Class III or IV from Ford van \$75. Tow bar set-up from Toyota truck, under car, mount/custom bar \$110. 619-892-2788.

ULTRA FLOW UNIVERSAL MUFFLER. 2.5 & 200SX/Sentra Intake. 2.5 inch piped universal ultra flow muffler, straight through design. For sale or trade. 619-245-5458.

VOLVO SPARE HOOD. 1975. 164E spare hood in excellent condition. I also have other Volvo parts available. 619-988-6720.

VOLVO STATION WAGON. 1969. For parts or restore. \$500/best. 619-988-275-6633.

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