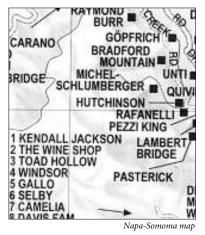
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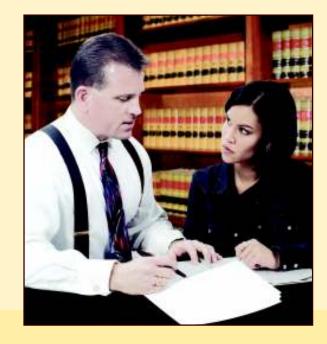
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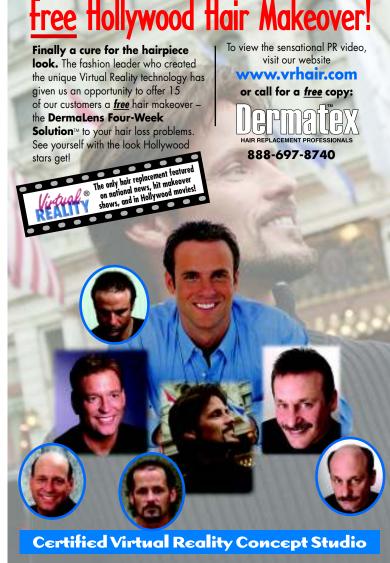
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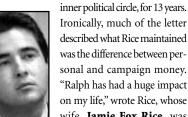
Chips off the old block Colin Rice,

Democratic assemblyman Juan Vargas's chief of



staff, has of late found himself defending his boss in the ongoing dustup with Congressman **Bob Filner** over the paying of live-in relatives with campaign funds. But in October he took time to write a plea to federal Judge **Jeffrey T. Miller** on behalf of ex-San Diego city councilman Ralph Inzunza. Arguing for

leniency for Inzunza, who ultimately got 21 months for his role in the Cheetahs strip-club scandal, Rice said he had known Inzunza, a member of Vargas's



Ironically, much of the letter described what Rice maintained was the difference between personal and campaign money. "Ralph has had a huge impact on my life," wrote Rice, whose wife, Jamie Fox Rice, was Inzunza's chief of staff. "He taught me about political cam-

paigns and how to help people with government service. For seven years, as his intern and then employee in the 1990s, I witnessed first hand him manage a city council office and political campaign offices. During this time, there wasn't a single moment in which I saw him act criminally or unethically."

Rice added: "There are many who shake their head in bewilderment when thinking about the energy spent prosecuting Ralph and the punishment he faces relative to the amount of money involved (not to mention the fact that the money went into a campaign account, rather than a personal account). When the prosecutorial blue suits and overblown media coverage are stripped away, what remains is a man who associated with the wrong guys. Ralph never needed the campaign contributions and was never personally enriched."

The fight with Filner started earlier this month, when Vargas forces planted news that since 1995, Filner had paid his wife Jane \$505,000 in consulting fees from his campaign fund. It then came to light that Vargas had paid his brother-in-law, **Richard D'Ascoli**, about \$10,500 over the years to work in Vargas's assembly and congressional campaigns. Vargas, who first denied that D'Ascoli, a real estate lobbyist, had ever lived with him, later said he'd forgotten that his brother-in-law had stayed in his house during Vargas's 1996 bid against Filner. Inzunza's city hall calendar, obtained under the state Public Records Act, shows that Inzunza and D'Ascoli had lunch together at Golden Hill's Big Kitchen on April 4, 2003.

Vargas's own letter on behalf of Inzunza steered clear of questioning the jury's verdict and played up what Vargas said had been Inzunza's role as a grassroots outsider. "We took our campaign directly to the people, bypassing the traditional city power brokers, and were successful in deflating campaigns that were much better financed."

Another plea for mercy came from ex-congressman **Jim Bates**, a four-term Democrat whom Republican Randy"Duke"Cunningham narrowly defeated in 1990 after the House slapped Bates with

a reprimand for talking dirty to two women staffers. "For almost twenty years, I was directly involved in this 'blood sport' called politics," wrote Bates. "I have raised millions of dollars and found it to be a corrupt system, but one that all politicians must be involved in, unless of course they are independently wealthy." He added, "I have known Ralph Inzunza since he was 17 years old, a shy High School student working with Senior Citizens. Soon after our first meeting, he became an intern in my Congressional office in San Diego. A few years later, he obtained an LBJ fellowship and was working with me in Congress in Washington, D.C."

Bates offered his own disjointed take on the government's case against Inzunza and codefendant Michael Zucchet: "These two freshmen Council Members were victimized by a chance 'wire tap' connection to a legitimate Las Vegas case, but wrongful, unethical and in some instances illegal behavior, by a strip club owner, his manager, his security chief and a policeman. This led to faulty perceptions by a well meaning jury. The 'no touch' issue was pretty sensational, the money insignificant, the methods abhorrent and the outcome devastating." Bates's daughter **Jennifer**, staffer for then-city councilman George Stevens and his successor, the late Charles Lewis, was caught on an FBI wiretap talking to Cheetahs lobbyist Lance Malone, also convicted in the scandal, about his fund-raising proficiency: "Charles was stoked. You're like [expletive] phenomenal, dude. That's an art."

Last suppers It's been a quiet time for former **Dick Murphy** aide **John Kern**, as he waits to see if any of the shoes dropping in the city's festering pension-fund scandal will fall his way. He

departed city hall back in March, leaving behind his final Statement of Economic Interests. It reveals that his last months were filled with free dinners, courtesy of some well-heeled powers that be, including Ben Haddad, the ex-chamber of commerce honcho now working for defense contractor Science Applications



John Kern

International Corporation, who picked up a \$75 dinner tab in February; SeaWorld, which in January furnished four tickets and lunch (\$218.79); Chargers stadium booster and Donovan's steak house proprietor Dan Shea, who paid for a March dinner (\$203); lawyer and lobbyist David Watson of Hecht, Solberg, Robinson, Goldberg and Bagley, who furnished a January dinner (\$120); and Fat City Steakhouse owner Tom Fat, who in April gave Kern a dinner gift certificate (\$100). The most unusual freebie on Kern's list: a Dell computer worth \$1438.86, which he reported on April 30. According to the filing, \$915 came from "donations under \$10," with the balance paid for by Black Mountain Ranch developer Fred Maas and political consultant Jennifer Tierney, Kern's close friend and sometime business partner and political consultant to convicted ex-city councilman Michael Zucchet.

— Matt Potter

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

Ethical Conflicts Loom for CCDC

By Don Bauder

ntre City Development Corporation's board members — all connected with the real estate industry in their professional

lives — are constantly running into potential conflicts of interest. But there is a broader issue: this developer-friendly board has not shown itself capable of grappling with the question of whether the corporation itself has outlived its

and be a "catalyst for publicprivate partnerships."

The term "public-private partnership" is merely a euphemism for corporate welfare — the steering of taxpayer funds to the pockets of developers and their cronies.

a complaint with the Ethics Commission, noting that Sadler's architectural firm, Tucker Sadler, had a feasibility contract for a pedestrian bridge over Harbor Drive, and he had voted on matters regarding it. Sadler has already been fined \$6000 by the commission for voting in 2003 and 2004 on issues regarding the proposed downtown library. CCDC is committed to pouring \$80 million into the library.

Robert Ito and Reese Jarrett resigned in 2003 because they voted to give land to the Housing Commission. Both were with firms that did business with that commission,



20th and G, Sherman Heights



21 and J, Sherman Heights

usefulness, if it ever had any. Most San Diegans think the nonprofit Centre City

Development Corporation (CCDC), formed by ex-mayor Pete Wilson in 1975, is the city's redevelopment agency. Not so. The city council has that task. CCDC supposedly has an advisory role. It says its job is to "staff and implement downtown redevelopment"

But with the city broke, is it sound policy to subsidize luxury condos and the developers who build them?

Late last month, CCDC director Gina Champion-Cain resigned because of a so-called "potential" conflict: she sells residential real estate downtown. On Friday, chairman Hal Sadler resigned. In July, activist Mel Shapiro had filed

as Shapiro pointed out at the

Shapiro notes that other board members, such as real estate financier Jennifer LeSar and banker Robert McNeely,

continued on page 8

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

Neal Obermeyer



Julian Flap Over Wind-Test Structures

By Ernie Grimm

Strong winds of public disapproval toppled electricity-producing windmills in the Julian area before they were even built.

At an August 11 meeting at Julian Town Hall, 100 area residents whipped up a hurricane of opposition to the very idea of wind-driven turbines — on towers 300-plus feet tall and sporting blades over 100 feet long - standing in a row down the east ridge of Volcan Mountain toward the hamlet of Banner, which sits downhill to the east of Julian on State Route 78. The land in question is owned

data — wind speed. And we hadn't been granted permission. We made an application. And the Sierra Club and the Center for Biological Diversity stirred up a lot of local residents up in the Julian area [by telling them] that our company was going to put wind turbines up there. And we weren't going to put up wind turbines; we were going to collect data for two to three years. And if it were com-



by the federal Bureau of Land Management. Joining the residents in objecting to the wind farm were the Center for Biological Diversity and the Sierra Club, groups some might assume would be all for "green energy" windmills.

Mike Azeka, an official at AES SeaWest, the wind-energy company that was looking into the Volcan Mountain/Banner area, attended the town hall meeting. As a result of the community uproar, he says, SeaWest is no longer considering the area. But he says the eruption of opposition was premature, as no plans to build wind turbines on the mountain ever existed. "All we did," Azeka says, "was we filed the request with the BLM to put up some anemometers - wind-datacollecting equipment—on the property to measure climate mercially viable, then we would make an application to put up wind turbines, but if it wasn't commercially viable, we wouldn't. There was never any proposal to put up any wind turbines."

Before she says anything else, Kelly Fuller, spokesperson on wind energy for the San Diego chapter of the Sierra Club, proclaims, "The Sierra Club has a national policy of supporting wind energy," adding, "when it is in the right locations."

Fuller says, "I contacted the Bureau of Land Management and discovered that last fall they permitted over 17,600 acres of public land for windenergy testing without any kind of public notification, without consulting the Fish and Wildlife Service, without consulting with tribes. And all of those things they should have done."

Azeka counters that the anemometers SeaWest applied to put up near Banner are temporary and have zero environmental impact. "That is why," he explains, "the BLM accepted our application without having to do a major public outreach and a very extensive environmental study. We are talking about something that occupies six square feet of land area and is just a single six-inch pole 160 feet tall with some guy wires holding it up. It is very noninvasive, it has no foundation, it is not permanent. It is just a tilt-up structure. We put it up for a couple of years, and then we take it down. And after it is gone you can't even tell that it was there, because it just sits on the ground, so it is about the same impact as putting in a barbed-wire fence, maybe even less."

When Fuller found out that an application for windtesting equipment was pending for Volcan Mountain, "We realized that the people in Julian would want to know this and had a right to know this. And based on what the Bureau of Land Management had done [i.e., granting permits for wind testing without public input], they weren't going to be told. It would probably be permitted for wind-energy testing without anybody living up there ever knowing. So I went to a Julian planning group meeting on May 9th and told them. And a couple of months went by and nothing happened. The Center for Biological Diversity, which had filed a Freedom of Information Act request, received some documents from the BLM and a map that showed where the test towers would go. They shared the documents with me, and I wrote a little article for the *Julian News.* At that point, Geoff Kahoon saw the story, and he started to set up the town hall meeting."

Upon reading Fuller's story, Julian resident Geoff Kahoon knew he didn't want 300-foot windmills to be built on Volcan Mountain. He thought the construction of the windmills would wreak havoc on "pristine" wilderness, and he knew the giant turbines would affect the northeastward view from his home in the Kent-

wood area of Julian. "I have a view of the entire desert and Volcan Mountain. I would have been looking up at the turbines even though their bases would have been lower than I am."

Kahoon figured the idea

to go ahead and make a stand on it, I decided to put together all groups involved, as many

Audubon Society, SeaWest, the Bureau of Land Management, and local opponents.

During that time, I was speaking with the planning group 55 and the Julian Chamber of



continued on page 12 >

Conflicts for CCDC

continued from page 6

occasionally disqualify themselves from certain votes. But city attorney Mike Aguirre says, "Disqualification is not enough if you're regularly handling business that is before CCDC. You should be resigning from the board."

CCDC attorney Helen Holmes Peak says that's true in many cases, but directors also abstain from votes to "avoid an appearance of impropriety."

CCDC's board"is basically made up of people of special interests," says Aguirre. And those special interests trample project-area committees, comprising elected citizens from the community who are supposed to join in planning

Indeed, Shapiro believes CCDC "was set up to take away the power of projectarea committees." Reason? "Redevelopment is a subsidy for the developers." For example, the ballpark is a redevelopment project that is a classic case of redistributing funds from poor and moderateincome folks to the rich and super-rich.

The mentality is woven into the city's fabric, says Shapiro. Prior to Friday's resignation, the last three major pieces the Union-Tribune did about CCDC's involvement in the proposed downtown library did not mention Sadler and his obvious conflicts. "They have been covering up for Sadler," says Shapiro.

The city doesn't need CCDC, he avers. The board should be abolished, and staff members who have some value should work directly for the city bureaucracy. The power of project-area committees should be restored. "I would rather see a citizens' group make these decisions than seven rich people appointed by the city council."

Former councilmember Bruce Henderson takes it a step further: why have government-subsidized redevelopment at all? "The time for government priming the development pump downtown is long past," says Henderson, noting that the concept is based on the untruth that downtown is blighted. "Years

ago the whole downtown was declared blighted," he says. "So when they brag how wonderful downtown is, it's a bit of a hypocrisy, because at the same time they claim it is blighted." (Peak says that areas in which there has already been redevelopment would no longer be considered blighted. But she concedes that most of downtown is classified as blighted.)

Remy Bermúdez worked for CCDC for six years and for its cousin, Southeastern Economic Development Corporation, for two. Bermúdez, a council candidate from the Eighth District in the last election, agrees that monies now going to CCDC and Southeastern "should be administered internally through the

Citing her own Sherman Heights, she says that citizens refuse to be designated a redevelopment area for fear that homes will be seized through eminent domain. Redevelopment bureaucrats then neglect to provide the area other services. She would like to see "commercial corridors for redevelopment — leave

residential areas out of it. Give our businesses a chance to get grants and loans like they give to major developers."

So-called gentrification harms those with low and moderate incomes. As luxury condos shot up like mushrooms in the ballpark district, gentrification started moving east. Property values soared in those low-income areas. So did rents. Condo conversions exacerbated the problem. Some people sold their homes to real estate sharks, then realized that they could not buy another home with the proceeds. "Property taxes also went up," Bermúdez says.

The ballpark district was "earmarked for low- and moderate-income housing," she says. CCDC "let it deteriorate, and lo and behold here comes a ballpark. So there is a ballpark but not low- and moderate-income housing. We're still waiting to reap the benefits of that ballpark. Do they want working people? No."

She thinks the CCDC staff is capable of taking an enlightened approach, "but the board may not be capable of accepting such recommendations because they may not be lucrative."

Councilmember Donna Frve would like to see CCDC begin paying back the \$100 million it owes the city and direct more funds to "affordable housing in the downtown area for very low income people and for seniors."

Like Henderson, she notes that more than half of the tax money collected in redevelopment districts goes back into redevelopment, and other political jurisdictions such as the county and state are shorted. This leads to economic distortions. She, too, is upset at the abuse of blight designations. For example, the county, worried that it will be shortchanged in tax revenue, is suing the city over its attempt to name Grantville a redevelopment area.

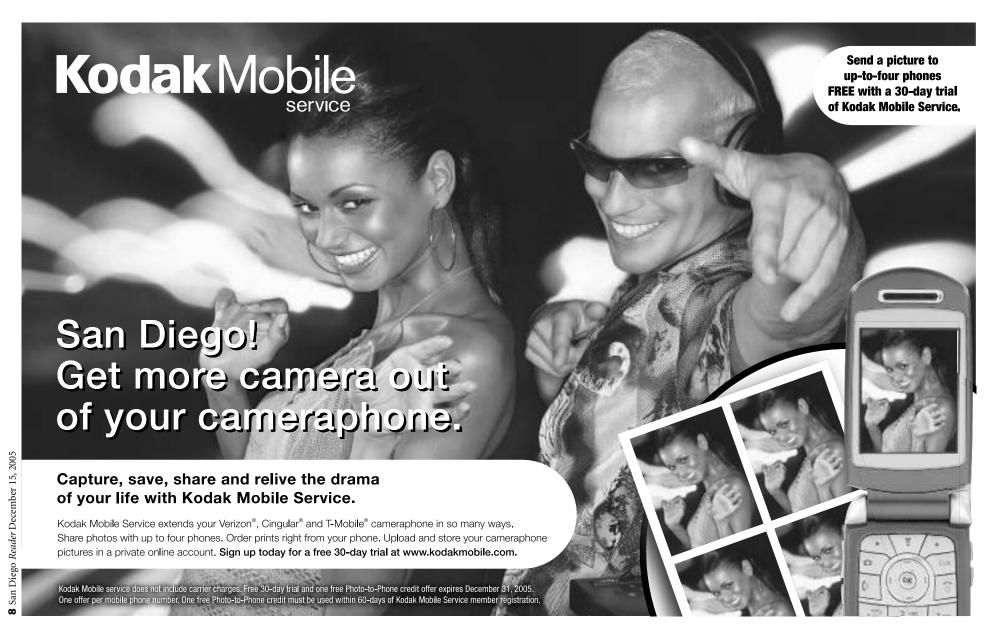
Nationwide, redevelopment reform is in the air. In June, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the seizure of homes in New London, Connecticut, for a development that would theoretically generate more tax revenue. The decision set off a firestorm. At

least 35 states have moved to restrict eminent domain seizures. Says Frye, "In the ballpark district, people had moved in and invested their life savings in the community, then were told to move out. I'm also concerned about the cost of providing police and fire services to these redevelopment areas," which are billowing and gobbling up funds that should be going to essential services.

Says Aguirre, "We're repeating mistakes of the past building more and more without providing infrastructure. We have to have significant improvement of the transportation system."

However, "there is not an interest in reform" on the CCDC board, says Frye.

Some would even extend the CCDC approach. One idea for overhauling the city's Redevelopment Division, which handles projects in several neighborhoods, is to make it a nonprofit consultant like CCDC. "I am going to be asking a lot of questions," says Frye. "I am in no big hurry to set up a lot of agencies using CCDC as the model." ■





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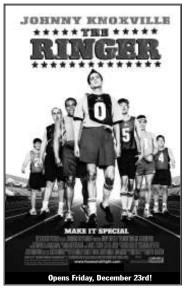
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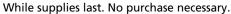
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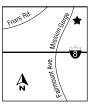


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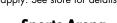


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continued from page 7

Commerce for their support, but at the time no one seemed like they wanted to get too, as they said, 'politically involved' in this. I managed to get the chamber of commerce to let me use the town hall itself to hold a meeting."

Kahoon, through phone calls and leafleting in downtown Julian, "let everyone in town know what was happening, and about 100 people showed up for the meeting, which is a packed house as far as the town hall is concerned. There were a lot of people there that were upset about it. The wind-farm pro-

ponents were trying to convince people that it was a good thing for Julian, which I knew that it wasn't, because that mountain is pristine and it is an important factor in the beauty of this area."

The impact on the habitat and the destruction of view weren't the only effects of a possible wind farm that residents and the Sierra Club worried about. "We worry about wind farms," Fuller says, "because in some areas there have been significant deaths of birds and bats due to collisions with wind turbines, getting hit by the blades."

On Volcan Mountain, bats would be a particular worry because the hundreds of old gold mines that pock the landscape are known to house the flying mammals. "Some bat biologists have said," Fuller explains, "that wind farms could be the cause of whole species of bats becoming extinct."

Mike Azeka says that contention "doesn't pass the reasonable test. What she is reacting to is, there are two wind farms, one in Pennsylvania and one in West Virginia, where they have documented high numbers of bat kills. But there are hundreds of wind farms that have no or low bat kills. There are rigorous scientific fatality studies where they take existing wind farms and biologists have gone out...and they've done 12month studies to figure out

whether these turbines are killing birds and bats. Our company has done those on a lot of our projects, and other companies have done them on a lot of projects, and the California Energy Commission has done it on a lot of projects. In the Palm Springs area, they found zero dead bats on 813 turbines that were searched for a year. In Tehachapi and in Mojave they found zero bats."

As for birds, Azeka says, "Same kind of situation. We have been seeing very small numbers, like single digits of individual species over the course of a year for hundreds of wind turbines. But Altamont [in Northern California] has a problem. We have

a high number of fatalities of raptors up there. It is a concern, and the industry is taking significant steps to address it. They have figured out which turbines are more likely to cause fatalities, and we are shutting them down in the winter months when the fatalities are occurring."

Though the blades have stopped turning on the Julian windmill idea, Texas-based Superior Renewable Energy has built 25 wind turbines on the Campo Indian Reservation, near the town of Boulevard. (Superior has since sold the project to Australian investment firm Babcock and Brown.) The 300-foot windmills — each of which can produce enough electricity

to power 2000 homes — are visible from Interstate 8. The 136-foot blades are scheduled to begin turning by Christmas. Other wind power companies have erected test towers in Warner Springs, Campo, Jacumba, and McCain Valley and on Mount Laguna and the Viejas Reservation. But don't be alarmed, Azeka says. The presence of anemometers does not mean that windmills will be put on all or any of these locations."We looked at San Diego," he explains, "and we determined that only one-quarter of 1 percent of the land in San Diego County — that doesn't have houses or isn't military or national forest land — could possibly be windy enough."

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Still Dreaming

The dream is not over ("The Dream Is Over," December 8). It lives in every idealist and true patriot who has been fighting for five years to get our democracy, economy, and peace back from the NeoCon NeoNazi Neofascists who have taken it over and the punks who do not care and just laugh.

Valerie Sanfilippo via e-mail

Yoko's Legacy

Re: "The Dream..." (December 8).

Sean Lennon...

What it must be like to live in a world of paranoia. Way to go, Yoko.

Give peace a chance.

Gary Mocko Ocean Beach

One Shared Brain Cell

As longtime Charger season ticket holders, there are so many stadium-related issues pissing us off it's hard to know where to begin ("The Secret Stadium E-Mails," December 1). There's the execrable mess Ace Parking does of getting vehicles in and out of the parking lot. They are total morons. Then there's Murphy's Sports Bar, which could be one of the most happening sports bars in town on game days if the Chargers (or the City or both) spent any money at all buying big-screen plasmas and getting rid of all the spacehogging tables where the bluehairs park their fat butts. And what's with not having radio in the bathrooms so you can hear the game while you're pissing! How tough is it? I'm telling you, between the City, the Chargers, and Ace Parking, they have about one brain cell rattling around like a pebble in a tin

> Ken and Bill via e-mail

Solution To Nightmare

Re Qualcomm Stadium article ("The Secret Stadium E-Mails," December 1). Here is the solution to the Qualcomm Stadium nightmare.

- (1) Give the stadium, the land it sits on, and the land around it to the Chargers.
- (2) Now it is theirs to do whatever they want to do with it: rebuild, develop, put in a waterpark. Why care?
- (3) All the City should ask is 10 percent of all revenues generated by the property. No gross, no net, just 10 percent of gate receipts, parking, development renewal, etc., etc.
- (4) If this was done, and it can be done, we would no longer have to deal with the stumbling, bumbling incompetence of our elected officials and their mentally challenged staffs.

Dan Williams Ocean Beach

Missed The Essence

I am a commercial property owner on Adams Avenue in the community of Kensington, and I am writing to you regarding last week's article by Joe Deegan entitled "Kensington Business Balks at New City America" ("City Lights," December 1). I appreciate the coverage your paper gave to this issue, but I am afraid Mr. Deegan missed the essence of the problem my fellow property owners and I have with the New City America proposal.

On my property tax bill, I am currently charged about \$140 for a "maintenance" charge, which I understand is paid to the Adams Avenue Business Association. Given my maintenance charge, I am guesstimating that the commercial Kensington property owners pay a combined yearly charge of approximately \$5600 (ten property owners per block times four blocks).

New City America is proposing to charge Kensington property owners a whopping \$200,000 per year, or about \$5000 for each and every one of us Kensington property owners. To add insult to injury, New City America is proposing a \$30,000 management fee. This fee alone is almost six times as much as the entire present Kensington maintenance budget.

Kudos to the Hanfords and Kensington Video for exposing this sham for what it is: an attempt by a private company to line their pockets at my expense.

Name Withheld

Westberg Had Me

Sitting down, turning the Reader page by page, I came across a picture only former Marines can easily identify: a DI giving saluting instructions to a recruit ("Back to Basics," December 1). I started reading, seeking the authenticity of this writer's experience, with concentration similar to that I enjoy when reading a Tom Clancy novel. I looked for that which I remembered explicitly: yellow footprints. Bingo! I continued to read and felt — finally, a man who was there. Ray Westberg had me for the entire article.

I found some of his recollections hilarious — the bus ride to MCRD, the Quonset hut, and the haircut. I recall my haircut. When I was being serviced by the clippers, the poor guy next to me failed to mention a wart on his scalp. The barber removed the wart with only a slight reduction in the rpm of the device. The blood gushed all the way to the recruit's neck and chest. I dared to look and received my first dressing down. Westberg's recalling the chow line, the parade grounds, and the rifle range found me snickering and at times quietly laughing almost with tears in my eyes. I even learned a few positions, like the Chinese Thinking Position. What the hell was that all about? I was a victim of the Iron Chair, only with a bayonet placed in an empty coffee can with the business end toward your ass. Had to reread a few times some of Westberg's descriptions of other tortures.

I recall the DIs as the meanest men I had ever met, so much so that I actually thought I was in some nightmare and that my girlfriend would soon shake me awake on the beach. By the third day, I was convinced it was real and my getting drafted in the Marines was to be taken seriously.

After eight weeks, though, I had promised myself if I ever saw him in Vietnam, he would become history. This promise helped pull me through some difficult times. Never happened, though.

continued on page 90



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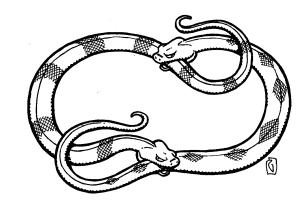
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP



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Rick Geary

Ilustration by

Do species of snakes in the same family ever bite one another and die from the poison? How about between families? Maybe snakes in general don't bite each other.

– Bob and friends, North Park

Snake biting snake is not unheard of, but it's apparently rare (though the best watched are in captivity, whose behavior may not mirror that of snakes in the wild). Occasionally, two snakes are seen heading for the same item of food and taking a chomp at one another, but that's the exception. Though there is a story of one snake eating another when they started at the opposite end of some rodent, met in the middle, and the bigger snake just ate lunch and lunch partner. Poisonous snakes do have some immunity to venom. The more closely related the species are, the more immunity they have. It would take much more rattlesnake venom to kill another rattlesnake than to kill a mammal of equal weight.

Herpetologists believe the average intersnake squabble is settled by what's called a combat dance. The disputants twine round each other until one is somehow judged to be the top dog. Interestingly, any biting that might occur during a combat dance is likely to be between nonvenemous snakes.

Hev Matt:

My father always mentioned Rube Goldberg whenever he heard of some odd scheme or idea. Please tell me about ol' Rube. Is he fact or fiction?

— IRG, Spring Valley

Old Rube is actual and factual. He was one of the most versatile and popular cartoonists ever to pick up a pen. He lived from 1883 to 1970 and during his career drew everything from newspaper sports illustrations, comic strips, and animated films to political and editorial cartoons.

Rube's name is part of the common language because of a series of single-panel cartoons that spoofed man's general inclination to take something simple and make it as complicated as possible. Each cartoon diagrammed a wildly improbable system that might include levers, pulleys, ropes, animals, cigars, ironing boards, thunderstorms — anything you could imagine all assembled to accomplish some supremely mundane task. One example is titled "Professor Butss' Automatic Screen Door Closer.'

The drawing and accompanying narrative explain that houseflies, on seeing the screen door open, fly onto the porch. A spider descends from the eaves to catch them, startling a potato bug, which is sitting on a hammer. The bug hops off the hammer, causing it to strike the handle of a pancake turner, which flips a pancake into a nearby frying pan. The weight of the pancake tilts the pan and pulls a string attached to the key of a wind-up toy soldier. This causes the key to turn and the toy to march across the table, where it gets its head caught in a noose. The other end of the noose is hooked to a boot sitting on a shelf; when the noose is pulled it causes the boot to kick a bowling ball off the end of the shelf. The ball is caught by a monkey, an expert bowler. The monkey then rolls the ball at bowling pins painted on the screen door, slamming

Goldberg admonishes, "The monkey is liable to get sore when he discovers that the bowling pins are phony, so it is a good idea to take him to a real bowling alley once in a while just to keep his good will.'

Hello:

The subject came up in a casual conversation. Is there such a thing as spontaneous human

- A.V., Golden Hill

Like, you'll be sitting in your lounge chair, watching the Super Bowl, and you'll burst into flames? Jeez, it's always something, isn't it? Well, maybe you need a quick scan of the family room by one of those feng shui experts. Could be there's a spot for the lounge chair where the ambient vibes are less incendiary. Anyway, I guess I got to go with the science guys on this one. Several forensics experts have looked into the lurid tales of old ladies reduced to ash, and all can be explained with more ordinary if less amusing stories. Most of them involve old folks with limited mobility, cigarettes, and alcohol. None of the SHC victims have burned from the inside out, so the ignition point was on the clothes or surface of the body. Lightning strikes would be a better guess than spontaneous human combustion. And it doesn't take thousands of degrees of heat to burn a body, as most SHC stories claim. These people were cooked at lower temps for long periods of time. Body fat liquefies, and if it soaks into clothing, that might sustain the fire. One favorite example of SHC involves a woman who was found dead on her hearth. It takes a true believer to ignore the logical connection between a fireplace and a burned body. One SHC investigator theorizes there is a subatomic particle in our cells that he calls a pyrotron that can automatically light our fire. But how nice as you sit in your cube, replaying the tape in which your boss vanishes in a big ball of spontaneous fire.

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By Patrick Daugherty

The Salmon Is A Gentyll Fysshe

ow did you come to fly-fishing?" Anne-Marie Bakker, fortysomething, flicks a cast into the pool and says, "There was an old boyfriend who..

I laugh, "Old boyfriends come in handy

Bakker is president of the Golden West Women Flyfishers, a club entering its 22nd year of organized fish murder. I walked up to her because I've never seen a woman with long, rust-colored hair wearing a down-to-her-ankles red-and-black paisley dress and calf-length leather shoes, working

"Here beginneth a tretyse of fysshynge wyth an Angle." (Here begins the treatise on fishing with an

The above is from The Book of St. Albans, originally printed in 1486, in England. The book has three sections: hawking, hunting, and heraldry. Fishing was added in the 1496 edition, which marks the first writing on fishing in the English language. The text was compiled, according to legend, by Dame Juliana Berners, said to have been the abbess of Sopwell Nunnery near St. Albans in Hertfordshire.

Getting back to old boyfriends, Bakker says, "I was just learning how to fish and stuff. I didn't fish much with him. I was working on my master's in environmental management. I was busy with school, so, I treated myself to a five-day learn-tofish class up in Northern California at Clearwater House. That's where I learned how to fish. One of the instructors ended up being a good friend. He introduced me to the Golden Gate Angling Casting Club and told me about Golden West Women Flyfishers. I joined them both right away."

"When was this?" "Gosh, I've been fishing for 15 years."

"Then followeth it that good disportes and honest games: be cause of mannes fayre age and longe lyfe...

"Thence it follows that good sports and honest games are the cause of a man's happy old age and long life. And therefore, I will now choose among four good sports and honest games: to wit, of hunting, hawking, fishing, and fowling. The best, in my simple opinion, is fishing, called angling, with a rod and a line and a hook.'

"What do you like about fishing?"

"I've always been an outdoors person. My

family's idea of vacation was camping and hiking, and as we got older, backpacking. I've always been in the outdoors. Fly-fishing lends itself to that."

Hmm. "I can see camping, hiking, and backpacking. Fly-fishing is pretty to watch for awhile. But, most people catch and release, right?"

"Oh, yes."

"I don't get that."

Bakker laughs. "You don't get that part of it?" More laughter. "After a few years' experience, you're not going to be able to eat all those fish. And, the areas that I fish are usually special regulation water, and sometimes I may not know what those regulations are."

"IF ye wyl be crafty in angling, ye must first learne to make your harneys...

"If you want to be crafty in angling, you must first learn to make your tackle, that is, your rod, your lines of different colors. After that, you must know how you should angle, in what place of the water, how deep, and what time of day. For what manner of fish, in what weather; how many impediments there are in the fishing, that is called angling.'

"So, the fun part of fishing is..."

Bakker says, "Understanding the river, understanding where the fish might be, understanding the insects in the water that the fish eat.'

Doesn't sound like fun. "Are you usually the only woman on the river?"

"No. I belong to a women's fly-fishing club. There are 150-plus of us who are members. We are still the minority, but it's not that unusual to see a couple of women on the river."

"Do women fly-fish differently than men?"

"I don't know. I think women are less competitive about the number of fish they catch, maybe. But, I don't think it's a hard and fast rule. I think they're guys who want to be out there because it's peaceful, quiet. There's a meditation to fishing."

"But the angler will not suffer cold nor discomfort nor anger, unless he be the cause himself. For he can lose at the most only a line or a hook, of which he can have plenty of his own making...at the very least, he has his wholesome and pleasant walk at his ease, and a sweet breath of the fragrant smell of the meadow flowers, to make him hungry. He hears the melodious harmony of birds. He sees the young swans, herons, ducks, coots, and many other birds with their broods.... And if the angler catches fish, surely then there is no happier man.

The Vegas Line

·					
NFL Week 15 (Home Team in CAPS)					
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NEW ENGLAND		37	Tampa Bay		
N.Y. GIANTS	4 3	46	Kansas City		
Denver	9	35	BUFFALÓ		
	Sunc	<u>lay</u>			
Pittsburgh	3	41 1/2	MINNESOTA		
INDIANPOLIS	8	51	San Diego		
JACKSONVILLE	15	37 ½	San Francisco		
Seattle	7	45 ½	TENNESSEE		
Arizona	_1	42	HOUSTON		
MIAMI	8 ½	35 ½	N.Y. Jets		
Carolina	8	41	NEW ORLEANS		
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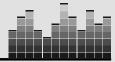


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"If someone at our synagogue becomes religious, don't blame me. I just teach the Torah," said Rabbi Baruch Lederman of Kehillas Torah. "I am passionate about helping people see the beauty of the Torah. I want to help raise them to a higher level of understanding and

increase their acts of kindness to others. This is what life is all about. It's about a relationship with your creator." I asked Lederman about his relationship with God. "I pray and talk to God all the time. Life is one giant conversation with God. I love, revere, and fear God. It is very similar to how a child thinks about their parents."

Fred Wolf, a member of the synagogue, said Lederman helped change his life. "In recent years, I've gone through a lot of trials. I went through a divorce with two children and a parent dying. It made me think about what is important in life." Wolf said this process led him back to his Jewish roots. "I was struggling with the divorce. I entered a period of darkness and depression. Rabbi Lederman helped me out during this time. He was warm and open-minded. He

doesn't lecture people; he enjoys teaching people and letting them make their decisions for themselves. He doesn't care where you came from; it's where you are going. He is the most unorthodox orthodox rabbi I know,"

Music

Good ...

Very good.

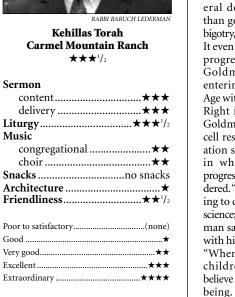
Excellent..

Kehillas Torah's Saturday service meets in a small conference room at the Double Tree Hotel in Carmel Mountain Ranch, Inside the room, a partition wall divided the eight men from the five women in attendance. The men wore traditional yarmulke and white-andblue prayer shawls. In the front of the room, a wooden box on a plastic folding table housed the Torah scrolls. Inside, the scrolls were held in a burgundy-velvet covering with goldembroidered decorations. Rabbi Lederman conducted the service from behind a plastic foldable table covered with a velvet-blue cloth embroidered in gold. The service, conducted in English and Hebrew, began with the reading of several Psalms. "We praise God with the Psalms, and then we profess our love for God. After we've been all buttered up to God, we pray to him," said Lederman. The climax of the service is when the Torah is brought out and read. Several men took turns reading the story of Jacob from Genesis. Lederman's message connected the text with the need to pass Jewish traditions on to the next generation. "It's like a football team. We can't focus on the Super Bowl; we have to focus on one game at a time, or we will lose the game," said Lederman. "These traditions have been handed down for centuries and we are the link in the chain to pass these traditions forward. We need to give them to our children. What happens after our children is not in our hands." Service ended with several prayers.

"I worry about the loss of the Jewish culture," said Julie Goldman. "More and more [Jewish] kids are marrying non-Jews. It makes me sad. We will start to lose our culture." Goldman views her Jewish faith primarily as a cultural heritage. "I believe in living a good life. It is the Jewish teachings that provide good values." Goldman recently moved to

> Kehillas from a Reform Synagogue. "We had grown tired of the Reform Synagogue we were attending, and we were looking for something deeper than that. We call Kehillas Torah home because of Rabbi Lederman. We fell in love with him."

"Religion in general does more bad than good. It leads to bigotry, hate, and death. It even stops scientific progress," said Mark Goldman. "We are entering a new Dark Age with the Religious Right in leadership." Goldman cited stemcell research and creation science as areas in which scientific progress was being hindered. "People are willing to die for creation science; it's nuts." Goldman says he struggles with his belief in God. "When I look at my children, I have to believe there is a higher being. Yet, if there is an omniscient, all-pow-



erful being, and if He loves us so much, why does He make us live like this? I don't think a just and loving God would permit what is going on in the world — Holocaust and the Middle East." Goldman still sees his faith shape how he lives. "I believe we are here to make the world a better place.'

I asked Rabbi Lederman what happened to a person after he dies. "After someone dies, they get buried," replied Lederman humorously. "A person who dies goes on to the next world. No one knows exactly what happens. Everyone starts by going to Gehinnom, a temporary place of purgatory where their sins and imperfections are cleansed. For some, this is a simple flicking off of dust. For others, their sin is a deep stain that is harder to cleanse. After this, there are different opinions, but we will bask in God's radiant presence and a lot of other cool stuff. As Jews, we don't think about this much; our emphasis is the here and now."

— Drew E. Goodmanson

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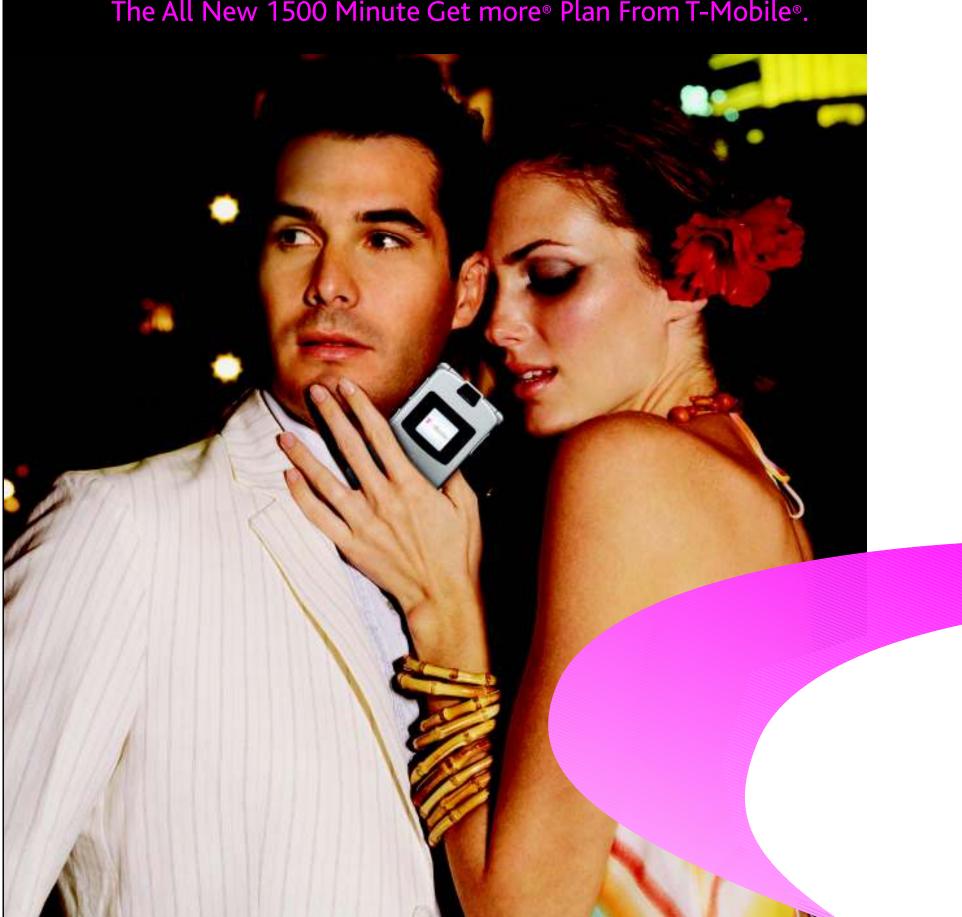
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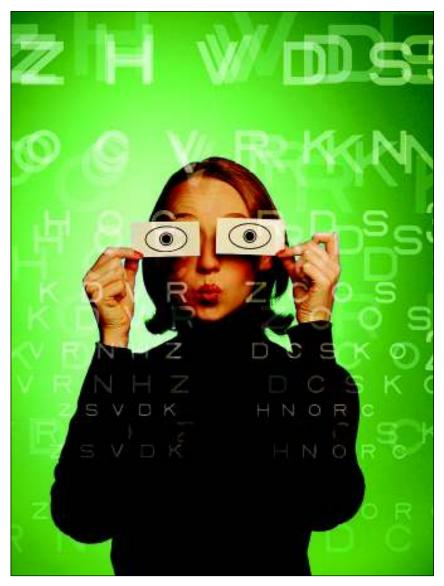


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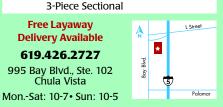
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-EVE KELLY

"It's a Marshmallow World" was the family favorite Christmas song of my childhood. Two of my brothers, each with a glass of eggnog in their hand, schmoozed out the lyrics. That was from our swinging '50s holiday album. Then there was a more traditional album with Pavarotti and the Vienna Boys Choir singing Christmas carols. Neither album was par-

ticularly good, but Christmas just wasn't Christmas without those recordings. Holiday music

was the hot topic at last week's girls' night out."It's hard to find holiday music that isn't cheesy," offered Bernice. "Our holiday selection is pretty lame, but the one that gets played all the time is Nat King Cole's Christmas Album [\$18.99 on Yahoo! Shopping]. But my hubby isn't a big fan of Nat, so we need a fresh influx of holiday songs in our home."

"We've never taken the time to collect good music," added Sarah. "We got a Harry Connick Jr. Christmas album from somewhere, which I don't like. I also need new stuff."

Eve had a mission: holiday music in a variety of genres for the Christian and non-Christian: something for everyone. When I was done, Sarah and Bernice would have a long list of holiday music to buy.

Phone calls went out to numerous friends — What's your favorite holiday CD or song? "Mahalia Sings Songs of Christmas [\$9.99 at Tower.com]," replied sister Cathy. "I love her stuff. Mahalia Jackson's a gospel singer, the album is all spirituals. I particularly like her 'No Room at the Inn' and 'Sweet Little Jesus Boy.' My family rolls its eyes when I put it on; they like more traditional hymns, but I love it."

"Ella Wishes You a Swinging Christmas [\$16 at Goldenrod.com] is my holiday pick," answered Nancy. "I love Ella. How can you not love Ella? 'What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?' is romantic; 'Let It Snow' is jazzy — the CD is

'The Promise of Ages: Christmas Collection by Taverner Concert and Choir [\$9.24 at StubooksAndMore.com] is a wonderful collection of medieval music,"

offered friend Meg. "Traditional European carols, some in German, Latin, English. Another beautiful CD I was given recently is Christmas with the Trapp Family Singers [\$8.89 at Stubooks.com]. It's an original recording of the family, just lovely.

I found it amusing that nobody was hesitating when I asked them what their favorite Christmas album was. Kind of like ice cream flavors, people know their favorite.

"I love bluegrass," said Bernice's mother Susan, "and Winter Solstice [\$11.50 at ModernRock.com] by John McCutcheon is great. I love his song 'Christmas in Detroit,' which is about poor people in Detroit and their Christmas. The song is a reminder for me during the holidays about those less fortunate. He also has a song called 'Christmas in the Trenches,' a true story about soldiers in World War I. The

"The song is a reminder for me during the holidays about those less fortunate."

soldiers called a truce on Christmas day and came out and exchanged gifts and sang songs. Then the next day they were supposed to kill each other. It's hard to kill somebody when you know his face. It's especially moving since we are military people.

"My other favorite CD," continued Susan, "is The Harry Simeone Chorale -The Little Drummer Boy [\$8.29 at Stubooks.com]. My father used to listen to it through the holidays, and now I listen to it. 'The Little Drummer Boy' song is my

"I love Bing Crosby's White Christmas album [\$5.98 on Amazon.com]," answered friend Chris. "For me, that will always be Christmas and family, and 'Faith of Our Fathers' brings tears to my eyes every time I hear it."

College chum Josh loves Jackson 5 — The Christmas Collection (\$11.51 at wzkbpower.com). "They've got a bunch of great Motown

versions of classics," he informed me, "but I like 'I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa

Frank, Bernice's husband, was a fan of the Notre Dame Glee Club singers. "We used to have the record as kids," he exclaimed, "called A-Caroling with the Notre Dame Glee Club, which my brother and I loved. I'm not even sure you can still buy it, but it was a great collection.'

I found an LP for \$15 on eBay, but could not find it at any retail site.

Friend Bill loves chant. "There's a CD called Christmas Gregorian Chant, sung by the Monastic Choir of the Abbey of Notre Dame de Fontgombault. If vou want serenity to descend on your home, pop this on, and your blood pressure immediately will go down. It's what I imagine heaven to be like, the peace and beauty. It's nice to change out the regular holiday favorites with something completely different.

No price was found for the CD, but the phone number for the monks who sell it here in the U.S. is 918-772-2454.

I asked several non-Christians their choice in holiday music.

Bernie, an atheist, is a music aficionado. "Every December, I go hear a live performance of Handel's Messiah," he said, "and only good productions of it."

Another friend, Carl, recommends the Messiah recording by English Concert and Choir and conducted by Trevor Pinnock.

Sue, a Jewish friend, said Chanukah was not a big thing in her family growing up. "I don't have any favorite Chanukah music," she replied, "but I asked a couple of my friends, and two mentioned A Taste of Chanukah [\$14.95 at JewishStore.com] as a nice CD. Of course, there's also Adam Sandler's 'The Chanukah Song,' which is more like a joke, but fun."

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- 1. Jackson 5
- 2. Mahalia Jackson
- 3. Bing Crosby

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Crasher

HOP HEADS

by Josh Board

hen I was invited to an "S & M" party in Clairemont, I didn't know what to expect. I imagined people snapping leather whips and wearing ball gags in their mouths.

Approaching the party, I could hear the music throughout the neighborhood. As I walked up, a boy of about 12 years old yelled to me from across the street. He held up a cell phone. "If you don't tell those guys to keep that noise down, I'm gonna call the cops. I also know that there are people drinking back there." I said, "I don't think it's against the law to drink if the people are over 21." The kid said, "I'm not 21, so I'm calling the cops." I laughed and walked into the back yard.

Several people were wearing "S & M Printing" shirts. I met Scott Graham, one of the owners of the company — S and M are the first initials of the two owners. Graham handed me a shirt. It has a picture of a girl in leather and reads, "No whips, no chains, just beer and printing."

Graham tells me they started printing part-time for local breweries. He explained that big breweries sell their used kegs to microbreweries,



labels to stick over the old labels. Their business grew, as did the partying. S & M scores beer cheap. There were six kegs here from the Coronado Brewing Company.

S & M got a permit for the band that was playing. They were so loud that when I asked someone the band's name, I thought he said, "Side Kick Lounge." When I asked a second time, it sounded like

shown the permit, and one of the officers asked that the music be turned down a bit and stopped by 10:00 p.m.

There was a bar set up in the back yard. The gal working it had a tip jar, and according

relief effort. When the bid on a long-sleeved shirt reached \$80, someone who realized it was one of the owners who had the highest bid yelled out, "Come on, guys! People are throwing up in his back yard, and he put on this incredible party. Why does he have the highest bid? Someone else bid on this shirt. Let's raise some money for a good cause." The shirt ended up going for over \$100.

The band had a soundman at the board. As he was turning knobs, we talked music. He once worked with local band Scoundrel. I told him I

heard one of the guys in Scoundrel had died, and he said, "Yeah, the bassist. He had cirrhosis of the liver."

There were complaints about there being no food, though there was a table of chips and snacks. Graham told me that the BBQ guy had flaked out, so he ended up ordering pizzas. I thought the delivery driver was going to be tackled when he walked into the back yard.

There was one guy walking around wearing a silk smoking jacket and sunglasses. He had two females with him, and someone asked if he was trying to be Hugh Hefner. I overheard a few people wish him a happy birthday.

There were people at the party from New Zealand, and we talked about various accents. Another guy who was from England had a slight accent. None of us could figure out why Madonna, who's from Michigan, had a British accent before she moved to

A girl who heard us talking said, "Are you talking about that skank Madonna? She's such a slut." This from someone wearing a half shirt, with a tattoo on her back and

"Are you talking about that skank Madonna? She's such a slut."

he said, "Psychic Hounds." I didn't ask a third time. I was told a band called the Booze Brothers had played earlier in

The police showed up around 8 p.m. They were

to a sign on the jar all the tips were going to Hurricane Katrina relief. When the band took a break, Graham got on the microphone and auctioned off shirts and other items, all proceeds to go to the Katrina

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a pierced nipple, who earlier told a guy that she and her friend would both "work him over" if they got enough alcohol in their systems.

One guy kept asking his friend if they could leave. I said, "Why the rush to get out of here?" He said, "This is a cool party, but we've been here for two hours. That's a long time to be at one place, dude. And we found out about another party in OB that's supposed to have a lot of hotties." His friend said, "There are hotties here, bro." The response: "Every one of them is married." They left seconds later.

I overheard Graham and the other owner of S & M talking about microbrews. I asked them why they liked microbrews more and got this detailed explanation about how beer is made and what makes it good. "We're 'hop heads.' We like 60 pounds of hops in beer."

A drunk guy leaving

the party came over to hug Graham and talk loud — two things drunk people think they're required to do. When the guy finished his hug, he stumbled and fell over a plant. Graham asked the woman with him if she was driving. She nodded.

I had a headache and was ready to leave by around 9 p.m. I overheard Graham arguing with the band. They were saying they wanted to play a little bit louder for the last 30 minutes of their set. He was pleading with them, saying that the cops told him they'd come back if it got too loud. After a few minutes of arguing, Graham gave in to the band, who sounded as if they had turned their amps up to 11. I heard them for a mile as I drove away. ■

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by Barbarella

Short People

Children have neither a past nor a future. Thus they enjoy the present — which seldom happens to us.

— Jean de La Bruyere

avid seems tense," said Ollie. I waited for him to collect his tea and change from the kid behind the counter before I responded.

Later, as though
recounting a scene
from a Freddy
Krueger nightmare,
Heather said, "That
head hung in our
backyard for a
week, just swinging
back and forth."

"So you noticed? I think he's really stressed. We have to move into some apartment downtown tomorrow, where we'll have to stay for at least a week while our floor is being fixed. We have tons of stuff to take care of before then, but today is Bella's birthday party, so we're going down to my mother's in Chula Vista.

David's afraid I'll never want to leave."

We reached Ollie's truck and I gave him a hug goodbye. He hopped in behind the wheel but, seeking his advice, I stood between him and the door. "David enjoys hanging out with my family, but he doesn't want to be there for six hours when he's got all this other stuff to accomplish before tomorrow," I said.

Ollie's brows moved closer together, conferring with each other like caterpillar kings. "You two need an exit strategy. You don't want this to turn into another Iraq," he

"But what if I do want to stay longer than David does?"

"Just remember — exit strategy. Make one before you head down there and all will be well." Ollie shut his door, signed off with a half-wave, half-salute, and drove away. I considered these sage words from my take-no-bullshit friend while I made my way into the elevator and then down the long hallway to our home, where I would notify my busy life partner that it was time to go.

We arrived an hour before the party was scheduled to begin, a morsel of information I withheld from David as we gathered our things from my dirt-encrusted Corolla in front of my mother's house.

"Wait a minute," David said, his voice laden with trepidation. I stood impatiently and watched as his gaze floated from the minivan in the driveway to the two SUVs parked nearby. "There are going to be a whole bunch of kids here, aren't there."

"Duh. Two-year-old's birthday party. What did you expect?"

Responding to my tone of annoyance, David explained. "It's fine, I don't mind. It's just that I have been so busy with other things that I forgot to mentally prepare myself to be surrounded by children."

"Are you prepared now? Let's go," I said, already taking quick strides toward the front door.

Once inside, I scooped my nephew Brian into my arms and kissed his cherubic cheek. I followed the melodic sound of laughter into the kitchen and found Jane, Heather, and Mom poking fun at my mother's frosting-painted version of Dora the Explorer, the bilingual cartoon star. I remembered my fourth birthday, when Mom had made a perfect replica of my favorite cartoon character, Bugs Bunny.

"Don't you think that's going to frighten the children?" Mom asked now, gesturing toward the blend of colors that formed Frankenstein's version of Dora. She explained that when dressing the cake at three in the morning, she didn't have the right tools for the frosting job and had to improvise.

"I'm sure they won't care," said Heather.

"It's cake. It contains sugar. They'll love it."

There had been a Dora piñata at my nephew Liam's birthday party. Heather and I had watched in horror as the children decapitated their television friend. Later, as though recounting a scene from a Freddy Krueger nightmare, Heather said, "That head hung in our backyard for a week, just swinging back and forth." Now I prepared to witness the same kind of atrocity — a room full of sugar-craving Chuckys would surely attack this girl-cake with fervor, the perversity of which had never entered my four-year-old mind as I licked the remnants of Bugs Bunny from my fingers so many years ago.

A few minutes later, my sister Jane caught up with me in the dining room, where I was examining the gift bags — pink with a pattern of white hearts — for the 22 children soon to arrive.

"I know, I know, it's sexist, but they're going to like it," Jane said. It took me a moment to realize she was speaking about the bags' contents — half of them contained toy race cars and the other half held miniature makeup kits.

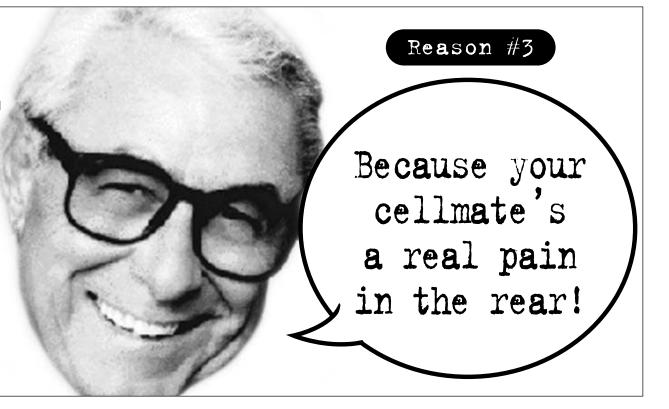
"I'm not judging, Jane," I assured her.

"When I was that age, I know I'd have preferred the makeup to the car. Actually, I kind of want one now." Jane laughed, on the assumption I was kidding, so I quashed my hopes of walking

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Children began to arrive in clusters, each group beelining straight for the backyard, where they would climb into the giant, inflatable Dora bouncy thing set up on the grass. Grown-ups sat in the chairs that had been lined up to form a barricade between the patio and the pool. Originally, Jane had wanted to put up chicken wire, and had even purchased it; the wire sat stacked and unused beside the house, because someone had come up with the not-as-institutional-feeling chair idea. Squeals of delight echoed throughout the yard as the kids chased each other in and out of the bouncy thing.

"Doesn't all this chaos make you want to have kids?" Simon asked me.

My initial reaction was to laugh. "Uh, no. But I'm happy my sisters did. That way, I can experience some of the fun and then go home."

"What was it you said? 'When I'm bored with my life, I'll think about having kids?' That was funny,"

remembered Simon.

"That was actually my friend Nancy's comeback for when people pestered her about when she was going to start breeding," I said. "But now David and I have decided that when we're bored with our lives, we're going to get a dog." Simon laughed, and I felt comfortable in the knowledge that he did not judge me for, nor did he feel judged by, my jokes — I see this as an indication of a man who harbors no doubts about his choice to become a daddy, which is obvious when I watch him interact with Bella.

I sometimes fear that the young parents in my life (my sisters and a growing number of friends) mistakenly assume that childless-by-choice people like me hold them in judgment. Kids are great for people who want them.

desire to be a mother. This does not mean that I look down on the women who happily make that choice. Just as some young mothers may envy my "freedom" (e.g., the ability to fly to New York

I like my life. I have no

to see a Broadway show without a second thought), I can appreciate the joy that their children bring, and I respect them for their decision to procreate. After all, if my sisters had not chosen to become mothers, I wouldn't have Liam, Bella, and Brian, three little people I love dearly and for whom I am grateful.

Bella ran by, a blur of black velvet and blue sparkles, a magical way to be snapped from my reverie. Three hours had gone by so fast, but both David and I felt the pressure of the tasks that awaited us at home.

"Let's wait until they do the cake," I said. "I want a piece of Dora." Children emptied out of the huge bouncy thing in the backyard and marched dutifully into the living room when "Cake!" was announced. I smiled to myself at the idea of emptying one likeness of Dora just to fill up with another.

I couldn't see the candles through the frenzy of short people huddled around the sugar source, which is

why it took me a moment to catch on that after Bella had blown out her candles they were re-lit so that each child had a chance to do the same. Each spit-filled blow further diminished my desire for cake. That must be what I did to Bugs, I thought. Oh, to be a child again and to not worry about something like a little spittle-filled frosting.

I grabbed a chocolatechip cookie from the cupboard to sate my sweet craving and, with regret, implemented our exit strategy, which began with a series of hugs and kisses from "An Baba." ■



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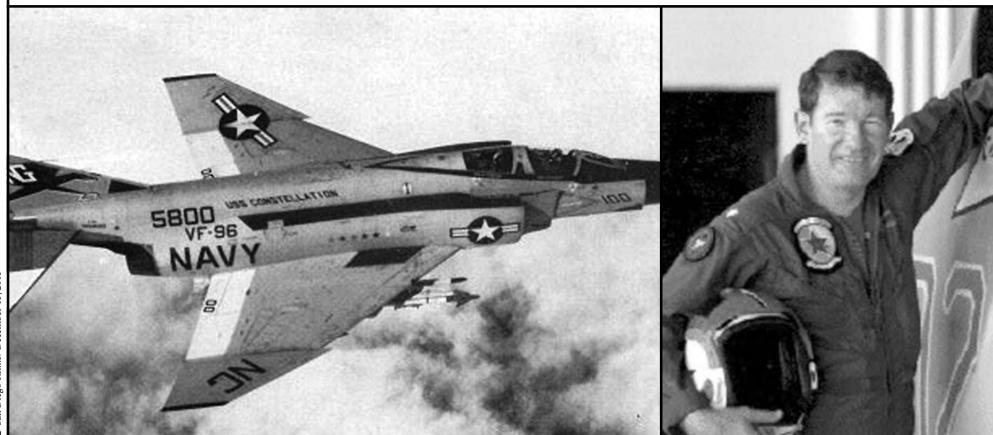
When Duke Was Ling

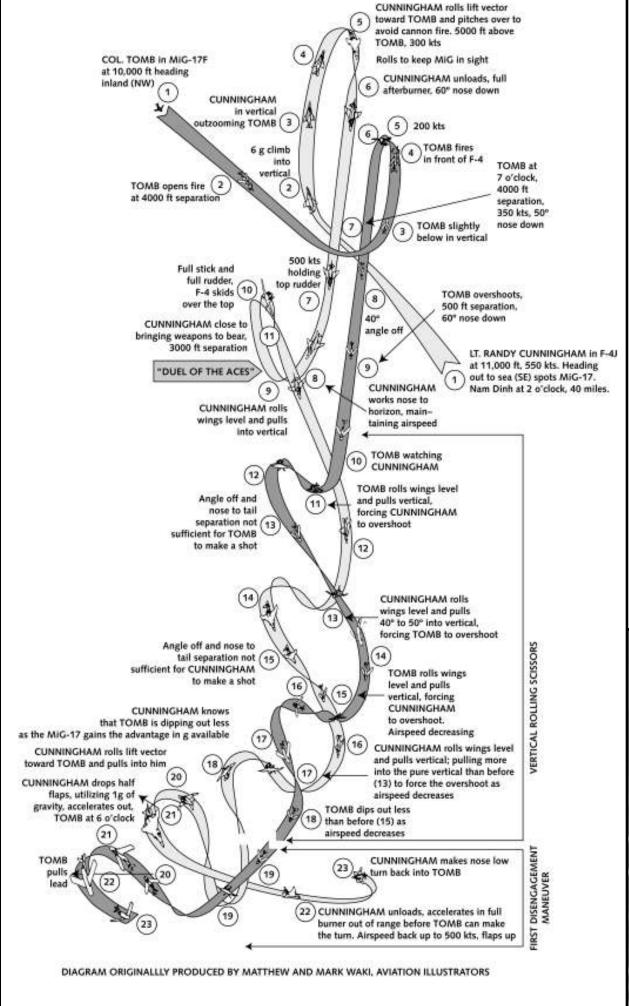
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE READER ON MARCH 29, 1984.

hough President Nixon hadn't yet ordered the resumption of heavy bombing in the north, the B-52s that were hitting Laos had had increasing numbers of MiG interceptors to contend with, and the Navy was being sent in to assess the MiG strength at Quan Lang. But as everyone knew, they were really being sent in to destroy the airfield under the pretense of taking pictures of it. The rules of engagement at that time wouldn't allow bombs to be dropped or MiGs to be fired upon over North Vietnam unless the American planes were attacked first.

The catapult officer signaled for full afterburner, and Cunningham shoved his throttle forward, dumping fuel into his tailpipes and igniting it for extra thrust. In response to the catapult officer's salute, Cunningham flipped him the finger, in the irreverent tradition of fighter pilots. He and Driscoll and everybody else in the group knew that they'd be taking surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) and anti-aircraft artillery (AAA) fire and, in the cockeyed jargon of the war, they'd be retaliating with a "protective reaction strike." With orange flames roaring out of the Phantom's tailpipes, the hold-back cable was released, and in two seconds Cunningham and Driscoll were accelerating past 168 knots and climbing.

After about 30 minutes the formation of 35 aircraft was vectoring in on the airfield. SAMs and the AAA started coming up when the formation was 15 miles from target. The planes regrouped into sections to attack from three sep-





arate directions, and Cunningham and his wingman in the other Phantom, Brian Grant, had what they considered a fighter's dream job; they screamed in low over the field to search for MiGs taking off. There were none. Then, as the thousand-pound bombs started falling from the A-7 Corsairs, the two F-4s took up a position north of the action, to try to intercept any MiGs coming down from other airfields.

But Cunningham and Grant got separated when they realized they'd been pincered between two SAM sites that eventually fired off 18 of the "flying telephone poles" at them. As Cunningham's electronic warning gear indicated a locked-on SAM, he called to his wingman, "Brian, you're on your own!" and then broke hard down to the right. The missile followed. He then pulled up into an eight-G climb, but the missile couldn't make



the same turn, and it exploded far below him.

The climb had bled off precious speed, so as more SAMs started up, Cunningham nosed over at 15,000 feet, jammed the throttle full forward to go into afterburner, and headed straight down. To the north he and Driscoll spotted the glint of two MiG-21s in afterburner, about four miles away. It had been 22 months since a MiG had been shot down, and few had even been encountered during that time, so with relish Cunningham accelerated to 650 knots and pulled in behind them. The leader was about 500 feet above a canyon, and his wingman was back and to the right a little higher. Cunningham broadcast his squadron's call sign and the code for MiG-21s: "Showtime! Bandits, blue bandits, north of the field!"

Barely 200 feet off

the ground and going 650 knots, Cunningham and Driscoll lined up on the leader and got a radar fix for their Sparrow missiles. Driscoll called, "He's locked up on radar, in range, shoot, shoot, shoot!" But at the last second Cunningham reached up to the instrument panel and pushed a toggle switch down from "radar" to "heat," opting for the heat-seeking Sidewinder rather than the radarguided Sparrow. In training, Cunningham had had bad luck with the Sparrow; at low altitudes, radar noise often interfered with the missile's guidance system, and throughout the entire war the missile would attain a kill factor of only about 7 percent. So with the Sidewinder selected, and the MiG in afterburner, Cunningham got the strong aural tone in his earphones that indicat-

ed the heat-seeker was locked on to target. He squeezed the red trigger on the handle of his joystick and called, "Fox two," the code for firing a Sidewinder. But just then the MiG dodged hard to the right, curling into a high-G turn,

MiG's wingman abandoning his leader. The F-4 was upside-down at 600 knots, and as Cunningham executed a quick aileron roll and came right-side up, he was just 40 degrees off dead center of the MiG's tail and closing. He got

"The first kill I had was against the MiG-21, and I could see the guy in the airplane when I went over him, as he died. I could see him almost thrashing around in the cockpit."

one too tight for the missile to follow. Still at tree-top level, Cunningham did a barrel roll and followed the more maneuverable MiG, which was losing speed. He glanced away long enough to see the

a good aural tone just as the delta-wing MiG began to level off, and he squeezed the trigger while calling, "Fox two." The missile flew up the MiG's tailpipe just as the wings leveled. It exploded into pieces

and, as the Phantom zoomed over the flaming debris, Cunningham caught a quick glimpse of the cockpit section. Through the MiG's canopy the pilot was clearly convulsed with horror before tumbling into the ground.

Driscoll let out the

war whoop that inaugurated a year of feast for naval aviators. By December of 1972, the last month of any significant action over North Vietnam by American pilots, the Navy had shot down 24 MiGs in air-to-air combat, while losing only 2 fighters to MiGs. But the tumultuous reception given Cunningham and Driscoll when they landed on the Constellation that January afternoon was just a little sweeter than those that followed for each succeeding "MiG killer" on all five aircraft carriers in Task Force 77. Cunningham and

extension, the 5000man crew — had gotten the first MiG in the second part of what came to be known as two separate air wars over North Vietnam. The first of those two wars had run from the summer of 1965 to the fall of 1968, and both the Navy and the Air Force matched up poorly against the MiGs. (The Navy lost 7 fighters in aerial combat during that period and shot down just over 30 MiGs; many more Navy planes were lost to SAMs.) This second part of the air war, everyone now supposed, was going to be different.

Driscoll — and by

That night aboard the Connie all the squadron commanders organized a party to celebrate Cunningham's and Driscoll's victory. Cunningham was having a fine time retelling the story, using his





hands — right for the MiG, left for the Phantom — and recounting the fight. Then a pilot asked innocently, "What's it feel like to kill another human being?" The question struck to the bone. Cunningham didn't answer; immediately he returned to his room. As he relates in Fox Two, his recently published book about his Vietnam experiences, "As I interrogated myself, a sickening feeling dug at my stomach. Dropping bombs for a year had not bothered me. Everything was so far removed when the 500-pounders went off in the jungle below, almost like bombing practice in the desert. But this was different. I observed another human being die because of me. I watched his twisted machine disintegrate, taking him to a horrible death, but at the time I guess my defense mechanisms allowed me to put it out of my mind. Now, after the excitement had died down, I was confronted with it point-blank as I tried to make excuses for myself, saying it was in the line

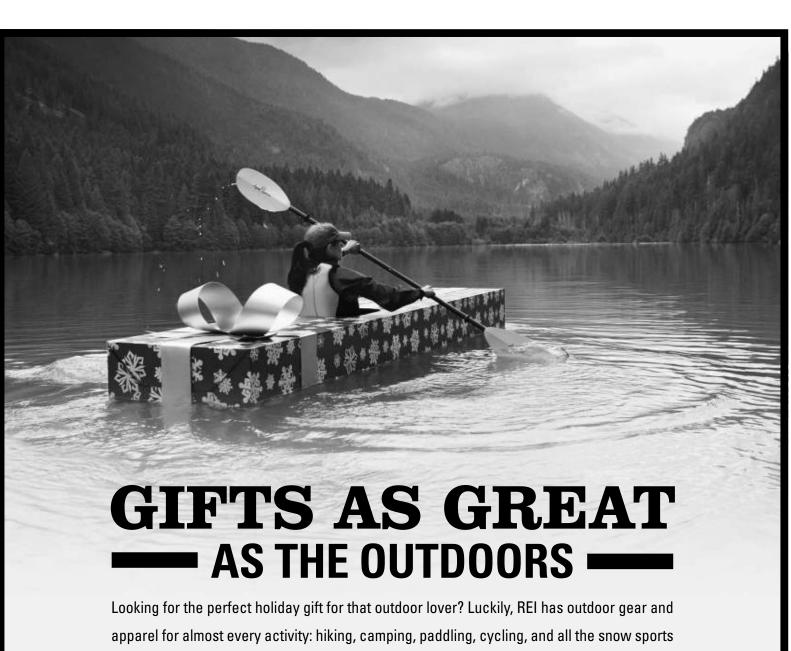
Cunningham visited the chaplain that night, confessing his feelings of doubt only after receiving assurances that the conversation would remain confidential. But the next day he was confronted by his squadron skipper, who'd received a full briefing from the chaplain. Cunningham found himself insisting that if the situation arose again, he could definitely pull the trigger without hesitation, and in the next four months he proved good to his word. He and Bill Driscoll went on to notch a total of five confirmed enemy kills and to earn the unofficial designation of "aces"; in fact, they became the

of duty...."

only Navy aces of the Vietnam War.

On a soft couch in his home in Mira Mesa, not far from Naval Air Station Miramar where he's stationed, Commander Randy "Duke" Cunningham is being cuddled by his five-year-old daughter, April. One of two daughters from his second marriage, she presses against the wide cluster of decorations on his

chest and, wrapping her arms around his ruddy, mobile, beaming face, flattens the ribbons that signify Cunningham's status as the most highly decorated Navy pilot of the Vietnam War. Beneath her rest the Navy Cross, 2 Silver Stars, 15 Air Medals, various commendation medals, a Purple Heart, and the South Vietnamese Medal of Honor and Cross of Gallantry. "Okay honey, why don't you let Daddy have some privacy." But as April untangles herself from him and happily starts away, he grabs her. "Don't think Daddy doesn't love you, honey. Nothing I ask of you would ever be because I didn't love you." He



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stares tenderly into her face for a moment, solicitous in that unique way of fathers who have killed in war. I'd seen such intense expressions of affection from another decorated aviator once, someone I hadn't thought about for years. He was the father of one of my elementary school friends, and he'd been a bomber pilot in World War II. Jimmy Johnson had been telling me his father's war stories for months; he'd even dug out some of the medals and ribbons stashed under a bench. Then one day his father was home and Jimmy asked him to tell us about the time he parachuted out of his damaged bomber. Mr. Johnson had grabbed his son the same way Cunningham now grabbed his daughter. "It's nothing to be proud of," he'd said softly, staring hard at my friend. "It's nothing to be *proud*



Cunningham (gesturing) and Driscoll (behind him) recounting the Col. Tomb battle, U.S.S. Constellation, May 10, 1972

of." Then he hugged his son in a way I didn't see again until that afternoon in Cunningham's house.

During our conversation, just after Cunningham had enthusiastically recounted a long dogfight he'd won against the infamous North Vietnamese ace known to the Americans as "Colonel Tomb," I asked him the same question that had stunned him that night on the *Constellation*. His face drained, and he sat back down, elbows on

his knees. "The first kill I had was against the MiG-21, and I could see the guy in the airplane when I went over him, as he died. I could see him almost thrashing around in the cockpit. The explosion had severed his tail, and the rest of the plane tumbled end over end. He couldn't punch out. Now that — if I close my eyes, mentally I can still see that. And I dream about it once in a while. Equate it to — if you were a Marine on the ground, and you

saw someone way up on a mountain, and you shot him and you just saw something drop. It probably wouldn't bother you as much as going up to that same individual and, looking him in the eye, you stick a knife in him.... Now if I hadn't ever seen this guy, this flash in the cockpit, it probably wouldn't have bothered me. I knew I could do it again, it just bothered me a little more than I thought it would, knowing I had taken another human life."

Cunningham had killed a lot of people with bombs, from afar. I asked him if the act of killing bothered him less each time. "No. But I think mentally you can do anything on this earth that you really set your mind to. And what I'd do, if I'd start to think about it, I'd try to change my mind, my thought processes. I wouldn't allow myself to dwell on it."

The MiG killers, as they refer to themselves, were the only Navy aviators who dealt death at close quarters, and Cunningham is one of the few still in the Navy. Historically, the fighter aces from any war (there were more than 300 Navy aces in WWII) almost never make it to the top of the military structure. Cunningham's boss, Commander Nick Criss, the commanding officer of fighter squadron VF-126, who talks as rapidly as

Cunningham talks slowly, explains: "The personality type that does well in combat is probably a little less manageable than the kind of guy who goes along with all the wickets all the way. It takes the kind of guy to throw himself in there to get those kills. You can't be timid at all. But when peace breaks out, all these little bureaucrats who've been hiding under the rocks resurface...and start reestablishing all the rules that everybody was violating for years and years during the war. And the kind of personality that can kill MiGs runs right smack against that.... And I know almost all the MiG killers, to a man, ran into big trouble after the war was over."

Curt Dose, who along with his radar intercept officer Jim McDivitt shot down a MiG on May 10, 1972, the same day



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Cunningham and Driscoll got their last three MiGs and became aces, now runs a local retail computer store. "It's true," says Dose, in agreement with Nick Criss. "We were flying a hundred hours a

month during the war, and when we came back [after the war], we were flying only eight or ten hours a month in F-14s, which is just about enough to scare you to death every time you go up."

Cunningham also had his share of postwar troubles with the resurfaced Navy bureaucracy, but back in the spring of 1972, as the air war intensified over North Vietnam, those future difficulties were inconceivable to the 30-yearold warrior.

Fighter pilots have a saying about aerial combat tactics in this supersonic age: The circles are bigger but the geometry is the same. Which means that once two

planes are locked in close combat, the only dictum from World War I that doesn't still apply is the one about making sure that you take off your spurs before strapping into the cockpit. But on

May 8, 1972, as the bombs rained down in sheets over North Vietnam, Cunningham and Driscoll learned that sometimes even the circles aren't all that much bigger than they used to be.

For several days now, MiGs had been coming up to hassle the bombers that were trying to blunt a massive North Vietnamese offensive. The MiG tactics were usually designed to effect a fast approach on a bomber group, preferably from below, then to shoot a missile or strafe the bombers with cannon fire before withdrawing. For nearly four months, since Cunningham and Driscoll had got their first MiG, no others had been shot down. Then, on May 6, four MiGs were shot down by four Navy Phantoms. The MiG pilots were starting to engage in aerial combat, and on May 8, just as Cunningham and his wingman Brian Grant had separated to form combat spread (about a mile abeam of each other), Cunningham saw a MiG-17 come screaming up through the cloud layer and begin firing its cannons at Grant's Phantom. Cunningham radioed for Grant to drop the extra fuel tank attached to the Phantom's belly in order to accelerate and outrun the MiG. The tank fell away and

Grant gave full throttle. "Brian, I'm high at your nine o'clock," called Cunningham. "Don't push negative Gs or you'll fly through his BBs." Until this point in the war, American pilots had been told that the MiG-17s only had two cannons under the belly and one under the nose. And the MiG-17, unlike the MiG-21, wasn't supposed to carry the Atoll heat-seeking missile. But as Cunningham tried to maneuver in

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behind the MiG that was now on the tail of his wingman, he saw the flash of an Atoll being

"Brian, Atoll! Break port!"

The Phantom turned hard; the missile couldn't follow. But the MiG cut across the circle of Grant's turn and kept firing its cannon. Cunningham was still trying to get behind the MiG when he heard the voice of Driscoll, his radar intercept officer, come over his earphones. "Duke, look up!" Two more MiG-17s. Cunningham saw them pass just over his canopy going the opposite direction, but he figured that by the time they got turned around, the MiG on Grant's tail would be a goner. Though his aural tone didn't indicate a lockon, Cunningham fired a Sidewinder anyway. It missed, but it was enough to make the MiG break off and run. But just as Cunningham started to follow it, Driscoll spotted the two MiGs already turned around and shooting their cannons. Suddenly, for Cunningham and Driscoll, the circle was deadly small. Driscoll had seen the two planes (which had been only about 4000 feet apart when they passed the Phantom) bank toward each other and complete their turns without their flight paths overlapping — a maneuver the Phantoms could never have duplicated.

Cunningham locked in on the running MiG, and his Sidewinder shot was perfect. The MiG exploded. But in an instant his emotions changed from rage to stark fear. Two other MiGs were now on his tail and sending tracer bullets past his canopy. Cunningham pulled hard to port in an effort to draw the MiGs in front of his wingman

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Grant, and for a brief instant he got a good look at the North Vietnamese pilot. The American aviators called their adversaries "Gomers," after the hapless TV character Gomer Pyle. Cunningham says he saw the pilot "...with his beady little Gomer eyes, Gomer hat, Gomer goggles, and Gomer scarf." Every maneuver he tried was matched. The G-suit around his belly and thighs expanded and forced the blood to stay up in his chest and brain as he rolled over into a noselow, 12-G turn, popping rivets and breaking flap hinges on the overstressed jet. But the MiGs stayed with him. Finally, as a last resort he dropped down into the clouds, lit the afterburner, and radioed Grant he'd come out heading into the sun. He angled back up into the clear and Grant was behind him and, as the MiGs popped up, the wingman fell in behind them. Immediately the

MiGs dipped back down into the cloud cover. Grant lost them. They disappeared.

Duke Cunningham took his nickname from his idol, John Wayne. But he assumed "Duke" only after his second MiG kill; prior to that, Cunningham had been known as "Yank." Knowing that the North Vietnamese monitored American radio transmissions, Cunningham's superiors figured that "Yank" was recognized as having shot down two MiGs. It would be prudent for him to change his name. Duke was a natural alternative.

Cunningham was born in Los Angeles, but had been raised since the age of 12 in the tiny farming community of Shelbina, Missouri. He describes the area as "about as redneck as you could get." After graduating with a physical education degree from the University of Missouri in 1964, Cunningham got his master's in education and went on to become a successful high school and college swimming coach. Yet he'd always wanted to fly, and come 1967, the redneck in him knew just what to do. At the relatively ripe age of 25, he applied for the necessary waiver and was accepted into the Navy.

The pilots in year group '67 found themselves in crowded quarters. The Navy had been losing a lot of planes and people over North Vietnam, and it needed replacements. For this reason, in 1967 it trained 1800 pilots, nearly double what it had been training, and triple what it is now training. "It's a strange year group," says 38year-old Nick Criss, who is the same rank as Cunningham but four years younger and his commanding officer. "Sixty-seven was the worst year for Navy attrition over Vietnam, but we were the most gung-ho class they'd

had in years. We wanted to go to war.... The Navy had projected the loss rates out and figured that if we kept losing pilots like we had been, we needed to train twice as many. But then as soon as they got us in the pipeline, Johnson knocked off the air war up north and we didn't have any attrition; so all these guys lived, basically."

The competition for advancement within year group '67 was fierce for many years after the war because it was so crowded. But that crowding wasn't all a result of President Johnson's 1968 bombing halt. When the air war resumed in 1972, the Navy's attrition level was still far below what it had been. And much of the credit for this goes to a Navy captain named Frank Ault.

In the mid-'60s the Navy turned to Ault, an aviator, and assigned him the task of finding out why the Navy was losing so many aircraft over Vietnam. Ault knew he would never make admiral, so there was no need to be politic. He laid the truth bare: Navy pilots were being trained to see dog-fighting as passé. F-4 fighter crews now thought of themselves as interceptors, trained to shoot down bombers while flying straight and level at .9 mach. The age of the dogfight, according to the military's theorists and contractors, ended in Korea. In the late '50s and early '60s, the Navy as well as the Air Force had begun placing emphasis on the use of tactical nuclear weapons, to the exclusion of conventional warfare. That was why, Ault explained, the Navy's F-4 Phantom was built to drop bombs and fire missiles and had no mounted guns of any type. That was also why the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, commissioned in April of 1961, found itself with too little storage space for conventional

bombs and missiles

when it went to

Vietnam.

The Ault report precipitated a revitalized program of Naval fighter training. Out of it came improved missiles and the realization that dogfighting was, in fact, an important part of any air war. The establishment of Top Gun, the Naval Fighter Weapons School at Miramar, and the idea that aerial-combat maneuvering should be practiced against dissimilar aircraft whose flight characteristics closely resembled those of MiGs, completely transformed Navalfighter-training philosophies. By the time Cunningham's squadron went on its combat cruise in 1969, the pilots and their radar intercept officers had practiced aerial combat against Air Force F-106 Delta Darts and Navy A-4 Skyhawks, and some of them had gone through Top Gun's intensive sixweek course. Though the Navy Phantoms were at a disadvantage













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because they didn't have guns and were required to carry an extra 5000 pounds of fuel to cover the long distances between the carrier (which was 60 or 70 miles offshore) and the target, the fighter pilots were confident that year group '67 was going to stay overcrowded.

* * * About the same time in May that Cunningham and Driscoll were shooting down their second MiG, a letter arrived aboard the Constellation from Cunningham's wife. She'd been seeing another man and decided the marriage was hopeless. A couple of days later, as he taxied the Phantom onto the catapult, his ebbing marriage was just one more thing for Cunningham to put out of his mind. His jet was loaded with two Sparrows, four Sidewinders, and six Rockeye cluster bombs. The mission was a large-scale strike against the rail yards in the port city of Haiphong. It was May 10, 1972, and already that day one MiG had been shot down by Lt. Curt Dose of Cunningham's sister squadron. It was a day in which the Navy would shoot down eight MiGs altogether, the Air Force would get three, and Cunningham and Driscoll would return to the ship as aces and nominees for the Medal of Honor. As the airplane lurched from the deck and started its climb, Cunningham had no difficulty making sure that the farthest thing

It was his 300th combat mission and, as he eased up to a tanker to take on fuel before slipping into formation with 39 other planes, Cunningham couldn't have known it would be his last. Fifteen minutes

from his mind was his

wife and son.

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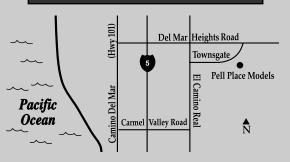
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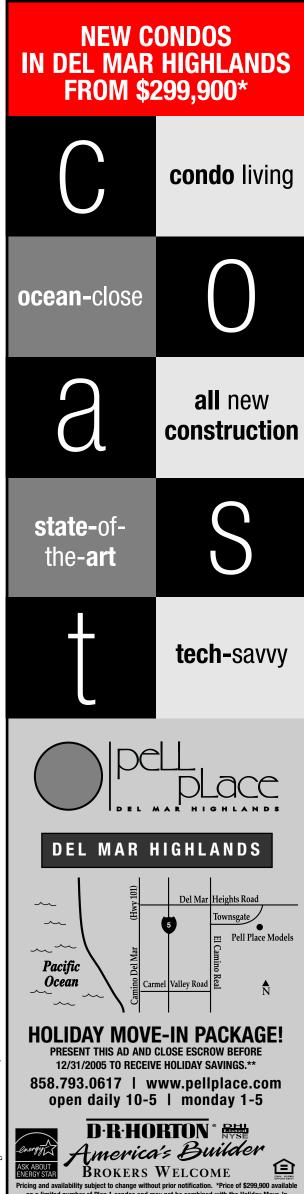
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later they were flying over the lush delta of the Red River, and Driscoll was saying what a shame it was that such a beautiful country had to be bombed. The A-6s and A-7s quickly destroyed the primary target, so Cunningham, Driscoll, their wingman, Brian Grant, and his radar intercept officer, Jerry "Sea Cow" Sullivan, were ordered to attack a large supply area beside the rail yard. The two Phantoms pulled closely together into fighting wing, rolled over, and streaked low toward a long brick building, over which they released their bombs.

Cunningham was looking back at the damage they'd wrought when Grant suddenly yelled that two MiG-17s were on Cunningham's tail and shooting. Cunningham swung left and saw the muzzle flashes of a MiG's cannon, noting that the MiG was traveling at great speed. Knowing that most of the MiGs didn't have hydraulicassisted controls so that at high speed it was very difficult for the North Vietnamese pilots to move their control sticks, Cunningham darted hard into the MiG. This tactic was usually ill advised, but sure enough, the pilot couldn't readjust his course; the MiG shot over the Phantom, and Cunningham turned and lined it up. The Sidewinder performed its fatal function, and the MiG plummeted to earth in pieces.

By this time — only 15 seconds after the Americans had dropped their bombs — two more MiGs had fastened on to Grant's tail. Both he and Cunningham performed disengagement maneuvers and ended up in the clear. They then went vertical, pitched over at 15,000

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feet, and headed back for more. Another MiG was shot down by a squadron-mate, its North Vietnamese pilot ejecting as his "flying gas tank" exploded in flames. Eight MiG-17s below them now took up a formation known as a "defensive wheel." (This tactic ensures that if an aggressor is foolish enough to fly into the formation there will always be a MiG on his tail.) Yet to the amazement of Cunningham and Grant, three Phantoms were mingled into the wheel, including their executive officer. All three were flying slowly, about 350 knots, right where the MiGs wanted them. Grant flew cover while Cunningham rolled in behind the MiGs that surrounded the executive officer, who was turning left. There was a MiG-17 a half-mile behind the officer's Phantom, a MiG-21 a little farther back, and another MiG-17 below, flying wing. The real threat came from the MiG below, which the officer apparently didn't see and which Cunningham thought was about to turn and open up with its cannon. But if Cunningham fired a Sidewinder, it might have tracked into the Phantom, so he radioed for the executive officer to jerk hard to the right, out of the missile's path. But the Phantom kept on the same heading.

Just then Driscoll warned of two MiG-17s coming up directly behind, and two MiG-19s dropping down on them from above, cannons blasting. Cunningham reversed direction momentarily and the 19s passed below him. Going now at about 550 knots, he stayed out of range of the MiG-17s at his rear. Finally the executive officer broke right, and Cunningham fired a

Sidewinder at the MiG that had been flying wing on him. The radio intercept officer in the executive officer's Phantom looked over and saw that MiG for the first time just as it exploded and the pilot ejected. Cunningham had to dodge the parachute as he streaked by.

Just then, as their second MiG of the day went down, four MiG-21s rolled in from above toward Cunningham and Driscoll. Cunningham

turned, putting them perpendicular to his flight path and making himself a difficult target. He saw one of his squadron pilots get his own second MiG of the day (the squadron bagged six in all) as Cunningham headed the Phantom east toward home. It had been about two minutes since they'd dropped their bombs near the rail yard.

In those few quick instants, Cunningham

had been an emotional pinball, with each one of a succession of feelings sharpened. He described it later as feeling as though he were schizophrenic with seven different personalities, each vying for



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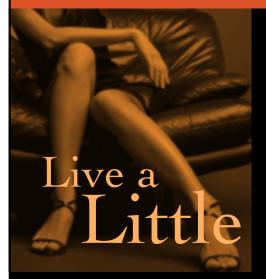
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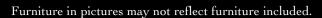
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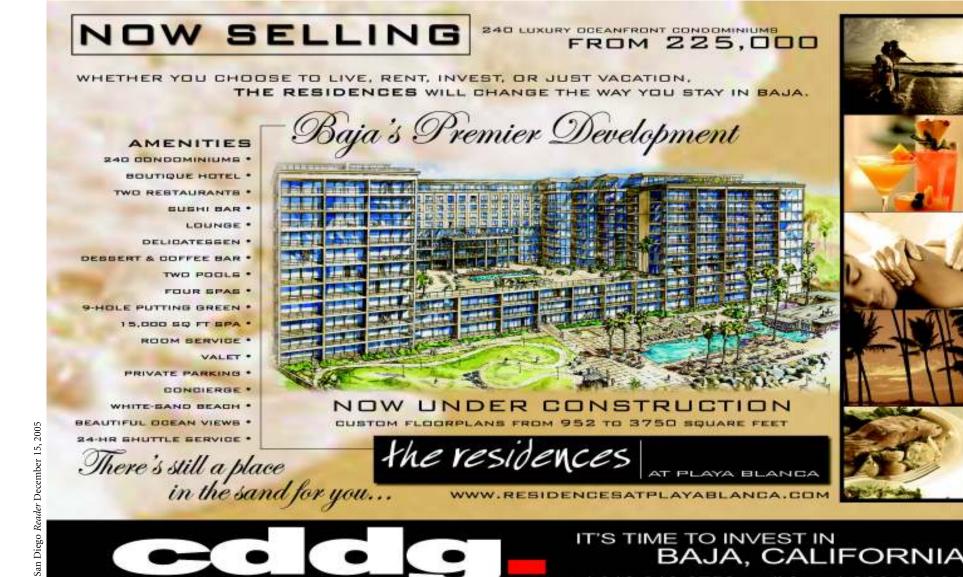
supremacy at the same time. "You've got adrenaline, love, fear, hate all these things going through your system. And it's cyclic. For a second it's anger, your fangs are out and it's *kill* — blood rage *kill*. And then all of a sudden you see somebody coming for you and it's a flash of fear — but vou can't let it enter in — and then it's react.... After all this is over, it is such a tremendous rush, a tremendous relief.... And then bang! Here comes somebody else after you."

Bang! Racing back toward the North Vietnamese coast, Cunningham and Driscoll spotted a MiG-17 headed straight at them. In the cockpit (they found out later via intelligence channels) was the infamous "Colonel Tomb," the leading North Vietnamese ace who

had shot down 13 American planes. [Editor's note: According to several sources, Colonel Tomb, also called Colonel Toon, was a myth. Some attribute him to American pilots' imagination. Wikipedia says: "In the years following the war, American military officers visiting Vietnam have intimated that some of their hosts admitted that Toon/Tomb was a longstanding, successful fabrication."] For a headon situation, the Phantoms had trained to pass as closely as possible to the tighter-turning plane in order to give it the least amount of advantage in competing for tail position. But as the jets passed each other, Cunningham had to maneuver away from the tracers spewing out of the nose cannon of the MiG. He pulled straight up, thinking that the MiG would

either keep running or go into a horizontal turn. But Cunningham and Driscoll were shocked to see that the MiG had pulled up into the vertical with them, and the two planes were canopy-to-canopy about 100 yards apart. It was the initial move in an extraordinarily long and complex aerial chess match; in the four and one-half minutes it took to survive it (most dogfights last less than 30 seconds), every detail engraved itself on his memory. "I could see a Gomer leather helmet, Gomer goggles, Gomer scarf...and his intent Gomer expression," Cunningham writes in his book about the air war. "I began to feel numb. My stomach grabbed at me in knots. There was no fear in this guy's eyes as we zoomed some 8000 feet straight up."

Cunningham thrust the throttle into after-





burner and started to out-climb the MiG ace. This was a mistake. As he came over the top of the climb, the still-vertical MiG lined him up in his sights, and Cunningham had to roll away quickly to the side. Again the MiG pulled in right behind him.

Cunningham accelerated downward and when the MiG followed, he pulled up sharply, rolled, and then settled in above and behind the descending MiG. But he was too close and at an improper angle for a Sidewinder shot. As he pressed over and down, the MiG pulled the same maneuver as Cunningham. It rose, letting the Phantom overshoot, rolled over and dropped to the rear. As the MiG nosed over, Cunningham pulled up and turned sharply, accelerating to 600 knots and running out of range. But the MiG cut across Cunningham's circle. Cunningham then leveled his wings and pulled up into the vertical again. The MiG followed. Once more the two of them were canopy-to-canopy until the Phantom pulled ahead and arced over the climbing MiG, which began firing its cannon. They dropped back down and repeated the same series of maneuvers, trading the advantage back and forth, while Driscoll squirmed all over the backseat, trying to keep watch on the wily MiG.

For the third time the two fighters met head-on, and out of this engagement Cunningham drew his primary dictum of fighter tactics: cheat. He let the MiG start to pull into the vertical again, but instead of climbing with him, Cunningham threw out his speed brakes, dropped his flaps, and went to full idle on the throttle. The MiG shot up, and

Cunningham pulled up right behind him, adjusting the stick and throttle with feather precision as the Phantom inched toward a stall. He pushed into afterburner and as both planes tottered vertical-

ly, Colonel Tomb realized his predicament and began his attempts to roll quickly out of the climb. But the MiG stalled, its nose fell, and after pitching over, it began to run.
Cunningham rolled out

behind, and as they both headed straight down he squeezed off a Sidewinder that zipped directly up Tomb's tailpipe. The plane dove into the ground and exploded.

As Cunningham

pulled up, four MiG-17s were behind him, but another squadron pilot fired a missile toward them and they scattered. Three more MiGs streaked by but didn't give chase, and the two Phantoms lit their after-

burners and headed east toward the Gulf of Tonkin. Halfway to the coast a SAM raced up and exploded beside Cunningham and Driscoll, and less than a minute later their airplane started yawing

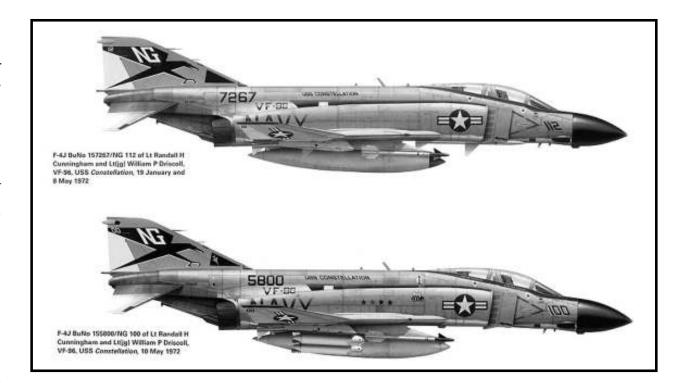


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hard to the left. The hydraulics were failing, locking the tail stabilizer and forcing the nose up. For 20 miles Cunningham used a combination of rudder, afterburner, and speed brakes to roll the airplane through a wallowing descent. The fear of ejecting over the heavily populated Red River Valley and of becoming prisoners of war kept Cunningham and Driscoll in the plane until it began tumbling and burning just over the coast. F-4s and A-7s were circling all around, their pilots screaming at them to eject. Cunningham deployed the drag chute to try to stabilize the plane but to no effect. The pilot gave

the word, and Driscoll

reached down and



pulled the ejection handle between his knees.

Seconds expanded into minutes for Cunningham. He heard Driscoll's canopy blow

away and felt the wind rush. He glanced back, and it seemed as if minutes passed before Driscoll's seat rocketed out of the jet. The ejec-

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tion sequence handle was set so that Cunningham's seat would eject automatically two seconds after Driscoll's. All Cunningham had to do was straighten his back, keep his head up, and

make sure his legs were extended. But so much time seemed to pass...his seat wasn't going to go! Finally, in desperation, he started to reach for the ejection handle when boom! His canopy blew off and he was tumbling in his seat through the air. The wind blast filled his black helmet. The drogue chutes tugged the seat into stability. At about 14,000 feet the parachute began

snaking out from

the seat. Looking up

into the web of lines

and the orange-and-

white striped nylon, Cunningham felt an instant of relief followed by successive blasts of fear, love, and gratitude.

U.S. fighters and

attack planes roared in over the North Vietnamese patrol boats heading out of the river delta to intercept the two airmen. On his survival radio Cunningham heard that the rescue chopper was on its way. The Dear John letter and thoughts of his wife washed over him now, as he floated high over the gulf. They always told you that the two things you needed to survive in captivity were a strong family and faith in God. Cunningham had neither. He had just killed two men. He was drained, more scared than he'd ever been in his life, and he felt small and unloved. He resolved under that parachute to find God and to try to salvage his marriage. He succeeded in the former, but the latter was already too far gone.

The home front was increasingly hostile Almost as soon as the first aces of the war stepped out of the res-

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behind his head, and then its opening shock toward the military, and jerked him away from the Navy needed heroes.

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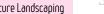
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Cunningham and Driscoll were whisked away to the States and sent on a PR tour of the country. They appeared on almost every local and national radio and television talk show, were interviewed by the newspapers, and gave talks to various groups almost every day. They were always careful to point out that their success was a matter of circumstance, and that all 5000 men aboard the Constellation deserved the credit. It was a nonstop parade that the bachelor Driscoll enjoyed, but for Cunningham, who was in the process of a divorce and a losing child-custody battle, it was one of the lowest points of his life. "I almost became an alcoholic," he says, sitting at his desk in his small office at Miramar. "I'd wake up at 6:30 in the

morning and have a Bloody Mary pushed at me. I wouldn't quit until 2:00 a.m. the next night, with the parties and the talks and the Rotary Clubs and the Ladies Aid Societies and the Navy Leagues. It was tough.

"The Navy used me as much as they could. When Admiral Cooper [commander of the carrier task force] told me I had to go back to the States, I told him no, the MiGs had just started to fly and I didn't want to leave. His quote to me was, 'If the North Vietnamese captured you, then they'd use you for propaganda. The Navy plans to use you. It's a very unpopular war, the Navy's had a lot of bad press, things are in turmoil back in the U.S. We need you for public relations."

About halfway through the tour Cunningham and Driscoll learned that



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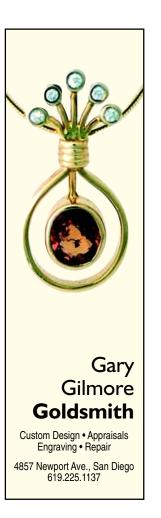


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their nomination for the Medal of Honor had been denied, and they were getting the Navy Cross instead. They'd been nominated for the act of shooting the MiG off their executive officer's wing while being chased by several other enemy planes. At the end of the tour both men were awarded the duty assignment of their

choice: Top Gun, the Naval Fighter Weapons School. Cunningham and

Cunningham and Driscoll were two of the more visible Navy heroes, but the other 80-some MiG killers were also lionized as the war ended. "Even getting a single MiG was blown out of proportion," says Curt Dose, who got the first one on



that momentous day in May. "The Navy needed heroes, so we ended up with a chestful of medals." In some cases, particularly Cunningham's and Driscoll's, the MiG killers were far more decorated and well known than their commanding officers. This may have contributed to problems Cunningham encountered with one of his first commanding officers after the war.

Cunningham admits that he wasn't a sterling officer in the early days. "My idea of a Navy officer was a shithot pilot who shot down airplanes and to hell with the paperwork," he says now, a bit regretfully. Part of

Cunningham's attitude was attributable to the way things worked in the war: pilots were told that the chiefs ran the Navy, and since the pilots themselves might or might not return from a combat mission, the running of the squadron could not depend in any way upon them. This tended to make the pilots indifferent to those duties that didn't concern actually strapping on an airplane.

Cunningham's fitness reports, which had been generally high, started looking bad. "It was just a complete ego clash with that skipper," he says now. The Top Gun commanding officer was himself a MiG

killer. "He had a super ego," Cunningham recalls. "For example, I was invited downtown here as a guest speaker at a banquet, and being my skipper, they invited him to come along. They had me seated at the head table. They had him seated out in the audience. And he came up to me and he said, '*I'm* your skipper, *I* will sit at the head table, you will sit in the audience.' The guy running the show wouldn't let us switch. Another example: the Germans were here training up at George Air Force Base from the Richthofen Wing. Colonel Bosch and about 30 other people. They came down and asked me to go over











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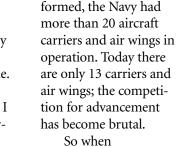
to Germany to give a talk to the whole Richthofen Wing. They sent messages, letters, requesting me by name. Guess who went. Not me. Another example: I was in the upper 5 percent in fitness reports under other skippers. And when he took over Top Gun, I was suddenly the bottom lieutenant in fitness reports."

If Cunningham's military career suffered during that time, the detriment wasn't longlived, because in 1975, just after he remarried, he survived what came to be known in his year group as the "Thanksgiving Day Massacre." He was promoted to lieutenant commander, but half the people remaining in year group '67 were not, and were therefore funneled out of the Navy. Not only was the crowded year group being winnowed down to manageable size by Navy planners but there was also a large cutback



in the Navy itself. When

year group '67 was



Cunningham successfully "screened for command" on his third and final try in 1983, it meant the Navy saw possibilities in him beyond his flying years. Bill Driscoll decided to get out and go to work selling office buildings for Coldwell Banker in Carlsbad. He and Cunningham remain close, and Driscoll still gives lectures in aerial combat to Top Gun students. "As a teacher and instructor, I felt I'd done what I needed to do for the Navy after the war," Driscoll says. "I was looking to challenge myself again, with something new and different.... You have to put making ace in context. Were we better than the other guys in the squadron? No. Were we lucky? Yes. You have to put it in context and then go forward. You have to make sure that

it's not the pinnacle of your life."

Will being the only remaining ace from the Vietnam War help Cunningham's career? "The Navy has a very short memory," says Nick Criss, Cunningham's commanding officer.

"If you have all the boxes checked, all the tickets punched, and make all the sacrifices, it could be a definite plus," Cunningham adds. "But that happened 12 years ago, and you can't glide for 12 years on history. They need you to perform. If I was a shitty officer now and a shitty pilot, doing what I'd done wouldn't amount to a hill of beans."

Cunningham, who is 42 years old, now makes about \$50,000 a year. He seems to have punched all the tickets along the way: war hero, Top Gun instructor, deploying squadron operations officer, Pentagon billet, seventh fleet staff billet, advanced education degrees, screened for command, executive officer of training squadron, charming second wife. He'll take

over as commanding officer of squadron VF-126 in July of 1985, and he says that he'd next like to command either Top Gun or the Blue Angels. After that his real flying days will be over, and in order to advance he'll then have to become either a carrier air wing commander who would be in charge of several fighter and attack squadrons (there are six such commanders on the West Coast), or a department head on an aircraft carrier. Both of those jobs can eventually lead to the career pilot's Valhalla: command of an aircraft carrier. From there, the only place left is the Pentagon.

But first Cunningham must distinguish himself in VF-126. This is a training squadron that flies small A-4s and F-5s in an adversarial training role against the fleet's F-14s and F-18s (the F-4 Phantom was phased out in the mid-1970s), and for a jet jockey there's hardly any better assignment. VF-126 pilots are trained to simulate Soviet air tac-





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tics and instruct all fighter squadron crews in aerial combat. Fresh young pilots coming out of regular flight training have to go through VF-126 before assignment into the fleet, and all squadron aircrews between deployments must complete the monthlong course. The practical information is similar to that given in Top Gun, located in an adjacent hangar, but the academics aren't nearly so comprehensive as Top Gun's. At Top Gun only one or two flight crews from each squadron go through the course, which concentrates not only on actual airtime but also on the nature of the threat being faced by American aircrews. The VF-126 course doesn't go so deeply into that sobering subject.

Students in both courses learn that the air-power philosophy of the Russians (and the

countries to which they supply aircraft) is anchored in strength and numbers. "There's not a scenario anywhere in the world where the matchup isn't less than four to one against us," says Nick Criss, skipper

of VF-126. "They're going to come at us with people under strict ground control, and in large numbers, and try to put a whole bunch of missiles in the air. And if that doesn't work, they're in big trouble,

because they're not very good at operating independently." Criss says that Soviet tactics are embodied in the design of their aircraft, such as the MiG-23, which is very fast, heavily armed, but not easily maneu-

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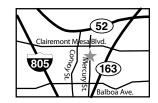


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verable. "Their whole military structure is very rigid," he continues. "They feel like they've got to maintain control [from the ground]. In a lot of respects their philosophy is exactly the same as it was in World War II: concentration of firepower. They haven't done well in any air war they ever fought. Look at the Syrians, the Libyans, the North Vietnamese, whoever they've just gotten their asses kicked with those tactics. But they still maintain that that's the way to do it — masses of airplanes."

The U.S., on the

other hand, has chosen to rely on training for both the "knife fight," as one-to-one dogfighting is sometimes called, and long-range, nonvisual missile warfare. Ours is more a trained vigilante, rather than a posse, approach; this "loose deuce" concept relies on relatively independent pairs of roving fighters. But other things have changed greatly since Vietnam. "You can't fly Vietnam tactics in the Middle East, just as we couldn't fly World War II tactics in Vietnam," says Duke Cunningham. "The technology is so much more complex, the electronic warfare, the SAMs, the planes — it's all changed. And the Soviets now have a missile they can fire headon, like our Sparrow. They don't need to get behind you anymore with their heat seekers." One thing that hasn't changed is Cunningham's favorite truism: nothing is true in tactics. Meaning that everything — be it when to fire a Sidewinder, how to approach a formation when you're outnumbered, or how to outrun a MiG-23 — is relative to the particular situation.

Out over the aircombat maneuvering range, which lies

near Yuma, Arizona, fleet pilots take on VF-126 instructors in one-onone, one-on-two, twoon-four, four-on-four, and other simulated combat scenarios. Through a sophisticated telemetry system, known as the Tactical Aircrew **Combat Training** System, the engagements are recorded by computer and later projected on screens at facilities in both Yuma and at Miramar. Like a giant video game, aircrews can watch in three dimensions as the good guys and bad guys approach one another, fire (simulated) missiles, and score kills. Tapes of these training missions are played for review, and students can study what conditions were like air speed, angle of attack, range, closing speed at any given moment in the fight. The computergenerated images can even show the view of the entanglement from inside any participant's cockpit.

between the Gila and

Mohawk mountains

The overall aim now for both sides is to fire a long-range missile, such as the F-14's Phoenix, and destroy the other plane before it's even in visual range. Close-in mano a mano tactics are a secondary means of engagement, and, says Criss, "From what we know, the Soviets think we're going to win any dogfight we get into. They think the Americans are much better than they are, if it comes to that."

Given the emphasis on it, American pilots probably are better than the Russians in dogfighting, but both Criss and Cunningham, who are in an excellent position to know, say American fighter pilots today aren't getting nearly enough flying time. "Today's pilots are behind their machines," says Cunningham. "They don't fly enough to have

that edge it takes to react in a fight. And I'm very concerned about that."

According to Cunningham and Criss, the average number of hours a pilot flies in a month has dropped from about 30 to about 15 since the early 1970s. "You look at what the Soviets are building," explains Criss, "and you see that to have even a chance of keeping up with them we've got to put everything we've got into new procurement. We have to just flat get some more airplanes.... They're [American strategists] betting right now that we aren't going to go to war, so they're getting machines first and then two years down the road they're going to try to train us to fly them."

Right now Cunningham and Criss are among the few Navy fighter pilots still around with actual combat experience. Many of the pilots they fly with today were still in high school when the Vietnam War ended. When combat veterans talk with these young pilots about the war, the gist of the conversation is usually tactics and almost never politics. But when pressed, Criss, who was a political science major in college, speaks knowledgeably and thoughtfully about the Vietnam conflict. Cunningham, however, is less analytical. As he says in his book, "Russia was against us then and Russia will be against us in the future." Cunningham isn't one to lean back in quiet reflection, slip his thumbs under proverbial suspender straps, and ponder the tragic circumstances that made him a decorated, widely respected air warrior. "I don't know if there's a correlation," he says, "but I've never known a good fighter pilot who smoked a pipe." ■

– Neal Matthews

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San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

VIRGIN EARS

ONE OF MY FRIENDS HAD ON A LOW-CUT SHIRT AND A **MINISKIRT** THAT WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A STRIP OF ELASTIC CLOTH.

s a high schooler, you see your peers do some interesting things. This past year at Ramona High School has been a busy one. Many of my friends and acquaintances have turned to drugs. Perhaps they do so to gain a reputation or out of sheer boredom. No matter what the reason, it is startling to see a kid rushed away to the hospital.

Not one month into the new school year, chaos hit my little town. I walked into the quad at RHS, surprised to see three police cars and an ambulance in the parking lot. I did a double-take as I passed the front gates, and then something stopped me. A paramedic pushed a gurney. Behind him, with his head hung low, one of my close friends followed. His best friend was loaded into the ambulance. I stood and watched as my childhood playmate slid into the back seat of the police car. I couldn't believe my eyes. Was that really the boy I had played with since grade school?

I flashed back to the previous summer. We shared fun and made amazing memories. Did he even remember? If he did, did he care? My heart raced as I watched the police car drive away. The rest of the day was a blur, and I couldn't wait to go home. The next day, everyone at school was abuzz. The place where my friend usually sat was empty. Nothing was the same for me. Rumors flew, but the real story turned out to be that the boys had overdosed on

I used to look at the kids who did drugs and think, "Nothing like that will ever happen to me." Drugs have such a horrible effect on people; they push your closest friends far away. I hope the rest of my peers realize how dire the consequences of drug use can be. Everything you have worked for can be lost.

> - Natalie Venolia, Ramona H.S.

veryone has had a time in their life when they've felt they don't fit in. Lately, I have had that feeling more and more. The first reason is that I don't buy into the belief that to be sexy you must dress provocatively, be a size zero, and be open to sex if the possibility arises. My friends dress in ways that I find inappropriate. I have forced myself to stay quiet so I won't hurt their feelings or lose their friendship. Later, I regret my silence because I have allowed this trend to continue.

Recently, my friends and I were at a party and one of my friends had on a low-cut shirt and a miniskirt that was little more than a strip of elastic

cloth. She couldn't understand why all of the boys grabbed at her and made lewd comments. I tried to explain in the nicest way that it could be her clothing, but she didn't want to hear it and she got angry with me.

It is common knowledge that people judge you and treat you based on how you're dressed. All the magazines show what the celebrities wear, so if people want to keep in style, they wear the same things. What the magazines fail to show is the disrespect given by young men to the girls who wear provocative clothing.

Another reason I feel as though I don't fit in is because my friends have begun to use cuss words on a regular basis, even when they are not needed in the conversation. It makes them sound trashy and uneducated. I have often asked them not to use the cuss words, but it only seems to encourage them more. They ridicule me for my "virgin ears."

As we progress in technological



Teens at Britney Spears concert

advancements, our manners and values regress; a lot of people live only for their desires and do not care what happens to the world as long as they are happy. Am I out of place because I find such behavior shocking and wrong? No, I just think I need some new friends.

– Angel Sonada

he things some teenagers wear these days - or, more realistically, the things they don't bother wearing these days! I wear miniskirts and tank tops as often as any Southern California girl, but the way some teens dress these days appalls me.

I thought I'd seen it all — the miniskirts so short they could double as a large belt, the sky-high heels, and the shirts cut so tight they would fit your baby brother — but, boy, was I wrong!

Recently, my best friend and I walked into our third-period English class. After setting down our books, we began our routine of swapping stories about our

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weekend. I was in the middle of telling her about the homecoming I had gone to on Saturday, when in walked Josie. I stopped mid-sentence and gaped at her. My best friend whirled around to see what I was looking at and, after a second, whispered to me, "What was she thinking?!" The rest of the class stopped chatting and stared at her.

She wore leather pants so tight she probably had them painted on, five-inch heels, a tiny lingerie top, and nothing else. My friend tapped me on the shoulder and whispered, "Oh, my gosh! She totally forgot her shirt!" The guys in the class picked their jaws up off the floor after Josie had sauntered over to her desk and noisily set her books on the floor.

My mom would shoot me if I tried to walk out of the house dressed like that! And if she didn't, my friends sure would, and I'd thank them for it. I mean, wouldn't you want someone to stop you if you went to school in just your bra?

> — Emma Seemann, Carlsbad H.S.

as if I were selling Tic-Tacs. My baby's turning three so I taught her three new slurs for three different races. Some say my behavior is socially corrosive but I say they just don't understand; sure, I say I'm 'hard-core' and I'd kill your grandmother with her own fragile fist, but you should understand that it's all in jest and I really deserve respect."

You like it? It's a rap song I've been working on for a while now. I pretty much stuck to the popular format with fewer grammatical mistakes and abbreviations. I guarantee that my peers will fall for it so long as it has a catchy hook, one of those melodies that adheres to the mind like caramel on teeth.

Hip-hop and rap

have such a strong hold on teenagers. They may try and get it out of their heads, but the demoralizing music sticks and they accept some hypocritical Hollywood "thug's" whines - oops! I mean "deeply thought-provoking social reviews" about his unrewarded chimp-like aggression. It's amazing that humans can sink so low as to chant lyrics with themes that 50 years ago would have been rewarded with ostracism; 100 years ago, a lynching; today, a Grammy.

Among my peers, it's not unusual to hear sweet-faced adolescents humming, whistling, or shouting the melody "Pimpin' Around the World" or that other catchy song in which most of the "lyrics" are orgasmic sounds. I've seen girls who "won't allow men to treat [them] like objects" prance off in their revealing J-Lo brand clothing singing, "I wonder if I took you home,

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Profil Institute for Clinical Research 855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400 Chula Vista, CA 91911 For more information please call:

1-866-308-7427 or e-mail:

studies@profil-research.com



Are you worried about your TEEN'S MENTAL HEALTH?

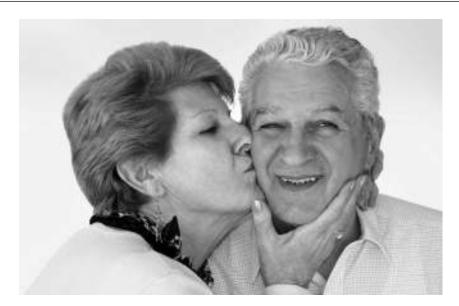
Millions of teenagers in America deal with mental health problems. Symptoms can include confused or exaggerated thinking, difficulty concentrating, severe mood changes, loss of interest in activities, and/or becoming socially withdrawn.

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.



MV44A @2005 SHC



Are You a Healthy Individual Over the Age of 60?

Spend 2 nights in our sleep lab and earn up to \$750.

Even healthy people occasionally have trouble sleeping at night. If you are at least 60 years old, interested in participating in a research study, and would like additional information, please call California Clinical Trials at 858-571-1188.

Qualified volunteers will be compensated up to \$750 depending on level of involvement in the study. Enrollment is limited, so call now.



858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188 www.cctstudy.com

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Loss of interest or pleasure? Sadness or hopelessness? Sleep disturbance? Are you or someone you know over the age of 18 and suffering from Depression? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for Depression.

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.



If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

- You will receive up to \$1000 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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Creepy, Crawly, Nighttime Legs

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.

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.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

- You may receive up to \$350 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools or insurance companies.



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Anxiety doesn't just stress your mind.



We know it can ...

- Decrease your immune response Decrease your physical and mental functioning
- \bullet Increase fats in the bloodstream $\,\bullet$ Be mistaken for medical conditions \bullet Interfere with sleep

If you are between the ages of 18 and 64, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

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 \$450 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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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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would you still be in love, baby" (the lyrics of a popular Black Eyed Peas song). Then there are the blunt lyrics of a Weezer song in which the female background vocals request, "Do me, do me."

I could easily provide lyrics ten times worse, but, though they're sung in school, those words, if printed here, would make this article more appropriate for the "Adult" section of a magazine rack.

— Mary Lindquist, El Capitan H.S.

s time progresses, trends and many values and sentiments of my peers either change or fade away. I have, however, noticed one aspiration held by both youths and adults — that remains constant: the desire to fit in and be accepted by others. It often causes people to act ridiculous. Not only do I find some of such behavior irritating and pitiable, but I find it even more shocking that although I am observing and reflecting on such behavior, I have yet to rid myself of the same desire to conform. I am at odds not only with my peers and elders, but with myself.

Many of my conclusions regarding people's feelings and hopes of acceptance come from my frequent visits to the gym. Although my intention is to exercise and maintain good physical health, I can't help but to study those who surround me. One funny behavioral pattern I have noticed is the male tendency to show off for female gym patrons. When there is a woman nearby, I have observed men push themselves to the brink of exhaustion. They grunt louder with each weightlifting repetition, run faster on treadmills than they normally would, and even raise their voices when speaking to their workout buddies in hopes that someone might overhear the discussion of their fitness achievements. I once "overheard" an athletic young man discussing his 17-point score in lacrosse during one game — impressive!

Women also seem to amplify their voices at the gym. I was once jogging next to a woman who spoke so loudly on her cell phone about an important business transaction that I was compelled to search for a treadmill farther away from her. Another time, I was working out next to a girl who carried on a loud conversation in which she contrasted herself with unscrupulous girls at her school. Though I said nothing, I was more annoyed than impressed.

Although I have mentioned my distaste of people's tendencies to behave strangely for acknowledgement and acceptance, I admit that I too have run a bit faster and raised my voice to catch the attention of others. Perhaps everyone could benefit from bolstering their self-confidence.

— Dara Arikian **■**

RESEARCH STUDIES

BIPOLAR DISORDER 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 Center at (858) 694-8350.**

Clinical
Research Center
SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital

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To qualify you must:

- be a man
- be age 18 to 40
- be a non-smoker
- be able to participate in overnight stays

You may be compensated up to \$3,375 for your time and travel.

Call Mon-Fri for more information

866.818.3253

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200, San Diego, CA

www.radiantresearch.com



First Day



Napa Valley vineyara

In 1951, Napa was considered to be the boonies by my grandmother, who was raised in Oakland and graduated from Cal in the 1920s. The California freeway system had begun to scar the state, and the wine industry consisted, at least as far as my grandfather was concerned, of Italian Swiss Colony and Gallo, neither of which had established wineries in the Napa Valley, both marketed in screw-cap bottles. My friend Larry Levis once remarked that certain California winemakers could have made wine from anything, but chose to use grapes because they were cheapest.

I turned five during the summer of 1951 in a duplex on Lincoln Avenue in Napa, where my father had been hired as assistant city manager and my mother was pregnant with my brother John.

I don't remember a party. The neighborhood seemed devoid of children, except for the delinquents smoking behind the gym of a battleship-gray high school across the street. I do remember standing on the sidewalk in front of our rented house, announcing my age to the passersby, until one teenager, whom I halted with my upraised right hand, shrugged and muttered, "Big deal," and slouched past me.

I ended up on our neighbor Rosa's porch, where she welcomed me through the screen door. Inside was cool and dark and smelled of another world. She asked me to join her for peanut butter sandwiches and milk, which she set among the jars of turpentine and tubes of oil paint as she brushed the yellow and white petals of a giant rose materializing in the middle of her ancient oak table. I had watched as she traced a whole bouquet onto stretched canvas with pencil and waxed paper. Unlike the fog that had settled into Napa Valley, Rosa's bent head had no hint of gray in it, only the two polished wooden combs holding back the neatly netted masses of her hair.

We must have talked about her painting and our birthdays, until I thanked her and wandered back into the yard. I remember noting the absence of the gopher mounds I'd seen on the front lawn just before we moved from the house we shared with my mother's parents in Walnut Creek.

By the time the school year started, we had moved into a two-bedroom cinderblock house in a subdivision on the west side of town. My brother would not be born until

neighborhood, one house with a television, and much anticipation of the plague of toads rumored to come after the winter rains in the dry creek bed behind our houses. Freckled Russell was enamored of the "Long Ranger" and would exhort the rest of us in the tangle of poison ivy on the creek bank to "Follow me, mens!"

We set up Kool-Aid stands, sold home-

As I waited on the sofa in the parlor, she filled a wooden box with apples, which she offered in response to my recently acquired moral rectitude.

late December, and all that summer I continued to sleep in a crib. I could no longer stretch full length at bedtime without pressing my head and feet uncomfortably against its thin deal walls.

There were others my age in this new

made raisin cookies, and hauled in soup cans full of pennies and nickels from the carpenters and masons working in the tract that summer. During off hours, I climbed most of the apple trees in a nearby orchard.

One afternoon, as I returned home fin-

RESEARCH STUDIES

Are You Anxious?

Do You Suffer From Generalized Anxiety Disorder?

• Constantly worry?

- Are you anxious?
- Trouble falling asleep? Difficulty
- Restless?
- concentrating?
- Tense?
- Keyed up? • Irritable?
- Jumpy?
- Tire easily?



If you are suffering from the above symptoms and would like to participate in a clinical research trial that is studying an investigational medication for symptoms of Generalized Anxiety Disorder,

please call:

PCSD ~ Feighner Research Institute 877-FOR-INFO (877-367-4636)

Participants must be 18 or older and will receive study medication. medical exams and lab evaluations related to research study at no cost. Compensation is provided for time and travel.



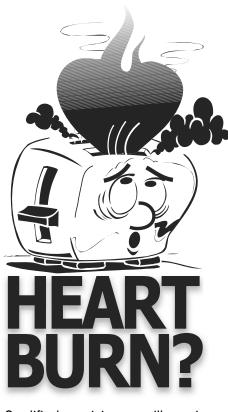
Do you feel like you're on an emotional rollercoaster?

Bipolar disorder is a condition in which your mood goes from extreme happiness to deep depression. Without medical intervention these feelings make it nearly impossible for people experiencing bipolar disorder to find a sense of order in their lives.

PCSD-Feighner Research is conducting a medical research study for adults 18 and older who have bipolar disorder. Study-related medical evaluations and study medication are provided at no charge. Reimbursement may be available for time and travel

If you or someone you love suffers from bipolar disorder call us today for more information:

PCSD-FEIGHNER RESEARCH 1-877-FOR-INFO • 1-877-367-4636



Radiant Research is conducting a clinical research study for an investigational medication for men and women who suffer with heartburn.

To qualify for this study you must:

- be 18 years of age or older
- have had heartburn at least two days per week for the past month
- have taken an over-the counter treatment to treat your heartburn
- have not been diagnosed with GERD

Qualified participants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and study medication or placebo at no cost. Compensation up to \$225 for time and travel will be provided.

Call Mon-Fri for more information

619.209.6555



www.radiantresearch.com



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

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DEPRESSED?

You are not alone... One in six people experience depression

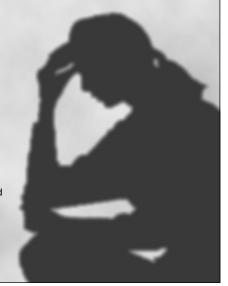
If you are experiencing:
• Depressed mood

- Hopelessed mode
 Hopelessness or sadness
 Problems sleeping
 Low energy or feeling slowed down
 Problems with your memory or ability to focus
 Feelings of paranoia or that people are giving
- you a hard time

 Hearing voices or sounds that aren't real

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: CA Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute (858) 566-8222



SCHIZOPHRENIA SCHIZOAFFECTIVE BIPOLAR DISORDER MAJOR DEPRESSION

We may currently or in the future have inpatient and outpatient research studies involving investigational medications for the conditions listed above. Qualified candidates will be reimbursed for time and transportation (\$50 for each inpatient hospital day and up to \$100 for each outpatient visit).

For more information, call: **858-566-8222** The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC "CNRI, LLC"



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.

Synergy Research at 1-888-619-7272.

ishing the core of one of the tart green Granny Smiths, my mother directed me back to the house at the orchard's edge and waited at the end of the gravel walkway while I knocked on the door and apologized to an aproned woman behind the screen for stealing her fruit. She invited me inside. As I waited on the sofa in the parlor, she filled a wooden box with apples, which she offered in response to my recently acquired moral rectitude. I think I must have felt blessed.

In early September my mother drove me to school the first day in a black '49 Buick roadster my folks had bought from my grandfather. We parked in a lot damp with morning shade and the spackled trunks of enormous sycamores. As she led me down the breezeway toward the classroom, I remember a playground on our right and older boys kicking balls on an unpaved field. When they spotted us, a trio of them whistled at my mother, who was dressed in a red and gray plaid pleated skirt, a short-sleeved white cashmere sweater, saddle shoes, and bobby socks. I shouted to silence them and veered toward the playground, but my mother tightened her hold on my hand, told me to pay them no mind, and led me up the steps into the kindergarten: paneled walls, wooden floors, miniature desks with inkwells, and one small window above a coat closet. A few other students already seated on the square of dusty rose carpeting toyed with blocks and turned the pages of the books, some of which I recognized, scattered around the floor.

The teacher asked if I wanted my mother to stay

that first day, but I vowed I'd be fine on my own. Suppressing the urge to run after the car, I stood by the door until the bell rang and the morning began in earnest.

I remember rest period with someone's quiet sobbing and missing one identification question on a ditto sheet, where I mislabeled a purple gourd a pear. At the end of the day, the paper was returned with a red pencil check in the gourd box, where it remained in spite of my conviction that the gourd could indeed be a pear, albeit with considerable uncharacteristic bumpiness. Clearly school was going to be a tricky and demoralizing business.

Our new address was pinned to my shirt when I climbed onto the school bus after lunch. I remember sitting behind the driver until all the other students had been dropped off at their stops. Glenwood Drive was nowhere in sight.

For over five hours we rattled through all of the neighborhoods in Napa except my own. When the driver stopped and asked, as he opened the bus doors at one more unfamiliar corner, "Is this it?" I stayed put. He had apparently never heard of our street or the



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

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

Counting on Another Sleepless Night?

INSOMNIA is a serious condition.

People with insomnia often experience:



- Difficulty falling asleep
- Waking up frequently during the night and trouble returning to sleep
- Waking up too early in the morning
- Unrefreshing sleep

If you or someone you love is suffering from insomnia, and between the ages of 18 and 64, you may be interested in learning about a research study of an investigational medication for insomnia



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

(619) 688-6565

Do you have Sun Spot Fungus?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study if you:

- Are over the age of 18
- Have white spots on your body that do not tan
- Can visit our office 3 times in about 5 weeks

Participants will receive:

• Free skin exams • Up to \$30 for participation



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

(619) 688-6565

ct:

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



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

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.

Every research 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.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

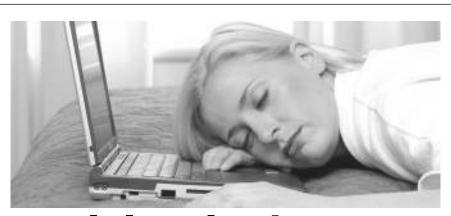
- You will receive up to \$1250 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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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.

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

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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new subdivision, it was not on the map, and I couldn't remember our phone number, so we drove around the city until just before sunset, when my father tracked us down in the Buick, the one familiar sign I'd seen since morning. My father honked us over and took me home to an unusually late supper.

Early one Saturday after school started, I approached the front door of a friend's house to call him out to play. A white sign posted on the screen announced that the house had been quarantined. My friend had contracted polio. On his birthday shortly thereafter, I sneaked into the house and into his bedroom, the blinds pulled against all light, and presented him with a gift I had wrapped from my rather meager toy collection, confident that somehow my recently ignited faith in God would shield me from harm.

I had the 23rd Psalm by heart.

Later that autumn, I fell to the floor as I got out of bed one morning, my legs without feeling, unwilling to respond to any of my expectations. For a week or longer I was unable to stand or walk and was diagnosed with a mild case of polio, the only time I saw a doctor in that city, a diagnosis my mother and grandmother, both disciples of Mary Baker Eddy, entirely discounted. I eventually resumed walking without difficulty, returned to school, and the incident was never mentioned again.

By the time the creek bed was clogged with tiny toads, rioting all night and bursting by the dozens on the newly paved streets, before the school year was over, we had moved back to Contra Costa County.

B.H. Boston received his B. A. in English from Fresno State University and his M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of California at Irvine. His work has appeared in numerous magazines, including Crazy Horse, Black Warrior Review, Poetry NOW, Western Humanities Review, Marlboro Review, Ploughshares, and anthologies including Down at the Santa Fe Depot, The Geography of Home (Heyday Books), and the recently published How Much Earth (Roundhouse Press). A book of his poems, Only the Living, has been published by Helix Press. For the past 31 years, he has taught literature and creative writing at La Jolla Country Day School. He is currently managing editor of Poetry International at San Diego State University.

RESEARCH STUDIES

— B.H. Boston

Heartburn? Acid Reflux?

If you suffer from acid indigestion, frequent heartburn, flow of bitter fluid into the chest or mouth, difficulty swallowing, or upper abdominal pain, you may have a condition known as gastroesophageal reflux disease, or **GERD**.

A clinical research study is being conducted to evaluate symptom relief for patients suffering from **GERD**.

Study-related exams and procedures and study medication provided at no cost.

Patient compensation for time and travel.

For more information please call:

Medical Associates Research Group (858) 277-7177

Enrollment is limited!



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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

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"I found Dr. Sarosy and his team to be the most professional and warm, ople. Thank you Carmen P.,

San Diego

All Night Donuts

ertain questions will plague me to my grave. The larger ones, I have, with maturity, made peace with in a way, accepting that answers will most likely be denied me in this life. Questions such as "Where does love go when it is gone?" or "Why suffering on the scale of the Holocaust?" or "Can the paradoxical nature of free will ever be understood?" Who can say? It seems reasonable, however, that some of the lesser questions that haunt me might be answered; those with their roots in the world of men and not the fundamental mysteries of human existence. I refer to questions such as "Why are frozen peas all the same size?" or "Can a green flash on the horizon at sunset truly be witnessed? Does it occur independent of sight? Is it a function of man's cornea and iris? The atmospheric distortion of sunlight? Or are those people who keep saying they see it out of their damned minds?"

I thought maybe some interesting character would walk through the doors with some wrenching human tale of tragedy or social pith.

As I wrestle with these questions in the dead of night over a Farmer's Brothers large coffee and a chocolate donut, staring out at the fog on Midway Drive and listening to my watch ticking the minutes east of midnight, I am confronted with one immediate question in neon lights. If I turn away or close my eyes, I see the ghost of the sign in the window of Yum Yum Donuts: OPEN 24 HOURS, followed by the question my mind's eye presents to me: WHY?

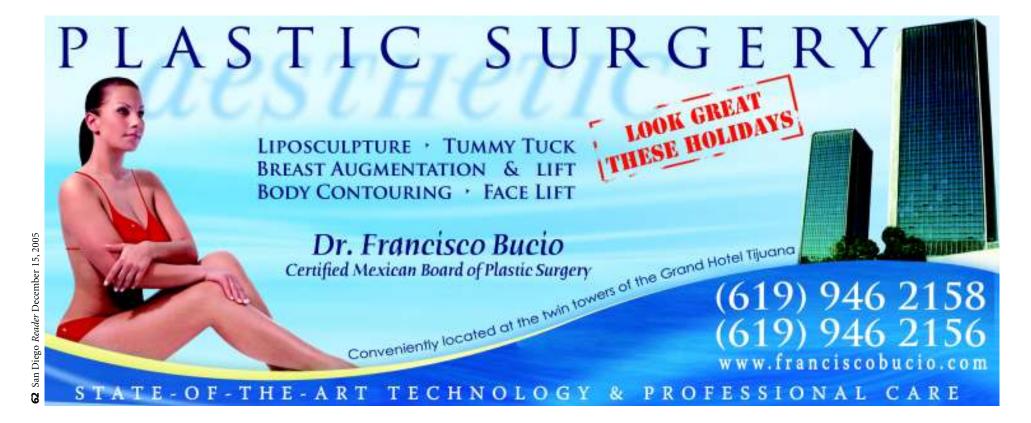
I am the only customer. No one has come in for almost an hour. The sporadic swelling of headlights out of the fog as some lone vehicle makes its way through

the night toward Rosecrans. The Doppler traces of taillights, shrinking like dying coals on their way to I-8. Point Loma and the ocean are the only movement beyond the glass. My reflection, lifting the paper coffee cup or brushing chocolate crumbs from my lap, startles me after long moments of stillness. The neon-stained concrete of the parking lot between Yum Yum and Los Panchos Taco Shop join sluggish wraiths of mist at the sidewalk that form and dissolve, advancing or retreating from the far side of the street. Boot World's extinguished lights and 7-Eleven's garish illumination eclipse in the pearlescent darkness. I am plagued by morbid thoughts.

Madness threatens to overtake me. I have kept this vigil no sane man should undertake for several hours now. What am I doing in a donut shop in the middle of the night?

I am eating donuts, I remind myself, and it is time for another one. I set down the paperback of Colin Wilson's *Mind Parasites*. This disturbing, supernatural novel of ideas has given rise to huge, unanswerable questions. My attempt to concentrate on what should be a more explicable and mundane phenomenon is met with another kind of existential paralysis. I consider alternative reading material from my plastic bag of pulp fiction and

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



study the choices of pastry laid out before me on trays, beneath glass and fluorescent lights.

In reading matter as well as dietary matters, you are what you eat — or read. That is clear.

Mmm...cream-filled long johns beckon me.

I see now that bringing along the '60s science-fiction novel that inspired me so much as a young man was probably a mistake. It is far too heady for my immediate purposes, and that is inspiration. I've got to write something fast, and this novel about the innately flawed functions of reality interpretation is probably too ambitious. Let's see what else I have.

Ah, here is a novel by Barry Malzberg, again science fiction. It's been years since I've written the stuff, but Malzberg is certainly a paradigm of genius on deadline. He has written entire classics in the field (still in print) over a weekend, armed, if he himself is to be believed (and why not?), with only economic necessity, whiskey, and amphetamines. I have one of those vital ingredients tonight (I will be modest and forgo mention of any estimation of my own genius). Galaxies is a slim volume, and on casual perusal I can see that it too is only apparently escapist. It appears, in fact, to be an almost Jungian analysis of the genre itself:

"...the spacecraft Skipstone, on an exploratory flight...falls into the black galaxy of a neutron star and is lost forever...."

Flipping through the pages I find scenes and dialogue like this one where Lena, the starship captain, appears to be the only human on board. She is surrounded with dead crewmembers and cyborgs. Her conversations with the cyborgs are set against the backdrop of interstellar night and the "clamorous murmur" that "seems to arise from the hold as if all of the dead were shrieking in exquisite pain."

"...Now listen here. Listen to me and attend this. You've fallen into a neutron star, a black funnel. It's utterly beyond your puny capacities to escape it, and the dimension of what has happened here would reduce you to inconsequence. What can be done against forces like these? You've got to submit, got to accept the situation."

"I don't want to believe that," Lena says.

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- 4 After surgery **5** Resumption of activities



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> "That's puerile thinking." "No it isn't."

And so on. It is an eschatological debate in deep space. Reading this, alone, late at night in a donut shop in the fog, is unnerving. I see now that Malzberg has disguised consequences of the Diaspora, the Holocaust, and Heart of Darkness as space opera and adolescent power fantasy. I set the book down and approach the counter.

I signal Chim Ny, the Cambodian woman deep-frying batter in the back of the shop. She smiles and approaches, wiping her hands on her apron. She betrays no sign of surprise or judgment as I make my fifth confectionery selection of the night. If anything, I sense she approves of my choice. Her husband spares me a look of blank curiosity. I reach around my neck for my camera strap, lift the device, and take his picture.

His name is Sophan Chun, and he tells me he came to this country ten years ago and that he was a soldier in the Cambodian army. He must have been a kid; he looks no older than 30, but you never know. Asians seem to age quite differently, more gracefully. Maybe that's a stereotype, though. Still, I think the Eastern mind is more agile with the dualities and contradictions of life. Hardship seems to make them more pliable and accepting (yes, like willow trees in the monsoons), more appreciative of beauty and the finer things like tea and those little stunted trees. Well, that's Japanese, but the principle applies. Cambodians make those beautiful, intricate temples, though I'm not sure they're still at it over there.

I am wasting time with all these abstract digressions. I should be concentrating on work. I need to come up with a story, a novel, an outline, an article, anything. I've promised myself I was going to sit in this donut shop until I came up with something. Even if it took all night. Why a donut shop? Why not? I thought maybe some interesting character would walk through the doors with some wrenching human tale of tragedy or social

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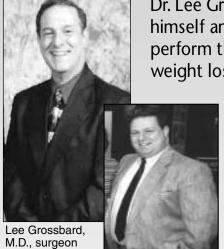


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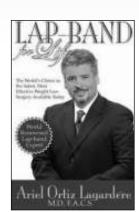
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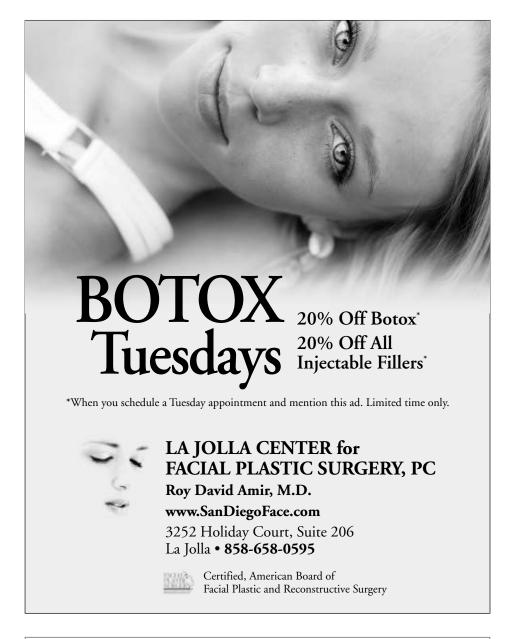
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pith. Possibly someone coming from an amusing date who could recount a light, witty romantic romp - or better yet, they've fallen in love!

No. No. Not only am I no good at love, I can't seem to write about it worth a damn either. I've been 20,000 words into a historical romance for months now and I am frozen, not with writer's block but a gathering certainty that it is

I try to strike up a conversation with Chun, but his English is very limited. I can tell he thinks it's pathetic that I have nothing better to do than eat donuts, one after another, and try to make pals with a stranger at almost 2:00 in the morning. I manage to learn that he and Chim Ny are married, have seven kids, this is their only job, and when they get off at 7:00 they have to make breakfast for the kids and get them off to school. He tells me, I think, that his tour of duty was Cambodia, Thailand, and some other places and

that he was somehow connected with customs or the Cambodian post office. I might be way off, but his English is tortured and my Cambodian is nonexistent. This is exactly the kind of exquisite torture the muse will often think is hilarious. I can't think of anything to write, and here is a man whose short life story would undoubtedly be a bestseller in skilled professional hands such as my own. I wouldn't be at all surprised if the dramatic rights were bought for a fortune and the thing became an award-winning classic like The Killing Fields.

"Pol Pot?" I ask Chun. "How about that Pol Pot?" He looks at me and shakes his head as if he doesn't know what I'm talking about. He's probably afraid to say anything about the repressive political regime back home. I might be a double agent in the CIA. I just got a haircut, and I've got that look of steelyeyed intelligence that gives nothing away. I don't blame him. Of course, he may not want to talk about it anyway. He probably just wants to forget, or maybe he escaped and they're still looking for him. Something like that. He may

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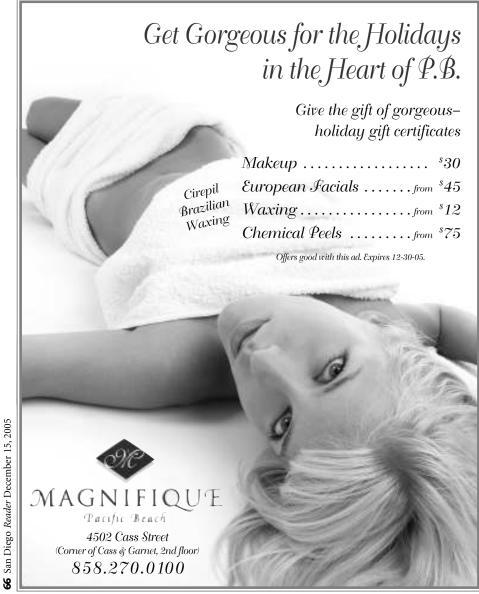
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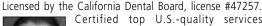
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have been the victim of unthinkable atrocities.

I take my long john back to my table and think about this. I lick the chocolate frosting off first and consider: Yeah, Chun probably has a hell of a story, but who am I to exploit him? The language barrier prevents me from convincing him that I would treat his material only in the most sensitive way, and of course we would split the Hollywood money. He and his wife wouldn't have to work at Yum Yum anymore, And me, I could buy my own franchise: JOHN'S DOUGHNUTS. I would use the traditional spelling.

"All you ever think about is donuts," my mother once said to me when she caught me ditching Mass one Sunday. I was sitting on a Chicago street corner getting blueberry filling from a bismarck all over my white shirt and one of my father's ties, which I had to tuck way into my pants.

"No, I don't," I said, spitting powdered sugar all over her. I thought this accusation was patently unfair. "I think about lots of things."

"Think about what you're going to do in your room for the rest of the day while the rest of the family goes over to Grandma's for dinner." Wow. Big punishment. I don't get to listen to a bunch of screaming grownups trying to forcefeed me meatballs because I'm too thin. Apparently you can't eat too many meatballs or horrible shit like black olives and anchovies, but get caught sneaking a donut or a Danish, and it was like you robbed a bank or something.

That afternoon was one of my happiest memories. I still had a French donut and a cruller stuffed into my jacket pockets, and my mother didn't bother to search me. My older sister was left to guard me. She played vacuous 45 records on her pink record player, like Billy J. Kramer's "Bad to Me" and Bobby Vinton's "Take Good Care of My Baby," while talking on the phone. My door was closed so I couldn't hear her, only her damned music, and I was alone with a roomful of paperback books: The Invisible Man, Mysterious Island, and a few hardcover Hardy

Boys novels. It was great. Since that day I have associated peace and pleasure with good stories and sweet baked goods.

It paid off, too. I became a writer. I made some money writing adventure short stories and novels, magazine articles, and book reviews. I may not be rich, but I can damn well buy as many donuts as I want anytime I want to.

But lately, I've been having trouble coming up with anything, and my landlord doesn't want to hear "I'm sorry but my last novel was rejected because I don't have a strong, independent, and politically correct female detective with a cat that solves crimes." Time is of the essence, and I have to come up with something. I was thinking that a donut shop in the dead of night would provide characters with some previously unguessed-at storyline of heartbreak, danger, crime, intrigue, romance. Maybe a portrait of a latenight bulimic, secretly scarfing down apple fritters and entire pies only to flee back to her hotel room before dawn, induce vomiting as she weeps over the toilet bowl, pulls her-

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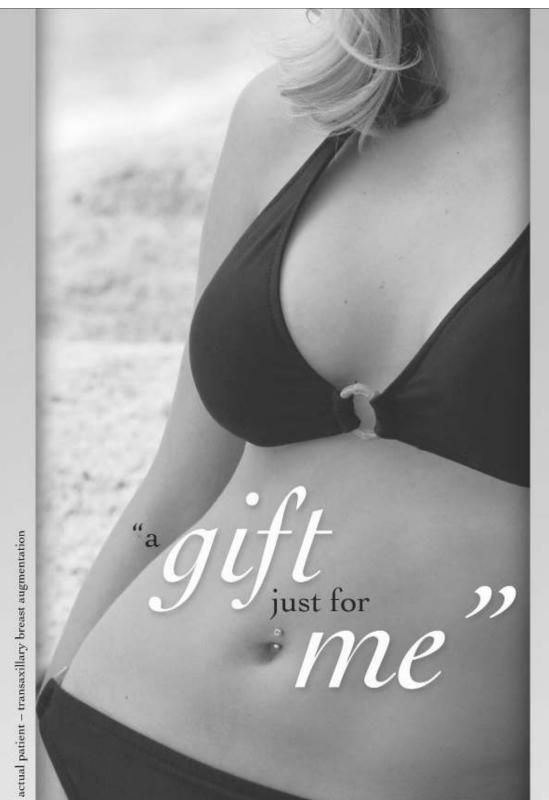
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Spa Diva Package

2 hours **5 9 0** (reg. \$105) Includes: 30-min. European facial | 30-min. back, neck, shoulder massage | 30-min. Salt scrub or body wrap or microdermabrasion | 30-min. Spa pedicure

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self together, and starts another day on the runway or in front of the cameras as America's sweetheart. A sad, poignant tale of a troubled supermodel or a beautiful actress who, ironically, is the spokeswoman on television commercials for diet products like "Flab Fast" and "The Tush Trimmer."

No, forget that. I'm no

good with female characters, everybody says so — of course, they're all women. How about a lonely, obese bachelor who haunts the early-morning Yum Yum locations and falls in love with a married hypoglycemic? Her illness drives her out in the middle of the night for relief and she meets — we'll call him Gordon. She sees beneath his unattractive exterior, his fleshy prison, to the sensitive soul inside, a man with so much love to give yet cursed with an inheritance of vast wealth (his father is Duncan Glais of DUNK 'N' GLAZE DONUTS), a sweet tooth, and a really slow thyroid. His nightly vigils are a desperate ritual to feel close to his father (who never spent enough time with him as a child, obsessed as he was with his donut empire)

and to fill his yawning need for love with glazed maple bars and endless donut holes covered in little multicolored sprinkles. The donut holes would be a metaphor for the missing pieces of Gordon's life. The hole in his heart, as it were. Maybe that's the title right there: Donut Hole of the Heart.

Yes. Think in literary, midlist terms. Maybe even use a woman's pseudonym.

Anyway, he meets this woman — we'll call her Little Debbie or Dolly Madison (it doesn't matter for now), and they hit it off. They discuss life and art in the wee hours over coffee and fresh pastries. Her husband, a health food and fitness nazi, knows nothing of her nightly rendezvous with Gordon, but soon he suspects. Debbie must choose between the husband and Gordon and, eventually, her happiness, which equals death (since she is developing diabetes from all the donuts) and a long life of mind-numbing, emotional paralysis in marriage. She chooses a few months of happiness and then death of renal failure, all the while suffering in silence. Gordon knows nothing of her worsening condition, and Little Dolly would not trade a moment of the fulfillment she has found in exchange for another day in her loveless, sugar-free marriage. It would be bittersweet as she wastes away, not unlike *Love Story*. Naturally it would be rich in insights concerning the oppressive male patriarchy and the martyrdom of women blah, blah, blah...

Who am I kidding? This is terrible. Come on, some-body walk in here who I can use as a character. The very next person to walk through that door will be the subject of my next project. But another hour passes and I'm the only goddamned customer.

Surely, something can be done with the story of a young couple — he in the Cambodian Army, she a nurse or a schoolteacher — who decide to flee the horrors of an evil dictatorship. The story is right here in front of me and yet maddeningly out of reach. Besides, they're both busy in the back making donuts for the rush hour. That was the only

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other thing I got out of them: "Five, six o'clock, we busy."

I need to think. I need more coffee.

My notes concerning a Cambodian soldier who uses his connections at Thai customs to forge documents and escape Cambodia with his young wife (I have now made her a concert violinist) include notes toward a sympathetic American, former CIA agent, grizzled and embittered but with a heart of gold, and he is a classical music fan. I get them as far as Hong Kong and a shootout on the docks with Chinese slavers and a doublecrossing CIA agent, when someone enters the shop.

The guy is in his early 30s. His hair is short but unattended, and he wears glasses. While there isn't any adhesive tape on the bridge of his glasses, you kind of expect to see it. He's that kind of guy. He stares at the trays of pink-glazed, chocolate, and sugared products and lifts a few crumpled bills and two palms full of change closer to his glasses. He seems nervous. I imagine he's a scientist or works with computers or both. I wonder what he's doing on Midway Drive in the dead of night...

He sees me staring at him and fixes me with a worried look. I must be making him nervous for some reason. I reach into my bag and resume reading The Mind Parasites.

"...when I practice trying to pick up their wavelength [he meant the parasites'], I get a feeling of great activity. They're up to something.

"It was maddeningly frustrating. We possessed the great secret; we had warned the world. And yet, in a fundamental sense, we were as ignorant as ever. Who were these creatures? Where did they come from? What was their ultimate aim? Were they really intelligent, or were they as unintelligent as the maggots in a piece of cheese?"

I have trouble concentrating on the words. Someone has just entered Yum Yum Donuts. A woman. She is probably the same age as the guy with the glasses, but she's a little worked-looking. Filipino is my guess. Her complexion is scarred, probably from a youthful bout with acne. Under a corduroy coat she is wearing a

wrinkled red-silk dress. Her pantyhose are sagging at her ankles just above clunky-heeled, strapped pumps of shiny leather. "Just buy me a cup of coffee, okay?" she says and falls tiredly into a plastic chair. He buys her a coffee, which Chun pours. After sparing me another look, the customer seats himself across from the woman, his back to me. A single cup of coffee steams between them as he leans forward and whispers something to her. She says, "I don't care," and looks in my direction.

This is an unlikely couple, I think to myself, as I bury my face in the paperback again.

"...Human intelligence is a function of man's evolutionary urge; the scientist and the philosopher hunger for truth because they are tired of being merely human. Now, was it possible that these creatures were intelligent in the same way? Since they were our enemies, it was hard to believe. But history has taught us that intelligence is no guarantee of benevolence....

"I explained my fears and said that I thought we would have to make an attempt to

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learn something more about the parasites. We asked our four 'pupils' to make an effort to establish a telepathic link with us...."

The author was clearly onto something here. Possibly my own intelligence and creativity were being sapped by an insidious force, some parasitic entity as old as man itself that fed on the instinct to poetry and art. I was annoyed that I could not focus on the page. The two intruders were raising their voices. I was on the brink of inspiration here, at least an insight as to why my artistic juices were being siphoned away as quickly, it seemed, as they arose.

"You're crazy!" the woman was saying to the man. "No way!"

"All right," I could hear the guy as he hunched forward, trying to get her to lower her voice. "Forget that. Just forget that." And then he whispers something else I can't make out. Whatever it is, she doesn't like it. She gets up, leaving her

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coffee, and pushes open the door. She turns south on Midway and in a moment the fog envelops her. I can make out her dim shape against smudged headlights, hear her solid heels stomping with annoyance as she turns the corner into the parking lot where the F Street bookstore is the only other open business at this hour.

The computer/science guy is shambling after her into the darkness, waving a few crumpled bills in the night air. "Latisha!" he calls out, "Latisha!" Something like that. I'm glad they've gone. Now I can concentrate on art, see if I can get the muse to return after such a rude interruption. I need a story, dammit. Just an idea, a character - something. Give me a break here.

It's quiet again in Yum Yum's and I can think.

The Colin Wilson book is okay. I think I understand that the mind parasites are a metaphor for distraction. Like these two that just left. Mind parasites. While the supernatural science fiction thing is a good way to go - after all, I've written enough of that stuff and sold it - maybe I should pick one: either super-

continued on page 80

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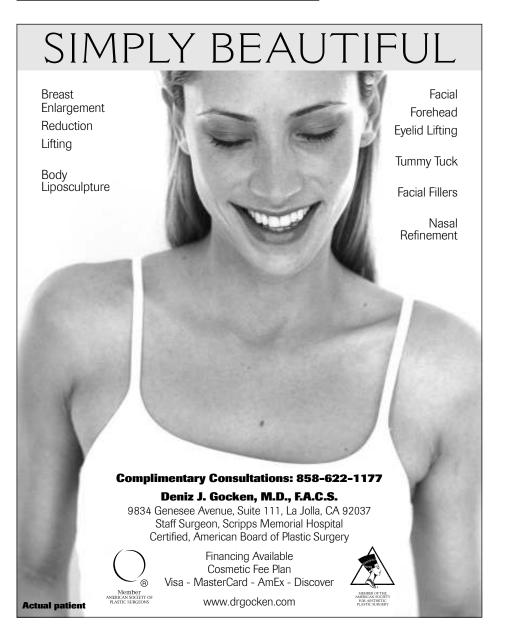
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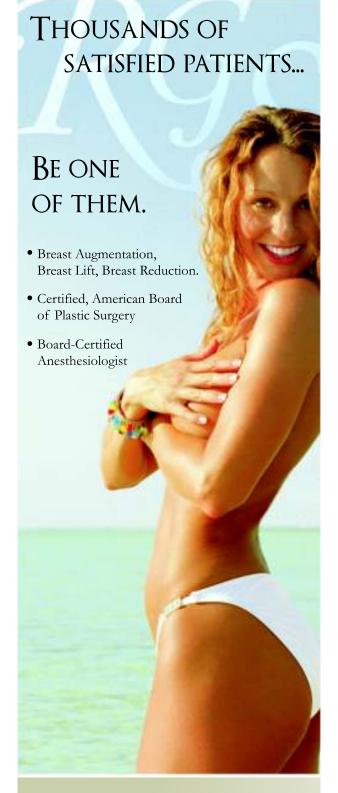
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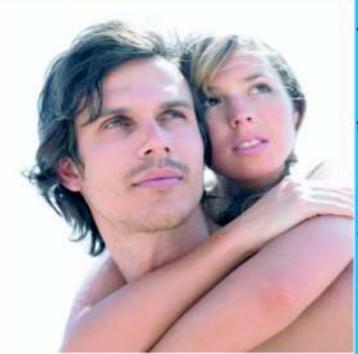
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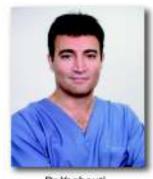
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Nose surgery at a glance

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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.

Procedure: Reshape the nose by reducing or increasing size, removing

hump, changing the shape of tip or bridge, narrowing the span of nostrils, or changing the angle between nose and upper lip. May also relieve some breathing problems.

Length: 1 to 3 hours or more. **Anesthesia:** Local with sedation or general.

In/Outpatient: Usually outpatient. **Recovery:** Back to work: 1 to 2 weeks. More strenuous activities: 2 to 3 weeks. Avoid hitting the nose or sunburn: 8 weeks. Final appearance: 1 year or more.

Effects Last: Permanently, but the nose continues to change some naturally over time.

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

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Face-lifts

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.



Actual Patients

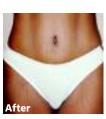












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then there is a slight tingling sensation from the laser light itself. Most patients tolerate the procedure well, but some areas of the body are more sensitive than others. Topical anesthesia is always available for those who may have sensitive skin.

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All Night Donuts

continued from page 74

natural fantasy or science fiction. Genre fiction is always commercial, but this Colin Wilson brand is a little too cerebral. What I need is another genre altogether.

I reach into my bag and come up with *Ace Diamond: Private Eye* by Mark Schorr. This one is signed to me. We both did a book signing at Grounds for Murder bookstore years ago, and he was a riot. He wrote on the title page: "To John: It was a pleasure to be mysterious with you. Best, Mark Schorr." It's a fond memory and I finally begin reading his book.

"I hit the floor in the darkened room as the slug from the big .45 whistled past my head like a truck driver ogling a pretty girl. There were two more whistles, followed by thuds, as the lead burrowed into the cracked plaster behind me.

"The rotgut I'd soaked up at the Arab's place in the Tenderloin was making me slow. I fumbled under my trench coat for my roscoe. The butt felt like a royal flush at a hot poker game as it slipped into my hand."

This stuff is great, and Schorr knows what he's doing: he's demonstrating not only a grasp but a mastery and reverence for a style fallen into disrepute. I blame women: their Sisters in Crime and novels like M Is for Menstruation or whatever it is — but then, I blame women for pretty much everything. I select another donut, just a plain donut, manly and unadorned, refresh my coffee. Chun smiles and retreats back to the vat of hot oil birthing lovely comfort food. I start humming to myself, a self-styled tune called "Lovely Donuts." The muse is nearby. That is undeniable.

The song goes nowhere. "Lovely Donuts, I love 'em so much...." Not much of a song. The sugar level in my metabolism is rising and falling at erratic rates, dangerous rates.

It is 3:00 a.m., and now I'm annoyed. Could be the sugar thing, but I'm thinking: All I want to do is pay some bills. I've written under pressure before. This donut-shop

idea was insane, but okay, here I am. I once spent an entire night in a Laundromat in National City and got some interesting stuff: drug deals and some old Elvis impersonator washing his cape. But it looks like no stories are going to walk through the door here. Still, try to look at this as a challenge, through new eyes. Take a leap, a creative risk! You can do it. A car is pulling into the lot. Two guys get out.

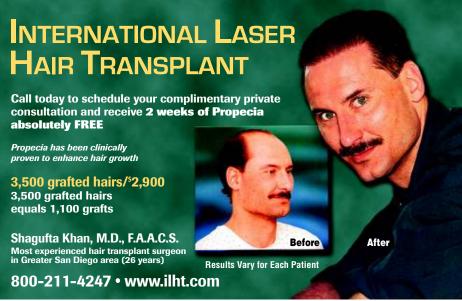
Whoever they are, I should be able to construct a story around them.

Pretty well dressed. Nice razor-cut hair on the one guy, a kind of Miami Vice suit on the other, and he's got a little earring that winks as it catches the overhead fluorescence spilling into the disabled spaces right out front. Jeez! There are like 40 handicapped parking spots right up against Yum Yum's. I'm just noticing this now. Maybe I should write about a handicapped pothead with a driver's license and the munchies at 3:30 a.m. I'm not physically handicapped, exactly, though I'm not what you would call athletic either, but I've got a good imagination. I file this

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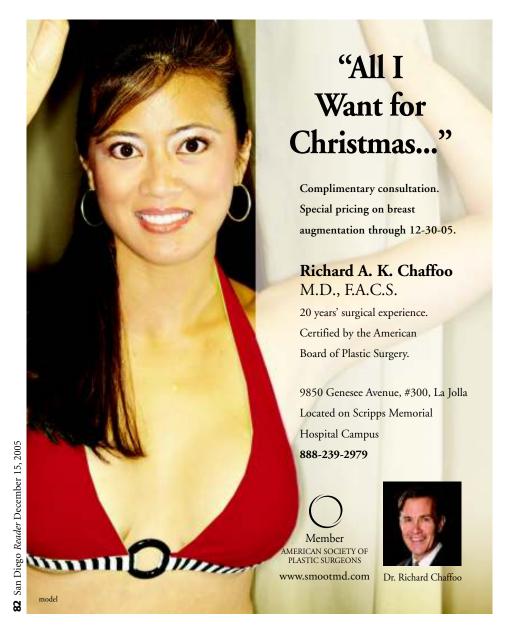


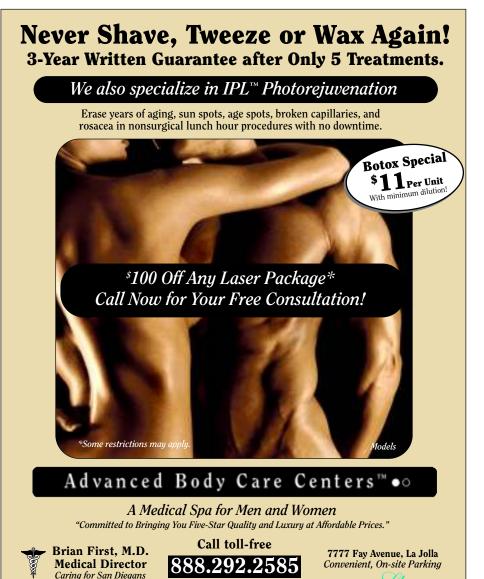
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one away for future reference. My handicap, it is now clear to me in a random moment of grace and lucidity, is that I am deprived of sleep and possibly undergoing a nascent, psychotic experience of some kind triggered by hyperglycemia and caffeinated blood flow to the brain coupled with REM deprivation and garden-variety dead-of-night anxiety courtesy of the IRS and other godless creditors. My subjects approach.

And walk right by. They are going to the F Street bookstore for porn. Well, forget it, I'm not going to waste my imagination on porn stories again. Not after that \$80 for 3000 words I did twice for certain national magazines you

guys might have in your secret collection. I wrote "The Erectile Ranch" and "Teen Pie" for magazines with embarrassing names like Strut and Lavender Truckers. A complete waste of time. Worse. The therapy cost me \$800.

Anyway, this gives me an idea. I reach into my portable library for Body Bag Bonanza by Gable Steele. This is straightforward, male-action fiction. Steele is a writer who clearly has no doubts. A good writer too: muscular prose, no time for intellectual waffling or prevarication. Guts. That's what he delivers, and that's what I need. Here's what I read and I realize, This ain't as easy as it looks. Here's a job. Do it. Am I up to this kind of commercial work? I ask myself as I read:

"Captain Dirk Buckrod fondled the trigger on the Uzi and dead-eyed the terrorist leader. Habib fell to his knees, 'Insha Allah!' he whined, 'Dispatch me to paradise, infidel!'

" "Fraid not, Habib. That would be too easy. You're going up against an international tribunal for crimes...duck! Grenade!' Buckrod hit the ground, rolling away from the 40 mm missile of death. He fed a fistful of slugs into the beefy torsos of the Palestinian fanatics pouring through the windows of the embassy. He was deafened by the concussion, but not before he heard the blood-chilling cry of his enemies, all of them armed with M-4A1s — 'Alahu Akbar!' "

How hard could it be to write this stuff? I ask myself as I stare out the window at the single parked car in the lot. Of course, I'd have to do some research, find out what an M-4A1 is and a 40 mm grenade and such, but hell, this town is full of Navy, and the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot is just a few blocks away. I reach for my cigarettes. I'll have to step outside to smoke and think about this.

As I'm smoking, I notice that the car, a late-model Honda Accord, has a radio antenna on the left side behind the rear window. A police radio antenna. Those two guys who just got out and walked into the adult bookstore are cops!

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Probably vice. The story is shaping up. San Diego Vice. A buddy novel. It would be like whatsisname, Crockett, Don Johnson, and the other guy, only Hispanic. These guys are on the heels of flashers and punk hustlers and chicken hawks, maybe child-porn moguls or a snuff-film ring in which a senator's daughter is involved. As the story is fermenting, another car pulls into the lot. I crush out my cigarette and return to my table where I've left my bag and camera.

Four men get out of the car. It's a Jeep Cherokee with heavy-metal rock bumper stickers - Metallica and Slayer

and one that reads, "If It's Too Loud, You're Too Old." As the guys open the Jeep doors, a cloud of smoke precedes them, like Sean Penn getting out of his van in Fast Times at Ridgemont High. This could be great, a late-night run-in with marijuana pushers and vice cops in the parking lot of Yum Yum Donuts. Three of the four guys have shaved heads. The fourth has longish hair and is wearing sunglasses — and he's the driver. These guys have to be stoned, and they've got donuts on their weed-enfeebled minds.

I go back to Body Bag Bonanza. I am studying the four youths as I pretend to

"In the Gulf War, Buckrod had learned compassion for the enemy, as a mercenary he had to unlearn it. 'Give my regards to Allah, Habib,' he said through gritted teeth and pumped leaden death into the terrorist leader...."

One of the kids with the shaved heads is looking at me and laughing. His eyes are bloodshot and stupid. "What are you reading?" he asks me. I show him the cover of the book. "Hey, are you, like, a Vietnam guy?"

"Ah...no..."

His friends are studying the donuts on display. The one with the sunglasses turns in my direction. I sense a challenge behind those tinted lenses. The other two are now engaged in a debate over buying a dozen donuts altogether or what. I have to buy time until the vice cops emerge from the porno store and collar these feral thugs before things get ugly.

"So, is that good?" The first kid is pointing at the book - not, I decide, the remains of my plain donut or the camera. That was it. They were going to rip off my camera and I was outnumbered.

"Yeah, it's pretty good." I get to my feet, clutching my bag and camera, casually leaning across the counter toward Chim Ny. "Is there a back way out of here?" I ask quietly.





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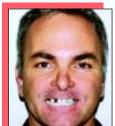


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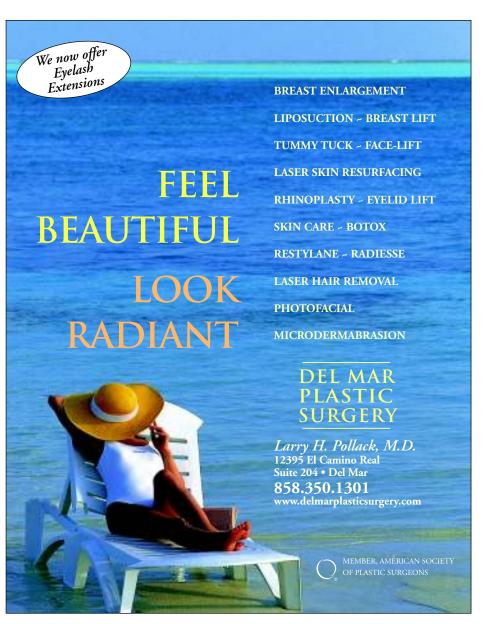
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"Yes, turn right. No light in there."

She has directed me to the bathroom. I don't see another way out. I enter the john and flip the light switch. It is as black as space in here. I sit on the toilet and crack open the door. I have to stall until the cavalry arrives. I only hope the gang doesn't try anything before help gets here. Through the crack in the door I see that two of the shaved heads have taken up positions by the door. Classic hold-up situation. I run through the odds quickly. My only edge is that I know the law is nearby, armed and looking for punks just like these. The kid who pretended he was interested in the Gable Steele book bends over my table to get a closer look at it. He stares at the cover, grinning mindlessly. "Cool," he nods and plops into a seat at the next table. The kid with the hair and the shades is ordering donuts and keeps changing his mind about what he wants.

This could take a while. Longhair passes the box of donuts around, and his accomplices chew maple bars and cake donuts, mostly with their mouths open. Their drug-addled eyes roam up and down the street with low, animal cunning.

I am going to have to wait it out. I might as well take advantage of my position. I lower my pants and get comfortable. The coffee is doing its work. I reach into my satchel for more reading material. Here is Philip K. Dick's *Clans of the Alphane Moon*. Though I had decided against science fiction, I leaf through the text to relax and facilitate the job at hand.

And I am shaken with a bizarre discovery. On page 43 of the Carroll and Graf paperback edition is my own name! The passage reads, "I'll wait until the divorce action comes up before Judge Brizzolara." I had never read this book before, though I had read plenty of Dick. I cannot describe the chill I experienced. To find one's name (not a common name by any means, I think it's safe to say) in a Philip K. Dick novel is cosmically unsettling. Anyone familiar with

Dick's body of work, his onion-skin realities, his juxtaposition of madness, illusion, and the mundane, will understand the fear I experienced as the minutes ticked toward dawn in that donutshop bathroom.

The young toughs are now making their way from the parking lot to their Jeep. They have, for some reason, decided against knocking over Yum Yum Donuts and are obviously frustrated in their plans to mug me for my camera as a result of my evasive maneuver. No doubt they think I am long gone.

I wait until the taillights of the Jeep are swallowed by the fog and then wait another three minutes for good measure before emerging from the back of the shop. I look out and see no traffic on Midway. The Jeep has headed toward West Point Loma Boulevard or I-8.

I decide against another coffee and another donut and just sit, reflecting on the close call I have avoided with quick thinking. I need a cigarette, find one in my jacket, and walk outside to light it up.

As I stand there in the damp chill, breathing the night air and coughing, my two vice cops appear on the sidewalk to my left. They have come out of the F Street bookstore at exactly 4:57 a.m., and my guess is, they aren't cops after all. One of them carries a paper bag from the adult bookstore. Both of them are laughing and talking in hushed tones. They are holding hands.

The hour or so until daylight stretches out before me like weeks. I will think of something to write. I just have to keep a cool head.

— John Brizzolara

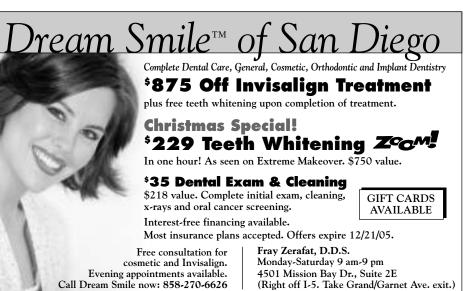






Kathleen Rocca, Clinical Aesthetician

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86 San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

Home on Wheels

Steven Grider unlocks the passenger door of his 1977 Chevy Leprechaun motorhome in response to a knock from an unexpected visitor. It's noon on a sunny Monday in late September. An autumn breeze blows in off the Pacific, cooling the parking lot of Robb Field in Ocean Beach, where Grider has backed his motorhome into a stall on the west side of the lot. Ten other RVs are also backed into that side of the lot.

Sixties rock blasts out the door when the visitor opens it. Grider, remote control in hand, has to click off the stereo to hear his guest ask whether this recreational vehicle is his home. "Yes," he answers. "I've lived in a motorhome for about five years. I've been living here in Ocean Beach for 20 years. Man, I've slept on top of buildings, between buildings, out in the fields, for 20 years. I was real good at being stealthy. I am not like your local typical homeless person that is always right in the middle of something, getting jacked up all the time. I was real stealthy about it and it worked pretty good for me. But now I've got a place in Mission Bay Park, housing for handicapped

Dressed only in denim shorts and flipflops, Grider appears to be anything but handicapped. At 57, he displays a washboard stomach that a man less than half his age would be proud of. Tugging on his long white goatee, he explains, "I had a bunch of body traumas and stuff, so I started rehabilitating myself. I started going to the gym, like an hour, two hours, three hours a day. This was eight years ago. The reason I started

is because it gave me the opportunity, when I was sleeping on the streets, to have a warm shower, and I thought that was essential. I washed for years at Dog Beach, in the ice water, even through the winter. My attitude was, you've got to get clean."

Grider says he carries the same attitude into motorhome living. "The first thing that I tell people is that if you are going to get a place and you're going to live in it, don't have people going in and out of your vehicle. When you park at night, that is your sanctuary. That is where you go to sleep, your alone time. The next thing I tell them is park by a church, or some kind of business that closes at night, so you are not knocking somebody out of their parking space. Otherwise, you piss people off and they call the police."

That's sage advice, according to Lieutenant Charles Hogquist of the San Diego Police Department's western division. Asked about the legality of living in a motorhome not parked in a recreationalvehicle park, Hogquist answers, "Well, you can't. Under the penal code you are not allowed to lodge on public grounds, park



your car on the street, park it at Robb Field or any of those places. So it is against the law to live there. It is illegal lodging."

However, Hogquist concedes that, "It is difficult to enforce, and it is not our highest priority. [Enforcement] is based on a complaint basis."

The biggest complaint the police receive with regard to the RV dwellers, he says, is parking. "I will give you an example. A lot of people come to San Diego with their motorhomes to spend the summer, and they don't want to pay to have a camping spot, say at Campland. In many cases it is actually cheaper to park in a city park, even though between two and six there is no parking, because the parking ticket is cheaper than paying Campland. Every now and then we run them out of the parking lots, because they have to clean them or we

lock them. What these people will do is move their cars up the street, and what they end up doing is take up all the parking there while they wait for the park to open. That affects all the businesses over there, so now all the employees and customers don't have a place to park."

But complaints aren't limited to parking issues. "These people," Hogquist says, "go on our priority list when they become a constant source of a problem. Like, during the summer, we had a group of three [motorhomers] that we knew were living out of the homes, and they would set up and take six stalls between the three vehicles, making it like a permanent area. They would aggressively solicit money and change from passersby. They would go to other people in the park and try to intimidate them to give them food and alcohol and things

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Saturday appointments! like that. So the issue wasn't the fact that they were living there, it was the other behavior that went with it."

Two parking spaces away from Grider sits the 1987 Toyota Dolphin belonging to Rick (who refused to give his last name). Like Grider, Rick, a bearded man of 45, wears flip-flops, shorts, and nothing else. Unlike Grider, he sports an enormous belly. He's been living his "life on wheels" for a quarter of a century. "And this has been my parking spot for those 25 years. Years and years ago, I used to live in an apartment downtown. I would work 12 hours a day, come home, crash out for another eight hours, and what did I have left over but just a couple hours a day that I spent out

of the house. And I had an epiphany one day, and I said, 'What the fuck am I doing all this for? Why the fuck am I spending all this money for basically a place to sleep?' So I decided one day that, fuck it, I am just going to move down here to the beach. But I couldn't find anything down here with a nice view. A friend of mine had a van for sale, so I bought it and started living in it."

Though he claims being an "RVer" is not an easy life, Rick says it's not too difficult if you obey a few basic rules: keep the area around your camper clean and don't park in front of houses. "And I learned a long time ago," he adds, "that you've got to spend money to keep your RV running and looking good."

Choosing good spots to park at night and during the day is another key, Rick says. As for nighttime parking, Rick co-owns a home in Sunset Cliffs, where he parks his Dolphin overnight. His days are spent at his spot in Robb Field. The other major daytime spot for motorhomers in Ocean Beach is the Dog Beach parking lot. "But I won't go near Dog Beach," Rick says. "Too many drug fiends and alcoholics over there. This is a cleaner crowd by far down here [at Robb Field]."

Over at Dog Beach, at 1:30 in the afternoon, there are seven or eight sunblanched RVs parked in the lot. All are older models. Backed in next to a strip of grass on the inland side of the lot is a 1978 Dodge Cruisemaster. Barry Stein, 56, answers a knock on the door and invites his visitor in. Dressed in what appears to be the motorhomer's uniform of shorts and flip-flops and nothing else, he takes a seat on the bed in the rear of the vehicle. A blonde woman in her mid-forties reclines on the bed. "I'm just visiting," she says. "I lived [in a motorhome] down here for a while, but this life is not for me. I am a woman, it's just too hard. The bachelors seem to adjust easier to it."

Cup of beer in hand,

Stein says he's been living in vehicles "for almost 20 years. I was a carpenter, but then I got hurt on a non-union job that didn't have insurance. So I just get SSI now. I get \$896 a month, and I can't afford to get an apartment. But I do it right this way, and I try not to park in front of anybody's house...Legally, you've got to be out of the lot before two in the morning, but I usually go around seven in the evening. And I have a spot I go to in the evenings that I don't tell anybody about. I never park in front of anyone's house."

Asked if, as Rick said, there is a lot of drug and alcohol abuse at Dog Beach, Stein answers, "No, not that I know of. I know some people have pot around here, but that is about it. Some of the homeless peo-

ple, they do crystal, but that's about it."

Why park in Ocean Beach?

"Habit, I guess. It used to be an old hippie town, and I liked that. But that's changing. I'm probably going to spend the winter out on the Colorado River near Yuma."

Stein, Rick, and Grider all say numbers of full-time Ocean Beach motorhomers are going up. "Nobody can afford rent anymore," says Stein.

"We get one or two new RVers every year," Rick says.

Municipal legislation proposed by Councilman Brian Maienschein might make motorhome living more difficult. "What will happen," Hogquist says, "is it will restrict where they can park on city streets and in parks. Like in the Robb Field area and Dog Beach, one of the issues that we are trying to address is...if you see how they are configured, they back the RVs into parking spaces instead of pulling them in. That's because they are a little too long for the stalls. But when they back in, they end up taking up that whole area of the grass behind them because the vehicle hangs over so far. So one of the things that they may require is for people to pull them in headfirst. And if they are too long, if they block the road, they won't be able to park in that part of the beach; they will have to move into a different section." ■

— Ernie Gimm



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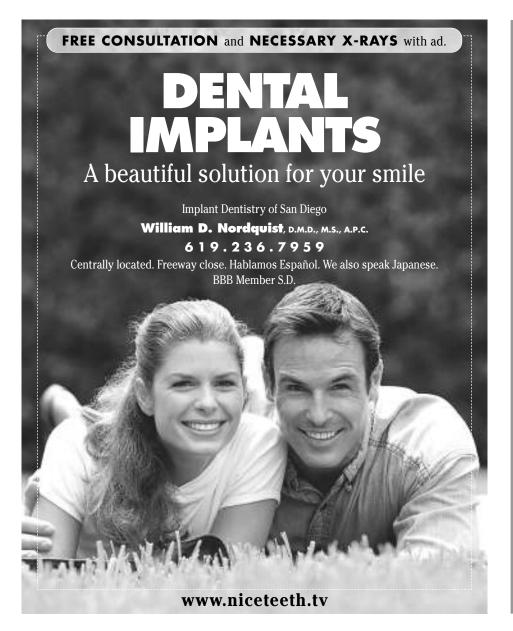
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LETTERS

continued from page 13

I made it home from Vietnam unscathed, though nearly got shot down over Da Nang during the Tet offensive of 1968. So many memories to share, some scary, the majority funny as hell. A lot like Westberg's.

Semper Fi!

Mike Musso Oceanside

Bravo All Over The Place

Re "The Late Long-Time Queen of the Café Critics," November 23.

I loved Jeannette De Wyze's in-depth look at this one-of-a-kind and complicated character. All I can say is "Bravo" all over the place.

On a personal note, I never met the woman, but I have lived in La Jolla since 1935, and I can tell you, just on the basis of friends of my parents in the '40s and '50s, that La Widmer was kidding herself about being the first or even near the first Jewish homeowner in La Jolla.

Lodewyk ("Louis") Lek, a patron of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, moved here in 1940, bought a lot at 1600 Mecca Drive, and had a marvelous home built which was designed by Harwell Hamilton Harris of Los Angeles, a good one for sure. Robert Mosher worked for

Harris early on.

Louis's brother Nico, a longtime patron and occasional actor at the Globe Theatre, in 1941 bought a large, two-story Spanish house on Pepita Way, where he lived for years with wife Marthe and daughter Evelyn.

Another brother, Frederik, and wife Helga bought a place in the early '50s, then another on El Camino del Teatro.

The Leks had entirely Jewish backgrounds, although they weren't practicing Jews, and had fled Amsterdam in the late '30s, where their family had long been very successful diamond merchants.

Henry and Muriel Levy also bought in the late '40s or maybe 1950 a house on Mar Avenue. They owned a furniture store in San Diego.

All these people were close friends of my parents (and of me), and I spent quite a bit of time in Nico's home and more in Louis's (he had a marvelous, for those days, record collection, and that was my introduction, age 14, to classical music). At his home, I met Sergei Rachmaninoff in person (not much personality and a cold, limp handshake!) and Jinx Falkenburg, seven months pregnant, Ginger Rogers, and, more often, her mother. Most of Louis's La Jolla friends were related to Scripps — I'll bet Walter Munk remembers him

In 1949, Louis wrangled a free ride for me to Europe on an ex-Liberty ship carrying Marshall Plan coal to France.

I am positive that there were other Jews who owned houses in La Jolla, but I can't recall names of those we didn't know personally.

While I was at La Jolla Elementary, 1935 to 1938, schoolmates of mine were Jack Schumann and his sister Marilyn, as well as a girl in my class whose name I can't remember, who went to temple in San Diego every week and did a report for my sixthgrade class on Channukah, as she spelled it then.

At La Jolla High School I knew Kenneth Alan Silver, who lived on Neptune Place (but his family may have rented, not owned) and Bob Berman, one of our better trackmen; again don't know

if the Bermans owned or not. Ah, nostalgia!

Harry Crosby La Jolla

Are Radios A Bad Thing?

I just read the "Eyesore Antenna Invades La Jolla" by Ernie Grimm ("City Lights," October 13) and found that the story seemed to lean towards the neighbors' favor.

Everything Mr. White said is true: high-frequency (40 meter) band is used for emergency communications such as the fires, earthquakes, floods, and telephone outages such as the one experienced over a month ago affecting the counties of Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino that disabled the 911 and nonemergency telephone service. You have to remember, not one repeater or communications system is the best or only one. It's like a diamond: there are many facets to the stone, and 40 meters is just one of many.

The other thing I don't understand is why it's so bad to be a radio amateur. Personally, I've been licensed since 1974, and during my life the hobby I embraced as a 14-year-old kid evolved into a career. I've worked for the San Diego Sheriff's Department as a senior communications dispatcher, and for the past 17 years I've been employed with the State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, as the Southern California communications coordinator. State OES utilizes an extensive radio amateur system, which includes ten stations across the state, all of which use 40 meters as the primary band during the day for emergency commun-

Personally, I use ham radio at my home. I have it in my personal and work car, and when my father was alive we used ham radio to stay in touch with each other as I traveled across the state. You may not like my radio antenna; I may not like the color of your home or the shrubs you planted to adorn it. But in the words of a Los Angeles philosopher, "Can't we all just get along?" Besides, with the prices of houses continuing to rise in America's Finest City, I doubt anyone has realized any property devaluation.

> John N. Hudson III via e-mail

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guides help the

hey [the whale watchers] sign a waiver. Then we get them in their wetsuits and booties, give them a paddle and a lifejacket, and head outside for a brief paddle instruction and safety talk," says owner of Hike Bike Kayak, Amy Kangleon.

LOCAL EVENTS

[whale watchers] get out into

the surf and they head

straight out from

mile away from shore. The La Jolla canyon starts about 30 yards out then drops off and starts to go very deep, and therefore large animals can come very close."

Kayakers are instructed to keep their distance from the wildlife. "Once we had a participant charging after a baby whale, and I just don't recommend that we don't pet them.

don't recommend that...we don't pet them.
"We do see quite a bit of
wildlife, even [when] we don't see
whales," Kangleon explains. In

maximum of ten, may paddle up to three miles. "It depends on the group. If people are not as fit, we're not going to go as far, but it is exercise," explains Kangleon. "We need people to not have any serious medical conditions." Wetsuits are provided in sizes up to XXL.

"We make sure that people are in the right-sized boat because these kayaks have weight limits. That's why, unfortunately, we have to ask people how much they weigh." A single kayak (built for one person) can accommodate up to 220 pounds, and most tandem kayaks (built for two people) can handle up to 400 pounds. "If someone's a little bit bigger, up to 275 or 300 pounds, we can put them in the middle of a tandem kayak."

Single kayaks, which retail for around \$500, are 11 feet long and 3 feet wide.
Tandems, which run about \$600, are usually 13 feet long and 45 inches wide, according to

[whale watching] you have weather, you have cold. If you walk several times a week you should be fine. And if you're concerned [that you might not be fit enough], I would suggest riding tandem with a friend who is stronger. It's usually women who underestimate themselves, but I think that's life in general."

Kayaks can tip over in the water, especially if the person paddling makes jerky movements or fails to maintain balance when hit with hard wind or a wave. "Usually that happens in the surf where you leave or come in. Those are the places you want to be more careful." To avoid tipping, guides urge kayakers to watch the waves, "making sure you're not going out when a big wave is going to come and knock you over," and to direct kayaks straight into the waves. "The boats can handle it; they can go right over the waves." The issue becomes whether or not

one can "power through it." Sometimes, though, there is no way to avoid tipping, and Kangleon insists this is no cause for alarm. "Most of the time

the beach into the ocean."

The first whale-watching tour Hike Bike Kayak will give this season will be on Saturday, December 17, after which tours will be held daily through March. It is during these months that gray whales pass through the waters off the coast of La Jolla as they migrate from Alaska to Baja California, the primary location where calves are born and adults mate. "The whales tend to come in closer when they're going south," says Kangleon. "We have seen them as close as the kelp beds, which is a 30-minute paddle — not even a

past seasons two-thirds of kayaking tourists spotted whales. "We have seen pods of dolphins, sunfish, schools of fish, sea lions, cormorants, and brown pelicans, which are amazing — we see [the pelicans] all the time." One tour group stumbled onto a pod of 50 dolphins, some of which jumped over the kayaks. "Dolphins are so beautiful and playful. We have a lot of people who do want to touch them [especially when they come closer], but I feel it's safer to try to maintain a healthy distance."

Touring groups, which are limited to a

Kangleon, whose store has recently begun to sell kayaks.

Those who go on this tour should expect to get wet. "Right now the water is about 59 degrees. In December it is usually in the high 50s or low 60s. If you're concerned about getting cold, bring a paddling jacket to put over your wetsuit or wear a rash guard underneath your wetsuit," suggests Kangleon. The jackets range from \$59 to \$89, and the rash guard is around \$40.

"I don't recommend this tour for people who never exercise," says Kangleon. "Beginners can do the La Jolla sea caves tour, but for the water is so shallow you can stand up."

— Barbarella

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<u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

NUTTIEST TIME

of the year? City Ballet of San Diego presents The Nutcracker, December 16-18, Spreckels Theatre.

(see Dance)

PHOTOGRAPH BY DALE STOKES



BAJA

Christmas Concert by Sinfónica Juvenil de Tijuana, San Diego State University Orchestra, and Sacri Cordis Jesu Choir, Thursday, December 15, 7 p.m., at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de los Héroes

and Mina Street, Zona Río). \$5 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

"Signs and Metaphors," art exhibition with installation, sculpture, and paintings by Dennis Oppenheim, Shimotani Chihiro, Vicente Rojo, and Felipe Ehrenberg opens with reception on Friday, December 16, 7 p.m., at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de

los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636.

Take the Train to Tecate when Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association hosts vintage train excursion, Saturday, December 17. Train departs Campo Depot at 10:30 a.m., returns to Campo at 4:30 p.m. Fare: \$40 for

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Romantic Julian Getaway! Mid-week-Beat The Crowds

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SEA

Asia Eden Bed & Breakfast

Complete with full service salon, invites you to stay with us in beautiful La Jolla Village, close to San Diego's famous beaches. Special couples package includes 1 night stay, 2 one-hour full body massages, and breakfast, \$299. Add an extra night, \$99! Long-term rentals available. Salon special packages include facial, manicure, pedicure, one-hour massage, \$250. Reservations, 858-551-9911

Rosarito Beach Hotel Weekend \$259 (Value \$307)

Friday-Saturday night stay. Oceanfront room. Two Saturday dinners. Two kids 12 & under get free dinner/room with parents. Free spa. \$10 bar credit. Per couple for Friday-Saturday nights. Restrictions apply. Not applicable on US holidays; taxes & gratuities not included. Must reserve spa appointments directly, 011-52-661-612-1287. Valid until December 24, 2005. Saturday night only \$158. www.rosaritobeachhotel.com. 1-800-343-8582.

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Come and enjoy the rhythmic sounds of the Pacific Ocean. Sip your morning coffee al fresco while relaxing on our oceanfront deck or take a rejuvenating moonlight stroll on the beautiful beaches of Del Mar! Special rates from \$69 Sun-Thur & from \$89 Fri-Sat. Tax not incl. & sub. to availability. 800-223-8449, DelMarMotelOnTheBeach.com.

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Christmas Play *La Campesinela* is presented Saturday, December 17, 8 p.m., at Tijuana Cultural Center (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Total Combat 12, two title fights and ten matches scheduled, Saturday, December 17, 5 p.m., at Baby Rock (at Diego Rivera and Paseo de los Héroes, Zona Río). Tickets: \$40 general, \$50 preferred, \$75 VIP. 619-392-4660. (TIJUANA)

Tamal and Mole Festival, with food competitions, Christmas party, music, and entertainment is planned Sunday, December 18, 2–8 p.m., at Festival Plaza Gallery. 011-52-661-612-0700. (ROSARITO BEACH)

OUTDOORS

Poinsettias, a favorite of backyard gardeners, are now exhibiting their scarlet, petal-like bracts, just in time for the holidays. The onset of 14-hour-long nights triggers their behavior: In San Diego this condition is met just before the date of winter solstice — December 21.

Hike to San Diego County's High Places to take advantage of December's characteristically clear air. From spots such as Cuyamaca Peak in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Wooded Hill in the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area, and Boucher Hill at Palomar Mountain State Park, vistas stretching a hundred miles across the Pacific Ocean are not uncommon at this time of year. Look for the dark profiles of

Santa Catalina and San Clemente Islands, lying northwest and west of San Diego, respectively.

December's Full Moon, named the "cold moon," "oak moon," "wolf moon," and "moon of long nights" according to the traditions of certain past cultures, rises spectacularly over the eastern horizon a few minutes before the sun sets on Thursday, December 15. The moon's night-long journey will take it nearly to the zenith of the sky by midnight and then down to a setting position over the ocean by dawn on Friday morning.

Mission Hills Holiday Lights Jaunt, including tour of Mission Hills Nursery, led by Walkabout on Friday, December 16. Moderate one-hour walk starts at 5:45 p.m. at Espresso Mio (1920 Ft. Stockton). Free. 619-231-7463. (MISSION HILLS)

Look for Migrating Shorebirds during bird walk hosted by Friends of Famosa Slough, Saturday, December 17. Easy walk with variety of birds and views of salt marsh habitat starts at 1 p.m. at first bench on Famosa Boulevard, south of intersection with West Point Loma Boulevard. 619-224-4591. Free. (POINT LOMA)

Holiday Birding planned on Saturday, December 17, 9 a.m., at Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center (7380 Gabbiano Lane). Free. 760-931-0800. (CARL SBAD)

Guided Nature Walks on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, December 17, 18, and 21, 9:30 to 11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Strawberry Stand Wetland Learning Center is open on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon, for viewing and learning about San Dieguito Lagoon, wetland wildlife, future restoration projects. Free. Find center on San Andres Drive (off Via de la Valle). Free. 858-674-2275 x14. (DEL MAR)

Hike in Hellhole Canyon Open-Space Preserve with ranger and docent, Saturday, December 17, starting at 9 a.m. in parking lot at Kiavo Drive and Santee Lane. Free, 760-749-5320. (VALLEY CENTER)

Birding the Marsh, Chula Vista Nature Center hosts guided birdwatching hikes around Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Saturday, December 17, 8 a.m., and Sunday, December 18, 11 a.m. Reservations: 619-409-5903. Free. (CHULA VISTA)

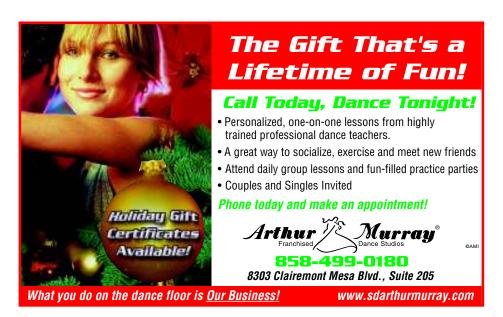
A Guided Nature Walk begins at 9:30 a.m. on December 17, at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). 858-581-9961. Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. Hikes offered third Saturday of each month. (CLAIREMONT)

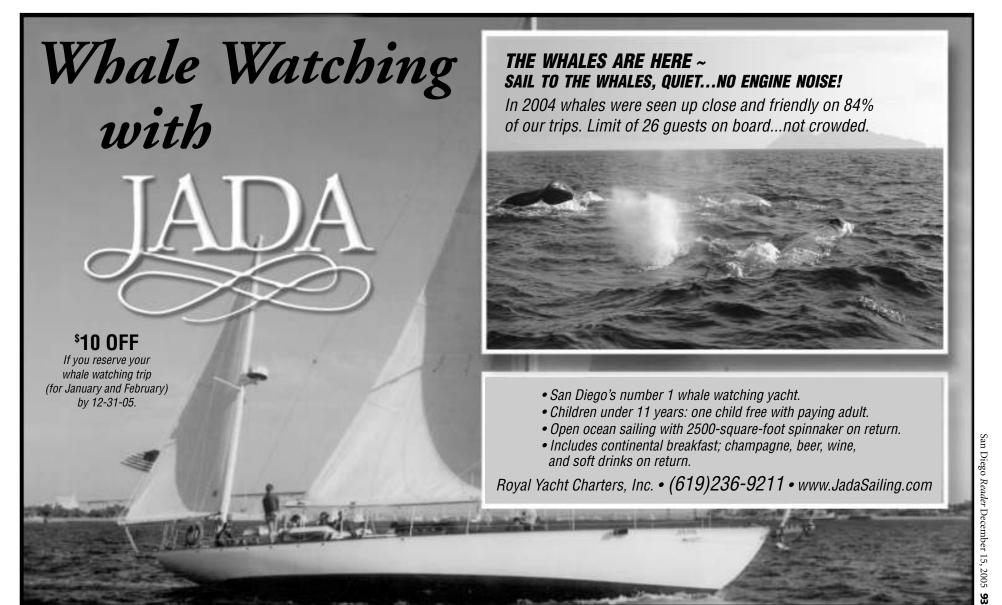
What Should You Plant Now for blooms in spring? Find out when Buena Vista Native Plant Club meets, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). 760-439-2473. Free. (OCEANSIDE)

Search for Water Birds at marsh habitat and estuary of San Elijo Lagoon County Ecological Preserve with Canyoneers, Sunday, December 18, 8:30 a.m. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (CARDIFF)

Winter Solstice, the moment when the sun reaches its southernmost point on the celestial sphere, occurs this year at 10:35 a.m., Wednesday, December 21. This







Ever Hiked to the Kumeyaay Solstice Observatory on Cowles Mountain? The Kumeyaay used this site and similar sites to mark winter solstice. Canyoneers plan solstice hike up Cowles on Wednesday, December 21, 6 to 7:30 a.m. Strenuous hike. Dress warmly, Directions: 619-255-0203. Free. (SAN CARLOS)

DANCE

Bellydance Showcase with Sohaila, Aziza Nawal, Eleo, and Jennifer, live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble, Thursday, December 15, 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). Donation: \$5. 619-688-

Ranting Banshee makes music, JoAnn Koppany calls for contradance on Friday, December 16, 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)

Nuttiest Time of the Year? City Ballet of San Diego, under direction of Steven and Elizabeth

Wistrich, has performances December 16-18 at Spreckels Theatre (121 Broadway). Production follows choreography by Russian choreographer Lev Ivanov. Curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday. 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 December 16-18 at Casa del Prado Theater. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets: \$10-\$12. 619-233-3060. (BALBOA PARK)

Leaping Cossacks! Legions of rats! San Diego Ballet presents the classic ballet December 16-18 in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. The Nutcracker begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday; and again at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday. \$28 general, \$18 for children. 619-294-7378. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra accompanies dancers of San Eliio Dance and Music Academy for The Nutcracker they present Tuesday and Wednesday, December 20 and 21, 7:30 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$17.50, \$29, \$39. 800-988-4253 (ESCONDIDO)

Polka and Waltz featured at beginner-friendly dance on Friday, December 16, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Costumes encouraged. Lesson at 7:30 p.m., followed by open dancing. Free. All ages; partners not required. 619-583-9956.

'Tis the Season to head to "Old-Fashioned Holiday Party" on Saturday, December 17, at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street). Evening begins with holiday singing at 7 p.m., then "dancing to oldies but goodies." Bring party

A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND I BY JERRY SCHAD

ROAM-()-RAMA

ne rustic East County communities of Harbison Canyon and Crest are separated by only a mile of horizontal distance. Harbison Canvon shelters amid oak woods in a deep-cleft hollow, while Crest, some 700 feet higher in elevation, clings to slopes dotted with granite outcrops and scrubby chaparral. Both areas were swept by the mammoth 1970 Laguna Fire and by the even more mammoth and more destructive (in terms of property loss) 2003 Cedar Fire.



You can tour these communities by bicycle on the following 16-mile, looping route — but only if you have the mettle to tackle one extremely steep uphill grade and two others of lesser challenge. The best (and far safest) time to enjoy the ride is early any Sunday morning, when traffic is near nil

A convenient place to begin is the intersection of Granite Hills Drive and Dehesa Road on the southeast edge of El Cajon, Ample parking is available along nearby Washington Avenue. Head east on Dehesa Road, climbing for a long mile to a low summit. A breezy downgrade follows, with a panoramic view of the Sweetwater River valley ahead. Down below, Singing Hills Golf

Course spreads like a green carpet on the flood plain.

After meeting Willow Glen Road at the bottom of the grade, Dehesa Road flattens and straightens out. Continue east, staying on Dehesa Road for another 3.3 miles. When Dehesa Road veers east toward the Sycuan casino, stay straight (north) on Harbison Canyon Road. This is where traffic might significantly increase for a while due to patrons traveling to and from the casino. Climb moderately for another 2.6 miles, and arrive in the oak-bowered hamlet of Harbison

Watch for Frances Drive, on the left. Within two blocks, Frances becomes Mountain View Road and real labor begins. As you inch up the sharp grade toward Crest, try to get a glimpse of the panorama widening behind you. Near

the top, the road dips momentarily, and after that you climb to a final summit and the intersection of La Cresta Road. Most of the hilltop community of Crest lies to the south. On very clear days, and picnic tables.

The loop route continues west down the lazily curling, descending La Cresta Road, which carries a busy stream of cars during peak travel periods. After an eight- to ten-

HARBISON CANYON

Cycle over steep hill and deep dale on the rural roads of Harbison Canvon and Crest.

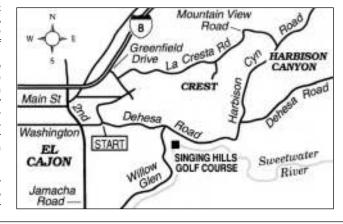
Distance from downtown San Diego: 18 miles

Biking length: 16 miles

Difficulty: Strenuous (but only briefly)

lucky Crest residents (many of whom are rebuilding their houses) get an eyeful of the distant ocean spreading along the western horizon. If you're ready for a pause that refreshes, head a half-mile south to Nancy Jane County Park, a spot of green with water

minute glide, you arrive at Greenfield Drive, Turn left and pedal 0.6 mile uphill to Madison Avenue. Turn right and coast 0.3 mile to Granite Hills Drive, Make a left there and follow the remaining 1.5 miles of Granite Hills Drive as it curves back to the starting point.













food to share. 619-281-5656. \$6. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Holiday Ballroom Dance Showcase, Saturday, December 17, at Cheek2Cheek Dance Studio (909 Grand Avenue, suite 3). Dance competition with free admission, 1–4 p.m.; general dancing and professional show, 8–11 p.m. (\$10). 858-270-7100. (PACIFIC BEACH)

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 Janet Arnold on December 18. Beginner's instruction at 6 p.m. \$6 per class; \$20 per month. 858-486-9160. (POWAY)

San Diego 'N' Line Dancers host guest instructor Shirley King teaching three beginner line dances on Sunday, December 18, 6:30 p.m., at War Memorial Building (3325 Zoo Drive at Park Boulevard). \$5. All ages. 619-890-4209.

Holiday Swing and Jitterbug Dance Party at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center, Sunday, December 18, for singles and couples of all ages. DJ plays music for open dancing 7 to 9:30 p.m.; dance lesson at 7:30 p.m. Find center at 1255 West Morena Boulevard. 619-275-3533. Admission is \$7; free for first-timers. (BAY PARK)

Hip-Hop, Don't Stop, hip-hop instructor Prince leads classes on Thursdays, 7:45 to 9 p.m., at 4569 30th Street. \$10 per class, \$35 for four. 858-635-1211. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Holiday Dance Workshop led by New York-based dancer and choreographer Gabriel Masson for San Diego Dance Theater, Monday–Saturday, December 26–31, at California Ballet studios (8276 Ronson Road). Class is 10 a.m. to noon daily. Fee: \$20 per class, \$110 for week. Reservations: 858-484-7791. (LINDA VISTA)

Salute to Vienna New Year's Day Concert is Sunday, Jan-











Calendar Local Events

uary 1. Cast of over 75 professional musicians, singers, dancers led by Viennese conductor Peter Sommerer. Austrian tenor Christian Brüggeman, Hungarian soprano Mónica Fischl, Hungarian comedic operetta duo Mara Kékkovács and Dávid Szabó perform songs and duets from Strauss operas and Viennese operettas. Members of Budapest Operetta Theater perform waltzes and polkas.

Events begin at 2:30 p.m. in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$37–\$75, available by calling through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

FILM

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.

New Work by Film Students of School of Theatre, Television, and Film at San Diego State Uni-

versity is Friday, December 16, 7 p.m., in Don Powell Theatre at SDSU. Program boasts fiction, documentary, animation, music videos, experimental works. Barbecue at 5:30 p.m. included in \$10 fee. 619-594-1375. (SDSU)

Outdoor Holiday Film Series concludes with *It's a Wonderful Life* on Friday, December 16, 6 p.m., at Judson Park (at Magnolia Avenue and West Park). Free. Bundle up and picnic. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

The "Caustic Romp" Happy Endings stars Maggie Gyllenhaal, Lisa Kudrow, Laura Dern, Tom Arnold, and screens for Sunday Matinee on December 18, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800.

"Secret Cinema Salon," Sunday, December 18, 7 p.m., at Media Arts Center San Diego (921 25th Street). Rare and notable films from past, present, future of world cinema screened, then discussed. Requested donation: \$5. 619-230-1938 x123. (GOLDEN HILL)

Intensity and Optimism — Josh Sternfeld's Winter Solstice, starring Anthony LaPaglia and Allison Janney, screens for Film Forum on Monday, December 19, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

"Sullivan's Travels" screens for ongoing Carlsbad Library film series in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane), Wednesday,

OUT & ABOUT

INTENSITY AND SURPRISING optimism — Winter Solstice for Film Forum, San Diego Public Library, Monday, December 19.

(SEE FILM)



December 21, 6 p.m. Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

Satyajit Ray's Classic "Apu Trilogy" screens on Thursdays in January at Museum of Photographic Arts. See *Pather Panchali* is set for January 5; see *Aparajito* on January 12; and *The World of Apu* on December 19. Screenings begin at 7 p.m. \$10 per film. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

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

"Dog Aggression: Normal or Nasty?" It's subject for Happy Hour Lecture on Thursday, December 15, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society (5500 Gaines Street). \$10. Required reservations: 619-243-3424. No pets. (LINDA VISTA)

"Mountain Lion Research: What's It All About?" Learn "What Radio Collaring of Mountain Lions Teaches Us" when Mike Puzzo speaks for Anza-Borrego Institute on Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park visitors' center. \$5. Reservations: 760-767-0446. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Have "Wacky Health Fallacies"

affected you? Dr. Peter Remondino speaks for Humanist Fellowship round-table discussion, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. (DOWNTOWN)

"New Year's Resolutions" — that is, creating and keeping worthwhile resolutions — is subject during lectures on Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., and Tuesday, December 20, 6 p.m., at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 107). Free. 760-436-7740. (CARLSBAD)

"The Men in Wet Skirts," slide show by Steve Muse "detailing an adaptive kayaking adventure in Baja," from Mulege to Loreto, Monday, December 19, 7 p.m., at Aqua Adventures Kayak Center (1548 Quivira Way). Free. 619-523-9577. (MISSION BAY)

Writing Practice every Tuesday, noon, at Hi-Way Haven (466 North Pacific Coast Highway 101), led by creativity coach and author Jill Badonsky. \$8. 760-434-3436.

Japanese-Style Flower Arrangements for Holidays created when Ikebana International meets, Wednesday, December 21, 10 a.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. 760-728-5586. Free. (BALBOA

"Is America Ready to Legalize Gay Marriage?" Discuss on Wednesday, December 21, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

"San Diego County's Horticulture Industry: Why It's Here; Will It Stay?" Question answered by horticulturist Eric Larson, executive director of San Diego County Farm Bureau, when San Diego Horticultural Society gathers on Monday, January 9, at 6:30 p.m., in Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Talk followed by plant forum. Free. 760-730-3268. (DEL MAR)

IN PERSON

Colin McPherson's Comedy *Dublin Carol* has staged reading by









San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

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For additional information about holiday events and activities at Seaport Village go online to: www.seaportvillage.com



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December Home Schedule

Friday, December 16 7:35 pm vs. Long Beach Ice Dogs

Free Food Friday

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Saturday, December 17 vs. Bakersfield Condors Holiday stocking giveaway (First 5,000 fans through the door).

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for information.



Ron Choularton, Francis Gercke, Kristianne Kurner benefiting New Village Arts Theatre, Thursday, December 15. Reading starts at 8 p.m., following reception at 6:30 p.m.; desserts and coffee served by actors at 9:30 p.m., all at Studio Space at Jazzercise Inc. (2460 Impala Drive). \$50. Reservations: 760-433-3245. (CARLSBAD)

"Les Misérables" (School Edition) is presented through December 17 by students at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (2425 Dusk Drive). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, with 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets: \$8, \$10 general. 619-470-0555~x232.~(PARADISE HILLS)

"Entre Nous Showcase," hidden talents of librarians and other library staff members showcased in series continuing with "Holiday Cheers," Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m., at Weingart/City Heights Library Performance Annex (3795 Fairmount Avenue). Danielle Black and Family perform gospel music, Point Loma Peninsula Singers play holiday music. Free, 619-641-6103, (CITY HEIGHTS)

Cosmic Cowboy Music! I See Hawks in L.A. performs Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., for AcousticMusicSanDiego at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). The bill also boasts John Batdorf and James Lee Stanley. Tickets: \$17, \$20. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Classic Reading Series continues with Birds by Aristophanes on Saturday, December 17, 4 p.m., at 6th@Penn Theatre (3704 Sixth Avenue). Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-688-9210. (HILLCREST)

Riders in the Sky take stage for fun-filled holiday concert with Western wit, Saturday, December 17, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard), \$22-\$40. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Tim Flannery and Friends $\operatorname{in}\nolimits$ concert on board Star of India, Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m. Flannery's tunes are "blend of country, folk, and traditional music." \$30. Reservations: 619-234-9153. Find Star at 1306 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

All-American Boys Chorus sings on Saturday, December 17, 1 and 3 p.m., at Seaport Village (West Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway). Free. 619-235-4014. (DOWNTOWN)

<u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

WIENER WONDERLAND Sunday, December 18, Balboa Park.

(SEE SPECIAL)



New Sounds Downtown, head to Voz Alta (1544 Broadway) for concert hosted by Curtis Glatter, Saturday, December 17, 8 p.m. Performances by Something Strange Is Afoot and Trio Maghreb. \$5. 619-235-9815. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Gospel Messiah" performances by members of Church Choir Conference, led by Rose Buchanan, December 17 and 18, 7:30 p.m. Group performs Saturday at Otay Ranch High School (1250 Olympic Parkway); \$20. Concert repeats Sunday at Copley

Symphony Hall (750 B Street); \$15-\$58. 619-235-0804. (CHULA VISTA, DOWNTOWN

Third Annual Holiday Jazz and Blues Festival is Saturday, December 17, 11 a.m. to midnight, at Seventh Avenue and Market Street (two blocks north of Petco Park). Jazz, blues, Christmas music, choirs, holiday trinkets, food. Featured performers include Tomcat Courtney, Carl Evans Jr., many others. Free; donations welcome. 619-685-7215. (EAST VILLAGE)

Westwind Brass and North Coast Singers perform holiday tunes from around world, Saturday, December 17, 2 and 6 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escon-

dido (340 North Escondido

Boulevard). Audience sing-along

promised. \$15. 800-988-4253.

(ESCONDIDO)

"Sounds of the Season."

Eve Selis winter holiday concert, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., Winter Concert series in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Dona-

tion: \$5; bring gift for holiday toy drive. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

"Gospel Messiah," piece based on Quincy Jones's "Soulful Celebration" presented by San Diego Symphony, Sunday, December 18, 7:30 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: 15-58.619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Live at LifePoint features acoustic artists Michael Tiernan and Will Edwards, Sunday, December 18, 7 p.m., at 4698 Alvarado Canyon, suite A. Free. 619-750-3537. (MISSION VALLEY)

U.S. Senator and debut novelist Barbara Boxer signs A Time to Run, Monday, December 19, 5 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-0347. Books for signing must be purchased from Warwick's. (LA JOLLA)

The Fifth Annual All-Teen Talent Show and contest is Tuesday, December 20, 6 p.m., in Turrentine Room at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Teens in grades 7-12 may participate. Free. 760-839-4656. (ESCONDIDO)

"Tab Hunter Confidential: The Making of a Movie Star" signed by Hunter himself, Wednesday, December 21, 7 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). Free. 619-459-3247. (NORTH PARK)



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"Disney's The Lion King" hits stage at Civic Theatre (at Third Avenue and B Street) for performances at variety of times through January 15. Tickets range from \$24—\$78, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

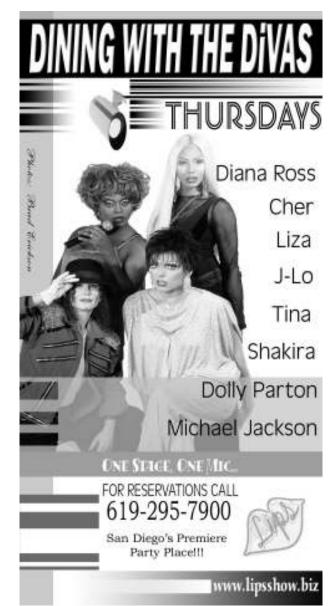
The Nanda Kot Expedition 2005 illuminated by Pete Takeda, Monday, January 9, 7 p.m., at Adventure 16 (4620 Alvarado Canyon Road). In 1960s, CIA and Indian government attempted to deploy plutonium-powered spy device on Nanda Devi and Nanda Kot in Indian Himalayas; Nanda Devi "rejected all attempts to place the device on her summit," the plutonium was lost and never recovered. Takeda and crew retraced spy route in 2005. Free. 619-283-2374. (MISSION VALLEY)

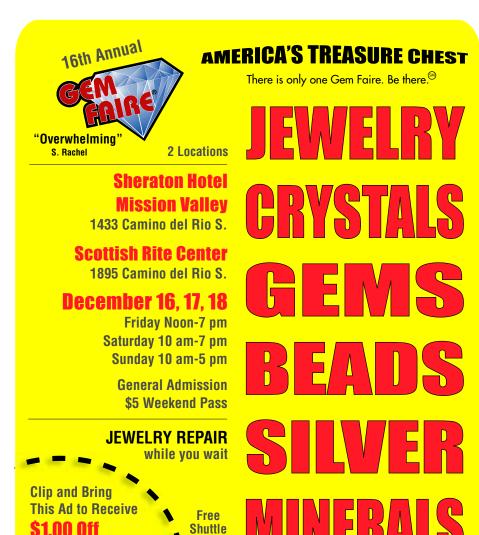
SPORTS

San Diego Gulls host Long Beach Ice Dogs, Friday, December 16, 7:35 p.m.; and Bakersfield Condors on Saturday, December 17, 7:05 p.m., at iPayOne Center. Tickets: \$12 to \$25, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

Whale Watching by Kayak led by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego, Saturday, December 17, at 9 a.m. and noon, off La Jolla Shores (2246 Avenida de la Playa). \$65 fee includes required equipment, snacks. Reservations: 858-551-9510. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Chargers are in Indianapolis for football against the Colts, Sunday, December 18,





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La Mesa Village



10 a.m. Tickets for future games: 619-220-TIXS. Broadcast on CBS.

Nuts About Cycling, join Knickerbikers bicyclists for a 25-mile jaunt to Bates Nut Farm and Valley Center on Sunday, December 18. Ride starts at 9 a.m. at Welk Resort (8860 Lawrence Welk Drive); park near gas station. Bring money or lunch. 858-451-3173. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Bay Holiday Lights Kayak Paddle offered Sunday, December 18, starting at 6 p.m. at Allen's Kayaks (819 San Fernando Place). \$30 fee includes equipment, guide. Reservations: 858-488-5599. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

Social Bicyclists Beckoned to take part in San Clemente 50-mile ride planned by Sierra Club bicyclists, Sunday, December 18. Riders take ride with rolling hills through Camp Pendleton to San Clemente and back. Lunch on pier. Bring photo ID for access to base. Ride starts at 9 a.m. in east public parking lot at Oceanside Harbor. 619-583-3261. (OCEANSIDE)

Moonlight Beach is site for high school surf competition, Sunday, December 18. Free for spectators. 760-931-1450. (ENCINITAS

Poinsettia Bowl, is Thursday, December 22, 7:30 p.m., at Qualcomm Stadium. The United States Naval Academy Midshipmen will meet up with Colorado State University Rams. Tickets: \$28, \$40, \$50, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (MISSION VALLEY)

The 2005 Pacific Life Holiday **Bowl** promises football between 5th-ranked Oregon Ducks and 23rd-ranked Oklahoma Sooners, Thursday, December 29, with 5 p.m. kickoff, in Oualcomm Stadium. Tickets: \$58, \$64, \$70. 619-283-5808, (MISSION VALLEY)

SPECIAL

Garden of Lights, tenth annual event at Ouail Botanical Gardens

OUT & ABOUT

COSMIC COWBOY

music! I See Hawks in L.A. for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 17.

(SEE IN PERSON)



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 15-23, December 26-30. Ornament and wreath making, music by strolling musicians, marshmallow roasting, chil-

dren'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)

Old-Fashioned Victorian **Christmas** in village of La Mesa, 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, December 16 and 17, with horsedrawn carriages, bonfires, outdoor market, music, shopping, caroling, refreshments, on La Mesa Boulevard (between Acacia Avenue and Fourth Street). Free. 619-462-3000. (LA MESA)

Doggie Café Holiday Party hosted by San Diego Humane Society on Friday, December 16, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society (5500 Gaines Street). Bring friendly, on-leash dogs to socialize with other canines.

Dog-friendly trainers offer training tips on how to keep dogs calm and civilized while around distractions such as food, people, other canines. Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. (MISSION VALLEY)

Gem Faire, December 16-18 with over 100 exhibitors offering jewelry, gems, beads, minerals, crystals, more. Show runs concurrently at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del Rio South) and Sheraton Hotel Mis-

To place your ad in

sion Valley (1433 Camino del Rios South), with shuttle between locations included in \$5 weekend pass fee. Hours: noon to 7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. 760-390-3599. (MISSION VALLEY)

Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra examined when Great Books Reading and Discussion Group meets Saturday, December 17, 2 p.m., in third-floor conference room, San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), 858-755-8978. Free. Newcomers welcome. (DOWNTOWN)

Solstice Gatherings and processions of light led by SD Puppet Insurgency, December 17 and 18. 4:30 p.m. Bring masks, candles, cozy clothing. Events on Saturday at Ocean Beach Park (at Ebers and Saratoga) and on Sunday at Trolley Barn Park (on Adams Avenue, between Alabama Street and Park). Free. 619-546-6613. (OCEAN BEACH, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

San Diego's Stamp Sisters a.k.a. Miriam Nason and Margy Davis — unveil "never-beforeseen postal art frames," discuss African-American culture depicted on postal materials, Saturday, December 17, noon to 4 p.m., at Where the World Meets (Market Creek Plaza, 336 Euclid Avenue). Free. 619-527-5660. (ENCANTO)

Tea Tasting with Michael Figgins, exploring characteristics and elements of teas, on Saturday, December 17, 2 to 4 p.m., at Caffe Calabria (3933 30th Street). Free. 619-291-1759. (NORTH PARK)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Alexandra's BookStore, Saturday and Sunday, December 17 and 18, and 6, noon to 6 p.m. Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured; \$20 per reading. The shop is located at 3545 Midway Drive, suite G. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS

Toys for Tots Auto Swap, Sunday, December 18, 6 a.m., at

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edding Guid the Wedding Guide, call 619-235-8200. A free, 24-hour line for planning your wedding. Call 619-233-9797 (on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com/wedding)

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100 San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

OUT & ABOUT

U.S. SENATOR

and debut novelist Barbara Boxer signs books at Warwick's Bookstore, Monday, December 19.

(SEE IN PERSON)



rier turning basin. Free. 619-224-

Wiener Wonderland San Diego

Dachshund Club hosts annual

Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive). Vehicles on display and for sale, along with "acres of parts and accessories." Admission: \$5 general, kids under 13 free. 858-484-9342. (EL CAJON)

"Nautical Nights" is theme for 34th annual San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, Sunday, December 18. Parade begins with fireworks at 5:30 p.m. Route: Shelter Island, passing Harbor Island, Seaport Village, Marina Park, across bay to Coronado, ending near Navy car-

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dachshund walk in Balboa Park, Sunday, December 18, 1 to 3 p.m., beginning at main fountain in front of Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Dress your doxie in holiday attire for promenade; bring a picnic if you like. Free, 858-755-9270. (BALBOA PARK)

The Backgammon Club of San Diego holds weekly tournaments every Tuesday, 6 p.m., at Coast Cafe (in Embassy Suites Hotel, 4550 La Jolla Village Drive). \$20 entry, \$10 reentry. 858-342-5533. (LA JOLLA)

"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

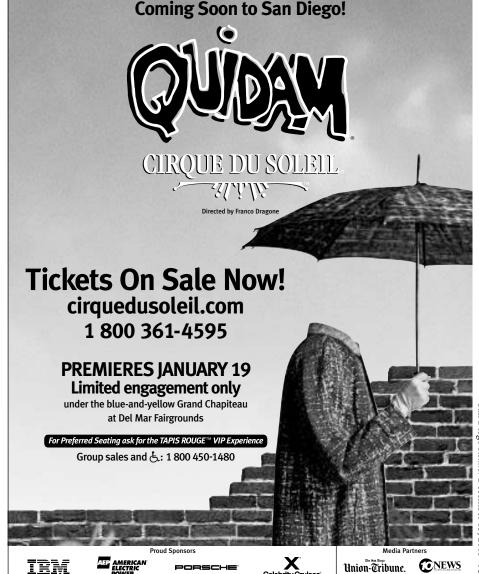






Actress/Owner





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 De-

Poetry

LATE NIGHT ODE (HORACE IV.I)

It's over, love. Look at me pushing fifty now, Hair like grave-grass growing in both ears, The piles and boggy prostate, the hanged man's penis, The sour taste of each day's first lie,

And that recurrent dream of years ago pulling A swaying bead chain of moonlight, Of slipping between the cool sheets of dark Along a body like my own, but blameless.

What good's my cut-glass conversation now. Now I'm so effortlessly vulgar and sad? You get from life what you can shake from it? For me, it's g.-and-t.s all day and CNN.

Try the blond boychick lawyer, entry level At eighty grand, who pouts about the overtime, Keeps Evian and a beeper in his locker at the gym, And hash in tinfoil under the office fern.

There's your hound from heaven, with buccaneer Curls and perfumed war paint on his nipples. His answering machine always has room for one more Slurred, embarrassed call from you-know-who.

Some nights I've laughed so hard the tears Won't stop. Look at me now. Why now? I long ago gave up pretending to believe Anyone's memory will give as good as it gets.

So why these stubborn tears? And why do I dream Almost every night of holding you again, Or at last of diving under you, my long-gone, Through the bruised unbalanced waves?

By J.D. McClatchy, from the April 1, 1991, edition of The New Yorker. Since that publication of "Late Night Ode," Mr. McClatchy has made significant changes to the poem. The revision can be read at www.poets.org.



cember 25, 26, January 1, 2). Free. 619-239-0512. (BALBOA PARK)

'Tis the Season for ice skating outdoors at Horton Plaza. Skating sessions last 1.5 hours, running 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Fee: \$10 general, \$8 for kids, which includes skate rental. 858-530-1825. Through Wednesday, January 18.

FOR KIDS

Trouble in the Toy Shop when Puppet Express performs through December 18 at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next, comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble presents Toy Store, December 21-24.

Show hours: Wednesday-Fridav, 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)

"The Worst Children in the **World,"** the (fictional) Herdman children offer the challenge in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever! Northern San Diego Junior Theatre production continues through December 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)

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" is next production by South Bay San Diego Junior Theatre, running December 16-18 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 Friday, 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 youths. 619-239-8355. (CHULA VISTA)

Make a Luminaria during program of "Holiday Fun" on Saturday, December 17, 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)

"Polar Places," learn about climate change in Arctic and Antarctic, polar biofacts, do environ-

mental crafts, more, during family program on Saturday, December 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Included in regular museum admission. Reservations: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

Explore Structures when Reuben H. Fleet Science Center hosts family science day, Saturday, December 17, noon to 3 p.m. Participants "make a free science experiment" to take home. Regular admission, 619-238-1233, (BALBOA PARK)

"Holiday Pops" family festival concert by San Diego Symphony with San Diego Master Chorale and Mariachi Champaña Nevin on Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$7-22, \$30 for family of six. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Mini-Sailboat Races highlight family day activities on Sunday, December 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Maritime Museum, Children 12 and under admitted free, with activities including mini-boat races, raising sails, sea chantey sing-alongs, rides on historic 1914 Pilot boat.

Children must be accompanied by an adult to enter for free. Find the museum at 1306 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero. 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

Teddy Bear Teas, bring your family and stuffed pal to teddy bear teas continuing through December 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)







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TASTE I

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Tuesdays, Jan. 17, 24 & 31, Ohr Shalom Synagogue (Downtown area) Sundays, Feb. 5, 12 & 19, Temple Emanu-El (College area) Thursdays, Feb. 23, March 2 & 9, Congregation Beth Israel (UTC area) Thursdays, April 27, May 4 & 11, Temple Solel (No. County area)

TASTE II

JEWISH CUSTOMS, LIFE-CYCLES, HOLIDAYS & TRADITIONS.

Mondays, Jan. 9, 23 & 30, Temple Adat Shalom (No. County Inland area) Thursdays, Mar. 16, 30 & Apr. 6, Tifereth Israel Synagogue (San Carlos area) Tuesdays, May 16, 23 & 30, Congregation Beth El (La Jolla area)

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THURSDAY: Lindy Hop* • West Coast Swing

FRIDAY: Salsa* • West Coast Swing

Social Dance Country-Western Two-Step* DANCES - Every Thursday: West Coast Swing/Nightclub Mix

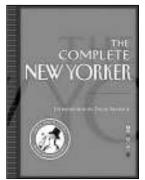
Every Saturday: Latin & Ballroom Every Sunday: Jitterbug/Swing

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Reading

The Complete New Yorker: Eighty Years of the Nation's Greatest Magazine



Introduction by David Remnick Random House, 2005; eight DVD-ROMs enclosed in a 123-page book-

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boxing, Winston Churchill, Citizen Kane, the invention of television, the Cold War, baseball, the lunar landing, Willem de Kooning, Madonna, the Internet, and 9/11?

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WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

Hartford Courant: Each page has been photocopied and reproduced in its entirety, ads, cartoons, and all. It's a little like 21stcentury microfiche without the laceration dangers. Each disc contains roughly 10 years' worth of magazines. You have to manually load the disc you want to access the issues represented therein. (In other words, unless you are an accomplished geek, you cannot just dump all the contents onto the hard drive.)

In a thoughtful and New Yorker-ish touch, you may explore issues by their cover. And, yes, you can limit your browsing to the cartoons only.

Newsday: ...the set displays on one's computer screen crisp scans of every page — articles and advertisements - of the magazine's 4,109 issues, from its 1925 inception to its 80th anniversary in February.

The ads alone provide an economic picture, The New Yorker's current editor David Remnick says, of New York's middle and upper middle class: "What stores are around, what stores aren't around, what advertisers want to present as an ideal woman or man, passing prejudices, things

that you would never say now that you could say then.'

The software is searchable by author (or cartoon artist), department ("The Talk of the Town," "The Sporting Scene," etc.), year, issue, and cover. A handful of pre-made reading lists sort articles under such topics as "Humor Pieces" and "New York

Wireless News: ...the project consisted of processing more than half a million color scans, which resulted in highly compressed files that have far better image quality than JPEG. LizardTech's DjVu technology, which was developed in AT&T Research Labs, made more than 4,000 New Yorker issues available in a collection of eight DVDs.

"After extensive research, the only compression software we found that retained the beauty of The New Yorker's illustrations. cartoons, and covers without distortion was the DjVu technology. In particular, [Lizard's] DjVu tech-

nology brilliantly compresses text without any loss of quality at greatly reduced file sizes. We could not have had even come close to the product we have without LizardTech's technology," said The New Yorker's Edward

A CONVERSATION WITH NEW YORKER EDITOR PAMELA **MCCARTHY:**

I confessed, "Since my copy of *The* Complete New Yorker arrived, I've not returned telephone calls, the dinner dishes heaped up, the living room carpet took on the look of carpet runners at downtown movie theaters."

Ms. McCarthy laughed. "David Remnick [The New Yorker editor] came in on the Monday following our finishing the package, which he had taken home, and said, 'Oh my God, I'm addicted.' He said that he installed it and started looking and reading, and only hours and hours

"Every article, every cartoon, every illustration, every advertisement exactly as it appeared on the printed page, in full color."

MUSEUMS

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

Bancroft Ranch House Museum

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

Barona Cultural Center and Museum is located at 1095

Barona Road; 619-443-7003 x2.

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

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

Chula Vista Nature Center, an

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

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard, 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art, "Open Doors: Vietnam POWs Thirty Years Later" takes intimate look at current lives of Vietnam-era POWs. The 30 blackand-white photographs are accompanied by profiles of the men, "intended to defy the lingering, negative stereotype of Vietnam veterans." Through Thursday, Jan-

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

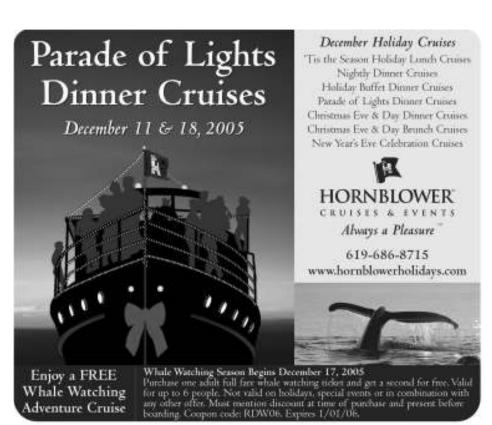
Flying Leatherneck Museum, dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. 858-693-1723. (MIRAMAR)

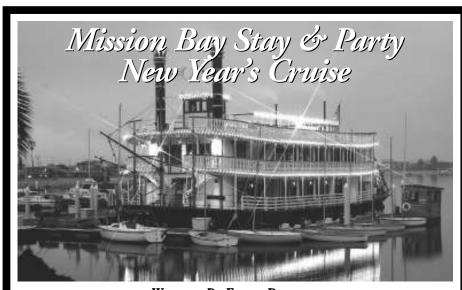
Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the

museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP OUARTER)

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

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adorn-





WILLIAM D. EVANS PACKAGE

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Reading

later he surfaced to see his

"How beautifully packaged it is! Everything about it is beautiful. I thought I'd never see another advertisement for de Pinna or for Anne Sexton's family's department store, Abraham & Straus.'

"We included the book part. It's not a real book as you see, but we did want it to be in bookstores and in the books section and not the software section because the books section is where our readers are, obviously. So we were encouraged to create something book-like, and as we started to do that, I realized that it could be very helpful as a point of entry for people who didn't know the magazine or had some level of discomfort with technology. These people will, I hope, see some of these great old pieces and be seduced into popping the disc into their machine.

"How did you decide to do

"We've wanted to do it for a long, long time - eight years. There was a moment at which technology and our ability to give it the resources in terms of people and money and copyright law all came together - December 2003."

"Copyright law must have been a nightmare.'

'No, actually it turns out that if you do a re-creation that's page by page, identical to what you did originally, it's alright. The pages themselves are a static document."

"How was the index kept over all these years?"

There is a library department here. We have two full-time librarians. From the early 1930s, librarians have created abstracts of each story every week. People who started in the early '30s went back and did the years that hadn't been done. It was little enough time so they could catch up. That's a tremendous resource. We've got a library with something in the vicinity of a million cards. It's what we've always used in order to find everything the magazine did by Edmund Wilson or what the magazine did on Iraq during 1990, what's the history there. And we would go to the index, which is so helpful. We've got the history of the better part of a century there, at your fingertips. It's extraordinary.

Every page of The New York-

ers was scanned. A Kansas City company did the scanning. Before the scanning began, magazine employees gathered copies of the magazine from various storage places in their offices and off-site. "And then," said Ms. McCarthy, "we had to figure out how to get them from here to Kansas City without their being lost en route. Because there were some where we were down to our last two copies. So we actually sent them in a truck with two members of our editorial staff two young guys, who drove from here to Kansas City and spent the night in motels with the truck.

'We felt much better doing it that way. The card catalog ["The cards," a magazine spokesman told an interviewer, "appear on the DVDs as originally written typos and all"] is so irreplaceable that we didn't want it to leave the premises even with bodyguards. So we had the scanning of that done here. It was a big job."

"Are users of The Complete New Yorker having technical trouble?'

"People who have had trouble we've encouraged to contact the tech support people. My understanding is that they've been quite good. I've seen strings

of e-mail to the tech support people thanking them and stating that the problem has been solved.

"With any software there can be tricky moments, depending on the kind of hardware you have and your level of knowledge."

Ms. McCarthy sighed. "I've actually heard what you and David Remnick have said, which is that people feel it's addictive. The New York Times recently ran an editorial titled 'Annals of Tilley.' about The Complete New Yorker. It was on the main editorial page, in the place where they often wax poetic about fall leaves."

In part, the editorialist wrote: "A truly committed browser of these discs will spend a lot of time in the Goings On About Town section, discovering, for instance, that Howdy, Mr. Ice of 1950 was playing at the Center Theater in June 1949, and registering that interesting parenthesis (No dancing, unless noted) under Night Life. There is a world of social and cultural history packed into these listings, a calendar of acts and entertainers that have slipped out of nostalgic reach.

"But the most visceral pleasure in these discs comes from the advertising. It is so interesting that you can be forgiven for

"There is a world of social and cultural history packed into these listings, a calendar of acts and entertainers that have slipped out of nostalgic reach."

confusing the real relation between advertising and editorial content, for supposing that ocean of warm, gray ink existed just to support those astonishing ads. Who remembered that Exxon made an 'intelligent typewriter?' Why should an ad for laser discs feel so cruelly ancient, more ancient than an ad — 'Ask the man who owns one' - for the Golden Anniversary Packard? There is quicksand here, and some of us are sinking fast."

"Some people think it's a great research tool. Others," said Ms. McCarthy, "like the serendipity of wandering in and out of various issues. I think the thing that people have said again and again is, 'what a gift to have this

all in one place.' I use it probably five times a day looking things up. We do have an Internet version of the library cards here. But I still find myself going to this instead."

"I understand that you can update it."

"You will be able to next winter or spring. After we do the anniversary issue again we will be notifying people who have registered on the archive website. We will notify when the new discs are ready and then you order one and we send it to you."

"There's a history of American poetry here."

There is. There is. The poetry is extraordinary, to see those names, one after the other.

ments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C. to A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

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

Heritage Walk Museum, the museum includes the restored Victorian House, the city's original Santa Fe Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park, at 321 North Broadway; 760-743-8207, (ESCONDIDO

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

"Lion King"

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove. period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, restored 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. Find Magee House at 258 Beech Street; 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Museum of Making Music, the past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the museum at

5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward **Museum** is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex.

Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100 Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the Spitfire and P-51 Mustang fighters; and a rare German

Junkers Jumo 004, one of the world's first operational jet engines. Concurrently, see "The His-

tory of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 Mustang" celebrates the legendary Air Force fighter used during both World War II and Korea. The museum's Mustang is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RO-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan

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 Ricky Martin January 25

Aerosmith with *Lenny Kravitz*

February 10

Bonnie Raitt February 13

Taste of Chaos February 16

Bob Marley Festival

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Neil Diamond



Chargers vs. Broncos December 31

> Poinsettia Bowl December 22

> > Holiday Bowl December 29

David Gray March 20 **Queen** with **Paul Rodgers**

Monster Truck Jam

January 21 Supercross February 11

April 1

Harlem Globetrotters February 17, 19



Alice Quinn, the poetry editor now, made the selections of the poems that are included in the book part.

'Again, the attempt was to show just what you've said, that there's a history there. That's something we hear again and again. It can be a pleasure to bring writers to people who might not otherwise know them, particularly younger people who might not be aware of, say, John Hersey and Hiroshima. Or that Truman Capote wrote something other than In Cold Blood.

"You mentioned the history of poetry, but you also see a history of long form or narrative journalism over the years. You have a history of fiction -Salinger, Roth, William Maxwell, Alice Monroe, Mavis Gallant. I think any sector of American culture can be tracked here.

"The cartooning and the covers, what's always been interesting to me is to see the same themes surface again and again in the covers. We have the domestic dramas, we have the man on the street. The palette, the style of drawing has changed."

William Shawn, editor of the magazine from 1952 until 1987, was somewhat old-fashioned about language. I asked

Ms. McCarthy when the word "fuck" was first used.

She didn't know, but she was sure someone did. "I should know that. You could certainly conduct a study of such events within The New Yorker, which, for some fanatics, will be an intensely pleasurable thing to do. But the ability to look at a much wider history is where it gets very, very

After our talk, I did look up "fuck" in the index. According to the index, this four-letter word was first used in a story – "Onionskin" – by Allegra Goodman. ("I was the one who stood up and said Fuck Augustine. What I meant was that I didn't take the class to read him. I took it to learn about religion - God, prayer, ritual, the Madonna mother-goddess figure, forgiveness, miracles, sin, abortion, death, the big moral concepts.") The date of the magazine was April 1, 1991, an Easter Sunday; an Easter egg and a gaggle of bunnies, who appear to me to be at Radio City, dance a bit like Rockettes about the James Stevensen cover (but I could be entirely incorrect about the Radio City identification). The issue also features an elegant but sad poem - "Late Night Ode" (see page 102) - by J.D. McClatchy (McClatchy's first poem was published in the magazine on June 28, 1982), a poem by May Swenson, and one by Laura Mullen.

"Do you think that The New Yorker was in its earlier years a publication for the educated upper middle class?"

"Do I think it was or is?" "Was.

"I think it didn't need to be, but my sense is that it probably was. I think the ads reflect that. I think that's not the case now, but I find it very interesting that The New Yorker is the magazine I see most commonly read on New York subways. You see The Daily News and The New York Post and The New Yorker. When you see it on the subway, you see it primarily among young people."

"What subway do you ride?" "The F train from Brooklyn." "So there are all those smart people from Brooklyn coming

"And many smart people who just stay in Brooklyn and work. It's interesting to see and I think very telling.

into work.

"One thing that you see in The New Yorker, writers in the Talk of the Town section, particularly, never seem purchased, they never seem to be paying for the Cartier's

ad. Nothing that's written seems afraid of advertisers."

"In our magazine? The writers write as if advertising didn't exist. It's just not a concern of theirs. It's a concern of the advertising department, who sell the ads and it ends there.

"I let the ad people know. I give them some background on the magazine. I want to be sure that they're selling the magazine that we're creating. I think there needs to be some communication at that level. I want them to understand why we do certain

things."

"In the old days of the magazine, did the magazine's covers tend to point to, or allude to, some text within?'

"Looking at the issues I would say that there wasn't. That the cover was always seen as a freestanding story of its own, if you will. It says, 'It's baseball season,' or 'It's Spring.' 'It's a Fabulous City,' or 'Why Is That Guy's Hair So Long?' I'm thinking of a cover of a businessman in the '60s looking at a hippie. So it was always separate, except for moments when there were overriding issues, like the war. Like our current war.

"When did The New Yorker stop being a magazine just for "The writers write as if advertising didn't exist."

people in New York?"

"I would say in the 1940s. World War II changed things enormously at *The New Yorker*. Harold Ross found it within himself and his staff to do a magazine that he had never intended to do. A much more serious magazine, and one that had a much wider interest, because of the topics that were being covered. I think at that point, people all around the country started paying attention in much greater numbers. The magazine had followers around the country."

"Did they have to use different kinds of paper during World

"There were certain wartime regulations that meant that you couldn't use certain components, so it was a more fragile paper. They look vellow now. But they all do. Which is one reason that we were very eager to do this; the oldest issues were becoming so old that they are in danger of disintegrating. A certain number should be kept in archival envelopes, but that allows for very limited viewing. So we wanted to document it all, preserve it all, have it available and accessible before the material fell apart."

How did Ms. McCarthy, who has been at *The New Yorker* for 12 years, first come to the magazine?

"I was at *Vanity Fair* with Tina Brown. She asked me to come that was a great invitation. When she left, I was not ready to leave and was delighted to be able to stay. The magazine is so big in the sense of history and people working at it now that I had only just begun to understand it and enjoy it. I'm not worn out yet."

"As a young person, had you read the magazine?"

'Not really. We got it at home; I read the cartoons. I really started reading it in college, Mount Holyoke College, in the '70s."

- Judith Moore

from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s": a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS Yorktown, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

The San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum onboard the decommissioned USS Midway is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 619-544-9600 (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts arti-

facts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Electric Railway

Association, located in historic National City Santa Fe Depot (922 West 23rd Street), offers exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

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

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

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Backyard Monsters features giant robotic insects, up to 11 feet high and 22 feet long, paired with interactive learning displays and "one of the world's largest private specimen collections." Visitors may build a bug, create a bug orchestra, take a robotic insect for a walk. Through December.

The "Wildlife Art Exhibition" continuing through December includes wildlife-themed artwork in a range of media and styles. "Hundreds of nationally and internationally recognized local artists are expected to participate."

"Earth, Wind, and Wildfire!" continues through January 2006, exploring powerful forces (such as fire, nature, people) shaping the landscape of Southern California. The exhibit is "designed to raise awareness of the history and inevitability of fire in Southern California's arid and diverse wildlands.'

Current "giant-screen films" include Ocean Oasis and Bugs! 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK

San Dieguito Heritage Museum, the museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early homesteaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. Find the museum 561 South Vulcan Avenue; 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Serra Museum, "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258. (PRESIDIO PARK

Stephen Birch Aquarium-Museum, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. Look for 33 tanks containing marine life of the Pacific Northwest, the California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and the South Pacific. One highlight is the La Jolla Kelp Tank, a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Sea of Genes" offers

visit "to the genomic frontier"; "Earthquake! Life on a Restless Planet" explores earthquakes and their impacts on life. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, nurse, and wobbegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH.

Wells Fargo History Museum, the museum features a working

agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House, at 2733 San Diego





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CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after December 22

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

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 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. (BALBOA PARK, CORONADO)

"Gloria," musical celebration of Christmas with works by de Falla, Brahms, Berlin, and Bach, along with "carols old and new" by soprano Katherine Pupping, pianist Ines Irawati, and guitar/lutenist Peter Pupping, Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m., at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (925 Balour Drive). Donation: \$15.760-943-0755. (ENCINITAS)

"Holiday Pops" concerts by San Diego Symphony with San Diego Master Chorale and Mariachi Champaña Nevin on Friday and Saturday, December 16 and 17, 8 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$20-\$65.

Program is repeated for San Diego Symphony Family Festival concert on Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m. Tickets: \$7-22, \$30 for family of six. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Medieval and Renaissance Motets and carols for Advent and Christmas promised when Early Music Ensemble of San Diego performs Friday, December 16, 8 p.m., at Saint Paul's Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). \$10 general, \$8 seniors and students. 858-488-1128. (MIDTOWN)

Compositions by Puccini, Obradors, Bernstein, Gever, Ponce may be heard during concert by soprano Monica Abrego and pianist Armando Pesqueira, Friday, December 16, 6:30 p.m., at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500), \$15, Rec-

ommended reservations: 858-793-

0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Holiday Sparkler," classical music and seasonal favorites promised when North Coast Symphony Orchestra performs December 17 and 18 in MiraCosta College Theater (One Barnard Drive). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Program includes pieces by Mendelssohn, Schubert, Vaughan Williams, Gould, more. \$10.

Candlelight Musical Meditation **Concerts** presented at Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá, Saturday and Sunday, December 17 and 18. Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá Choir and Classic Brass perform at 7:30 p.m. each night at 10818 San Diego Mission Road. Offering. 619-283-7319 or 619-449-1587. (MISSION GORGE)

"Christmas by Candlelight" presented by MiraCosta College's Chamber Chorale and Camerata Singers, Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., in dining room of student center on MiraCosta College campus (One Barnard Drive). \$17 tickets include dessert. Suggested reservations: 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

"Gospel Messiah," piece based on Quincy Jones's "Soulful Celebration" presented by San Diego Symphony, Sunday, December 18, 7:30 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$15-\$58.619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

Sixth Annual Opera Christmas Concert, Sunday, December 18, 5 p.m., at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Sopranos Kathleen Halm and Michelle Kei Ishuu, mezzos Ianelle DeStefano and Kathleen O'Brien, tenors Richard Geiler and Thomas Oberiat, baritones David Marshman and William Nolan, pianist Janie Prim tackle works by Menotti, Cornelius, Nin, Wolf, many more. \$20. Required reservations: 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

Handel's "Messiah" performed by San Diego Master Chorale and San Diego Chamber Orchestra, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). \$18-\$32. 800-988-

The Annual Sing-Along directed by Ken Kramer with vocalist Daniel Myers and civic organist Carol Williams is Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego County Recorder Society Christmas Concert, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m., at Coronado Public Library (640 Orange Avenue). 619-522-7390.

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after December 22.

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

GALLERIES

"Interpreting the Chanukah Menorah: An Invitational Show' opens with reception on Thursday, December 15, 7:30 p.m., in Gotthelf Art at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Over 30 national and regional artists interpret this object through a variety of media. Through Sunday, February 19. 858-362-1342. (LA JOLLA)

"Soulworks III" by Jackie Myers and "Trees and a Bit of City" by Betty Hock are featured at San Diego Art Institute, Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado) through Sunday, January 8. Juried and awarded artwork from "Outstanding Visual Artists" of region also on view. Meet artists at reception on Friday, December 16, 6 p.m. 619-236-0011. (BALBOA PARK)

First-Year Anniversary Celebrated with group show opening with reception, Saturday, December 17, 4 to 8 p.m., at Expressions of Mexico Gallery (1122 Cesar Chávez Parkway). 619-232-1699. (BARRIO LOGAN)

"The California Look — Three Artists, Three Visions" is on view through Sunday, January 22, at Mission Trails Regional Park Art Gallery (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Reception for artists Argento, Sonja Roes, Tam Stautland is Sunday, December 18, 1 p.m. 619-668-3280. (SAN CARLOS)

Spiritual Realist Painter Mollie Kellogg is featured through January at Bard Hall Gallery (First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4190 Front Street). Meet Kellogg, "who persists in creating affirmative artwork in the midst of a patriarchal culture," during reception on Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 p.m. 619-298-9978. Second reception slated for Tuesday, De $cember\ 17,\ 6{:}30\ p.m.\ ({\sf HILLCREST})$

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 retrospec-

tive "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, rosemaling (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 Byzan-

tine 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,

"Jay Bolotin: The Jackleg Testament," opening Sunday, December 18, is "latest project by this prolific writer, composer, performer, and visual artist." The piece comprises two interrelated parts, a print portfolio and a woodcut motion picture. Each of the pieces in exhibit, closing Sunday, April 30, demonstrates Bolotin's "continued interest in weaving Judeo-Christian creation stories and personal mythologies as a means to better understand the human condition.'

Find the museum at 1001 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 619-234-1001.

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, over four decades of work made by artists from Los Angeles to the "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

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. 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 Essaydi 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

San Diego Museum of Art,

Pier View Way; 760-721-2787.

"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

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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Sharky Waters Encinitas band Switchfoot played the Sports Arena December 2 with Alanis Morissette, the B 52s, Train, and two other

million for engaging in payfor-play practices during the past three years. Spitzer implicated Channel 9-3-3 program director Diana Laird; she allegedly accepted a plasma TV in exchange for playing a Mariah Carey song. Channel 9-3-3 (owned by Clear Channel) fired Laird in October.



bands. The show, called Jingle Ball, was sponsored by Clear Channel pop station

In the document released by Spitzer, Switchfoot is mentioned by name; it is



WHO LET DOWN SWITCHFOOT?

Star 94.1. According to a document released in July by New York attorney general Eliot Spitzer, Switchfoot's appearance may have been a form of payola.

Earlier this year, Spitzer's office launched the investigation that yielded the Sony BMG Music Entertainment payola scandal. Sony (which includes Switchfoot's label Columbia) agreed to pay \$10

Resos recommended

alleged that radio stations had to commit to playing Switchfoot music before the band would play at those stations' Christmas shows. If a deal existed between Columbia and Star 94.1, it could have been made without knowledge of the band. Switchfoot's management had no comment.

— Ken Leighton

All the Kids Are Doing

It "It seems like you either fall into

the screamo genre and evervone likes you or people don't care," says Dave Werth, the singer for Killfast Casino. He defines screamo as



KILLFAST CASINO, ANTI-SCREAMOS

"punk music...mixed [with] pseudo-emotional lyrics that make 12-year-old girls cry. The songwriting seems lacking.

Werth lists Hawthorne Heights, Underoath, Greeley Estates, and Aiden as nationally known screamo bands. Local screamos include My American Heart, Of Hearts and Shadows, and A Dead Giveaway.

Werth describes the formula: "Effeminate males using every stage trick in the book — cartwheels, spin kicks, leapfrogs. I've seen specials on MTV2 where they have choreographers teaching bands how to act. Screamo is N'Sync and the Backstreet Boys in a punk medium.... Ever since MP3.com launched, there's no more need to go out and tour. You basically go on myspace.com or purevolume.com and set up your band's page. You can sit at home and sell CDs just by adding people to your myspace page. Because the bands don't need to go and tour, it bred a mediocrity in music.'

Werth says the screamo phenomenon is unique to allage venues.

"A lot of non-screamo

success in all-age venues. You

bands are not finding the

have to wonder if it's because the bands aren't fitting the screamo formula that the under-age kids come to expect.... We played one show where, when the kids realized we weren't a screamo band, the place emptied out. Out of 300 kids, 50 stayed."

Killfast Casino appears January 13 at Ground Zero. – Ken Leighton

Swingin' Times Ocean Beach-based Cape May has

always drawn well at the Casbah, according to lead singer Andre Che. Yet, Che's band hasn't played the club since November 2004.

"We've been trying to contact

[club owner] Tim [Mays] to get shows since June of 2005, about once a month," says Che. He suspects the lack of returned phone calls may stem from a New Year's Eve 2004 incident outside the

Dj Natty

Roots

Culture

Misha

Sexy-Melodic

Deep

House

"I was arguing with my girl inside because the Maiden Taiwan girl [a local rapper] apparently gave me a lap dance. I don't even remember. At that point, I escorted [my girlfriend] out to get a cab home. We continued arguing outside, and then I tried to go back inside. The doorman told me I couldn't come back in. I disregarded his demand, as I felt I had not crossed the line in any way at that point. Then he pushed me outside and I swung at him and I landed a haphazard punch. The owner [not Tim Mays] came outside and told me to shut up and be nice and I told him where to stick it, pretty much."

Six months passed with no contact between the club and the band. Che claims he then decided to go to the Casbah and apologize to the doorman.

"The guy was cool. He said, 'No big deal.' I then wrote a sincere letter of



CAPE MAY'S GENTLE SIDE

apology to Tim Mays. It was heartfelt and extensive, but it received no reply." Che says Mays has "always been cool to us." The Casbah declined to comment.

— Dryw Keltz

"People don't get blown out when things are going well," says one concert-industry insider about last week's departures of 4th & B general manager Ray Johnson and marketing



DAT'S FELIX "DA"

director Hester Hamman. The insider says the changes may not be connected with longtime 4th & B headliners appearing at the nearby House of Blues instead.

"I heard the problems had to do with easy sellouts like James Brown and B.B. King not doing as well [in ticket sales] as they have in the past." A call to 4th & B owner Ali Nilforshan was not returned.

An interior renovation of the 1500-capacity music venue is planned for completion next month.

I think with all the money they were spending on remodeling, they were just looking for ways to cut overhead," says another insider.

Chris Strickland, a 4th & B talent-buyer, says attendance drop-off was not an issue and

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that even though the B.B. King show did not sell out, "It came close." Strickland says 4th & B will continue to

showcase big-name DJs. "We'd like to do one night a weekend [with a DJ]. We just had Felix the Housecat from Chicago. It sold out." Strickland says ticket costs for such attractions at other venues might cost \$30. "We want to keep ours at \$20.3



Marky Made His Mark

Twenty-seven years ago today (12/15/78), I saw the Ramones play Montezuma Hall. The band was still breaking in "Marky," fresh from Richard Hell and the Voidoids. That night, they played "Rockaway Beach," "Sheena Is a Punk Rocker." and "Now I Wanna Sniff Some Glue," which Joey introduced as "the one that got us banned in Sweden" (true).

My friend Joe and I were collecting autographs after the show when a guy I later deduced to be Ed Stasium (producer and sometime band guitarist) came up and announced the band's van wouldn't start and the equipment trucks had already left for L.A. Joe piped in that he had a pickup truck, and, the next thing we knew, we were driving north with four

San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

Ramones and manager Danny Fields in the truck bed. The band was due to shoot scenes the next day for Rock 'n' Roll High School at the abandoned Mount Carmel High in Watts. Unbeknownst to us, the guys had some blue Magic Markers, and they spent the trip doing shaky drawings on a grey tarp that Joe had in the truck bed. After we dropped the band at a roadside motel near Watts, Joe was pissed to see the marked-up tarp, but I



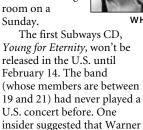
FREEWAY-INSPIRED RAMONES ARTWORK

offered to buy him a new one if he let me keep it. I still have it...don't bother making

— Jay Allen Sanford

"It could have been a Spinal Tap,"

says Warner Bros. Records publicist Rick Gershon about the Subways' November 27 show at Soma. The free 3 p.m. show filled Soma's side-stage room on a Sunday.



Bros. is "hungry to break a

new [modern rock] band.

They have Green Day, but



band will return for a U.S. tour in March.

- Ken Leighton

His Name Is Larry I have dozens of answering-machine messages from Larry "Wildman" Fischer, onetime Frank Zappa protégé and Doctor Demento perennial. We became friends while he

UNDERSTAND WHY RAPPER GET SHOT CAJUN MUSIC NEVER OR SOMETHING **BECAME POPULAR** THTS WEEK

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: 4TH & B

I DON'T

after that they don't have much going on. They desperately need to break a new band.

VIDEO KILLED

THE ZYDECO STAR

Gershon says Warner Bros agreed to underwrite the show as "a 'thank you' to San Diego for being the first city in the country to play their record." The single "Rock and Roll Queen" was played by 91X before any other U.S. radio station.

After their local show, the Subways played six other showcase appearances before heading back to the U.K. The lived at various downtown flophouses in the late '80s and early '90s. Fischer made occasional public appearances, including a 1988 performance at the San Diego Comic-Con with Bill "Lost in Space" Mumy's band. I helped the filmmakers behind



FISCHER AND GAL PAL FAUVE AT COMIC-CON, 1988

DeRailroaded, a new documentary about Fischer, track down film footage of the concert. I was thanked for my efforts with a (collect) call from Fischer, whom I hadn't heard from in several years.

"They made a comic book about me," Fischer announced. (The Legend of Wildman Fischer, released last year, immortalized tales such

as the time Fischer supposedly took a dump in a fan's closet.) We chatted about mutual friends, and then Fischer asked if I've played any of his records for anyone lately. I reassured him that, yes, I spin his stuff

DIDN'T SOME

ALL I NEED

IS TWO MORE DRINKS

AND THE SOUND WILL

BE PERFECT.

a lot and, yes, my guests are always amazed. Okay, sometimes horrified, but always amazed.

its Southern California debut in West Hollywood last week.

DeRailroaded made

– Jay Allen Sanford

Love Is Blind Melon's At Blind

Melons on November 11, "We had just finished playing a song, 'The Way Sean Drives,' where I make fun of his crazy driving," says Revenge Club singer Amy Paddick of bass player Sean Lawson. "He got down on one knee right there on the stage and proposed into the microphone! I said 'yes' onstage, but off-mike I told him I was gonna kill him." The duo plan a spring wedding in Las Vegas.

Paddick (formerly of the all-girl band Brag Doll) says the Blind Melons gig was more pleasant than the one at downtown's Honey Bee Hive

on November 4; a fight in the audience resulted in an early finale.

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

HE ACTUALLY SHOT HIM-

WAY.

SELF. SAVES TIME THAT

"We just stopped in the middle of a song. Our drummer's friend was getting punched out there, and [the



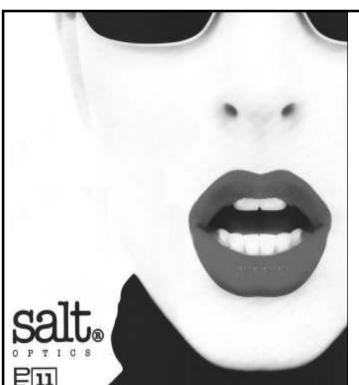
SEAN: AMY SAID SHE WAS GONNA KILL YOU

drummer] ended up jumping into the audience to join the fight." Paddick says police were summoned, and although no arrests were made, "That closed the bar down."

Revenge Club appears December 17 at the Zombie Lounge

– Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORSWilliam Crain, Dave Good, Jeremiah Griffey, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Mary Montgomery, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford



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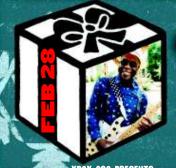
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Irradio Broadcasts

"Nothing worse than watching a bunch of meatheads trying to hook up with their brainless female roommates."

hen your band has two lead guitarists, it's a safe bet you're gonna attract more metalheads than mopers. When the members of Irradio were asked to describe their music, singer/guitarist Dan Dasher said "blues-

punk," drummer Collin Tuthill claimed "angular art-rock," keyboardist/percussionist Edgar Alminar dubbed it "uplifting rock," bassist Chad Tuthill de-

clared "dance-punk," and guitarist/singer Paolo Zuniga called it "indie rock for those who don't know what indie rock is."

'I usually try to avoid being too specific when asked that question," adds Collin. "I want them to come to our music with open ears, open minds, and with as few preconceived notions as possible." Formed in 1999, Irradio has recorded two homegrown albums: 2002's Semantic Noise. recorded at Sweet Sound Studios, and 2004's Make-up for the Inaugurated, recorded by Ben Moore (Hot Snakes, Rocket from the Crypt) at Signature Sound. Their music has appeared on the Discovery Channel's Urban Explorers and on compilation CDs (Insound, Magnet, Amp). And if the San Diego Music Awards still carry any street cred (despite having devolved into a live-action commercial for host Troy Johnson's weekly newspaper), Irradio was nominated for two this year. They play the Casbah on Saturday, December 17.

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

Paolo:

- 1. Jaguares, El Equilibrio
- 2. Led Zeppelin IV
- 3. John Frusciante, *The Will to Death*
- 4. Queens of the Stone Age, Lullabies to Paralyze Collin:
- 1. Pretty Girls Make Graves, The New Romance
- 2. James Brown, Sex Machine (live, 1970)
- 3. Kool Keith, Black Elvis/Lost in Space 4. Sleater-Kinney, The Woods
- Edgar:
- 1. Lindsey Yung, Fusion

2. The Mars Volta, Frances the Mute Dan:

- 1. Ted Leo, RX/Pharmacists
- 2. Iron and Wine, The Creek Drank the Cradle
- 3. Explosions in the Sky, How Strange, Innocence

Chad:

1. Gorillaz, Demon Days

2. Coldplay, X & Y

3. Garbage, Bleed Like Me

4. Waking Life (soundtrack)

ANOTHER LOCAL PERFORMER DESTINED FOR FAME?

Collin: "Goodbye Blue Monday — they write great songs, they are hardworking, they're really good live.

Dan: "Yovee is destined for fame. They write music everyone can chill to.'

WORST TV SHOWS?

Paolo:

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

1. The Real World: "Nothing worse than watching a bunch of meatheads trying to hook up with their brainless female roommates while talking about how they are unique and misunderstood."

2. Celebrity Fit Club: "Who wants to spend their evenings watching burnt-out, overweight celebrities have contests to try and lose four pounds? Are they aware that they will probably gain twice the weight back after they go home?"

1. "All music-related reality shows: Newlyweds, Britney's Chaotic, Being Bobby Brown, etc. 2. Date My Mom

BEST BAND NAMES?

Paolo:

- 1. Destroy Miranda
- 2. The Locust
- 3. Minor Threat

- 1. Run for Your Fucking Life
- 2. ... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead
- 3. They Might Be Giants



Dan, Chad, Paolo, Collin, Edgar

- 4. Fugazi
- 5. Electric Eel Shock

Edgar:

- 1. Radiohead
- 2. Nirvana
- 3. Curse of the Carousel Pony
- 4. Blackalicious
- 5. The Kite-Eating Tree

Chad:

- 1. Talking Heads
- 2. Primus
- 3. Pretty Girls Make Graves
- 4. Hot Like a Robot

DESERT ISLAND DVDS?

Paolo:

1. Almost Famous: "I would have been in a band like that had I grown up in the '70s."

2. Instrument — Ten Years With the Band Fugazi: "Great documentary which takes you into the life of a band that wants to stay under the radar."

3. The Royal Tenenbaums: "Great movie with a great soundtrack."

4. City of God: "Why not go to Brazil?"

Collin:

1. Stop Making Sense: "It's a live Talking Heads performance. Enough said."

2. Rushmore: "It's a great film, and the DVD has lots of extras.'

3. The Lord of the Rings trilogy: "They have eleventy kadillion hours of extras.

4. Anchorman: "Watch and listen to the commentary. You will not be sorry!'

5. Riding in Vans with Boys: "Billie Joe Armstrong [Green Day] brands Chris Cote's [Kut U Up] ass. Wow.'

Edgar:

1. Dancer in the Dark: "Bjork gives an unprecedented performance.'

2. Chappelle's Show (Season One and Two): "I always laugh, no matter how many times I've seen the episode."

3. Amélie: "Great music, great cinematography." 4. Memento: "The DVD allows me to watch the movie backwards as well — try it out."

Dan:

1. Team America: World Police: "Makes fun of radicals and liberals, Star Wars trilogies...an awe-







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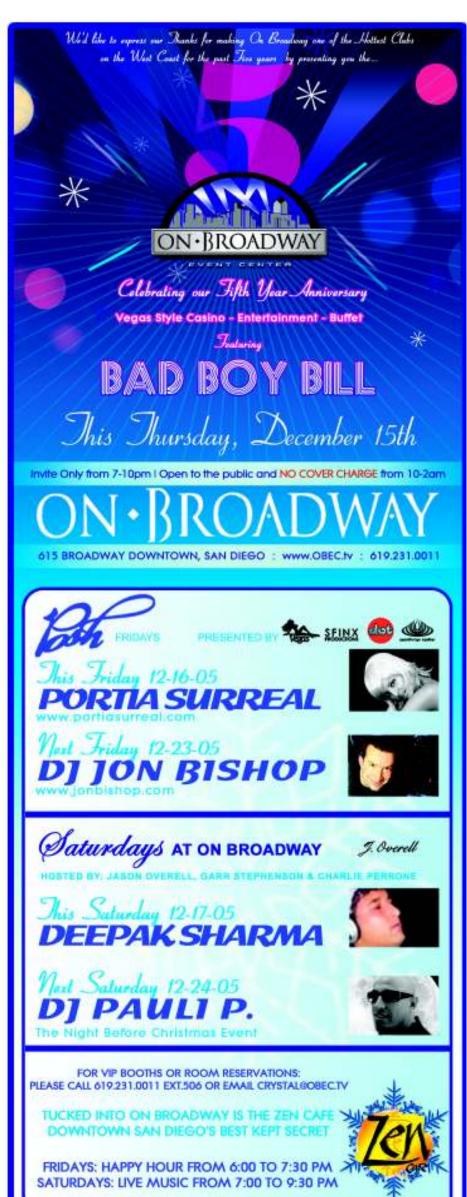
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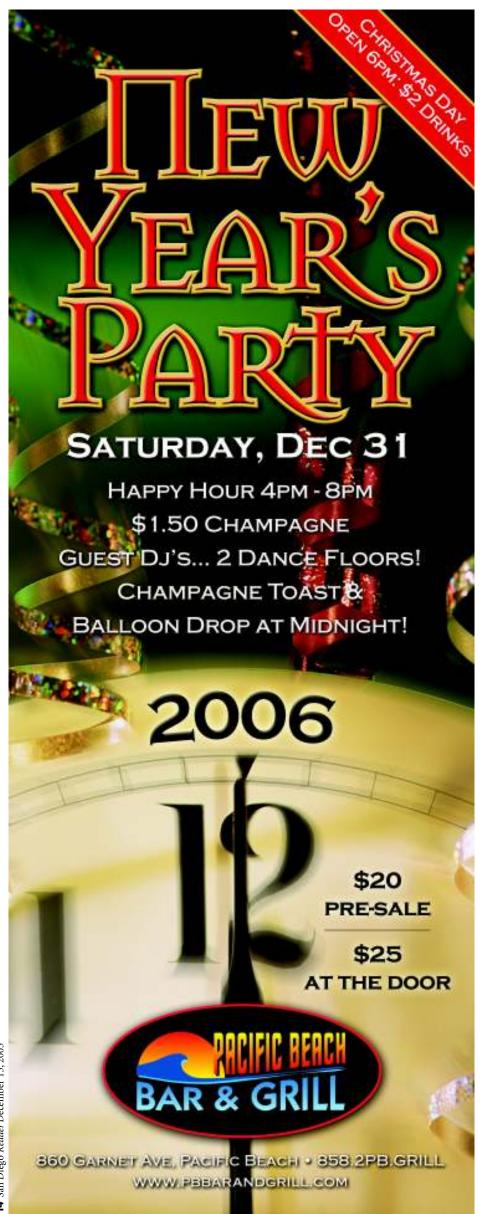
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some spiritual experience."
2. *The Crow:* "I love the underdog."

3. Anchorman: "Will Farrell is hilarious."

WORST GIG STORY?

Paolo: "Arriving to the show and being told that we were actually supposed to play on some rocks under a bridge over the Mississippi River, and the only way to get the equipment across the river was on a little raft that was literally falling apart. We were out of there

pretty quick."

Chad: "In Minnesota, Dan hit Paolo in the head with his guitar, making him bleed — while I thought my house was burning down in the San Diego firestorm of 2003."

ADVICE YOU'D GIVE PRES-IDENT BUSH?

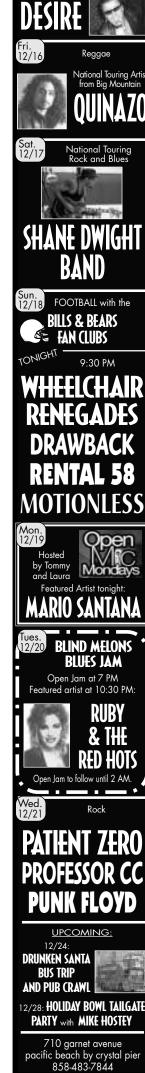
Paolo: "Leave! Before the rest of America catches on to what everyone else in the world already knows.

Collin: "We need renewable energy sources if our current mode of existence is to continue. It's clear that no one source of energy can replace oil, so we need more efficient battery technology, more efficient solar panel technology, more efficient wind-power generators, and probably a bunch of stuff that I don't even know about."

Edgar: "Stop trying to take over the world. Think before you act. Quit making those damn faces.

Dan: "Take everything that you own and get the fuck out of here!" ■





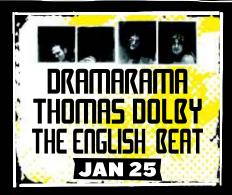




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ON SALE FRIDAY AT 10:00AM



















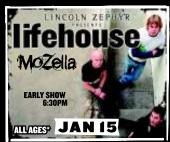




















HOW THE SOUNT

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02/21 NADA SURF 02/26 SINÉAD O'CONNOR **02/28 BUDDY GUY** 03/02 STYX

03/05 THE ACADEMY IS... 05/21 MINISTRY









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PROGRAM THE DEAD • GOD <u>OF JULIE</u>

SAT. DEC. 17

THE DOWNBEAT OFFICIAL AFTER-PARTY Performances by

JAY NATURAL & RIGHT MIND

SUN. DEC. 18





WED. DEC. 21
LISTEN LOCAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
CATHRYN BEEKS ORDEAL • CITIZEN BAND
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THURS. DEC. 22

EMERALD CITY



FRI. DEC. 23
ROCKIN' JOHNNY WHITE'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
JEN KNIGHT • TETANY
TAZ TAYLOR BAND • ARCHERY

THURS. DEC. 29

EXTENSION

• VARIABLE

SHOT DOWN SHY • BROKEN SILENCE

FRI. DEC. 30





SAT. DEC. 31 • NEW YEAR'S EVE

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ALICE UNCHAINED
(Alice in Chains Tribute)



FRI. JAN. 13 (Dave

IRON MAIDENS (All-female Tribute to Iron Maiden

SAT. JAN. 14





THURS. JAN. 19
MICHAEL SCHENKER GROUP

SAT. JAN. 21

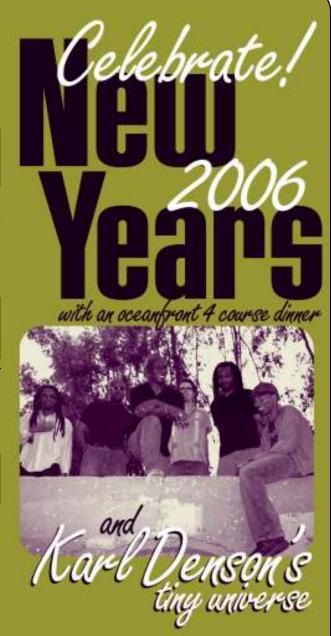
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Calendar

Listen to sample songs of bands in upcoming concerts free on your phone: 619-233-9797. Call night or day 7 days a week.

Concert Soundboard

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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

Nickel Creek [817] and Andrew Bird: House of Blues, Thursday, December 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

FRIDAY

Nickel Creek [817] and Andrew Bird: House of Blues, Friday, December 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

SATURDAY

Riders in the Sky: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, December 17, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253 or 619-220-8497.

Los Straitjackets [528] and Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys [343]: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497.

SUNDAY

The Brian Setzer Orchestra [475]: House of Blues, Sunday, December 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

TUESDAY

Dokken: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, December 20, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

WEDNESDAY

Neil Diamond [610]: San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, December 21, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

EXTENSION 4001

UPCOMING CONCERTS

DECEMBER

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,



Friday & Saturday
Dec. 16 & 17 • 8 & 10:30 pm



and

Joey
"Coco"
Diaz
From the movie
The Longest Yard

Charlie



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Calendar

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.

Common: House of Blues, Friday, December 30, 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.

Saosin, Bleeding Through, and

Saosin, Bleeding Through, and more: Soma, Saturday, December 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662 or 619-220-8497.

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.

The John Jorgenson Quintet:

Wednesday, January 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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: 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.

Ricky Martin [608]: Copley Symphony Hall, Wednesday, January 25, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-220-8497 or 619-220-8497.

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.

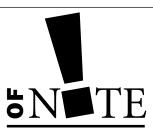
Cake [168]: House of Blues, Monday, January 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

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



BY DAVE GOOD

Andrew Bird's music fits no particular genre. Rather, it sounds like a collection of musical thoughts accidentally captured. These originals shift and shimmer like funhouse shapes. Solitary explorations of engaging sounds reveal a haunted collection of music and romantic notions - more Brian Wilson than Brian Eno. A violinist, Bird also plays electric guitar and glockenspiel through a variety of electronic effects, and he tops it off by whistling. Whistling is like yodeling: not much of either in pop music anymore. But when Bird whistles, he sounds like a Theramin (an electronic sound effects generator Jimmy Page used in Led Zep; the Beach Boys layered one over the ending of "Good Vibrations"). And however strange it may sound, Bird's whistling is somehow familiar. Didn't Bing Crosby whistle on "White Christmas"?

But if whistling lends Bird's music the appearance of an arranged standard, his lyrics are where the rug gets pulled out. In a clear and dry voice, Bird intones with existential detachment, "You're what happens when two substances collide," he sings, "and by all accounts you really should have died."

Years prior to the release of *The Mysterious Production of Eggs*, Bird garnered praise during the '90s swing revival as the

fiddler in the Squirrel Nut Zippers. He was known for his exacting craftsmanship of hot jazz, for being a slave to authenticity. "I was very into my old 78s," he tells me of that time. "[The Zippers] just lined up with the early jazz phase I was in. I wrote songs in that style. It was an education. But at some point I exhausted that. I started writing in a more original style. I wanted full credit for the songs I wrote." Accompanied live by

pers. He was longtime collaborator Kevin O'Donnell, Bird plays against himself via feedback loops and electronics. He reinvents his music nightly.

Nickel Creek headlines.

ANDREW BIRD, House of Blues, Thursday, December 15, and Friday, December 16, 7 p.m. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497. \$26.

Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140

Aerosmith [529] and **Lenny Kravitz:** San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, February 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

Bonnie Raitt [533]: Copley Symphony Hall, Monday, February 13, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-220-8497 or 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.

Taste of Chaos: San Diego Sports Arena, Thursday, February 16, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 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.

Sinéad O'Connor: 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, Thursday, March 16, 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.

The Pretenders [558]: House of Blues, Monday, March 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

The Pretenders [558]: House of Blues, Tuesday, March 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 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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Calendar **BANDS**

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Band Soundboard

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Press the the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4002 for alternative rock).

At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have

EXTENSION 4002

ALTERNATIVE

The Accident Experiment: The Jumping Turtle

The After Party: The Casbah American Pharaoh: Dreamstreet

As We Speak: Lestat's Coffeehouse The Award Goes to ...: Soma

Benedictum: Brick By Brick

Big City Rock: The Casbah Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys

[343]: Belly Up Tavern Buckcherry: 'Canes

Buckfast Superbee [119]: The

Campaign for Quiet [274]: 4th & B Clutch: Brick By Brick

Complex: Soma Copia Element: The Jumping Turtle Creep: Dreamstreet

The Creepy Creeps: The Casbah Dead Reckless: Soma

Deadbolt [114]: The Casbah **Defamution League:** Dreamstreet Desire: Blind Melons

Diamond Lane: Belly Up Tavern The Diffs: The Jumping Turtle

Dokken: Belly Up Tavern Drawback: Blind Melons

Empire State: Dreamstreet **Erotomania:** The Kensington Club, Triple Crown Pub

The Evergreens [297]: Belly Up

Flashburn: The Jumping Turtle Fono [148]: 4th & B, Belly Up

Forensik: Soma

Fracture Point: Dreamstreet

Free Confusion: Triple Crown Pub From First to Last: Soma

Gadfly: Winstons

The Gangly Gangbangers of Outer Space: The Kensington Club

Get Back Loretta: The Casbah

Giant Drag: The Casbah

Green Green Grass: Soma Haste the Day: Soma

He Is Legend: Soma

Hot Like a Robot [146]: The

Hvde: Dreamstreet

I Like Girls: Soma

Idle Train [112]: Winstons

Ilya [204]: The Casbah In Reverent Fear: Soma

J Downs: Dreamstreet

J.D. Romance: Soma

Jenix: Soma

Kaiser George: Belly Up Tavern

The Kottonmouth Kings [129]:

The Like: The Casbah

















































SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS: 12/23 THE PELICANS 12/28 ATOMIC GROOVE

UPCOMING SHOWS:

2/4 COMMON SENSE 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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VENTINE

Calendar BANDS

Lost in Ataraxia: O'Connell's Pub

Manuok: The Casbah

Mazarin: The Casbah The Midas Touch: The Jumping

Motionless: Blind Melons

Music for Animals: The Kensington

The Napoleon: Soma

The Narcoleptic Youth: The

Jumping Turtle Narsil: Belly Up Tavern

Negative Filter: Winstons

New London: Soma

Opus Dei: The Jumping Turtle

The Gregory Page Show [186]:

Patient Zero: Blind Melons

Plastic Explosive [270]: The

Pound Foolish: The Jumping Turtle

Professor CC: Blind Melons Punk Floyd: Blind Melons

Rental 58: Blind Melons

Restricted: The Jumping Turtle

Ripple Groove: Winstons Rogue Wave: The Casbah

Savaka: The Jumping Turtle

The Screamin' Yeehaws: The

Serrated: O'Connell's Pub and

The Starlight Sirens: The Casbah Stay the Same: Soma

Sunblind: Soma

Sweettooth: O'Connell's Pub and

Tall: Brick By Brick Thee Corsairs: The Casbah Tower 4: Dreamstreet

True Light: Dreamstreet

VIII Fraud: O'Connell's Pub and

Via Satellite: The Casbah

The Winded: Soma Wise Monkey Orchestra [101]:

EXTENSION 4003

ROCK

Bargain Music: Winstons

Benchmark: Don's Cocktail Lounge

Big Rig Deluxe: Tio Leo's Lounge Blue-Eyed Son: Twiggs Tea and

Bone: House of Blues

Boneyard: Coyote Bar and Grill

Joey Bowen: Winstons

Brax: The Ould Sod

Buckley's Ghost [435]: 'Canes

Carol Ann: The Jumping Turtle

The Citizen Band: O'Connell's Pub

Colporter [530]: The Jumping

Criminal Funk: Boar Cross'n

Daredevil Jane: 4th & B, Belly Up

Deadline Friday [404]: O'Connell's

Pub and Nightel

The Detroit Underground:

Difficult Henry: Fannie's Nightclub

The Shane Dwight Band: Blind

The Electric Waste Band:

EXP: Brick By Brick

5 Alarm: Surf N'Saddle

Mike Gardner: Mas Fina Cantina



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Saturday, December 17



WILLIAM ELLIOT WHITMORE

Thursday, December 15

EXP

(Jimi Hendrix Tribute)

Friday, December 16

GLEN MATLOCK of the SEX PISTOLS

THE WHISKEY DICKS

LIVE 45

Wednesday, December 21

GEORGE LYNCH BENEDICTUM TALL • ZONE 4

Thursday, December 22

A JUMPSTART

Tuesday, December 27

OU812

Friday, Dec. 30 • Don't Trip presents

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Wednesday, January 4

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alendar

The Ghosts of Sada: Dick's Last

The Taylor Harvey Band:

Irradio [464]: The Casbah

The Joey Show: Tio Leo's Lounge

Kasper & Nuze: Dreamstreet Live 45: Brick By Brick

Los Straitjackets [528]: Belly Up

George Lynch: Brick By Brick Glen Matlock: Brick By Brick

Mercy Road: Tiki House

Mother Funk: Hennessey's Tayern

New Day Mile: Longshot Saloon Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill

Nova: O'Connell's Pub and

Nude Blues: Bahia Belle Cruise The Offbeats: McP's Irish Pub and

People: 'Canes

The Percolators: Tiki House

Private Domain [489]: Dick's Last

Reaganomics: Jimmy Love's Riot House: Fannie's Nightclub

The Rock-Wells: The Driftwood

The Rockoholics: Second Wind

Ron's Garage: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), Dick's Last Resort

The Brian Setzer Orchestra [475]:

Shakedown: Fannie's Nightclub

The Stilettos: Riley's Sports Bar, Island Sports & Spirits

Thin Will: Longshot Saloon Thunderhead [532]: Cheers

Transfer: The Kensington Club

Tubby: Winstons, O'Connell's Pub

Undecided: McP's Irish Pub and

Venice [432]: Belly Up Tavern Viva Santana: Humphrey's

The Wagon: Winstons

West of 5 /505/: Dick's Last Resort The Wheelchair Renegades: Blind

The Whiskey Dicks: Brick By Brick William Elliott Whitmore: Brick

The Wild Ones: Dirk's Niteclub

The Cory Wilkins Band: Bub's

Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones:

The World-Famous Pontani Sisters: Belly Up Tavern

The Wrecking Crew: The Jumping

Zindu: Tiki House

Zone 4 /499/: Brick By Brick

EXTENSION 4004

POP / TOP 40

B Natural: Bahia Belle Cruise Hello Cleveland: Harrah's

Tiff Jimber: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

Rick Lyon: The Imperial House

Pop Rocks: Jimmy Love's

Uncle Boogie: Harrah's

The Love Rangers: The Alley Ziggy Shuffledust: The Casbah Makai: Harrah's 619: Second Wind (Santee)

EXTENSION 4005

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The Archtones: Croce's Top Hat

The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet

The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn Blue Largo [636]: Patrick's II

The Bourbon Street Jazz Band:

Rav Briz: Hotel del Coronado

The Lee Brown Perspective: Thrusters, Magnolia's

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

Chini, Camberos & Co.: Harrah's

Jo Dark: The German-American

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 Restauran

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio

The Paul Ingram Quartet: Twiggs

Daniel Jackson: Hotel del

Barbara Jamerson: Tio Leo's

Nate Jarrett: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Benny Lackner & His Trio: Dizzy's Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Mark Lessman: Coyote Bar and

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel Stellita Lindgren: Hotel del

Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Luna Llena: The Calypso Cafe Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

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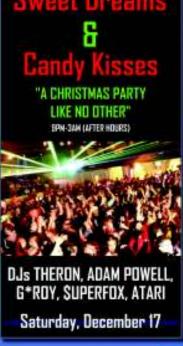
tickets & info: (619) 231-4343





DJ \$ERGIO

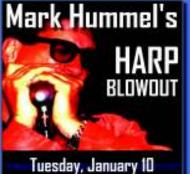
Friday December 16

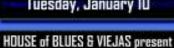


GOSSIP + LIQUID SUGAR PRESENT..







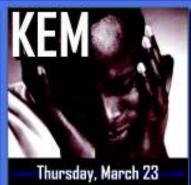




Thursday, January 19









VIP Booth and exicusive bottle service available, Call 619.231.4343 or e-mail vip@4thandb.com

Calendar **BANDS**

Charles McPherson & His Quintet: Dizzy'

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet [660]: Hotel del Coronado, Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Mike Nelson: The Lodge at Torrey Pines, Qwiigs Bar & Grill

Nice and Easy: The Metaphor

The Old Town Jazz Band: The

Sue Palmer [641]: The Calypso Cafe

The David Patrone Quartet [647]: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, Riley's Sports Bar

Ben Powell: Tomiko Bar & Grill

Primasi: Dizzy's

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

The San Diego Concert Jazz

Dave Scott: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille, Pasquale on Prospect

The Sidemen Band: Claire de Lune

Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time: Jimmy Love's, Humphrey's

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

The Stage 4 Jazz Quintet: Buon

The Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet: Coronado Island Marriott

The Jaime Valle Quartet [704]:

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar & American

The Velvet Smog: Hennessey's

Jason Weber: Mister A's

EXTENSION 4006

REGGAE / SKA

NZ Rough: Hennessey's Tavern (PB) Quinazo: Blind Melons

EXTENSION 4007

COUNTRY

The California Rangers: McCabe's

Cash'd Out: 4th & B

Coyote Moon: Renegade Inn

Shoestring Strap: Winstons

EXTENSION 4008

ACOUSTIC / **FOLK**

Abby: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Acoustic Underground: Lestat's

Alexis: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Bass: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Evan Bethany: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Andrew Bird: House of Blues

Peter Bolland [878]: Dizzy's,

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub

Christopher Cash: Twiggs Tea and

Delancy: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Kim DiVincenzo: Lestat's Coffeehouse, Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Company Emersen: Lestat's Coffeehouse



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

For all its charm, Christmas is not a sexy holiday, and Christmas music is about as sexy as the theme song from Entertainment Tonight. Despite "Baby, It's Cold Outside," "Let It Snow," and a few other mildly suggestive standards, Christmas songs are all about family and jolly old Santa and heartwarming scenes of happy kids. And, of course, virgin birth.

Straitjackets set about trying to put the "X" into Xmas. And that's not easy to do if you're an instrumental surf band whose members always appear wearing Mexican wrestler masks. So, Danny Amis, Eddie Angel, Pete Curry, and Jimmy Lester

A few Christmas seasons back, Los

recorded a clever Christmas album and

then enlisted the help of the burlesque dance trio who call themselves the World Famous Pontani Sisters for a Christmaspageant tour. It quickly became apparent that Los Straitjackets were on to something.

In the past few years, as the burlesque revival showed every sign of becoming a lasting phenomenon, the Pontani Sisters have started to live up to their self-invented world fame. Every time some overheated reporter somewhere decides to write an article about bur-

lesque. Angie Pontani is there with some juicy quotes — and a plug for her group's 'Go-Go Robics" exercise videos. She has said that she sees burlesque "primarily as a form of satire," and that perfectly describes the good-natured sex appeal of

This year's pageant promises to be more elaborate than ever, as Los Straitjack-



ets feature guest vocalist Kaiser George from Scotland's Kaisers (thankfully not England's Kaiser Chiefs). Also playing is Big Sandy, who has been known to sing a few songs with the $\,$ men-in-masks himself.

LOS STRAITJACKETS, Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 17, 9 p.m. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497, \$15.

Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub Harmony Road: McP's Irish Pub

Harold & Chris: Blarney Stone Pub Jackson & McCarty: Island Sports

Greg Laswell [813]: Lestat's Coffeehouse

Elise Levy: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Jimmy Lewis: Tiki House

Allison Lonsdale: Lestat's

Julie Mack: Cheers Ashley Matte: Belly Up Tavern

The New Dadaists: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Nickel Creek [817]: House of Blues

Sean O'Donnell: Blarney Stone Pub

Carlos Olmeda: Dizzv's

Korrie Paliotto: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Kyle Phelan: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Steve Poltz [815]: Cheers

The Derren Raser Band: Twiggs

Red Lightning: 'Canes Mario Santana: Blind Melons

Skelpin: Humphrey's Jack Tempchin: The Calypso Cafe **2 Guys Will Move U:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Ben Varela: Twiggs Tea and Coffee

Gene Warren: McP's Irish Pub and

John Waters: The Casbah

EXTENSION 4009

BLUES / SOUL

Blue Heat: The Kraken

Blue Rockit [955]: The Gordon Biersch Brewery, Tio Leo's Lounge Blue Shades: Los Cabos Mexican

The Blues Brokers: The Kraken

Tommy Budd & Windy City [957]: Island Sports & Spirits

The Charles Burton Blues Band [931]: The Kraken

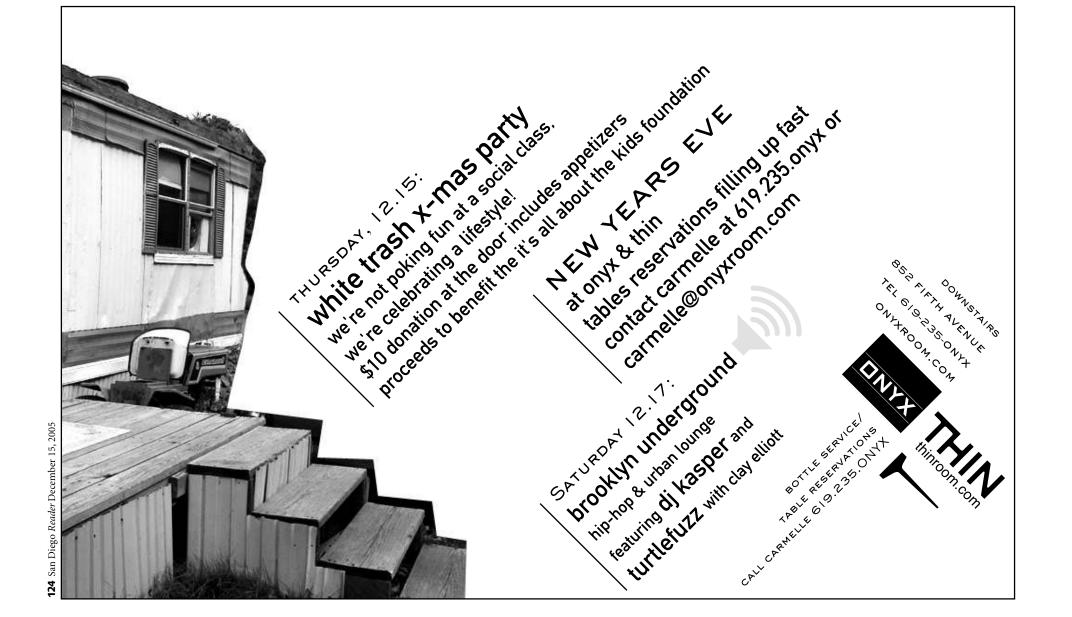
Tomcat Courtney & the Blues

Dusters [932]: Big Jim's Old South Bar-B-Q, Daddio's Superior Bar & Grill, Turquoise Cafe, Chateau

The Fremonts /923/: Patrick's II

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen [912]: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille

Robin Henkel [914]: Coyote Bar





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Calendar **BANDS**

Alan Iglesias & Crossfire: Patrick's

Candye Kane [939]: The Calypso

The Bill Magee Blues Band [947]:

Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe

Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors

[910]: The Kraken Nite Life [934]: Pal Joey's

The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band [971]: The Jumping Turtle

Oozie Blues: Patrick's II

Plato Soul: The Kraken

Len Rainey & the Midnight Players [921]: Patrick's II

Ruby & the Red Hots [918]: Blind

Dean Smith: The Calypso Cafe Billy Watson: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

West of Memphis: Carvers

The Zydeco Blues Patrol: Coyote

EXTENSION 4010

EVERYTHING ELSE

Acteal: House of Blues

Armenta de San Diego: La

J.D. Boucharde [985]: Princess Pub

Cantua: House of Blues

The Capriccio String Quartet:

Castillo: House of Blues

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Vicki Eriqat: Edelweiss Restaurant Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

Chicharrones Guapos: The Calypso

Halina: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant Kjell Holmes [994]: Edelweiss

Gordon Kohl [983]: Edelweiss

Bradley Leighton [987]: Game

Los Ingratoz: Over the Border Luna de Octubre: House of Blues Bob MacLeod: Jack & Giulio's

Kevin Misaioh: Hennessev's Tavern

Of One Mind: The Metaphor

Faith Page [989]: The Westgate

Hotel



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Also featuring DJ SK (spinning rare jazz grooves)

THURSDAY | LA JOLLA THURSDAYS Presented by Corey Biggs & Jason Overell

FRIDAY | HIP-HOP

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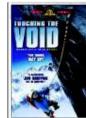






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8 pm-12 am • Blues



Bill Magee



Friday, December 16

9 pm-1 am • Latin Rock

Santana



Saturday, December 17

9:30 pm-1:30 am • Motown & Dance

Detroit Underground



98.1 Smooth Jazz with Kelly Cole

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Reggie





Tuesday, December 20

8 pm-12 am • Traditional Irish Music

Skelpin



Wednesday, December 21

8 pm-12 am • Original Rock Taylor Harvey **Band**



Thursday, January 12

Upcoming Shows

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Calendar **CLUBS**

DJ EVENTS

If you would like to include your DI 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, ArvRose, 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 hiphop 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 DIs 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, DIs 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 hiphop. 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.

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

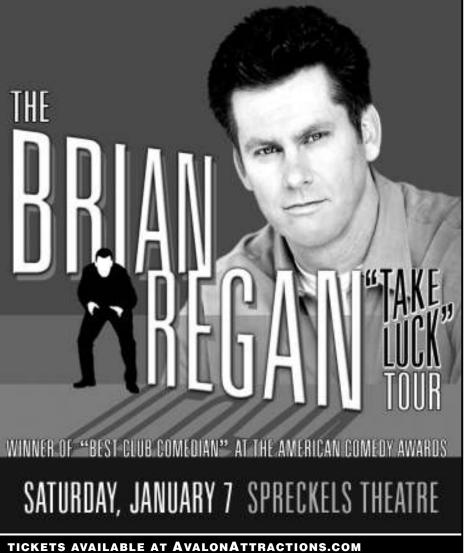
CLUBS BY AREA

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

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Friday, 9 p.m., Venice and Ashley Matte. Saturday, 9 p.m., Los Straitjackets, the World-Fai





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FRI CHOICE FRIDAYS presented by westcoastcollective.com. Deep, funky, soulful, s house music by resident DJs Dustin Brown, Legion Swank, Clint Bronson, Robert Lusk & special guests.

SAT SOUNDS FROM UNDERGROUND featuring Mark Alan with weekly guest DJs

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alendar **CLUBS**

Pontani Sisters, Kaiser George, and Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys. Tuesday, 8 p.m., *Dokken, Narsil*, and *Diamo*. Lane. Wednesday, Fono, Daredevil Jane, and the Evergreens.

Big Jim's Old South Bar B Q, 190 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. Friday, noon to 3 p.m., Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters,

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue. Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Friday and Saturday, Criminal Funk, 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., Billy Watson, blues.

Bub's Whiskey Dive, 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-BUBS. Saturday, the Cory Wilkins Band, rock.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Chicarrones Guapos*. Friday, Jeff Moore and Dean Smith, blues. Saturday, Luna Llena, Latin iazz, Sunday, Candve Kane and Sue Palmer, jazz/blues. Tuesday, Jack Tempchin, folk. Wednesday, Tres

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *West of* Memphis, blues.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday, 9 p.m., Thunderhead, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., Steve Poltz and Julie Mack.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Boneyard, rock, 10 p.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Robin Henkel, blues/rock, 10:30 p.m., DI event. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., the Zydeco Blues Patrol, blues, 10:30 p.m., DI event, Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mark Lessman, jazz Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Northstar, classic rock

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., Uncle Boogie, Top 40/funk. Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., Makai, disco/dance, Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Chini, Camberos & Co., Latin/jazz.

Cabana Cove Bar & Grill: Friday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Hello Cleveland*, Top 40/dance.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, *Ron's* Garage, classic rock. Saturday, Mother

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

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Friday, the Accident Experiment, Opus Dei, Restricted, Pound Foolish, and Colporter. Saturday, the Wrecking Crew, the Narcoleptic Youth, the Diffs, and Sayaka. Wednesday, Flashburn, the Midas Touch, and Copia Element

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors, blues. Friday, Plato Soul. Saturday, Blue Heat, blues, Sunday, the Blues Brokers, Monday, the Charles Burton Blues

Longshot Saloon, 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Friday, 10 p.m., *Thin Will* and *New Day Mile*, alternative rock.

Los Cabos Mexican Mesquite Grill, 12955 El Camino Real, Suite G7, Del Mar. 858-792-2226. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Blue Shades, soul rock.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Mike Gardner

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., the California Rangers,

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido 760-489-8890. Thursday, 6:30 p.m., the Old Town Jazz Band. Saturday, 8 p.m., Of One Mind and Unifie, hiphop. Monday, 6:30 p.m., the Bourbon Street Jazz Band. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nice and Easy, swing. Wednesday, MC

Refuge. Neimans Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday and Saturday,

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.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones. Saturday, 5 Alarm, rock. Wednesday,

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, live classic rock

BEACHES

Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, Desire, alternative rock. Friday, Quinazo, rock/reggae. Saturday, the Shane Dwight Band, rock. Sunday, the Wheelchair Renegades, Drawback, Rental 58, and Motionless. Monday, Mario Santana, acoustic folk. Tuesday, Ruby & the Red Hots, blues/swing. Wednesday, Patient Zero, Professor CC, and Punk Floyd, alternative rock.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Buckcherry, Buckley's *Ghost,* and *People.* Saturday, *DJ's Demon* and *A* + *Zoolander,* hip-hop. Sunday, *Red Lightning.* Wednesday, Listen Local Christmas Party, call club for information.



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FRIDAY 12•16

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UPCOMING SHOWS (See website for other upcoming shows):

MONDAY 12-19 **FOOTBALL**

WEDNESDAY 12•21

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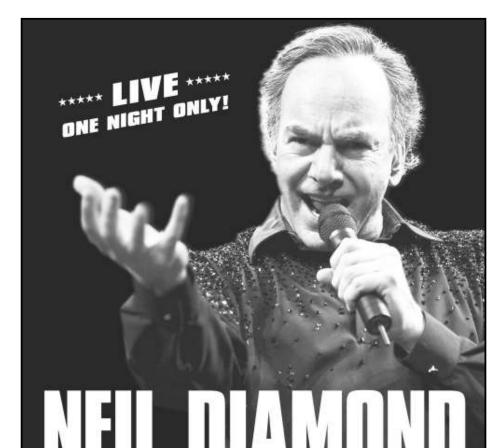
FRIDAY & SATURDAY DECEMBER 16 & 17 • 9 PM



KARAOKE THURSDAY-SATURDAY 9 PM HOSTED BY FRANK

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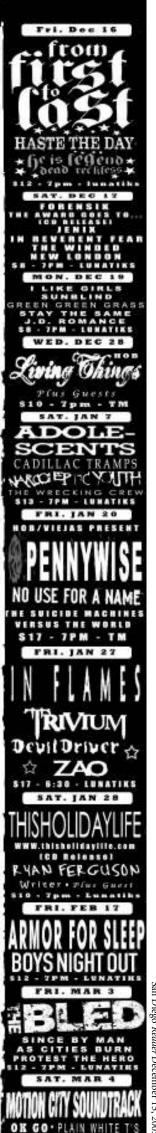
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SAT. DEC



alendar **CLUBS**

Chateau Orleans, 926 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-6744. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters, blues.

Daddio's Superior Bar & Grill, 4556 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-272-4656. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Music is alternative/rock. Thursday, *Tower 4*, True Light, Creep, Kasper & Nuze, Defamution League, and J Downs. Friday, Fracture Point, Hyde, Empire State, and American Pharaoh. Saturday, DJ battle, call club for information. Wednesday, live bands

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

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, live rock, call club for

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, Kevin Misajoh. Saturday, NZ Rough, reggae.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Iolla 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

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

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Wednesday, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., the Lee Brown Perspective, jazz.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, call club for information. Friday, the Percolators, rock. Saturday, Mercy Road, rock. Sunday, Jimmy Lewis, acoustic. Wednesday, Zindu.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, La Jolla, 858-488-4200, Friday call club for information. Monday, Greek and Turkish music. Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters, blues

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, Tubby, rock. Friday, 7 p.m Inursday, 1ubby, rock. Friday, / p.n. to 9 p.m., Idle Train, 9:30 p.m., Bargain Music and the Wagon, rock. Saturday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Negative Filter, 9:30 p.m., Wise Monkeyand Ripple Groove, groove/alternative. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Joey Bowen. Monday, the Electric Waste Band, classic rock. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m., Shoestring Strap, bluegrass/country Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Gadfly.

SAN DIEGO

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. Call club for information.

Albie's Beef Inn, 1201 Hotel Circle South, San Diego. 619-291-1103. Friday and Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, 7 p.m., David Timothy

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.



Album: Music and Words by Naomi (2005)

Label: self-released

NAOMI

Songs: 1) Get the Better Of 2) The First Thing That Was Willing to Take 3) If Only I Could Take 4) Only to Have It Returned 5) Might Have Set to Stay Later 6) Still I Think We Can Leave It 7) A Close Fight 8) When They Are Handed Over 9) Even to Me Price/where available: Can be purchased at Off the Record

(2912 University Avenue) for \$9.99 Band: Naomi (vocals, quitar)

Extra info: Naomi has been recording for years but just

recently began performing for an audience. Website: www.publishingnoticespress.com

Naomi's pleasant voice draws attention away from her muddled lyrics, but her breathy inflections

session. Wednesday, call club for

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE.

otherwise noted. Thursday, EXP.

Friday, Glen Matlock, the Whiskey

Wednesday, George Lynch, Benedictum, Tall, and Zone 4.

Dicks, and Live 45. Saturday, Clutch, and William Elliott Whitmore.

Music is rock/alternative unless

grow tiresome in this union of indie and folk.

By the second track, erratic melody lines cease mid-crescendo and intricate acoustic buildups tumble into oblivion. Unexpected piano notes manage to salvage the last half of "The First Thing That Was Willing to Take," but then the melody falters; it becomes more repetitive than the complacent percussion. Jerky tempos add to the melee, and the pitch reverberating from each chord of the acoustic and electric guitars begins to grate. Often, the most redeeming component of each song is the tambourine.

Dissonant piano chords in "A Close Fight" diffuse some of the sullenness, but they make the remaining tracks sound out of tune. "Still I Think We Can Leave It" is Naomi's best song; though lyrically fragmented, its intricate electronics provide a jolt in the right direc-



tion. The album's largest lapse is that Naomi's vocals are underutilized.

(To hear a sample from Music and Words, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4818.)

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL

IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs. San Diego Reader. P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

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

information

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Sidemen Band, smooth jazz.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa 858-271-4000 Call club for information.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock.

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 House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday and Friday, *Nickel Creek* and Andrew Bird, alternative/pop/folk Saturday, the Kottonmouth Kings, alternative rock. Sunday, the Brian Setzer Orchestra. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Castillo, Acteal, Luna de Octubre, and Cantua, Latin. Wednesday, Bone,

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Bill Magee*, rock. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Viva Santana, Latin rock. Saturday, :30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Detroit Underground, Motown/dance.

Sunday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time, jazz.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Skelpin,
Irish folk. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Taylor Harvey Band,

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

Jack & Giulio's Italian Restaurant, 2391 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-294-2074.

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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 Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is alternative/rock. Thursday, the Screamin' Yeehaws, Erotomania, and the Gangly Gangbangers of Outer Space. Friday, Transfer, the Gregory Page Show, and Music for Animals. Saturday, Dan Padilla, Sharkpants, and Swing Ding

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.

The Last Day, 1872 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma. 619-222-7050. Friday and Saturday, DJ events

Lestat's Coffeehouse, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Acoustic Underground. Friday, As We Speak, Emersen, and Kim DiVincenzo. Saturday, Allison Lonsdale and Greg Laswell. Sunday, Evan Bethany and Peter Bolland. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, Nate Jarrett, jazz.

Magnolia's, 336 Euclid Avenue. San Diego. 619-262-6005. Sunday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Lee Brown

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, Citizen Band, Deadline Friday, and

Sweettooth, rock. Saturday, Tubby, rock. Sunday, Nova, rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., Serrated, VIII Fraud, and Lost in Ataraxia, alternative 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. The Oasis: Friday and Saturday, *DJ D2*, old

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 Stilettos, rockabilly

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, the Rockoholics, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Caion 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. Friday, From First to Last, Haste the Day, He Is Legend, and Dead Reckless. Saturday, Forensik, the

Award Goes to..., Jenix, the Winded, and New London. Monday, I Like Girls, Sunblind, the Napoleon, Green Green Grass, Stay the Same, and J.D.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, Big Rig Deluxe, rock. Friday, the Joey Show, rock. Saturday, Blue Rockit and Barbara Jamerson, blues/jazz. Monday, tango, Tuesday, zydeco Wednesday, the High Society Jazz

Top of the Cove, 1216 Prospect Avenue, La Jolla. 858-454-7779. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 pm, *Kristi Rickert*, piano.

Triple Crown Pub, 3221 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-281-0263. Saturday, 9 p.m., Free Confusion and Erotomania, intense grungy punk.

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.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Performances start at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, *Erin McCarley*, *Amy Ayres, Jamie Robb*, and *Kethro*. Friday, Lisa Sanders and Randi Driscoll. Saturday, Broken View, Todd Hurst, Kethro, Len & Ben Ingraham, Mike Dawson, Kenny Sacks, and Just John & the Dude. Sunday, John January. Wednesday, open mike.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant,

619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* with vocalist, *Halina*, jazz.

DOWNTOWN

Belo. 919 Fourth Street, Gaslamp 619-231-9200. Main Room: Friday, 80s music/hip-hop/R&B/rock. Saturday, house. Red Room: Friday, house.

Orange Room: Friday and Saturday, down tempo/swanky lounge.

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-8519. Friday through Sunday, and Wednesday, Steve Brewer, acoustic

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown, 619-232-HELL, Music is rock/alternative. Thursday, the Like, Giant Drag, and Big City Rock. Friday, Rogue Wave, Mazarin, and Via Satellite. Saturday, Ilya, Manuok, and Irradio, Sunday, John Waters. Monday, Ziggy Shuffledust and Plastic Explosive. Tuesday, Buckfast Superbee, Hot Like a Robot, the After Party, and Get Back Loretta. Wednesday, Deadbolt, the Creepy Creeps, Thee Corsairs, and Starlight

Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille,

802 Fifth Avenue, downtov 619-233-4355. Music is jazz/blues. Thursday, the David Patrone Quartet. Friday, Fuzzy & the Bluesmen Saturday, Primo. Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, the Jorge Camberos

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtov 5554. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.,



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1/2 off drink

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Second Wind Navajo

No cover

6MinuteMatch.com \$5 off event

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Calendar **CLUBS**

also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., Jimmy Lavello, pop American

Deco's. 731 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-696-DECO. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for

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Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown, 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Primasi*, jazz. Friday, 8 p.m., *Carlos Olmeda* and *Peter Bolland*, acoustic/folk. Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., Charles McPherson & His Quintet, jazz. Sunday, 8 p.m., Benny Lackner & His Trio, jazz.

4th & B. 345 B Street, downtown 619-231-4343. Friday, 9 p.m., Cash'd Out, Fono, Daredevil Jane, and Campaign for Quiet, rock. Saturday, DJ's Theron, Adam Powell, G-Roy, Superfox, and Atari.

Hennessey's Tavern, 708 Fourth Avenue (corner of Fourth and G), Gaslamp. 619-239-9991. Sunday, 4 p.m., the Velvet Smog, jazz.

The Honey Bee Hive, $1409\,\mathrm{C}$ 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 9:45 p.m., Pop Rocks, Top 40/dance. Saturday, 9:45 p.m., Reaganomics, rock. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystique, jazz/funk/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Revue, jazz/dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, music events, call club for information

Shaker Room: Call club for information.

On Broadway, 615 Broadway Avenue, downtown. 619-231-0011. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, DI events and live music. Call club for

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, Oozie Blues. Friday, Alan Iglesias & Crossfire. Saturday, the Fremonts. Monday, Blue Largo. Tuesday, Len Rainey & the Midnight



Nickel Creek, December 15, House of Blues

Players. Wednesday, the Bill Magee

Princess Pub & Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown 619-702-3021. Saturday, *J.D.* Boucharde, piano.

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, *Trece*, salsa. Friday, *DJ* Hector, Latin/Euro-house. Saturday, DJ Joe, Latin/Euro-house. Sunday, Club Brazil. Monday, rock en español. Tuesday, Walter II y Rumbaney, salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Call club for information.

Twiggs Tea & Coffee Company, 702 Ash Street, downtown. 619-232-0436. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., the Paul Ingram Quartet, jazz.

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 Loskota, pop/jazz/Top 40. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Faith Page, jazz.

SOUTH BAY/ CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant. 4110 Saturday, the Stage 4 Jazz Quintet.

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 Sa Canonizado, jazz/blues, Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Burnett Anderson and Joe Garrison, jazz.

4079 Adams Ave

619-284-2848

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

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

Palm Court: Davtime entertainment. Music hours are from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Saturday,

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, Jackson & McCarty, coustic. Friday, Tommy Budd & Windy City, blues. Saturday, the Stilettos, rockabilly.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, *the Offbeats*, rock. Friday, *Harmony Road*, acoustic. Saturday, *Undecided*, rock. Tuesday, *2* Guys Will Move U, acoustic. Wednesday, Gene Warren, Irish folk.

Over the Border, 3008 Main Street, Chula Vista. 619-427-5889. Friday and Saturday, *Los Ingratos*, rock én español.

EAST COUNTY

Cosmos Cafe, 8278 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-698-4217. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Kev,

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *the Wild Ones*, classic

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, Benchmark, classic rock/country.

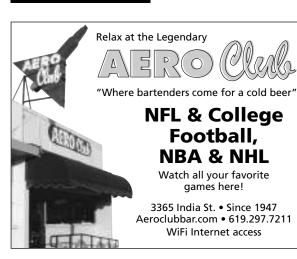
Driftwood, 9325 Mission Gorge Road, Santee. 619-562-2429. Saturday and Sunday, 9 p.m., the Rock-Wells, rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, *Difficult Henry* and *Riot House*, rock. Saturday, Shakedown, 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, *Coyote* Moon, country.















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Final Curtain

Actors learned to handle the challenge — "the dead spot made you wake up," I remember one saying.

EULOGY

JEFF SMITH

ast week, Sledgehammer Theatre held a wake for a funeral parlor. St. Cecilia's, home of Sledge and, before that, the San Diego Rep, is scheduled for demolition. Condos will sprout from its ashes. A/Wake, Sledgehammer's

celebration, was meant to have an upside. Quite frankly, I don't see one. Losing any theater space, but especially St. Cecilia's, feels like a death in the family.

California history begins in San Diego. And yet each year sites and objects of priceless value get leveled. Less than a mile from St. Cecilia's, a 100-year-old house will be torn down soon. It's as if San Diego has a morbid fear of anything old. It pays lip service to preserving local treasures, but its real gods are development and eminent

Local history and local theater are profoundly fragile. Lose something — like the original Presidio walls that kids demolished with rocks in the 1920s, or a beloved theater space — and it won't grow back. What you get, at best, is a paltry imitation, like what that Delaware company did to Bazaar del Mundo.

For 40-some-odd years, St. Cecilia's was a funeral chapel. In 1977 the San Diego Rep turned it into the Sixth Avenue Playhouse: the tall proscenium a Romanesque arch; stained-glass window on the rear wall; narrow, recessed stage. You entered a church, sat on pew-like seats hard as stone, and saw plays by Shepard, Orton, and Brecht.

The space had its quirks. The high ceiling made for fickle acoustics. Sounds would careen off the side-walls like a roller derby stampede. Plus a tall, funnel-like dead spot, center stage right, muffled actors' voices. Some claimed it was

a ghost, like the one said to lurk on the basement stairs. Others compared it to being beamed aboard the Enterprise. In either case, actors learned to handle the

challenge — "the dead spot made you wake up," I remember one saying — and the chapel became a sanctuary for artistic endeavor.

"I always felt safe there," an actor (who asked not to be named) told me. "I got a fractured tooth and injured a hip but always felt like I could fly and not be harmed in that space. Even when all the actors in one show got soap in their eyes (fake blood gone wrong) and a light shattered onstage — with me in my bare feet — I felt I was protected from serious harm, like the playhouse was a bubble in time.

Many have said the cramped dressing room, offstage right, is ideal for plays about actors about to go on (A Life in the Theatre or The Dresser): chipped paint, grimy walls, the floor a mercurial Jackson Pollock of smeared greasepaint, postcurtain libations, tears.

Whoopi Goldberg played Mother Courage in this theater! I forget the year, but it was just before she went to Berkeley, joined the Blake Street Hawkeyes, sharpened the final edges to her per-



sona, and became "Whoopi." Scott Feldsher directed an uncut Hamlet in this theater! And Bruce McKenzie sustained a manic, mesmerizing performance for all five-plus hours. Feldsher's direction of Sam Shepard's Action, strange rhythmic pulses beneath the chaos, ranks among the

I recently asked Douglas Jacobs, co-artistic director of the San Diego Rep for many years, to name his five favorite Rep shows at the playhouse. He couldn't. Neither can I. He recalled Of Mice and Men (I don't believe in "definitive" work, but the late Tavis Ross and Bill Dunnam came close). That memory unleashed others: Children of a Lesser God, a production that raised citywide awareness for the hearing impaired; Working (Sam Woodhouse turned a Broadway flop into a mega-hit); Six Women with Brain Death, which Linda Libby must have performed 500 times, in a row, and saved the Rep financially.

John William See's The Lady Cries Murder, a spoof of Raymond Chandler-noir, was one of the best local scripts ever written. But don't forget K2. Woodhouse and Jacobs played stranded mountain climbers, and the production became a metaphor for how they guided the Rep through perilous times at Sixth Avenue — ten years, eight shows a year, tickets just the cost of a movie without a safety net.

I dramaturged my first show at St. Cecilia's: Sam Shepard's Tooth of Crime, rock and roll on a collision course with Greek tragedy. I don't know how useful I was, but I'm certain I learned much more than I taught — especially about the acting process: how a character evolves, like a developing photograph, and how, unlike a photograph, it continues to grow and change after opening night.

Sean — then Thom — Murray played Crow, Tooth's outlaw rocker. Murray began rehearsals with a few birdlike twitches. Then he added Keith Richard. Then he experimented with 100 variations. Finally this being emerged, so freaky real you almost forgot the stages that put him together.

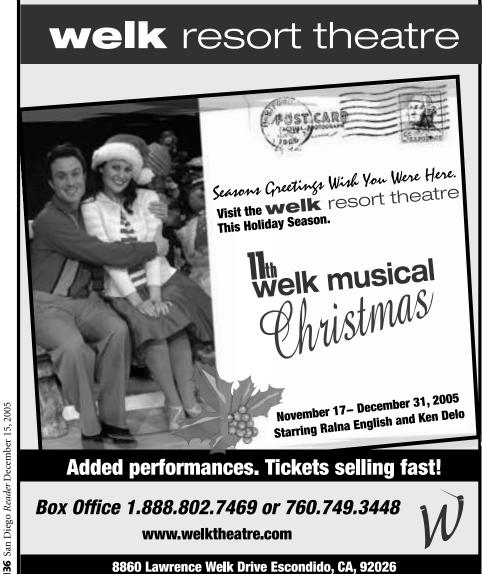
Some people say critics and performers should stay far apart. I disagree. Critics may know a thing or two about texts or theater history, but until they've worked hands-on, in the grind of the creative process, they've only got half a game.

That street goes two ways. Far too many local actors limit their theater criticism to "but how does that relate to me?"

The first play I ever reviewed was at St. Cecilia's. In the spring of 1980, the Reader asked me to critique Arthur Kopit's Wings. I still don't like the play (a woman has a stroke and suddenly becomes literary, talking in Joycean stream-of-consciousness). My real memories of that evening are the memories it evoked.

Though I'd done a good bit in my youth, I hadn't been to live theater in some time and had completely forgotten what an audience can do: a silent yet palpable interplay with the actors, instant feedback, and how the two can join.

I had also forgotten how, in theater, no camera determines what you see. There are two kinds of birds: those that move their heads and those that just move their eyes. The ones that move their heads are predators, the others prey. Movie audiences stare straight ahead (and now sit in tilted-back seats designed for passivity). Theater audiences turn their heads from side to side, watching actions and reactions, combing the whole stage for information. That night at St. Ce-





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BROADWAY DISNEP *: VISA

cilia's reconfirmed a lifelong bias of mine: real acting takes place live, not on celluloid after 28 takes.

The biggest surprise came as a shock. At first the production felt way too slow. I wanted pace, I wanted speed. Then it dawned: I'd become too used to split-second movie cuts, sound bites, the incessant blitz of TV commercials. Theater was different. You had time to take things in. It moved at a human speed.

I rediscovered live theater that night at St. Cecilia's and have probably seen 100 productions in that eccentric, wonderful space.

Now gone. ■

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

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 CORON-ADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 30: DOORS OPEN NIGHTLY (EXCEPT FOR CHRIST-MAS DAY) AT 6:30 P M 619-437-0600

Black Nativity

If you walked out after the first act of Common Ground Theatre's production, you might be astonished to hear the audience gave the show a standing ovation. Act One of Langston Hughes' African-American Christmas story takes place in a gospel church. It could raise rafters, but every song's so solemn, every tempo so passive, and the acting's so pseudo-pageant stiff, you wonder if director Floyd Gaffney's lost his touch. 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. The nine songs of Act Two resemble a baseball lineup: speed early, power deep down the middle. Standouts include Dajahn Blevins's "Can't Nobody Do Me Like Iesus" and Deborah Branch's "Perfect Praise." The performers catch up to Carolyn Cherry's four-piece backup band, which has cooked all night long, and they rock Ted Crittenden's church interior set, lit by Calvin Manson's warm reds and golds. The two acts are so far apart it's almost as if Langston Hughes himself admonished the cast at intermission, as he wrote in a poem, "If you're not alive and kicking, shame on you!" Worth a try.

LYCEUM SPACE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATI-NEE SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 619-544

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.



DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! Book & Lyrics by Timothy Mason | Music by Mel Marvin Directed by Jack O'Brien Now - Dec 31 | Old Globe Theatre

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LA PASTORELA NOEL

John Padilla and the cast of La Pastorela, photo by Jack Ezr

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Glorious archangels battle evil devils for the souls of humanity in this traditional Mexican-flavored Christmas musical.

(1) E E (234-5623) www.TheOldGlobe.org | GROUP SALES: (619) 231-1941 x2408

A Christmas Carol

The Julian Theater Company presents Dickens's tale of "one haunted Christmas Eve," adapted by Don Winslow and directed by Scott Kinney.

JULIAN TOWN HALL, 2129 MAIN STREET, THROUGH DECEMBER 18: FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATI-NEE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, AT 2:00 P.M. 760-765-1688.

Evening of One-Acts

The Show Must...Theatre presents one-acts featuring Family Business, Something's Brewing, and Sailor Boy. 3152 FIFTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH DECEMBER 18; FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-719-3779.

Grass Roots Greeks

The very popular series of Greek play readings is back, with a new location: Adams Avenue Studio of the Arts. To reacquaint 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, DECEM-BER 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 DECEM-BER 31; WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SAT URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATUR-DAY 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 SOUARE IRISH PUB AND GRILLE, 554 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWN TOWN, OPEN-ENDED RUN: THURSDAY



How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

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

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 OR-ANGE 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, SI-MON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PER-FORMING ARTS, THROUGH DECEM-BER 23: WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-234-5623.

The Lion King

Broadway/San Diego hosts a touring production of Disney's (and Julie Taymor's) award-winning musical, with a score by Elton John and Tim Rice. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE. THIRD AV ENUE AND B STREET, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH JANUARY 15; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY: FOR SPECIFIC TIMES CALL THE THEATER, 619-231-8995

The Little Foxes

Cygnet 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 others. Sean Murray's expert staging of Lillian Hellman's melodrama 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 Revnolds also gives her a lateblooming 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 (deftly 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.

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Civic Theatre

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Clairemont Community Players

Holmes Elementary 4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont (858) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre

2957 54th St., State College (619) 264-3391 w.communityactorstheatre.com

Copley Symphony Hall 750 B St., Downtown

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nt.gcccd.cc.ca.us/ The Hispanic Theatre Of San Diego

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www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

6th @ Penn Theater 3704 6th Ave., Hillcrest (619) 688-9210 www.sixthatpenn.com

Sledgehammer Theatre St. Cecilia's, 1620 Sixth Ave., Downtown (619) 544-1484 www.sledgehammer.or

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National Comedy Theatre

ComedySportz changed its name, but its methods (and madness) remain the same. Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy," "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; FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999

Pete 'n Keelv

The Ramona Mainstage Theatre presents a musical comedy revue, 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-HARY 22: SATURDAY AT 8:00 P M MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

Poor Players Reading: King Richard III

The Poor Players read Shakespeare'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

Gourmet Meal & DJ

MYSTERY

A cross between improvisational comedy and Family Feud. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add com-

petitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but San Diego Theatresports' "game show" is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had "Team Sports" - two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and "Gorilla Theatre" - five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a "forfeit" (other formats include "Micetro" and "Improv Survivors"). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru-Keith Johnstone, 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 BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. (THE "FAMILY" SHOW) AND AT 9:45 P.M. ("RATED PG-13"), 619-465-7469,

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 holiday season. Sean Murray directed. CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH DECEMBER 23; 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

This sequel to Maripat Donovan's popular Late Nite Catechism feels like a the early stage of a work-inprogress. The ideas are in place. Sister, a spare-not-the-rod old schooler, is substitute teaching again. Her classroom's the same, only the desk is piled with presents and there's a cheapo plastic representation of Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus on the floor. The first hour's a class on the Christmas story. The second hour's a party, which includes a "living nativity (audience members dress in "found" items like lampshades and shower curtains); and a mystery ("who made off with the Magi's gold?"). The show has funny stuff. But compared to the original it pales. Dressing people for the nativity takes way too long. And the tone is tame. Christmas Catechism's much nicer than its ancestor. As opposed to a tough love tapping her palm with a ruler, the only pal-

pable threat this time comes when Sister picks people for the nativity and the audience averts its eyes. Christmas would probably fare better if it were the first of its kind (and many of the original jokes weren't recycled). But compared to the original the sequel may have too much of the holiday spirit. 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 reading series with The Birds by Aristophanes.

6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, ONGOING RUN; SAT-URDAY, DECEMBER 17, AT 4:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Dillstar Productions presents an evening with the notorious Baritone family: "gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun.'

LAFAYETTE INN AND SUITES, NORTH PARK, OPEN-ENDED RUN; SELECTED FRI-DAYS AND SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639

The Sum of Us

6th@Penn Theatre stages David Stevens's comedy-drama about a widower and his son. Douglas Lay directed.

6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH DECEM-BER 21: SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURS-DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M.

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

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"Best Murder & Meal 2003" -

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 IAN-UARY 1; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATI-NEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

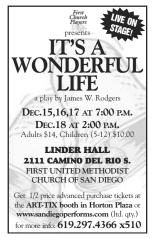
Traditions of Christmas

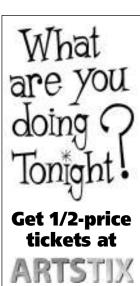
Christian Community Theater presents a "musical spectacular," with a live orchestra, live animals, and 150 singers and actors, and a special guest appearance by Santa Claus.

EAST COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CEN-TER, 210 EAST MAIN STREET, EL CA-JON. THROUGH DECEMBER 22: THURS DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:00 P M SUNDAY AT 6:00 P.M. MATINEE SATUR-DAY 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,"





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or "Mokoko Cocoa Mocha" — Hugh plays '70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh's anniversary, got stuck in the '70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They're "losers," they admit, but not "ordinary" ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from Forever Plaid. There's also the Forever Plaid problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One's a whiz at the piano. Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudodrama and get on with this highly

(Note: the original cast members have been replaced.) Worth a trv.

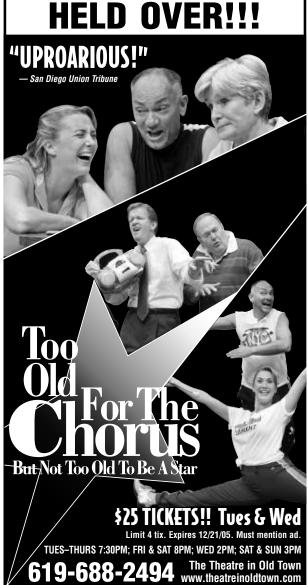
HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE GASLAMP QUARTER OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND THURS-DAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

Welk Musical Christmas

The Welk Resort Theatre presents its 11th annual Christmas show, featuring traditions from many

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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Good Golly, Miss Molly!

"Taste this," said my partner, handing over a forkful of his braised New Zealand Tai snapper. "What is it?" There were four hunks of snapper (or what looked like it) on his plate. This particular bite was flat, grill-marked, and suffused with sauce, but the texture was too firm to be fish. 'That's — uh, let me check," I said, pulling out the mini-menu I'd stashed in my purse at the entrance to Molly's. "Aha! It's Bread & Cie olive bread toast! It just looks and tastes like fish because it's sopped up so much of the seafood sauce." "You know," said my pard, "this chef is clever. I think we have a winner here!" The two snapper fillets proved to be a bold-flavored species, boldly garnished. One was crowned with a garlic-rich chervil aioli and shaved raw baby fennel. The other was topped with melted leeks and a zesty tomato-fennel seafood sauce, enriched by the juices of the clams and mussels served alongside.

That's when we went from enjoying the food at Molly's to falling in love with it. There's a new chef in town, Brian Sinnott, who's cooked at some of San Francisco's best eateries. Although the menu at Molly's looks short and simple, featuring California cuisine with a slight French tilt — nothing there to scare the horses or the relatives from Duluth — what comes from the kitchen is a long way from cautious hotel-restaurant fare. This entrée confirmed that the cooking at Molly's is not merely delicious, but as intelligent as it is sensual. The combinations are sharply conceived, not mechanical — there are culinary crosswords to enjoy, taste-teasing mysteries to solve.

Of course, finding the restaurant is a bit of a puzzle in itself; this dauntingly vast hotel ought to post "UR Here" maps at every elevator. Once you arrive (let the doorman point you the way), Molly's is cozy and clubby, with sweet holiday decor. A gingerbread house, surrounded by multicolored lights and guarded by a gnome-size chocolate Santa's elf (with the face of calypso singer Black Stalin), welcomes you to the carpeted semicircular dining room. The linen-dressed tables with their comfortable captain chairs are well spaced — if you overhear nearby conversations, it's because some people just talk louder as their evening goes along. For larger parties there are a few banquettes and several half-circle booths seating six or more. Prints



and oils with a jazz theme hang on the walls, and high above the center of the room is a recessed ceiling mirror, fun for spying on fellow diners across the way. The table settings are functional: pairs of identical forks and knives, so nobody has to worry about which implements

to use for which course. The holiday crowd at Molly's

is non-glam and non-local — a combination of conventioneers in

their business duds plus visiting aged parents in pastel suits, dining with their adult offspring. There are signs of caring from the moment you sit down. The service is unfailingly friendly, and everybody seems to do everything needed — even the bartender and the sommelier will step in and wait on you when the wait staff is pressed.

The table bread is an assortment from Bread & Cie, served with Plugra butter slabs, and the appetizers are true harbingers of what's to come. My favorite is fried squash blossoms, in the airiest batter, plumply stuffed with ricotta and flecks of fresh basil and plated atop basil-infused olive oil. At the other end of the rectangular platter are sweet corn kernels from Chino Farms strewn on arugula leaves. The chef is smart to keep the corn separate, because it would be lost in the stuffing. Unfortunately, it's not available every night, because the early-bird crowd often gobbles the

entire supply, so call ahead if this is your heart's desire. A mayodressed Dungeness crab salad similarly showcases its main ingredient without fussing. The

perimeter of this heap is decorated with rectangles of apple and white-rinded, red-hearted Chinese "watermelon radish" (shinrimei "beautiful in the heart").

A luscious starter of "hand-cut" pappardelle features a cupful of house-made rectangular pasta, rolled very thin and sauced with sautéed chanterelles, pancetta, fresh spinach wisps, and shaved pepato, a sweet-flavored peppered sheep's-milk cheese (from Sonoma's renowned Bellwether Farms) that melts into a hint of cream sauce. This is a dish you normally find only in top-hat Italian restaurants.

As I recall, Alice Waters wed baby beets to

Molly's ★★★★ (Excellent)

Marriott Hotel Marina, 333 West Harbor Drive (at Front Street), North Tower level 1 (sublobby level), downtown, 619-230-8909, www.mollysfinedining.com.

HOURS: Sunday-Thursday 5:30-9:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:00 p.m. **PRICES:** Appetizers average \$11; entrées

\$25-\$38. Desserts mostly \$9.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Seasonal California cuisine with clever, creative twists incorporating local produce. Vast choice of California wines includes half-bottles and plenty by the glass in generous pours, emphasizing uncommon bottlings. Full bar.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Stuffed squash blossoms; pappardelle with chanterelles; diver scallops on celery root purée; braised New Zealand Tai snapper; lamb loin with cassoulet; vegetarian tasting; dessert sampler.

NEED TO KNOW: Reserve, even for two, or expect a wait. Free valet parking at hotel front door (Front Street entrance), validated for three hours. Dress code from business casual to dressy. One lavish entrée and plenty of starters

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambiance, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are

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warm goat cheese back around 1974, and ever since, the pair have been inseparable. Here, the cheese takes the fresh form of a miniature soufflé served at room temperature, with lean but creamy Laura Chenel chevre melting inside a firmer shell. Bathed in citrus vinaigrette, bicolor beets hunch at the other end of a plate decorated with microgreens, tiny Mandarin orange segments, and the inevitable balsamic slick. They taste almost as good as the soufflé, but the couple has run out of conversation during its 30-year marriage. It's time for an amicable divorce, or at least some outside fooling around.



"Elegant and Exotic" - Maria Hunt San Diego Union-Tribune

REV

NAOMI WISE

Best Thai Restaurant San Diego Magazine

San Diego Reader San Diego Home & Garden

> "Exquisite" – David Nelson San Diego Magazine

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High Class Thai Dining

– David Rottenberg San Diego Daily Transcript

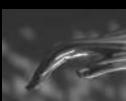
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Other too-familiar appetizers (which I was too bored to try) include Caesar salad and caramelized pear salad with watercress, candied walnuts, and bleu cheese. You'll also find the chef's favorite starter. a revisionist tuna tartare mixed with playfully reshaped elements of a classic salade Niçoise. I'm sure these are as advertised.

Unlike the many chefs who spend all their imagination on the starters and then go dim, chef Sinnott's entrées are the climax of the meal. Pan-seared Maine diver scallops reveal his baroque side: Plump, juicy bivalves sit atop celery-root purée, mingling with hen-ofthe-woods mushrooms (which resemble tiny brown chickens with ruffled feathers) and cubes of butternut squash, which look enough like carrots to be a happy surprise when you bite into them. Parsnips appear in the mix as both cubes and frizzles, and tiny brussels sprouts play a part, too. Sneaking around the edges are golden pools of buttery "thyme jus." None of these choir members are superfluous — all voices thrill in this oratorio of ingredients.

A loin of lamb is simpler but no less compelling as literal food for thought. Served rare to our order, the lamb was crusted with a tapenade of herbs and crushed black olives, lending dark complexity to a simple grilled protein. It came with fresh Bloomsdale spinach and a "cassoulet" of flageolet beans studded with bits of braised lamb shank and spicy Tunisian-style merguez (lamb

sausage). At ordering, I feared the cassoulet might be splotted all over the plate; instead, it is contained in a four-inch porcelain quiche dish, topped with toasted bread crumbs. While the loin tastes young and clean, the pieces mingling with the moist beans are fattier and more mature-tasting. The combination forms a multifaceted culinary portrait of a young sheep. The Autumn Vegetable

Tasting is too tempting to pass up — a virtual Horn of Plenty. Four small square plates arrive on a square charger. One square holds two plump, thinskinned ravioli filled with butternut squash and Parmesan, garnished with butter-browned chopped hazelnuts and a crisp, fried leaf of fresh sage. (Do nibble the sage between pasta bites; it's not there just for looks.) In another square sits pumpkin "risotto," made not of rice but of pastina pasta, which is lighter in texture, the size and shape of barley. It's flecked with fine-minced parsley and arugula, as well as diced pumpkin, and bathed in a savory broth of butternut squash, tomato, and basil. Baby brussels sprouts gain interest from a Parmesan cream sauce and a scattering of capers — a balance of earthy, smooth, and sharp flavors. Last is Tuscan (lacinato) kale, which we found a little leathery and bitter. We supplemented this tasting plate with a side dish of tender sautéed spinach cooked with garlic, with a lemon wedge to season it yourself.

As we were finishing our

entrées, I overheard a gent in a business suit at a nearby table demanding customized accompaniments to his filet mignon. "I don't want all that fancy stuff, I just want mashed potatoes," he was saying. "Well, we have a side dish of buttermilk-mashed Yukon golds," said the waiter, pointing to the menu listing. "Are those potatoes?" asked the Suit. I felt a little sorry for the chef, whose art would go unappreciated, but sorrier for the man.

The aptly named sommelier, Lisa Redwine (who doubles as room manager), is in charge of the wines and beer. The list is long and interesting, sidestepping all the tedious top-shelf supermarket bottlings you see at so many Cal-cuisine restaurants. The range runs from glasses to slips to bottles to magnums. Bottles run steep, but when you order by the glass, the wine arrives in a small carafe that's worth two normal pours, enough to see you easily through one course and into the next. When we had to wait at the bar for a table one evening (we hadn't reserved), I sipped the house Chardonnay, which comes from a small Santa Barbara vineyard called McManus. Soft, fruity, but with oaky backbone, it's a wine I'd love to have in my fridge.

Renowned German-born dessert chef Rudi Weider makes the pastries for the entire hotel. Among other impressive credits, he was pastry chef for the Reagan White House. Weider specializes in the exacting and rather froufrou desserts that I imagine state dinners. The dessert sampler for two (\$18) is probably the best way to partake of his craft, a panorama that includes rich, custardy vanilla bean crème brulée; a rather heavy, mousse-like espresso panna cotta; a simple trifle of mixed berries and whipped cream in a narrow parfait glass; a white peach financier cake with whipped cream subtly sprinkled with pepper, and — best of all, to my tastes - an airy passionfruit mousse cake. If you like Valrhona chocolate (which even as semi-sweet tastes like milk chocolate), it's the star of a molten chocolate cake. The popular favorite is bananas Foster, cooked at tableside with sparks shooting from the flambéed liqueurs. The coffee (local brand Café Moto) is good. With some sips of red wine left, I enjoyed a cheese plate — you have a choice of over a dozen cheeses, served solo, or as a trio or a quintet. Just say "bing" when you hear one that sounds good to you, until you reach the number you want. The plate includes several complimen-

Nancy Reagan would favor for

In its new incarnation, Molly's is a hidden San Diego treasure. Let's take it back from the conventioneers and make it our own.

ABOUT THE CHEF

tary fruity nibbles.

Molly's is a long-standing restaurant, but until this year it was a mess. Chefs changed almost annually, turning out old-fashioned Continental hotel-food menus, until Steve Pagano, restaurant manager of Arterra at the Carmel Valley Marriott, was promoted to general manager of the Marriott Marina. A Northern California foodie, Pagano cast an eve on Molly's and decided it needed major changes starting with a serious chef and a house manager, so it could fulfill its role as the "fine-dining restaurant" of the huge hotel. Last April, he hired Brian Sinnott as Molly's chef and a few weeks later brought in Lisa Redwine (another veteran of San Francisco restaurants) to serve as sommelier and restaurant

"I grew up in New Jersey," says Brian, now aged 34, "and my mother's family was Italian, so I've always been around good food. Starting at age 14, I worked at a grocery, dealing with produce, and developed my passion for food, starting with fresh produce, and that's what I try to highlight on my menu. When I change the menu, what drives it is the changing seasonal produce. Then I go down to fish, then meats.

"I majored in sociology in college, but during grad school in criminology in D.C., I said, 'Grad school isn't for me, I just want to keep on cooking." He moved to San Francisco in '97 to work in "the food capital of America" and did stints at Stars (where Ieremiah Towers was still marginally involved); Acquarella, under chef Suzette Gresham, who mentored him; and MC Square, under Japanese chef Yoshi Kohima. After the dot-com crash killed that restaurant and many oth-

ers, he worked at small inns in the Sonoma County wine country (where he picked up on the hand-crafted local cheeses) and returned to the city for a longer gig at downtown Scalia's, where he learned to make pasta from scratch.

Eventually, via a girlfriend who wanted to move south, he landed in San Diego, quickly snagging the chef de cuisine job at Molly's; later, he moved to a rental in Golden Hill. "I'm very happy here," he says. "I plan to stay. I have complete freedom to do anything I want." The only problem is that he still has only four people in his kitchen, mostly new, and he needs one more hand since his food is labor-intensive, given the complex preps and handmade pastas. "Since I started working here in April," he says, "I've changed the menu about every six weeks, with seasonal fish and produce."

Arterra's San Francisco-educated chef helped him learn the local foodways. "Steve [Pagano] introduced me to Carl [Schroeder], who showed me around, introducing me to local produce and fish purveyors, like Chino Farms and Valdivia Farms (where I get my squash blossoms) and Bread & Cie. I'm still new here, so there are still people I want to meet, places I want to go. I don't have the contacts yet to get hooked up with all the lo-

"My dishes are things that go together for a reason. No bullshit on the plate, just things that go together — things that make sense." ■













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Dirty Dogs

"You need a big, hot, salty pretzel that you dunk in mustard."

ot dog enlightenment? Blame Carla. She's in a wheelchair again. She had to have a follow-up operation on her broken leg. Before the surgery this morning, she begged me for that recliner chair I've been promising these past months.

I felt so terrible I screwed up courage and asked our neighbor Bill if we could go in his Jeep Cherokee down to Jerome's in east Chula Vista.

"And," I said by way of a bribe, "maybe we can stop at that hot dog stand I spotted outside Home

Depot. It's next door to Jerome's."

Bill's into Buddhism. "Hot dogs, huh?" he says. "So what did the Buddha say when he met the hot dog vendor?'

I shake my head.

" 'That pup may be my pop'?"

"Nice try," I say. "Let's go pick up that chair." Twenty minutes later, at Jerome's, I shell out \$299 of next month's rent for a recliner. They send us 'round to the cargo doors to pick it up.

Except, at the cargo doors, there's a sign. "Depending on the number of pickups, you should anticipate a wait time of 20-40 minutes.

'You mentioned hot dawgs?" says Bill.

Two minutes later we're down the road, standing in the sun outside Home Depot. Hooped canvas shelters the Hot Dog Express.

I'm a little nervous. Turns out, Bill's a hot dog

aficionado. Knows the best wursts from the worst. "They used to be my thing," he says as we join the line. "New York-style, Philly, Chicago, Southern. You ever had a dirty water dog?"

" 'Dirty water dog'?'

Sure. They're the best. In the Big Apple, you find 'em at carts on just about every corner. They're called 'dirty water' 'cause of the foam, the scum that covers the hot water the dogs are cooking in."

Bill says that's actually a broth of the juices and salts from all the wieners that came before.

"So the idea is, the later in the day you buy one of these, the richer the flavor." He says the best franks snap when you sink your teeth into them. "Plus you need a big, hot, salty pretzel that you dunk in mustard." And if you want to make like a true New Yawk native, "You get a 'Dr. Brown's Cel-Ray DB.' A celery soft drink. Been around since the 1860s.

Huh. Hot dog culture. Who knew?

'The contest's always been between Philly, Chicago, and New York, but if you really want the best, fling your fangs around one of Uncle Al's Famous Dogs in Virginia. Uncle Al, man. You get real bark from his dogs. We used to eat veal dogs back at Uncle Al's.'

It's our turn. The choice is pretty simple. But there's a line behind, so gotta think fast. Lessee — there's Combo Meal #2 (somehow, I've missed #1),

"Spicy Polish Hot Dog, soda, bag of chips, \$4.15." Combo #3 is the same but with a "jumbo" hot dog. Chili's 75 cents extra, cheese 50 cents.

The spicy Polish or jumbo dogs on their own are \$2.85, and a regular-sized one is \$1.65. They have big ol' pretzels too, for \$2.50, and nachos for \$2.50.

'Combo three," says Bill.

"Spicy combo, uh, four," I say.

"With chili," says Bill. "With chili," sez I.

"I'm out of chili right now," says the guy, Zack. "But I have grilled some onions. Would you like some of them? No charge. I cook them just so the smell drifts around. You'd be amazed how it hauls the customers in.

He hands us the dogs, bare in their buns and grilled, not boiled.

'Aha!" says Bill, looking at his. "Tube steak. Heh heh. Now, you want it Southern-style, or Chicago-style?'

'What's Southern-style?"

'They call it 'dragged through the garden,' 'cause it comes with carrots, onions, cabbage, mayo, spices, all chopped up like coleslaw. But let's not get that here. Let's go for Chicago-style. Mustard, raw onion, pickle, relish, sliced tomato, celery salt if you can find it."

"And ketchup?"

Bam! Bill slaps his hand down on the counter. "Never ask for ketchup on your dog in Chicago, buddy. Everyone will stop and slam their hands down. It's the tradition. That's how you tell an out-of-towner. Asking for ketchup is verboten.'

So we load up with everything except ketchup. Me, I can't resist Zack's grilled onions on top. I grab my soda (a Sprite) and a bag of Cheetos, part of the combo deal. The Polish sausage is big, herby, spicy. We stand round eating, making a mess. You can't beat that.

Bill wolfs down his dog, then starts singing.

'The fixin's are delightful. There's fun in every biteful, at the happy Wienerschnitzel, yum yum!' Remember that jingle? We used to get dogs at the Wienerschnitzel up in Cardiff, after surfing all day."

We get talking to Zack. He turns out to be a really nice guy. He's from Afghanistan. Was a dental-lab technician till he got carpal tunnel syndrome.

"One more question," I say to Bill, as we head back to Jerome's. "How come we call them 'hot

dogs'?"
"Yale students is what I heard. Back in the 1890s they used to buy wieners in buns from guys driving by in what they called 'dog carts.' But who knows?

"So what do you think of Zack's dogs?"
He wipes his mouth. "Up there with the best.

We're back at Jerome's cargo doors, getting ready to load up Carla's chair. "So," I say. "What did the Buddha say when he met the hot dog vendor?'

'Make me one with everything.' "

The Place: Hot Dog Express, outside Home Depot, 725 Plaza Court, Chula Vista (no phone)

Type of Food: Hot dogs **Prices:** Regular hot dog, \$1.65; spicy Polish or jumbo hot dog, \$2.85; combo meal #2, spicy Polish hot dog, soda, bag of chips, \$4.15; combo #3 (same but with jumbo dog), \$4.15; chili, 75 cents extra; cheese, 50 cents extra; pretzels, \$2.50; nachos, \$2.50

Hours: 10:00 a.m.-5.00 p.m., seven days

Buses: 707, 709

Nearest Bus Stop: East H Street and Paseo del Rey





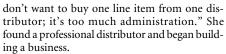


Map to the Treasures

"There is a limit; it's a function of the scale. You can get only so much in."

ou can make anything you want, but if you don't have good distribution, you can keep it," says Maxine Hesse. "That applies to any product," be it wine, movies — or maps. Hesse is, with her husband Hans, co-owner

of Global Graphics, a mapmaking company that the couple runs out of their home in Oceanside. But before they came south, they started out in San Francisco some 20-odd years ago, selling their map of the city shop to shop. While she wore out her shoes, she discovered that "store owners



And while she's not entirely certain, she thinks it might have been her distributor who suggested that she and her husband try mapping the world of California wine. She thought it might be worthwhile. "As a friend of mine put it, 'It's a passionate thing. People either love wine and have to have a map to know where it's from and how to get there, or they simply drink it and don't worry about it.' "

They set to work. "My husband trained to be a cartographer in Europe. They take it seriously. They learn to do it exactly right; they learn to be civil engineers. He does the design, and I do the research." Doing that research taught Hesse that

the wine world could be a slippery fish to pin down on the page. "I had no idea that it would be as complicated as it is. I rely on some databases and some association websites — which may or may not be up to date. I get feedback from peo-

ple in the field, who are selling to those wineries — we sell a lot of our maps in the tasting rooms. And I have a business associate who sell software to wineries; she keeps in touch with me. So it's a compilation of data from all different kinds of sources. But they change like socks, really —

whether they're selling out to each other, or a corporation owns them, or they're really a label and not a winery as such. All those things add another layer of complication."

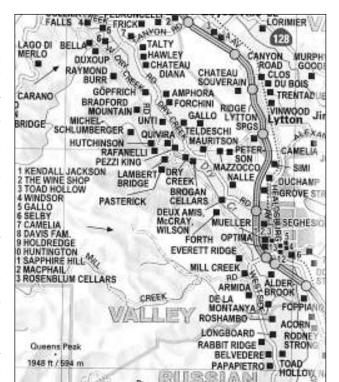
A couple of examples: The success of the California map led to the creation of additional, region-specific maps, presented in a laminated, accordion-fold format. (Hesse says that people like the laminate because they can write on it and the accordion-fold because it's easier to figure out. She does not say that laminated maps handle tasting room spills better than ordinary paper, or that the accordion-fold is all a body might be capable of managing after a day on the wine trail.) The Napa-Sonoma map "was published and updated five times in 2004. Every time we go to press, we edit it, see whether there's been some change. There's always something that's changed.

Many more wineries are opening tasting rooms — at least, they're open on the weekends, whereas before they might have been by appointment only. They'll have definite hours and a little gift shop — you can't just sell wine, I suppose, you have to sell a few accessories to make it."

They keep going to press because sales keep increasing. "I can't remember our first print runs on the Napa-Sonoma map in 2003, but I would say they may have doubled. People are more interested in wine than they used to be." But of course, it's not simply a matter of increased consumption. "There's this whole thing about wine tourism, which is not wine, per se. You go to a spa, you go to the ostrich farm in Santa Barbara, you go to someplace in Napa or Sonoma, you play golf. It's not just wine that drives this, and we forget that. We think, 'Oh, it was a lousy vintage, forget it, it's a disas-

ter.' Not when it comes to this. Wine tourism is the whole package. It's what we did when we went up to Solvang a couple of months ago. We had dinner at the Los Olivos Café, the whole bit."

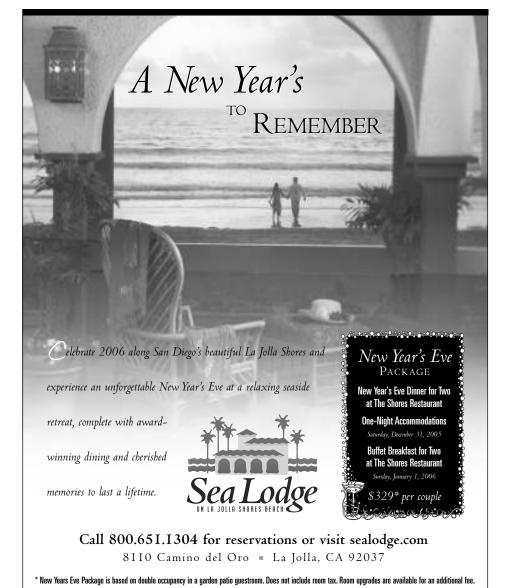
Those ostriches Hesse mentions were made famous by *Sideways*, and after Napa, it's the Santa Barbara regional map that has required the most updating. "It's probably the Second Wine Country in everybody's mind. This year, there are



Napa-Sonoma map

probably 12 new wineries in the Paso Robles area alone. Paso is a pretty small town; that's a huge growth. They're just delighted with the attention; they're very receptive to products about them."

The regional maps — which also cover Lodi/Sierra Foothills and Monterey/Santa Cruz/Santa Clara/Livermore — are naturally more compact and detailed. "You can have details on lakes and scenic routes." They also focus







Calendar RESTAURANTS

more on wineries and tasting rooms open to the public. The 2'x3' full-state wine map still names a number of trade-only or entirely private operations amid its 1500 listings—"When I first made the list, I didn't understand that part of it," says Hesse—but there are fewer every year. "We try to be discerning; I have only so much space, and the text is already small." (The full-state map does include inset maps for the major wine regions, including Temecula, along with addresses, phone numbers, and hours.)

Readability, she says, is key, the thing that separates one map from another, the reason Global Graphics has managed to snag some buzz in the wine press. "We strive to make a better use of color, and better-quality paper — that helps the color pop. Anthony Dias Blue has written about us in several magazines, and *Wine Spectator* did a little piece on us a while back." It strikes me that a true wine geek might be interested in a little climate profile

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to go with the topography and viticultural area designations, but Hesse draws the line. "There are climatological maps, but if you include that, you sacrifice readability. There is a limit; it's a function of the scale. You can get only so much in. And I don't think most people who drink wine are that interested. There's a certain market."

Given the season, Hesse cannot help but mention the ease with which a wine map fits into a Christmas stocking. Maps may be purchased at the Global Graphics website: www.mapbiz.net.

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

Big Jim's Old South Barbecue 190 North Coast Highway 101 (two blocks north of Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-635-1166. At this outstanding barbecue, you can "Put Some South in Yo' Mouth!" The smoking-wood is mellow hickory, and each type of meat (sublime "pulled pork," smoky skewered shrimp, huge pork ribs, chicken, beef ribs, steak) gets individualized treatment, including a tangy Alabama-style mustard sauce for pork and chicken. (Beef gets the more familiar tomatoev Texas-style sauce.) You don't eat meat? The ever-expanding menu now includes a delicious, spicy blackened grilled salmon steak. Side dishes are superb: Don't miss the thick, smoky-sweet Brunswick stew (you'll not find its like anywhere on this coast), exemplary hush puppies, corn muffins with honey butter, well-balanced slaw.... Oh, just taste everything you can fit under your belt. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Low moderate. — N.W. (6/05)

The Bird House Grill 250 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. A great place to check out real Turkish cuisine. The inside has a fine collection of blue-and-white wall plates and blue glass eyes to ward off evil spirits. Try the house specialty, Iskender Kebab (ground meat kebab, rice, tomato sauce, and house-grown yogurt) — "Iskender" means "Alexander." Or the Kofte plate (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and tzatziki sauce). The shepherd's salad is a traditional dish brimming with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, oil, and lemon. Good healthy Mediterranean diet. Even the baklavas are less gloopy. Open Monday to Saturday,

lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Calypso Cafe 576 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-632-8252. This "Calypso" has nothing to do with Caribbean music (or food), despite its tropical tiki-hut decor. The cuisine is French, ranging from old warhorses like onion soup and coq au vin to newfangled Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphenates such as ahi pissaladière (seared tuna pizza). The traditional dishes are generally the most successful. Mussels are the house specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Although there's nothing revolutionary coming from this kitchen, the cooking is generally agreeable. Dinner nightly, reservations advised. Upper moderate. — N.W. (9/01)

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It's New York pizza only here. "People back East are more traditional," says owner James, the ex-boxer, an old sparring buddy of the Bronx Pizza guys in Hillcrest. "We don't do California thick crust, we don't do pineapple, we don't do chicken. We don't do 'personal size,' either. But we do do slices." They make the pies with traditional thin, crisp crusts and toppings like pepperoni, meatball, garlic, and "whitestone" (mozzarella, Parmesan, ricotta, garlic, and spinach). Maybe their best is the "Bronx Special," an assortment of pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper and garlic, said to fell New Yorkers quicker'n one of James's right uppercuts. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Paul's Place 3671 Mission Avenue (at El Camino Real), Oceanside, 760-721-0124. This restaurant looks like a McDonald's or Wendy's (the building used to be a franchise) and the food comes fast, but it's no chain. The menu strikes a balance between American and

Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced up on a salad with pita bread, and the gyros (all at earthy prices) mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials with home fries. Lunch offers include meaty hamburgers, gyros with fries, or a surprisingly tasty turkeyburger. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/01)

Teriyaki 101 250 North Coast Highway 101 (between Encinitas and Leucadia Blvds.), Encinitas, 760-632-8813. This surfer hangout has a secret: Behind a gate just south of the restaurant there's a sheltered outdoor dining patio decorated by a tropical mural of island life above and below the water. "Eat Healthy, Feel Good" is the motto on the menu, and terivaki is the dish that dominates it. But this is Hawaiian teriyaki, with lighter, cleaner flavors than the Japanese version. The dark-meat "Maui chicken" skewer and the moist ono (pink snapper) kebab are especially succulent; you can also opt for pork, veggies, numerous combosand charbroiled burgers (of beef, fowl, or veggies). Everything comes with rice (white or brown), pleasingly touched with teriyaki sauce. Open Tuesday through Saturday, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. This geranium-splashed blue-and-white Bavarian chalet is more than a butcher's shop. It's a combination butcher-deli-diner. Enter through the bulging deli and listen for the shouts and clatter of serving ladies. Look for the "Es ist Wunderbar!" sign over the counter. Try German and American dishes like Big John's all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish with German potato salad and

traditional stuffed cabbage. Owner Big John is a heavyweight Olympic boxer from the former East Germany with an MA in meat sciences. Generous portions abound. Weekends after 4 p.m., he roasts his famous prime rib dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Vigilucci's 505 South Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-942-7332. In the Land of 10,000 Trattorias, this is one of the most popular — and for good reason. The restaurant's motto, "a little piece of Italy," is actually accurate. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that's Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni with an unusual stewed meat stuffing) and the flavorful entrées come with honest fresh vegetables. The staff is bouncy and jokey, the wines are mainly affordable, and spirits run high. Of course it's crowded, so reserve to avoid a long, hungry wait. Other locations include Vigilucci Cucina in Carlsbad, Vigilucci's Pizzeria in Leucadia, and Vigilucci's Seafood and Steakhouse in Carlsbad. — N.W. (10/01)

The Village Grill 2833 State Street (at Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad, 760-729-3601. This little café is famous for two things: its vintage Coca-Cola decorations and its delicious Tommyburgers, named after the guy who opened this place back in 1976. Tommy believed in fresh ingredients, says son Dale, now in charge, who orders only "extra lean" meat from the local butcher for his burgers. For breakfast, check out the eggs and sausage-patty special with fried-skin potatoes and hot-buttered toast. And if you surf, bring your board — the beach is just across the tracks. Breakfast and lunch Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)









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Calendar RESTAURANTS

NORTH INLAND

150 Grand Cafe 150 West Grand Avenue (between Broadway and Maple), Escondido, 760-738-6868. Chef Carlton Greenawalt cooks up a seasonal American-Mediterranean menu with a few touches of Asian-fusion, using local and organic produce wherever possible. Among the pick hits: a clever almondcrusted manchego cheese appetizer, a definitive trout amandine, and interesting desserts, including a lovely lemontinged crème brûlée. Reservations advisable on weekends. Childrens' and vegetarian meals available on request. Street parking may be difficult; leave time to hunt. Dining rooms often noisy. Live music (mainly jazz) most Thursdays through Saturdays after dinner hours in Back Room Lounge. Moderate prix fixe dinners weeknights; slightly expensive à la carte on weekends. — N.W. (10/03)

A Delight of France 126 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-746-2644. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luscious almond croissant studded with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all-organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, frittatas, French toast, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tarts, a French deli plate, crèpes, salads, and sandwiches. And ooh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch/lunch and pre-dinner snacks Tuesday through Saturday; lunch/brunch only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Boulevard #118 (behind Wendy's), 858-693-3663. "The name 'Bolsa' isn't Vietnamese," says Kim Trang. "It's Spanish for 'bag." 'She's playing on words here: Trang once owned *Pho Bolsa* on University Avenue, and every Vietnamese knows *pho bo* is Vietnam's most popular quick meal, a beef rice noodle soup. At this location, Trang still makes excellent *pho bo*, but she has 122 other items as well, including fried catfish with ginger fish sauce, healthy (non-fried) Vietnamese spring rolls, or egg rolls with lettuce and mint in which to wrap them (sprinkled with *muco mam*, Vietnamese fish sauce). We're talking family-style cooking. Come once and Trang will remember you and everything you ate — even if it was just *pho bo*. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (2/03)

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue (at Escondido Boulevard), Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is the place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. No reservations, so expect a wait on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDGE driveway; do not pass McDonald's. Good handicap access, sturdy high-chairs, low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. -N.W. (9/03)

Hunan 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This casual family restaurant serves the cuisines of two spicy Chinese provinces, Szechuan and Hunan — each with its own dedicated chef — but both chefs tone the spice way down to a suburban American comfort level. If you don't already know the difference between these neighboring cuisines, you're unlikely to learn them here. But you can have an

enjoyable meal: Tea-smoked duck, eggplant Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes. If you're planning on a multicourse feast, order your meal a few dishes at a time or everything will be served at once; the staff is accommodating but limited-English. Over 20 vegan entrées. Full bar, Chinese beers, generic wines. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — N.W. (8/04)

Madras Cafe 9484 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. In the same strip mall as Ashoka the Great, this family-friendly café features the savory vegetarian cuisine of South India. It's distinctly different from the standard North Indian menus, centering on numerous varieties of stuffed pancakes from thin, crisp (and irresistible) crêpelike dosais stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour aapams drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like uttapams. (Try the latter with the delicious, not-too-spicy chile-onion stuffing.) Puffy *poori* bread and tamarind rice are spectacular. Order your dishes in the sequence you hope to eat them — that's usually how they come out of the kitchen. And don't expect hovering "Raj"- style service — it's just not the Tamil way. Seasoning is generally mild, to accommodate kiddies; spicy sauces are on the table. No alcohol. Open Tues-day through Sunday with buffet lunches and à la carte dinners. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (1/03)

Meiki Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar 9823 Carroll Canyon Road, Eucalyptus Square, Scripps Ranch, 858-566-0206. You'll find a first-rate sushi bar tucked away in this tiny shopping center. The fresh yellowtail, scallops in spicy sauce (hotategai), or the special order of baked salmon roll are all wonderful. Fifty-three items appear on the sushi list, all prepared by a master

chef. The cooked combination plates are also fine. If you sit at the sushi bar, you may be disappointed because chairs, not stools, are used and you can't watch the chef. If you're in the area, don't miss this one. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner; Sunday, dinner only. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

Pearl Chinese Cuisine 11666 Avena

Place (at Webb Park), Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant's younger, prettier suburban sister, you'll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Daytimes are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy "gold cup" dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in salad (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. N.W. (8/04)

GOLD COAST

Americana 1454 Camino Del Mar (southwest corner at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Housed in a historic building, this casual breakfast/lunch joint turns into a serious dinner house at nightfall. The cooking represents the American melting pot, featuring worldwide flavors. Mornings, along with flawless eggs Benedict and utopian waffles,

you can get a "Roman breakfast" of prosciutto, mozzarella, and fried egg on English muffin. At dinner, don't miss the lamb chop and eggplant appetizer or the duck breast with fig sauce. Some of the veggies come from chef-owner Randy Gruber's own home garden; the French fries (which don't come from his garden) are world-class. To finish, a banana tarte tatin shouldn't be resisted. Thoughtful, reasonable wine list. Breakfast (until 3 p.m.) and lunch daily, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Kids' menu available. Breakfast and lunch in expensive to moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — A.M. (1/05)

Cafe Europa 667 San Rodolfo Drive, Suite 133, Marshall's Shopping Center, Solana Beach, 858-793-4693. The menu in this gemütlich dining room is mainly German but flirts with France and Italy. The Peruvian owners sometimes offer a South American special at lunch, and Cuzqueño is among the bottled beer brands. The standard German preparations here encompass sausage plates, rather thin-cut schnitzels, meat stews, et al. Lighter dishes include chicken breasts, seafood, and three vegetarian entrées. The outstanding veggie sides include succulent home fries, delicately sweet red cabbage, and a house salad featuring pickled cukes in sour cream. Nice, quiet service with no put-on oom-pah-pah. Beer and generic wines. Breakfast and lunch Sunday, Monday, Wednesday; three meals Thursday through Saturday. Closed Tuesdays. — N.W. (4/05)

Cuvee 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-5878. Seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine, bolder and more complex than at the original, now-closed La Jolla branch. Cuisine is designed to accompany an interesting, affordable wine list. Menu suggests apt wine pairings for each dish. All bottles are also available by the glass; you can even get a sip before







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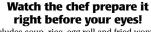


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choosing. A reserve list includes fancier choices, still at minimal markups. Low corkage for BYO, too. Reservations urged. Dinner 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. N.W. (12/04)

Epazote Southwest Restaurant 55 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar Plaza, Del Mar, 858-259-9966, Patrons frequently call this establishment the New York Stock Exchange because of its high energy, young crowd and exciting atmosphere. Good dishes include spitroasted items. Sunday brunch à la carte. This place is always crowded. Open daily. Moderate to expensive. — E. W

LA JOLLA

910 Restaurant Grande Colonial Hotel, 910 Prospect Avenue, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb, a protégé of Trey Foshee (of George's at the Cove) carries on the 910 tradition of clean, flavorful Cal cuisine, based on the seasons and showcasing the fabulous foodstuffs of local farms. Dessert chef Jack Fisher contributes superlatively happy, avant-garde endings. The flies in the buttermilk? The service is Space Cadet Corps, and during dinner, the room is usually noisy. Open daily, three meals. Upper moderate to expensive. -N.W. (5/05)

Brockton Villa 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is "Coast Toast," invented for breakfast but now served all day it's the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy with a lovely or-ange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Trattoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex rest room. Open three meals Tuesday through Sunbreakfast/lunch Mondays. Moderate to expensive. - N.W. (3/04)

The Cheese Shop 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Mon-terey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken our taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If ou're into salami and ham, try the footlong. Free peanuts while you wait. Inexpensive. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. — E.B. (10/01)

Daily's Renaissance Towne Centre. 8915 Towne Centre Drive, La Jolla, 858-453-1112. The restaurant is owned by a doctor who has devised a menu that's low fat, low calorie, low sodium. The dishes look and taste wonderful. All items available for takeout. No dinner Saturday; closed Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

French Pastry Shop 5550 La Jolla Boulevard (at Forward Street), La Jolla, 858-454-9094. A longstanding fixture of the Bird Rock area, this bakery/restaurant includes both a simple, spacious dining room and a shaded patio (reputedly San Diego's first dining patio). Breakfast — a highlight of the menu is served until 6 p.m. The whisper-thin crêpes with luscious stuffings speak in a Gallic accent. Other possibilities include omelets, eggs Benedict variations, and fine-quality brioches and croissants. Pas-tries are moist, fairly light, and very sweet. Dinner entrées focus on updated French classics, e.g., duck breast a' l'orange, with "early bird" bargains. Open daily for breakfast through early dinner. – N.W. (5/02)

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph II opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was simple: to create a down-home eatery and soda fountain where all La



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Lunch

Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-2:30 pm Sat. 11:30 am-2:30 pm Sun. 11:30 am-3 pm

Dinner

Mon.-Thur. 5:30-9 pm Fri. 5:30-9:30 pm Sat. 5-9:30 pm • Sun. 5:30-9 pm *Lunch or dinner with this ad. Not valid on holidays or with any other offers. Expires 12/29/05.



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— rich, poor, Brahmins, and gar deners) - could mix and meet with plenty of good eats. Everyone from Joan Kroc to Junior Seau to Brooke Shields has been spotted here, along with regular folks who've been coming in for three decades. Now Harry III reigns quietly among a dozen whirling dervish wait-resses at lunch, while his dad still works the breakfast shift. The big hamsteak and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as is the simple, rich "Hot Creamy Oatmeal" with strawberries. Pecan pancakes and thin, crisp waffles ring true to many Easterners (though Harry offers thick Belgianstyle waffles, too), and for lunch, turkey burgers and the bacon-loaded British Burger are popular. At the counter, the banter between been-here-forever waitresses and customers sounds like family life. Nice sidewalk patio, too. Long lines on weekends. Inexpensive. — E.B. (2/03)

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated

courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called "avant-garde Italian," a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with assorted international influences. The food can be divine - or dismaying. Given Acqua's "destination restaurant" status, there's a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua's stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. N.W. (11/04)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Adam's Steak N' Eggs 1201 Hotel South, Mission Valley, 619-291-1103. Morning munchers take heart! Adam's has served nothing but breakfasts since 1966. The menu runs from healthy — hot oatmeal with raisins, dates, sunflower seeds, almonds, pineapple, and coconut — to corn fritters to a Southern brunch of spicy sausage patties, biscuits, gravy, grits, and eggs, to spiced apple crêpes with whipped cream and pecans. But the signature dish is steak and eggs. The steak's a high-walled chunk of meat almost as thick as it is round. Comes with two eggs, potatoes or grits, and toast or tortillas. You won't need lunch. This bricky, dark wood, clubby, business-convention-tourist kind of place has ver-ry faithful customers. But if you want to walk there, be ready for lack of sidewalks, one-way bus access, and wild morning traffic. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Aladdin's Cafe 5420 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-573-0000; Uptown Shopping Center, 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, *shaw*erma, etc.), plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. The Hillcrest location offers beer and wine. Hillcrest's new owners also offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. -

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convoy Street #F, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Hole-in-

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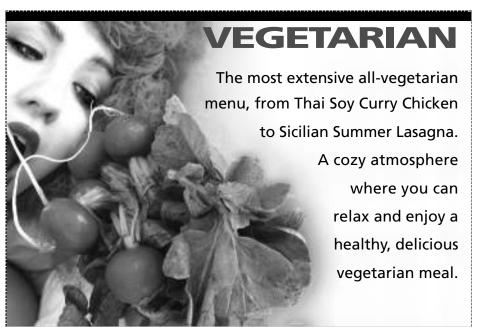
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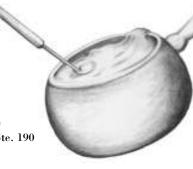
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the-wall? Yes. But what a hole-in-thewall. For those who love the Far East and its food, finding the Dumpling Inn is a little revelation. It's located in the busy Iasmine/Korean Market Center among Oriental herbalists, man-size-vase shops, even feng shui experts. The Inn itself is tiny but charming. Long hanging lanterns, decorative strings of scarlet and gold firecrackers, Chinese flutes, and even the odd conical straw hat. The food is serious but not expensive. Dishes like ten fish and green chive dumplings, spicy stir-fried three-ingredient lo mein (thick noodles, jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken plus hot red peppers) are challenging and exciting, as is the Dumpling Dinner (including hot-and-sour soup, cold cuts, shredded pork bun, pot-stick-ers, shrimp and pork dumplings). Don't miss their divine jellyfish salad crunchy-tender, bright and spicy (but not too) — you'd be hard-pressed to find its like outside of Hong Kong. Lunch and early dinner, closed Monday. Inexpen-— E.B. (5/02)

Lightnin' Jacks BBQ Clairemont wn Square, 4705-H Clairemont Drive movieplex), Clairemont,

858-270-8227. Clean, cute, and a little self-conscious, this barbecue (under the same ownership as next-door Dino's Greek Restaurant) has black-and-white Western pictures on the walls and some seating on barstools with metal "saddles" (more comfortable than they look). The barbecue mechanism is a Texas-style pit smoker burning sweet hickory. The meats that emerge from it aren't the smokiest, but they're tasty enough. Pork ribs are tender and moist, and beef brisket carries enough smoke flavor to pass muster in Texas; other meat choices are less successful. The tomatoey sauce is pleasant but ordinary. A fried catfish plate makes a flavorful alternative (but beware the cat sandwich, awash in hot sauce). Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the most savory sides. Check your take-out bag to make sure you're getting what you ordered, as youthful staff is easily flustered. Kiddie plates available. No alcohol. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. NW (1/05)

New Shanghai 4681 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-569-4833. New Shanghai is busy, friendly, and draws a mostly Chinese clientele because their Chinese food isn't "Americanized.' Whatever your gastronomic politics, try the generous plateful of dry braised shrimp, the "de-fatted pork shoulder," the hot tripe, and the ingenious red bean pancake dessert. Inexpensive to moderate. — M.N. (4/99)

Rosie and Joe's Grill & Cantina 7986 Armour Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-277-5777. Joe Polizzi and his wife Rosalie started this place in 1959. Now his son Paul and wife Lynn run it as a New Mexico-style eatery-sports barpatio café with karaoke and mini-golf. Popular dishes include the "Beerubin" sandwich (corn beef on rve with sauerkraut, Gouda cheese), the Sweet Sicilian sandwich (grilled Italian sausage, sautéed onions, bell peppers, provolon and the California Chili Burger (with roasted chilis, onions, Gouda cheese). Also good: the Pescado Vera Cruz (pan-

grilled fish with caramelized onions). Yes, it's out in the industrial wilds of Kearny Mesa, but it has a Cheers feel to it. Open for lunch, dinner, seven days. ensive; dinners moderate.

Spice House Cafe 9035 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard (at Complex Drive, across from courthouse), 858-565-1028. When your "head feels like an old potato" and your "tongue like a button hook" (to quote Kipling), Spice House's answer is their Hangover Omelet. We don't know if it's the Ortega chilies or Jack cheese or super tangy tomato sauce, but some guys swear they feel better for eating it. The place is a pleasant surprise jutting out into the top foliage of trees sprouting up from Hwy. 163—the view looks like a forest. Other excellent choices include Portuguese sausage with three eggs, paisano frittata with ham, tomatoes, mushrooms, and thick French

toast topped with strawberries and whipped cream. Open daily, breakfast and lunch, dinner nightly, with emphasis on Greek-American cuisine. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

THE BEACHES

Chateau Orleans 926 Turquoise Street (at Mission Boulevard), Pacific Beach, 858-488-6744. Just like eating in the French Quarter — at one of Bourbon Street's best tourist traps, complete with live music and party atmosphere. The lovely multiroom premises have a real Crescent City "let the bon temps rouler" feel to it, but the simpler Southern dishes — honest crab cakes, fried catfish - seem better bets than the kitchen's attempts at more demanding Acadian fare. Reservations strongly advised. A little dressy on weekends. Full bar. Wheelchair users may need help with rest room doors. Dinner Monday through Saturday. High moderate. — N.W. (2/02)

China Inn 877 Hornblend Street (between Garnet and Grand), Pacific Beach, 858-483-6680. The enormous menu here offers Mandarin and Szechuan specialties including especially good sweetand-pungent shrimp, Mandarin pork













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S Buffet Brunch includes **S** Roast Tom Turkey, Roast Baron of Beef,

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rib, duck in orange sauce, and shrimp in garlic sauce. The setting is simple but the food is outstanding. If chef-owner Andy Kam is present, ask his advice about the day's best dishes. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

Fairouz Cafe And Gallery 3166 Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-225-0308. Seek out this familyowned-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.

Karinya Thai & Vegetarian Cuisine 4475 Mission Boulevard (SeaCoast Square), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Think of the movie The Beach, with a bunch of Leo DiCaprio look-alikes getting off on the coconut curries like gang ped, panang, and kang kari. Or noodle dishes like the famous pad thai. But they're in the right place: Karinya remains true to its Thai origins. The tom yum kung (hot and sour shrimp soup) is a meal in itself. Steaming away with its fierce little charcoal fire at your table, the hot pot holds plenty of shrimp, and you can taste the essential mushrooms lemon grass, ginger, lime juice, cilantro, and of course *nam pla*, Thai fish sauce. A nice counterpart to the hots of the soup are the Fresh Spring Rolls, filled with tofu and vegetables and mint. Another sizzler: pad talay, a sauté pan full of mussels, shrimp, squid, and other seafood in a great spicy sauce. The recipe's from Koh Samed, an island like the one featured in *The Beach*. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (2/03)

Ranchos Cocina 1830 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-226-7619; 4705 Point Loma Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-224-9815. Also at 3910 30th Street (at University Avenue), North Park, 619-574-1288. At all locations of this delightful mini-chain, you'll find healthy creative Mexican and vegetarian cuisine in cheerful, tropical-style settings burgeoning with plant life and craft objects. A big plus: zero attitude. You don't have to be vegi-virtuous to enjoy full-flavored combinations that are as creative as they are wholesome. Try anything with lob ster or calamari steak - in fact, all the seafood here is pristine. Try, even, an an tojito stuffed with beef - it's stewed, not ground. And sample something with the house-made mole sauce of a zillion ingredients. Actually, try — anything. (Well, the chicken breast is as dry here as everywhere else. Try anything else.) Open daily breakfast through dinner. No reservations, but call ahead for large par ties. Inexpensive. - N.W. (6/01)

Rum Jungle Smoothies and Deli 4150 Mission Boulevard #153, Promenade Mall, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2227 Why do Brazilians have more fun? Açaí (ah-saa-ee). Why do Brazilians settle in PB? Maybe it's because Rum Jungle Smoothies serves up *açai*, the flesh of a Brazilian palm nut, for breakfast. The dark purple mush comes from the açaí palms that grow around the Amazon River delta. Rum Jungle adds granola, banana, strawberries, blueberries, mango pieces, and honey to make a surprisingly filling breakfast. Of course this bright little place has lots of other smoothies, too, along with garden burgers and sandwiches. But the *açaí* power fruit bowl is what keeps them coming back. Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/04)

Sportsmen's Seafoods 1617 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. Fifty years ago this restaurant-fish market was a tuna cannery, part of San Diego's late-lamented fishing industry. The same Sicilian family still owns it, and still knows everything about fish and how to cook it. The menu is devoted to the "fruits of the sea" and includes a wonderful seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy-crunchy fish-and-chips platter. Eat outside on deck, contemplating the small ships on the bay. They buy seasonal catch from local fishboats and also sell it at their attached retail market. They're famous for smoking fish for the fishermen. Open daily, lunch/early dinner. Retail market closed Mondays. Inexpensive.

Stickee Fingers Barbeque Smokehouse 1404 Garnet Avenue (at Gresham), Pacific Beach, 858-581-6526. Chef-owner Sonny Choudo is an Egyptian Iew from Mexico City who learned to cook in Israel but fell in love with bar becue on a trip to Texas. This bright little room has big windows and a few ta-bles, with Mexican folk art and chile-pepper posters on the walls. Outside is a pleasant wooden patio with a few more wooden tables and an oil drum smoker where the meats are cooked over sweet hickory chunks. Best bets are the tender pork ribs and smoky brisket. Sauce is shallow-flavored and very tomatoey. Sides include a lively coleslaw and an unexpectedly sophisticated heart of romaine salad with Caesar dressing. Street parking (difficult). Italian sodas, but no alcohol. Free delivery in PB with minimum order. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. N.W. (1/05)

World Famous 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on PB's boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit down at varnished inlaid wooden tables, lots of diagonal timbering, and sexy blue lighting. It's often crowded and laugh-loud noisy. Who's

gonna be food-picky here? You, when you're paying twenty-some bucks for a steak or a piece of mako shark. The menu promises big with items like "Horseradish Crusted Salmon" and "Avocado and Pistachio Crusted Mako." Problem is, the taste of the mako is pleasant but underwhelming despite help from a mango-butter sauce, and the two 3-square-inch pieces of fish were only just enough. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf n' turf, and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. And the view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — E.B. (1/04)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Just Fabulous Kensington 4116 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-584-2929. At this usually-packed café, painted in cheerful Creamsickle colors, noted dessert-chef Beryl Ann Byrd and co-chef Kurt Metzger offer a full menu of seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine. At dinner, appetizers are generally fun to eat but entrées can be inconsistent. Weekend brunch dishes are terrific. The primary emphasis is on desserts, of course: Byrd's pastries are of the Euro-influenced American mode very sweet, a little heavy, a touch more sophisticated than Mom's apple pie. The pastry case doubles as a retail counter for sweets-to-go. Affordable interna-tional wine list and coffeehouse specialty beverages. Few tables, no reservations. Arrive early or late on weekends or expect to wait. No alcohol allowed at outdoor tables. Street parking only. Open three meals daily. Moderate. N.W. (9/04)

Jyoti-Bihanga 3351 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-4116. Oh sure, you'll be watching Sri Chinmoy, the Bengali guru, on TV juggling, declaring Geneva International Airport a "Peace Blossom," or boarding his Italian "*Treno della Pace*." Plus, his books, his portraits, his paintings, and his chant-songs surround you. Apart from that, not only is this heavenly blue-domed restaurant run by his students peaceful, but the fresher-than-fresh Bengali-tinged health food is delicious. Their chutney-topped "Neat-loaf" bursts with nutty, intriguing flavors. Even the accompanying mashed potato and gravy tastes different. Also delish: Brahma Burrito, "Infinite Blue' (interesting brown rice salad with bleu cheese dressing), and the Shiva Wrap (tofu and fresh veggies with a well-integrated curry flavor). On cold days, start vith a steaming sweet pea soup. Monday through Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday brunch only. Inexpensive. E.B. (10/01)

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park 619-688-0717. This informal little restaurant is more interested in quality than presentation, concentrating on the specialties they do well. Mama's offers quick meals with a culinary tradition, definitely not "fast food," but with fast food prices and ease. Recommendations include the deliciously cheap falafel sandwich in Mama's fresh-made sajj, (soft flatbread). On cool days warm up to a bowl of fool mudamas, or slow cooked beans (tasty fava and garbanzos). Try also spinach pie, *labneh* (creamy cheese, olive oil, and pita), and *baba* ghanoush (smoky pureed eggplant and hummus). Inexpensive. — M.N. (1/99)

Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant 5296 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-582-0603. Original branch at 4170 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convov Street restaurant? Go east where you'll find the same menu with out the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese "people's food" emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties - including the extraordi-

nary "Special Sauce" Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Reservations and credit cards accepted, both branches. Vietnamese beers including "33"; just two generic wines, but you can bring your own. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — N.W. (3/04)

South Park Bar and Grill 1946 Fern Street, South Park/Golden Hill, 619-696-0096. A genuine American bistro. This loud, lively, very local watering hole started out serving savory comfort-food to an appreciative neigh-borhood patronage; now the whole city's flocking in. Chef Eric Wilburn learned his chops at Bradley Ogden's Lark Creek Inn; if he cooks "mom food," it's more than a cut above mom's. Appetizer/bar menu runs to ordinary pub-grub (but crab cakes or red pepper humr out); entrées get interesting, including indulgent "Stuffed Shrimp and Scallops Florentine," a juicy rib-eye steak, and a light-textured meat loaf. Nightly specials are always worth a try. Considerate service. Full bar, including international wines at easy prices. Park at edge of Gala lot. Reservations only for parties of five or more, so expect a wait most nights. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday; bar menu weekends until midnight; weekend brunches and weeknight reduced-price "early bird specials." Upper moderate to expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Zensei 3396 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-546-617. This muchwelcomed neighborhood restaurant in a restaurant-starved neighborhood offers a changing menu of sushi, fusion appetizers, and Japanese entrées empha sizing noodle dishes. The sushi is the main draw. It's well made and based on seafood from the same fishmonger used by Ota and Nobu. The "party rolls" (such as "stuffed tomato" and "honeymooners") may not be original, but





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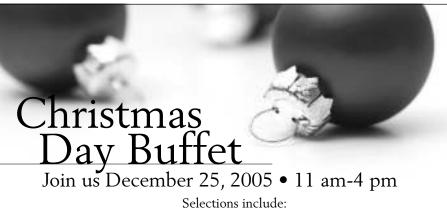
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- Green lentil soup with crème fraiche • Watercress salad with poached eggs and bacon vinaigrette • Marinated mushroom and artichoke
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- Asparagus salad with balsamic vinaigrette

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• Roasted prime rib of beef (thyme and green peppercorn demi) • Roasted young turkey

Buffet Entrées

- Butternut squash ravioli with brown-butter sauce • Grilled salmon with braised mustard greens • Honey-baked spiral ham garnished with pineapple glaze • Creamy whipped potatoes • Roasted candied garnet yams
- Rustic pilgrim stuffing Green beans

Dessert and Coffee

- Assorted cakes and tortes Fresh fruit tarts • Mousse • Chocolate-dipped strawberries
- Seasonal fresh melons, pineapple, and berries with dark chocolate fondue Pumpkin pie,
- apple pie, pecan pie, and lemon tart

 DoubleTree chocolate fountain



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Christmas Day Buffet at Torreyana Grille

Sunday, December 25, 2005 • 12:00-7:00 pm

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Fresh Seafood including Shrimp, Crab Claws, Oysters, Clams, Ceviche, and Assorted Sushi

Wonderful Variety of Fresh Soups, Salads, and Imported and Domestic Cheeses

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Delicious Entrées such as Herb-Crusted Halibut, Breast of Chicken Coq au Vin

All of the Fixings for a Traditional Christmas Dinner

For dessert enjoy a fantastic array of wonderful Homemade Desserts featuring Pumpkin Pie with Chantilly Cream, Old-Fashioned Apple and Berry Pies, Jack Daniel's Chocolate Pecan Tart, White Chocolate Bread Pudding, and Bûche de Noël.



For Reservations Call: 858-450-4504

Calendar RESTAURANTS

they're delicious fun. Free parking behind restaurant (enter by alley on Upas east of Jack in the Box lot). Reservations advised for Friday/Saturday evenings, accepted for two or more at sushi bar, four or more at tables. Japanese and American beers, sakes, and wines. Lunch Monday through Saturday; dinner seven days. — N.W. (1/05)

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Antonio's Hacienda 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the décor hasn't been updated from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the paddedleather wooden chairs, the chainsaw weathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station - such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the Ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting; the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liquor in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas: pale, mush-tender shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and dinner daily. Champagne brunch on Sundays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; all-day buffet Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate A.M. (4/03)

Cafe Zia 6686 El Cajon Boulevard (at Montezuma), College Area, 619-337-3937. South Asia meets Mezico! Khaled Zia had the brilliant idea of combining tacos (or wraps or bagels) with chicken and South Asia's great gift to the world: chutney — mango chutney, papaya chutney, peach, apple, even a serrano chili pepper chutney. The combo works with them all. As soon as you smell the chicken strips hissing away on the grills, you're hooked. Then when they come smothered in peach or mango chutney, or cooling yogurt, along with

sweet-sauced potatoes, what can you do? Do as half of San Diego State does: just say yes. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/01)

Chef Taka 7520 El Cajon Boulevard (at Parks), Mesa Plaza, La Mesa, 619-463-0231. This is indeed the same Chef Satate Taka who co-founded Taka in the Gaslamp, and then Octopus Garden. In July 2003 he moved his kitchen to La Mesa where he now cooks his inventive Japanese-based fusion cuisine with French, Mexican, and Chinese touches. Try the dreamy soft-shell crab with "salsa cream aioli," the tender tempura, or the traditional Teishoku din ner. Taka generally presides at the sushi bar. The staff is small so for the best cooking and service, dine on a weeknight and make an evening of it — weekends can be hectic. For a bubbly treat try chilled Nigori (unfiltered) sake, served in the traditional manner in an overflowing square wooden cup. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Happy hour bargains nightly; regular prices moderate to expensive. — N.W. (3/04)

Tyler's Taste of Texas 576 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Unfussy home cooking. Some dishes outshine others. The slab of smoky ham steak that comes with the first-rate breakfast is in itself enough to rouse the sleepiest appetite. Expertly sautéed onions and mushrooms lend flavor to fried potatoes and omelets, respectively, while pebbly-smooth hash and gingery sweet potato pancakes give the lineup character. For lunch and dinner, the Texas menu features Texas-style barbe cue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage) that's sufficiently smoky, but a little uneven in texture. BBQ beef is reliable and the sweetish sauce shows well on the chicken. Pleasant surprises: a substantial, peppery cornmeal crust on the ten-der catfish and the fried green tomatoes. and the rich stock in the vegetable soup. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — A.M. (2/02)

FAR EAST

Alpine Inn 2225 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-5172. Beef lover's heaven: It's all Certified Black Angus here. Try the house special, the Texas burger, ground in-house and served on a Kaiser roll with steak fries. Dark interior with large booths. Very crowded for dinner on Sunday. Inexpensive early-bird dinner Monday through Saturday. No lunch, but dinner 365 days a year. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

Pablito's of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Drive (in The Center, #8), Borrego Springs, 760-767-3311. Pablito's "Authentic Mexican Cuisine, patio dining, and great tequila margaritas." Well, the gorgeous patio is open only during busy times and the cuisine runs to gringo favorites in the Mexican mode (lots of combo platters). but the flavors are honest and pleasing. The most authentic dishes come from "Specialties" section of the menu, including a good chile verde (pork in green chile sauce), numerous varieties of enchiladas, and several flavors of chilaquiles. Full bar, including sangria, margaritas, Mexican beers. Open daily, lunch and dinner (with break between). Inexpensive to low moderate. - N.W. (4/03)

Ramon's Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Boulevard, Suite 110, Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquii wood burning under fresh-cut beef rib is beyond resistance. The secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, especially, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire, disappearing into the clouds of fragrant smoke to flip the racks of beef and pork ribs. In good weather you can eat out back next to an authentic chuck wagon. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Bertrand at Mister A's 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), 12th floor, Banker's Hill, 619-239-1377. Bertrand Hug's airy, open renovation of this formerly "ancient regime" eatery offers a fabled panoramic city view with a casual-chic, highly romantic ambience. Chef Stephane Voitzwinkler's modern French cuisine is a fine fit for the setting, including bistro classics and fresh inventions, emphasizing top-grade seasonal ingredients. A huge, intelligent wine list covers a full range of prices, ages and origins, including "ripe" first-growth Bordeaux. Smoking and fair-weather dining on wraparound terrace/observation deck. Note: parking entrance on Fourth Avenue; wheelchair access via ramp to left of reception desk. Lunch weekdays,

dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W.* (2/04) **Brians' American Eatery** 1451

Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-296-8268. Also at 7947 Balboa Avenue (off Convoy), Kearny Mesa, and 828 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe: Not one but two Brians have taken over what had been Topsy's a venerable coffeehouse/eatery for 40 years. They've done a good job of cleaning it up without gutting the fifties roadhouse character. It's open all night on weekends, and late night is quite a scene. But for a lot of people, breakfast is the thing. The Brians' 8-ounce charbroiled top sirloin steak with eggs and country potatoes is a great Saturday morning treat. Or the "Hey Ricky!!!," an omelet with chorizo, avocado, green chilies, onions, and cheeses. Or ask for their offmenu breakfast special — it's always cheaper. Another good thing: You get a pitcher of iced lemon-water, and coffee comes by the Thermos-full. Three meals until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; open 24 hours from early Friday morning until Sunday evening. Inexpensive.
— E.B. (10/02)

Celadon Royalty Thai Restaurant 540 University Avenue (near Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The menu was originally devised by a chef who cooked for the Siamese royal family. Some dishes taste luxurious, and all the dishes taste authentic — and carefully prepared. The regular entrées offer a choice of sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go straight to the Chef's Specialty items on the menu to find the best and rarest. Stuffed chicken wings are extraordinary, seafood soup talay is fabulous, and among the entrées, don't miss choo chee duck or the Oueen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch Monday through Friday, dinner nightly. — N.W. (5/05)

City Delicatessen 535 University Avenue (at Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-295-2747. Some folk come for the Jewish food (chicken-in-the-pot, brisket of beef, chopped liver), others to soak in the art-deco colors — the cornucopia of fruit above the entrance, the mustard yellow walls, the black-and-white checker tile, or the flower bunches of red, blue, green, and yellow lamps. And then some come for both: the stuffed cabbage roll (with ground beef and rice inside) is a glowering red ball with maroon, oniony, sweet-and-sour raisin sauce to die for, set off by green parsley and bright

orange slices. Scandalously delicious. Downside? Our pastrami sandwich tasted dry and chewy by comparison. But City Deli is less strictly Jewish (they have bacon on their breakfast menu) and more of an everyday New York-style eatery. Wait staff are good-humored, and the Seeburg Wall-o-Matic tableside jukeboxes actually work. Bring plenty of quarters. Breakfast all day; early-bird dinner specials; late-night dining. Open from 7 a.m. till midnight; until 2 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (5/03)

Hamburger Mary's 308 University Avenue (at Third), Hillcrest, 619-491-0400. All the action is on the patio, under ficus trees, ferns, the palapa bar, and white umbrellas. Bougainvillea bursts out of tables. Hamburger Mary's mural comes at you in a Stetson, wild red hair, big blue eyes, and a plump butt. Basically it's a gay rendezvous, but everybody's welcome. The burgers are way-big with funky titles like the "I'm Sooo Bleu" burger with bacon and bleu cheese crumbles, or the "Two Tons Of Fun," a six-inch-high double-burger with mushrooms, bacon, lettuce, cheese and onions. The kicker is they're all served between wickedly crisp, sweet slabs of golden Hawaiian bread. Open daily until 2 a.m., grill until 11 p.m. Moderate. — E.B. (3/01)

Ichiban 1449 University Avenue (at Normal), Hillcrest, 619-299-7203. Is this Paris or Tokyo? At night, the café outside glows like a Van Gogh painting, except the customers are eating sushi and drinking green tea, not red wine. The best values are at lunch, with weekday specials like Bento combos (sushi rolls, crab, salmon, rice) and filling soups overflowing with veggies and thick udon noodles. Healthy? You betcha. The miso soup (with every dish) made from soup and seaweed is a great daily iodine fix. Number One — that's what "ichi-ban" means. Open daily until 9 p.m., lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Avenue (off University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. Audacity is Chef Deborah Scott's culinary signature. In her cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest, with Japanese touches and towering heaps of garnishes. All the edible froufrou decorating the appetizers can wear you out, but most entrées are more focused and friendly. Good choices include a starter of mussels in a seductive chilpotle cream sauce, and entrées of spicy,

sweet-sour layered "jerk" chicken or the signature "Skirts On Fire," a miraculously tender grilled skirt steak imbued with a picante marinade. Desserts by Sharon Bristol follow the housestyle—sky-high, ornate, complex. Casual atmosphere, very noisy. Heated patio. Reservations strongly advised. Prices moderate. — N.W. (11/00)

La Posta de Acapulco's Taco Shop 3980 Third Avenue (at Washington), Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. (Also in Lakeside and Spring Valley.) People have been coming to this orange-andwhite drive-through-without-cars for 20 years. One of the main reasons is the carne asada burritos, Rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Folks sit around the outside benches right next to Washington Street, oblivious to the traffic. Also much loved here are the chile verde and the quesadilla with carne asada. For breakfast, think chorizo burrito. And for value, just to fill you up, you can't beat the bean tostada. You can drink *horchata*, a rice drink, or jamaica, made from hibiscus flower, to complete the picture. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/04)

Mission Hills Cafe 808 W. Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-296-8010. Belgian waffles are your natural intro here. Why? Because François, the owner, is Belgian. The man knows waffles. But the thing is how cheap this is for a sophisticated eatery, with its linen tablecloths, waiters in long aprons, and bread baskets. (The bread's incredible. It'll fill you before you spend a dime.) Dishes like Thai chicken or shrimp salad over shredded jicama. cucumber, and carrots are usually rich folks' territory. Ditto the "Pear Cambo-zola" salad, with strawberries, pecans, and a Camembert/Gorgonzola-style cheese, or "François's Famous Vegetarian Lasagna," And check out François's art on the wall — he always cooks one part in his oven, like the baked bread horses stuck on his piece called "Sea Biscuits." Daily, three meals, Inexpensive by day; more expensive at night, but reasonable. — E.B. (9/03)

The Mission North Park and City Bakery 2801 University Avenue, North Park, 619-220-8992 (also at Mission Beach and East Village). "Urban assault food for a revolutionary people," says the waitstaff's black T-shirts. But the food here is less revolutionary than halfway between health-nut and greasy spoon. Still, their "conscientious cuisine" is generous, good looking, and intelli-





Reader December 15, 2005









gent, if a little middle-class timid. Breakfasts are big here. Delicious chicken-apple sausage and eggs come on a foot-wide plate loaded with unskinned rosemary potatoes, scrambled eggs, and scrumptious baked-on-the-spot rosemary bread. Pancakes and French cinnamon toast are popular staples, as is the Zen Breakfast (scrambled egg whites, braised tofu, brown rice, with veggies). Roast beef hash can be chewy. Check out the "Chino-Latino" dishes (lunch only) like the mild but delicious ginger sesame tofu with brown rice and peanut sauce. Comes with a plethora of jicama-type veggies. Interior has arty, post-industrial, coffee house feel. Open daily, 7 a.m. to

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Friendly staff serves up standard Szechuan Mandarin fare at this archetypical Chinese restaurant, Szechuan Garlio Shrimp is number one on the list of twelve House Specialties for good reason. This tangy dish of crispy, deep-fried shrimp is one of their best. Not often seen on the menus of strip mall Chinese restaurants, the Szechuan Orange Fish is also recommended, but don't be mis-led by the "hot & spicy" star next to this item. As with any of their "spicy" offerings, the heat in this dish barely regis-

ters. Spice lovers should ask for an extra kick. The Toffee Banana and Toffee Apple desserts may tempt you, but unless you have a dentist on-call, it's best to pass on these super-sticky sweets. Inex-pensive lunch specials. Open late until midnight Monday through Thursday, until 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and until 10 p.m. on Sundays. Inexpensive to moderate. — *B.D.* (6/05)

DOWNTOWN

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine 825 and 837 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-0101. In a comfortable setting, the Persian menu offers just a "pick hits list" of popular dishes culled from this fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring fine ingredients prepared with care, skill, and healthfulness. The superlative lamb-and-rice stuffed grape leaves are vibrant with fresh herbs. The "Bandar Special" entrée combo lets you choose any two kebabs (chicken, game hen, beef, or lamb), beautifully marinated and cooked to your order. Entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborate and refined, spiked with tangy barberries, sour cherries, or lentils and dates. The list of Persian desserts now includes

Persian ice cream, a rose-scented exotic treat. Open daily for lunch (limited menu) and dinner. Moderate. -N.W. (1/04)

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth

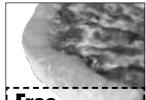
619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or "the other white") meat cooked on a wood-fired grill, smeared with a precooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobblers, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950's pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/04)

DeMedici 815 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-7228. This lovely, cream-andsepia dining room evokes an Italian Re-naissance villa, while its sidewalk patio offers a prime pageant of Gaslamp fol-lies. Either way, you'll enjoy exceptional service — attentive but utterly unobtrusive - and a menu centered on succulent pastas and refined seafood dishes. The nightly specials and the waiter's recommendations for the freshest catch will lead you to the evening's best entrées. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering; Atlantic shellfish, though, tend to be a tad overcooked. Reserve, and dress on the spiffier side — some Holly-wood celebs hang their Borsalinos here, upping the clothing curve. Dinner 5 p.m.to 10:30 p.m. weekdays, 5 p.m. to midnight weekends. Moderate-priced valet parking available. Moderate (simpler pastas) to very expensive. — N.W. (8/01)

Dublin Square 554 Fourth Avenue. Gaslamp, 619-239-5818. The entire pub was hand-crafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. The exterior indeed resembles a real (but very new) Dublin pub; the interior has authentically dim lighting and spirited Irish music including live bands (acoustic but loud) during Happy Hours and some evenings. If you're looking for food, too, there's a shockingly fine corned beef and cabbage, resembling the corned beef of Katz's Deli on the Lower East Side - it's that wee touch o' the garlic that does the trick. Other choices include Guinness beef stew, shepherd's pie (made with ground beef), chicken pot pie, steaks, lamb chops, fish and chips, and grilled fish, plus standard pub grub. Lunch and din-ner (including Irish breakfast any time) daily, Moderate. — N.W. (3/02)

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their "sleazy bar scene" in *Top Gun*. And it *is* kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers ("Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man"). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They're cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long Happy Hour (3:30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (3/01)

The Latin Room 560 Fourth Avenue (at Market), Gaslamp, 619-237-7800. This austere, concrete-floored space is mainly a tequila bar, offering at least 120 brands to sample and tasty Mexican cocktails made from scratch. But you can also get a reasonably interesting Mexican meal from a menu that's considerably more ambitious than the neighbor hood's regular border-Mex yawns. It of-



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fers excellent tortilla soup, decent ceviche, and filet mignon strewn with cuit lacoche (a.k.a. "corn mushrooms," a mild and juicy black fungal delicacy), with recipes imported here by a chef who used to cook at Tijuana's revered Cien Años restaurant. A couple can easily make a meal of a few shared appetizers. At 10 p.m. weekends, the place goes disco, with cover charge (IDs checked). Open nightly for dinner, appetizer menu until 2 a.m. on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (1/04)

Max New York Steakhouse and Seafood 827 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-235-8500. As steakhouses go, Max is a good value, offering huge portions of fine, gently raised near-organic meat, cooked to order and offered at relatively gentle prices. You don't even have to pay extra for your veggies. For beef, there's full-flavored naturally raised Angus or butter-tender Kobe-style Wagyu beef from Idaho. Or you can choose a giant rack of lamb, so tender it should be called "Certified Agnus." Sauces tend to be pedestrian; request them on the side. The classic steakhouse appetizers are done with some smart twists. Superb international wine list at below-average markups, including plenty by the glass Full bar. Valet parking, or inexpensive lot via alley two doors north. Open nightly until midnight on weekends. Upper moderate to very expensive. N.W. (3/04)

Morton's of Chicago 285 J Street (between Second and Third), Gaslamp, 619-696-3369. This famous Chicago steakhouse is swanky, in a manly way: dark, clubby, luxurious, and louche. You go to Morton's for great steak. Their Nebraska beef is aged and meticulously grilled to your specifications. You can get a one-and-a-half or three-pound porterhouse, which will be juicy, marbled with flavorful fat. You can also get good fish at Morton's. The big, golden salmon fillet flakes to the fork and is moist, sweet, buttery. The pricey à la carte sides are either bad or mediocre. The Godiva Hot Chocolate Cake is exceptional. But go for the steak. Expensive. — M.N. (9/99)

Nagi's Bar and Grill 501 West Broadway, downtown, 619-233-5933. Nagi Sekla comes from Egypt, via Paris. Before he took over the lease at the staid Koll Center's bar-eatery, he insisted on creating a sidewalk patio slap-dab on Broadway. His lease is our gain. For the first time you can eat, drink, and be merry right on this main drag. And there's nothing like scarfing lunch while you watch lawyers, tourists, and office workers hustle by in the morning sun. Lunch or dinner, start off with his homemade soups, but the must-eat is his Spicy Santa Fe Chicken Salad — the magic's in the cranberries and Gorgonzola. Also great: BBQ chicken pizza. Lunch and dinner, Monday through Friday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/03)

New Leaf Restaurant Hilton Gaslamp Hotel, 401 K Street, Gaslamp, 619-702-8200 This hotel restaurant fea tures American comfort food carried off with California flair and served in comfortable surroundings. Well-spaced oversized tables make this a good choice for business breakfasts and lunches. Outdoor seating options include an intimate patio lounge with a waist-high firepit that's lighted at night. Evenings, the atmosphere and garb tend toward the casual. Tortilla-crusted salmon is a stand-out entrée. Desserts are housemade and include a tasty New York cheesecake. Validated valet parking. Smart California wine list with rather high markups, plenty by the glass. Open three meals, seven days, until midnight on weekends. — N.W.~(12/04)

Puerto la Boca 2060 India Street (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Argentines love their beef and they love it lean and wholesome - free-range and grass fed. That's what you'll find at this uncompromisingly authentic outpost of Buenos Aires cuisine. The great national entrée is the mixed grill (parrillada) for two or more — a massive meatarama featuring numerous grilled cuts of marinated beef, chicken, and sausages. Start with luscious beef or corn empanadas or, if you're feeling hungry and adventurous, *matambre* (rolled beef galantine). Not a steak lover? Try the shrimp "la boca." Don't eat meat? There are vegetarian pastas and pizzas. Gnocchi (ño-quis) are served only on the 29th of each month. International, affordable choice of wines, plus Latin and U.S. beers. Full bar. Patio dining. Lunch and dinner daily until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 8:30 p.m. Sunday. — N.W. (8/05)

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard (at B Street), Little Italy, 619-233-5757. You could order the fish, the chicken, or even the lamb, but odds are you're here because you want steak, prepared by people who respect your enusiasm and offer prime beef in multiple cuts. And you're here because Rainwater's is venerable and local. You can dine old-style and enjoy it - warm cornbread fingers, a fine loose-packed crab cake, a crisp, watery wedge of ice-berg lettuce under a blue cheese blanket. As for the beef, New York strip takes the day. You actually have to chew it — it ain't filet - but every chomp gives up scads of flavor. Order a side of greaseless, firm-bodied onion rings and wash it down with something from the exhaus tive (and expensive) wine list. Lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m.; dinner daily. Very expensive. A.M. (6/03)

Sally's on the Water Manchester Grand Hyatt, 1 Market Place (Market and Harbor Drive, adjacent to Seaport Village), downtown, 619-358-6740. On an isolated "island" between the Hyatt and Seaport Village, in fair weather you'll catch great marina views from the terrace. Under inventive young French chef Fabrice Tissier, the fare is California-French with a summery Provençal accent and an accent on seafood. Don't miss the exquisite crab cakes or the classic bouillabaisse. If you'd like to know what the chef can do when he isn't limited by the tastes of hotel diners, with 48 hours notice you can book "The Chef's Table" inside the kitchen for six to twelve people and collaborate with him on a custom menu. Sally's interior is hardedged modern and can be noisy. Full bar, good mainly California wine list. Validated parking in hotel garage. Call for wheelchair-access directions. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. - N.W. (10/04)

Drive (at Ash), downtown, 619-232-7408. Here you'll find sparkling-fresh seafood in creative California-style treatments with organic, locally farmed produce, along with a long, interesting wine list offering some wonderful off-beat whites at moderate prices (along with the expected, exorbitant Chardonnays). Light eaters on a budget could make a luxury meal of any pair of appetizers. A recent renovation has given every table a clear view of the bay, but the price exacted by all that glass is a raucous noise level when full. Go early in the week for relative quiet. Service is friendly and knowledgeable. Valet parking fee; street parking feasible in cooler months. Reservations needed - the joint is jumping. Dinner only, seven nights. Very expensive. — N.W. (11/04)

Star of the Sea 1360 North Harbor

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Bistro D'Asia 1301 Orange Avenue (at B Avenue), Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a waitress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar

Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. — N.W. (11/04)

Crown Room Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Let's face it, this is one of the grandest entrances you'll make anywhere, into the enormous, gloomy, vaulted timber dining room where presidents, princes and Marilyn Monroe have chowed down. It's only open for Sunday brunch these days. The gigantic eat-till-vou're-beat buffet feast ranges from made-as-you-watch omelets to salmon, crab legs, prime rib, dizzying desserts, and even long-stemmed straw berries you hand-dip in chocolate. The downside? Monroe was here to shoot *Some Like It Hot*, but (apart from the chocolate) most food ain't. It's either cold (like the croissants, though the chocolate chunk ones are delicious) or luke-warm (like prime rib and eggs Benedict — and those eggs could do with a lot more Benedict). But this is an Edwardian-scale social occasion — see and be seen. The food isn't great, but the atmosphere is grand. Sundays, 9 a.m to 2 p.m. Expensive. — E.B. (9/03)

Lizard Lounge 1301 Orange Avenue (at B), Coronado, 619-437-6677. This venerable saloon, a Navy old-timers' fa-vorite since the era when lounge lizards in leisure suits stalked the earth, now houses a good little sushi bar at one end of its spirits bar. The rice is well-sea-soned, the seafood tastes sparkling-fresh, and each *nigiri* is given its own individual garnish (e.g., lemon with the *hamachi* roll). Most of the inside-out party rolls are variations of the California roll formula, with the same center of sweet crab and avocado, but there's also a lively mango-albacore roll, featuring tempura shrimp, avocado, and ponzu. For best seats and peaceful eating, come early; the bar fills fast and the room can get downright rowdy as the night rolls on. Street parking. Lunch/dinner daily. Moderate.

— N.W. (11/04)

Lydia's Cafe and Nightclub 1628 Palm Avenue, San Diego, 619-429-3603. This easygoing dancing/eatery has a faithful following that goes back to 1957. But before you dance, eat! Check out the birria en su jugo (goat in its juices) with beans, rice, and tortillas, or enjoy filling snacks like taquitos, cucaracha (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream), or the snack Lydia says she invented: botanas (beans, pork, and melted cheese over corn chips). Open from early breakfast to early dinner Sunday through Wednesday, until midnight Thursday and Friday. Inexpensive. E.B. (11/00)

McP's Irish Pub & Grill 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. With a crowd ranging from Navy retirees to chic singles barely of drinking age, the perpetual party on McP's' patio is nur-tured by above-average Irish-Mexican-American pub grub (burgers, potato skins, nachos, etc.). The Irish fare in-cludes a pleasing Mulligan stew served in a hollowed bread-loaf, and an absolutely fabulous corned beef and cabbage plate. with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Good soups, too. Daytimes, try the hearty (and then some) Irish meat-fest breakfast. Open daily, standard pub hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Yes, it's mostly poker players, but anybody can come in and order a meal. And here's the thing: first-time visitors get their meal free. Really. Players or nonplayers. Of course, the idea is to keep players' bellies full so they can return to the game, so even second-timers get a deal with down-home comfort-dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs and garlic bread, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/04)

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Ti-juana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit

Big Boy Restaurant Agua Caliente Boulevard #9892 (across the street from the old bullring), Tijuana, 686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food, this Big Boy knock-off draws some of the most interesting people in Tijuana — journalists, lawyers, cattle ranchers, politicians, Baja's heavy hitters. Day or night, Big Boy is always busy. Gringo food's no problem. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chorizo or ham, plus hash browns or frijoles, toast, juice, and end-

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*** — Naomi Wise, San Diego Reader

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less coffee. Nobody will object if you sit sipping the free refills till the moon comes up. But you won't — you'll crack and order more when you smell the popular, macho "royal" ham-burger, with two beef patties, smoked ham, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, fries and salad. Or the chicken breast marinated in tequila with cilantro, gua-camole, and beans. Open 24/7. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Cafe la Especial Avenida Revolución #718 (down the market steps), Tijuana, 685-6654. Café la Especial was once a great favorite of American aficionados of Tijuana's bullfights at the old downtown Plaza de Toros, Summer Sundays, fans would crowd into the café to chow down before the fights or rush back afterwards for a few drinks and a hearty meal. Inside, little has changed, not even the 50-50 locals-togringos ratio. Food is standard Mexican/American border fare, from tacos and tamales to carne asada and bistek ranchero, from cactus and eggs to steak and eggs. But the atmosphere is the real draw: the low ceiling, varnished wood, black furniture with flowers painted up and down the legs and portraits on the backs, and lots of murals of Mexico on the walls. Owner Humberto Brambila's aunt Justina started it all, he says, in 1948, with the steamed taco stand up stairs. That's still going too. Open daily Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (5/02)

El Faro de Mazatlan Boulevard nanciera, Zona Río, Tijuana, 684-8882, 684-8883, or 684-2236. We're talking safe, reliable, middle-class fish-fare here. The "Lighthouse of Mazatlan" is

bright, blue, and white with smart varnished wood furniture and delivers fish, lobster, oyster, squid, and shrimp dishes that are easy to like. Generous free appetizers include marlin ceviche, fried fish, and fish albondigas soup. The interesting part is in trying dishes like the sea snail salad. (After a few closedeye bites, it's delicious — like eating a sliced clam. It's great in a Caesar.) Look for original ways with octopus, pez espada (swordfish) and others. One of the simplest, best dishes: the cabicucho (Mexican seabass), charbroiled but moist and really better without its ranchero sauce. Open daily for lunch and dinner, Moderate. — E.B. (6/05)

El Rodeo Boulevard Salinas #1647 Tijuana, 686-5640. This 30-year-old steak haven sits on traffic-drowned Salinas, but climb onto its porch and you're at some Sonoran desert rancho, saguaro cacti and all. Inside it's dark ood and brick, wagon wheels, lariats, rifles, longhorns, and generous amounts of cattle-ranch food. Entrée price includes a delicious soup of roast beef juices, beans cooked in their own juices, a quesadilla, a salad, two *botana* (snack) plates, of, say, vinegary veggies and potatoes, and a beef liver medley, flour tortillas, chips, and hot sauce. You can get any cut of steak you want. A parrillada — BBQ dish — gives you marinated beef rib, carne asada, and barbecued chicken, all sizzling on a rancho-style metal tabletop grill that glows with hot coals. Best part: the roasted spring onions splayed across the meat. Dessert and coffee also included, Good place for a party. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — *E.B.* (5/05)

La Baguette Blvd. Lázaro Cárdenas #1030 (a.k.a. Blvd. Costero, opposite Sanborn's between Castillo and Blancarte), Ensenada, 646-178-2814. For those who take their java straight and strong, this is a good stop for a quick continental breakfast or dessert, with quite possibly the best French Roast coffee in town. Open daily during the day. Inexpensive. — N.W. (4/03)

La Escondida Santa Monica #1 (in Fraccionamiento Las Palmas), Tijuana, 681-4458 This hidden ("escondida") mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden over-looking the Tijuana River valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (cacerola de mariscos), the tambor (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork), or the roasted baby Monterrey goat ("cabrito tatemado"). Desserts include the house especial, mango and ice cream with rompope (Mexican egg nog), and crepas de cajeta con nieve, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce - the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the "Rey del Pollo" sign. The *La Escondida* entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — E.B. (1/05)

La Vuelta Avenida Revolución #8210 (above 11th), Tijuana, 685-7309. Bring your lover here and hide away in one

of the cuddly carretitas — nooks. Even if traffic is ghastly at "the turn" vuelta") where Revolución hooks left, you forget all that inside this vestige of Olde Tijuana, with balcony seating, resident mariachis, and food and drink all day and night. Dive into a combinación mexicana (chile relleno, taco, and enchilada) or *carne asada* served in an *olla de barro*, an earthenware pot from Guadalajara. Even the gringo-sounding filete mignon with mushroom sauce somehow comes out Mexican, Most Mexicans actually turn up about 1 a.m., after their own parties, to be serenaded by the excellent 10-piece mariachi band. Inexpensive. — E.B. (6/03)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Anthony's Fish Grotto For its fresh seafood salads, its fish and chips, and its daily fresh fish specials, Anthony's still goes to the head of the class for stability of product, good-sized portions, time-honored preparation, and low cost. Open daily, lunch through dinner. No reservations. Inexpensive to expensive. Locations: 1360 North Harbor Drive (at Ash Street), downtown, 619-232-5103; 215 West Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 619-425-4200; 9530 Murray Drive, La Mesa, 619-463-0368. — *E.W.*

California Pizza Kitchen 3363 Nobel Drive, La Jolla Village Square, La Jolla, 858-457-4222. Also at Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Highway 101, Suite 601, Solana Beach, 858-793-0999;

Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain, 858-675-4424; and Fashion Valley Mall (second level), Suite 901, 7007 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-298-4708. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBO chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBO chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order "Hawaiian" pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. At night, the Nobel Drive branch features view of the shining Mormon cathedral. Inexpensive to moderate. -E.B. (2/03)

Carmel Mountain Plaza, 11602 Carmel

Joe's Crab Shack 7610 Hazard Center Drive, Mission Valley, 619-260-1111; 4325 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474; 525 E. Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-233-7391; 314 Harbor Drive, South Oceanside, 760-722-1345. A seafood chain with a good Cajun corporate name (Landry's) based in southern Louisiana wouldn't survive without some pluses besides a Bourbon Street party atmosphere. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambiance (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not

bad. One tasty starter is "crabioli," fried wonton stuffed with crab and melted cream cheese ("crab Rangoon" by another name, but smoother). You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grownups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (5/01)

Ruth's Chris Steak House 11582 El Camino Real (at Arroyo Sorrento), Sorrento Hills, 858-755-1454. Flashcooked steaks from the finest wet-aged corn-fed USDA Prime, seasoned with salt, pepper, butter, and parsley, are the hallmark of this 95-location chain. If you aren't a salt offender, ask the kitchen to use a lighter touch. All side dishes are à la carte but come in portions large enough to feed two. The broiled tomatoes, caramelized with a touch of sugar, are a delight, and pota-toes are offered in eight guises. A pecan-topped sweet potato casserole, although delicious, would be better as dessert. Non-beef-eaters can choose from numerous luxurious seafood dishes, a cheese-stuffed chicken breast, grilled Portobello mushrooms, and six salads. Award-winning wine list is steep but serious, with an average bottle price of \$70 but reasonable markups and wines over \$100 offered at retail price. The main room harbors a fabulous view of the ocean if you arrive before sunset, but it's noisy — tables upstairs are quieter. Dinner nightly; lunch Friwn, with equally days only. Also downtoy stunning views, at 1355 North Harbor Drive, 619-233-1422. Very expensive.

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

Hawaiian Island Barbecue Free entrée

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

Sam's by the Sea

Sandbar Sports Grill Free taco

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

Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

Rudford's **\$2 off entrée**

Uptown & North Park

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 Rannoosh Free entrée

Taste of Italy Free Oreo cheesecake Teriyaki Cowboy **Sake and beer \$5.50** Urban Grind 50% off lunch or brunch

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

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 Puerto La Boca Free Argentine dessert

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

North County

Big Jim's Bar-B-Q Free entrée

Café de Thai **20% off bill**

Golden Baked Hams **\$8 off whole ham**

Greek Village Free saganaki

Jamroc 101 Free island sampler

Le Petit Calypso Free appetizer

Mas Fina Cantina 50% off entrée

Mikko Japanese 50% off sushi

Noodles & Company

Passage to India 50% off dinner

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 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

Plaza del Pasado Free entrée

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

East County & State College

Greek Town Buffet 50% off dinner buffet



Lion and Sheep

The effects are never piled on to the degree of the Potter films, never overloaded.

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

et's keep politics, as much as possible, out of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.* There appears to be an urge, not among five- to ten-year-olds as far as I am aware, but among bellig-

erent religionists, to gird for backlash against the perceived Christian propaganda in the adaptation of the mythic

children's book by C.S. Lewis. I suspect, though I don't fully understand these squabbles, that they are overprepared. Any nonbeliever sufficiently jaded to regard Jesus as just another myth, just one of the thousand faces of the universal hero in Joseph Campbell's oft-quoted title, will be disposed to regard the talking lion, Aslan, as just the thousand-and-first. True, the hot-potato term of "Christmas" is unapologetically, unpolitically-correctly, bandied about. (The magical kingdom of Narnia, when we first stumble into it, is a chill place of endlessly prolonged winter and postponed Christmas, a place in desperate need of deliverance.) And Santa Claus himself, temporarily unemployed, puts in a brief appearance in the role of "helper" — in Campbell's mythological paradigm — to dispense

"tools, not toys" to the juvenile disciples of the leonine messiah. True, too, the identification of the boy disciples as Sons of Adam and the girl disciples as Daughters of Eve establishes straightaway a Biblical frame of reference. And

the Medieval motif of the lion's encampment might pass very well for an encampment of Richard the Lion-

Hearted on the road to Jerusalem, laden with all the volatile overtones of the Crusades. For all this Christian saber-rattling, however, the only sort of person I can conceive of who might take offense at the film — offense at its advocacy of things like peace and goodwill — would be the zero-tolerance fundamentalist who cannot abide a faun, for instance, on the grounds that no faun was logged on the passenger list of Noah's Ark. But that line of attack would be coming from within. An intramural holy war.

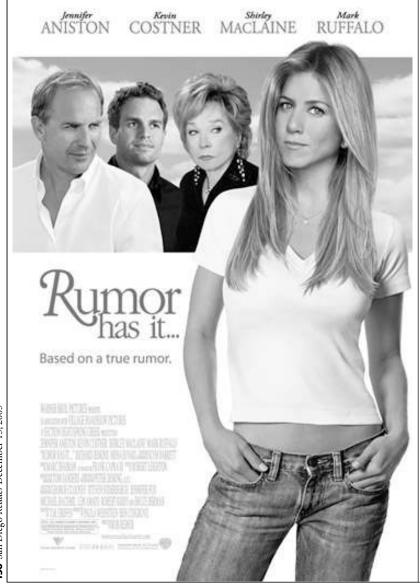
If you can stay out of the crossfire, this is a good children's film, better, for my money, than any of the four Harry Potters, better than any third of *The Lord of the Rings*, albeit still rather longish at two hours and twenty minutes. In the first place, and in spite



The Chronicles of Narnia

of the existence of six other books in the Narnia series, it has a beginning, a middle, and an end — and all in one film! (What a concept!) In that respect, it calls to mind the original *Star Wars*, not the original trilogy, much less the following trilogy, but the single, solitary film. The stand-alone film. The film that had to wait for the box-office returns before it could contemplate sequels. The ending of *Narnia* in particular, with all its triumphal pomp and circumstance, calls that film to mind. The beginning, on the other hand, calls to mind an even better children's film, *The Secret Garden* (the 1993 version at any rate), with four parentless children packed off during the London

Blitz to a gloomy mansion of rigid rules ("No improper use of the dumbwaiter," etc.), where they soon discover, at the back of the wardrobe in the spare room, a portal to the alternative universe of Narnia. (The transitions between the two worlds are dreamily seamless.) A prophecy, they further discover, has foretold of their coming as well as their



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overthrow of the reigning Wicked White Witch, wonderfully visualized an icicle crown, frozen-stiff hair, snowman's lump-of-coal eyes, clammy, ovstery skin — and commandingly played by Tilda Swinton. But wait: "We're not heroes!" Well, never mind. They will need, and receive, plenty of assistance, from an equivocal faun, a bickersome couple of bantering beavers, and a self-sacrificing fox, before they meet up with the Lion King and his courtiers. And while these, along with much else, open the gates to computer-generated imagery (and some herky-jerky movement of some of the figures), the effects are never piled on to the degree of the Potter films, never overloaded. They serve, as they should, the story. (The director, Andrew Adamson, comes to his first live-action film by way of the Shrek cartoons, and he has brought along a few Sons of Shrek as extras in the crowd scenes.) The narrative incidents unfold smoothly and swiftly and at times quite excitingly, especially the assault of the wolves on the beaver dam and the ensuing pursuit through the underground escape tunnel. And the execution of Aslan, in an atmosphere that reeks of a witches' Sabbath. is about as brutal as it could be without becoming as sadistic as The Passion of the Christ. (The willing victim won't say "It is finished" till his return from the dead and his ascension only as high as the throne.) His immediate resurrection, although the logic of it had been withheld from us, and although the allegory of it cannot be ignored, is nevertheless easier to swallow than, subsequently, the prowess of the children on the battlefield or the wholesale resurrection of casualties on that field. The lesson in courage at that point, or those points, gets a bit muddied. It almost smacks of cowardice.

Brokeback Mountain should fulfill any desire for a homosexual cowboy movie, superseding all those inadmissible innuendos as to Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday, the Lone Ranger and Tonto, the Cisco Kid and Pancho, et al. It fills out and plumps up a sketchy, skinny, yet ample short story by E. Annie Proulx, about a love that dare not speak its name in the unliberated time and place of 1963 Wyoming, a love that could not be denied despite denials ("You know I ain't queer" and "Me neither"), a love that would survive each man's marriage and fatherhood, over a period approaching two decades, but a love that could never come down from the mountain where it sprang up: "This is a goddam bitch of an unsatisfactory situation." Though the story was quite presciently written before the murder of Matthew Shepard in that same territory, the movie, obviously, arrives long after that, and with a clearer, cruder sense about it of payback, of axe-grinding, of remedial education. The cowboys, to be strictly accurate, are actually shepherds, tenders of a flock of sheep, always a symbol in Westerns of the dying of the frontier and the coming of civilization. And for the benefit of the benighted in the audience, each man is allotted an independent moment of manliness, the first a hackneyed confrontation with a pair of foul-mouthed bikers at a Fourth-of-July family picnic (an episode capped off with a low-angle shot of the clenched-fisted cowboy posed heroically beneath blossoms of fireworks), the second a sharply written confrontation with the bossy father-in-

law at the Thanksgiving table. There is also a sense about the movie of material stretched too thin, a slow, uneventful, time-biding start, working up stealthily to the moment of maximal male bonding, and then a straightforward, chronological, but timeskipping follow-through. The greater detail and delay on screen, as against the page, do not equate to greater credibility. One credible detail: the horseplay that turns rough on the eve of their first parting, the eloquent expression of nonverbal types. Contrastingly, their first reunion, a clinch of sumo-wrestler ferocity, right under the nose of one of the wives, is miles from credible. Jake Gyllenhaal, with his choirboyish pretty face and lofty voice, is the more acceptably typecast of the two. But Heath Ledger, lowering his voice to a Scott Glenn register, inside a clamped jaw, and suppressing his native Aussie accent, conveys the more poignant image of inhibition and concealment. Both actors look good in their jeans, in their hats, on their horses, and with their Marlboro Man smokes. And the voluptuous landscape is lovingly photographed. Director Ang Lee already did a lot of that in Ride with the Devil, and did it, at the time, with more impact of surprise and revelation. (Ang

Lee? Man of action?) What's new here feels frankly inevitable, not at all revelatory; and the director of The Wedding Banquet, Sense and Sensibility, and The Ice Storm seems an unsurprising man for the job. ■

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 — The live-action adaptation of an MTV cartoon 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 flesh-and-blood 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,"

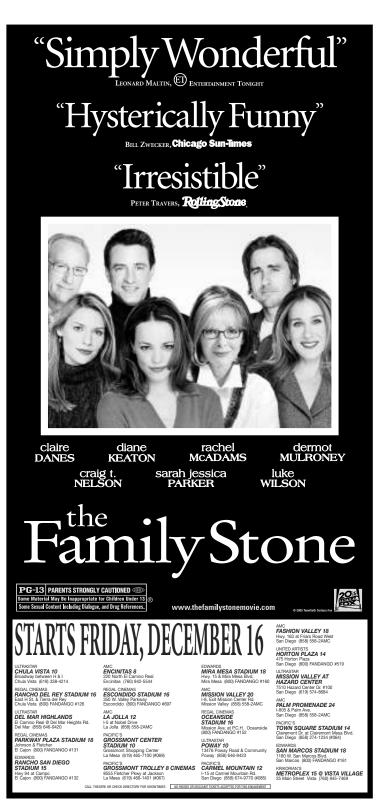
she says at one point, a tad disingenuously.) Frances McDormand, who played opposite Theron in North Country, cannot be dehumanized to quite that extent, but she can at any rate be given a monstrous Pre-Raphaelite hairdo. Director Karyn Kusama, once upon a time the maker of the gritty little Girlfight, 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. With Marton Csokas, Jonny Lee Miller, Sophie Okonedo. 2005.

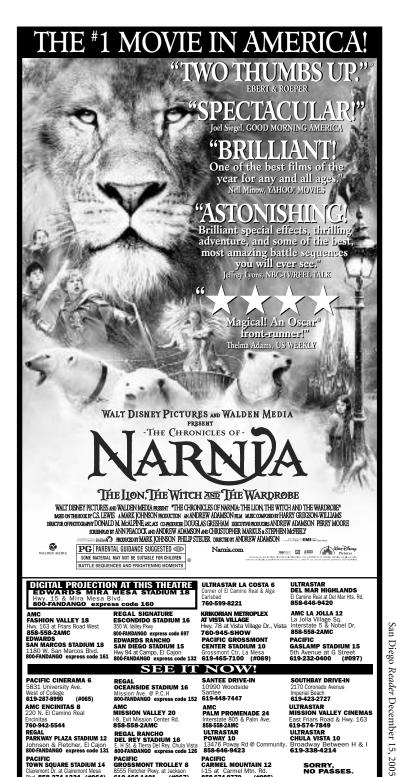
• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-FRAMA 6: FNCINITAS 8: FSCONDIDO 16: FASH-ION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4: GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RAN-CHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Brokeback Mountain — Reviewed this issue. With Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, and Randy Quaid; directed by Ang Lee. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE: FROM 12/16)

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 goahead 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





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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, Ir., 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 styrofoamy chums - the ugly duck, the fat pig, the fish out of water, et al. — are just car toon 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

• (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: FASHION VALLEY 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VAL-LEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; VOGUE) The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe — Reviewed this issue. With Georgie Henley, Skandar Kevnes, William Moselev, Anna Popplewell, Tilda Swinton, and the voice of Liam Neeson; directed by Andrew Adam-

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ENCINITAS 8: ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSS-MONT 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 SOUARE 14: VISTA

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 Cassel, Melissa George; directed by Mikael



Brokeback Mountain



"★★★★ 'SYRIANA' IS BRILLIANT.

The kind of give-'em-hell filmmaking that matters. Gaghan is in top form, mixing potent writing with ages that tear at the heart."

RollingStone,

"Syriana' is light years from the standard Hollywood movie. MEATY, INTELLIGENT AND ENGROSSING."

TIME

"A FEARLESS AND AMBITIOUS PIECE OF WORK. Ilmmaking of the most bravura kind."

Los Angeles Times

"SYRIANA' IS EXPLOSIVE. emotionally engaging and intellectually stimulating. Clooney does a masterful job. We need more movies like this."

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"SYRIANA" IS A MOVIE THAT

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CLOSE ATTENTION.
It spins a complex,
intriguing narrative about oil,
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a rich and entertaining experience.

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"SIMPLY THE BEST MOVIE I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR. eorge Clooney should merit ious Oscar° consideration." Richard Roeper,



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Hafstrom. 2005.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Dreamer — The writing and directing debut of the mere co-writer on Coach Carter, John Gatins, is one of the endless supply of inspirational true sports stories to come to the screen, this one the horsetrack story, and only fractionally true, of a filly called Soñador (Spanish for Dreamer, but Mariah's Storm in real life) who in midrace breaks her cannon bone (something to look up in the dictionary afterwards) and will never be able to race again, though with proper care, particularly from a blond moppet, just might walk, and just might breed, except that she turns out to be infertile, too, and then turns out to be able to do more than just walk. Admirers of Seabiscuit will be prone to find this redundant, but nonadmirers will be free to find it contrastingly modest, unpretentious, and sensible, if in a frankly sentimental vein; richly, radiantly photographed by the reliable Fred Murphy; and touchingly played by elevenyear-old Dakota Fanning, and even more touchingly, because taciturnly, by Kurt Russell as the horse's trainer and girl's father. With Elisabeth Shue, Kris Kristofferson, and David Morse. 2005.

★★ (VOGUE)

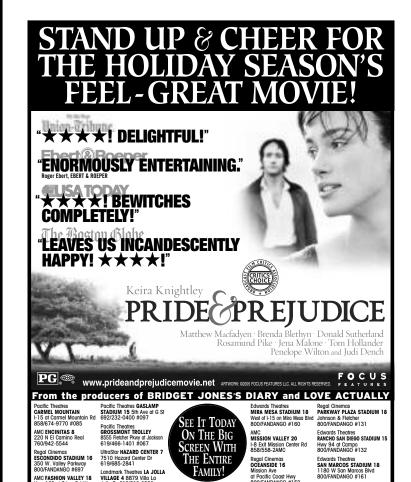
The Dying Gaul — Screenwriter Craig Lucas, of Longtime Companion and Prelude to a Kiss, turns director as well, bringing to the screen his own stage play, a behind-thescenes peek into the studios and boudoirs of Hollywood: the negotiations over a labor-of-love screenplay about the death from AIDS of the writer's lover (his dream director: "Gus Van Sant, I guess, since Truffaut 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 noman'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, 2005.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 12/15)

The Family Stone — Romantic comedy with Sarah Jessica Parker, Dermot Mulroney, Claire Danes, Luke Wilson, Rachel McAdams, and Diane Keaton, written and directed by Thomas Bezucha. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION 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 SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE: FROM 12/16)

Good Night, and Good Luck — Unabashed hero worship of the "crusading" CBS newsman 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-ofhonor'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 Boogevman. (Mc-Carthy, seen only in grainy archive footage,



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looks even cruder than usual in opposition to the crisply photographed thespian smoothies.) Clooney, son of a TV news caster 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 century 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 reactionaryism: 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 blackand-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.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14, FROM 12/16)

Happy Endings — Three interwoven plotlines with occasional points of intersection, one of them to do with the tested friendship between homosexual couples of opposite sexes, one to do with the boatrocking new female lead singer of a garage band, and one to do with a wannabe documentary filmmaker who focuses his camcorder on a Mexican immigrant sex worker. Children feature prominently in each line, not as actual presences, but as life choices, abstract concepts: the sperm-bank baby, the aborted baby, the adopted baby. The entire cast of characters, however widely scattered, comes together in a fantasy finale reminiscent of Places in the Heart or Fellini's 81/2. Despite that stab at magnanimity, the film doesn't really amount to much, though it whiles away a couple of hours. Writer-director Don Roos keeps the tone on the light side, the glib side, the superficial side, the self-conscious and posturing side. His principal tone-setting device is the intermittent split-screen title card, dispensing silent narration in the omniscient third person, an uncommonly chatty, catty third person, omniscient into the future in addition to the past, telling us, for instance, that so-and-so has had sex with twelve women since his wife died and will have sex with two more before he himself dies. Verbatim prose samples: "She's not dead. No one dies in this movie. It's a comedy, sort of" and "Charley is now gay. Who isn't?" and "Nicky never lies. He's not her son, if that's what you're thinking." Apparently intended to be ingratiating but more apt to be just grating, these bring to mind the old Saturday Night Live gimmick of picking out an audience member with the camera and captioning the image with some potential embarrassment such as "Has hemorrhoids" or "President of the Olivia Newton-John Fan Club." Lisa Kudrow, Steve Coogan, Jesse Bradford, Bobby Cannavale, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Tom Arnold. 2005.

★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/18, 2 P.M.)

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 fireside chat. Such a viewer will also be more prone to argue that this sort of anythinggoes 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 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; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER: GROSS-MONT 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; 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 familyman 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 ominousness 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 such devious means as the sedate and didactic tone, the clear-eved 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.



SHANE IVERSEN

Head projectionist. Ultra Star Mission Valley 7 at Hazard Center

The Shawshank Redemption is so simple with its message of hope that even the most pessimistic person can start to believe that you should never

Rear Window is Hitchcock's best. A single setting, very few characters, and not a whole lot of dialogue. Hitchcock was so economical in this film that you would think that he was on a tight budget or deadline from the studio. A masterpiece.

In an era when good TV shows are made into bad movies, The Fugitive is one of the few to get it right. You root for the hero to escape and simultaneously for the guy to catch him; a masterstroke by the director and an ode to Tommy Lee Jones's performance.

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION (USA) 1994, Warner Home Video List price: \$19.98 REAR WINDOW (USA) 1954, Universal List price: \$29.98

THE FUGITIVE (USA) 1993, Warner Home Video List price: \$24.98

IOF RICHTER

General manager. Ultra Star Mission Valley 7 at Hazard Center

I recommend Pulp Fiction mainly because of the dialogue. History will credit this film as a huge reason people now in their midtwenties started watching a greater number of independent, risk-taking films.

I know this sounds cheesy, but for the genre, Die Hard is probably the best. This one gets it right and very few have come close. An average Joe hero, a somewhat likable villain, perfect comic relief, and enough action to satisfy even the most hardcore violence/explosion

When I first saw the original Planet of the Apes, it taught me more about the impact of racism than any history book ever did. A very important film with social commentary that's still relevant today. It's also one of the premier sci-fi films of all time.

PULP FICTION: THE COLLECTOR'S EDITION (USA) 1994, Miramax Home Entertainment List price: \$29.99 DIE HARD (USA) 1988, 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment List price: \$29.98 PLANET OF THE APES (USA) 1968, 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment List price: \$29.98

IAKE ZAMZOW

Shift leader/projectionist, Ultra Star Mission Valley 7 at Hazard Center

If you like heroin, then Trainspotting's for you. Just kidding. It's an eye-opening look into the world of hard drugs and the effect they have on people.

Wet Hot American Summer is full of ridiculous, random humor. If you've seen the TV show Stella, then you know what I'm talking about. And if you ever spent a summer at camp, you definitely know what I'm talking about. Good fun.

No movie recommendation is complete without a bloodlusting, back-from-the-dead, people-eating-people, raunchy zombie flick. Italy's godfather of gore, Lucio Fulci, delivers everything you could wish for in a zombie film in his Zombie, including an underwater fight between the living dead and a giant shark. Trust me, you won't be disappointed.

TRAINSPOTTING (England) 1996, Miramax Home Entertainment List price: \$29.95 WET HOT AMERICAN SUMMER (USA) 2001, MCA Home Video List price: \$14.98 ZOMBIE (Italy) 1979, **Anchor Bay** List price: \$24.98

(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 feeling 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 smalltown 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, offputtingly 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

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 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



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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 oilslicked 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.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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; ENCINI-TAS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18: TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VIL-LAGE)



Pride and Prejudice

King Kong — Peter Jackson's remake of the creature classic, with Naomi Watts, Jack Black, and Adrien Brody. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSS-MONT 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 MAR-COS 18: SANTEE DRIVE IN: SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN:

Kiss Kiss Bang Bang — Self-reflexive,

TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

self-indulgent, self-congratulatory, and selfmocking 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)

The Legend of Zorro — Zero. The obligatory sequel finds our mid-19th-century

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 — Three listless storylines, intercut for a semblance of kineticism, are 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. With Michael Kelly, Chris Sarandon, Michael Learned, 2005

★ (KEN, THROUGH 12/15)

Memoirs of a Geisha — Zhang Ziyi

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. (12:55, 3:05) 5:35, 7:50, 10:10; **Harry Potter and the Gob**let of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:50, 3:20) 7:00, 10:15; Just Friends (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:20, 2:20) 5:00, 7:35, 9:55; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:00, 11:40, 12:20, 2:45, 3:30) 4:40, 6:30, 7:45, 8:30, 10:20 Sun. (11:00, 11:40, 12:20, 2:45, 3:30) 4:40, 6:30, 7:45, 8:30, 10:10; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (1:15) 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:30, 1:05, 2:30) 4:15, 5:25, 7:10, 8:20, 10:05; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (11:10, 12:00, 1:20, 2:10, 3:15) 4:30, 5:10, 6:50, 7:30, 8:10, 9:50, 10:30 Sun. (11:10, 12:00, 1:20, 2:10, 3:15) 4:30, 5:10, 6:50, 7:30, 8:10, 9:50; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:55) 5:20, 8:00, 10:35 Sun. (12:10, 2:55) 5:20, 8:00, 10:20; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:00) 4:10, 7:15, 10:25 Sun. (1:00) 4:10, 7:15,

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) **Derailed** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (1:50) 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 1:15, 3:45) 4:45, 7:15, 8:15. 10:45 Sun. (12:15, 1:15, 3:45) 4:45, 7:15, 8:15, 10:30; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30) 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:20 Sun. (11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30) 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:20, 10:25; **Saw II** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:50) 5:20, 8:05, 10:40 Sun. Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:50) 5:20, 8:05, 10:35; **Syriana** (R) (12:10, 2:50) 5:20, 8:05, 10:35; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 1:40, 3:40) 4:40, 6:45, 7:45, 9:45, 10:50 Sun. (12:40, 1:40, 3:40) 4:40, 6:45,

7:45, 9:45; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe $(PG)\,$ Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:55) 5:00 6:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:05, 10:00, 11:00 Sun. (12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 3:55) 5:00, 6:05, 7:00, 8:00, 9:05, 10:00; Zathura (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (1:45) 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) **Aeon Flux** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 1:50, 3:30, 4:20) 6:45, 7:15, 9:25, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (1:00, 1:50 3:30) 4:20, 6:45, 7:15, 9:25, 10:05; **Good Night, and Good Luck** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (1:10, 3:35) 6:35, 9:05; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri. (1:25, 4:15) 7:05, 9:55 Sat.,-Sun. (1:25) 4:15, 7:05, 9:55; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri. (1:55, 4:20) 6:40, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (1:55) 4:20, 6:40, 9:30; **Kiss Kiss Bang Bang** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (1:15, 3:45) 6:20, 9:10; **Rent** (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 2:35, 4:25) 6:50, 7:25, 9:50, 10:25 Sat.,-Sun. (1.20, 2.35) 4.25, 6.50, 7.25, 9.50, 10.25; The Family Stone (PG-13) Fri. (1:05, 1:45, 3:40, 4:30) 6:25, 7:05, 9:00, 9:40 Sat., Sun. (1:05, 1:45, 3:40) 4:30, 6:25, 7:05, 9:00, 9:40; **The Ice** Harvest (R) Fri. (1:40, 4:10) 7:00, 9:20 Sat.,-Sun. (1:40) 4:10, 7:00, 9:20; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:05, 4:30) 6:30, 7:10, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (1:00, 1:30, 2:30) 4:05, 4:30, 6:30, 7:10, 7:30,

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); Just Friends (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13); Rent (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13): Walk the Line (PG-13)

La Jolla Village 8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) **Brokeback Mountain** (R) Fri. (1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00) 7:00, 8:00, 10:00 Sat., -Sun. (11:00) 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00; **Pride** and **Prejudice** (PG) Fri. (2:15, 5:15) 8:15 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15) 2:15, 5:15, 8:15; Ushpizin (PG) Fri. (2:00, 4:30) 7:10, 9:40 Sat. (11:30) 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40 Sun. (11:30) 2:00, 4:30,

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 (PG-13); Chicken Little (G); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); Derailed (R); The Family Stone (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13): The Ice Harvest (R): In the Mix (PG-13); Jarhead (Not Rated); Just Friends (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Pride and Prejudice (PG); Rent (PG-13); Syriana (R); Walk the Line (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

Mission Valley 7 7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Pride and Prejudice (PG); Rent (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); Walk the Line (PG-13)

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Chicken Little (G); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); Just Friends (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13); Pride and Prejudice (PG); Syriana (R); Walk the Line (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:50) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00 Sun. (12:10, 2:50) 5:10, 7:40; Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sat. (12:35, 3:00) 4:55, 7:15, 9:30 Sun. (12:35, 3:00) 4:55, 7:15; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 3:40) 7:00, 10:10 Sun. (12:15, 3:40) 7:00; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 12:00,

1:00, 3:45, 5:20, 7:45, 9:15 Sun. 12:00, 1:00, 3:45, 5:20, 7:45; **The Chronicles of Narnia:** The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:30, 3:35) 7:20, 10:20 Sun. (12:30, 3:35) 7:20

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Pulse (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. 9:30; The Squid and the Whale (R) Fri. (5:20) 7:25 Sat.,-Sun. (3:15) 5:20, 7:25

UPTOWN

Garden Cabaret

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221) Call theater for program information

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) Brokeback Mountain (R) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00) 11:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 10:00, 10:30; **Capote** (R) Fri. (1:55, 4:30) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15) 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) Mystery of the Nile (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 4:00, 6:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00; **Mystic India** (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 5:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 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, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30, 2:00) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **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.,-Sun. (11:45, 3:20) 7:00, 10:30; 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; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30) 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 10:30, 11:00 Sat.,-Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00) 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 10:30, 11:00; **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; **Syri**ana (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 Sat.,-Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:45) 4:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (11:20, 1:55, 4:30) 7:05, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20, 1:55) 4:30, 7:05, 9:40; **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

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100) **Aeon Flux** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:55, 3:25) 5:55, 8:15, 10:25 Sun. (12:55, 3:25) 5:55, 8:15, 10:20; **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:20, 3:40) 7:05, 10:10; Just Friends (PG-13) Fri. (2:05) 4:25, 7:15, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:05) 4:25, 7:15, 9:40; King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:30, 12:00, 3:15, 3:45) 7:00, 7:30, 10:40, 11:10 Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 3:15, 3:45) 7:00, 7:30, 10:40; **Syriana** (R) Fri. (1:55) 4:40, 7:25, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10, 1:55) 4:40, 7:25, 10:00; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the **Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (9:30, 1:20, 2:10) 4:35, 5:20, 7:40, 8:30, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00, 1:20, 2:10) 4:35, 5:20, 7:40, 8:30, 10:30; The Family Stone (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 2:55) 5:30, 8:10, 10:45 Sun (12:10, 2:55) 5:30, 8:10, 10:35; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri. (2:20) 5:05, 8:00, 10:50 Sat. (11:25, 2:20) 5:05, 8:00, 10:50 Sun. (11:25, 2:20) 5:05, 8:00, 10:45

Grossmont Trolley

8555 Fletcher Parkway (619-466-1401) Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri. (2:10) 5:20, 8:30 Sat., -Sun. (11:00, 2:10)

5:20, 8:30; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun (12:30) 4:25, 8:20: Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30) 4:35, 7:25, 10:15 Sun. (1:30) 4:35, 7:25; Rent (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (1:50) 4:40, 7:35, 10:25 Sun. (1:50) 4:40, 7:35; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. (3:45) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. (11:45, 3:45) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (11:45, 3:45) 7:00; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (2:00) 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sat. (11:30, 2:00) 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sun. (11:30, 2:00) 4:30, 7:10; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:15) 4:20, 7:15, 10:10 Sun. (1:15) 4:20, 7:15; **Yours, Mine, and Ours** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:00) 5:10, 7:20, 9:45 Sun. (12:40, 3:00) 5:10, 7:20

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:35, 5:00) 7:35, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:35) 5:00, 7:35, 10:00; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:45, 3:30) 7:05, 10:35; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri. (9:50, 12:10, 2:45, Just Friends (FG-13) FR. (9:50, 12:10, 2:45, 5:15) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (9:50, 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00, 12:00 Sat. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00) 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00, 12:00 Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00) 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:35, 3:35) 7:25, 10:25; **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, 12:05, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:35, 7:00, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 Sat.,-Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 12:05, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45) 4:15, 4:45, 6:35, 7:00, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 1:10, 4:10) 7:10, 10:10 Sat.,-Sun. (10:10, 1:10) 4:10, 7:10, 10:10; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 1:10, 4:20) 7:30, 10:40 Sat.,-Sun. (10:00, 1:10) 4:20, 7:30, 10:40; Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri. (11:50,

4:55, 7:15, 9:50 **SANTEE**

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Chicken Little (G); King Kong (PG-13); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG)

2:20, 4:55) 7:15, 9:50 Sat., -Sun. (11:50, 2:20)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); Just Friends (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Chicken Little (G); Derailed (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); King Kong (PG-13); Pride and Prejudice (PG); Rent (PG-13); Syriana (R): The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion. the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); 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, 10:05; Cricken Little (G) Fri. (10:05, 12:15, 2:25, 4:55) 7:05, 9:15 Sat., Sun. (10:05, 12:15, 2:25) 4:55, 7:05, 9:15; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (12:00, 3:30) 6:55, 10:25; 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; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (10:30, 11:00, 11:25, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00 Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 11:25, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30; **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. (9:45, 10:15, 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:55, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:25, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:55, 3:45) 4:15, 4:45, 6:25, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (9:30, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:50, 10:35 Sat.,-Sun. (9:30, 12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:50, 10:35; 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, 3:10, 5:30) 7:45, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (10:00, 12:45, 3:10) 5:30, 7:45, 10:05

Vogue

226 3rd Avenue (619-425-1436) Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun. 12:30, 6:00; Dreamer (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 4:00, 9:30; Zathura (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 2:15, 7:45

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727) Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) **Aeon Flux** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:25, 1:40, 3:55) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:25, 1:40, 3:55) 6:15, 8:25, 10:30; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri .-Sun (12:40, 3:55) 7:10, 10:25; King Kong (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15) 4:15, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sat. (10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15) 4:15, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15) 4:15, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45; Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri. (1:35) 4:25, 7:25, 10:15 Sat., -Sun. (10:40, 1:35) 4:25, 7:25,

10:15; Syriana (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:35, 2:20) 5:05, 7:50, 10:35 Sun. (11:35, 2:20) 5:05, 7:45, 10:30; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. (11:20, 1:25, 2:35) 4:25, 5:35, 7:20, 8:35, 10:20 Sat.,-Sun. (10:30, 11:20, 1:25, 2:35) 4:25, 5:35, 7:20, 8:35, 10:20; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (11:20, 1:45) 5:05, 7:40, 10:15 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10, 1:45) 5:05, 7:40, 10:15; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (1:40) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25 Sat.,-Sun. (10:45, 1:40) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25; Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri. (1:10, 3:20) 6:00, 8:10, 10:20 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:20) 6:00, 8:10,

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) King Kong (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG): The Family Stone (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

POWAY

 $\label{eq:poway 10} \begin{array}{l} \textbf{13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)} \\ \textbf{Aeon Flux (PG-13); Chicken Little (G);} \end{array}$ Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

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, 7:55, 10:20; **Harry** Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:45, 3:35) 7:05, 10:40; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 10:25; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30,

4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (10:05, 1:05, 4:25) 7:45, 10:55; **Syriana** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (9:50, 11:50, 12:50, 3:15, 3:50) 6:25, 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, 6:55, 7:35, 8:05, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 12:05, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:20, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45) 6:35, 6:55, 7:35, 8:05, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (10:45, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:10, 4:20) 7:40, 10:50; Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:10, 2:25, 4:50) 7:50,

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) King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:30, 3:15, 7:00, 10:45; Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:10, 1:00, 3:55, 6:45, 9:30; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 9:00, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25 Sat.,-Sun. 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:20, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Chicken Little (G); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Pride and Prejudice (PG); Syriana (R); Walk the Line (PG-13)

ENCINITAS

Encinitas 8

220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. 3:05, 8:10 Sat.,-Sun 3:05, 8:10; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:50, 3:30, 7:00, 10:20; Just Friends (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 5:30, 10:30; King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:15, 12:00, 2:45, 4:00, 6:45, 8:00, 10:45; Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 12:20, 3:20, 6:30, 9:25 The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:25; The Family Stone (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 12:45, 4:25, 7:40, 10:40

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW) Rent (PG-13)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Svriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); Walk the Line (PG-13); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:15, 2:00,

4:30, 7:05, 9:30; Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun 11:40, 2:10, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri. -Sup. 10:00. 2:15, 6:15, 9:45; **Just Friends** (PG-13) $\label{eq:Fri.,-Sun.} Fri.,-Sun.\ 11:45,\ 2:45,\ 5:15,\ 7:45,\ 10:05;\ \textbf{King} \\ \textbf{Kong}\ (PG\text{-}13)\ Fri.,-Sun.\ 10:00,\ 10:30,\ 11:00,$ 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 10:00, 10:30; Syriana (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; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30; Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 8:00, 10:15

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) Call theater for program information

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Calendar Movies

stars in the screen adaptation of Arthur Golden's best-seller, directed by Rob Marshall.

(LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; FROM 12/16)

Pride and Prejudice — By this time the Iane 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 Hol-



Walk the Line

lander. 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)

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; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; LA PALOMA, FROM 12/16; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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-eved Goldilocks who approaches any bowl of porridge with utmost caution and suspicion, and tastes it with total concentration The relationships manifest some amusingly out-of-step interactions and offbeat timings, but this slender, mannerly, neat-andtidy 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: THROUGH 12/15)

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 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 dis tantly, less distinctly. But the characters of the children are unqualified successes, espe-

cially the older one, whose age, by no mere coincidence, closely matches that of writerdirector 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, THROUGH 12/15; KEN. 12/16 THROUGH 22)

Syriana — Serioso. Molto serioso. 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. 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 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. In the end, Gaghan convinces us he knows a lot more about how the world works than about how fiction works. George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright, Chris Cooper, Christopher Plummer, Tim Blake Nelson, Amanda Peet. 2005.

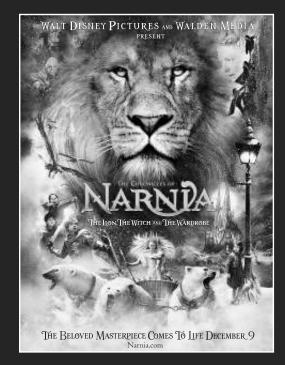
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ES-CONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Ushpizin — Benign Israeli comedy centered on a destitute Hasidic couple who are obliged to host two uninvited guests, two escaped convicts, on the Succoth holiday. No real laughs, but plenty of peculiar manners and mores. With Shuli Rand and Michal Bat-Sheva Rand; directed by Giddi Dar. 2005.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

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

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Winter Solstice — A womanless house hold — the Winters family — composed of two strapping boys and a morose widower.

Tepid domestic drama with warm-blooded performances from Anthony LaPaglia, Aaron Stanford, Mark Webber, Allison Janney, Michelle Monaghan. Some amusing human observation fights through the pallid image and New Age-y music. E.g., after fielding a perfectly proper dinner invitation from a new neighbor grateful for the loan of a hand dolly, the troublesome highschooler turns to his buddy: "You see what I have to deal with here? This fuckin' nuthouse!" Written and directed by Josh Sternfeld. 2005.

★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 12/19, 6:30 P.M.)

Yours, Mine, and Ours — Two old flames, a Coast Guard Admiral and a freelance 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 prototypes 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: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSS-MONT CENTER: LA COSTA 6: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VAL-

Newsweek.

LEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Zathura — Relatively speaking, an imaginative children's film (from a book by Chris Van Allsburg, author also of The Polar Express 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 father, after the younger one dusts off a windup board game in the cellar, labelled Zathura, A Space Adventure. (If ever there was an excuse once again to cue the opening 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 called Zorgons; and over the course of all that, they learn brotherhood. The interplanetary house should bring to mind, provided 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, nonsanguinary), the tons of special effects, and the dearth of visual skills (Jon Favreau, director) are simply to be endured as conditions 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, Kristen Stewart, Tim Robbins. 2005.

★★ (GASLAMP 15: PALM PROMENADE 24:





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ALRUBIC 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: Encintas and San Diego. Contact Audrey Trees with Heartlight Aerobics at 619-303-6289. AEROBIC INSTRUCTOR (Children). En

AGENTS/PROCESSORS: Earn \$3500/ month helping the United States federal month helping the United States federal government file paid mortgage insurance refunds. No experience necessary, training provided. 858-492-8091. www.

AIR CONDITIONING, plumbing, heating tradespeople with or without experience needed immediately! Work for a national leader in the service industry, ARS (American Residential Services of California, Inc.). We offer technician training programs, great benefits. Must have clean DMV and valid California driver's license. ARS is a drug-free work environment CSL#791820. Contact Mike Barry, 858-677-5455, x202.

677-5493, X202.

AMBULANCE EMTs, TRANPORT VAN
Drivers. Top pay! Minimum age-21, valid
certification copies, DMV. Ambulance license a plus. Star Ambulance, 4400 Palm
#C La Mesa, 619-469-7827.

ANIMAL CARE TECHNICIAN. Part-time positions available. \$8.75-\$10.25/hour One weekend day required. Previous ani mal handling experience required. Fax resume to 858-756-7520 or call 858-756-

ANIMAL LOVER. Mobile Grooming look-Animal LUVEK. Mobile Grooming look-ing for an energetic individual with good people skills who loves working with animals. Experience not necessary. Training provided. Attractive compensation. Email resume to: NL7R-G1@yahoo.com or fax: 858-270-0171.

APPOINTMENT SETTER. Part time. Will train. Days/evenings. Better Business ap-proved. Convenient Mission Valley office. Great potential. Hourly, bonuses. Bilin-gual a plus. Can train for sales if desired. gual a plus. Can train 101 02 Pay weekly. 858-279-9896.

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

APPOINTMENT SETTERS 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 APPOINTMENT SETTERS for kiosks at malls and trade shows. Door-to-door can-vassers needed for 30-year home im-provement company. Salary plus great bonuses. Call 858-495-0551.

ASSEMBLERS, SANDERS, Woodworkers needed at Carvin. Several full-time oppor-tunities available. Walk in applications weekdays, 8am-3pm, 12340 World Trade Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-487-1600. Fax, 858-521-6031.

ASSEMBLY. 50 positions in Rancho Bernardo. First and second shifts avail-able. 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.

ASSISTANT. Rent with private quarters in exchange for part time computer literate person or ranch-style housekeeper. Horses, dogs, kids ok. Possible for right individual. 619-659-5146.

individual. §19-659-5146.

ATTORNEY AIDE. Disabled female attorney needs part-time assistance (Tuesdays, Thursdays) to assist at office. Hours are 8:15am-7pm plus additional periodic overtime. Duties include typing, filing, word processing, occasional Bookkeeping, assistance at court. Good grammar

and punctuation skills, knowledge of Microsoft Office, good handwriting and the ability to stand for long periods of time. Requires the ability to drive a van with automatic transmission. Must have good driving record. Candidates must pass a grammar, spelling, punctuation and typing test plus a background check. Please send resume to: Human Resources, DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary US LLP, 401 B Street, Suite 1700, San Diego, CA 92101 or email to maureen.walker@dlapiper.com.

BAKER. Night shift available for whole-sale bakery located in Miramar. Experi-ence preferred. E-mail resume: info@ sttropezbistro.com or fax: 858-404-0839.

BARISTA. Del Mar coffee cart chain is looking for a Christmas helper. \$7-\$9 per hour. Great tips. Call 619-200-5162.

ADS UPLOADED DAILY TO SANDIEGOREADER.COM

CLASSIFIED

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 earlyplacement 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:		
DUCOVER	ord □ VISA CARD N	UMBER:		EXP. DATE:	
CATEGORY:		SIGNATURE:			
This form is for \$8 ads on	ly.				
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To provide onli	ne viewers of your a	nd with a map of your r	neighborhood, we nee	d:	
Nearest cross-streets:		&		zip code	

The Reader will not be responsible for failure to run an ad or for errors in an ad except to the extent of the cost of the ad.

BARISTA. Experienced Kiosk Barista needed. Friendly, honest and reliable a must! San Marcos and Mission Valley. Call: 619-279-6582.

BARISTA/JUICE BAR. Need reliable/ex-

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.

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, sun-shine! Lease the cab, keep the money. Male, female. Full/part time. Driver's li-cense. 641 17th Street. Student Jobs Coalition, Inc. 619-595-0211.

BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURS WANTED for one of San Diego's fastest-growing direct sales marketing groups. Turn your annual salary into your monthly income. Call 1-800-631-9439 or visit www.swanlifestyle.com.

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6216/email: diningroom@ranchovalencia

CAB DRIVERS. Will train. Day, night and part-time shifts available. Drive San part-time shifts available. Drive San Diego. North City Cab Company, 4896 Voltaire. Apply: 10am-2pm, Monday-Fri-day. 619-368-9620. 619-224-9240.

CABINET INSTALLATION APPRENTICE.
Helper candidates must have a positive Helper candidates must have a positive attitude, good people skills, and a willingness to learn. Must be able to lift at least 50 pounds. Good DMV record required. Specializing in custom closets, garages, and home office. We offer competitive salaries, medical benefits, paid vacation and holidays, and 401(k) plan. California Closets. 858-689-7100.

Closets. 858-689-7100.

CAR WASH ATTENDANTS, \$6.75 plus tips. Automobile Detailer, \$8 plus commission. Apply: 8505 Costa Verde Blvd, San Diego, 92122; 11030 Rancho Carmel Drive, San Diego, 92126; 12889 El Camino Real, San Diego, 92130; 9850 Miramar Road, San Diego, 92126; 16757 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego, CA, 92128.

CAREGIVER, weekend mornings 8am-12pm Saturday and Sunday, 5:30-8:30pm Monday and Wednesday evenings. Personal care for quadriplegic male, cleaning, cooking, etc. Lifting and transportation required. Please call 619-20-280-7446

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. 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-

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.

Eayl-Oasial: 696-211-3122.

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Age Advantage, 619-660-8881.

CAREGIVERS. Make a difference! Caregivers say, "#1 Agency to work for!" At Comfort Keepers, you will be appreciated! Top pay and hours, health, dental, vision, 401(k), cash prizes for good work, added training and in-services. Needed now: live-ins, weekends, nights-immediate openings. Requires valid driver's license, insurance, Social Security card, auto, one year elder caregiving experience. Live-ins desperately needed. Call now: Comfort Keepers, 619-795-6036 or 760-598-3400.

CAREGIVERS/LIVE-IN. Happy, smiling Caregivers and Administrators needed to look after elderly in La Jolla. Top rates plus room and meals. Health benefits. Call: 858-459-4845.

CAREGIVERS/CNA/HHA and Live-Ins. Immediate openings! 8-or 12-hour shifts. Must mediate openings! 8-or 12-hour shifts. Must be experienced for home care. Paid time off! Medical/dental insurance. Top pay, EOE. AALL Care In-Home Services. North County, 760-471-7033. San Diego: 619-297-9601.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels America's choice in homecare CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels, America's choice in homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Caregivers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's license. Serving Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview: 858-397-1127.

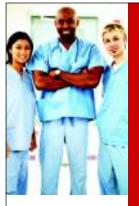
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CAREGIVERS needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Homeoare Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite K-2, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

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CARPENTER. Experienced Finish Carpenter for high-end custom cabinet fabrication/installation. Great, small working environment. Must have exceptional skills/speak English. Tools/truck a plus. 858-483-0880.

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Or apply in person 10 am-3 pm Tuesday-Thursday: 2333 1st Ave., Ste. 205, San Diego, CA 92101

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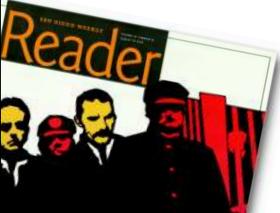
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For information and an application visit **www.altjournalism.org**. You may also email us at **altacademy@northwestern.edu**. Applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2006. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

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CASHIERS. Will train. Full and part time. Apply at 7-Eleven, 430 Spruce Street, San Diego (Hillcrest: 5th Avenue and Spruce Street)

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CHAUFFEURS. Transportation company needs experienced, dependable on-call Chauffeurs. Also hiring experienced Dispatcher, Accounting and Clerical Help with computer and telephone skills. For more information, call 619-224-1141 or e-mail resume to: ray@careysandiego.com.

CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED adolescents in a residential treatment facility in South Bay. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits. EOF EAX resume: Attention: Matt at 619-656-1429 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@srsrc.com

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. Ex-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.

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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.

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experience. 619-2//-1/20.

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Call 619-271-5864.

CONSTRUCTION: Now hiring! Framers, Laborers, Concrete Finishers, Drywall Technicians, Remodelers, HVAC Techs/Installers, Pipefitters, Superintendents and Project Managers. Commercial and residential experienced wanted! Call today! Contractors & Builders, 858-874-7500, 8888 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite J, San Diego, CA 92123. Se habla espanol. Llame ahora!

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92121.

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FOSTER PARENT. Make your heart their nome. Help a child in your community! Be a Foster Parent. Support children in need. Training and 24-hour support. Financial compensation. License #370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

FUNDRAISING for national charities and Democratic Party. Full time or part time (evening and Sunday shifts). Paid training. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hourly plus bonuses, regular raises. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer, 2221 Camino del Rio South, Suite 201, San Diego 92108. 619-497-5600.

GENERAL LABOR. Fast-paced work settings. Must be reliable! \$8-\$9/per hour. Temporary. Ultimate Staffing. E-mail lajolla@ultimatestaffing.com. Fax 858-625-2026. Phone 858-625-2025.

GENERAL LABORERS, \$9/hour. Production Workers needed, up to \$7.50/hour.

Packagers needed, up to \$8/hour. Ware-house workers needed, up to \$8/hour. VOLT Chula Vista, 619-427-0200.

VOLT Chula Vista, 619-427-0200.

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, 24110 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, 282 Meadow Lark Drive, 92123; Country Villa La Mesa, 5696 Lake Murray Boulevard, 91942; Villa Rancho Bernardo, 15720 Bernardo Center Drive, 92127; Pleasant Care of Sitsa 247 East Robing Drive

GENERAL/TRAVEL USA. Publication

GRANT SPECIALIST. Responsible for co-ordination of activities related to grants. Require 1-2 years of work experience. You may report to a supervisor or man-ager. Fax resumes to: 619-232-8758 or email to: ctepper@ssu-org.com. For infor-mation call: 619-236-0496

ment manufacturer. Minimum 3 years print/web. Expert in Quark, Photoshop, Il-lustrator. Musical equipment background required. Fax 858-521-6031, attention Richard Cruz. Call 858-487-1600.

GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Clerk, Su GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Clerk, Supervisory and Management positions available in Deli, Meat, Grocery, Produce and Vitamins. Bakers, Night Crew and Cashier Supervisors also needed. Start \$9.59.50 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@jimbos.com; www.jimbos.com.

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTORS. Tradi tional cardio classes and more. All hours All areas. Immediate openings in Chula Vista and for Saturdays. Better than club pay. Fax: 858-715-8681 or call 619-680-

GYMNASTICS, COOKING, DANCE Instructors: Basketball, football, gymnas-tics, art, improv/comedy, hip-hop, cheer-leading, cooking. Kids 3-12, beginning levels. Experience required. Mobile gym program. Part time, afternoons. North County. \$15-\$35/class. 760-917-4800.

HAIR DESIGNERS. Busy, upscal Gaslamp salon near Petco Park seekin booth renters. Walk-ins available! Greurban loft environment, convenient paring. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

HELP WANTED Advanced color training provided. Com

HAIR STYLIST. Booth available. Newly remodeled salon in North Park. 3235 Myrtle Avenue. Booth rental/commission nego-tiable depending on availability and clien-tele size. Deeann 619-708-2154.

HAIRSTYLIST. Also hiring Manicurists and Color Technicians with some clientele following. We are currently seeking motivated professionals to share large, bright, friendly salon space in downtown La Jolla. Salon Victor Magna, 858-459-6326.

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-

HAIRSTYLIST. Kiss booth rental good-bye! 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.

that or call Great Clips at 1-800-290-6480.

HAIRSTYLIST. Management experience a plus. Save the world from bad haircust last-paced, friendly Encinitas Great Clips Salon. No booth rent. Guaranteed clients. Base wage plus commissions. Advancement opportunities. Paid training, benefits. 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. Seeking top stylist for large private booth. \$1000 moving allowance. Free reception/phone/towels. After 100% retail, you keep. Golden Touch, Fashion Valley. Claudia, 619-972-7744.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST/Estheti cian, for our trendy, upscale salons in Solana Beach (in the Design District) and beautiful Hillcrest. Booth available in both. 858-922-5898.

HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST/ESTHETI-CIAN. Great incentives and booth rental discounts at beautiful Hillcrest salon. Convenient, in heart of Uptown District. Earn commission on products. Vacation. 619-994-1487.

o 19-994-1487.

HARSTYLIST Ask about our Free Rent Special! Need a change! We would love to talk to you! Looking for an outgoing professional to rent booth in Rancho San Diego area. This is a must see salon! 619-669-9994.

DOS-9594.

HAIRSTYLISTS. Hiring Bonus! Positions available for Stylist and Assistant Manager Trainee. Guaranteed wage, bonuses and benefits! Full time and part time. Call Great Clips in Solana Beach, 858-342-7470.

HAIRSTYLISTS. New Fantastic Sams in Poway. Fun atmosphere. Team focused.

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HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURIST. Hairstylists with some chemele, Man-curist to take over clients. Booth rental or commission. Great location downtown San Diego. Call Celina, 619-232-9228.

HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS Booth Esthetician/Massage room. Brand-new salon, custom-made furniture. Great location across from Parkway Plaza, lots of foot traffic, great benefits. Zeeba Image, 619-807-3923

HEALTH CARE, Maxim Healthcare Ser HEALTH CARE. Maxim Healthcare Services is looking for RNs, LVNs, HHAs, and other health-care professionals. We are looking for health-care workers to provide skilled care to our patients all over San Diego County. Full-time, part-time, and per diem positions are available—our schedules can accommodate most availability. Other in-office positions may also be available. Please call 866-331-7997 to inquire.

inquire.

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 positions \$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 Guiting 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

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. Residential Aides, Case Managers, Job Coaches, Vocational Assistants positions for those experienced in providing care/home supervision in homes. Full/part time, all shifts. Great pay! Requires: CPR/First Aid Certificate, TB test, passing criminal check. Please call today for details and to set up an interview. Contact Roberto: 877-384-1731: terview. Contact Roberto: 877-384-1731; fax: 619-543-0562; e-mail: rdiaz@deltatg.

HEALTHCARE: LVN, CNAs. Casa de HEALTHCARE: LVN, CNAs. Casa de Maanaa, 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, evenings, 20-30 hours/week. 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. HIRING FAIR AT ABCOW! 50+ current openings: Data Entry, Kearny Mesa, \$10/hour; Inside Sales, Poway, \$25K-28K plus commission; Loan Consultants, Rancho Bernardo, \$36K plus bonuses; Appointment Setter, Kearny Mesa, \$11-\$15/hour with commission. Outbound calling experience required (except for Data Entry). Walk-ins welcome 9am-3pm Monday-Friday: ABCOW Staffing, 2525 Camino del Rio South, Suite 125. San Diego, CA 92108. 1-800-690-8367. recruiter@abcow.com.

690-8367. recruiter@abcow.com.

HOTEL. Hyatt Regency La Jolla now hiring: Bartenders, Convention Services Houseperson, Project Houseperson, Lead Houseperson, Cook IIII, Stewards, Banquet Manager, Banquet Servers, HVAC Mechanic, Cocktail Server, Busseeping Houseperson, Room Attendants, PBX Operator, Servibar Attendants, PBX Operator, Servibar Attendants, Cafeteria Attendant, Convention Services Meeting Concierge, Administrative Assistant, Laundry Washer, Barback, Cocktail Server, Coffee Bar Attendant and Sales Manager. Excellent benefits. AA/EOE. M/F/D/V. Please apply online at www.lajolla.hyatt.com.

AA/EOE. M/F/DM. Please apply online at www.lajolla.hyatt.com. **HOTEL.** La Valencia Hotel, a 4-star preferred historic hotel, seeks qualified-bishwasher, Houseperson, Room Attendant. 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. 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. COE. Monday-Wednesday, 9am-1pm. Bahia Hotel HR Office, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. Apply online: www.evanshotels.com; or fax: 858-859-7729.

HOTEL: FRONT DESK AGENT. Looking for a great place to work? If you love working with people, then we're looking for you! Apply in person at 4545 Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109, or fax re-

HOTEL: OMNI SAN DIEGO HOTEL now hiring Executive Steward, Assistant Front Office Manager, Lead Painter/Decorator (variable shift), Business Center Administrative Assistant (full time), Kitchen Supervisor (variable shift), Cafeteria Cook (variable shift), T Banquet Servers (on-call), Laundry Attendant (variable shift), 2 Door Attendants (variable shift), 4 Housekeepers (am), 4 Housekeeping Housepersons, 3 Stewards (variable shift), Lead Steward and Front Desk Agent (full-time, variable shift). We always accept applications for Housekeeping and Front Desk. All positions require that candidates are available to work weekends. Applications ac-HOTEL: OMNI SAN DIEGO HOTEL now able to work weekends. Applications ac cepted 9am-2pm Monday-Thursday, or call for alternate times. 675 L Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Phone: 619-645-6561. Fax 619-645-6564. Drug-free workplace.

reliable vehicle, e-mail, previous cleaning experience; speak fluent English; and love to clean. Flexible schedule. Call Art Of Clean Agency. 619-794-0463. HOUSECLEANERS WANTED! Must have

HOUSECLEANERS WANTED. Flexible hours. Must have car. Immediate work. English speaking. Maid in America Agency. 619-291-5000; 760-434-5150.

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2621.

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9740.

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 \$230 for participation. For more information, please call Hai Thuy Nugyen at 858-552-8585 x5374.

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term position. Call VOL.1, 619-401-1524.

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.

DOB COACHES. Community-oriented, Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 14 group ratio maximum. 88.50-\$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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The Academy of Alternative Journalism. JOURNALISM. Diversity in Journalism, The Academy of Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid sumer writing program at Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism. The 8-week program (June 18-August 13, 2006) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in magazine-style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and a downloadable application visit the web site at www. altjournalism.org. You may also e-mail us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2006. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

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LIFEGUARD. The City of Chula Vista
Recreation Department is hiring for parttime 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.
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LIGHT OPERATOR wanted for alcoholfree teen club in Escondido. No experi-ence required. Must have excellent sense of rhythm, preferably a musician. Leave message at 760-591-1332.

LINE COOK, EXPERIENCED, Line Cook LINE COOK, EXPENSION on eneeded 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 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. Partime, days, evenings, weekends and overnights. \$9 per hour. Call 619-668-2227, attention: Creative Support Alternatives and Life Works. SDSU Foundation.

LOAN OFFICER TRAINEE. Motivated and LOAN OFFICER TRAINEE. Motivated and assertive individuals with excellent communication skills who want to take their abilities to the next level: get into the mort-gage 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

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753-4004 x333. **LUBE TECHNICIAN.** Full/part time. Must have clean DMV. Experience with gas/ diesel vehicles required. Great pay/benefits. Please fax application: 619-575-3475; or call 619-575-3478.

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- **♦ Room Service**
- ◆ Spa Attendant

Apply in person

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MAINTENANCE WORKER with good craftmanship skills, full time with benefits at large retirement community. Experience in residential refurbishment, remodel and finish work, etc. Up to \$11/hour. Apply at: Wesley Palms, 240 Loring Street, San Diego, CA 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569. Fax 858-581-859

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MANICURIST, part time for upscale retirement community. Flexible schedule. Acrylics, gels, etc. Established client base, 70% commission. Apply at: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, CA 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569. Fax 858-

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com.

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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: 619-820-382. E-mail: info@oopsydaisy.com. OFFICE ASSISTANT. No Boundaries

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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: 858-5148558.

PROBATION CAREERS. County of San Diego Probation Department is now hiring Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. Test Date: January 7, 2006, 8am. 444 West Beech Street, Third Floor, San Diego 92101. 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.sd-county.ca. gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISORS. YMCA Oz Shelter Services, a residential program for teens 12-17, has openings in Oceanside and Clairemont for part-time Overnight Residential Supervisors. Must be able to work weekends. \$9.25/hour. For Oceanside, e-mail resume: ozncresume@ymcs.org or fax: 760-721-8034. For Clairemont, e-mail resume: e@ymca.org; or fax: 858-270-

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, BUSSER. The Country Club of Rancho Bernardo is seeking a part-time Server and Busser. Apply in person: 12280 Greens East Road San Diego, CA 92128

RESTAURANT SERVERS, COOK, UTIL ITY: Casa de Manana, an upscale retirement community in La Jolla offering independent and assisted living for seniors, has immediate openings for full-and partime Servers, various hours: full-time Utility Person; and Lead Cook/Supervisor. ity 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.

sume to 858-456-4293. **RESTAURANT.** Energetic, smiling people for Delivery Drivers: \$8/hour start plus tips; cooks and kitchen staff. Apply in person: 718 West Washington Street, San Diego. 619-220-8888, www.citywok.com. **RESTAURANT.** Sushi on the Rock now hiring for North County and La Jolla locations. Both locations need: Servers with a minimum 2-years fine dining experience preferred; Hostesses, minimum 1-year experience. Apply in person with resume experience; Bussers, 1-year minimum experience. Apply in person with resume weekdays, between 2pm-4pm at Carlsbad: 1923 Calle Barcelona; La Jolla: 7734 Girard Avenue. No phone calls.

RESTAURANT. Tired of the restaurant business? Get a real job! Work Monday-Friday, 1pm-9m. \$2200/month start plus great bonuses. Room for advancement. Call us at 619-238-0870.

RESTAURANT/BUSSER. Rancho Valencia Resort. Upscale resort. full-time, days. Ex-perience in fine dining preferred. Good denefits and working conditions. Tele-phone: 858-759-6216/email: diningroom@ ranchovalencia.com

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RETAIL CLERK. Part-time positions available now. Apply at Cal Stores, 403. Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego, Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm. 619-223-2325 x4.

RETAIL SALES. Sunglasses. Mission Valley Mall, Part time 20-25 hours. \$6.75/hour plus commission. 760-672-2227.

RETAIL SALES. Women's trendy casual boutique seeks individual with energy and experience. 30-40 hours/week, Sat-urdays a must! Great salary! Call Julie, 858-350-0071.

858-350-0071.

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.

RETAIL./PART TIME. 3:30-9:30pm, 3 or 14 days week including weekends. Fun Seaport Village location. Call The Soap Opera. Call for information, 619-230-1300.

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: PART TIME FARMER'S MAR-**KET.** 4 hours/day, flexible schedule, good pay: \$50-\$100/shift. Food sales experience preferred. Petrou Foods, 858-458-1091 Vicit waw Petroufrode comp.

RETAIL: SALES ASSOCIATE, full time and part time. Hourly plus monthly incentive. Apply in person at: Crazy Shirts, 817 West Harbor Drive, Suite A or 853 West Harbor Drive, Suite C. resumes@crazyshirts.com.

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.

RETAIL: TARGET MIRA MESA is hiring! shifts). Please apply in person at our employment kiosk: 8251 Mira Mesa Boulevard, 92126. EOE. Smoke-and drug-free

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com, a leader in Internet marketing for the real estate professional, is now hiring Sales Account Executives as the main points of contact for our customer base to create opportunities for additional product offerings while maintaining a good service relationship. Will also be regood service relationship. Will also be re-quired to develop new business within a defined territory. 1-2 years business-to-business sales, Internet sales and/or phone experience preferred. Industry ex-perience a plus. Base salary plus com-mission. Send resume with cover letter to ed@homes.com, reference Job Code "SAF."

SALE: SASOCIATE/Customer Service. Full time, includes weekends. Burns Drugs in La Jolla. Must be dependable. Experience a plus. Apply in person: 7824 Girard Avenue.

Sales Office Hiring. Last call! Local Chula Vista? Warehouse with 10 full-time openings. Available now: Customer Service, Distribution, Management, Sales. Must be filled by November 25. Paid training. No experience necessary. Call Heidi at 619-427-3708.

SALES REP. Local bistro and bakery needs a Sales Rep for Catering and Wholesale Bakery. Experience preferred. E-mail resume: info@sttropezbistro.com or fax: 858-404-0839.

SALES REPS. We will train you for a permanent, part-time position in promotions with our national firm. Call toll free for a personal interview, 619-593-3959.

SALES REPS/SALES MANAGERS. earn! Highly successful national company expanding. Will train. Call Dave Lindlies, 800-613-3502.

SALES REPS needed. Outside sales and business-to-business experience pre-ferred. Commission only. High income potential; great, supportive team. For confidential interview, call 877-835-6667.

confidential interview, call 877-835-6667.

SALES. Advertising agency seeking outgoing, positive, aggressive, energetic promotional reps to sell salon/spa packages business-to-business. Training. \$300-\$700/weekly. Part/full-time. Advancement opportunities available. www. elivelife.com. 619-398-5050.

SALES. Build your business by working with top-selling Avon representatives. Join Avon today! \$10 starts you in a new career. Call toll free, Kathleen, 888-429-1253 or 619-429-1253.

SALES. Career opportunity! San Diego's largest web design firm is seeking motivated professionals to prospect and build relationships with real estate clients. Supportive training, competitive base salary and commission. Medical, dental, 401(k).

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at www.z57.com or call 800-899-8148.

SALES, First time professional? We will train! Professional sports and entertainment company is under expansion and looking for the right people to train. All openings are entry-level including Sales, Public Relations, and Promotional Advertising. If you are available immediately and are looking for full time, call Brian Anderson at 858-751-1601.

SALES, Frog's Fitness. Motivated, orga-nized, passion for healthy lifestyles. In-house/outreach sales, part/full-time. Benefits after 90 days. Salary/commis-sion/free gym membership. 858-674-4480.

SALES. Growing window-covering company needs motivated individuals for sales positions. Base plus commission with unlimited earning potential. Flexible schedule. Will train. Please fax resume: 858-292-8028 or e-mail sdihomecenter@

gmail.com.

SALES. Loan Officers wanted. \$150K+ first year potential. Leads provided. No experience required. Spanish speaking a plus. Mission Valley. Call 619-398-0216.

SALES. Mira Mesa. Wireless store hiring inside reps. Will train. Hourly plus high commission. Average \$450-\$500/week. Great part-time position! Full-time available. 858-693-7371. Fax resume: 858-693-6971.

SALES. Telemarket ad specs. \$325 a week to start/bonuses. Work hours 8am-3pm. No weekends! Mira Mesa/Sorrento Valley. Call Allen at 858-784-0354.

Valley. Call Allen at 858-784-0354.

SALES. Telemarketing. \$12-\$25+per hour. Mortgage Industry career opportunities. Shifts: 10am-7pm, Monday-Thursday and 9:30am-12:30pm Saturday. Exclusive leads. Benefits for full-time after 4 months. Great training and we promote from within. Equity 1 Lenders Group. Fax resume: 858-630-2334. E-mail: Reader@ eq11enders.com. Interviews (no appointment necessary): Monday-Thursday, 11am-1pm or 4pm-6pm: 9444 Waples Street, Suite 300, Sorrento Valley, 92121. Call 858-558-5455 x340.

SALES. Unique opportunity for experienced Independent Salesperson in a young, growing Mission Valley company. Ideal candidates will have sales and closing experience. Training available. No cold calling, leads provided. Great demand for products, excellent income and growth potential. Call 858-279-9896.

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SECRETARY. Immigration attorney. Home office, La Jolla. Requires excellent skills: WordPerfect, 70wpm+, Quicken. Milnum 2 years secretarial experience. Full/part time. Email resume/skills, appropriate with time.

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\$13.68-\$16.63 per hour plus retirement benefits

Trainer will develop a fitness program for seniors, 10-15 hours a week, mostly between 10:30 am-2:30 pm. Additional hours are available on a contractual basis for classes the Trainer would teach in the fitness center or for personal training before 10:30 am or after 2:30 pm.

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San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

SECURITY GUARDS. Shield Security has immediate openings, full and part time. Higher paid Rover positions are available. Assistance in guard card. Career advancement opportunities. Profit sharing. Employee-paid medical and dental. If you have no criminal convictions, and have a high school diploma or GED, a good work history, ohope and transportation apply. history, phone and transportation, apply in person: 2144 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. Equal Opportunity Employer. Call 610.407-5485

SECURITY OFFICERS, Special Response Officers. Full or part time. High starting pay. Excellent benefits. Training available. Drug/background. EOE. M/F/D/V. Apply. Weekdays, 9am-4pm, ACSS, 1620 Fifth Avenue, Suite 875, San Diego. 619-338-9360.

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SECURITY PERSON. Downtown residen tial building seeking security person for night shift. Must have customer service skills, be able to drive as a valet when needed, be able to lift up to 30lbs., walk up and down stairs (27 floors for security checks), learn all duties of a front desk concierge. Apply in person at 755 Union

SECURITY. International Services, Inc. of SECURITY. International Services, Inc. of-fering a variety of job opportunities and good benefits for entry-level Unarmed Guards, Medical Guards, Senior Guards, Armed Guards and Patrol Drivers. Cur-rent Guard Card preferred. On-call Rovers -\$11/hour. Will train for certifica-tion and higher positions. 5222 Balboa Avenue, Suite 22, San Diego, CA 92117. 858-278-4310.

SECURITY. Patrol Drivers and Guards needed! Great North County positions needed! Great North County positions available. Universal is a fast-growing security firm offering great pay, full benefits, and bonuses. Apply in person Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm at Universal Protection Services, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #206, San Diego, CA 92111; or apply online: www.universalpro.com. 858-874-4493.

SECURITY/TRANSIT SYSTEMS. North County. \$11/hour with guard, gun, baton and mace cards; \$13/hour with 832 PC and first aid. Great benefits. Apply week-days, 9am-4pm, 2185 Faraday Avenue, #110. Carlsbad; 760-272-1517.

SECURITY/DOOR PERSON. Need an energetic, self-starter with a Guard Card and some restaurant experience. Must commit to a flexible schedule. Experienced, serious applicants only. Apply in person: Square Irish Pub and Grill, 554 4th Avenue, in the heart of the Gaslamp,

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431-4333.

SILK SCREENER. Must have experience in the silk-screening process and printing of promotional products: bumper stickers, key tags, T-shirts, pens, etc. Located in Miramar. Fax resume: 619-209-6510, or all Tom: 1,900-568-0677 call Tom: 1-800-566-9677.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Child Care Worker needed for part time weekend shift at a 9-bed residential treatment center in East County. BA in psychology or related field. Fax resume to: Sioux at 619-443-6009.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Counselor, part/full time, Behavioral Modification/Rehabilitatime, Behavioral Modification/Rehabilitation. Must have BA in related field and 6

months Residential Treatment Center experience or AA in related field and 1 year perience or AA in related field and 1 year Residential Treatment Center experience. New Alternatives, Inc., is an EOE with a competitive salary and benefits package. Fax resume to: 858-278-1741,

SOCIAL SERVICES. Direct Care Staff positions, \$8-\$8.50/hour DOE. Work with developmentally disabled adults. Full/part time and split shifts available. Benefits for full time. Call/fax 619-303-9302.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Infant Developmen SOCIAL SERVICES. Infant Development Specialist needed to coordinate programs for infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities in North County. Experience in area of Special Education or Early Intervention Programs preferred, or experience with children with special needs. Bilingual Spanish preferred. \$9.41/hour. Full time plus benefits. EOE. Attention: Becky Thaller, fax 619-427-4657 or call 619-427-7524 or visit www.arc-sd.com.

SOCIAL SERVICES. North Country and San Diego openings. Employment Coordinator Train, advise, counsel adults with developmental disabilities at their jobs. \$8.50/hour, negotiable with experience. ECE. Sheri, 1-800-974-9909.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures seeks full time Job Developer. East County. Experience with developmentally disabled a plus. Salary dependent on experience. Benefits. Fax, 619-440-6864. Call 619-440-6802

Call 619-440-6802.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled in East County and Ramona. Part-and full-time positions. \$8-\$10/hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available plicareer@yahoo.com. Fax resume: 619-440-6804. Call 619-440-6802.

440-6864. Call 619-440-6802.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Work with developmentally disabled children and adults. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista or La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 27-32 hours/week. \$8.75/hour to start, depending on experience. EOE. www. vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 2am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

SOCIAL WORKER. Masters level and licensed/licensed eligible staff, case management and treatment for SED youth in residential, school, and mental health programs throughout San Diego. New Alternatives, Inc., is an EOE with a competitive salary and benefits package. Fax resume to: 619-543-9401 or e-mail to: hr@newalternatives org.

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Shifts: 10am-7pm, Monday-Thursday and
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leads. Benefits for full-time after 4 months.
Great training and we promote from
within. Equity 1 Lenders Group. Fax resume: 760-860-5031. E-mail: JG@
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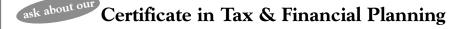
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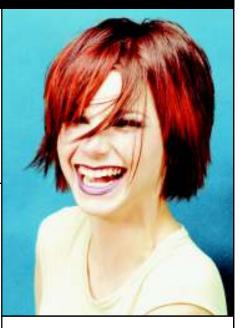
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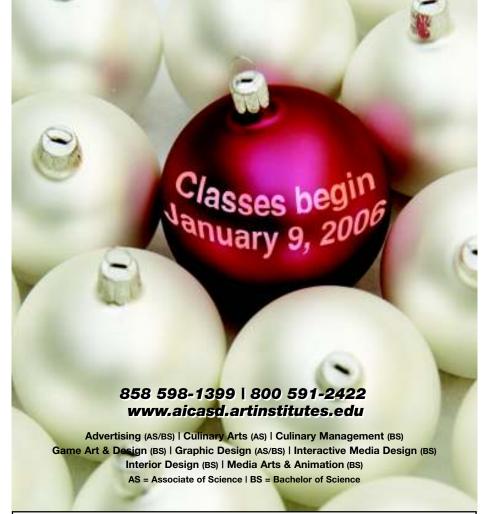
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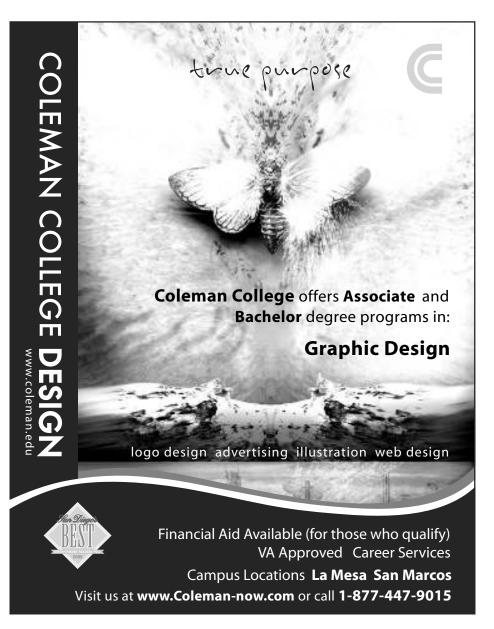
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WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE

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ADDITIONAL WEDDING SERVICES can be found in the Wedding Guide, located every week in the Calendar section of the Reader or at www.sdreader.com/ AFFAIRS OF THE HEART? Weddings

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ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

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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.

ADDICTION PROBLEMS? Women for So-briety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549-

ARTISTS!! Concentrate on what you do best and let us do the rest! We reproduce and sell your art. See gallery: www. businessestore.com/artloft. Call 760-591-

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AWESOME LADIES, Join us for women's mentoring and discipleship group, Wednesdays at 7pm. Find understanting, encouragement, friendship, all ages, Tierrasanta area, call Michele 858-627-9505. CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT. (Association

Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeking caregivers, patients. Genetics, affordable medicine. Follow local guidelines. Proposition 215. Have questions? 619-528-0907, edzepp@yahoo.com. CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS is a fel

lowship of men and women whose com mon purpose is to develop healthy rela tionships. For information, www.sdccoda org or 619-222-1244.

DID YOU SEE THIS? Friday, 12/02/05 11:00am. If you witnessed an accident between a man on a bike and an AM-TRAK train in Old Town. Please call Bob Taylor 619-607-5636.

DIVORCED WITH PROBLEMS. Shared parenting initiative ballots are now available. Join the coalition of parent support to protect the rights of children. Call, 619-

FELLOWSHIP OF THE VEGANS. Potluck every 3rd Friday of the month, 7:00pm. 5933 Lauretta Street, San Diego 92110-Linda Vista area. Bring own drink and a dish to share. Games, demos, info shar-ing. RSVP to Cindy 760-390-7811.

FREE BIBLE STUDY course by mail. Non-denominational. Increase your knowl-edge of God's word. Palomar Church of Christ, Minister Bill Sisco, Postage paid. PO Box 1473R, San Marcos 92078. 760-436-3730. San Diego. 619-299-6812.

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deemer Lutheran Church.

HAVE A GREAT. International recipe, we'll introduce it to the world! If meets tastetasters expectations, we'll incorporate it/your achievements will be acknowledged/compensated, 858-550-2002.

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HERPES/HUMAN, Papillomavirus, (HSV/HPV) support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message 619-491-1194, www. SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

KWANZAA PRINCIPLE, Of Ujima in acAdiacussion on Uganda's child tion. A discussion on Uganda's child night commuters. Hear African music! Bring your kids. Malcolm X Library, De-cember 28, 5:30-7:30.

cember 28, 5:30-7:30.

MEDITATION. Free classes Tuesdays 7pm, Wednesdays 7:30pm, Saturdays 11:30am. Donations appreciated, not required. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, Suite 303, Ocean Beach, www. dharmacenter.com or 858-616-6308.

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-

Instruction







NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS Incorpo Prosthetics for everything. Seeking sports wheel chair, dental surgeon for unusual dental dilemma. Dharma basket, 619-248-8291.

NUTCRACKER BALLET. Directed by Teresa Wells, third year at Joan Kroc Per-forming Arts Theatre, 6845 University Av-enue. Saturday, December 17th, 1:00PM and 7:00PM, Sunday, December 18th, 1:00PM. Tickets \$15-\$17, groups 10+, \$12. Featuring dancers from Boston/Pitts-burg Ballets. Ticket information call 619-590-2941.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous
12 step group for people with OCD. Mon-12-step group for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. Free. Information 619-757-6602

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Overweight? Anorexic? Bulimic? Can't stop eating? There is a 12-step solution. Meet-ings daily. No dues or fees. www. oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

Dasandego.org of 619-321-2535.

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 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.

SEX and/or relationship problems? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fel-lowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-diego.

org.

SPECIAL DANCE, And music concert
1/15, at 7pm. Experience Southern California's largest ethnic dance festival. 8
troupes/over 200 dancers/musicians.
www.showboxoffice.com, 619-230-8623.

www.snowpoxoffice.com, 619-230-8623.

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.

SUPPORT YOUR GUARDIAN ANGELS. Safety Patrol, Tax-deductible, we need headquarters, equipment, funding. S.D. Guardian Angels, 6161 El Cajon Boulevard #404, San Diego, CA, 92115, non-profit, 619-529-1904. www.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymo Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.siawso.org.

group for COPD/Emphysema. Meeting on Monday, December19, 1pm. The American Lung Association Office. 619-297-3901. THE BETTER BREATHERS CLUB. Support

TOUCHED BY ADOPTION? Concerned United Birthparents is a support group for birthparents, adoptees, and adoptive parents. Information at www. CUBirthparents.org or 619-685-7673.

TRANSCENDENTAL, Meditation, give true gift of peace this Christmas. International health expert/San Diego educational psychologist, Dr. Jonathan Shapiro. 12/17/05, 12noon, Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane, La Costa, 92009.

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/ne VOLUNIEEMS. San Diego's abused/ne-glected 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. UCSD's Doula Program needs women to help other women during labor. Be a part of this spe-cial time and make a difference in

WHOLLY-MACRO CHRISTMAS EVE Macrobiotic Whole Foods Cooking Class. Candle lit dinner and party. Sat-urday, December 24. 5-9pm. Share the fun call 619-583-2544 or go to: www.

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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

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

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."

Travel & **G** ETAWAYS

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PERSONALS

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DAVIEBABE, On the East Coast. Loving you was easier than anything I've ever done. Leaving you was the stupidest thing I've ever done. Still crazy---.

DAVIEBABE. Is on the East Coast. We were good for each other. December 10, McDonalds and Lake Miramar. Still crazy after all these years!

HGS. 15 months and 1 day ago, I never believed the past 15 wonderful months could happen. TYS MICHALE IRDLY 24/17/365. PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at

NEED PRAYER, And/or love donation to

help free this soul that is not guilty. Please respond from your heart DTN P.O. BOX 143 Lemon Grove, CA 91946. God Bless. SAINT JUDE. Thank you for your speedy quick help in solving my desperate situa

SALGUOD FROM NYLECOJ. Your smile/charming wit are missed in this frigid conglomeration of bellicose individ-uals. Remember coyotes, foxes, sunrise overpriced ramshackle ghosttowns,

laugh. Miss-you-much.

SWEETHEART. If I could clone you, I'd have one of you by my side, to worship and admire till I die. Love, TMC of Carls-

THANK YOU Holy spirit for prayers an-

when You (Soul) get serious about who and what you are (Soul), you just might find some interesting things happening to, specifically, you. Aton.

MATCHES

SHARED INTERESTS

FRIENDSHIP. New to San Diego. Female

MATCHES

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

BLONDE, LONG HAIRED, energetic long legs needs partner for biking, dancing, hiking, golf and friendship. High education required. Sunny disposition a plus! (12/21) 49319

BEAUTIFUL, STRIKING blonde, intel gent, genuine, unique, sophisticated sexy, elegant, glamorous, great figure 47. Desire extremely accomplished, up cale, stable, sincere, single gentleman who appreciates the best. (12/21)

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR a sincere dependable companion? European lady, 55, seeks honest, financially secure gentleman. I enjoy movies, walks and eating out. (12/21) 49313

Out. (12/21) \$749313

**ATTRACTIVE, SLIM, PETITE real estate agent, 59. Enjoy outdoors, travel and the arts. Seeking a reasonably fit companion for conversation and a glass of wine. (12/28) \$\overline{\alpha}\$49355 CLASSY NURSE, BEAUTIFUL, shy, pas

SINCERE, ATTRACTIVE, youthful lady, 5'6", trim, athletic. Enjoy outdoors. Seeking tall, healthy male, 50-68, wanting to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (12/21) \$\alpha\$49323

PHOTOS ONLINE. Attractive, smart, cheerful, affluent, Chinese, 53, 5'3', silm/loned, retired pharmacist. Seeks intelligent, flat-ab, nonsmoker male, in exploration of mutually enriching/fulfilling friendship, (12/21) \$\times\$4336

ATTRACTIVE SINGLE BLACK female, 54 Enjoy dining, movies, plays, concerts, walks, amusement parks, sunsets. Seeking honest, caring, black male, 40-55, for friendship and possible relationship. (12/21) ☎49335

ship. (12/21) \$\overline{\Overline{\

musicals/movies, outdoors, karaoke, dancing. Seeking committed/marriage minded only, educated. (12/21) 249337

LATINA, 45, 5'5", 110lbs. Looking honest loving tall black male for companest, loving, tall, black male for companion, serious relationship. I like movies, walks, relax in the house. Only serious respond. (12/28) 49344

SHAPELY, CUTE, CUDDLY, 58, North SHAPELY, CUIE, COUNTY divorcee wants travel, love, sincere and serious partner. Dining, home and out dancing-your choice. Kir and joy priority. (12/21) \$\overline{\alpha}\$49326

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) 14/9314

ATTRACTIVE, 58, BLONDE, widow, with traditional values. Love the theater, concerts, outings, many hobbies. Seeking single gentleman, 55-65, who loves the arts, nonsmoker, polite. (12/28) \$\frac{12}{28}\$

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) 149317

earth. Mature Caucasian, kind, caring, active woman. To meet tall, Caucasian, 70+, active nonsmoker man. For possible language relationship. (12/28) \$\frac{149346}{2}\$ slim

BEAUTIFUL BLACK FEMALE, 55°, slim. Seeking nonsmoking partner, 35-49, for dancing, hiking, camping, movies and stimulating conversation. Race open. (12/21) \$\frac{49316}{249316}\$

Attractive Asian

Professional, 45, 120lbs., 5'4". Love outdoor activities, outgoing, financially secure, homeowner. Seeking professional nonsmoking, 45-55-year-old male. (12/28) ☎ 49339

ATTRACTIVE EUROPEAN Mexican, 40, 5'8", 145lbs., fun loving, sexy. Looking to meet attractive man, 39-49, loving, caring, romantic, serious relationship, no games, to share life. (12/28) 49342

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) \$\infty\$49325

BLACK BEAUTY, 25 YEARS. Seeking a Caucasian, mature, financially stable, generous gent, 40+, for relationship. (12/21) \$\tilde{\alpha}\$49334

Seeking interesting single black male casual fun, romance, caring, outgo funny, attractive, honest, sexy, poss

vixen, political, smart, artistic, educator, sensitive. Seeking honest, loyal, respectful professional male for joyous monogamous relationship. Race open. Older gentleman preferred. (12/28) 49341

ATTRACTIVE CHRISTIAN LADY, 40, vari

jeans. Very attractive, warn, intelligent, adventuresome, successful, blonde entrepreneur. Seeking dynamic equal as best friend/companion/lover, 55+. (12/28) \$\frac{1}{2}\$49348 STUNNING IN BLACK VELVET, cute in

with sense of humor, conversation and fun loving. Will train for other qualities. (12/28) \$\infty\$49356

relationship. Must be outgoing. (12/28)

meet significant other. Great personality, love animals, shows, travel, music, where are you? No smokers/drugs. Age not important. (12/28) \$\frac{\tag{49343}}{\tag{49343}}\$

ATTRACTIVE SINGLE BLACK female, 45.

BEAUTIFUL FULL-FIGURED chocolate

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) \$\oldsymbol{\alpha}\$49318

ous interests, humorous, intelligent. Seeking white boyfriend, 40-50, 5'11"+, (619). No addictions. (12/28) 49352

COSMOPOLITAN, EUROPEAN, attractive

OUTGOING FEMALE, 50. Seeking male

TRUST YOUR INTUITION. Seeking quality

ME: ATTRACTIVE SENIOR lady like to

would like excitement, adventure with handsome, witty, sense of humor gent, 47-62. Are you ready for fun, friendship or romance? (12/21) 43-49333 ATTRACTIVE FILIPINO WIDOW, 60, sexv. ATTRACTIVE FILIPING WIDOW, 50, 5857, 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

RELATIONSHIP WITH 58 TO 65 year old white male. I am 5'3", weight 115lbs. Hope to hear from you. (12/28) ☎49321

PASSIONATE, SINCERE, loving Latina. Seeking that special gentleman, romantic, intelligent from 42-52 for a long-term relationship. Must love everything life offers. (12/21) 4328

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) **1**49312

ASIAN, ATTRACTIVE, sweet, cultured. Enjoy traveling, cooking, reading, movies, nature. Want to meet a nice white gentleman, ages 30 and up. Nonsmoker. No drugs. (12/21) 49309

NICE-LOOKING EUROPEAN lady, 50, 5'5". blonde, educated with huge travel experience in Europe. Seeking soulmate, 55-65, good looking, educated, to enjoy travel together. (12/28) 49340

SENSUOUS, INTELLIGENT, sweet 57 ladv

EUROPEAN EDUCATED, gorgeous petite. Seeking successful, truthful, generous, educated, anti-war, stylish, monogamous, (com)passionate. No baggage man, friendship, sportive. No previous kids, spiritual/nonreligious, 37-49, 5'9"+. (12/28) \$\frac{1}{2}\$49345

© 9 + (1∠/∠8) xx 49345 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) xx 49329

MASSAGE THERAPIST/HEALTH practimassage inexaristy meal in 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)

DOWN TO EARTH, SEXY, FUN, love to re-lax and spend quiet nights at home. Seeking passionate and respectful, also spontaneous. They do say opposites attract. (12/21) 2 49322

DEAR SANTA: My Christmas wish is for a Caucasian, fit, clean cut, nonsmoking, sober cutie who loves amusement parks, movies, dogs. Me: slender, pretty, 40, (12/28) 249351

ATTRACTIVE, PETITE, 48. Desire sincere, ATTRACTIVE, PETITE, 48. Desire sincery emotionally/financially, nonsmoking, Christian gentleman, for friendship, companionship. Sharing Christian values, church attendance, humor, and interests. North County area. (12/21) 29 49310

SHOULDN'T WE MEET? Bright, easygoing, confident, attractive, centered, slender, childless, 56. You're intelligent, accomplished, possessing character and strength. We're both ready for love, happiness, commitment. (12/28) 249353

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) 249324

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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

Fit, Funny, Secure Pacific Beach lady wants to meet a man over 40 for coffee. I am 5'2", 120lbs. My interests are writing, photography, humor, ice cream. (12/28) 🕿 49338

PRETTY AND PETITE music teacher, 5'2", 115lbs. Enjoys hiking, bicycling, working out, meditation, hatha yoga. Seeks gentleman 5'10+", 45-55, athletic, spiritual, good sense of humor. (12/28) \$\frac{1}{2}\$ 49349

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) \$\tilde{\alpha}\$49320

MATCHES

MEN SEEKING Women

RELATIVE WRIGHT BROTHER want to make contact with Korendian lady from Koredon. Interested in your technology, friendship. Tired of unkind woman of my own race here. (12/21) \$\infty\$ 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)

honesty, one-on-one relationship, movies, gardening, dinners, cooking, thinking of each other, hugs, romance, 1942. All calls answered. (12/28) 249797

ENJOY BEING PAMPERED? Sophisti cated gentleman, 42, nonsmoker. Seeking woman, 18-30, for dining, travel, companionship. Should have a wide range of interests. Be kind. Paris, anyone? (12/21)

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

uesseu, carrolic. (12/21) \$\tilde{x}49770\$

HANDSOME, RESPONSIBLE, caring, 35,
Caucasian male, nonsmoking college-educated homeowner. Seeking an attractive
Asian female for dating leading to a quality relationship. (12/21) \$\tilde{x}49783\$

wanted by attractive black artist, properly owner, building mountain home. Seeking to share it with large passionate woman wanting permanent relationship. (12/28) FULL-BODIED WHITE FEMALE, 180+lbs.

SINGLE WHITE MALE, mid-40s, tall, dark and nice looking, nonsmoker, light drinker, good personality, family oriented. Seeking curvy, fun, financially/emotionally secure woman. Call! (12/28) 49814

I'M 40, ATTRACTIVE. Looking for single woman, 30+. Me: black, 6'5", 240lbs.

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SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

Woman must be positive, fit, ready for fun. See you soon. Call me. (12/21) \$\alpha\$49789

ROMANTIC, SINGLE, HONEST Italian hard worker. Seeking lady, 35-50, to en-joy life, long-term relationship. Non-smoker/nondrinker. Race open. Enjoy music, travel, dining and more. (12/28)

ATTRACTIVE GENTLEMAN, 37, financially secure, physically fit, black. Enjoy dancing, movies, walks, music, sports. Seeking attractive, fit lady who's honest, professional, adventurous, joyful. Let's talk. (12/28) 1349808

59-YEAR-OLD MAN seeks nice woman,

nonsmoker, good sense of humor, who likes her life and wants a good profes-sional man who wants same. (12/28)

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

BE MY ONLY BAD HABIT! Asian pre ferred. Fit, 48, 6', 195lbs., semi-retired, let's travel. Shave my beard if you want. (12/28) \$\alpha\$49819

want. (12/28) \$\overline{\Overline{\

GENTLEMAN RANCHER, midwestern GENTLEMAN RANCHER, midwestern value. Seeking outdoorsy, intelligent, kind, loving, easygoing, attractive, Caucasian woman, 45-55, who enjoys animals, travel, movies, country music, fireplaces, cozy evenings. (12/28) \$\overline{\text{Taylor}}\$ 49798 ASIAN/LATIN, \$'9'', medium build, black, brown, professional. Seeking athletic, outgoing female for travels, dining, possible long-term relationship and more. (12/21) \$\overline{\text{Taylor}}\$ 49784

ALL AROUND GOOD GUY. Looking for long-term relationship and love, hug and

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kisses. Ready to give all my heart. Call me. (12/21) \$\infty\$49764

HELLO! IT'S GETTING COLD in the mour tains of Prescott, Arizona. Looking for soul mate and best friend. Spiritual, creative, natural, warm. No bad habits, please. (12/21) 49766

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)

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) \$\infty\$49776

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, BLUE eyes, 54, white male. Fun. fit. romantic. financially stable. Seeking slender to average woman for quality time together. Is that you? (12/28)

HOPELESS ROMANTIC, 5'6", 50, white man. Looking for lady with sense of humor, honest, caring. Love outdoors, travel, quiet nights at home. Love sunsets, sunrises. (12/28) 🗖 49815

WANTED: FEMALE, 45-59, white non smoker, slender, active, smart, playful, caring. Love music, movies, animals, great food for fun and more for attorney, 54. (12/21) **2** 49778 ANATOMICALLY BLESSED, self-pre-

served, American-Italian, striking, pleaser, 6'2", 210lbs., olive, black hair. Wants fun, know who you want lady, for time of our lifetime. (12/21) \$\alpha\$49786

ARE YOU SPIRITUAL, romantic and sensual, loving and affectionate? Are you petite with long-dark hair? A good, spiritual, one-woman man will meet you. (12/28) 75 49812

SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN, charming and handsome, graduate degreed, wishes to make happy a lady in her 30s, who is senattractive and well edu-12/21) **2**49791

LOVELY CAUCASIAN LADY sought by attractive Caucasian gentleman, 60s. Let's enjoy the holidays together, a new year, a new relationship. Sounds like a nice present. (12/28) \$\times\$49824

VOLUPTUOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, 22-48, nonsmoker, proportionate, monogamous, fashionably sexy, honest, sensuous, 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. (12/28) ☎49825

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

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. (12/28) 49809

with, relationship. (12/28) ~49809
PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, debonair, 6'1",
165lbs., 53, blue/red, bald, swing dancer, bicycle road racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking someone with the right chemistry/connection. (12/28) ~49810

istry/connection. (1/2/20) A TOOLS

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relation-ship. I'm 55, 5'3", 145lbs., good looking. I love music, walking, just having fun at home, and more. La Mesa area. (12/21)

SINGLE DAD WITH LITTLE girl looking for a lasting relationship. Please be slender and nice. I am 48, 160lbs., blond, blue, my daughter is 8. (12/28) \$\infty\$49807

my daugnier is 6. (12/28) **A** 49807 **VOLUPTUOUS FEMALE.** White male, 53, 58°, 270lbs., dark hair, hazel eyes. You are black or white, honest, sincere, romantic, interested in a relationship (12/28) **A** 49805

snip. (12/28) ☎49805

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

6'2", EYES OF BLUE. Seeking Jewish woman, 35-55, with similar interests. Tennis, swimming, movies, theater, concerts and travel. (12/28) 249796

HANDSOME LED KING, 449796
HANDSOME LED KING, 44, 100
HOUSEN TO KING, 44, 100
HOUSEN TO KING, 100
HOUSEN SERVING SIM BEAUTY, 30-40, (12/21) 249780

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understanding, stable in life, race open, for a romance. (12/28) \$\overline{\alpha}\$49801

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. (12/28)

LA MESA AREA. Serious relationship wanted. Please be honest, caring, thin, and marriage minded. I like kids, family and outdoors. Seeking 21+, serious only. (12/28) ☎49799

Chivalrous, Sexy Man
Warm, courteous, attentive gentleman
with good heart, 6'2", slender, 56.
Seeking sexy, kind-hearted lady, age 5060s, for committed relationship, fun, and
happiness. (12/21) 49790

JOYFUL, HANDSOME SENIOR, well fit, for endurable romance and joyous advenendurable romance and joyous adventures with sincere and compatibly youngish lady. (12/28) \$\alpha\$49811

HO 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

wHITE, WIDOWER, 60s, 5'7', 168lbs., active, fit, well-groomed, Bay Park homeowner. Enjoy movies, wine, beach walks, dancing, quiet times. Seeking attractive, compassionate lady under 65. (12/28)

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) \$\frac{1}{2}\$49769

A LITTLE OLD AT 47 to be starting over, but enthusiastic about the possibilities. God-loving man, blessed with love, energy, and support. Need some? (12/28) \$\tilde{\Pi}\$49806

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) \$\tilde{\alpha}\$49773 FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL. Black male

51 and fit. Seeking white female, maxi mum age 50, slim to average. Enjoy din ner, movies, walks, bicycling; for friend-ship or more. No smoking. (12/21)

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) \$\oldsymbol{\textit{T}} 49777 MIDDLE-AGED ITALIAN MAN, 40s. Seek

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) 7349781

57, CAUCASIAN, 5'8", medium built brown hair, blue eyes, mature, young atti-tude, spiritual, eclectic, upbeat. Enjoy music, film, metaphysics, dining out, teacher, author, student, joyful. (12/21)

ATTRACTIVE WHITE CHRISTIAN 42 6'3" 250lbs., well built, hazel eyes, shaved head. Seeking Christian lady, 35-48, race open, to share time with and possible relationship. (12/28) \$\mathbb{\alpha}\$49818 relationship. Intelligent professional seeks nonsmoking woman to enjoy week-end adventures, casual entertainment, travel, good music, good friends, my cooking, life. (12/28) \$\alpha\$49823

HANDSOME, SPIRITUAL, surfer, ex-hip-

pie, young 58, 5'11", great smile. Love Baja, nature, animals and fun, laid back, honest, sincere passionate. You: same in-terests. (12/21) 249765

tive, sexy, fit, fun female, 45-53, for long-term relationship. Race is open for someone who enjoys jazz, dining, and HANDSOME BLACK MALE seeks attrac-

Tennis

Player
North County, good looking, 56 years old, 5'9', 160lbs. Seeking lady who likes movies, good dining, plays and who is ready for committed relationship. (12/28) 49803

PERSONABLE GENTLEMAN. 70s. Fniov

dancing, music, theater, bridge, dining out. You are thoughtful, sincere, rather tall and plus size. Good time for meeting Mr. Right! (12/28) 49817

cute, personable, younger, add spice to caring, sharing relationship. Me: 45, act 25, 58°, 160lbs, reliable, casual, healthy lifestyle. (12/28) 27 49813 ORIENTAL OR ASIAN MIX preferred. Be

HONESTY, TRADITIONAL values, lasting

one who enjoys jazz, d romance. (12/28) 🏗 49821

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ROOMMATES

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. \$650, includes utilities. Master bedroom, private bath attached, furnished, cable access. Canyon, kitchen privileges, jacuzzi, off-street parking. No smoking. Female preferred. 619-298-6018; 619-235-2415, x10119.

BAY PARK. \$600, 2 bedroom, 2 bath

BAY PARK/MISSION BAY. \$600. Very nice, furnished, peaceful home near UCSD. Big garden. Some classical music. Like studious pursuits. Daytime schedules. \$200 deposit. lyricstudents@hotmail.com, 619-276-1966.

CARDIFF. \$660, deposit, utilities. Available 1/1. Large room in 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Ocean view. Blocks to beach/shops. Dishwasher, washer/dryer. No pets. 858-342-2171.

CARDIFF. Private entrance/bath, \$675 plus utilities/deposit. Community living with privacy. Vegetarian/seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry, distilled water. Nonsmokers, no pets. 760-753-7321

CARLSBAD. \$750, 1/3 utilities. Lagoon front home to share with 2 others. Unique, front home to share with 2 duriers. Ornguo, serene, tranquil, quiet place, with private boat dock. Male preferred. Lynn, 760-

CARLSBAD. Single room for rent in a 3 bedroom condo. Utilities included, also use of garage included. Non-smoker, ask for Travis \$795/month, 760-458-8750.

CARLSBAD. \$700. Subleasing bedroom in 2 bedroom condo. Beautiful complex with ocean views. Bonus is \$1000 cash and deposit paid if rented by 1/1/06. 760-802-6647.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$495. Room for rent in newly remodeled home. Nice view. Jacuzzi, pool. Close to shop-ping center. Prefer male. Nonsmoking. Leave message, 858-673-4799.

CARMEL VALLEY/DEL MAR east. \$800, plus deposit. Large furnished bedroom. plus deposit. Large furnished bedroom. Kitchen/laundry privileges. Utilities in-cluded. Nonsmoker, no drugs/pets. Close to shopping, theaters, beaches. 619-235-2415, x26217.

CARMEL VALLEY. 2 rooms available. \$750 each. Share bathroom. Luxury apartment, resort living, spacious, quiet, laundry, pool, fitness, no smoking, Must see! Available 2/1/2006. 619-933-3379.

CHULA VISTA. \$500/month, plus utilities. 1 bedroom available in 3 bedroom single family residence with garage and yard. Near I-805/Orange Avenue exit. 619-271-

CHULA VISTA. Room for rent with shared bath. \$350 per month plus utilities. \$350 deposit. Close to trolley station. No drugs. Must like dogs. 619-422-5096.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. \$700, plus deposit. Big new house. Separate bath-room. Share kitchen, laundry, community pool, spa. Near shopping, buses. Park-ing. Nonsmoking. 619-517-1532; 619-235-2415, x25972.

235-2415, x25972

CLAIREMONT. Room in quiet newly renovated house. Short walk to Balboa and Genesee. No smoking, pets, drugs. \$\$55, share utilities with 2 others. Available 1/06. Contact B.J. at 858-277-2044.

CLAIREMONT. \$825/month, 1/2 utilities. Roommate needed. Share house in Clairemont. Bedroom with private bath. Quiet neighborhood. Available 1/1, possibly sooner! Call Chad, 858-565-0866; 619-249-5676.

CLAIREMONT. \$650/month, 1/2 utilities, \$650 deposit. One dog OK. Room in 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex with large fenced yard, front patio, garage, storage. 858-442-0445.

442-0445.

CLAIREMONT. \$550, 1/4 utilities, \$500 deposit. 2 rooms in 4 bedroom home. Jacuzzi, barbecue, washer/dryer. Share bath. Have dogs. Available now. Day, 858-270-6652; 858-337-3484.

CLAIREMONT, \$475, 1/4 utilities. Room in house on canyon. Share kitchen, bathroom, DSL Internet, satellite TV/DVR, yard. Requires first/last, \$250 deposit. Brian, 858-277-9075.





Reader December San Diego **CLAIREMONT.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath available. Share bath in condo. Female preferred. \$450 plus \$350 deposit. Includes utilities. Nice, clean, quiet. Pool and Jacuzzi. Mac, 858-405-2565.

CLAIREMONT, MOUNT AREA, \$500 plus deposit. 1/3 utilities. 3 bedroom 2 bath house. Maid and gardener in-cluded. Quiet location. No pets. Patty, after 5pm, 858-576-6924.

CLAIREMONT. \$575/month. Bedroom in CLAIREMONI: \$5/5/month. Bedroom in 3 bedroom house. All utilities paid. Ex-panded cable, off-street parking, washer/dryer, backyard. Pet possible. No drugs. Moderate drinking only. 858-573-2354; 619-235-2415, x11156.

CLAIREMONT. Space in living room with couch. Kitchen/bathroom access. \$275. Centrally located. Low deposit. Available now. 858-483-4184.

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/MISSION BAY. \$480/

CLAIREMONT/SERRA MESA. \$500. Room in house. Private bathroom. Gym, jacuzzi. Canyon view. No pets/smoking. 858-277-5856.

CLAIREMONT. \$600, plus deposit. Room for rent in 3 bedroom house. Access to living areas, garage, appliances. Available 12/16, month-to-month

ances. Available 12/16, month-to-month basis, no contract, John, 858-279-6617. CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom house, in quiet neighborhood, central location. Storage space, laundry facility, hot tub. Utilities included. \$615/month. 619-454-CLAIREMONT, NORTH. Roommate for

large house near buses, freeway 52/163/805/5. Kitchen/laundry privileges. \$450/month plus shared utilities. Need first/last/\$100 cleaning deposit,

CLAIREMONT/PACIFIC BEACH. \$630, near park/beach. Share spacious 2 bedroom, utilities, laundry, garage. Se

cure cozy community, pool/jacuzzi. No smoking/pet. Speak slowly, 858-270-

COLLEGE AREA. \$595. 15x11 room in house. Female preferred. Rent includes house. Female preferred. Herit includes cable TV, high-speed Internet, and water. Share SDG&E utility bill. 858-459-

wanted, share 2 bedroom house, \$400/month, or share bedroom \$200/month. Completely furnished, canyon view. Available 1/1. Call Trevor, 619-806-0235. COLLEGE AREA. SDSU. Roommate

COLLEGE AREA, \$525, includes utiliities. Female roommate wanted. Townhouse has 3 bedrooms, 3 bath. Townhome in complex has upgrades. No pets. Alan, 619-855-2321; 619-235-2415, x25830.

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.

DOWNTOWN. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath at Avalon at Cortez Hill. Pool, other amenities. Parking available. Non-smoker. Available 1/1/06. \$300 deposit. \$840 month. Jeff, 330-280-0515.

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.

x24393.

ENCINITAS. \$675, plus deposit, includes utilities, cable. Large bright, room. Big quiet house. Near amenities, MiraCosta College. Single occupant only. No pets, smoking, drugs. 760-634-1637; 619-235-2415, x10761.

ENCINITAS. \$550. Small trailer. Quiet country setting. Private yard. Suitable for 1 person. No pets, drugs or smoking. 760-943-7193.

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,

NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Oldest Aussie in town?) A century-old Moreton Bay fig tree in Golden Hill Park, at Russ and 25th. Golden Hill is one of the city's oldest parks, and this grand old fig tree, brought from Australia, was probably planted around 1892, years before its brethren were planted for the 1915 exposition that made Balboa Park famous. (Last week's winners: Gary Jones, Mark Siles, Adam McCoy, Barry Eyler, Jon Brydon)

Clue: Fire destroyed the house that water built

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a Reader T-shirt. E-mail to NameThis Place@SanDiego Reader.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.)



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.

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Meet your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

OPTIONAL HEADLINE: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized; abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is \$12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

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PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 wo	rds are FREE. \$1.20/additiona	al word. Do not abbreviate wor	ds. Continue on a separate she	et if necessary.	
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25/FREE	26	27	28	29	30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 Fax: (619) 233-7907 Online: SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday

Fax: (619) 233-7907 Phone: (619) 235-8200 Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego Reader does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San and an repute 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 of 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.

We must have the followi	ng information. Please print.
Name	
Address	
City	Zip
Phone (day) ()	
Phone (evening) ()
Signature	
	nses, simply provide your address your e-mail address will not be
E-mail:	
Choose One:	☐ Woman seeking a man
☐ Shared interests	☐ Man seeking a woman

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox\$_	FREE
Headlinesx \$12 each line\$_	
First 25 words of printed ad\$_	FREE
Additional wordsx \$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

- 1. Belarus or Estonia, once: Abbr.
- 4. Chomped
- 7. Sound of a hot skillet
- 10. Service charge 13. Draw
- 15. Poet who said "My face looks like a wedding cake left out in the rain"
- 17. Pigged out
- 18. Screen blooper result
 19. Use an "SNL" alum as a safety net?
- 21. Tuck's title
- 22. Architect's add-on
- 23. "Marvy!"
- 27. Form 1040 info
- 28. About 39 inches
- 30. Fall from grace
- 31. Use an "Everybody Loves Raymond" star as a stovetop?
- 35. Prynne's A, e.g.
- 38. Weather Channel topic
- 39. Use a 1960s heavyweight champ as a spreadsheet?
- 43. Suffix with infant
- __pass Go ... 44. 45. Cry of contentment
- 48. Make one's case
- 51. 60 mg of vitamin C, for adults
- 52. "Beauty and the Beast" heroine 54. Use a "Little House on the Prairie" star as a safety net?
- 57. IHOP order
- 60. "The Old Curiosity Shop" author
- 61. Designer for Mrs. Kennedy
- 62. Playful movement, on a music sheet
- 63. Start of a triple jump
- 64. Half of a yr.
- 65. Sanctions
- 66. Henry VIII's desire

- Hires a work force
 Instruments with teakwood
- 3. Catch a catch-of-the-day
- 4. Ulan _____, Mongolia 5. "_____ a roll!"
- 6. Regulation rim elevation 7. Puffy
- 8. Where to find a rebbe
- 9. Squelched 10. Pharmaceutical-safety org.
- 11. "A mouse!"
- 12. U-turn from WSW
- 14. Black tie affair
- 16. "A different read on life" magazine

- 20. Ouartet member
- 24. Italian province or its capital
- 25. Noun suffix
- ____ account (never) 28
- Pa Kettle 29. He didn't "give a damn"
- 31. Elev.
- 32. Punk genre
- 33. Jeff Lynne group 34. "Bel Canto" novelist Patchett
- 35. Faux pas
- 36. Pull a plow
- 37. Nodder's words
- 40. 1900 Joseph Conrad novel 41. Prefix with European or China
- 42. What's-his-face
- 45. Members of the birch family
- 46. Mourning in the NBA
- 47. His characters were named by blending the words
- "marionette" and "puppet" 49. "____ Well That Ends Well" 50. "Sleep" and "Spain," for two
- 52. German musical family
- 53. Three-time speed skating gold medalist Karin
- 55. Zilch
- 56. Whup
- 57. Univ., e.g. 58. He met with Nixon in 1972
- 59. Cleopatra's undoing

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader
- Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.

 2. All entries in the *Reader* Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803)
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
 4. Employees of the *Reader* and their
- immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners,
- we'll have a lottery.
 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to
- 7. One entry per person.

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Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 12/8/05.

Of the 186 entrants, 179 were correct. The winners are:

- 1. Chris Langley, San Diego
- 2. Teresa Diamond, San Diego
- 3. Jerry Arthur, Escondido 4. Stanley Whitmoyer, Escondido 5. Anthony Hansen, San Diego

ENCINITAS. \$550, deposit, 1/4 utilities. Unique, private, remodeled Leucadia home. Ocean view. Walk to downtown/ restaurants/Moonlight Beach/tennis.

_aundry. Fast Internet. No pets/smoking.

Security patrolled. No smoking/drugs.

FLETCHER HILLS. \$245, \$535 includes

No smoking/drugs. Washer/dryer. Avail-able now. 858-243-1911.

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.

GROSSMONT COLLEGE. \$450/month. 2 private rooms. One available December 14. Other room available January 1. Share bath. Females preferred. Beautiful 4 bedroom home. 619-667-9142; 619-235-2415, x18514.

LA COSTA. \$450. Elegant house on culde-sac. Small bedroom with shared bath. Washer/dryer and kitchen privileges. Large yard. No drugs, smoking, or pets. 760-753-8374.

Call the free **Roommate Hotline!** 235-2415

Soon after advertisers place their ads, their spoken introductions go on the Roommate Hotline. This lets you hear listings before they're printed in the Reader. Call 24 hours/day & choose option two. Select listings by gender, price and area, Listings updated daily.

LA JOLLA. \$795. 1 room available with bathroom/shower. 2-car garage. No pets. Pool, jacuzzi. Near theater, shopping center and UCSD. 619-287-9484; 619-235-2415, x19187.

LA JOLLA. \$650. Room in apartment near La Jolla Cove. Room is 12x13' with sky-light. Building is second story over retail shops. Laundry facility. 858-344-3417.

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/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.

base-150-9914.

A JOLLA/UTC. Share 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with female. Spacious bedroom with own connecting bathroom and ample closet space. Everything new. \$775. Stainless steel appliances, travertine floors, washer/dryer in unit. Parking available. 858-752-4257. LA JOLLA/UTC. \$80, 1/3 utilities, \$550 deposit. Bedroom in 4 bedroom home. Own bath. Clean house. Quiet neighborhood. No smoking/pets. Female only. 858-554-0018.

858-554-0018.

LA MESA. \$485 month plus 1/2 utilities. Furnished, near all, quiet duplex, patio, bar-b-que, dishwasher, satelite wide screen, smoker ok, call Mike at 619-469-1121.

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.

STIOKING. 619-466-7500.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large room, with bath, \$550, \$300/deposit, 1/2 utilities. Available 1/2/06. Quiet location, no pets, smoking ok, 619-993-5246.

LA MESA. Large bedroom in the control of the contr La MESA. Large bedroom in 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Beautiful home. Pool, jacuzzi, pool table, big screen TV. Great

SERVICES

No-Deductible Health Plans!

RiahtPlan PPO 40

		•	
AGE			nly Comprehensive Rx (PE49)
Single 19-29	? ^{\$} 51	\$54	\$62
30-34	4 \$64	^{\$} 67	^{\$} 77
35-39	9 ^{\$} 72	^{\$} 76	\$87
40-44	4\$1 01	\$106	^{\$} 124
45-49	9 ^{\$} 128	^{\$} 133	^{\$} 157
50-54	4\$1 61	\$167	^{\$} 201
55-59	9 \$239	\$248	\$298
60-64	4 \$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.



190 San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

Michael Freeman Authorized Independent Agent

3511 Camino Del Rio So., Suite 303 San Diego, CA 92108

(800) 660-4313 CA Insurance Lic. #0619120 The RightPlan PPO 40 is offered by BC Life & Health Insurance Company (BCL&H). Blue Cross of California and BCL&H are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Association (BCA). The Blue Cross aname and symbol are registered service marks of the BCA.

Get cash now!

Call now for a payday advance! Get approved on the phone in just 5 minutes or come into one of our convenient locations.

All we need is a current bank statement, driver's license and pay stub. Social Security and military OK.

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Advance fees. Valid for first-time clients. With this ad.

^{\$}20 Instant Cash When you refer a friend.



481 Broadway, Suite E, Chula Vista • 619-425-8503 (at H St. next to Wings 'N' Things) 6485 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego • 619-287-9183

(3 blocks east of College Ave. across from Lamplighter Inn) 242 W. Mission Ave., Suite A, Escondido • 760-737-8130 (corner of Escondido Blvd. near Burger King)

www.moneyinminutes.com

LA MESA. Share 3 bedroom, 1 bath home with 1 person. Quiet cul-de-sac, large patio with pool, \$550, plus utilities, Tom,

LAKESIDE. \$450/month. Bedroom for rent in beautiful Lakeside. Utilities included. Access to kitchen and laundry facilities. Bedroom upstairs. 619-933-6613.

Bedrooff upstails: 619-933-6613.

LINDA VISTA. \$480. 3 bedroom home.
Ocean view, central, tropical yard, quiet, new carpet/marble, laundry. \$300 deposit. No smoking/pets. Male preferred.

Bill, 858-518-1517.

MIRA MESA. \$520, includes utilities, \$350 deposit. Room in new house. Private garage. Washer/dryer, cable. Kitcher privileges. No smoking/pets, 858-695-

MIRA MESA. \$500/month, utilities included, \$300 deposit. Roommate wanted. 4 bedroom home, 2000 square feet. Washer/dryer, fireplace. Near all. Contact Jason, 858-610-0699.

MIRA MESA. \$550 1 bedroom, \$575 furnished. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1/4 utilities. Remodeled bathroom. \$500 deposit. Have cats. Neighborhood pool. 1 person only. 619-247-8071.

MIRA MESA. 1 bedroom \$650 plus de-posit, utilities and cable included. posit, utilities and cable included. Washer/dryer, swimming pool, Barbecue, kitchen privileges, must love pets, near all, female preferred. 858-549-3676.

MIRA MESA. \$450, plus 1/3 utilities, \$150 deposit. Beautiful area, close to bus, shopping, laundry, share bath/kitchen condo. Jacuzzi, pool, no smoking/pets.

MIRA MESA/MIRAMAR COLLEGE. \$495 plus utilities. Furniture available except bed. Private phone line. Jacuzzi. Redeco-rated home. Near buses. Nonsmoking male. No pets/drugs. 858-695-9892.

MISSION BEACH. \$900. Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper floor duplex apartment. Off-street parking, laundry on site. No drugs/pets. Plus utilities/cable. 858-688-5076.

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-

1/2 utilities. Female seeking female, share 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. Private bath. No smoking, pets, drugs. Available 1/1. 858-467-0824; 619-235-2415,

1/2 utilities/housekeeper, deposit. Huge furnished master bedroom in large 2 bed-room townhome. Attached garage, washer/dryer, pool. No smoking, drugs,

pets. Female only. Available now. 619-871-7811.

new Escala condo. Bedroom/own back-room. Laundry, garage, gym, pool. No pets. Prime location. 1/2 utilities, plus de-posit. 619-248-8185. MISSION VALLEY. \$750. Female to share

MISSION VALLEY. \$800. 1 bedroom available for rent with garage. Great locaavailable for rent with garage. Great location. Pool, jacuzzi. Washer and Dryer. Female preferred. No smoking/drugs. Available New 610 450 2006

MISSION VALLEY, EAST/SDSU. Must see. Own room, own bath. Very nice, clean, quiet, secure. No smoking, no drugs. Female preferred. Pool, jacuzzi,

OCEAN BEACH, Female roommate share 4 bedroom, 3 bath house with same. 2-blocks beach, no smokers/pets, master bedroom \$535, Laundry, January 1st, 619-223-4813, 619-222-9050.

LOMA. BEACH/POINT \$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. 619-523-4935.

OCEANSIDE. Senior community. 45 or older. \$575, includes utilities. Call Ron, 760-415-0604.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$650. Great 2 bedroom share rent with. Room available is decent size. Minutes from beach. No smoking.

PACIFIC BEACH, Share 2 bedroom. block from beach. Clean and beautiful upgraded apartment. \$775 plus 1/2 utilities. 858-273-6186.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$775. Master bedroom with bath in light, bright, designer furnished condo. Pool, gym, covered parking, cable included. Beach 3 blocks. 858-220-2161; 619-235-2415,

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. Share townhouse. I bedroom, \$650/month. Includes utilities, cable, telephone, washer/dryer, all ammenities. No pets/smoking. 858-483-

PACIFIC BEACH/MT. SOLEDAD. \$675,

PACIFIC BEACH. \$750, blocks to beach, 2 bedroom, furnished house. Great loca-tion, quiet and clean, nice backyard, large kitchen, parking/cable included, non-smoker, Gus 619-277-0448.

HOTEL & FARM









by Ben Katchor ©2005









parking, gym, tennis, pool/jacuzzi, laundry, male preferred, very clean place, call 619-206-4707.

POINT LOMA. Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath roini LUMA. Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. Laundry, fireplace, yard. Panoramic city, bay, ocean views. Pool/weight room. Minutes from beaches/downtown. \$825. 619-222-3366.

POWAY. \$500. Room close to bus, shopping and 1-15. No smoking, drinking or drugs. Call 858-679-9459; 619-235-2415, x27254.

SAN DIEGO STATE. 400 square feet studio with separate entrance. Washer/dryer. Garage parking. Pool and spa. Close to SDSU and trolley. \$750 includes utilities. 619-300-8599. 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. \$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.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$698. Spectacular sunset view. Large house. Quiet, walk to lake, park, shopping center. Private bath,

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$610, 1/2 utilities. Private room in a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo. Washer/dryer, pool, dishwasher, air conditioning, garage. Female pre-ferred. No pets. 858-530-8171.

SDSU. \$500. Wonderful large room in house with private entrance. View. Cable, phone, laundry, quiet cul-de-sac. No pets. Available immediately, near all, call Linda, 949-581-5476.

SOLANA BEACH. \$600. Private furnished bedroom and bath in quiet home over-looking San Elijo Lagoon. Share utilities. No smoking, drugs, pets. Female preferred. 619-993-9126; 619-235-2415,

TIERRASANTA. \$585 plus \$350 deposit. Shared utilities/cable/Internet. Washer/ dryer. Comfortable room, furnished/unfur-nished. Near all. No smoking, drugs, pets. Male preferred, 858-292-0145.

TIERRASANTA. Master bedroom with private bathroom. \$700 plus 1/3 utilities. 3 bedroom house. Close to 1-15 and 52. No pets/smoking. Male preferred. Good credit a must! Michele 619-204-7212,

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For just \$20 per week, vou receive:

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- ▶ 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 vour 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		23	24	<u></u>	

4. To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need cross-streets and zip code:

NEAREST CROSS-STREETS

5. The system dictates a mailbox number and security code.

MAILBOX NUMBER

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. SECURITY CODE

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.

San Diego Reader December 15, 2005

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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.

RENTALS

COMMERCIAL

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CITY HEIGHTS STORAGE sheds. 10x12 100-200 square feet. \$45/month. New, clean, secure. Dry storage only. Year lease. 2715 44th Street. www. innoreventerprises.com. 619-233-5663.

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488-7778.

BAY PARK AREA. Rooms available, acupuncturist office. Medical/holistic practitioners. Convenient location. Processional, serene environment. Large windows, patio. Potential referrals. Separate entrance. Must see! \$300-\$500. 2437 Morena Boulevard. 619-275-4501. jnahama@elimateallergies.com.

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HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS OFFICE HILLGREST/MISSION HILLS OFFICE AVAILABLE for Massage Therapist, Hyp-notherapist, Acupuncture, etc. Holistic Health Center, 842 Washington Street, second floor. Please contact Dr. Brett Smith, 619-297-3465. **PACIFIC BEACH GARAGE.** \$165 rent. \$165 deposit. Garage storage only. 2056 Thomas Avenue #1. 619-300-2452 or 619-865-6894.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$165 rent. \$165 deposit. Garage. Storage only. 2056 Thomas Avenue #1. 619-300-2452 or 619-865-6894.

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.

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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,

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RENTALS

Houses

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619-778-8444.

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CARDIFF. 3 bedroom, 2-1/5 bath. 1900.
CARDIFF as dedroom, 2-1/5 bath. 1900.
walk to beach and village, gardener. \$2900. 858-847-0149. CARDIFF. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath \$2200.

Two story, new carpeting, fireplace in family room, double garage. Huge walk in closet. Quiet cul-de-sac. No pets. Agent, 619-296-3189.

619-296-3189.

CARLSBAD. 1/2 off first months rent!
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6842 Watercourse Drive. \$1995. 858-5981111 x190. www.utopiamanagement.

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VISTA. Otay Ranch, onth, 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.

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COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 2-car garage. Laundry hook-ups. Quiet neighborhood. Central location close to

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freeways, restaurants, shopping, transportation. \$1695. 4474 Berting. 619-972-7792. COLLEGE AREA. 2 on 1, 3 bedroom 1

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Street. Must see! 619-517-6111.

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8120.

CORONADO. \$2100/5 months lease or \$2400/17 months. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story dollhouse. New carpet, all appliances. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. 1029 Olive Lane. 619-435-2362.

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Hardwood floors, appliances and yardParking available. Available 12/20. 1-year
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ENCINITAS. Swamis ocean view. 2 bed room plus den, 1-1/2 baths. Walk to beach, landscaped, patio. 2-car garage. No smoking/pets. 1075 Cornish Drive. \$2395. 760-753-1678.

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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 Total Park Lovey 1922 3 bedroom 1 bath Craftsman bungalow. Hardwood floors. Coved ceilings. Laundry. Yard. Patio. Garage not included. Available 12/15. \$1600. 619-223-8856.

house plus 1-car garage. Enclosed patio Close to Downtown and Petco Park Moran Realty Inc.: 619-231-1818.

GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom Craftsman cottage with large fenced yard. Hardwood floors, laundry. \$899. 2647 B Street. 619-236-1186.

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HILLCREST. Classy 1930s Spanish. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 square feet. Hard-

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KENSINGTON. \$2500. Beautiful furnished 3 bedroom house in the heart of historic Kensington. Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, French doors thorughout. 619-247-9300 or sam@samguillen.com.

KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, \$1875. 2-car garage, fireplace, washer/ dryer, hardwood floors, yard with rose garden. Small dog OK (20 lb). 4890 Biona Street. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

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gardner, no pets, 638-434-8070.

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. Village location. \$3800. 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Ocean view from gorgeous master suite. New construction. Gleaming wood floors. 2 car garage. 858-

459-2505.

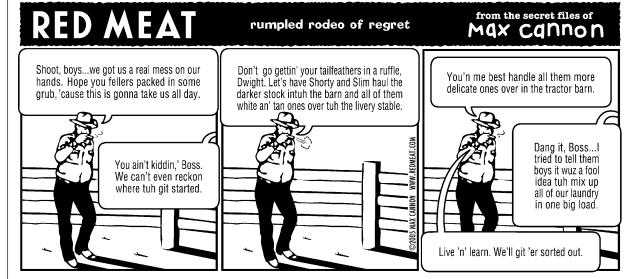
LA JOLLA. \$2800. Near UCSD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1300 square feet, fireplace, large yard, new paint/carpet, washer/dryer, large garage. Gardener included. 9512 Poole Street. 619-281-4698.

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LA MESA. \$1550. 4 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath

LA MESA. \$1550. 4 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house, garage, yard washer/dryer hookups, new carpet, water and gardener paid. 4548 Jessie. AMI Porperty Management. 619-697-6314.

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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.

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MISSION BAY/BAY PARK, \$2595, great 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house, Available now, with huge 300 square foot patio, washer/dryer, call Landon, 858-945-0882.

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NorMAL HEIGHTS. \$19-307-2613.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1400. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish house with fire-place, new kitchen, washer/dryer, garage! Will consider small pet. 4542 36th Street. 619-335-3922.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. House. \$1600. 3 bedroom 2 bath with laundry. Available January 1, 2006. 619-985-7348 or 619-276-2582.

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-

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1500. 2 bedroom 1 bath charming Craftsman style home with front yard and small backyard. Detached garage. Washer and dryer. 1/2

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by Max Cannon ©2005

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2 bath house. All appliances. Covered parking. Near SDSU. Pet on approval. Must see! \$1995. 4386 42nd Street. CSPM, 619-229-2440.

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Renee Morgan Bartender National City

f I died tomorrow, I'd regret not being able to see my kids grow up. [Right now] I'm around my kids all the time; I just want to watch them grow up. I'm still in contact all the time with my daughter, who's away at school. I'd hate not to see my kids get married and have kids of their own. As far as regrets, I feel I've made mistakes but it's led me to make better decisions. You need to learn from mistakes rather than worry about what you've done wrong. I think you have to take the good from what you've done wrong; everyone makes mistakes, but not learning from them is the mistake that people continue to make.



David Gonzales Chef

Chula Vista

would've liked to have had the I would ve liked to an opportunity to have studied when I was younger. Growing up on a farm, there wasn't money to buy books, much less shoes. You need to have an education in order to go on to a career with a future. Kids should know how important school is; I would've studied hard in school, but I couldn't because I didn't have the opportunity. If I didn't come here from Mexico, I might've regretted staying in Mexico, but you win some things and you lose some things when you make the decision to leave your home country. Sure, you win by earning better jobs, but you lose the ability to be with and see family.



Humberto Tecate

Busboy

North Park 'd regret all the gambling I've done.

I'd regret an use gaments.

I'd on't have any love for casinos.

I've probably lost \$40,000 over my lifetime and won \$3000; it's not funny. I was born a gambler; I was making bets right out of the womb Betting other babies who could drink milk the fastest was probably where it all began. They say gambling's a sickness; I don't think it's a tempo-

much guilt.

rary frenzy, more like a distraction. The most I've ever lost at one time is \$1500; my wife never knew. It would've made her cry if she found out. She never knew, but I felt so



Jenna Holdaway

Student

La Mesa

Not spending more time with my grandma; she probably lives a half mile away from me. I see her once a month. She lent me money to pay for my car, and I pay her back a month at a time. She's a really cool grandma; she's 86, and she's always been there for me. I know it's bad that I take her for granted sometimes. She's the only grandparent I have. There are thousands of other regrets I've had, but I don't want to get into them. It sounds kind of weird, but I regret moral decisions because they always end up screwing me over. Í do the right thing, and it always ends up coming back to bite me. I wish I didn't have morals sometimes; it's, like, what's the point? They don't help you out. I guess, in the end, I'll be glad that I always made the right decision



Amy Suarez Food Server

La Jolla

'd wish that I'd been more confi-I was afraid of because when I'm dead I'll look back and think it was silly that I was so hesitant. I've run away from opportunities when I've been intimidated. I regret not going professional with dance. I had these ideas about following through with academics, and I decided that if I did theater or performing that some how something would be lacking and I wouldn't be a complete person It was a struggle where I think I was going against what I really am and who I really am. Who knows, modern dancers can go through their 40s. I took six months off, but now I'm back in training. [Taking time off is good], otherwise you can dry up your resources and tap out your well. The motivation has to come from somewhere genuine, so if you don't take time to live, the work can get stale.



Rob Pennington Student/Food Server Mission Valley

I regret not finishing college the first time; I went in and out of school for the first couple years, bouncing in between community college and Western Michigan University, trying to stay in before I finally stopped try ing. I moved back in with my folks and it made it worse [to go back to school]. I moved out to California and let loose for about a year and partied a lot. It's hard to balance school [and having fun] when you're that young. I didn't have that much discipline growing up, so once I moved out of my parents' place it just made it easier to have too much fun. My parents put more discipline on my younger brother and sister...they've both graduated from college. Moving out to California was good for me; I moved out with a backpack and a clean slate. Four years later, I've had a job, gotten back in school, and have a great girlfriend.

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Boundary Street. 6 19-804-3325.

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appointment, 619-291-1044. **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.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom Spanish Craftsman house, gleaming hardwood floors, remodeled and upgraded bath-room and kitchen, stainless steel appli-ances. Entertainers' delight! Over 1000 square foot deck. 619-296-2787.

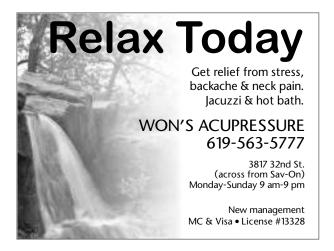
university Heights. \$725. 1 bedroom, cozy cottage. Open beam ceiling. Carpet. On-site laundry. 1542 Monroe Avenue. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1,485. 2 bed-









VISTA. \$1095/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Attached garage. Fresh paint. New appliances. Secluded. fenced yard. Pets negotiable. Lease discount. Available now. quicha@gmail.com.

VISTA. Cozy 1 bedroom, attached guest house. Private entrance. Driveway parking. Patio. Utilities and cable included \$725. 1 cat OK. 760-758-1536.

RENTALS

A PARTMENTS / Condos

ALLIED GARDENS, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath 2-car garage. New paint, new carpet. Close to SDSU, Grossmont and Mission Valley. Call for details! Top Notch Realty

Inc., 619-807-0327.

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. www. westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.setparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.setparkinn.com. 619-236-1600.

Sarieauer.com/rent/2037.

BALBOA PARK/GOLDEN HILL. \$750 in-cludes utilities. Small studio, beautiful courtyard setting. Unique plan, four lev-els, loft, appliances. No pets. 1235 27th Street #B 619-507-7119.

BALBOA PARK. \$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, luxury, top floor, corner. 3 balconies. Park/Zoo view. Garage. Storage. Pool. Laundry. 3421 Park Boulevard. Carol, 619-282-2617.

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-

BANKER'S HILL. 1/2 month off with 6 month lease. \$750-\$1650. Furnished/unmonth lease. \$750-\$1650. Furnished/un-furnished studios, 1 bedroom. Newly ren-ovated, unique Americana setting. Amenities: expanded cable/HBO, some parking, storage, balcony/patio, common library, rooftop barbecue deck, laundry, controlled access. City, harbor views. Utilities paid. No pets. 326 Juniper. 619-232-0153. www.sdreader.com/rent/2069.

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. Furnished studios starting at \$720 and up. Close to park and downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facilities. 619-234-7572.

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/DOWNTOWN. Luxurious new condo, Laurel Bay. Large 1 bed-room, 1 bath. Secured underground park-ing. Gourmet kitchen, granite countertops, stainless appliances, up-graded bath. Pool/jacuzzi, gym, ameni-ties and more. No smoking/pets, \$1600. Call: 619-665-2733

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 \$795. Studio. Small pet OK. Laundry on site. 2230 Albatross Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.

com.

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. \$995. 1 bedroom apartment, view, laundry. Close to all. 2117 Front Street #4. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1095. Huge 1 bed-room with separate dining room. Walk-in closet, ceiling fans, new carpet. Cat OK. Call 619-233-7134.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. Studios from \$775. Perched high above beautiful from \$775. Perched high above beautiful San Diego Bay. Laundry, barbecue, com-munity deck. Charming gated building with an artisan's touch! Close to all! Call for details. 128 Maple Street. 619-234-

1994.

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.

BANKER'S HILL. \$950. Gorgeous 1 bed-room 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. Studios. Private bath, kitchen. \$700 month/\$500 deposit. Utilities included. Laundry on site. Cats OK. Minutes from downtown. First Avenue. 619-325-7332.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$560 ornall 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.

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.

pointment, 598-390-89 16.

BANKER'S HILL. Studios and 1 bedroom, \$775-\$900. All utilities paid. Harbor/Downtown views, beautifully land-scaped, 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 now. 2003 Second Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368.

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. \$1695. Two bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great ocean view! Small, quiet complex. Laundry facility on-site, parking space. Close to shopping. Call parking space 760-753-6575.

CARDIFF. 1/2 off first months rent! Cozy studio. 3 blocks from the beach. Assigned parking. Near freeway, quiet com plex. \$825. 858-598-1111 x190, www

utopiamanagement.com.

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.

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.

CARLSBAD 3/3 penthouse condo. Ocean views, walk to beach. Hard-wood/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 bed rooms. One month free with 12 month rooms. One month free with 12 month lease on select floor plans! 9-foot ceilings. Crown molding. Ceiling fans. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Stainless steal 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. \$2000. 2 bedroom, 2 bath-room newer condo west of I-5. 2-car garage. Appliances, pool, walk to beach, on lagoon. Year lease. kbanuk@biosite.

CARLSBAD. \$1125. Spacious 2 bed-room, 1 bath apartment. Completely renoroom, 1 bath apartment. Completely reno-vated. Beautifully landscaped. Carport on-site laundry. Close to village/beach. No pets. Lease. 760-505-7736.

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.

730-9850.

CARLSBAD. Fantastic ocean and lagoon

Lagoon air just steps from views! Fresh ocean air, just steps from the beach, beautifully remodeled 2 bed-room apartment homes. 2303 Ocean Street. Judy, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. Charming 2 bedrooms \$1000 moves you in! All appliances, gas

SLOW WAVE



AFTER GLEEFULLY PICKING MOST OF THEM, I REALIZED THE CLOTHES WERE TOO SMALL FOR ME picked too soon?

NEVER DID FIND OUT IF THEY GREW LARGER. THE ONES I LEFT ON THE TREE WERE STOLEN WHEN I WASN'T LOOKING.



NEAR THE END OF THE SEASON THE TREES STARTED GROWING ODD THINGS LIKE COONSKIN CAPS AND PANTYHOSE.

by Jesse Reklaw @2005

 PO Box 11493 Berkeley, CA 94712-2493 • reklaw@slowwave.com Ask Jesse to draw your dream!

fireplace and upgrades, blinds, mirror doors and much more. Intimate garden community, 2 blocks from beach and "Vil-lage." 327 Walnut Avenue. 760-729-2155.

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 Faton 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. \$1495. Large. LARTSDAD/LA CUSIA. 5/495. 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. Washer/dryer, 1 car attached garage, pets OK. Near shopping/golf. Available December 15. 858-354-7924.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in gated Proven-cale. Fireplace, central air. Attached 2 car garage. Laundry. Minutes to Ted Williams freeway and 15. 619-992-1271.

reeway and 15. 619-992-1271.

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.

sultants, 619-846-1244.

CARMEL VALLEY. Looking for affordable luxury living? 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1225! Move-in specials! Quiet! Near Del Mar beaches, shopping, easy freeway access, 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. \$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. condo. \$1250. 1 bedroom, plus loft, 1 bath. Carport, 951 square feet. Small pet OK. Available 1/13/06. 12237 Carmel Vista Road #257. Agent, 858-755-1139. www. scuba-rentals.com.

cuba-rentals.com.

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.

CASA DE ORO. \$1150-\$-829-2165.

CASA DE ORO. \$1150-\$-829-2165.

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 hedroom CASA DE ORD. 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 610 672 6292

CHULA VISTA, NORTH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1050. Beautiful courtyard building near village. Sorry, no pets. 122 Third Avenue. 619-426-5233. www.

CHULA VISTA, NORTH. Near 3rd Avenue downtown. Very quiet, new car-pet, clean 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$795. \$200 off first month.

from \$/95. \$200 off first month. Garages available. 619-934-4473.

CHULA VISTA. Travelers Inn & Suites. Very comfortable furnished 1 and 2 bed suites with kitchenettes, microwave, re-frigerators, cable. Convenient location, 235 Woodlawn. Easy access to E street

trolley station. Starting at \$345.03+tax per week. 619-427-9170.

per week. 619-427-9170.

CHULA VISTA. Otay Ranch. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome, upgraded interior, vaulted ceilings, 2-car garage, brick patios. Pool. Pets OK with deposit. \$1950. 619-482-8808.

CHULA VISTA. \$100+ move-in special! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, pool, barbecue, ceiling fan, dish-washer. \$805, \$600 deposit. Available now. 581 Arizona Street. 619-691-9415. www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1400. New townhome. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 1 car garage. Ceiling fans, microwave, fireplace, washer/dryer. Near freeways. No pets/smoking/drugs. 619-252-5278.

CHULA VISTA. Great location! 1 bedrooms starting at \$775. Renovated interior. Single story apartment, patio. 619-420-2205.

420-2205.

CHULA VISTA. Move-in special! \$725. 1

bedroom. Laundry, parking. Convenient location close to freeways and Navy Base. No pets. 660 Sea Vale Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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, NORTH. \$1150. Very rice 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. \$725/month. \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center. Offstreet parking. Laundry room. Lots of

trees. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

(near Fitth and G), 619-420-5084.

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.

בעסטוז שטט. 194-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. \$865. Beautiful 1 bedroom. Refinished hardwood and Spanish tile floors, new windows, appliances. 6 unit complex in quiet neighborhood. 270-B Church. 858-366-8518

8518. 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.

423-0070. **CHULA VISTA.** \$895 rent, \$700 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large lower unit with stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, off-street parking carport. 238 Davidson Avenue #4. 619-804-3325.

Avenue #4. 619-804-3325.

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. \$900. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath open Sunday, 12/18. 11am-3pm. Brand new carpet throughout! Brand new paint! Upstairs unit-Parking and laundry onsite. No pets/smoking. \$400 deposit! 267 H Street. Manager, 619-990-0364.

CITY HEIGHTS. Studio, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, \$600/month, \$450 deposit, includes utilities, washer/dryer, off-street parking, privacy, 619-563-6823

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$700. Half block to Kens ington! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint. Downstairs. Laundry on site, off-street parking. 4245 Central Avenue #2. 619-561-3618.

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. 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. 1 bedroom, 1 bath-\$750. Upper unit in small complex with on-site laundry. 3722 Marlborough. 858-200-9408.

CITY HEIGHTS. Senior building, 62+. \$450 Studio. \$575, 1 bedroom. \$400 deposit. Gated, elevator and laundry. 41st Street and El Cajon. 619-280-3083; 619-584-5900.

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site. Won't last! 619-417-4392.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$495 move-in special first 3 months! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, upstairs, 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. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.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.

CITY HEIGHTS. Ask about holiday special! \$650. Private 1 bedroom, 1 bath in quiet complex. Refrigerator and stove.

On-site laundry, 858-598-1111 x193

gated community, gas stove, refrigerator, coin laundry and parking available. 5333 Rex Avenue. Please call, 858-571-1970.

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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 CLAIREMONI / KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. 9925-\$1195. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Call for specials! Traditional 1 bedrooms starting \$890; Designer 1 bedroom starting \$890. Traditional 2 bedrooms from \$1035. Designer 1 bedrooms starting \$180. 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.

rent/100s.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedrooms, \$1000 and up. 2 bedrooms, from \$1250 and up. Looking for clean, quiet and homey? Our lovely complex is peaceful and quiet day and night! Walk to all your needs. Patios and courtyard. Garages available. 619-276-3222. For photo, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

CLAIREMONT. \$950 includes utilities Furnished 1 bedroom plus sunroom. Appliances and garage included. Quiet area. First and last plus \$50 cleaning fee. Call 858-292-1735.

CLAIREMONT. \$1400. Move-in special! 2 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.kandrproperties.com. **CLAIREMONT.** 3150 East Fox Run Way. 4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath. Washer, dryer, fireplace. 2-car garage. Great area! Beautiful. \$2100. app@ajprop.com. A & J Property Management, 888-826-6050.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Park. Traditional 1 bedroom, 1 bath from Park. Traditional 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$890, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, from \$1035. Designer 1 bedroom, 1 bath som \$880, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, from \$1180. \$300 deposit per pet. 25 meter lap pool, spa, sundeck. 3309 Cowley Way. 888-500-0471. Visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/ 1070.

CLAIREMONT. \$1095 rent, \$900 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 4910 longford Street #3. Large lower unit with stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, off-street park-

frigerator, washer/dryer, off-street park-ing. New paint and vinyl. 619-804-3325.

CLAIREMONT. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment available now. Yard and garage included. Clean and quiet duplex. 3319 Jemez Drive. Orion Property Group, 610-740-8545.

CLAIREMONT. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Pet ok! Yard! Available now. 4128 Bannock St. \$1350. Jolene, 858-922-6966.

St. \$1.350. Joilette, \$58-922-096b.

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.

goir course. 619-285-3822.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1550. Spacious 2 bed-room, 2 bath, walk-in closets, painted, carpeting. Pool, laundry, storage, park-ing, Year lease. No pets. Security deposit. Available now. 619-840-4546.

Available flow. 619-840-4546.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedrooms available from \$795. Half a month free! Air conditioning. Pool. Barbecues. Gated access Laundry. Parking. Near bus, shopping freeways! Cat friendly. Near SDSU. Satur day 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 Catoctin Drive. Please call 619-286-0441. southca@cox.net.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom near SDSU and shopping. Gated entry, elevator, parking. Lush gardens, quiet. \$850/ month. Beth Jacobs Apartments, 619-229-1953. Manager, 619-801-0204.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$775. Gor-

pet/vinyl. Private patio. Remodeled kitchen. Quiet complex. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 619-287-2282.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. 2-car garage. Central air. Fireplace. Newer carpet/paint. Balcony. Available now. No pets. Benson Proper-

COLLEGE AREA. \$750/month plus \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom apartment, on-site laundry, water and trash included. Please

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Totally remodeled. Large kitchen. New appliances and granite countertops. New carpet. Off-street parking. Near shopping, 6036 Estelle. No pets. \$1150. 619-683-9274.

COLLEGE AREA/LEMON GROVE, \$975 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Garage. Stove, refrigerator. No pets. Fenced yard. 3549 College Avenue. Agent, 619-298-

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-

COLLEGE AREA. \$1800. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo. Stove, refrigerator, car-pet, blinds. Balconies. 2-car garage. Pool. Tennis courts. 6640 Reservoir Court. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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. \$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 AREA, 2 block walk! Studios, 8850. View, quiet, Berber, free cable/Internet, laundry, parking, jacuzzi, air. Shared utilities. 619-665-1650 or http://members.cox.net/dorothystudio.

college AREA. 5 110/Jup. 2 alto 3 oper rooms. Carpets. Appliances, newly refur-bished. Laundry facilities. Off-street park-ing. Near all. Pet? 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laun-dry. 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 bed-room apartment. Brand new carpet! Up-stairs unit, parking and laundry onsite. Very quiet and secure building. No pets/smoking, 4512 Altadena. Manager,

COLLEGE GROVE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, laundry. All new inside. Good storage. Tile, kitchen & bath. Light. Near all. \$950. 619-840-1080 or 619-265-8842.

COLLEGE GROVE, \$850 rent, \$500 de posit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 650 square feet. No pets. 5078 Madison Av-

COLLEGE GROVE. \$850 rent, \$500 de posit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Duplex, 650 squaare feet. No pets. 5078 Madison Av-

enue. 619-865-6894. **COLLEGE.** \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Parking. 4425-4429 College Avenue. Call Ed, 858-597-6100 x322.

Avenue. Call Ed, 858-597-61100 x322. **COLLEGE.** \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Gorgeous park like setting. All sparkling new. Stainless steel appliances, fireplace, laundry. Cat OK. Move-in special! 4775 Seminole Drive. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE. \$700. 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.

CORONADO. \$995. Downstairs corner 1 bedroom, 1 bath located in Coronado with ceiling fans, laundry facilities and a courtyrard. Parking available for small fee. Within walking distance to ferry landing. 139-1/2 D Avenue. 858-270-5500 www.msbrowar.com.z

CORONADO. \$1100. 1 bedroom suite with private entrance above garage. Living room, kitchen, bedroom, and bath. Cable and gas included. Laundry privileges. 619-522-9983, 619-519-9983.

CROWN POINT/Pacific Beach. 2 bed-room, \$1395! Walk to beach. Parking. Ceiling fans. Gated entry. Laundry. Peaceful. Barbecue. 3833 Jewell Street.

DEL CERRO/SAN CARLOS. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Gorgeous ocean views. Designer kitchen. Hardwood floor. Balcony, pool/spa, washer/dryer. \$1680. www.coastwayrealty.com. 858-442-8195.

DEL MAR, SEA POINT. \$2900. Walk to beach 2 bedroom plus sitting area, 2-car beach. 2 bedroom plus sitting area. 2-cal garage. 2 fireplaces. Ocean view deck. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850. **DEL MAR.** 3 bedroom, \$2245. Block to ocean, courtyard view, all appliances including washer/dryer, gated, cable, pool, spa, sauna. Indoor cats OK. No smoking.

<u>Precision</u>

Available mid-January. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikeatla@aol.com.

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, pionic areas. Parking. Near entertainment, shopping. Pets welcome! Solana Highlands, 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands.com, 1-888-637-8571.

\$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.,

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Starting from DEL MARY SULANA BEACH. Stating norm \$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.

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.

remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath town-homes 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. 858-755-053

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. Brand newl \$250-\$500 off with 6-12 month lease! Studios, 1, 2, 3 bedrooms from \$1000. Near Petco Park, Gaslamp, more! Rooftop terrace. Controlled access. Underground parking. Washer/dryer. Microwave. Patio/balcony. Walk-in closet. Air conditioning. Fitness center. Pets welcome. Entrada, 453 13th Street. 1-888-521-9878. www.sdredger.com/rent/2102

DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT, City POWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT. City Front Terrace. Luxury condo, 1 bedroom with den, fireplace, washer/dryer, stain-less, granite, gorgeous, 5th floor terrace view. Pools, gym, spa. Concierge, valet. \$2150/month. 619-449-1498.

DOWNTOWN, Hip new loft, 1380 square feet, 1 bedroom, optional second, 2 bath, 11 foot ceiling, great views, stainless appliances, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, secured parking, small pet, \$2500, 619-303-9706.

DOWNTOWN, LITTLE ITALY. Beautiful 1 bedroom Treo condo. High ceilings, stainless appliances, tile/carpet. Underground parking. Pool/spa/fitness/recreation room. Pets ok. \$1800. 619-471-

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.

agement, 619-231-2365.

DOWNTOWN. Studios, historic building, full kitchen and bathroom. \$600-\$700, includes utilities. No smoking or pets. 901 10th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-531-1616.

531-1616.

DOWNTOWN. Air conditioned studio apartments with kitchenette and full bathroom. No smoking or pets. \$700, includes utilities. 728 Market at 7th. Hughes Managed 10 200,1829, v103. agement, 619-239-1639 x103.

agement, n19-239-1639 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.

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DOWNTOWN. Views, views, views! Luxury condo at "The Grand" (south building). ury condo at "The Grand" (south pulluling, 24th floor, 2 bedroom plus den, all amenities. \$3700/month. 619-306-8193.

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. \$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. 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.

pets. \$1590. 619-980-6708.

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. 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. Bay views from every room! 2 bedroom, 2 bath west-facing condo, 420-square-foot balcony, washer/dryer, pool, Jacuzzi, parking. La Vita, Little Italy. \$2000. 619-300-4723.

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gaslamp City Square. View, hardwoods, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops. Washer/dryer. Pool, gym, pets negotiable. \$2000/month includes utilities. 619-847-6877.

ties. 619-847-6877.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Sleep small. Dream big. Stay the day, week, month. Single/fwin, \$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.

234-5252. www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

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.

sdreader.com/rent/2097.

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 **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.

rentizuses. **DOWNTOWN.** 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 master suites, bright, sunny, hardwood floors, granite countertopos. Underground parking. Balcony, view. Gym, spa. No pets. Nonsmoking. Jennifer, 619-347-1004.

DOWNTOWN. 1 year old, 1 bedroom loft, Union Square, granite/file, washer/dryer, balcony/courtyard view, security building/parking, spa/gym, storage. Easy freeway access. Lease. Available 12/26. \$1450. 619-669-1470.

DOWNTOWN. \$495 and up plus deposit. Furnished room available in residential hotel with shared kitchen/bath. Includes microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. 1545 Second Avenue, between Beech and Cedar. 619-595-0078.

DOWNTOWN. \$2400/negotiable. El Cortez Hill. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Pets OK with deposit. Washer/dryer. 1250 square feet. 2 parking. Deposit. Gym. 619-446-7080.

DOWNTOWN. Cortez Hill. 1 bedroom. 1 cherrywood cabinets, stainless appli

ances, in-unit laundry, extra-secure building, underground parking/storage. Pet OK. \$1395. 619-726-2260.

DOWNTOWN. \$1500. Marina Park. 1 bed-room, enormous patio, first floor facing courtyard, parking, pool close. Finest complex amenities, security, dog OK. Available February 1. 619-544-1098.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new cool urban loft at M2i. In heart of Ballpark district. 2 story, 2 bath with spiral staircase and concrete floors. 1 garage parking. Pet considered. Available now! \$1800. 619-820-9564.

DOWNTOWN. \$2195. Brand new, just fin DOWNTOWN. \$2195. Brand new, just fin-ished 1 bedroom/office plus loft in beauti-ful Downtown in the desirable M2i Condo Community! Very urban/modern building with granite countertops, all new appli-ances, balcony, spiral staircase, under-ground 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. msbrowar.com.

msbrowar.com.

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. \$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.

Agent 619-296-6343.

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.

Agetti, 615-42c-0/bb1.

DOWNTOWN, \$1750. Newer 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo available 1/1. Views, balcony, parking and gated property. Appliances include washer/dryer. No pets. 801 Hawthorn Street. 619-749-6545. www.orionproperty.com.

Hawthorn Street. 619-749-6545. www. orionproperty.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$1095. Studio condo. Brand new unit on the 5th floor in Metrome building. Located in Gaslamp District. Secured entry. Washer/dyrer and stainless steel appliances. 619-291-5555. www.utopiamanagement.com.

DOWNTOWN. Cortez Hill. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with hardwood floors, washer and dryer. \$1350. Security building. 1650 8th (Cedar at 8th). Call Agent: 619-987-6678.

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.

ances. Call now o 19-2-00-0000.

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. \$825. 1 bedroom apartment home with laundry facilities on-site and plenty of storage space. Great location, close to everything San Diego has to offert \$500 gift card at move-in for your holiday shopping. 843 13th Street. 858-376.5600 shows members and street and street should be supposed to the street should be suppos

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.

619-236-9117.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$760.

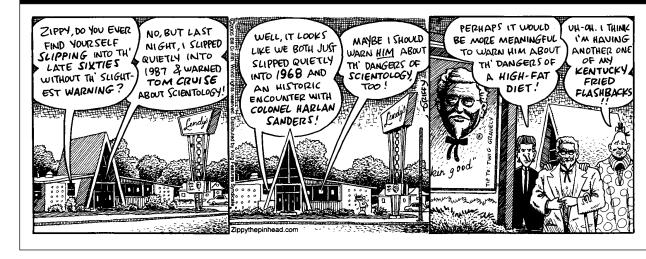
Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Two large bright units in large Victorian home: 19-1, 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. 619-723-001

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.sdlofts.com.

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

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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-sandlegon.com

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Studios \$645 and \$755. Limited access building \$645 and \$755. Limited access building, charming, quiet residential neighbor-hood. 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/GASLAMP. Las Flores Ho-tel. Small, quiet. \$121/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic ca-ble. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. \$1995. All new spacious interior 2 bedroom, 2 bath new spacious interior 2 bedroom, 2 bath with unbelievable city views. Granite counters, elevator building, laundry, onsite workout room. Parking: single car garage plus 1 additional space in gated area. No pets! Call for appointment, 1233 22nd Street (Cityscape). R.A. Properties, 858-483-3989.

858-483-3989.

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. \$1400. Lofty living-heart of Gaslamp District. Live/work. Gorgeous historical building. Walk to Horton Plaza, Petco Park, House of Blues, Seaport Village, Convention Center, bay. Hardwood floors. Air conditioning. Cable/Internet ready. Controlled access. Pets welcomed! On Broadway, 1023 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1333. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2109.

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 Man-agement, 619-544-0017.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Corner Ash/Union, great views, 1 bedroom lotts, \$1350-\$1500. 17-foot ceilings, stainless appliances. Pets OK. 619-501-6731.

ner 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. \$1050-\$1850, unfurnished 2 level lofts and 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. \$1800-\$2100, furnished luxury loft with bay views and parking. Call 619-255-0526.

DOWNTOWN/PARK PLACE. 3 bedroom 3.5 bath townhouse. Balconies and rooftop deck, two parking spaces, fire-place, 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.

DULZURA. Ranch-style living. Duplex. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. Land for horses, pets, large toys. \$1200.

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, onsite 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 ware-house live/work loft, 2200 square feet, parking included. Private 3 unit building, \$2500 month/lease, appointment, 619-

994-6991.

EAST VILLAGE. 2 bedroom Victoriar penthouse with panoramic City viewl High ceilings, wood floors, deck. All new Open 9am-6pm: 1752 National Avenue. \$999. 619-236-1186.

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, dishwasher, air
conditioning, new flooring. Pool, spa, laundry and parking onsite. Great location!
Close to everything! 1059 East Bradley.
Manager, 619-279-2183.

Manager, 619-2/9-2183. **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 habla 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 town-home. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. Good credit a must! 858-353-6112.

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.

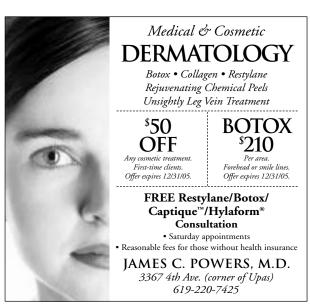
EL CAJON. \$900. Large, deluxe 2 bedroom. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds. Parking. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Near town, shops, bus. 619-579-0174.

EL CAJON. Gated community. \$475, Newer small travel trailers. Also, \$1400, 3 bedroom house. Plus utilities/deposit. \$30 fee for credit check/rental history. Laun-dromat. Near trolley. 619-444-4843.

SERVICES



































EL CAJON. Apartment, \$895, large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, air, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, 2 parking. Near bus, shopping, off Chase, 1054 South Magnolia, 858-329 695.

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. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with family room, fireplace and large fenced yard, \$1800/month. Close to shopping. RV parking available. Call Vern for appointment, 619-442-0069 or 619-277-296

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. Make Stratford Arms your new home for the holidays! \$300 off first month! 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. \$10.2 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.

EL CAJON. \$810. 2 bedroom in fabulous pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 234 West Park Av-enue #26. Torrey Pines Property Manage-ment, 619-447-7891, www.palmtowers.

EL CAJON. Least expensive 1 bedroom in El Cajon! \$650/month. Southwestern location (Chase Avenue). Upstairs unit in

triplex with views of Mt. Helix. Kyle, 858-699-3895.

EL CAJON. \$750. Deposit \$500. 1 bed-room, 1 bath. All appliances, on-site laun-dry, gated community. Sorry, no pets. 140 Wells Avenue. 619-444-1851, 619-804-

5320. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Lin-coln-Washington Apartments. Very large units, pool, on-site laundry, covered park-ing, in great location. Clean and quiet. 685 South Lincoln Avenue. Agent, 619-444-8191 or 858-560-1178.

EL CAJON, \$1295, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Condo with central air. Secure gated community with pool and laundry. Easy freeway access. 619-665-

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 760-753-6575.

ENCINITAS. 2 bedroom duplex with great view, large deck. Near San Dieguito Academy. \$1425/month. Call 760-753-6578.

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LA JOLLA. Villa Mallorca. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, washer/dryer, parking, many amenities. \$1900. 619-820-0003.

LA JOLLA. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Near WindanSea. Very clean. apartment. Near Windahoea. Vol. Statu-Dishwasher, stove, refrigerator. Laundry facilities. 430 Rosemont Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

LA JOLLA. \$1,450. Totally upgraded, one bedroom luxury condo at Verano. Gorgeous upper unit: all new stainless, granite, marble, wood floors. Amenities galore! Pets ok. 619-666-6488.

LA JOLLA. Near UCSD. Newly refur-

bished 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, garage. Upstairs corner location, is near pool and spa. \$1395. 619-741-9807.

LA JOLLA. Ocean view, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, block to ocean, \$1995; 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1350; 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2650. One-year lease. Jeff, 858-450.0156

LA JOLLA. Conveniently located in the La LA JOLLA. Conveniently located in the La Jolla Village! Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath, first floor unit. 1250 square feet, all appliances including washer/dryer. 2 underground parking spaces and storage unit. Pets considered. Available 12/16. \$1850/month. 760-434-4557.

LA JOLLA. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Parking garage units in still particular the condo. Parking garage units is unit.

condo. Parking, garage, upstairs unit, pool, jacuzzi. Near UCSD. 3103 Evening Way. Available now. 619-297-7368.

LA JOLLA. Regents Road condo. 1 bed-room, 1 bath, beautiful complex. Full ser-vice amenities. Pets OK! \$1500/month. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-

LA JOLLA. \$1300. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 1-car shared garage and parking space. Water included. Available January 1, 2006. 6-month lease. Erin or Rachel, 619-696-7368; www.

entals.com. CALLINE STATE OF THE STATE OF T

619-517-3822.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Up to 5 weeks free!
Open Saturday, Sunday 12-3pm. Studios,
bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms 1 bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms from \$1250 Low deposits! New Mediter-ranean community. Patios/balconies. Washer/dryer. Cable/Internet. Fitness center. Racquetball. Aerobics. Pools. Hot tubs. Parking. La Jolla Crossroads, 9085 Judicial Drive. 1-866-829-8271. www sdreader.com/rent/2112.

sdreader.com/rent/2112.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Up to 1 month free! Low deposit! Lease! Open Saturdays, Sundays. 1 bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms available! Panoramic ocean, mountain views! Travertine marble floors. Granite countertops. Valet parking, Spa. Pool. Tennis. Fitness club. Towers at Costa Verde, 8775 Costa Verde Blvd. 1-888-300-8450. cveleasing@gardencommunities.com.

www.screager.com/rent/2119.

A JOLLA/BIRD ROCK. \$900. 1 bed-room. Small, downstairs. Stove, refrigera-tor, dishwasher. Shared courtyard. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 de-posit. Available 12/29. 415 Colima. 858-270.0714. Dol Sch Proster. Marsey. 270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Half off first month! Very large 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, fireplace, hardwood, patio, appliances, 2-car garage, Pools, spas, more! Pets? \$2400. 858-342-5041.

858-342-5041.

A JOLLA/UTC. Up to 5% off, 1 month free! Italian style, newly remodeled! Washer/dryer. Granite countertops. Hardwood flooring. Resort pools, spas. Hightech fitness center. Underground parking. Central location. \$1290-\$2400. Studios, 1 bedrooms, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms, 1818s of Renaissance, 5282 Fiore Terrace. 1-888-218-0377. www.

com/rent/1051. **LA JOLLA/UTC.** \$2150 deluxe Veran
condo 2 hedroom 2 bath. New, groun condo. 2 bedroom 2 bath. New, ground floor, near pool/spa, berber, mabel, gran-ite, stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer. Ready now! 858-967-3697.

LA JOLLA/UTC. Deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath 4 level condo home, 2-car garage. New bathrooms. New carpet and paint Must see! \$1895. 858-598-1111 x190 management.com.

www.utopiamanagement.com.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$1195. La Jolla Colony. 1
bedroom in Verano Complex. Washer/
dryer, pools, spas. Fitness center. 1 underground parking space. 2nd level unit,
balcony. Nonsmoking, no pets. Coldwell
Banker Property Management, 858-488-

LA JOLLA/UTC. Dequenos. Near park & shops. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath, 1 car garage/extra parking space. All appli ances. Patins. Community part 1

LA MESA move-in special! Newly renovated 1 bedroom \$875, 2 bedrooms \$1200. Quiet, park-like, gardens, pool, laundry. No pets. 4700 Williamsburg. 619-464-7676.

LA MESA. \$1399. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Carport. Laundry facilities. Totally remodeled. Everything new. Near park, trolley. No pets. 6199 Horton Drive. 619-216-6201.

LA MESA. \$1425. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, parking. 1100 square feet. Air conditioning, microwave. Balcony. Pool. 24 hour laundry. Cat OK. No Section 8. 619-464-

LA MESA. \$895, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony; \$1095, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper, balcony; \$1150, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, yard. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/ rent/1035.

1035.

A 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. \$750, studios, \$350 deposit \$1090, 2 bedroom, \$500 deposit, Carpor \$1090, 2 bedroom, \$500 deposit. Carpon, space. Storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available 1/06. 5365 Marengo Avenue. 619-698-7926.

LA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath

mont Center. Laundry facilities, assigned parking. center. 619-469-3735. www.floit.

LA MESA. \$800. Move-in special: \$200 off first month's rent! Spacious units. Onsite laundry. Pool. \$500 deposit. Se habla espanol. Maria, 619-589-6766.

LA MESA. \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, parking, laundry on-site, dishwasher, air conditioning, walk-in closet, yard and pool. Please call resident managers for appointment at 619-697-8458. d. www.kandrproperties.com

LA MESA, \$1500, 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Fireplace, view, balcony, washer/dryer. No smoking. 5580 Lake Park Way. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.

LA MESA. \$695 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Studio cottage with yard. No pets. At 4859 Jessie Street (at El Cajon Blvd).

Agent, 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$795. Huge, 1 bedroom condo on 3rd floor. Half off first month! Walk-in closet. Balcony. All amenities. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-0552

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-

LA MESA. \$755. 1 bedroom. Air conditioning, dishwasher, laundry, community barbecue, parking. 7334 La Mesita Place. 619-466-6450

LA MESA. \$1145. Fabulous 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs duplex. Complete remodel bath upstairs duplex. Compiete remodel with new gas stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Ceiling fans, imported floor tile, 2-tone paint and mirrored wardrobes. Must seel French doors and huge, private deckl Garage has washer/dryer hookups. Super location near Grossmont. 6142 Horton Drive. Call 619-209-4190, x114.

www.sandiegoapartments.com. **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.

msbrowar.com.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, \$725. Air conditioning, pool, atrium. Laundry facility. Assigned parking. No pets. \$200 off first month! 7130 Waite Drive. 619-303-3237.

www.melroyproperties.com.

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 man-Crystal 619-957-9938 or 619-465-

LA MESA. 4515 3rd Street. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs apartment. \$1125/month. Available now. New carpet, paint, refrigerator. Close to shopping. Easy freeway access. Call on-site manager, Glenna, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. Ask about our Move-In Special! Large, remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms from \$895. North of I-8 near Costco. Sunny, air conditioned. Storage. Garage available. Small pet OK. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802 SanDiegoApartments com nDiegoApartments.com

LA MESA. Free, free rent! Call for 3 bed-room special! 2 bedrooms available. room special! 2 bedrooms available. Quaint community with large, airy rooms. Spectacular La Mesa viewsl 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/ent/2009. ader.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. Studio unit. 1 parking, laundry on-site, air conditioning, pool. Rent \$675. Available for viewing by appointment only, call 619-697-8458. Available early to -January. 4851 73rd. www. drproperties.com.

LA MESA/SDSU, 1 bedroom, \$890/up, 2 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. SouthridgeApatments. 7200 Saranac Street. www. n/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 bed-rooms 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.

sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LAKESIDE. Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, with vaulted ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer in unit, new appliances. Secure gated community, pools/spa and across from Lindo Lake and park with walking trails and many activities. Available now. 1/2 off 1st month's rent! No smoking. \$1250/month. Section 8 OK. Agent: 619-226-4728.

LEMON GROVE, \$750/month, 1 bedroom new paint, carpet, linoleum, blinds. Appli ances. On-site laundry. Off-street park

ing. 619-840-3860. LEMON GROVE. \$1195. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath duplex. Yard, ceiling fans, newer carpet, laundry facilities. Storage room. Pets OK. 1909 Ensenada Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.

com.

LEMON GROVE. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cute, centrally located, close to all. Parking, laundry onsite. Available 1/10/06. 3320 Vista Avenue #1. 619-295-

LEMON GROVE. \$1325. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, all amenities, air conditioning, new paint, carpet and appliances. If you find one better; rent it! 3262 Buena Vista Ave. 619-291-1044.

619-291-1044. **LEUCADIA.** \$900. Duplex. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 625 square feet. Off-street. Small yard. Small pet OK. Walk to beach. Available now! 1223 North Vulcan #B. Agent, 858-755-1139. www.scuba-rentals.com.

oob-70b-1139, www.scuba-rentals.com. LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 baths, \$995-\$1045. kitchen, hardwood floors, as-signed parking, Good location. No pets. Special: 1/2 off! Office: 2451 Ulric Street. 858-278-3610.

858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA. \$675. Studio, utilities in-cluded. Laundry, gated parking, \$400 de-posit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2285 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for nt. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. \$1000/month, \$700 deposit. Very nice, great kitchen, laundry facility, no dogs, off-street parking, 6 blocks to USD. 858-

715-9472. LINDA VISTA. 2 bedrooms, \$1435. 3 bedrooms, \$1635. Low deposits \$600-\$800. 2 bedroom special, \$599 moves you in! Near Mesa College. Large, newly remodeled. Stainless steel appliances, fit-acc center 5 peols. Garage, earnort ness center, 5 pools. Garage, carport parking available. Pet friendly. Referral fee of \$200! Cabrillo Palisades, 7901 Harmarsh Street. 888-264-0594. www. sdreader.com/rent/2067.

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-

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. \$1000. Upper 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, recently remodeled with 2 balconies. Parking. 6756 Kelly Street. Agent 619-281-4698.

LITTLE ITALY/MISSION HILLS. Nice sized studio, older commercial building with garden nursery/barbershop. Full kitchen, bathroom, closet, 15X14 room, nice and clean. \$625. 858-272-8889.

LITTLE ITALY. City lights, night views! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Harowou floors. Washer/dryer. Security. High ceilings. 2 available. 240 West Grape. \$1150.\$1250.619-787-7326.

MIRA MESA. \$1095. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Super clean. Pool, laundry, parking, private patio. Near I-15.

room, 1 bath condo. Super clean. 1 co., laundry, parking, private patio. Near I-15. No pets. Year lease. \$1095 security. 858-

MIRA MESA. \$1495. 2 master bedrooms 2 bath, Condo. New appliances, washer/dryer, air, fireplace, community pool/spa/gym, covered parking, totally re-modeled. Call 858-270-8921; 858-485-

MIRA MESA/WEST. \$1250. Upper, 2 master bedrooms 2 bath. All appliances. Washer/dryer in unit. Covered parking. Pool, gym. 858-366-8011.

MISSION BEACH, 1 bedroom, 1 bath New carpet, new paint. \$1000/month. Available now. Pet friendly! 858-353-

MISSION BEACH. \$795. Nice studio. 4-Tiled throughout and bathroom. Off-street parking. Call for an appointment, 619-224-7655.

MISSION BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly renovated. Garage with storage. Steps to ocean/bay. Near shops, restaurants, night life. Available now. Pets OK 562-777-5640

MISSION BEACH. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage, dishwasher. Year-round. No pets. 777 Isthmus Court. 858-488-2006. http://home.san.rr.com/

MISSION BEACH. \$2100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, water/trash and land-scaping included. Large yard. 3261 Ocean Front Walk. 858-483-3534. www.

MISSION BEACH. \$1100. 1 bedroom cottage style, garage. No pets. Available 1/1. 812 Toulon Court. 858-483-3534; www.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$850. Cute studio. Wall bed, parking, utilities paid. Year round. Steps to beach & bay. 2826 Mission Boulevard. 858-488-0690 or 858-

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. \$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/SOUTH. \$800/lease. Studio apartments, available now! Off-street parking. All utilities paid. No pets. 2980 Mission Boulevard. Call 858-488-5463 or 760-912-9552.

CENTRAL

AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus's Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 25 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus's Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576.7449

AQUARIUM. 35 gallon plexi-glass

cessories included. Complete setup \$250 Call after 4pm 619-593-1998.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/ saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices Expertise not found in Southern Californicookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Claire-mont Mesa Boulevard, www. aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BENGAL KITTENS, 4 males, 8 weeks, Christmas ready, tica, non-caged, family raised, gorgeous, must see. \$600, Spring Valley area, can E-mail pics 619-825-

BORDER TERRIER. 19 pounds, 4 years timid, needs quiet home, no small kids Sweet, not a barker, shots, license, mi-crochip. \$150, 619-583-5122.

BOXER PUPPY, \$500. Purebred male, 6

done and has first shots. Parents onsite Serious inquiries only, 619-269-9990.

BUNNY RABBITS. Several young intact dwarf rabbits, holland lops buck/does, lion head bucks. They are \$10/each, E-mail for more information may96911@

BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.

CHIHUAHUA. 2 male puppies. 3 months old. \$300. 858-414-6005.

Old. \$300. 858-414-60005.

DOGS. FOCAS is a trusted name in pet adoptions. Call for information on a variety of wonderful rescued pets. Always altered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536.

ENGLISH SPRINGER. Spaniel puppies. liver/white, AKC, tails cropped, dew claws removed, deworming/first shot se

ries done. 4 males, 3 females, field champion lines, \$400, 619-443-0746.

FREE TO LOVING Home, beautiful adult female cat. Tortoise shell color, spayed. Very loving and affectionate, needs indoor home. Perfect for only pet household, Lakeside 619-561-7433.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER. San Diego Golden Retriever meetup group, for golden re-triever owners to meet while their goldens enjoy company of others. Information http://goldens.meetup.com/33.

JACK RUSSELL TERRIERS. AKC, 10 weeks. Tri-color, long legged, smooth coats, very kid friendly. Especially cute and smart, need good homes, \$400, 619-579-7150.

JAPANESE CHIN PUPPIES. Just in time for Christmas presents. Rare Japanese Chin puppies, AKC, holistic-home raised, \$1,000. E-mail chin@inbox.com or call

KENYAN BOA BABIES. \$45. Infant Sand Boas born 3 weeks ago. Orange and yel-low. Adorable, easy tempered and don't Boas born 3 weeks ago. Orang low. Adorable, easy tempered grow to be huge. 619-269-4858

KITTEN, 7 weeks, adorable fluffy white female shorthair, rescued, a bit shy, spayed, needs shots. To loving responsible permanent home, \$40/donation 760-

230-1346. **KITTENS,** 4-1/2 weeks can leave mother just before Christmas. 1 orange shorthaired male, 1 semi-fluffy female just before Christmas. 1 haired male, 1 semi \$100/each 619-510-1125.

NUTERNS. 3 months, rescues, healthy but people shy, spayed/neutered, shots, black males, calico females to life long permanent indoor homes, small donation 619-267-6722.

619-267-6722.

KITTENS. 3 male kittens, 10 weeks old. \$40 each. 1 gray fluffy, 1 creme fluffy, 1 orange shorthair. Deflead and dewormed, need shots/neutering. 760-687-5664.

KITTENS/CATS. 10+ weeks, need responsible, lifetime homes. Cute, friendly, virus-tested, neutered, vaccinated, devormed, defleaed. Tuesday/Thursday, 6pm-8pm. Saturday/Sunday, noon-4pm. Petsmart La Jolla, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. Fee, www.sdcats.org.

KITTIES. Rescued. Beautiful. All ages. Full of love! Give them the wonderful homes they deserve. Adoption fee includes medicals and spay/neuter. 760-591-1211, x1.

591-1211, x1.

PARROTLETS. Proven pair of Parrotlets \$200. Also have a Pastel Blue Parrotlet for \$300, she is very sweet. 619-840-2295.

PEACOCKS. \$20. Young peafowl hatched July 1. Need a home. \$20 each. Please call 619-659-0541.

PEKINGESE. Bichon mix, 3 years, white, neutered male, house broken. Likes dogs, older kids, and car rides, playful, uses dogdoor, \$100, 619-466-0426. uses aggaoor, \$100, 619-466-0426. PET GROOMING TABLE, Brand new. Precision pet products #2170-4824p. 48*LX24*WX30*H. Professional quality, heavy duty legs, extra strong welds, solid plywood top/rubber \$90, 619-282-6651. PITBULL PUPPY. \$500. Purebred female, 8 weeks old. Light brown with white chest, blue/green eyes. No papers. Please call with questions. 619-890-3475.

Puppies. Labradoodle F1B. Non/low shed, allergy friendly. Wonderful family dogs! Shipping until 12/20. Apricot, cream, chocolate, 'caramel', black/sable. 2-year guarantee. \$1500. www.doodledowns.com. doodledowns.com. PUPPIES. Maltese(full-breed), \$600, 7 weeks. Malti-poo(mixed), \$550, 7 weeks. Beautiful, shots, no papers, health guarantee (30 days). Email pictures (allow 48 hours), 619-248-0553, 619-825-6954, deurstramy@upbe-ock

Puppies. Papillo. Com. Puppies. Apaillo. Com. Ready for Christmas, 8 weeks 12/21. Will deliver personally. Male or female. Black and white, sable and white, \$1100. 760-518-7898; 360-385-4088.

PUPPY, Mini Dachshund. \$400. 11 weeks old, smooth haired female. Reddish old, smooth halred lemals. Hodgich brown. Purebred with papers. Sweet dis-position. Call for more information and pictures. 760-815-2046.

RAT TERRIER PUPPY, 4 months, male UKCI, class B, smart, lots of energy! Pa-pertrained, good in apartment, prefer small yard, \$250. \$300/with crate/sup-plies 619-299-3117.

RESCUED KITTENS. With up-to-date services, need lifetime homes. Petpeople - Mission Valley 5664 Mission Center Road. Saturday/Sunday, December 17 and 18. THOROUGHBRED GELDING. \$1500. 9

year old bay geld, english or western lesson horse. Light mouthed and responsive, calm, gentle. For sale or lease. 619-328-3029.

TOY POODLES. \$300. Adorable toy poodles, absolutely precious. Only 2 left. Please call, 619-384-6239.

WALK IN IN A Wiener-wonderland, walk your dapper doxies in Balboa Park Sunday 12/18, 1-3pm, more information at www.sddc.us.





MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$925. 1 bednom. Dewnstairs. 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.

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 HILLS. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. On canyon, quiet, near shopping and bus lines. No pets. 619-298-6436.

298-6436. MISSION HILLS/OLD TOWN. Nice 2 bed-room, 1 bath. Second floor. On-site laun-dry. All wood & tile floors. Recently up-graded. Pets OK. \$1100. 3784 Keating Street. 858-613-1069.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. 1/2 month free on 2 bedroom. 2 bath units! Lofts. 1. free on 2 bedroom, 2 bath units! Lofts, 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.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

Wission Hills. \$1450. Darling 1 bed-room, 1 bath duplex. Quiet canyon cul-de-sac. Big front porch, tree-filled back yard. New carpet. Available now. 806 Bush. 619-688-1631, 619-435-2362.

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-pron.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$725. Quiet Studio with city views. Close to Downtown and Hill-crest. No pets. Laundry room. Near bus stop. 2722 Reynard Way. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. 2 bedroom, 1 path, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, community backyard. Dining room, living room. 1100 square feet. \$1200/month. 619-994-1362 or 619-255-3003.

619-994-1362 or b19-250-JUUJ.

MISSION HILLS. \$750. Upstairs studio. Hardwood floors. Murphy bed and antique bathtub. Intercom entry. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 West Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, new carpet/paint. No pets. Near Downtown! Laundry. 3549 Reynard Way.

WISSION HILLS. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath with large deck, spectacular city views, laundry. Garage. Available Janary 2. 619-988-0705.

MISSION HILLS. \$1825. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse with city views, hardwood floors, fireplace, storage unit, dish-

washer, air conditioning. 2 parking spaces in underground, gated garage. No pets. 909 Sutter Street #304. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

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 VALLEY/SERRA MESA. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage Patio. Balcony. Close to parks, minutes to stadium/malls. \$1450. 8644 Hurlbut. 619-

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NORTH PARK. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath

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NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, laundry on site. 4085 Idaho Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.

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NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Assigned parking. Available now. 3987 Alabama. Call Ed, 858-597-6100; 619-778-8444.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$925. 1 bedroom apartment, upstairs, sunny balcony, beam ceilings, newer appliances, laundry, parking, pet considered. Available 1/1/06. 4941 Long Branch. 858-272-7697.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. No pets. Garage. 6 month lease. 5072 West Point Loma Boulevard. \$1375/ month. 858-273-4820 or 858-525-5238.

OCEAN BEACH. \$620. Small studio apartment. Paid SDG&E. No pets. Nonsmoking. New paint/carpet. Appliances. Share parking. Near beach. 5037 Narragansett Avenue #4. Juno, 619-275-3455.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1050. 2 bedroom (1 bathroom, remodeled) apartment. Office of the part of the paid of the partment.

bathroom, remodeled) apartment. Off-street parking. No pets. 2743 Camulos Street (near Nimitz/West Point Loma Boulevard). 619-222-6427.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1

OCEAN BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs apartment with parking and laundry! Includes utilities! No pets! 4343 Banning Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14

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Mulr Avenue. 619-226-7368.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$950. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, coved ceilings, built-in bookcase. Parking, laundry. No pets. 4853 West Point Loma Boulevard. 760-753-2490.

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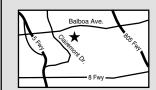


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OCEAN BEACH. Spacious newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1425. Close to beach! New carpet, ceramic tile, and all appliances. Gated, courtyard setting, laundry, parking and more! Cats OK. No dogs. 4940 Del Monte Avenue. 619-226-3171. www.rasnyder.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH, \$2175, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, parking, washer/dryer, 2 blocks to beach. 842 Agate Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1150. Large 2 bed-room, 1 bath, upper unit. Balcony, court-yard, laundry. Available 12/16. No dogs. 2239 Garnet Avenue. Open house: 12/18, 10am-11am. 619-224-7583.

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naue). 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. Spacious, upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath with laundry and off-street parking available 1/1. No pets/smoking. 2003 Emerald Street #6. 619-226-0393.

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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. \$1250. 2 bedroom apartment. Upstairs. Balcony. Easy free-way access. Very private. Good condition. Small net pacificable. Available tion. Small pet negotiable. Available 12/23. 2139 Grand Avenue. 619-260

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

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$975. 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. \$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/CROWN POINT. \$1125 3710 Ingraham. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1395. garage. Hardwood floors. Appliances. Bay view. Freshly painted. 3959 Haines Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. Upstairs, sunny, cozy 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. View. High ceilings. Appliances. Parking. Laundry facility. 2053 Garnet #3. 858-272-

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. Near beach. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment home. Assigned parking. Small yard. Approved pet. 4875 Cass. \$1400/month. \$1400 deposit, 310-548-6597.

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, NORTH. \$1090. 1 bed room. 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 now. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Downstairs condo in 4-unit building. Appliances, laundry hook-ups. Attached garage plus extra space. Fire-place. New carpet. No pets. 1 year lease. 956 Sapphire. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1150. 1 bed room. Stove, refrigerator. Nice shared lawn area. Quiet duplex. Garage. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 1/1/06. 941 Missouri. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. Large 2 bed-room, 1 bath. Laundry, patio, barbecue, upstairs. No dogs. Cats ok. 1832-1/2 Mis-souri. Steve Richards Realty, 858-483-

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.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. Deposit \$800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated, stove, refrigerator. Blocks from beach. 4751 Mission Boulevard #7. 619-804-3325.

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.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to beach. 719 Chalcedony. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-454-4200 x110.

agement, 858-454-4200 x110.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$895. 1 bedroom. Excellent central location. Open house Saturday December 17, 12-1pm. 2009 Thomas. Torrey Pines Property Management, 858-699-3851.

ment, 858-699-3851.

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DRUMMER WANTED, experienced, to start up rock cover band and to perform in local clubs, weddings, parties, coffee shops. We are both experienced. 619-

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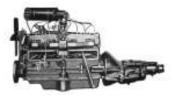






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System Service

Dear Saffron.

My girlfriend and I have been dating two years. She's kind, lovely, and fun. She has a solid job and has been taking care of herself and her son (she's a single mom) with no help from anyone for a decade. She's also a strong person who has been through a lot and has her head on straight. She badly wants to get married to me. She's up front about this, even cracks jokes about it. I haven't proposed because, although I like and respect her, I'm afraid there's too big a gap between us in terms of education. I have a master's degree, I read a lot...I'm a nerdy, brainy kind of guy. My friends are also creative, intellectual types. Art, culture, and the life of the mind are important to me. "Jennifer" is no dummy, but she dropped out of high school, never went to college, and doesn't read much or go to museums or talk about the things my friends and I are interested in. She says she feels out of her league when we're with my

friends and always clams up around them. Her friends are mostly loser partyers she knew in high school, and she doesn't hang with them much anymore. I feel like a snob, and I know she's sad I haven't talked wedding bells yet, but I worry about our future. Some of my friends agree with my concerns. Others say, "If you love her and admire her character, that's what counts."

RELUCTANT TO POP THE OUESTION IN HILLCREST

Dear Reluctant,

I'm thrilled you're thinking about this now instead of leaping into marriage while you're racked with doubt. Though it'll likely be awkward, I recommend you try to talk with Jennifer about your worries. Find out what she thinks about your intellectual compatibility. If it was an ambition she had anyway, she could read all kinds of enlightening stuff and begin to enter your world a little more. You could take her to museums. You could both subscribe to smart magazines and newspapers and discuss the articles that catch your fancy. Isn't that what the intelligentsia do over morning coffee? If she had the time and the desire she could audit a couple of junior college or university classes. She may have less formal education than you do, but that doesn't mean she isn't bright. It also doesn't mean she

can't become more savvy about subjects dear to your heart and mind, if she cares to. That's a big "if." She might jump at the chance to explore areas of knowledge new to her, or she might sing you a chorus of "Don't Make Me Over." Since the two of you are considering marriage, open a dialogue now about what both of you want in a life partner. I have a feeling you'll both learn a lot.

Dear Saffron,

This is in response to your recent advice to "Worried Spring Valley Neighbor." He was the guy who wrote in saying that while his 16-year-old neighbor was house sitting for him, the kid was also using the house as a place to have sex with his girlfriend. You are not helping the situation by advising this man to compel the kid to tell his parents what he did or by suggesting that the man himself tell the parents. Get real. What kid tells their parents anything of relevance, especially when it comes to sex? When I was young my aunt told me flat out that if I wanted to have sex with my boyfriend, I should just tell her. We lived right behind the health department across the street from Mission Bay High School, which I attended. I said, "You don't have to worry about me." Of course I got pregnant soon after that. This is how kids are. The older man should not tell this kid's parents. Instead, the guy should tell the 16year-old, "Look, you are young to be having sex, and you are going to have to be careful." He should talk

to him about birth control and safe sex. I mean, really, what's the homeowner going to say to this boy's parents? "Your son was having sex in my house and I think you should keep an eye on him?" That sounds kind of silly. We have to be realistic. I'm sure the teen is embarrassed enough, and I think that if the neighbor tells the parents it will just strain the relationships of all parties involved. You can't promote no sex and then try to promote safe sex. That's my advice.

> THREE KIDS LATER IN MISSION BAY

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

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In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

The surfer is always changing his mind. Suppose he's at the South Mission jetty, watching a wave with the mass of a tall house approach at 30 mph along the rocks. He may wish his board had a little more flotation, to increase paddling speed. Suppose he's in two-foot mush at La Jolla Shores and his nine-foot gun pearls in the sand the moment the wave gets under his tail. He'd probably rather have a fat little summer fish at that moment.

— "THE SURFBOARD SHAPERS," Mark Woelber, December 18, 1975

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Sheriff's deputy A.D. Martin, pilot of a sheriff's helicopter, landed safely at North Island after a least tern (a sea bird on the endangered species list) crashed through the copter's Plexiglas canopy. The bird, which was unhurt, was so angered at the unexpected accident that it began pecking furiously at the feet of Martin's partner, deputy Frank Bird (really).

—SHORT TAKES: "WRONG TERN." December 18, 1980

Twenty Years Ago

It cracks me up that scientists won't admit whales can talk. But what do you expect from a bunch of people who manufactured the

atom bomb, right? I mean, these are people who tell you not to worry about the environment while they're busy spraying poisons on your cereal grain.

The idea that whales can talk scares them, man. They can't handle the thought that something out there knows something that they don't. Besides, their macho buddies in the military-industrial-agricultural complex wouldn't give them any more bucks for research if they wrote anything revolutionary, and God forbid that they should come up with something new.

—"IN A GRAY AREA," Rainbow Freedom, December 19, 1985

Fifteen Years Ago

Once upon a time, I was a non-hippie protopost-punk semi-amniotic undergraduate at UCSD, floundering in the concrete-arid-topsoil wastes of an almost brand-new Muir College — searching for a major, a mentor, or something magic (not to mention another bag of pot or an exotic flavor of LSD). A professor called me into his office one day to discuss a paper I had composed for his literature class, something breezy about a book I found baffling, The Tales of Hoffmann. This professor asked me what my favorite books were, and I replied, mumbling that Jack Kerouac was my hero, that I loved his hastily built beatnik anthem, On the Road. This professor coughed into his fist and recommended a list of novels (not books, but novels!) that he thought I might find more substantial, more fulfilling, that weren't composed on butcher paper and stained with zinfandel and amphetamine crumbs. He invoked the litany and fired the canon: Melville, Mann, Joyce, Faulkner, Mailer. Yikes. The following year I fled UCSD, after my advisor remarked, "Dave, I don't think we have what you're looking for."

- "DIMITRI'S PASSION," Dave Zielinski, December 20, 1990

Ten Years Ago

"We've been giving away picks and stickers," Abdelnour said. "When you give a kid something, they're all going to want something. I've been giving away guitar strings. I thought that wasn't a very good idea because they could poke each other, so I stopped doing that. Plus it was costing way too much money to give away all my guitar strings. But they'll take anything. They'll take a wrapper of a guitar string. Anything. I let them go through my guitar case and they take everything."

—CALENDAR: "WE'RE JUST A WHITE BAND FROM SANTEE," Larry Harmon, December 14, 1995



San Diego Reader, December 18, 1975

Five Years Ago

Vice President Al Gore's recount committee has taken in \$3.5 million to pay for all those legal bills associated with his struggle over the presidency with George W. Bush. Big Gore donors include Jane Fonda, with \$100,000. Only one San Diego name appears on the list: billionaire Qualcomm founder Irwin M. Jacobs, with \$2000.

—CITY LIGHTS: "GORE FUNDS." Matt Potter.

December 14, 2000

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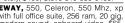
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LEAD STORY

- The Official Shoe of Illegal Immigrants: Artist Judi Werthein's high-top sneaker "Brinco" went on sale recently (\$215 a pair) at boutiques in San Diego and New York City, with tiny accessories (compass and flashlight on the shoelaces, secret pocket in the shoe's tongue), but she also gives away many pairs in Tijuana because she actually designed the shoe for Mexican migrants to wear when they sneak across the border into the United States. (The back of the shoe has a drawing of the country's patron saint of migrants, and a removable foot support has a crude map of the U.S.-Mexico border, according to a November Associated Press report).

Can't Possibly Be True

- Until the policy was changed in October, cafeterias in the 18 schools of the North Penn School District (northwest of Philadelphia) had been supplying as eating utensils only plastic cutlery that was washed after each meal and reused, even though students had long expressed disgust at spoons and knives riddled with bite marks and had, defensively, taken to eating foods like yogurt and applesauce with their hands. (The district admitted that this recycling saved only \$15,000 a year.) Blonde twins, Lamb and Lynx Gaede, age 13. of Bakersfield, Calif., sing professionally as Prussian Blue at white-supremacy concerts and rallies and on the white-nationalist Resistance Records label (with songs like "Sacrifice," which is a tribute to Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess), according to an October ABC News story. The girls' parents home-school them and are active in the Arvan movement (rancher-dad Ted Shaw's cattle brand is a swastika). Said Lvnx, "We want our people to stay white. We don't want to just be, you know, a big muddle."

 According to more than 50 alleged witnesses in 30 pending lawsuits, former Seattle-area gynecologist Charles Momah, 48, not only sexually abused patients but also permitted his twin brother, Dennis (a doctor but not a gynecologist), to stand in for him during some patient appointments, during which he, too, sexually abused the women. Examples of suspicion-provoking behavior, according to witness statements: Sometimes their doctor was talkative, sometimes confused and nearly silent; sometimes he spoke English clearly, sometimes broken; sometimes he walked with a limp, sometimes not; sometimes there were scars on his face, sometimes not. The Momahs deny everything, but Charles was convicted in November of sexually abusing four of the patients.

 In November, to calm down a growing number of apparently horrified Australians, the Food Authority of the state of New South Wales issued a statement assuring people that meat in their refrigerators that appears to glow in the dark is actually harmless. Said the authority's director, the light-emitting bacteria responsible for the glow "is not known to cause food poisoning" and, actually, is naturally present in most meats and fish.

Unclear on the Concept

 In October in Evansville, Ind., Terrence L. Mackey, 63, was sentenced to 29 years in prison for a May 2005 bank robbery, but not before he tried to defend his behavior to federal judge Richard L. Young, blaming the robbery on federal corrections officials. He would have turned his life around before now, Mackey said, if officials had just sent him to a prison close to his mother's home in Florida when he was locked up for a 1982 crime. And as to the charge that he shot at police as he fled the bank robbery, he claimed self-defense: "The police were shooting at me."

 David Duvall and his two-year-old daughter were hospitalized with burns on the head suffered during the Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville in October after a female acrobat mishandled a flaming wand. The woman, seeking a volunteer from the audience, asked Duvall, in front of his family, if she could set fire to his bald head, and Duvall said, "Sure." Said Duvall's wife, later, "We thought they knew what they were doing." Cary, N.C., software developer Brian T. Schel-

lenberger, 43, told FBI agents in December 2003

that he had been influenced by a workplace moti-

vational poster that read "Achieve Your Dreams." His major life transformation was that "I decided to get rid of the obsolete idea of morality." He told the agents that he was inspired to move beyond his passive collecting of pornography to begin creating his own child pornography to satisfy long-held fantasies about young girls. (Later, he enlisted a man, unsuccessfully, to kill his wife in exchange for pornography from his collection.) In October 2005, Schellenberger, though subsequently remorseful, was sentenced to 100 years in prison.

Least Competent People

- Jim Porcellato endured about 30 seconds of excruciating pain in October in Sooke, British Columbia, when he attempted to shut off a Bobcat construction vehicle but accidentally stepped on the floor lever that raises and lowers the vehicle's bucket at the same time that he was straddling the bucket. With one foot and his body's weight on the lever, Porcellato had no leverage to stop the bucket, which as it moved, trapped his head and other leg. A co-worker rescued him, but the result was "many" lost teeth and the need for "hundreds" of stitches in his face, according to the Sooke

- In Fargo, N.D., in September, Justin W. Fraase called the police to tell them that he had a videotape that would prove that the woman who had a judicial stay-away order against him wanted him back. The tape was of the two having sex, and when authorities viewed it, they realized that, for one thing, the sex itself violated the judicial order and, second, the woman appeared not to be enjoying herself at all. (Indeed, she later said that Fraase had coerced her, and he was charged with three felony counts relating to the assault and the violation of the stay-away order.)

Police Blotter

From the newspaper The State (Columbia, S.C., 11-14-05), regarding fugitive Rodney Dane Higginbotham, wanted for criminal domestic violence: "Alleged Crime: Police said Higginbotham argued with his wife because she had not cooked anything. When she began cooking, he started making spaghetti while eating crackers and squeeze cheese. They argued, and he squeezed cheese on the kitchen floor. She squeezed the cheese on his truck, and he squeezed the cheese in her hair before fleeing in his truck. The wife said she washed her hair before the officer arrived to take her complaint."

Bright Ideas

— In November, NASCAR announced it had contracted with the romance publisher Harlequin Enterprises to arrange for steamy women's novels with car-racing themes, beginning with Pamela Britton's forthcoming book "In the Groove." ... According to an October Los Angeles Times report, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America trade association contracted to pay two writers a "six-figure" fee to write a novel about a national panic resulting from a fear that drug lobbyists had been trying to spread in Congress, specifically, that terrorists might poison lower-priced drug imports from Canada. (The paper reported that the association recently killed the project and blamed the idea on an unsupervised lower-level executive.)

Readers' Choice

 The body of a 36-year-old woman was found stuck halfway through a rear window in a house in St. Louis in October, the result (according to police) of an unsuccessful burglary attempt; she had asphyxiated, and in the course of her struggle to break free, her pants had somehow come off. ... A 42-year-old woman in Frederica, Del., hanged herself from a tree on the Tuesday before Halloween, and though she was spotted at a distance soon afterward, neighbors did not call police for ten hours, figuring at first that the body was just a Halloween decoration.

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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90 Days Same As Cash 12-month/12,000-mile Warranty **Rental Cars Available Free Shuttle Service**

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Scheduled maintenance service, as recommended by manufacturers, includes a tune-up verification, maintenance tune-up, emissions analysis, PCV valve, fuel filter, air filter, oil change, radiator service, and a maintenance inspection. As low as \$169.95 after \$50 off coupon.

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Includes up to 5 qts. 10W-30 oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

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\$24⁹⁵4-cvl.

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\$44⁹⁵8-cyl.

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COLLEGE AREA. Saturday/Sunday 12/16, 12/17, 9am-3pm. Bedroom furniture, dishes, clothes, books, glassware, music boxes, commemorative plates, more. 63rd and Pontiac Street.

EL CAJON. Garage sale. Saturday, 12/17, 7am-noon. Infant/toddler clothes and toys. Kitchen and household items and more. 836 Vista Grande Road (at Dehesa

FASHION HILLS, Estate sale, living room, dining room, bedroom set, entertainment center, TVs, full leather set living room, marble table, stereo system, and miscellaneous 619-316-3885..

LA JOLLA. Saturday 12/17, 8a-noon. Art teacher's garage sale, educational materials, books, puzzles, photo equipment, posters, bikes, plus lots more great stuff. 6580 Draper.

MISSION HILLS. Garage Sale. Antique store closing, entire inventory. Hoosier, armoire, crystal chandelier, etc. etc. etc. 721 Goldfinch Place. Saturday, Decem-17, 8am-11am. 619-688-163

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. Sun-glasses, watches, skateboards, surf-

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<u>Brakes in 2 hours or less</u>

Not valid with any other offer.

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boards, snowboards, sandals, wetsuits. body boards, everything on sale, everything must go! One location only, 3126 Mission Blvd, just south of the roller coaster, 10am-9pm daily. 858-488-9224.

NORTH PARK, Saturday 12/17, 4355 Utah, 7:30am-? Moving sale, Furniture, surfboards, wet suit, computer, exercise equipment, ladder, clothes, toys, camp-ing equipment, kitchen, Xmas, music/more

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Washer/dryer sets, \$225. Refrigerators, water/ice, \$149. Freezers, \$119. Dryers, \$99. Washers, \$119. 3-year warranties.
Can delivery. 619-250-7500.

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BRAKE EXPRESS SERVICE CENTER INC.

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DISHWASHER, GE Nautilus, white, 1 year old, used less than 20 times, previous home owners were never here, \$125. 760-445-5181.

DRYER, electric, Kirkland, 2 years old, very good condition, barely used, paid \$350, asking \$100/best. Brett or Carla, 619-271-4776.

G.E. TOASTER. Art deco deer-1929, excellent condition, must see, price \$195, phone 619-296-7185.

GE APPLIANCES FOR SALE. 30' built in electric oven/convection and 30' natural gas cook top. 1998. White. Excellent condition. \$400. 619-571-8998.

MICROWAVE OVEN, Sharp Carousel 1500 watts, black, excellent condition cost \$80 new, asking \$35. 858-829-5530. OVEN, DISHWASHER, microwave oven

refrigerator, practically new. Kenmore refrigerator, \$300. Frigidaire oven, \$200. Amana midrange oven microwave, \$115. Kitchen Aid dishwasher, \$275. Under 1 year. 619-222-0843.

REFRIGERATOR. For sale, side-by-side, upright door, almond color, excellent condition, a few years old. \$200/best, call 619-583-6985.

REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER,

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REFRIGERATOR. \$125. Dishwasher Kenmore Elite \$150. Wine cooler, 18 bottle, \$50. Electric oven/microwave \$75. Electric stovetop \$75. Trash compactor \$75. 619-972-6042.

b 19-9/2-0042. **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.

REFRIGERATOR. Frigidaire, 16QF, beige, light hinge, very clean and working, excellent buy, \$110, 619-422-4122.

REFRIGERATOR, Whirlpool Gold Con-quest, stainless steel, 24.5 cubic feet, side by side with in-door ice dispensing system, counter depth design, was \$2799, now \$1200. 619-469-3602.

REFRIGERATOR, white Kenmore, 25 cubic feet, side by side, frost-free, ice/water through door, \$125. El Cajon, 619-447-

REFRIGERATOR, Subzero, large, built in, M-501, same width as side-by-side refrigerator/freezer, looks and works great, over \$3000 new, asking \$150. 619-421-3550

REFRIGERATOR, 17 cubic feet, ice maker, frost-free, freezer on top, very good condition, \$150. 619-479-9838.

good condition, \$150.619-479-9838. **REFRIGERATOR**, GE, 22.5 cubic feet, moving, must sell, many features, compartment for meat refrigerator with air from freezer, very roomy, freezer on top, \$100.619-405-7291.

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736-4811.

WASHER AND DRYER. Kenmore, super clean, and large, still under warranty, \$300/both, call 858-583-6023.

WASHER, DRYER, \$85/piece, \$150/both. Double range/microwave/wipe-top, Kenmore \$175. Double range G.E. O.K. Dishwasher \$75. New shower pan \$75, 619-291-4868.

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free. 619-702-3270.

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With free brake and 32-point inspection. Most 4-cyl. cars. Plus \$2.50 disposal fee.

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Complete transmission flush by Trans Tech 2000 flush machine, unique in its class, flushing 100% of old fluid out and adding new fluid in. Labor only. Most 4-cyl. cars. Ask for details.

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15,2005 Reader December San Diego





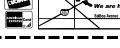
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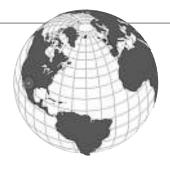


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THE SWEDISH CONNECTION

There are two things that give me an ecstatic thrill. One of them is photography. The other is learning a new language. It is better than sex, because it's the alleged reason for it: intimacy. You're meeting the person speaking the target language on a brain-cell level. It doesn't get more personal than that. Language is the raw material of personality, of life itself. Portuguese, the last language that got my heart's attention, is emotional and poetic and begs to be played with (it's not one of the Romance languages for nothing). Swedish, as far as I can tell with my limited knowledge, is clean and spare. English, which borrows from every language it encounters, is all these things — a linguistic schizophrenia.

I'm learning Swedish because a Swedish writer bewitched me: Henning Mankell.

He is most famous for his Kurt Wallander police procedurals. They are bleak, but I feel a strange, clear, constant life in them. He always writes the same thing: some psychokiller wreaks havoc, horrible deaths in cold unemotional detail. The crimes affect the protagonist, a 50-something detective, and now, in a new series, his daughter, who is also a cop, with matter-of-fact physical and mental erosion. The detective is divorced, has affairs that break his heart, drinks too much, is diabetic, and gets more bipolar with each episode. The daughter's love life is equally bleak, and she fights with her parents, who descend deeper into alcoholism. She attempts suicide twice. Relatives die of old age; colleagues croak of cancer. The weather is always cold and

crisp and grey, and chapters tend to end with the temperature (in Celsius) and the date, as if marking and waiting for something at the same time.

The writing reminds me of photographs, where the silence is deafening and explanatory, but it's the explanation of terrible underlying things.

Mankell's mother left when he was young, and this is evident in his fiction. In an interview with the *Guardian*, Mankell remembers the isolated village to which he moved when young: "It was far away from everything. I remember at school every June, we were supposed to pick flowers and sing about spring. But it was always dark and freezing."

The gulf between spring and frozen darkness is in every one of Mankell's books. Appalling things happen, and the characters struggle to come to terms with them and fail. The brilliance of Mankell's prose is how he reduces this struggle to something matter-of-fact. When one reads the lucid,

terse translations (which sound the same —- Hemingway-esque — from three different translators), one feels the current of the terrible meeting, the if-only roiling underneath. In the *Guardian* interview, Mankell describes meeting his mother 15 years after she walked out on him: "They met in a restaurant in Stockholm, and her first



words to him were: 'I have the flu."

The same thing is evident in Bergman's classic movies of the late '70s, like Scenes from a Marriage, where the mundane — the clean wooden house floors and warmly worn fuzzy sweater yarns — mask the psychological turmoil of the

characters. It's no surprise that Mankell is Bergman's son-in-law.

This bit of Mankell's prose jumped out at me and will not leave me alone: "The storm clouds had moved on to the west. Anna stopped talking and looked down at her hands. Linda almost had the impression she was making sure none of her fingers were missing."

I suddenly became aware of the general scheme of life, the passage of time, the pull toward death of each pulsing organism. It was as if the soul of the writer spoke to me through the barriers of time, space, and language.

He seduced me on the same level as the camera did when I first held one in my hands. I'm talking about a passion so deep and constant that I can only respond by reflexive squeaks. I attempt to make art by way of explanation. And my art fails. But still I must respond.

http://hruskova.blogspot.com

liver. 858-688-2781; North County, 760-271-5228.

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DINING ROOM TABLE. Antique, Queen Anne style from England, 42*x54*, \$139. Kitchen table, white enamel, 2 red chairs, charming, \$95, 858-485-9572.

DINING TABLE. Drop leaf, seats 2-8, solid wood, antique finish, cost \$350, sell \$175, Barbara 858-483-2118.

DRESSER. 58"x18"x31", with mirror, walnut finish \$100/best. 2 wall mirrors, 33 1/2x 57 1/2, with walnut frame \$65. 51 1/2x29 1/2, with carved Tudor Rose \$65, 619-224-

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maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or imported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.davisworld.com or email to info@davisworld.com. Call 619-

FUTON BED. Lounger style, pine frame, twin size, 10 layer, black, new, used 3 times, \$175, 619-723-2277.

GREAT FURNITURE, At great price! Contemporary black leather coach set \$800. Matching coffee/end-tables included. 27* flat screen \$450, not/LCD/Plasma. much more, christopherbergendahll3@htmail. HEADBOARD. Oak, king/queen, side-pier plus smaller cabinets with slide-door, lamps-in \$395. Entertainment unit for largest/smallest screen TV other/equipments, easy assembly/carry \$90, 858-549-7005.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL. Walnut and Chrome, computer table/with chair, rounded table top with upper table shelf and lower roll out desk, originally \$400, \$55, 760-634-3315.

IKEA BED. Lillehammer twin bed frame, blue, great condition, perfect for Xmas guests, includes free mattress! \$70. 619-271-3125.

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the front & rear brakes
the cooling system & hoses
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Top off fluids
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Like new in box with remote control. Plays 25 carols, \$80. White book case, 71x31x11 \$30. Brass piano lamp, \$20.

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FITZ AND FLOYD, Santa cookie jar, in box, older, lots of gold \$45. Cashmere sweaters men, women's new \$10-\$15. Child's pedal car, old \$55, 619-282-9581. **FLAG POLE,** white, 21' high, 2-3/8' diameter, galvanized, new with all accessories, except flag. \$230 installed. Steve, 858-279-0492.

15, Reader December 216 San Diego

It's CRIME

STABBINGS

Location: Intersection of South 10th Street and D Street,

Time/Date: 9:01 a.m. on 11/30/05

Investigation: Deputies Machado and Brewer responded to a stabbing call. The victim stated he was



stabbed by a Hispanic or white male who fled west on D Street. Witnesses claimed that

they recognized the suspect as local resident William W. Deputies continued to search for W. while detectives McNeill and Vorce went to Palomar Hospital to show a photo lineup to the victim and obtain his statement. The victim gave a statement but refused to look at the photo lineup and did not want to prosecute.

At about 1:28 p.m., while the detectives were still at the hospital, another stabbing was reported at 121 Ramona Street. Deputies responded and arrested W. at the scene who was identified as the suspect in the second stabbing as well. A folding knife was recovered at the second scene and is believed to be the weapon in at least the second stabbing. W. made a spontaneous statement at the second scene indicating he stabbed the man at the second scene.

DUI

Location: 1500 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar Time/Date: 9:51 a.m. on 12/03/05

Report: Deputies Phillips and Petrachek received a radio call of a traffic collision involving a solo vehicle high-centered on the raised landscaped median at 1500 Camino Del Mar. At the same time the Sheriff's Communication center was broadcasting the radio call, Del Mar lifeguards were calling on a tactical frequency. Their call was to advise the Del Mar patrol unit that they had a DUI driver involved in a collision at the same location.

Sheriff's units on scene contacted the driver of the

vehicle, Melissa D. of Escondido, 25, who had the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on her breath and about her person.

It was discovered at the scene from witnesses that D. had hit a bus in the jurisdiction of the San Diego Police Department, and then hit a car in the Sheriff's jurisdiction at Camino Del Mar and 4th Street. The driver of the second collision followed the suspect vehicle to where it collided with the raised median.

As a result of the collision, D. was transported to Scripps Encinitas Hospital for an evaluation. After being cleared by hospital staff, and while walking to the transporting deputies' patrol car, the suspect attempted to take foot bail.

She was quickly recaptured and returned to custody.

BURGLARY

Location: 3974 Spring Drive,

Spring Valley

Time/Date: 3:15 a.m. on 12/04/05



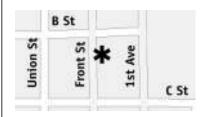
Investigation: Lemon Grove Sheriff Deputies were dispatched [to] an alarm call at Bank Auto Sales. Upon arrival, Deputies Eli Curran and Sean Ochoa observed a window screen removed from the side of the business and a man poking his head out of the window. The man was attempting to exit the business through the window

but changed his mind and re-entered the business when he realized deputies were waiting for him outside.

Deputy Jeff Guthrie and his K-9 arrived on scene. The suspect was told to exit the building before the K-9 and handler entered the building. The suspect later identified as Jesse S. (DOB: 09-23-82) quickly climbed out of the window and was apprehended outside the building. S. had several stolen checks from the business in his nossession.

JAIL BRAWL

Location: 1173 Front Street, Downtown Time/Date: 2:45 p.m. on 12/05/05



Incident: The tower deputy in Module 5 saw two inmates fighting in the dayroom. He called the floor deputies to advise them and called for additional deputies to assist. Before the deputies arrived, there were about ten to fifteen inmates fighting. Deputies told the inmates to lock down several times. They refused and continued fighting. A deputy responded with chemical agents and fired several rounds through the food flap. Again the inmates were ordered to lock down, but they continued fighting and ignored the deputies.

As more team deputies arrived, the inmates finally began to lock down. Because several cells were still left open, the staff could not fully

assess how many inmates were injured. The deputies asked the inmates in the cells if anyone required medical attention. No inmate asked for medical attention.

Meanwhile, the tactical team arrived, consisting of fifteen deputies and two sergeants. The team checked each room for injured inmates. The inmates were returned and secured in their assigned cells. There were two inmates who still refused to comply and had to be removed from their cell with a low-lethal impact weapon.

SHOOTING

Location: [100] Gossnell Street,

San Marcos

Time/Date: 6:44 p.m. on 12/06/05



Incident: A man approached a group of suspected gang members who had been harassing a female. A short argument followed. While the man was talking to the group, he heard a gunshot and realized he had been shot in the hand. As the man ran back to his apartment, the group ran the opposite direction. San Marcos patrol deputies quickly established an area perimeter, in an attempt to contain the suspects. Through witness statements and tips received, three possible suspects were located hiding in a construction site. The suspects were arrested without further incident.

—Michael Hemmingson

FOR SALE. Kirby vacuum G4, self-propelled \$150. Makita drill kit 9.6V, \$45. Black leather jacket, \$45. Original oil painting, Kinkaid-life frame \$150, 619-449-8069.

GENERATOR, Honda EM2200X \$480. Honda ES3500 belt drive model with electric start \$580. Both Honda high quality and both like new. 760-732-1315.

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HONDA GENERATOR. EU 3000is. Has a pull and a key start option, great genera-tor. Quiet, low. Used on camping trips, \$1150. Dan 619-788-2063.

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auto parts, etc, etc, wetsuits, call Brad

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MODEL AIRPLANE, B-29 bomber with 4 engines and radio control. Asking \$95. 619-574-7530.

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Bots cars. Includes new plugs, inspection oil parts, cap, rotor wire, air & fuel filters. Some oil filters extra. Platinum plugs extra. Must present coupon at time of service. Coupons may not be combined with any other offers. Expires 12/29/05.

Must present coupon at time of service. Not to be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/29/05.

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Vans & heavy-duty trucks extra. Cash only. Must present DMV renewal notice *All prices plus tax. With this ad. Exp. 1/16/06

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Canon scanner \$20. Desk \$25. Blue carpet 9'x6' \$50. Videocam \$40, More, 619-522-9038. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, Complete set

1929 \$50. Anchor chain high tensile double galvanized 5, 84 foot, \$2/per foot. 1/4" \$1, per foot, 619-303-6175. **OUTDOOR SPA.** Lifespring spas LS7000, seats 4-6, paid \$4500 1 year ago. Excellent condition, make me an offer, 858-705-3444

PAIR EARRINGS. 1. Pearl and gold clip

PINBALL MACHINE. 1977 string ray by Stern, good working condition, great entertainment, asking \$600, price negotiable, Lee 619-208-4321.

POOL HEATER. Propane demo, was \$1150, guaranteed \$700. Kreepy Crawler

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PRACTICALLY NEW, Delta 8 1/4" sidekick builder's saw with wheeled mobil saw stand. Includes instructions manual, me-ter gage, blades/blade guard/rip fence, \$500, 858-551-0660.

QUALITY EXERCYCLE. \$85. Lawnmower, self-propelled, excellent \$120. Canoe, fiberglass, \$250. Freezer, new, small \$95. Love-seat rocker, fabric, excellent \$35. Camping equipment \$25, 858-581-1869.

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\$15⁹⁵

Most cars. Plus tax and HMF

Up to 5 qts. oil.

No appointment necessary

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\$**99**⁹⁵

Semi-metallic pads extra. Complete inspection. Replace oads or shoes. Resurface rotors or

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\$.34 00 8-Cyl. \$43.97

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San Diego Reader December 15, 2005









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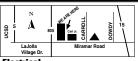
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Brake Inspection Most cars. "Check Engine" Light On?

Diagnostic. Most cars.

s Includes new filter and up to 5 qts. oil. \$1599 Most cars.

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TUNE-UP SPECIAL i Includes: new plugs, check timing,

inspect hoses & belts. Most cars. **\$24.99** 4-cyl. • **\$35.99** 6-cyl. \$45.99 8-cyl.



We also do: Engine Rebuilds • Valve Jobs • Driveability Problems Electrical • Struts • Shocks • Air Conditioning • Fuel Injection Service OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK: Mon.-Fri. 8 am-6 pm • Sat. 8 am-2 pm • Sun. 9:30 am-2 pm **6696 Miramar Road**, Suite M, San Diego (Near I-805) • **858-552-8898**No Appointment Necessary • Major Credit Cards & ATM Accepted



O

Bronco Free

Darcy Mentone's husband, Darren, has owned three Broncos. The first ended up in a wrecking yard. The second required so many costly repairs, Darren swore the whole vehicle was like new. It caught fire, burned, and ended up in a wrecking yard.

Darcy tells me, "By the time Darren bought his third Bronco, I realized that you could classify him as addicted, because an addiction is something that you know is bad for you but you do it anyway.

"After his other Bronco burned, we bought an Expedition. But the Expedition wasn't a Bronco, so before long he convinced me to sell my old Acura so he could buy another Bronco. He gave me the Expedition. I agreed because the Expedition was way newer than my Acura.

"I work about 35 miles from home, and at the peak of gas prices, when gas was almost three dollars a

gallon, I was putting almost \$100 a week into the Expedition gas tank.

"Then the transmission gave out on Darren's third Bronco. And because it's some special transmission especially for pulling trailers like the old heavy one Darren bought, to fix it would cost about as much as the Bronco was worth.

"We decided to buy a car and sell the Bronco and the trailer for whatever we could get and look for a newer, lighter trailer we could tow with the Expedition.

"I started looking at Volvos, because I wanted something safe for our baby, and I figured the Volvo was the ultimate mom car. They get pretty good gas mileage and would be safe for driving the baby and for my half hour commute to work each way that's mostly on the freeway with the big semi trucks flying past. So, I had a Volvo all picked out. It was a Volvo S-40. But my mom convinced me to look it up on Consumer Reports, and I

found it had black dots on the electrical and the braking system. Those are important components of the car. We called Tony, our mechanic who has worked on a lot of Volvos, and he said the Volvos were no good ever since Ford bought the company.

"Then I started my search for a car that would be as safe as a Volvo but also dependable, and I found that on Consumer Reports, the Camry, Lexus, Acura, and Infiniti didn't have any black dots.

"I bought a 2000 Infiniti I-30. Now I get seven days driving to work and back on a tank of gas and a tank costs about \$40. The Expedition used to cost over \$80 to fill and I barely got three trips to work and back out of it. Of course gas prices have gone down. Still I'm saving enough to make my car payment.

"And my car's got leather seats, a moon roof, a Bose stereo with a CD and a tape player. The seats go back to let you out and they readjust to



DRIVER: DARCY MENTONE

VEHICLE: 2000 INFINITI I-30

BOUGHT: OCTOBER 2005 AT UNIQUE MOTORS IN TUCSON, ARIZONA

PRICE: \$12,900

=== MILES: 85,600

fit you when you get back in. And when it starts to get dark, the headlights and dash lights turn on by themselves.

"The only problem is, it's taking a while to get used to driving something so ritzy, like somehow it isn't me. But I can live with that."

Darcy claps and says, "Because at last we're Bronco

To suggest future Driven stories, e-mail ken@kenkuhlken.net

RADIO CONTROLLED ELECTRIC PLANE.

48" wingspan, excellent condition. 3 channel ready to fly, includes 3, 8.4 volt batteries, new motor, extra parts, \$125. 800-482-6483. San Diego.

RETAIL FIXTURES/SUPPLIES. Emerald City, The Boarding Source. All retail fix-tures for sale. Snowboard base grinder for \$3000. 4-ways, slat wall and acces-sories, computers, glass counters, retail counters, pant and shirt hangers, every-thing must go! Reach Ryan at rwist@ ecboardsource.com or 858-488-9224 x212 if you are interested.

SANTA CLAUS SUIT. Includes plush zippered coat with satin lining, plush matching pants and lots of accessories. Like new! \$275, 619-422-0217.

SCHWINN. Mountain/road bike, 12 speed, Taiwan, \$99. Univega road bike, needs work, \$30. Music stand, folding metal \$13. Brief case, black, \$10. More, 619-298-8942.

SMITHVILLE CEDAR. Over 300 pounds of

ous other shapes from Texas, \$3-\$33/each. Pictures available online. 619-890-5880.

SPA/HOT TUB. Deluxe 2005 model Neckjets, therapy seat, many jets. Never used! Warranty. Can deliver. Worth \$5750. Sell \$1750. 858-530-0384.

STRETCH BELTS. 2 gold, 1 silver, size small, \$5/each, 619-444-8989.

SUCCULENT PLANTS., beautiful, \$1-\$5 Plate glass for table 16 1/4*x47 1/4*x 1/4*x 1/4*x 2/5. Vacuum Euro Pro-portable. Tidy wonder canister plus floor attachments

THREE LARGE BOXES, Xmas ornaments. fur stole, power washer, 8 classic steel-craft chairs 858-272-9319.

TOOLS, Rockwell door plane, \$175. 760-

VERTICAL MILLING. Machine with stand vise, boring head and may accessories. 120/240 volts. Like new! \$585. 619-479. **WALKER.** Has brakes, basket, padded seat, padded roll bar attachable to back of seat. New, red, paid over \$225, asking \$175. 619-466-9256.

WHEEL CHAIR. Large heavy duty rolls 1V Invacare red leather, looks excellent Invacare red reamer, 165.52 2 \$350. Tree climber leather belts for equipment (belts only) small \$65, 760-746-

WOOD WORKING, 3 dimensional, duplicating tracing machine. Uses router to duplicate from drawing or model, \$125, 619-527-0868.

WRISTWATCH, high gear altimeter. Time day, date, month, 50m water resistant day, date, month, 50m water resistant, mineral glass, barometer, compass, chronograph, ski chronograph, brand new. \$137 firm. Joe, 619-948-5370.

XMAS TREE. 4 foot, pine with lights and stand, \$18, 858-277-8544.

Motorcycles

ABOUT TO SELL your motorcycle? We pay top cash price, running or not. Out of state, expired tags, lost titles-- all are con-sidered. Will pick up today. Call 619-218-

BEGIN TO RIDE YOU BEFORE BUY! Beginner Motorcycle Training. Teaching people to ride at our Kearny Mesa facility for over 20 years! 858-874-5888. www. BeginToRide com

GS57 SPORT. \$580. 1100CC, 4 cycle, 4speed, manual clutch, front and rear hy-draulic disc brakes, electric and kick start. 10" aluminum wheels. 760-599-

HD SPORTSTER. 2001, XL custom, 1200cc, 9k miles. Forward controls, screaming eagle pipes, teal blue, stainless spokes, extra seat. Purrfect, \$6250,

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-

HONDA CRF 250X. Brand New! Only rode it twice. Never get a chance to ride it. All stock no changes made to bike. comes with battery charger and new battery. \$5500. 858-472-3060.

tery. \$5500. 658-472-3000.

KTM DUAL SPORT. 640 Adventurer LC4.
2003. Like new, under 1200 miles, rarely ridden. Never off road. 760-440-9038.

MOTORCYCLE, 2001 KX 80, Engine totally rebuilt by Quincy, fmf gold, precision concepts suspension, tag bars, new radiator, have all stock parts \$2,000, 619-561-8332.

7980 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. • 858-244-1062 (on the north side of Clairemont Mesa Blvd., between Convoy &

Mercury, behind The Car Store). WE HAVE OUR OWN TOW TRUCK.

STOP! Cash for cycles, ATVs and classic cars from perfect to projects. Loans also available. We make housecalls too! Call

SUZUKI LT50, 2002, great starter quad, parental safety kill switch, looks and runs

great, \$999. 760-3 10-9393.

YAMAHA 250. 2001. \$3100. New top end, fmf pipe, jetted, super fast, 2007 sticker, paddle and nobbie tire, answer bars, seat cover. 619-368-7723.

YAMAHA TTR125. Excellent condition, low hours, with paddle and nobbie tires. 2006 green sticker. \$2199. 619-368-7723.

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Open Sun. for Smog Only EAGLE MOTORS
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SMOG CHECK

All car models and years. SUVs, pickups and light trucks \$10 extra. No hidden fees. No appointment necessary. Bring DMV papers if available.

Castrol GTX Premium Oil Change Special

GTX Castrol/high-mileage oil change \$31.95. BMW, Mercedes, Volvo \$29.95. Includes reset service oil light. Non-Castrol oil change \$19.95. Castrol synthetic oil change \$49.95.

HUNTER ALIGNMENT

New! Top of the line. \$39°5 Experience truly straight steering. Printout before and after.

3-Way Induction Service \$**69**⁹⁵ \$**69**95 Transmission Power-Flush \$**69**95

30K, 60K, 90K SERVICE

AXLE SPECIAL Parts and labor, Most cars

Plus \$8.25 certificate

A/C SPECIAL

Evacuate system Replace compressor oil Check system pressure

Check for major leaks
 Check A/C lines and belt
 Charge system with Freon
 Rear A/C \$15 extra

COMPLETE FRONT BRAKE JOB

Includes resurfacing rotors. Parts and labor included.

"14 MILES," THE ANGULAR NUMBERS AND WHITE DIODE LETTERS FLASH from a matte black, artificial panel, and a synthesized beep beep sounds. The beeps escape the atmosphere of the room and leave behind the whirring and ticking of the pedals and chain of a mechanized bicycle. Lungs huff from their depths. Sweat, wicking through a shirt, shorts, socks, and sopped up by a towel, fouls the air. Blue light bathes the skin, wiry carpet, and vaulting glass. Steam rises.

As a child being raised in rural America, he would adjust and pull, set and fiddle with a pair of chrome rabbit-ear antennae atop his father's television. The picture behind the dusty glass would wobble and bend, crack with crisp static, and draw lines of pink, lime, and heliotrope, but would never display Channel 2 from San Francisco. Channel 6 from Sacramento was the only station received on the faux wood paneled box with the knob, dial, and plastic button on the front. "You're not going to get Channel 2. Just watch Channel 6," his father called out from the kitchen.

"I hate Channel 6," he says, wiping the salty taste from his lips with the heavy white towel. Whir whir, the crank turns and his small fingers on each hand tingle by the deadening nerves inside. "21 Miles," beep beep. Those days in that ranch house are far-gone. From this exercise room in his 32nd floor condo, he can see foggy uptown, the sparkling waves of the bay, and the newsroom down the hill where he sits with perfect posture and from his diaphragm reads the top stories of the day, five nights a week. "33 Miles," beep beep.

"Channel 6 is PBS and I don't want to watch that British crap," he mumbled over his shoulder. "I want to watch The Simpsons."

"We don't get Channel 2, son. That's all there is to it."

Now he gets 999 channels with hi-def programming piped through on his digital cable line. Satellite brings him news from the other side of the country, the other side of the world. At night he watches the news from other cities with the sound muted while perched upon one of his stationary exercise machines. Last night was the elliptical trainer. Tonight it's the bicycle. Condensation clings to the white blue glass beside him.

Down that gravel road he drove away from the ranch house and the rabbit ears, away from the old man in the kitchen, and toward a college, a degree in communications, a tower of shimmering glass and steel, toward cameras, white halogen, and the whirring and clicking of alloy metal chain and plastic pedals.

"68 Miles," beep beep.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

KUSI NEWS AT 6

KUSI 6:00 P.M.

This is a "Special Report! To Keep You from Dying from the Hidden Dangers of Chicken Fat!" Our "Bacteria and Illness Expert" isn't the copier repairman slathered in makeup and squeezed into an ill-fitting suit. NO! He's educated on this important subject and, dammit, he's in charge. If he says you better keep two sets of silverware, one for meats and one for vegetables, then by god you better. Or you're going

to need a plastic shopping bag, a sponge, and a double-sized box of breath mints to make it through your morning commute tomorrow. He's stared E. coli straight in the face and thumbed his rosy nose. A scorching case of the trots is no laughing matter!

HEALTH MATTERS: UCSD COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS

I'd like to tell you my mother kept the rectal thermometers separate from the oral thermometers. But, how could I know for sure? I was a borderline-retarded kid, and she's a mean woman.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

CLOSE TO HOME KFMB 9:00 P.M.

Sure, my truck has a brown film on it, and my skin is breaking out, but one good thing about living in the "developing" area of town is everything smells like carne asada — no, not just the air. Things like my couch, shirts, and water from the tap all reek of spicy grease, meat, and fat. Milk has

a beefy flavor, and a gasoline shower couldn't wash the stench out of my hair. Ah, it's good to be back in North Park. That Ocean Beach livin' was getting a little too healthy for my blood.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

RACE AGAINST THE KILLER FLU

NGC 11:00 A.M.

Don't hand me that malarkey about taking "hangover pills" while you're drinking. If you can remember to pop a gel cap every couple of hours, then you're not drinking nearly enough. Until you wake up on the floor of a tub, your skin stained by your own juices, then you aren't participating in the spirit of the thing. And, get me a bourbon and soda on the rocks while you're at it.

A VERY BRADY CHRISTMAS

XUPN 8:00 P.M.

Here's a prime example of a fart in a mitten.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

OFFBEAT AMERICA

HGTV 6:00 P.M.

I'm not telling you to do it, but if you're too lazy to scrub your shower, white spray paint is a buck-forty-nine-a-can at the hardware store. That's all I'm saying.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

DIRTY HARRY

USA2 5:00 P.M.

Hilary Swank is paralyzed in a boxing match



America's Next Top Model

and Clint Eastwood euthanizes her. That's the ending to Million Dollar Baby. Oh, sorry. Were you going to watch that? Jeez, I kind of blew it for you, huh. HA HA HA HA HA! Sucker!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL

XUPN 9:00 P.M.

Women who wouldn't let you carry them to the john, wearing filmy bikinis you can't afford, and prancing on stage in a polished ivory city you'll never visit. Welcome to scenic downtown Sucksville Loserton (Population: you [yes, you], you butthole).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

WEST WING

BRAVO 7:00 P.M.

I've named my left nipple "Truth," my right nipple "Justice," and the patch of hair leading to my waistband, "The American Way." Patriotism isn't just waving a flag, it's an attitude, a look, and a musky scent.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS ABCFAM 8:00 P.M.

How Ron Howard and Jim Carrey Tag Teamed the Memories of My Youth and Left Them Violated and Crying in the Alley Behind an Adult "Novelty" Shop on El Cajon and 42nd Street.

AUTOMOTIVE

CARS

ACURA INTEGRA, 1993 blue 230k miles well and handles great, very reliable miles per gallon, \$2500, 610-348 ACURA INTEGRA GS-R. 1994. Black, 5 speed, 189,000 miles. Mechanically excellent and everything works. Needs paint. All records since new. 619-820-9912.

ACURA TL, 3.2, 1999, loaded, mint condition, 96k miles, new brakes, battery, tires, \$10,500, 858-435-4852.

BMW 325. 1993. Low miles. Beautiful gray color with black leather interior.

91,000 miles, Mostly garaged. Runs great! \$4900. 858-205-9313.

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 5281. 1999. Great condition. 87,000 miles. Charcoal grey exterior with black leather, air, power steering/windows, sports package, tape/CD, new tires, full inspection. \$15,500. 619-787-6433.

BMW. 330ci, 2002, black, auto, power all sport package, 42k miles, Harman Kar-

don audio. Sunroof, excellent condition

BUICK CENTURY. 1995, 4 door, auto, white. Must sell, very dependable, \$1200/best, 858-569-5900.

CHEVY BERETTA GT, 1992, V-6, low miles, fully loaded, premium wheels, runs and drives great, must see to appreciate, owner will help finance, \$2500. 619-896-

CHEYY CAMARO. 1995, 94k miles, second owner, must sell by 12/19. T-top hatchback, air conditioning/heat, keyless entry, power windows/locks, tranny needs work, \$2900, 619-819-7987.

CHEVY CAMARO, 1995, 94,000 miles 2nd owner. Interior looks good, cloth up-holstery, 6 cylinder, t-top, nice paint, key-less entry, power windows/locks. \$2900.

CHEVY CAMARO Z28, 1980. Grav with der, automatic, needs engine or tranny work. Body good/interior fair. \$1500. 619-

CHEVY CAVALIER. Excellent overall con CHEVY EL CAMINO, 1984, 106k m

pump, paint black, Nice chrome V6 maintained, reliable, transport, \$3400, 760-473-7913.

DATSUN. 260z, 1974, very clean, engine needs some tuning, bodywork in excellent condition, all parts original, \$2500, call Andrew 760-917-1070.

DODGE NEON. 1998. Blue, automatic, runs great! Minor damage in the front/left of the car. Power steering, air bag, clean title, 3rd owner, smog tag. Dark grey interior. \$1700. 847-274-6429.

FORD CONTOUR GL. 1997, 4-door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning, power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt,

A UTOMOTIVE









FORD CROWN VICTORIA. 1995. 52.000 miles, engine in excellent condition, needs some bodywork, 4 door sedan, call

needs some bodywork, 4 door sedan, call 619-562-5400 to see. \$3000. FORD ESCORT. 1998. It runs great and just passed smog. It also has brand new tires. 93.000 miles. Has been a great car for me! \$2,200. 619-549-4756.

FORD ESCORT. 1999. 4 cylinder, 2.0 liter Automatic transmission, AM/FM stered omatic transmission, AM/FM stereo sette, multi compact disc, dual front bags. Great condition, clean! 00/best. 619-425-8402.

\$2500/p68t. 619-422-8402. FORD ESCORT. 1999. 120,000 miles Beige, 2WD, 4 cylinder, manual 5 speed 60/40 rear folding seats, alarm system keyless entry, child proof locks. 1 nor smoking owner. \$2950. 858-688-9255.

FORD FOCUS. ZTS sedan, 2004, fully loaded, charcoal grey, automatic, leather, alloy wheels, power everything, 23 miles, airags. Still under warranty, excelent condition, \$13,500, 619-813-8845.

FORD MUSTANG. Convertible 1998, great San Diego car, black convertible top, CD San Diego car, black convertible top, CD player in excellent shape, 98,000 miles Well maintained, asking \$4800, 619-200-

FORD MUSTANG GT. 2002, high perfor tioning, power steering/windows/locks, air bags, premium wheels. Excellent condition, \$13,500/best. Paul, pablopeterson@hotmail.com, 858-232-2316

FORD MUSTANG GT 5.0. 1993. Have all receipts, well maintained. Very immaculate and excellent condition. Runs great automatic, cruise, air, power package leather seats. 141,000 miles. \$4000. 760-744-9020.

744-9020.

FORD MUSTANG. 1998. 6 cylinder, dual flow master exhaust, custom Cobra rims (17"), AM/FM and in dash single CD. Air, power windows, locks and seat adjustment. \$6500. 619-697-9660.

FORD TAURUS. 1995, 82,000 miles, all power, runs well,looks great \$2000, 858

GEO PRIZM. 1996. Gas saver! 125,000 miles. Runs and drive great. Mint condition, stereo AM/FM/CD player, manual transmission. Great point A to B car. Salvaged title. \$1900. 858-525-5524.

HONDA ACCORD LX. 1993. 141,000 well maintained miles. \$3,000 or best offer.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, call 800-495-0660 x2180.

HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS WAGON. White with gray leather interior. 54,000 miles. 5 speed manual transmission, am/fm cassette. Power steering/brakes. Air, cruise tilt. Great condition. \$4,000. 619-808

HYUNDAI ELANTRA. 1996. Great little

carl \$1700. 619-987-0308.

HYUNDAI SONATA. 1991. Good condition! Auto, power everything, sun/moon roof, leather seats, air, cruise, CD, tint. 159,000 miles. 4 door, white exterior with brown interior. 858-405-7019.

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.

MAZDA MX6. Auto for cheap! Car in great condition, interior is great, great looking sports car. Tinted windows, body kit, 40000 miles on newer engine. \$1900. 619-316-3033.

MERCEDES 300D. 1983. Turbo diesel. Engine runs great. It also has been con-Engine runs great. It also has been converted to run on vegetable oil/diesel. Asking \$500. 619-758-1773.

Ing \$500. 619-768-17/3. MERCEDES BENZ. 300, 1982, CD, turbo diesel, runs strong, sleek 2 door model, rare collector's edition, straight body. Power windows, sunroof, needs some work, \$2950, 619-957-6221.

MERCEDES BENZ 300CE. 1991. Black coupe, leather, power everything. Air conditioning, sunroof, looks clean. As is \$4000/OBO. 858-675-8225.

MERCEDES BENZ. 300SD Turbo, diesel 1983, black, executive edition 196k miles. New tires/brakes, runs/starts perfect, registered 11/06, \$3499, Nick 619-519-3422, 619-863-5575.

MERCEDES. C230, 1997, silver/black leather interior, all power, sunroof, new/warrantied transmission/air conditioning unit. New brakes/fires, 113k miles, well maintained \$6500/best, 619-985-2633.

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.

MITSUBISHI 3000GT. 1992. Automatic, rare! Red. 102,000 freeway miles. Brand new transmission, sparks/wires and radiator. Panasonic MP3/CD player. Keyless entry. \$4500/best. 858-945-0603.

MITSUBISHI LANCER OZ. Rally Edition. 2002. Excellent condition. 75,000 miles. 2002. Excellent condition. 75,000 miles. Exterior: Pearl white. Interior: Charcoal. Air bags, power windows, steering, mir-ror, locks. \$8500. 619-398-6438. NISSAN 2405X. 1992. 194,000 miles. Oil

and filters changed regularly. Still gets 27mpg at almost every fill up! Moving, so must sell fast. Asking \$1100/best. 702-

NISSAN ALTIMA. 1999, Sand with gray interior, CD player, alarm, new brakes, ro-tors and tires, tow hitch and more, call Tracy, \$5600/best, 619-916-8436.

NISSAN ALTIMA. 2005, under 11k miles like new condition, great gas mileage, AM/FM/CD/6-speakers, power all, warranty, new car smell, \$16,500. 858-505-8643, ceren@macturk.com.

NISSAN ALTIMA, 1994, must sell, 100K miles, CD, automatic, 4 door, runs and looks great, super clean, \$2500. 619-279-

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.

NISSAN NX 1600. 1993. Definitely worth the look! Red. 121,726 miles. Car is ex-tremely gas efficient. 2 door lift back, 5 speed, power steering/brakes, AM/FM/CD. \$200. 619-276-1896.

OLDS DELTA 88 ROYALE. 1989. Low mileage! 4 door, great driving condition Grey interior, AM/FM radio, Power win-dows/locks. Selling as is! \$1000. 917-

PONTIAC FIREBIRD. Red body, runs great, V6, 200,000 miles, CD player. 760-

PONTIAC FIREBIRD, 2001. Convertible. Has 40,000 miles. Runs good. Maroon color. \$10,900. Call Ken 916-759-2383.

PONTIAC GRAND AM. 1993, 4 cylinder, 2.3L, 4 speed, 2 door, 5 speed, white, smogged, registered, cold air conditioning \$1300/firm 619-232-4821.

PONTIAC SOLSTICE. 2006. I have a new 2006 Pontiac Solstice as seen on The (Donald Trump) Apprentice. Color: Agressive Red. It has black leather and all additional options. \$26,385. 619-850-5437

SAAB 9000 TURBO SEDAN, 1988, 4 cylinder, economy with turbo-charged power, service history receipts included. Excellent condition, looks quite nice, runs superbly, \$1800. 619-269-8727.

SATURN SCI. 1995, great condition, 135k miles, 5 speed, sunroof, AM/FM cassette, purple, fun to drive, asking \$2995/best,

SUBARU LEGACY WAGON, 1994. Sun roof, CD/Tape, Power windows/locks. Automatic. 144,000 miles. Body in excellent condition. \$2000. 608-345-0466.

TOYOTA AVALON. XL sedan, door, automatic, 98,000 door, automatic, 98,000 miles, power/steering/windows/locks, air conditioning, leather interior, air bags, good tires, more \$4,995/best 858-490-8049.

TOYOTA CAMRY. 1989. Clean, dependable no major problems with car. I just

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"Everyone we've passed for the past six blocks says hello."

By John Brizzolara

I will have just turned 55 as you read this. As it is, I'm not quite. Other than qualifving for various senior deals around town (and this is a good town for those) there is not much to say about it. The remarkable thing is that I arrived. Period. And that's not in the bag at this point. It is highly unlikely that this should have happened, given at least a good half dozen life-threatening propositions I'd either arranged for myself or had dealt to me. I'm not referring to high blood pressure (alone) or cancer (alone) or multiple bypass surgery etc. etc. etc. — alone. No, I'm talking about a karmic package, detonating slowly over a period of decades like some kind of ontogenous anti-personnel mine, cumulatively leaving me in no worse shape (physically) than a couple of the Rolling Stones. Maybe.

Had anyone, even ten years ago, told me I would enjoy a neighborhood pottery sale on a Friday night and to return the following Sunday for a chili cook-off, I would have pointed out this unlikelihood with a grunted, "Right," if that.

The pottery at SDCC (San Diego Ceramic Connection) was not, in itself, the thing; nor was the chili. More, it was a subdued sense of discovery that, for one, just a few blocks away, is a neighborhood I lived in for several years called Alta Dena. I had no idea. If anything, I associate those blocks (Redwood St., the 3000 block, Grim, Thorn, Herman, Upas etc.) with years of ecking (or is it eeking?) out a living writing, drinking too much, and the murder of a neighborhood child, Amada Gaecke, in whose case I became tangentially involved. Some pleasant memories salted in there, but largely not. Now, having strolled that way this past weekend and discovered the re-emergence of an autonomous neighborhood, I'm morphing my image of San Diego as that of a giant suburb posing as a city, to that of a real city composed of actual hoods — here all along in a sense, but redefining themselves steadily.

Just as a few years ago, the phrase South Park meant nothing to me, though I lived there briefly, having moved to the general North Park area (I could probably see the North Park sign from my roof). I was not prepared for a sense of community (people on a first-name basis, small businesses) that did not subtextually identify itself as "The Ralph's District" or "Starbuck's Row" or, like Hillcrest for many years, "The Gay District." For the first 20 years I lived here, it seemed evident to me that Hillcrest and Barrio Logan were the only real neighborhoods in San Diego from an East Coast point of view. I haven't found it necessary to revise this idea until, oh, roundabouts the turn of the century.

Between six and nine students are enrolled in an eight-week course offered by SDCC owner/instructor Kouta Shimazaki. On Friday nights, these students take advantage of the open studio for their personal or class-related projects. Some of the results at the hands of these students were on display this past Friday. Instead of just jamming on the pottery wheels or firing or glazing at the kilns, several students were on hand to sell their work to neighbors and customers from some distances; the sleepy suburban streets were lined with enough parked cars to suggest a successful private party. Throughout the weekend, the sale remained lively and work was displayed on tables and racks on the sidewalk through Sunday's chili contest. The work was tasteful and accomplished, it seemed to me. The chili ranged from mediocre to adventurous-looking and -smelling and was accompanied by various cornbreads — one of which was the best I had ever tasted. Wine and soda, bottled water were on hand and for sale and I think I glimpsed some upscale sorts of cheeses — meaning I did not know what they were.

But it was the sense of neighborhood "springing up" Lorna Doone-like with the ceramic center flanked by a fresh produce market on one corner, an Italian restaurant, two market/liquor store locations and an authentic Roman armory, "Legio IX Hispana" of which I've written here previously. Cattycorner (or is it kitty corner?) from SDCC is Santo's coffee shop, a handsome, quiet spot for artistic types and quality-coffee enthusiasts.



The sense of writing copy for some sort of as-yet-nonexistent (as far as I know) Alta Dena Chamber of Commerce brochure is vaguely troublesome, but not terribly. A friend from La Jolla accompanied me on a walk around the area, scoping out interesting canyon trails for the hiking (and indeed they are, according to one nearby home owner) and commented, "Everyone we've passed for the past six blocks says hello. You don't get that much in La Jolla."

I grunted, which meant, "Yeah, probably true." What I did not grunt was that it was also mostly true just a few blocks north along University. You get people speaking in tongues and in fluent Tourette's but not actual greetings as a rule. Nor did I grunt something that would inquire, "Who gives a shit?" which would certainly be my stance on the phenomenon until fairly recently.

Is there some connection between being in one's mid-50s and giving, for lack of a better word at this moment, a shit? Join me for these and other questions in my end-of-the-year column: Thank God It's New Year's.

Merry Christmas.

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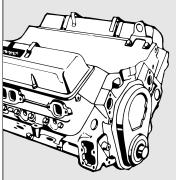
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.13 NOT GUILTY

.15 NOT GUILTY

.16 NOT GUILTY

.16 OVERTURNED DMV SUSPENSION

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