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VOLUME 34 / NUMBER 52

DECEMBER 29, 2005

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Keader

THE COMET was due to strike Earth within 24 hours, and no one knew where. It made little difference: the phrase from the emergency broadcast kept Story continued on page 26

# San Diego Keader

DECEMBER 29, 2005

# SANDIEGOREADER.COM



**Calypso and dead porn** stars? See Hometown CDs, page 106

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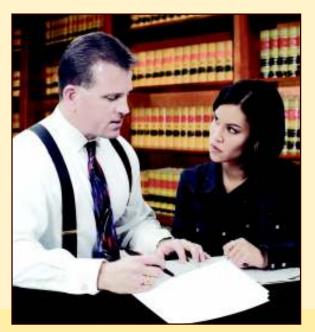
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**Polyheme update** In an attempt to prevent further publication of information about the testing of its controversial blood substitute Polyheme in San Diego, Chicago's Northfield Pharmaceuticals has filed suit against the *Reader* and its publisher, **James Holman**, alleging that documents the County of San Diego provided to the paper this past summer

in response to a California Public Records Act request constitute "trade secrets."

In a cover story, "Bad Blood?", published July 28, this newspaper reported that Northfield had entered into an agreement with UCSD and San Diego city paramedics as part of a national trial of Polyheme, a plasma substitute for which the company is seeking FDA approval. Under rules of the trial, the substance is administered only to subjects who are comatose as a result

of traumatic injuries, such as gunshots and traffic accidents, and therefore are not able to give their consent or permission.

Though the university maintained that it had complied with federal requirements to fully notice the community about significant details of the trial in its midst, the newspaper revealed that — according to a memo to the San Diego City Council from Emergency Medical Program manager **Donna Goldsmith**, obtained under the Public Records Act the deployment of Polyheme on San Diego city paramedic units was being limited to the downtown area and three predominantly blue-collar, minority neighborhoods: Oak Park, Nestor, and San Ysidro.

"The crews selected are those that frequently encounter major trauma victims within the catchment regions of the trauma centers participating in the trial — UCSD Medical Center and Scripps-Mercy Hospital," the memo said.

According to a May 2, 2003, e-mail from research coordinator **Beth Romeril** obtained from UCSD under the Public Records Act, Northfield wanted to limit the trial to high-trauma areas because it did not have sufficient Polyheme for citywide deployment.

"My biggest concern at this time is that in conversation with **Bob McGinnis** from Northfield on Wednesday, he indicated to me that Northfield would not have enough product to stock even the 12 or so ambulances in UCSD's catchment area, that part of the reason for the TREG [San Diego County Regional Trauma System Registry] search would be to identify the '3 or 4' ambulances that would be most likely to encounter appropriate patients," Romeril wrote. Study director **David Hoyt**, M.D., of UCSD later confirmed that the limited deployment was a "cost containment" issue.

Although UCSD partially complied with the paper's request for documents, it redacted large amounts of information, including the details of two "adverse event" reports regarding the trial, claiming in part that its trade-secret agreement with Northfield prohibited release. The *Reader* subsequently sued the university under the Public Records Act to obtain that information, and earlier this month Northfield intervened in the case. Then, in a letter to the paper's attorney, **William Sauer**, dated December 20, a Northfield attorney alleged that "Northfield's trade secret information is contained in unredacted documents



July 28, 2005

produced to Mr. Holman by the County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services pursuant to your CPRA request, including (i) the unredacted Research Plan, (ii) the Global Investigative Product Handling and EMS Plan, (iii) the TRBSE-11-(N) Treatment and Assessment Algorithm, and (iv) the unredacted PowerPoint presentation entitled 'Poly-

Heme® Trauma Trial.' "Please consider this a request that Mr. Holman and the *Reader* stipulate not to disclose or use any of Northfield's trade secret information, including publishing such information in the *Reader* either permanently or at the very least until the hearing in the Holman lawsuit on February 3, 2005 [sic]," the letter said. "I further request that all copies of documents containing Northfield's trade secret information be returned and that you pro-

vide copies of responses from other institutions to the *Reader*'s other CPRA requests."

The next day, without notice to the newspaper, Northfield obtained an ex parte hearing before San Diego Superior Court Judge **Joan M. Lewis**, who granted the firm a temporary restraining order barring publication of any of the information obtained under the Public Records Act that Northfield regards as a trade secret. The order also required Holman to turn over "all documents in his possession, custody, or control containing Northfield confidential information." Lewis set a hearing on a permanent order for January 13.

"We will vigorously contest this sweeping order and its chilling violation of the First Amendment's prohibition against prior restraint," Holman said in a written statement. "Our Public Records Act requests were made within the law and as a result of our duty as a newspaper to provide the public with important information being maintained by taxpayer-funded public institutions.

"Our July cover story 'Bad Blood?' has already revealed missing links in the way the Polyheme trial has been conducted in San Diego," Holman continued, "and it has generated public discussion regarding the ethics of nonconsent medical studies. Clearly the public interest weighs heavily on the side of further disclosure of public records regarding this secretive trial.

"This unjustifiable encroachment into the prerogatives of a free press protected by the First Amendment is even more egregious in that Northfield is using public facilities to further its commercial agenda. We are mindful of the trade secrets law, as we assume was the County of San Diego in disclosing to us this information, and we have acted and will act responsibly in reporting this significant story, in the manner our readers have come to respect. The last thing this community and the nation as a whole needs is to have courts telling newspapers what they can print before publication. Just as bad is the notion that a court can issue an order permitting a corporation to delve into the confidential work product of a free media. This order must not stand."

— 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.

# **Bio of Convicted Lobbyist in Stripper Scandal**

By Matt Potter

On November 10, Lance Malone was sentenced to 36 months in federal prison for his role in the Cheetahs influence-

fifth and last son of seven chil-

dren born from the marriage

of John, now age 70, and

Annabelle Malone (née Ke),

Lance Malone, federal courthouse, 9/16/03

now age 67. Lance developed

severe asthma at age 4 months,

and the medical specialists

advised that a warm, dry cli-

mate would relieve Lance of

the chronic asthmatic symp-

toms. In 1963, when Lance

was age 1, John and Annabelle

peddling scandal. A lobbyist for high-flying strip-club owner Mike Galardi, Malone, along with San Diego city councilmen Michael Zucchet

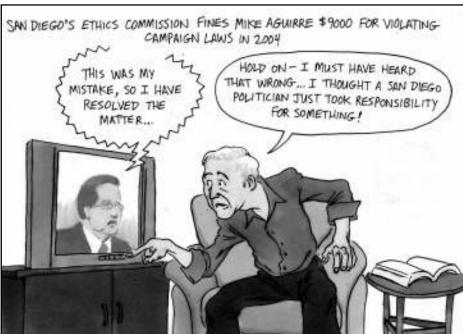
and Ralph Inzunza, was convicted in July of scheming to water down the city's ban on lap dancing in exchange for campaign money. Before the sentenc-

ing, Malone's lawyers submitted a brief to the court making a case for leniency. As part of their plea, they attached a report — presented in full below — from a Las Vegas social worker retained by the defense to interview Malone about his life experiences. Malone is currently free on \$350,000 bond while he appeals his conviction.

### Biopsychosocial Report Family Background Mr. Lance Malone, now age 43

(DOB 01/29/62), was born in Honolulu, Hawaii. He is the

# Neal Obermeyer



Malone moved to Las Vegas with their five boys.

John Malone Sr. got a job as a 21 dealer in casino and worked eighty hours a week up until he retired to support his wife and by then seven children, while Mrs. Malone stayed at home to look after them and take care of the house. Most of the family continues to live in Las Vegas, and that includes his parents; his oldest brother John, age 52, who is a divorced father of four and works as a car salesman; Daniel, age 47, who is married and has 3 children

and works at Jaguar's Gentleman's Club; Mark, age 45, who is a married father of 5 and owns a valet-parking company; Marla, age 40, who is married with two daughters and works at a civilian job in the Las Vegas Jail; and lastly, Melissa, age 38, who suffers from cancer and lives at her parents' home, where they care for her. Mike, age 49, is a divorced father of two boys (one is deceased), and he lives in Key West, Fl., where he works as a cook.

Currently, Lance

Malone lives at the home of his ex-wife, where he takes care of his two young sons, Grant, age 6, and Ryan, age 4. Rosemary Malone owns and operates a Subway sandwich shop inside the Orleans Hotel in Las Vegas, and she is *continued on page 8* 

# Indian Claims Block Cedar Fire Redevelopment

By Ernie Grimm

# With the passing of two years since the Cedar fire, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park has healed, and 98 percent of the park's

trails have been reopened. Among the areas not reopened is Los Caballos equestrian campground, but not because the land has yet to heal. Manzanita and wild lilac grow again around the campground, and the scorched oak trees are crowned with green. "All the grasses have regrown," says Peggy Martin, a local equestrian. "Everything is in its prefire condition now, and we believe we should be camping there now." percent of the park's department on its project to tear down and rebuild the restroom at the campground, objected to the project on the basis that it would violate an Indian site. The project was stopped. "I, as an Indian," she says, "and an Indian of this particular land, have familial ties to this land, and I have a moral obligation to take care of my ancestors. When I am asked to participate in this process, I can't refuse that. I will express my views. I am



But in a sense, the fire still prevents horse owners from camping in the 18-site campground just south of Lake Cuyamaca because, though it's always been known that Indian artifacts can be found there, the full extent of the archaeology wasn't known until the fire burned the chaparral. "It just made it easier," says Carmen Lucas, a member of the local Kwaaymii Laguna Band of Mission Indians, "to see the soil content and the artifacts that are there, stuff that we know that is part of prehistory, including human remains."

Shortly after the fire, Lucas, acting as a Native American monitor for the state parks

sorry that other people don't agree with it. I have not pursued this — I have been asked to participate. And I have a right to speak in behalf of my ancestors, and I will continue to do that."

Lucas says the area that includes Los Caballos isn't just archaeologically significant, but sacred. "Any site that has human remains has spiritual connotations too," she explains. "It is not an appropriate place for a horse camp, a school camp, or any other kind of camp. These are sanctuaries just like somebody's church is. It needs to be respected in that context."

Martin believes horse camping and respect for the

Indian history of the site aren't mutually exclusive, even when human remains are present. "People have said you are camping in a cemetery," she says, "and I take opposition to that. Native Americans buried their children and elderly and dogs where they lived. And women cooked on top of their loved ones. They lived with the people that they buried, so why can't we? What is different?"

Both sides of the argument agree that Los Caballos sits within a roughly 54-acre archaeological site that both sides refer to as a village."It was called Ah-Ha Kwe-Ah Mac," says Lucas's personal attorney, Courtney Coyle, "which is the namesake for the whole state park. It's no accident that the horse camp was built on that spot. It is kind of like any sort of real estate: location, location, location. The places that were good places to be then are good now. So that is why you oftentimes will find trails, village sites, burial areas, culturally rich places in places where people want to be today, whether it is along the coastline of La Jolla or somewhere up in the mountains. So that is not an unusual thing, but that doesn't make it right. And in this case, this site is a village site, the largest village that people know about in the park unit, and it is linked historically to other Indian places to the north, to the south, to the east, and to the west. So the very qualities that made it such a vibrant, rich cultural site are the same qualities that the horse people like, because they want to be in a place that is pretty and has a lot of trails that go off in different directions. Historically, this has been a problem, so that is why a lot of the management plans, like the Cuyamaca state park's general plan, say when you get the chance, you should move recreational facilities like campgrounds out of cultural sites."

Coyle believes the obligation to move developments such as Los Caballos off Indian heritage sites isn't only moral but legal. "Under a state public resources code," she explains, "they have an obligation to protect these things, and at this site you've got a very large village, with the burials and cremations which speak to the antiquity and diversity." Mark Jorgensen, acting superintendent of the state parks district that includes Cuyamaca Rancho and Anza-Borrego Desert State Parks, says the overwhelming archaeological richness of the site caused his agency to rethink the plan to replace Los Caballos, which was originally built in the mid-1950s. "There have

LIGH

18 cremations exhumed. There are hundreds of other Native American features on this site and a lot of remains."

The plan for Los Caballos, Jorgensen says, is "not to preclude equestrian camping at all, but to find some area nearby, with the agreement of all parties, that will supply equal or even superior campthe equestrians put forth the idea that they would be willing to consider an alternative site nearby that provided the level of camping opportunities that Los Caballos had provided. They would like to get back in on a temporary basis to use parts of Los Caballos in the meantime, so we are considering that right now."



been five different reports done by archaeologists over the last 75 years," he explains. "A lot of data on archaeological sites is not public information because of the presence of human remains. But I will tell you that excavations in the 1930s revealed numerous human remains. Just in one small study plot, a couple hundred square feet, there were ing and equestrian recreational opportunities. So over the last several months — actually, in the last couple of years since the fire — we've been in a position of getting input from these radically different groups and trying to find some middle ground. A couple of weeks ago we had a gathering at which reps from the different focus groups got together, and Martin counters that the equestrian community will Diconsider a new location only Dias a last-resort compromise. She says equestrians are looking at Los Caballos as a "line in the sand" because they feel that similar problems with Indian artifacts and remains will pop up at any comparable location. "The Native Amer*continued on page 13* 

Los Caballos

CITY LIGHTS

rowed, and he chose to be

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LIGHTS

### CITY LIGHTS

Stripper scandal

continued from page 6

currently the sole provider for her two children. Mr. Malone has not worked since he received a visit at his home from the FBI on May 17, 2003, where they played some tapes for him, implicating him [in] the instant case. On August 28, 2003, he was indicted on thirty-nine counts, including conspiracy, wire fraud, racketeering, false statements, aiding and abetting; however, a 40-count superseding indictment was filed on October 8, 2003. On July 18, 2005, Mr. Malone was found guilty of 37 of the 40 counts that included conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, extortion, and aiding and abetting. He is currently free on \$250,000 bond and is in pretrial supervision, reporting to his pretrial officer as required. The case is scheduled for sentencing on November 9, 2005.

### Childhood and Adolescence: 1962–1980

Lance Malone was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, but the family moved to Las Vegas when Lance was age one because the drier climate helped control his asthma. He grew up in a large, close-knit family with four older brothers and two younger sisters, and he describes his childhood,... We always played with each other, things like kick-ball and hideand-go-seek... We took vacations as a family and went on train rides or went to Disneyland.... I never heard my parents argue, and my Mom did everything for us."

Lance attended two local elementary schools, where he was an average student and a happy child and found it easy to make friends because he was social and had an extroverted personality. Lance did remember some not-so-happy times and reflected,"My father was a functional alcoholic, and I recall when my father would come home late from work and fall asleep in the car after he had been drinking and I would take a blanket out to the car and cover him with it so he would not get cold." Lance enjoyed sports and was on a soccer and baseball team, but he did mention that his parents were so busy working that they never, ever came to see him play. By the time he was in junior high school, he had a keen interest [in] dirt-bike riding and the theater, and he started dating a girl named Whitney who would remain his girlfriend until he was age 20.

In his first year of high school, he was picked for the football team and was also in his first play. The school competed in a drama competition with students from other local schools, and Lance won the award for the best supporting actor. In his junior year, he was the Spanish Club president and the Ski Club president, although he was only maintaining a C+ average in his academic work. Lance's circle of friends had nar-

friends with, "A wholesome group of boys who never got into any trouble.... We did not drink, smoke, or do drugs.... Most of them were Latter-Day Saints and went on to Brigham Young University in Utah." During the summer of his junior year, Lance worked full-time at a car wash. When he was a senior, he was elected Student Body President, was on the football team, and was Senior Class Prom King. He reflected on his senior year, "I had a great year, and I went to a lot of parties, but I never succumbed to peer pressure. I never used drugs, drank alcohol, or smoked." Lance decided that he [wanted] to go to university, and although he had hoped to attend Brigham Young University, he was not admitted because of his academic scores. Instead, he attended University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) on a theater scholarship.

### Young Adulthood: 1980–1992

During Lance's freshman year at UNLV, he was baptized into the Mormon faith, and at age 19 went on a very successful mission to Vancouver for 18 months. As he recalled, "I was the youngest ever to be called as an assistant to the president of the mission." When he was age 21, he returned to UNLV and changed his major from theater to marketing, and at that time, he met Rosemary Palacios, who was in her freshman year at UNLV, majoring in hotel administration.

Rosemary is of Ecuadorian descent and was born in Bridgeport, Ct., but at age 7, she moved with her parents and her younger brother to Las Vegas. Lance graduated from UNLV and got a job with America West Airlines in Las Vegas as a customer service representative. However, during that year, he decided to go to law school, and the following year he attended law school at Texas Southern University in Houston. However, two years into his degree, and after a law clerkship in Las Vegas, Lance decided that he did not want to pursue law as a profession. He left Houston and returned to Las Vegas, where he went back to work for America West as a luggage ramp supervisor.

Lance wanted a career and realized his opportunities were limited at his current job, so when his brother-in-law, who was a sergeant with the Las Vegas police, suggested he become a police officer, Lance applied and was accepted. He explained, "The job suited me. I was looking for a career with benefits — Rosemary and I were now serious, and we were thinking about marriage."

# Adulthood: 1993–Present

Lance joined the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department in February 1993 and worked for two years as a car patrol cop before he became a motorcycle cop for the last three years that he was on the police force. Lance also supplemented his income by working part-time at a Smith's Food King, a supermarket chain in Las Vegas. Following a 10-year courtship, Lance and Rosemary got married in 1994. They waited to get married because, according to Rosemary, "We wanted a home, a car, and careers before we got married, and we worked hard to accomplish that.... We both wanted children, but we wanted to be able to provide for them." After the wedding and a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple returned to work.

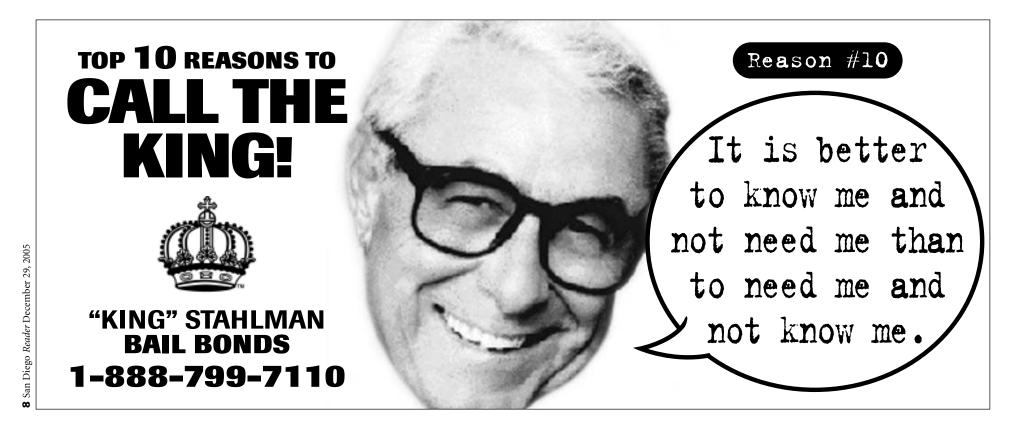
In 1996, Lance started to help with the Republican campaign fundraisers after a friend suggested that he run for a county commissioner office. Lance did, and his election platform focused on building more parks for the citizens of Las Vegas. He was elected in January 1997 as a county commissioner for Clark County and served a fouryear term. His elected position was part-time, and so for the first 7 months, he continued to work on the police force but then retired to devote himself to his elected position as a commissioner, and he supplemented his income by working part-time setting up booths at the Las Vegas convention center.

In 1999, Lance and Rosemary had their first son, whom they named Grant, and a year later, their second son, Ryan, was born. He loved becoming a father, and unlike his own father who was rarely at home because of the long hours he worked, Lance was determined to play a very active role in his sons' lives and spend as much time with them as he could. His brother Mark commented, "He is a very attentive father. The boys, they are his life. He has raised those two boys." And Rosemary echoed, "He is the kind of father that my girlfriends wished they had for their children.... He is so attentive, present, and patient with them."

During his time as a commissioner, Mark was introduced to many Las Vegas citizens, including Mike Galardi. They met briefly in 1999 and again 6 months later when Mr. Galardi wanted to discuss zoning issues with Lance. Mr. Galardi was hoping to get a liquor license to promote various businesses, including liquor stores and cabaret clubs.

In 2001, Lance's term as a county commissioner had ended and he was not reelected, so he decided to open a consulting firm (G.R. Consulting) that specialized in lobbying for special interest groups and various enterprises. Lance had spent the past 4 years cultivating contacts and building up relationships in the community, and so it made sense to get involved in a business where he could use his political acumen and lobbying expertise. Moreover, he had the financial obligation of supporting a family, and he commented, "After I lost the election, job offers were not flying through the door, and I had a family to support."

During the first few months of opening his business, Lance *continued on page 12* 





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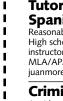
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Sunday 10 am-6 pm

San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

Stripper scandal continued from page 8

had already acquired three customers - Ron Hill, who worked in aviation insurance; Frank Lovass, who was an independent developer; and Mike Galardi, who owned and operated strip clubs in Las Vegas. Mike Galardi was impressed with Lance and offered to give him a business deal whereby he would get a percentage of the fees from transactions at the ATM machines that were in his clubs. Lance commented that, "Mike Galardi knew that I was ethical and hard-working and that I would not steal from him like other employees had.... I told him that I wanted to pay taxes on any money I earned." Lance continued, "We would spend a lot of time together working and socializing. Mike Galardi thought that I was smart, and he was looking to legitimize himself by associating with a former policeman and county commissioner — I was not liked by his employees because I wanted to do things the legal way.... Mike wanted to get out of the strip club business and eventually wanted to get into the casino business. He looked up to Jerry Herbst and wanted to model himself after him." (Mr. Herbst originally owned car washes in Las Vegas and then began to buy and operate casinos.)

Rosemary Malone was laid off from her job as Director

the MGM hotel in 1999 due to a change in management, and this gave her time to spend with her young children. However, by 2002 she was eager to get back to work, and she opened a Subway sandwich franchise in the Orleans hotel in Las Vegas, which she reports is very successful. Lance's job as a lobbyist afforded him flexible hours, and he was able to spend lots of time [with] his children. He was doing well financially, and he invested his money buying a house and property. He continued to work for Mike Galardi, who owned a Cheetahs strip club in San Diego as well as the clubs he owned in Las Vegas. Mr. Galardi wanted Lance to focus on lobbying in San Diego to get the "no-touch ordinance" applied to strip clubs repealed, as it was financially damaging the business. Mr. Malone's focus was to lobby San Diego politicians to put "the notouch ordinance" as an item on the agenda. Lance had hoped to lobby San Diego council members, gathering enough support that the law would be repealed to the former status of "lewd and lascivious" behavior that operated prior to October 30, 2000. The reason for this focus was that the "no-touch" ordinance was implemented so rigorously by the San Diego Police Department that the closing of the strip clubs was imminent because of the loss of business, the legal fees and fines involved, and the constant police activity at the clubs.

CITY LIGHTS

of Guest Service Operation at

In his job as a lobbyist, Lance provided contributions to various politicians to support their re-elections and fundraisers, in the hopes that they would put the "no-touch" ordinance as an item on the agenda at council meetings. However, Mr. Malone was not having a lot of success lobbying in San Diego, and he was told by a couple of the city [councilmembers], "That it did not look good and that no promises could be made." Lance recognized that by February of 2003, "I was no longer Mike Galardi's flavor of the month.... I had attempted to get 14 different items on the agenda for the city council meetings, and not one of them was accepted.... I knew that Mike was not pleased with me, and we no longer talked as regularly.... That was fine with me, because by the end of 2002, I was starting to realize that I now had 2 children and did not want to be associated with the strip industry forever; I wanted to leave and start a security business. In December of 2002, I studied for my private investigator's license, and I passed the test. I had already picked out the name - Comprehensive Security International - and I hoped to provide security services to conventions and developers by 2004."

Lance Malone's plan to open his own security company would never be realized because at 07:20 on 17 May 2003 the FBI knocked on the door at his home in Las Vegas and announced, "You are not under arrest, but let us play you some tapes."

CITY LIGHTS

On August 28, 2003, Mr. Malone was indicted on thirtynine counts, including conspiracy, wire fraud, racketeering, false statements, aiding and abetting; however, a 40-count superseding indictment was filed on October 8, 2003.

On July 18, 2005, Mr. Malone was found guilty of 37 of the 40 counts that included conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, extortion, and aiding and abetting. He was shocked at the verdict and expressed, "I thought that once the jury had all the facts, I would be found not guilty." Mr. Malone is currently free on \$250,000 bond and reports to his probation officer as required. The case is scheduled for sentencing on November 9, 2005.

### **Post-Indictment**

Since 2003, Mr. Malone has not worked, and his ex-wife, Rosemary Malone, supports him. He continues to live with her in the same house subsequent to his divorce on April 25, 2005. Rosemary was awarded the house in the divorce settlement. She now supports herself and the family with her income from the Subway sandwich shop. Lance spends most of the time caring for his two sons and rarely socializes with any friends or family, as he once did. He does go to the gym, as he finds that it relieves some of his stress. Lance reports that the divorce was brought on by the stress of the past couple of years. Ms. Malone reported in the PSI that the majority of the stress has been because of changes in his personality since the indictment. She also stated that, "We have become much more distant than we used to be." Mark Malone corroborated Rosemary's observation and noted that Lance had changed since the indictment in that they talk less and Lance seems anxious and on edge all the time. He observed, "This [the legal case] has placed a huge burden on both of them and strained what was a great relationship."

LIGHTS

### **Physical and Mental Health Issues** Physical Health:

Mr. Malone suffers from chronic back pain secondary to an old injury he sustained in 1993, when [he] was a police officer. He reported that he injured his back jumping off a wall when in pursuit of a suspect. He is currently under the care of Dr. D. Duenas, who prescribes Diclofenac Sodium 75mg, which is a non-steroid, anti-inflammatory medication for Mr. Malone to treat and relieve his back problem. Apart from his back injury, Mr. Malone is in reasonably good health, and he does not suffer from any chronic illness and has had no serious operations. Mental Health:

Currently Mr. Malone is being

treated by Dr. Rob Hunter, a licensed clinical psychologist who practices in Las Vegas where he treats co-occurring disorders with a specialty in addictive behaviors. Dr. Hunter is credited with being the first mental health professional in Las Vegas to open a clinic that dealt specifically with addictive behaviors.

CITY LIGHTS

Mr. Malone's attorney, Dominic Gentile Esq., recommended that Lance go to see Dr. Hunter to discuss Mr. Malone's feelings of dysphoria. Dysphoria is feelings of depression, isolation, and hopelessness. On 8/23/05, Mr. Malone went to see Dr. Hunter, who conducted a Mental Status Examination on Mr. Malone, as well [as] carrying out a full clinical interview. Dr. Hunter's clinical findings indicated that Mr. Malone appeared to be "quite depressed," and he referred him to his private physician with the recommendation that he be placed on a trial of anti-depressant medication and also continue in therapy. Subsequent to this interview, Dr. Hunter was hospitalized and was not seeing clients. In a telephone call on 10/30/05 with Dr. Hunter, who has now returned to work, he reiterated to this writer the importance of Mr. Malone continuing psychotherapy in conjunction with taking anti-depressant medication. Dr. Hunter is willing to continue seeing the client, as he believes that he could benefit from formal therapy.

Mr. Malone went to see

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You can contact Motivation Technologies to arrange an appointment at **(800) 895-3388**. Or for more information and client testimonials, visit: www.1HourStopSmoking.com his private physician, Dr. Dan Duenas, who prescribed the anti-depressant Lexapro 10mg to be taken daily. Mr. Malone reports that the medication is helping to relieve some of the symptoms of depression. Mark Malone commented on the changes in Lance since the trial, noting,"He appears withdrawn, is anxious, and does not seem to concentrate when you are [talking] to him, and he has lost a lot of weight." However, since Lance started taking the medication, Rosemary Malone noticed a difference in Lance, and she noted that, "He is not having as many crying spells and there is a decrease in his mood swings and he is not as short-tempered and edgy as he was."

### Alcohol and Substance Abuse

Mr. Malone, prior to 2003, had never used or experimented with alcohol or illicit drugs. Since 2003, Mr. Malone has been using Lortabs, [which] are classed as a narcotic and are pain relievers. Lortabs are pharmaceutically similar to Hydrocodon and Vicodin and are considered highly addictive. The Presentence Investigation highlights Mr. Malone's addiction to Lortabs, whereby he admits to taking 3–7 pills a week, and he reports that he buys them "off the streets" or "through friends." Mr. Malone stated that it relieves his anxiety and makes the emotional pain go away a little. Dr. Hunter, in his letter and in

a subsequent telephone conversation, indicated that Mr. Malone is likely using Lortabs to manage his current stress, and he recommended he should receive organized drug treatment in a formal setting and might even need a detoxification program.

### Conclusion

Thank you for 25

Mr. Malone has led an unblemished life up until his association with Mike Galardi. He was never in any trouble when he was young, either at school or home; he never experimented with drugs or alcohol; he attended church and was a missionary as a young adult and went on to become a productive member of society. He had no criminal record and was a law-abiding citizen who served his community as a police officer and then as a County Commissioner. He has been a very hard worker all his life and is by all accounts a loving son and an outstanding father.

Consideration should be given to the anguish and suffering that he is experiencing as a result of the trial in San Diego and the upcoming legal case in Las Vegas, as well as the intense hounding and harassment by the press and media, who consistently portray him in a highly negative light — a situation that he has endured for the past two years.

Mr. Malone demonstrates considerable and sincere

remorse for the pain and suffering he has caused others, especially his family and children and others who were unwittingly involved in the case. He is unswerving in his commitment to make financial and social restitution and is willing to work in any type of job.

As a sound gesture of regret and remorse and in the direction of serving his community, Mr. Malone is currently involved in volunteering at the Catholic Services of Southern Nevada, located at 351 N. 30th Street, Las Vegas. He works 3 hours a day from Monday through Thursday on a food-assembly line preparing food trays for the elderly. Indian claims continued from page 7

icans camped and lived in our state park for 7000 years," Martin says. "Anywhere that we want to camp is where they lived because of the advantages of shade and being near a meadow and water. So I am concerned that any other place that they go to build a campground is going to run into the same problems that they have here."

As evidence, she adds, "The Lucky 5 Ranch recently got acquired; it creates a continuum between Cuyamaca and Borrego state parks. Well, there were funds committed by the *continued on page 14* 

# Sandy,

I'm so lucky to be lovin you..... Nick

Thanks for being a better wife, lover, companion, and traveler than I even DREAMED was possible to find.

onderful Jeg

Thanks for teaching me the meaning of SUPPORT by constant example.

Thanks for helping me find a more SPIRITUAL life path.

your (still) adoring husband, Nick CITY LIGHTS CITY LIGHTS

# Indian claims

continued from page 13

department to build a horse camp there, because there was already a private horse camp there. They just had to kind

of spruce it up a little bit, get the road in better, and that kind of thing. So the funds were committed and they were going to build this, but Carmen Lucas came in as a consultant and said that she would sue if they did it. So they didn't,

and the funds were returned to the state coffers."

CITY LIGHTS

According to Jorgensen, the money was diverted to day-use facilities on another part of the ranch.

Without a site available, Martin worries that the 50year tradition of camping with horses in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park will end. Some in the equestrian community worry that that will lead to banning horses from the park altogether. Their worries are unfounded, Jorgensen says. "We reopened Los Vaqueros equestrian group camp last June 1. We basically converted that from a group horse camp to a family horse camp to provide the recreational opportunities for families wanting to come to Cuyamaca Ran-

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cho with their horses and still have the opportunity to get on the trail system and camp overnight with their horses right there in their corrals."

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Jorgensen, a horse owner himself, adds, "Some equestrians might tell you that they think state parks would like to kick horsemen out of Cuvamaca. That is never going to happen. It is not an intent of anybody, not discussed, not true."

Lucas says she doesn't want horses banned from the park either. "I think it is important that you understand that I am a horse lover too," she explains. "I lost two horses, and my home, in the Cedar fire, and it is very painful. I miss my horses a lot. But does a horse camp belong in a sacred site? No, of course not."

On top of equestrian objections to relocating the campground, there is the problem of money. While the Federal **Emergency** Management Agency would likely pay to rebuild the burned-out restroom building at the existing campground, they would not pay to build a campground at a different site. "We are going to have to be very creative," Jorgensen says. "We are going to have to do a lot of the work ourselves, use our own heavy equipment and our own heavy-equipment operators. I am committed and so is the Sacramento staff to do a lot of the work ourselves, and then I foresee us calling on the equestrian community, which is large in California, to come and help us out"

Public meetings hosted by state parks in the Descanso town hall have served to further polarize the equestrians and the Indians. (A third party, environmentalists seeking to preserve an endangered plant known as Cuyamaca meadowfoam, opposes rebuilding Los Caballos because the plant grows in and around the campground.) Both sides are now talking lawsuit."That is a strong likelihood," says Coyle. "And that is not meant to be threatening. It is just meant to say this is how much the tribal interest cares about this. They would be willing to go to court to enforce their rights."

Asked if the equestrians would sue should state parks decide to relocate the 50-yearold horse camp, Martin answers, "You know, what else is left?"∎

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# **Gonna Hug My Dad**

Just finished reading "A Christmas Story" (December 22) and was impressed with this neat little piece. The relationships between fathers and sons are unique and often difficult, and Ollie skillfully and compassionately portrays his. The love between father and son speaks clearly between the lines, and this story brought tears to my eyes. I'm going home today, and I'm gonna hug my dad and tell him that I love him! Thanks, Ollie. Keep scribblin'.

David Dillon Santee

# **Clarifying a Few** Things

In response to your article

(Pop Music, December 15) and a recent response to a letter to the editor (Letters, December 22), I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify a few things. Contrary to what was reported, Edgar Alminar and I left irradio last fall but are still very active in San Diego music. Edgar and I form Brainfire Technology, which has produced tracks for artists Lindsey Yung (who just released her second album, Fusion), as well as the hip-hop group the KneeHighs, of which Edgar is also a member. Most recently, the KneeHighs opened for Bone Thugs-n-Harmony to a sold-out crowd at the House of Blues.

> Chad Tuthill via e-mail

# Put On The Headphones

Michael Sousa (Letters, December 22) is certainly entitled to his opinion regarding John Lennon's music with and without the Beatles, although I somehow get the feeling that he is not familiar with much of Lennon's work. Many from the classical music field, such as Leonard Bernstein, have had praise for the Beatles' music. No disrespect to the

masters, but I'd bet that on their best day, Beethoven, Brahms, and Bach around a microphone couldn't nail that last "yeah" in "She Loves You" the way Lennon, Mc-Cartney, and Harrison do. Sends shivers down the spine. Put on the headphones, Mr. Sousa, and crank it up.

> Michael Fernbach San Diego

# My Head Is Full Of **Quips**

The only interesting, authentic, and useful content in the current issue of the Reader (December 22) is a letter from a reader, Swan Ashby. She wrote about the Dead and Dead Heads, but actually about why the cult exists and Jerry Garcia is lionized. I distinguish that letter for you from everything else in the paper so you understand where I'm coming from.

My head is full of quips about the so what?ness of the cover story in this Christmas issue (underwear jokes?), the poetry to die of (not for) on page whatever, the smashing of Barbarella's cysts (please!). Then there's the quasi-denunciation of Allard Jansen continued on page 72



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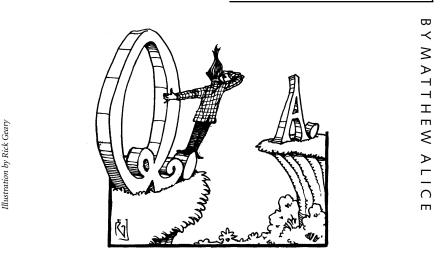
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# STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP



I think Christmas is over at the Alice house. We're never sure until the tree comes down and we shake all the deadbeat relatives out of the branches. But the gauge shows empty on the eggnog vat, so it's likely when they realized that everybody split.

The elves started shopping for Christmas last June sometime. Every time they walked past a construction project, they'd pick up a cinder block and bring it home and wrap it. It took Grandma hours to open them all Christmas morning, but at least now she has everything she needs for that great back-yard barbecue she had on her gift list. We're not sure she was planning to have to build it herself, but Grandma's pretty handy with a trowel and mortar.

The elves tried another rendition of the Nutcracker ballet. They do it every year. We all have to cram into the living room and eventually start covering our eyes when the mayhem ensues. This year the sugarplum fairies suffered broken ankles and dislocated shoulders in a major pileup after too many pirouettes. The Nutcracker's costume caught fire, and Ma Alice had to pour the punchbowl on him. All in all, it went better than last year. And the traditional food fight at the dinner table was only half-hearted, probably because we didn't have enough sweet potatoes and gravy to make it really interesting. This year Grandma really thought ahead and covered the windows with sheets so we didn't end up with all the neighbors peering in like we usually do.

Pa Alice was the savviest gift-giver this year. Two weeks ago he gave all of us his head cold, so Christmas day he said he'd already done his part and we were lucky we got anything at all from him.

But now that the festivities are over, it's time to sum up the year to date. Let you see how much smarter you are now than you were 365 days ago. We're not a degree-granting institution, but if you score well, go ahead and draw up your own diploma from the Matthew Alice College of Critical Knowledge. So, here's the quiz. I hope you broke up into study groups, as I suggested.

1. In 2009 the feds are planning a big change in our TV viewing. Which of the following is/are true about this watershed event:

a. New legislation will ban further spin-offs of Law & Order (and also CSI, should they get it into their heads to fill in the spin-off gap).

- b. Whatever it is, it will cost the consumer lots of money.
- c. Whatever it is, the benefit to the consumer will not be obvious.
- d. Whatever it is, the quality of programming will not be higher.

2. If you have anything in your house that is electrical, runs on batteries, or is made of china, plaster, glass, cheap wood, fake wood, plastic, or fabric, no matter what the label says (e.g., "Irish lace," "Irish linen"), that thing was undoubtedly made in:

- a. China
- b. That really big country east of Russia
- c. The country that invented kung pao chicken
- d. The country that has the second largest population (after India)
- 3. According to state law GS68110, which of the following is absolutely prohibited:
- a. Seersucker, sleeveless mini-length judges' robes for summer
- b. Rolled tacos sold in twos or fours
- c. The tooth fairy leaving anything less than folding cash
- 4. Ft. Knox is famous for its gold. If you open the vaults you'll find:
- a. Tons of gold bars
- b. Tons of gold dust

c. Or just tons of dust, maybe, since nobody's audited the gold in decades, and rumor has it the gold's all gone; and the government guys who know what's in there aren't talking

- 5. The loudest noise in recorded history was:
- a. A volcano erupting
- b. An atomic bomb explosion
- c. Billy, the guy who does the commercials for Ka-Boom floor cleaner

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# SportingBox By Patrick Daugherty Game Of The Year

From: Henry Simolet [simolet@mosquitonet.com] Fairbanks, Alaska *Friday, December 23, 2005* 

Patrick

What's your play for the big game? Henry

### Henry,

Assume you're talking about this weekend. Hate everything except Pittsburgh/Cleveland. Pittsburgh's a lock at plus seven.

### Patrick,

No, I mean the upcoming Houston/San Francisco game, worst teams on the planet, last game of the year and San Diego native son Reggie Bush as prize. Henry

### Henry,

Has Janet finally left you or have you gotten your ass fired? What makes you believe I'd waste one moment of my precious TV time on Houston or San Francisco? You should take your next vacation outside of Alaska, see how other people live. P

### Patrick,

You don't get it. If San Francisco and Houston finish the season with the same record, the tiebreaker is strength of victory, which is the aggregate record of the teams each team has beaten. The team that played the teams with the lowest winning percentage pick first and acquire the reigning Heisman Trophy winner. Here are the strength of victory numbers going into Week 16. Lowest is best. Green Bay Packers, .505. New Orleans Saints, .509. Jets, .534. Houston, .554. San Francisco, .571.

# Henry

Henry, Why are you pummeling me with this boring dreck? I'm going to screen your e-mail from now on.

### Patrick,

Follow this. The last week of the season is garbage time. Good teams save their starters for the playoffs, bad teams want to go home. Worst time of the year to lay a bet. Except, that is, for two teams who have everything to play for. Henry

### Henry,

Well, it's been a busy fall what with canning avocados and ironing all the linen. Somehow, I have neglected to follow the comings and goings of San Francisco and Houston as closely as I would have liked, and so am ignorant of either team's tendencies, starting with who their head coach is, and therefore would not hazard a wager. By the way, I have turned my spam filter to your address. Do not contact me again or I will report you to federal authorities.

### *Monday nigh* Patrick,

We're close, we're almost there. I've waited until after Week 16 before proceeding, so it would be simpler for you.

Now, then, this last weekend New Orleans plays Tampa at Tampa. Tampa must win in order to win the South. They'll likely make the playoffs if they lose, but Gruden is a competitive punk so mark this as a New Orleans loss, which means they'll end up 3-13. Green Bay plays Seattle and loses to Seattle's third string to finish 3-13. Jets play Buffalo at home. Flip a coin. Jets lose, finish at 3-13. If San Francisco loses to Houston, they'll finish 3-13, and Houston would be 3-13. Now, we have five teams competing to be the worst and win Reggie Bush. The only way out is if Houston loses to San Francisco and stands alone at 2-14. Henry

# Henry,

Sure are a lot of 3-13 candidate teams out there. Do you understand that I don't care? Listen, Henry, I want you to call Fairbanks mental health, ask to speak to the nice intake lady. Explain this to her.

### Patrick.

Here's the point. We may be able to see an NFL team throw a game on network television, or, at least, on DirecTV. Henry

# Henry,

Ever since the United States got caught torturing prisoners, and then caught again and again to the point where Congress had to pass a law that said, "Don't torture prisoners," I've been hesitant to assume any organization actually occupies the moral high ground it claims to possess. Saying that, I don't believe an NFL team would throw a game on network TV.

Don't get me wrong, I understand the motivation. Reggie Bush could be a franchise maker. And despite my earlier assurances of ignorance, I have enjoyed Houston's recent drama, beginning two weeks ago when owner Bob McNair hired NFL lifer and fired Denver–New York Giants–Atlanta head coach Dan Reeves to, "assist the other people in our organization to help us be a better team." Reeves allowed he would like to coach again, "if the situation was right." I have every confidence Reeves will make Houston right for him by escorting general manager Charley Casserly and head coach Dom Capers off the property.

So, maybe Casserly and Capers have a motive to lose the game. Maybe, with Reggie Bush in hand, the coach, and all his friends, can stay another year. Maybe the general manager, and all his friends, can stay another year. People have died for less. And it would be quite jolly to see it on live TV. But, dear boy, how could you tell? How could you tell if Houston threw the game?

# The Vegas Line

NFL Week 17 (Home Team in CAPS)								
<u>Favorite</u>	<u>Spread</u> Sa	<u>Over/Under</u> Iturday	<u>Underdog</u>					
SAN DIEGO	9	44	Denver					
N.Y. Giants	8	43	OAKLAND					
Sunday								
INDIANAPOLIS	7	44	Arizona					
Baltimore	3 2	36	CLEVELAND					
Buffalo	2	36	N.Y. JETS					
Carolina	4 3	42	ATLANTA					
MINNESOTA		35	Chicago					
KANSAS CITY	NL	NL	Cincinnati					
PITTSBURGH	17	35 ½	Detroit					
NEW ENGLAND	4	37	Miami					
TAMPA BAY	13 ½	37 ½	New Orleans					
Houston	1	38	SAN FRANCISCO					
JACKSONVILLE	3 1/2	38	Tennessee					
GREEN BAY	3	40	Seattle					
Washington	NL	NL	PHILADELPIA					
DALLAS	12 1/2	43 1/2	St. Louis					

The Sporting Box solicits your comments via the Internet: sportbox@ix.netcom.com.



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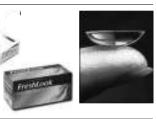
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# **BestBuys**

-EVE KELLY

The kids' grandma's birthday is in January, and I'm thinking bulbs for a gift. She's getting a little achy

for digging in the garden. "The knees don't bend the way they used to," she says. Consequently, her once-proud garden has learned the virtue of humility. I can tell Grandma is a little

sad about it. A pot of bulbs ready for planting will bring a little green back to her old green thumb again. My kids are itching to do some planting too. My friend Bernice mentioned something recently about a way of "forcing" bulbs to bloom early. She'd read it in a magazine at the dentist's office. I liked the idea

because my kids, and their grandma, would be able to see the fruits of their planting sooner. I called Mission Hills Nursery for more info.

"You cannot force tulips or crocuses," replied the saleslady I reached. "You can force hyacinth or the narcissus paperwhites variety. By forcing the bulbs, you are forcing them to bloom faster than they normally would."

What is the process?

"For hyacinths, place the bulb in a little vase that has a small opening at the top so that the bulb just sits there. Then you keep watering it so that the water comes up to just the bottom of the bulb. So that as the roots start to grow, the opening of the vase supports the bulb and the roots just grow down into the water.

"For paperwhites," she continued, "you do them in a dish, anything that holds water. The bowl for paperwhites should be at least five to six inches. Usually, you put gravel or sand in to support the bulbs. And again, you keep

buils. And again, you keep the water level right at the bottom of the bulb. Always have water there. The reason for the sand and gravel is because if you just had the bulbs floating in water, the bulbs would just kind of bob around. So paperwhites are

planted with sand and gravel." How many bulbs per dish?

"For hyacinths, use one bulb per vase because they get a little bit bigger. With paperwhites, they like to be crowded, so in a six-inch pot, put seven to eight in a pot, because they help support each other also."

Where should you keep them? "You could put them in a window, but I wouldn't put them right up against a south-facing window. You don't want to put them in the hot sun." "Once they are done blooming, you have forced everything out of that bulb, so you cannot use it again; it is done, you can't use it next year."

How long will it take for the flowers to bloom?

"They say it is an average of four to six weeks regular bloom cycle, so by forcing, you are getting sprouts in about three weeks and blooms in about five weeks."

What happens when they bloom? "You keep them in there until they

are done with their bloom cycle. Paperwhites will hold their bloom — from full bloom on — for about a week. With hyacinths, they probably hold bloom for a couple of weeks. Once they are done blooming, you have forced everything out of that bulb, so you

cannot use it again; it is done, you can't use it next year."

The saleslady said that if you plant unforced bulbs in the yard, they can be in or out of sun, and "you can leave them once they are done in the ground and sometimes they will pop up next year,

or every other year. If you want the paperwhites to bloom by Christmas, plant them around Thanksgiving."

Are there certain varieties that are better than others?

"Paperwhites are in the narcissus family, and the varieties that we sell the most of, that we use for forcing, are called Grandiflora, and the other is called Ziva. For hyacinth, almost all varieties of hyacinth work.

"Paperwhites are white with a little yellow dot inside," she continued. "They have a scent and you either like it or you hate it. Hyacinth has no scent, and it comes in a whole bunch of different colors, more of your pastels and purples.

"We try to make sure that we carry the bulbs through the end of the year because people continue to want to give them as gifts. Or, they have got them as gifts and now they decide, 'Oh I want to do that too."

The paperwhite forcing bulbs at Mission Hills Nursery are **\$8.99** a dozen. And the hyacinth bulbs are **\$.99** each. Target was selling Paperwhite Indoor Blooming kits, four bulbs and a plastic pot, for **\$4.99**. Another kit that caught my eye was a glass rectangular vase with three hyacinth bulbs and river stones (**\$17.99**).

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

1. Hyacinth

2. Paperwhite bulbs

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# **C**rasher

# HOLIDAY HOOKAH

# by Josh Board

got a call from Susie in P.B. who was turning 28 and planning a holiday party. She requested toys be brought for the Toys for Tots program. I went out and bought a toy for a boy and a toy for a girl. I had tickets for a show at the Belly Up Tavern the same night, but figured the show would be over in time to make it to Susie's party. Because bands were late setting up, I didn't leave the club until after 12:30 a.m. I called Susie the next day to offer her the toys, but she had already taken the bundle in.

I attended a holiday party at Balboa Park hosted by California State Assemblywoman Lori Saldaña. All donations were going to benefit the Monarch School downtown, Monarch provides more than 100 homeless youths an accredited education and takes care of their basic needs.

I debated whether to wear a suit or not. I compromised and wore slacks and dress shoes. A few people dressed up, but I also saw a guy wearing shorts, sandals, and a knit cap. My friend Bonnie said, "Maybe he's one of the homeless."

There were tables filled with various appetizers, but the plates were so small they only fit four or five tortilla chips. I



had to be one of those guys who would grab a brownie with no plate and munch it while walking back to my seat.

Saldana got up and said a few words. She's a politician who sounds like she cares. She wasn't just BS-ing the room.

For entertainment, the Pacific Beach Elementary School Choral Group sang Christmas carols as their teacher played piano. Malika African Drum and Dance Troupe. I was off to crash an office holiday party.

After dropping Bonnie off, I went to the Cheesecake Factory

"You guys asked me if this crasher person could come, and I said I didn't think it was appropriate. Why is he here?"

Then, with the lights dimmed, the Bayside Bayettes performed a Vietnamese dance with candles.

I didn't stay at the benefit long enough to see the Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego or the

in Mission Valley. Introductions were awkward. The boss of the company said, "You guys asked me if this crasher person could come, and I said I didn't think it was appropriate. Why is he here?" I said, "Hey, that's cool. I can take off." Two guys pleaded with their boss, who agreed that I could stay. He asked me not to mention the company's name. When the waitress asked me what I wanted to eat, the boss said, "We only paid for 25 dinners. He can't eat." I told the waitress I would pay for my own meal.

The conversation wasn't flowing well, and I didn't feel like initiating it. The two guys who invited me to the party were friendly, but they could sense that my presence was awkward for everyone. One of the guys gave a few gifts out, and the boss said, "I thought there were

memos saying that no gift exchange was going to be done this year." The guy must be a blast to work for.

One of the gifts was the Sin City DVD. A few of the guys argued who was hotter in the movie — Jessica Alba or Brittany Murphy. I told them I thought Rosario Dawson looked the best. Before you could say "Check, please," we were all piled into an SUV in the parking lot so that a person who hadn't seen the movie could judge for himself.

Every time he was asked who he thought was the hottest, he'd say, "This movie is violent." Someone responded, "That's why I bought you March of the Penquins and not this."

The gang headed back into the restaurant, but I decided to bail before the boss gave me any more arief.

Bonnie whom I had dropped off earlier in the evening, invited me back to a small party at her house in Rancho Bernardo. Her friend Chas, who smokes pipes, had a hookah by the fire pit that looked like an octopus from hell. It had three long sections, so that people sitting across from him could smoke from the same pipe.

I met Bret, a sax player from Los Angeles, and asked him about the difficulty of playing



saxophone. He explained the various breathing techniques.

There was a short redhead there who was annoying. Every time anybody started a story, she'd interrupt to tell a similar story, or to tell us that her husband had a great story. She'd ask her husband to tell the story, but he wasn't enthusiastic about telling it.

I went to the kitchen to pour some wine, and the redhead followed me. She grabbed some cheese off a plate and said something about her coworkers not liking her. She wondered why.

**IFNSEN** 

I gave her a few reasons, which she seemed to take well. I wish telling people that they were annoying was always this easy.

Chas and Bret knew a lot about music, so we listed our favorite bands. Miles Davis and the Beatles didn't surprise me, but their love of John Mayer and the Counting Crows did. We argued and probably got louder than if Bret had been playing his sax.

Somebody proposed a game that consisted of weird scenarios, and you had to choose which scenario you would rather be in. The

premise was interesting when it was explained. "Would you rather be blind or deaf?" I said, "Everyone would rather be deaf, that's an easy choice." An argument ensued. Someone said I'd never be able to listen to the Doors. I explained that I'd rather be able to drive and watch movies than listen to songs I've heard thousands of times.

Once we looked at the cards in this game, we realized how lame it was -"Would you rather have a

weren't even sure what they were asking. Could the bucket have holes to see through? Could you eat with a bucket on your head? Could you walk with boxes on your feet? It was an interesting concept, but a stupid game.

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I quit and went back to enjoying the appleflavored hookah.

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# DIARY OF A DIVA



# Truckin'

by Barbarella

She's proved herself enough. It's not like she's looked at as a female on track. She's just another driver and a very good one at that.

— Dan Wheldon

reluctantly shed the warm comforter and dashed across the soft citrus-green carpet to the closet, where I wasted no time stepping into a pair of blue jeans and pulling a bright orange sweater over my head. Six-thirty on a Friday morning in December is pretty damn cold, even in San Diego. I was only out of bed because I had promised David I'd drive him and Ollie to the truck-rental place off of Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, about 15 minutes away. Since I was just going to drop them off and then return to my com-

There was a good chance that. somewhere in the universe. a higher intelligence was enjoying a better television.

forter cocoon, I didn't bother with vanity - I used my fingers to comb through my sleep-tousled hair and captured what I could of the dark frizzy mess into a queue with a black scrunchy. The night before, I'd

asked David if I could ride along. He said there were only two bucket seats in the cab of the truck and that if I wanted to go, I'd have to sit in the back — in a cold, empty, 20foot long box with no windows. He was joking, but I

considered the option for more than a minute before deciding I had other ways to amuse myself for a day.

At the rental office, I waited in my heated car and watched David talk to the woman behind the counter. After looking down for a period of time, David jerked his head up; reading the surprise and panic in his expression, I yanked my keys from the ignition and ran inside to find out what had happened.

"I can't believe it! It must be at the bank. I gave it to that woman so she could make a copy. Ollie, you're going to have to drive," David said.

"What is it?" I asked him. "Sorry," said Ollie. "I can't."

"What's going on?" I waved my hands in front of David and, with a forlorn look on his face and tone in his voice, he explained that he couldn't find his driver's

license and that he thought it was probably still at the bank, where he'd been the previous afternoon to get a cashier's check for the big transaction for which he'd so carefully planned. The bank wouldn't be open until 9 a.m., but to make his appointment, David was supposed to be halfway to Burbank by then. Having expected to offer only his strength and time, Ollie, too, was unprepared to take the wheel.

"Well, from the looks of it, I'm not only going to ride along with you boys, I'm going to drive?" I did not try to hide my delight at this turn of events. Smiling, I followed the woman to our truck and discovered that, though the driver's seat was indeed a bucket style, the longer, flatter passenger seat was equipped with two seatbelts.

"Are you sure you can drive this?" asked David. He looked concerned.

"If I can drive my sister's minivan, I can handle this thing," I said. "You need to get there, right?" David nodded. "All right, then. Hop in!"

Everything about the truck felt BIG. I lifted my left foot onto the little step thing, and, with my left hand, I grabbed the handle provided at the top of the door frame and hoisted myself up and onto the coffee-stained seat behind the huge steering wheel. David slid in next to me with Ollie right behind him. It was impossible not to slam the heavy doors as we pulled them closed.

I turned the key in the ignition and the brief roar of the engine was replaced with the echoing noise of the truck, a reverberating sound of metal and wood.

"This is great!" I shouted over the racket.

Then, deepening my voice and forcing my words out in a gravelly, affected Midwestern accent, I said, "If they ask you, boys, tell 'em Large Marge sent ya!" David and Ollie shared a "What's with her?" sort of look, I kicked the beast into gear, and within minutes, we were heading north on the 805.

All this for a television, I thought. "It's not just any television," David said, as though reading my mind. "It's the best TV in the world."

Ollie suggested that it was, most probably, the best TV in the galaxy. When David took this one step further and proposed it was the best TV in the universe, Ollie, unwilling to go out that far on a cosmological limb, said he was only 50 percent sure. After all, there was a good chance that, somewhere in the universe, a higher intelligence was enjoying a better television than the one we were currently driving to Burbank to collect.

David never just buys something. He researches for weeks, sometimes months, until he is convinced he has selected the finest product, the most beloved and hailed by happy consumers, and reviewed by only those experts in the niche field pertaining to said item.

It was during such research (on a message forum for owners to discuss this particular Sonv gem) that David stumbled upon Mark, a soundmixer and fellow videophile. Due to extensive eve surgery and his sudden need for a television smaller than the 70-inch screen, Mark was selling his brand new beauty. According to the geeks who write for Sound & Vision Magazine, Widescreen Review, The Perfect Vision, and a handful of other publications, David was about to purchase, hardly used, the "best television in the world"...for only half of the going price.





My beh-beh was the first to jump at the opportunity, much to the disappointment of several drooling fanatics also lurking on the Web in hopes of finding such a deal. "This may be the first TV of its kind ever sold used," David excitedly told me. "I mean, this technology just came out a year ago! No one, barring a medical emergency, would ever sell it." Hence the big-ass truck I now found myself driving.

mitted each bump in the road to our seats. I smiled to myself, giving in to the prurient enjoyment of these bounces and their pleasantly vibrating result — the same vibrations that caused the two empty cans of Diet Coke to rattle in the plastic cup holder.

I felt a surge of power in

After driving through the weigh station at the immigration checkpoint near San Onofre, a grocery-store truck sidled up next to me. Behind the wheel sat a man, his face and hands dirty with road dust and nicotine, his

cab filled with fast-food wrappers, colorful business forms, and a duffle bag. He was wearing a bright vest the same shade of orange as my sweater. After a sideways glance in my direction, he quickly turned his full atten-

tion to me - perhaps surprised to see a smiling, sloppy-haired, Ralph Lauren-wearing female version of himself.

The grocery store truck driver shot me a wide grin and waved his hand. I inter-

preted this to mean, "Hello, my strong, truck-driving sister. That's a nice orange sweater you have on."

I waved back, hoping he got the message from my face and hand loud and clear: "Tenfour, good buddy. Ten-four." ■

San Diego *Reader* December 29, 2005



# Omega Comet ETA

resounding in my ears as I rummaged through the artifacts of my life B.C. before the comet — and that phrase was "...whatever you can carry to sites to be announced." "Whatever you can carry"? In a car? A truck? On foot? I silently said good-bye to my baseball cards and bottle caps, my trophies and love letters, and hefted the box scrawled with marker pen: "The stuff dreams are made of." I went out leaving the door unlocked...

# Virginia Loh Columnist "Single in San Diego" for Asia: The Journal of Culture and Commerce



Virginia Loh

I was on this horrible date once and had to flee when the guy started talking about stalking his ex-girlfriend. In all seriousness, I did have to evacuate twice when some hurricanes hit the Outer Banks in North Carolina. So I would take my laptop because it contains all my writings, my work - especially my dissertation and pictures. (I would have scanned all my photo albums and scrapbooks into my computer.) Second, I would take

my cell phone so that I could call people and stay in communication. Third, I would take a book, most likely the Bible because it is long and has many stories, and given the circumstances, it probably would be a good time to start reading it. My next book is about the Cedar fire. I think it is important to remember the mortality of our lives and to fully appreciate each moment. It's unfortunate that it takes catastrophes and devastations to evoke kindness and humanity. We should be practicing acts of kindness every second of the day.

### Skot Norton Technology manager KPBS

If I were going to be an evacuee, the first thing I would take would be a towel, of course — from *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, always take a towel. And the second two things — I've given considerable thought to this, because every time you see pictures of evacuees after disasters, they're always sitting about on the floor of a gymnasium somewhere looking terribly bored and uncomfortable. So I would take a cooler of beer — a large cooler, because you're going to want to make friends and a lawn chair. The Red Cross will take care of all your other needs.



Skot Norton

They're going to feed you, clothe you, and give you a cot to lie on and vouchers for money. But sitting on the floor for three or four days is tough. I don't need to bring anything of sentimental value because everything else is stored online.

Funnily enough, I

have had to move out of a residence. When I was a teenager, a brush fire came in my neighborhood and we had to evacuate. My mother and my siblings loaded the dogs, the cat, and the goat into the car. My dad and I stayed there to protect the property. I was 13. The goat was carried off - and part of my job was to care for the goat, so it took the stress off of me that I didn't have to care for the goat.

## Michael Boyce Store manager On Comic Ground

My three things: the first thing, and this is ridiculous, but I would take my PowerBook, my Apple PowerBook, of course, because it has my entire life — well, almost — on it at this point. It's my baby's bottle. My second thing would be the diamond ring that my dad gave my mom when they got married and that she then gave to me. She said to give it to the man that I fall in love

with — which will never happen — but, still, I'll keep that ring forever because it was really cool of her to do a thing like that considering how gays are perceived, especially by family members. My third thing, which will explain why she gave me the diamond ring, is that she gave me



Michael Boyce

Wonder Woman when I was at a very early age and which changed everything. So my copy of Wonder Woman #228, where Diana Prince meets Diana Prince of Earth 2 for the first time, and you have two Wonder Womans on the cover, and it's amazing! My mom gave

# **HOURS** BILLIONS OF COASTAL REFUGEES IN CHAOTIC FLIGHT WITH SURVIVAL POSSESSIONS



that to me, and that started the whole Wonder Woman-gay love-PowerBook thing. When I was younger, I lived like a gypsy, on the pretense that I was too cool to work. So I would travel with just a backpack, and I would leave stashes of comic books all over the country. I have stashes of comic books in every major city, still to this day.

# Jack Innis Author *San Diego Legends*

I would take my truck, because I would need it to get out of Dodge pardon the pun. And I would take my hard drive off of my computer because it contains my life's work as an author. And, finally, I would take my guitar that was hand built by my son, because I promised him that I would give it back to him when I died. In other words, I'm willing it back to him. During the Harmony Grove fire, the flames were coming within a few miles of Bay Park, where I live, and we didn't know if we would have to evacuate or not. So we ran around and grabbed everything important ---the computer hard drive, the truck, the guitar – and what we started



Jack Innis

doing right then and there was using the digital camera to take pictures of everything we owned. In case our house was wiped out, we would have something to show the insurance companies.

### Juan Manzo Education associate La Jolla Playhouse

I'm 27 years old, and I would take my iPod, all of my books... Can I take all of my books or just one book? They would fit in a box or in my car. I wouldn't take all of them, but I would take most of my books and my pictures, my photo albums, because the photos represent really important memories and places that I've been, and I think it's really tragic to lose the only copies of those moments forever. I'm not sure I could gather all of this stuff very quickly. The pictures are probably the most important things to me, though. I have a lot of fiction books, like, *Middlesex* is a great



Juan Manzo

book. And we have some really great leatherbound Shakespeare books that are awesome. Literature and books have been a big part of my life. I know you could buy them elsewhere, but I just don't want to let that go. Plus you would have something to read,

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and you could have your own library for others.

# **Isaac Olaleye Children's book** author Bitter Bananas, Bikes for Rent, and The Distant Talking Drum I've never been in a situ-

ation where I had to flee, but I've always thought, "What if there was a fire? What would I like to take out of my house?" First, it would be my manuscripts and pictures very quickly. Since I'm a writer, I would take my book manuscripts. They are very precious to me, and they are not replaceable. It would be too much work to try and do them all over again. They are on paper, in different files for different subjects. I handwrite everything first and then have someone else type them. And then old pictures — you cannot



Isaac Olaleve

replace those. I moved here from Nigeria. I was in my late 20s when I came here, and I only brought a small amount of things with me. I didn't have much. Where I came from, they used to say, You don't have to keep up with the Joneses because the Joneses have nothing much to keep up with. There's a limit to what you can take, so I took a few clothes and my books. So the last thing I'd take is my cell phone so I can get in contact with people in case they are wondering if I am dead or alive.

# **Tera Black Chief operating** officer

**San Diego Gulls** I would take my first daughter's ashes. We lost her when I was eight months pregnant. Those ashes represent the most life-changing experience that I've ever been through. But the silver lining through all that is the wonderful two-anda-half-year-old daughter



Tera Blac

we now have who never would have come to be. I would also bring something my grandfather gave me. He gave me more than 30 reels of

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old film footage from when my father was young. My father's going to be 60 this year. I haven't looked at them yet, so I would want to take them. Family movies are neat. It's nice to be able to look back on your past, and I would want my daughter to have that opportunity. And I would bring all my photos. I know it's kind of a cliché, but when I see a wedding photo or when I was in college, you look back on yourself and that moment in time. And if I couldn't take all my albums, then I'd just take the photos of my baby.

Jonathon Shockey Captain/ defenseman San Diego Gulls



Jonathon Shockey

I'd have to have a variety of clothes. I know it sounds silly, but I couldn't wear the same thing every day. Does that count as one thing? Could it be a wardrobe of clothes? It keeps me entertained, and you have to have style points. I'd also have to have stuff to read. So I'd take the Bible. It's all about the straight and narrow. And the last one would be one of my motorcycles — a custom chopper. My favorite one would be the blue custom Harley.

# Martin St. Amour Coach

San Diego Gulls I would take an unlimited supply of Silver Oak Cabernet 2001. The '99 is good, but I prefer the 2001. The Napa Valley vineyard, not the Alexander Valley. I just enjoy that bottle of wine. I had it two years ago at a wine tasting. I like the smoothness and the buttery cherry taste. I enjoy wine in general and that bottle in particular. A bottle of wine — even if

ive a

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it's the same year each tastes a little bit different. Then I would have to bring some music. Can I bring a lot of music? Okay, if I had to limit it to one, it would be U2 *Joshua Tree* — that's probably my favorite album of all time. Every song is different. It's a group I've admired since I was young, and I've seen them five times in concert. I also like Bono as a human being. He does good things for people. I also like their music because a lot of their songs mean something and you can understand what he's saying. Number three for me would be some kind of vehicle that I could transport myself in. I have a motorcycle, a brand-new Hummer, and a 1956 Willy. So if I had to take just one, I'd take the Willy — a Ford Overland, the first fourby-four. It's a California beach car. It barely has a radio, no air condition-



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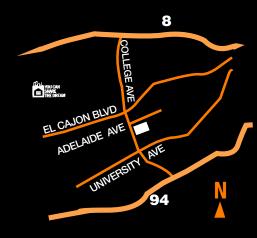
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Martin St. Amour

ing, but I love to drive it.

**Gabriela Anaya** Valdepeña **Poet and artist** I would take all my family pictures, my

collector's-edition copy of Flowers of Evil, and my red velvet cloak. To be more specific, I would take my daughter's baby pictures and the family photos that I haven't scanned. I don't know why I didn't mention my poetry first. It's very important to me, but I have books out and my poetry's on the Net, and I could always write more poems. Someone once asked Picasso, you have a lot of artwork in your studio. If there was

a fire, which piece would

you take first, and he



Gabriela Anaya Valdepeña

said he'd take the cat. I feel that way. I can write more poems, but I can't replace the pictures or that cape. I could have said I'd take my computer, but I'm a poet and

that doesn't sound very romantic. It's more dramatic to take a book and cloak.

Flowers of Evil was written by Charles Baudelaire, and I am the bride of Baudelaire saucy, irreverent, and dangerous. He was a mid-19th-century French poet, considered a romantic poet by some. It's a leatherbound book that my friend found at a garage sale. It's inscribed in gold, has gold pages, and it has a little wine-colored velvet bookmark. Beautiful.

She found it for \$3 right before my birthday, and she sent it to me. The red velvet cloak is textured velvet and has a faux fur collar. It's really dramatic, and it's warm. It was in the window of a specialty store in La Jolla, where the clothes are kind of matronly. It looked like something they wouldn't normally carry, and I went wild. But the price tag was over \$450, and I thought no way I can have that. I kept thinking about it, and one day it wasn't in the window and I asked

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and they said it really didn't fit our store so they were going to send it back. So I called my fiancé and begged and groveled, and he got it for me.

I grew up in Mexico City, and I remember we had little temblors and they were scary because the chandeliers would shake in our house. I also grew up partly in Texas, and we had tornado warnings - I was right in Tornado Alley — and that was terrifying. But the warnings wouldn't give you

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enough time to get things. And few months ago they had a warning, a tidal wave tsunami — warning for La Jolla, and I remember thinking, gosh, I should move to higher ground, and I started thinking what should I take.

Mike Toma Owner/installer Super Low Price Auto Glass



Mike Toma

For me, I'd take my pet canary, my love, and save my family. But if they're all safe, then I'd take my shop. By that I mean try to take all the glass [car windshields], because I've been years doing this business and I love it; this is my life. Without this I can do nothing. I'd be on the street without this. I'd also take the photos I have of back home and of me when I was young with all my brothers and my family. They're black-and-white, old pictures. I'd like to keep them and my movies too. I'd save them for my children so that in the future they can see how I was when I was young.

I was in Turkey when earthquakes happened two times, but nothing happened to me. A lot of other people were affected, but I could not help because I am not a person with power. I didn't think of saving anything then. I just came out and crossed myself like this, and that's it. I'd also like to save my old videocassettes, home videos. They show us wearing old-style clothes, the kind of clothes we wear

back home. Our style, you know, Chaldean. It's very nice, and I'm not going to have these clothes anymore, because we moved to this country. I traveled a lot from Iraq and came here pretty much empty-handed from Greece.

# Tanya Hagan Performance artist and vocalist I would take my ther-

I would take my thermos, because I could survive on just hot water alone. If I can stay warm, I'm good. I would also take my laptop and my digital camera so I could record everything that was going on. I have my life pretty much on my computer now — all my performances, all the archiving of my work. The computer would also allow me to edit any footage I shot. A digital camera for me has become my new journal. I used to have a journal that I wrote in religiously. Now it's a visual journal. I can't imagine going out into the world and not being able to capture what I see and edit it. I would take a digital camera to document what was going on, because that







Tanya Hagan

would probably be the only way that personally I could cope with the catastrophe and be able to create some context for it.

When I was little my mother was mentally ill and we were often homeless, so in those instances the things that I took were a jacket and my sister. We didn't have a whole lot, and things were very transient, so I'd take something warm, a blanket, and a pillow and go.

More recently, I thought I'd have to evacuate during the Cedar fire, and, yes, I grabbed those three things. I wanted to take other things with me, and I did because I wasn't limited to three things. Unfortunately, I don't have my costume shop in a magic box that folds down into some tiny thing or I would take that too. So I just have to insure that and write it off. My husband Allan and I were living in El Cajon. I remember going to work that day and the skies were all black and we didn't know what was going on. And we went to work and when we got home we were driving into this ring of fire to get to our house. We were newly married. At that point my costume shop was in the house and it wasn't insured. I panicked and called friends and said get your trucks over here and get the costumes out. So we had everyone on red alert. The fire was right over the hill, but it went past us.

# Billy Martinez Cartoonist, art instructor, publisher, and owner-proprietor of Neko Press Studios

I would bring all the photos of my family, the memorabilia. I would bring my art supplies and art that are on disk so I could continue working and taking care of my family wherever we would be. And I would take all my Beatles, John Lennon, and Paul McCartney albums. That way I could listen to the music. I wouldn't take my com-



Billy Martinez

puter, just all the CDs with my work and Photoshop program, because I could probably find a computer somewhere else. So that way all the artwork I have stored on disk I could continue to work on and I could continue to produce. My original artwork is on paper, but that would be too much to bring. But everything's been scanned onto CDs now, so taking the disks would be the logical thing to do rather than taking originals, which could get destroyed more easily.

With the kids, I think of bringing clothes for them. But if it really got down to it, with kids and all, I'd probably be able to bring more than three things. We talked

# HOME AND GARDEN



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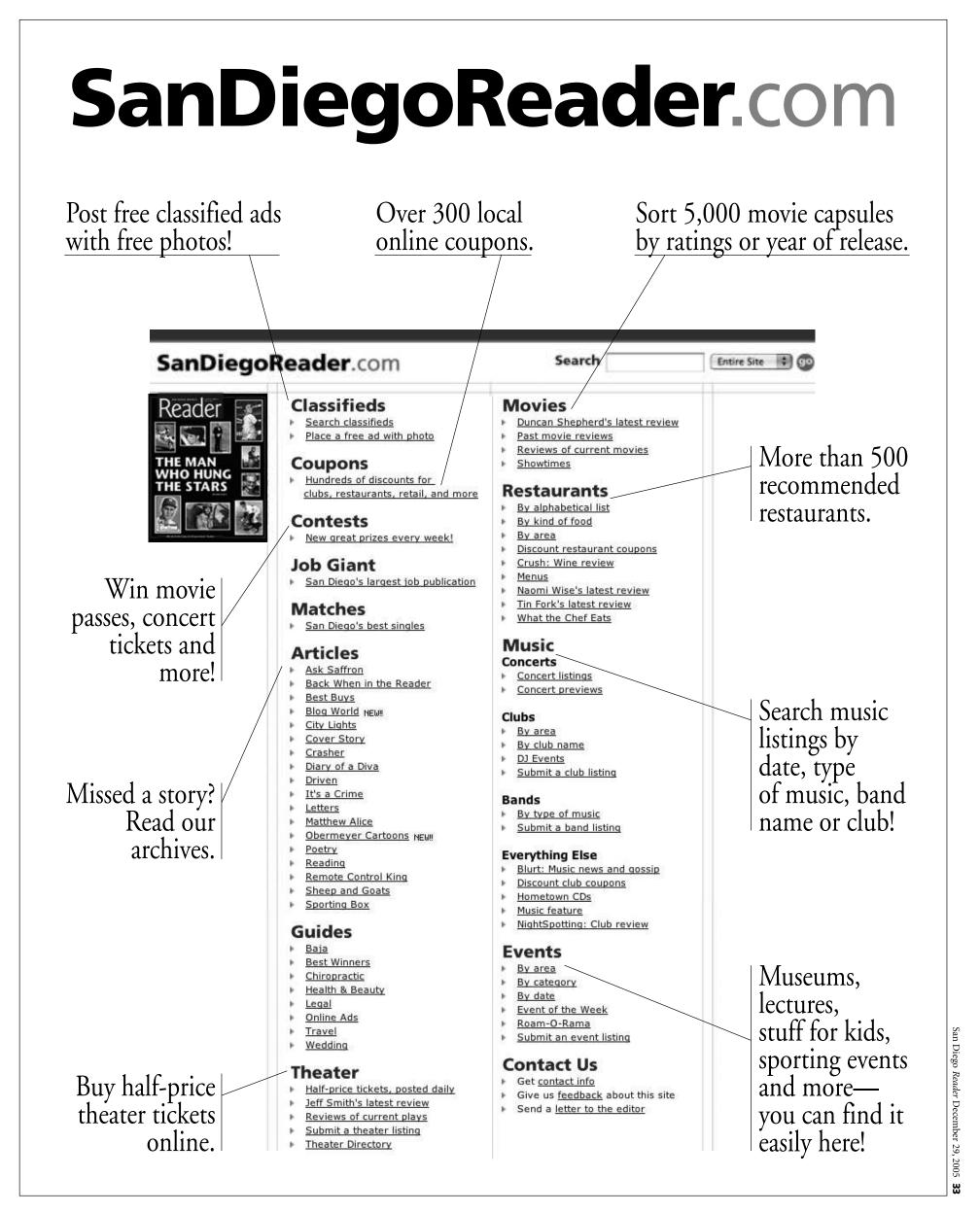


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about this yesterday, and at that point I'd probably have a rifle or a gun or a bat, because there's no telling what would be going on, like The Road Warrior. When the Cedar fire hit, I was more concerned with practical things, like making sure we had enough water and that the car had a full tank of gas and we had clothing. We didn't actually have to evacuate, but we were concerned about it. You could see the fire off of Mount Helix.

When I was young in Oklahoma, I remember there was a tornado, and we ended up going outside into a gully, a ditch area that was very deep, and we just sat there. You had no time to take anything, because it was only a mile away. I was 13 or 14. I was living with a family because my parents were split up, so all I had were clothes and albums. I thought those were replaceable, so all I really thought about then was that my friends and the family there were safe.

# **Michelle Traughber Tattoo artist**

That's a tough question, but you know, honestly, there isn't anything I would take. If my family and pets are safe, that's all that really matters. It's funny, because right now there's something very dear to me - an autographed instrument ---that I'm actually selling, and I've had to come to terms with selling it. It's been a lesson to me in letting go.

The thing is, I've just been really broke the last couple years, so I've learned how to do with



Michelle Traughber

less and less to the point that if I were to somehow lose everything, it really wouldn't hurt me that much. I would almost be laughing at the universe, because it would just be like one more thing. I guess I have been preparing to lose things for a long



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HOME AND GARDEN



time. I need to buy a new pair of pants, for example, and I can't even do that right now.

Before I would have said family photos and things like that, but really, having things just weighs you down. And it attaches you to places that might not be the healthiest place for you to be in. You get to appreciate the moment more when you're not so worried about things. When you're busy worrying about the tear in the couch or the broken vase or whatever, it's like you don't get to relax, you don't get to see what's happening in the moment around you. I was really upset to be in a financial position where I had to sell this instrument, but if I sell it to the right person, it's going to end up benefiting them a lot, and that kind of means more to me than owning the item for myself. I've been reflecting on the nature of attachment a lot the last week, so this question is almost like a test from the universe, and me actually saying this out loud is the best way for me to let go.

# Brandon Cesmat Author Driven into the Shade

I would probably take the same things I took when we were evacuated in eight minutes during the Paradise Valley fire. Those things would be my laptop computer with my past, present, and future manuscripts on it, my guitars, and my books. I was only able to get one box of my books in the back of my truck on the day of the fire. They were the things that would have burned the fastest, so I was glad to have them.

The oddest thing about that day that I remember, though, was when I was trying to take my clothes off the pole in the closet. What I didn't realize was that a

suit bag actually had the hook turned the wrong way, so when I tried to pull the armload of clothes off the pole, it wouldn't come. Then I looked and realized that I was trying to grab all the clothes that I don't usually wear, so I just left them and went and got the dirty-clothes basket that had all the clothes I really liked. My books, the ones I wrote, were the first ones I took, and then my complete collection of Louise Erdrich. As for the guitars, there are three of them - two basses and an acoustic. One bass I've had a long time, and one is new. But again, you hold something in your hand for so many hours, and there's a conversation that happens between the player and the music. It's two-directional. You pick up a new instrument, and it's always interesting because it feels different.

# Axel Gamboa Health-care worker



Axel Gamboa

First, I would take my camera-cell phone. Then an iPod with a 5000-song collection. And finally, a bottle of water. Water has become my favorite drink, and maybe I could share it with others, because people might be panicked and not have taken water. The iPod I'd take because I love music and I can't live without it. When I moved here from the Philippines, I brought a lot of things with me. My luggage was filled with books and clothes and things. But my camera-cell phone

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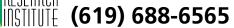
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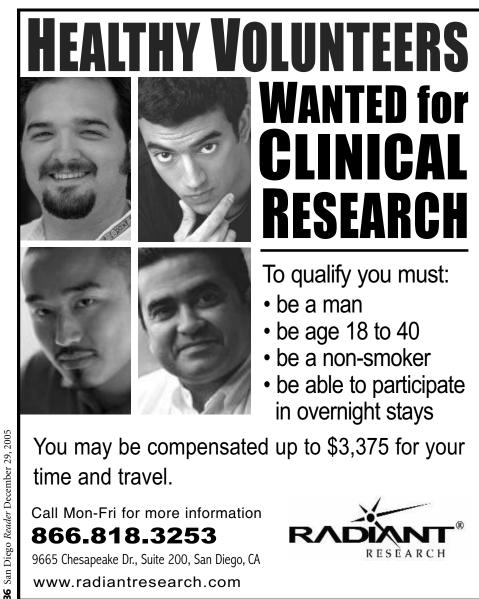


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and my iPod were in there too, so they have always been important to me.

**Dr. Fuyun Hsu Retired United Nations diplomat** celebrating his 100th birthday this vear



Dr. Fuyun Hsu

I would take my memoirs that I have been working on for many years. My memoirs tell me where I've been, where I've gone, what I've done. My memoirs are my life. I would also take a bottle of red wine, because I have discovered the particular taste of Bordeaux wines. I have discovered the virtue of the Bordeaux a long time ago. I try to drink a little bit of Bordeaux wine every day. And of course I would share it with others. I would also like to take a hotel. Yes, a hotel.

I'd like that. I remember the consulate recommended the Hotel Seville in New York. I would want to stay at the Hotel Seville, a hotel with all the old-fashioned things in it.

#### **Dr. Jose Albert** Jaramillo Host of the radio show The Ancient Mexico. 1030 AM **XESDD**

First of all, I think that it's very important to have a plan with your family, to put together a plan in case something happens, to have everyone meet together at a particular point. So for me, what I do is I have in my home water, and I always try to keep the car with the gas tank full. And it's very important to have food and a little bit of cash available, because we can see now with people in Florida that there is no electricity, no ATM cards to use.

We also have in our house a plastic box with all our personal documents, like our passports, birth certificates, and insurance, and, of course, you're going to take those things in case you need them later on. But in terms of other material things, I don't think it's going to be

necessary. What we need to do is just to be prepared, encourage people to be a spiritual outlet.

It's very important to prepare ourselves spiritually and to control our emotions. It's very important for us to understand the ancient prophecies and to



Dr. Jose Albert Jaramillo

understand what's going on around the world. We are expecting by 2008, according to the Mayan prophecy, that the state of California will be hit by a big earthquake. To be a little more specific, it will probably be eight of oh-eight at eight o'clock in the morning. And I encourage the people to prepare themselves in a spiritual way to help others, to focus on the practical aspects of surviving and not focusing on material things.

I have a Mayan background, and from

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Synergy Clinical Research 1908 Sweetwater Road National City, CA 91950 www.synergysandiego.com that I made a rebirth of my ancient culture. I came to Mayan prophecies to understand what is happening in the world. We are living in an era where the god of water is dominating the skies, because the energy of Cauac, rainstorm, is coming now. That's why we have now the record of 23 hurricanes. Cauac is giving us the opportunity to harmonize with our planet. There are now a lot of people that follow the Mayan calendar, and we are making, like, a big prayer around the world in order to stop some of the catastrophes that take place.

I was born in Guadalajara, Mexico. I lived 28 years of my life in Mexico. My sister was

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living here in San Diego, so just when I finish my master's, I decide to go there. I just make a phone call, and my sister says, "Yeah, sure, you can come over and stay with us." Mexican families are always like that — they always open their doors to everybody, and I live with her and then I start making my own way of life.

#### Rich Pavel Surfer, surfboard designer, and proprietor of the Green Room

Like anyone, there's the tools of your trade you'd want to take. Many of mine are irreplaceable. In particular, there's a power planer; the brand is Skil, and the model is



Rich Pavel

a Skil 100. It's been out of circulation for decades, but it's a fabulous tool, and I just happen to be very used to it. So the first item would be a box of tools. There are also things that I would be bringing with me that are incredibly valuable, and those would be the experiences I have being the kind of person that I am and having been exposed to the experiences I've had. But in terms of material possessions, that's tough. I



# Take this Restless Legs Syndrome Quiz

#### Are you familiar with these symptoms of RLS?

I have an unpleasant sensation in my legs that gives me the urge to move them.

- I have the urge to move my legs or the unpleasant sensation begins or worsens during periods of rest or inactivity.
- The unpleasant sensation is partially or totally relieved by walking or stretching
- The unpleasant sensation gets worse in the evening and at night

If you have symptoms of RLS, you may qualify for a clinical research study. Qualified participants will receive all study related exams and investigational medication at no cost and may be compensated for their time and travel.

For more information, please call (858) 554-8914

> Scripps Clinic

# **Depression with Insomnia**

#### can affect the quality of your life.

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.
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- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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# Schizophrenia

**Outpatient Research Study** 

Is it hard to focus and get motivated?

Many treatments for schizophrenia focus on the voices and fears, but what about how hard it is to do simple tasks? We are studying an investigational medication that focuses on the lack of motivation and energy associated with schizophrenia.

Are you currently taking Zyprexa, Risperdal, Seroquel, Abilify, or Geodon and still not functioning well? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication for the low-energy symptoms associated with schizophrenia.

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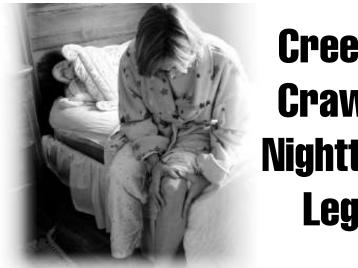
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# Creepy, Crawly, Nighttime Legs

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.
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- Increase fats in the bloodstream Be mistaken for medical conditions
- 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.

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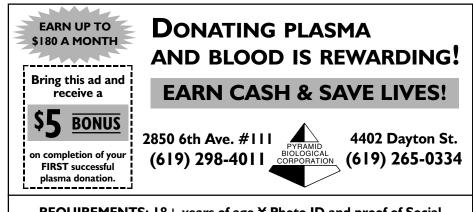


## Depression Research Study

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

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

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might try to grab something like a passport or a document that's very difficult to replace. I have had to evacuate before at the Hanalei in Kauai. It was a personal thing, not a natural disaster, and I did take my surfboard at that time. I don't know that I would bring a board now. I guess the last thing I'd take if I had to leave the city would be cash, to be practical.

#### Luis Gonzales Roller hockey player and coach at Skate San Diego I would take a computer,

for memories. Everything's stored on my computer — pictures, music, and a lot of information. Even if the



Luis Gonzales

Internet were down, I would still have a lot of information on my computer. It also has games. A laptop would be more portable. Second, I would take a pen, something to write with. Writing with a pen is different than writing on a computer. My favorite pastime is doodling. So I would take a ballpoint pen, not a pen-

cil. When you get ideas, you need to write them down. I write in a black notebook. So I guess I should change my answer to say that I'd bring my black notebook with a pen; they go together. And the last item would be a hockey stick, my regular stick, just to have it to play around and do stick handling. I'd rather have my hockey stick than my skates.

#### Michael Byrne El Cajon Skateboarder

I'd take my car, my guitar, and a bottle of Jack Daniel's. I wouldn't take my skateboard. My car is an '86 Corolla. If I had my choice, I'd steal my mom's IROC Camaro. I

#### RESEARCH STUDIES

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Are You Currently Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder?

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

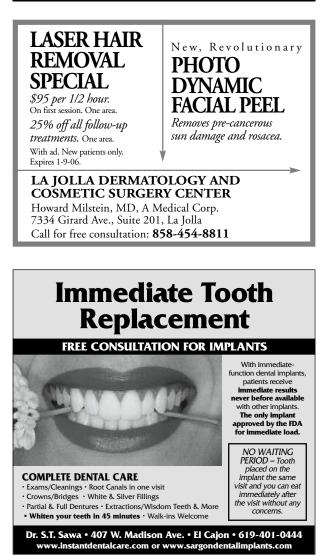
put a CD player in my car last month, and I have my CDs and the amps in the back. My guitar is a Les Paul Jr. I play a lot of guitar with my buddy Josh and my buddy Michael, and we were called Falling Freedom, but we want to change the name, so we're kind of nameless right now. I've been playing guitar four years. My guitar has sentimental value. I've had it four years, and it has wear marks, and I've dropped it a couple times by accident. As for Jack Daniel's, it's my favorite drink, and if a comet or something were coming, I'm going to get trashed. I drink it straight out of the bottle. I like the taste of it. I like the burn. I've had to move a few times in my life. I'm a military child, so I had to pick up and just leave. Back then, I was mainly concerned about taking my bike, a Diamondback. We had to move real quick, like in six hours, man, so I stripped that thing down

and grabbed a few clothes, my bike, my skate, and I was out. Nothing else was that important to me. I wouldn't bring my skateboard, because I get a new one every couple months, so I could always get one.

#### Reverend Peter Moore-Kochlacs Pastor Chapel of the Valley United Methodist Church

Certainly I'd want to take my faith with me, because it would be a very scary time. I've been assured that my family's safe, so I don't have to worry about them. But to represent my faith and my security in my faith, my crutch, and my hope, I would take a Bible. I would probably take the new Revised Standard Bible that I have all marked up, and it has a whole bunch of tags in it representing different scriptures that are important to me. I think the second thing I would

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Peter Moore-Kochlacs

take would be pictures of my family. I've been very much into genealogy, and I have a sense of the history of my extended family and where that places me in terms of my identity. Of course, my identity first is in Christ as a Christian, but second it comes from an immigrant family from Europe. I feel a sense of roots that root me here on the planet and now here in Southern California. The third item hasn't come to mind yet. I'm going to need a car, and I certainly want an address book of friends to make sure I get to someplace safe where my family might be or where I could get my family to gather.

We tried to evacuate once. We were a halfmile from the epicenter of the Northridge earthquake, living in a parsonage in Reseda. The chimney broke, there was structural damage to the church, and we had a lot of damage to the house, where everything collapsed in. Transportation was unavailable, the gas and electricity were off, and so we ironically couldn't go anywhere. We had to stay there. We helped the neighbors, and the neighbors helped us. We cooked leftovers together; things in the freezer had to be eaten. We got as much water as we could, because there were some breakages in the water system.

#### **Phil Beaumont Principal**, the **Museum School, and** member of the local **band Maquiladora**

I guess if it were my personal items, it would be a Canon camera, because I love to take pictures of people and places and to document things. I'd have to take some of my clothes that I have, especially my old boots that I've had for many years that have traveled to many countries with me and done many things with me. If I was going to go to another place safely, I suppose I should take a computer; that would be smart. But we're not thinking smartly, are we? So I think I'd take my photo albums. Not family photos but rather documents of my life until now.

I've never had to evacuate from town, but I remember the subways

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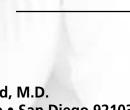
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Phil Beaumont

back in London when I was living there. You'd have bomb threats, and vou would be told that you would need to exit immediately. But it was remarkably silly at the time. It was prior to 9/11, and it was about IRA threats that were happening so often that people didn't react like, "Oh God, get me out of here," but instead it was like, "Oh man, now I'll miss my train."

#### **Richie Simmons Bartender The Waterfront**

I'd take a knife, cash, and my family photos. A knife you can use for all sorts of things protection and making wooden spoons and bowls and whatnot. The photos are something that's irreplaceable, pictures of your mom when you're a kid, your dad when you're a kid. Pictures of growing up, me and my family, but nothing new. Photos from when I was 18 and under. I'm 29 now. F-k the furniture and all that. Wait, maybe I should take a sleeping bag instead of



Richie Simmor

the pictures. No, I could use the knife to steal a sleeping bag, I guess. But definitely cash for emergencies. Either that or gold. The knife I have is a hunting knife I've had for 20 years. I moved here 8 years ago from Ohio; that's where I used to hunt. I'm used to roughing it. I can rough it.

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#### LaRita Williams **After-school** coordinator **Lemon Grove School District**

I would take my iPod, because I can't live without music; my laptop because I can't live without the Internet; and my journals because they outline my life, where I've been and where my family's been. I've been keeping my journals since I was in a sixthgrade poetry class that got us going writing poetry in journals. My journal has my entire life. All the people who've been in my life are all outlined in my journals. I write mostly poetry entries. I think creatively, so it all just comes out in poetic



LaRita Williams

verse. My iPod probably has a little over 4000 songs. I love music. Music is therapy for me. The beats, the rhythms, the messages. It's mostly R&B with some old school, but it's pure, it's easy to listen to, it relaxes me and it keeps me sane. As for the laptop, everything is on it pictures of my family, my résumé. Also, I'm a student at SDSU, so a lot of things that I have been writing for my classes are on it. I've mostly taken African-American classes and women's studies classes. Most of those pieces I have been writing for those classes have changed my life by doing the research around those topics. So being able to write scholarly papers and putting real thought into that type of work, it's

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Extension 7070

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Extension 7080

Laser Eye

2 Who is a candidate?

Surgery

1 About LASIK

**3** Your eye exam

5 After surgery

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4 Long-term effects

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**5** Number of treatments

1 What is it?

2 Is it safe?

3 Results

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4 Surgery

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2 Botox & wrinkles 1 What is abdominoplasty? **3** Effects of Botox **2** Full v. mini v. liposuction 4 How much does it cost? 3 Surgery 4 Risks & side effects

5 Recovery

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**1** How it works 2 Who is a candidate? **3** What to expect **4** Resuming activities 5 About our center



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4 Breast reduction 5 Male breast reduction



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#### Extension 7090 Laser Hair Removal

1 About our center 2 How it works 3 Which laser is best? 4 Treatment 5 Appointments & costs



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#### Extension 7050 Weight Loss

1 What should I eat? 2 How much can I lose? 3 Body Mass Index (BMI) 4 Is the Atkins Diet safe? 5 Exercise: How much?



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1 About our offices 2 Veneers & whitening 3 Invisalign for straightening **4** Single appt. crowns/onlays 5 Appointments & costs



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#### Extension 7180 Laser Tattoo Removal

1 How does it work? 2 Who is a candidate? **3** Is it painful? **4** How much does it cost? **5** After the treatments



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2 Best candidates 3 Lap band v. gastric bypass 4 Risks & side effects



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1 What are they? 2 How long do they last? 3 Process & cost 4 Can I curl & use mascara? 5 Reasons lashes fall off



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#### Extension 7030 LipoSelection 1 What is it?

2 How it works **3** Initial steps **4** Future weight gain 5 Best candidates



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#### Extension 7150 **Evelid Surgerv**

- 1 What is blepharoplasty? 2 Will scars be noticeable?
- 3 Recovery period
  - 4 Is laser used? **5** Alternatives



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#### Extension 7000 Rhinoplasty 1 Procedures

- 2 Nose "design" options 3 Risks & side effects **4** After surgery
- **5** Resumption of activities



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# Extension 7200





5 Recovery



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just not something I want to lose.

I remember being in the Northridge quake when we lived in South Central Los Angeles. It had to be four o'clock in the morning, and I remember thinking, I have to take my blanket with me, because wherever we were going at that time it was going to be cold. Also, my blanket represents comfort and all the things around comfort, and I just wanted it to be wherever I was going. I just wanted to feel safe and secure, and I wanted to take my blanket with me.

Anya Marina Singer/songwriter and evening jock on FM 94/9, KBZT



Anya Marina

Honestly — because it's not funny to make light of natural disasters and such — I would take my sister's salon-quality hair dryer, because she'd probably forget it and I've always wanted it. Then once the comet or earthquake had passed and she realized I had remembered to grab it, I would be, like, "Yo, this is my hair dryer now. You left it. Finders keepers, bitch." I would also grab my new boots from Nordstrom because they are so hot right now, and — because it's important to think of posterity and future generations — I would grab all the pictures I have framed of myself all over the house. Thankfully, I wasn't affected by the Cedar fire. The only time I've

ever had to flee quickly

was the one time I was

being followed by a bunch of paparazzi while I was shopping with my stylist on Robertson, and then I crashed head-on into a...oh, sorry. That wasn't me. That was Lindsay Lohan. Sometimes I get confused because our lives are, like, so totally the same.

#### **Judith Coker** Lawyer/real estate broker

First, I would want to take the best gift I have ever received in my whole life, and that was from a very close friend who went back to his home country. But before he left, the weekend before he left, he tried to think of the most special present he could give me, and he painted my portrait as a surprise. It was beautiful, and it looks just like me. It's a framed oil portrait of me, and it was so touching. My second item would be my family records, which would include historical family photos that date back to the 1860s, one of which is a photograph of my great-great-great-greatgreat- something-likethat grandmother in her wedding dress. I have a good selection of about 100 photographs. One of my great-aunts was a genealogist. She sent me copies of photos, and she had this amazing stuff with all the photos and lineage written down. There's also a videotaped interview I did with my family and close friends two Christmases ago. I interviewed each one of them and asked the same questions and recorded their responses. My third item would be my A Course in Miracles book, and that's a spiritual thought system that boils down to the idea that there's basically only love in the world, and that's the only thing that's real. Everything else is an illusion. And even though that's something that I could ultimately replace,

I think it would be something that I would need to get through the next couple of days or weeks, because it's part of my strength and it would help me to remember what's really real.

I never had to evacuate before, but when I was ten years old I remember we were sailing down to Mexico, and we were shipwrecked in our sailboat. We had to take things on this little dinghy, and my dad swam. My two sisters and I were in the dingy, and he swam to shore. We were in Baja, and it was completely desolate. We had to walk quite a ways before we found a shack. We tried to take a few things, but ultimately we were not allowed to



Judith Coker

because there wasn't room and it just wasn't possible. I lost my Barbie doll, and I lost this beautiful yellow nightgown my mother had brought me back from a special trip she had gone on to Florida.

#### **Tracy Davis** Barista **Peet's Coffee and** Tea

I would take a photo album of my family, a book, and coffee, because I can't function without coffee. The photos would be pictures from before I can even remember. My father died a while ago, and I can't remember anything except for the pictures. So it's just normal family pictures from the past rather than recent stuff. As for the book, it would have to be one that I could read over and over again, so

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# Liposuction at a glance

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.

Procedure: Remove exerciseresistant fat deposits with a tubeand-vacuum device, sometimes assisted with ultrasound.
Length: 1 or more hours.
Anesthesia: Local with sedation or general.
In/Outpatient: Usually outpatient.

Extensive procedures may require short inpatient stay.

**Recovery:** Back to work in 1 to 2 weeks. More strenuous activity: 2 to 4 weeks. Full recovery from swelling and bruising: 1 to 6 months or more. **Effects Last:** Permanently, with proper diet and exercise.

## Tummy tuck

A "tummy tuck," or abdominoplasty, can significantly enhance your appearance. The procedure involves the removal of excess skin and fat from the abdomen and tightening the muscles of the abdominal wall. This procedure can dramatically reduce the appearance of a protruding abdomen, remove excess bulk, and re-create a waistline that has otherwise been stretched over time.

## Breast augmentation

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

## 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.

## Nose surgery

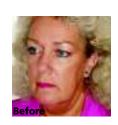
Surgery to reshape the nose is one of the most common of all plastic surgery procedures. Rhinoplasty can reduce or increase the size of your nose, change relative shape or angle, or it may correct a birth defect or injury, or help relieve some breathing problems. Rhinoplasty can enhance your appearance and self-confidence although the best candidates are those looking for improvement, not perfection, in the way they look.



### Actual Patients













# LASER AND SKIN CARE

## Laser hair removal \$39<sup>\*</sup> Lip or chin area How is laser hair removal

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

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

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

\$59<sup>\*</sup> Underarms or bikini area \$149<sup>\*</sup> Lower leg Full-body treatments also available.

# <u>Botox</u><sup>®</sup> \$99\*

Botox® treatments are one of the few

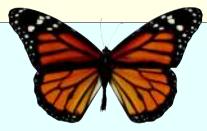
procedures we do that result in high patient satisfaction within a short period of time. In fact, the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS) 2001 Statistics on Cosmetic Surgery listed Botox® injections as the fastest-growing cosmetic treatment performed by surgeons in the United States.

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



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

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



# Rosacea treatment \$199

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



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that would probably have to be On the Road by Jack Kerouac, which might be appropriate if I had to evacuate. I read it a long time ago, and I haven't read it in a while because I don't have time to read for fun. I liked the way it gave me insight into the culture of the beatniks back in the '50s, because I wasn't even alive back then. And the coffee, I can't get out of bed unless I know there's coffee waiting for me somewhere. So if I had to go somewhere, I'd have to have my Peet's coffee, of course, because it's the best. If it counts as one, I'd take the cof-



Tracy Davis

feemaker with the coffee. I was living in Santee when the fires came, so we had to evacuate just as a precaution. But nothing happened to my home, so I was able to come back. I just grabbed what I thought I would need, and I think I took a few photos. I just took practical things because I didn't think the fires were really going to hit my house.

Donna Sly Co-owner and chef, Creative Catering/ Tastefully Relaxed I would take financial documents, all that

financial stuff that we would need so you could survive elsewhere — checkbooks, credit cards stuff that makes it easier to live after something like that happens. We'd probably take our custom-made dining table. The custom table we'd

take is a five-foot round custom dining room table that was custom engraved with all kinds of what they call icons - they are pictures of things that are important to us. We have champagne glasses and a chef for me, crayons and drama masks and tae kwon do fists, and the children's little stuffed animals that were super important to them when we had the table made. It's very colorful. The company that made it, the artists were I think in Iowa.

We kind of went through this when the fires happened. During



Donna Sly

the fires, we did evacuate, and we loaded that table onto the back of the pickup truck. We also took one really cool lamp, a stained-glass lamp. I don't know if that would be a third thing I would take. The neighborhood was evacuated, and we were by Mission Trails park. If the flames had jumped Mission Gorge Road, we would have been in real trouble. It was pretty scary.

But the third thing I think I would take would be some of the jewelry that my grandmother handed down to me. I have a pair of earrings from my great-grandmother, who fled Russia around 1920 because of persecution. She left with everything. And there's my grandmother's wedding ring. They're family things that I'd want to hand down to my children. Wait a minute,





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what am I thinking? I would swap out the family photos for the jewelry. I'd probably take the photos off the walls and the albums, photos from the past 15 to 20 years. I'd want to save them for the memories and to pass on to my kids. You know, the pictures of us when we were young. We have young children, and Renee would take her stuffed cow that she still sleeps with, and Dylan would probably take his Game Boy.

#### **Jennifer Kruse Fire captain, Station** 12, C-Shift



Jennifer Kruse

The only thing I'm thinking about right now is that I was at that fire this morning and we rescued six people near Paradise Hills, a mom and five kids. All I could think about on my way there was what were we going to see when we got there. That's all I keep thinking about. They all survived. They're in the hospital, but they're going to be fine.

face a disaster and get away, that's all that's important. So that's all I think about. I don't have any collections, just family pictures and genealogy charts, stuff like that. I've done a lot of genealogy research, but if it were lost, I could do it again. I have one old picture of my great-greatgrandma when she was 12 years old, and I just think it's the sweetest picture ever. I would be sad if I ever lost that, but not devastated. I would just be happy to be out and to be able to get to my loved ones. Anything else can be replaced, or it can be kept in my heart.

We did evacuate during the Cedar fire, but I was already at work, so I didn't get a chance to even think about it. The kids' dad came to evacuate them, and all I asked him to get were pictures and the pets. In my job, I have seen people who want to grab something as we try to evacuate them, but usually it is practical, like I need these insurance papers or pictures of this to prove what I have. A lot of the time we'll be going through places looking for things and there'll be sprinklers going off and we see pictures lying down, and we'll grab stuff like that and bring it out. If people are frantic, it's usually for pets. Most of the time they're just thankful to be out and be safe.

All I can get back to is thinking about that fire this morning and about getting there. There was a mom; the dad was at work. Imagine how frantic he must have been to get there and how fortunate he must have been to find that they were safe. So to face that situation and come out of it alive, I don't see how any material things could enter their minds.

#### **Austin Stewart** Sixteen-year-old **El Cajon skater**



Austin Stewart

I've always lived in El Cajon. On trips I took clothes, music, and a lighter. You always need to have a lighter in case you need to make a fire. So if I had to evacuate, I'd take a lighter, a skateboard, and a girl. I can't take a girl? Okay, the third thing I'd take is a CD player, because I love music. Any kind of music except country. I'd take the lighter to make fires, basically to do everything with --- you can smoke, you can

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who had a more difficult Saturday, Jan. 14th • 10am-12pm open weight loss surgery Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla saw me dancing around a week later, she couldn't

believe it either. Now I get blisters from walking so much! But this is about more than the surgery. It is also about the support and education I received to live a happier, healthier life. If you're 100 pounds overweight or more, attend the seminar on January 14th to find out more.

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amuse yourself with a lighter, you can burn things. I have a standard Bic lighter, one of those disposable ones. I'd bring a skateboard so I could do some skating. I'd probably take this one I have in my hand right here. I can skate pretty good on it, and I like the way it feels. It's a good ride. It's a Sun Diego. I put everything together on it.

#### **Derek Sinock** Sixteen-year-old **El Cajon skater**



Derek Sinock

When I had to move, the things I brought were my guitar, my skateboard, and my iPod. So I had stuff to do and music to listen to. I love my music, and without music I wouldn't have anything to listen to. With my skateboard and iPod, I could roam around town and listen to music. My guitar is an electric Ibanez. It's my first guitar. I've had it since I was 11. I don't think I'd go anywhere without it. I love it too much, and I treat it like it's part of the family. I bring that anywhere I go. I bring it on road trips or if I'm going on a family reunion, so if there were a comet coming I would take it with me for sure so I could play. My skateboard is an Avalanche, and it's for transportation. If I had to go somewhere new and I didn't know where the buses were, I could just skate around and find everything and make new friends that also skate. I also like to do tricks too. 🔳

- Beth Accomando

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THERE ARE MANY reasons for the surge in prestige and popularity that American poetry has enjoyed, but surely some credit has to go to the initiatives of poets and other interested parties. Some of these projects involve a media event or program; just about all of them end in an anthology. Catherine Bowman had the idea of covering poetry for NPR's All Things Considered, and the book of poems culled from her radio reports, Word of Mouth (Vintage, 2003), makes a lively case for the art. The "favorite poem project" launched by Robert Pinsky when he was U.S. Poet Laureate — in which ordinary citizens recite favorite poems for an archive and sometimes for a live TV audience-has generated two anthologies, most recently An Invitation to Poetry (edited by Pinsky, Maggie Dietz, and Rosemarie Ellis; Norton, 2004). Billy Collins, when he was Poet Laureate, campaigned to get the highschool teachers of America to read a poem aloud each school day, and selected an

academic year's worth for Poetry 180 (Random House, 2003) and now 180 More (Random House, 2005). The success of the Poetry Daily website led Diane Boller, Don Selby, and Chryss

Daily (Sourcebooks, 2003) on the model of a calendar. The calendar is also a driving principle for Garrison Keillor, whose Good Poems (Penguin, 2003) collects poems he has read on his Writer's Almanac show, which airs on public radio seven days a week.

The last several years have given us, in addition, high-quality anthologies organized around themes (Isn't It Romantic, eds. Aimee Kelley and Brett Fletcher Lauer; Verse Press, 2004), genres (Blues Poems, ed. Kevin Young; Everyman's Library, 2003), and historical periods (Poets of the Civil War, ed. J. D. McClatchy; Library of America, 2005). The number and variety of these (and yet other) antholo-

poems, but probably not good enough"), acknowledge relief (pleasure in Keillor's "high spirits and determination to have fun, even when talking about poetry"), and progress to appreciation of the finished product. Gioia complimented the anthologist on "the intelligent inclusion of neglected writers" and praised Keil-

FOREWORD: THE BEST AMERICAN POETRY 2005

# **Poets Tend To** Die Younger

gies make a double point about the poetry-reading public: it is larger than critics grant though smaller than many of us would like it to be; it reflects a period of eclectic taste rather than one dominated by an orthodoxy, as American poetry fifty years ago seemed dominated by the T. S. Eliot-inflected New Criticism.

lor for his Writer's Almanac show. Keillor "has probably done more to expand the audience of American poetry over the past ten years than all the learned journals of New England," Gioia wrote. He "has engaged a mass audience without either pretension or condescension." When you turned the page to August Kleinzahler's

August Kleinzahler called the Companion "comfort food for the philistines, a contemporary, bittersweet equivalent to the Lawrence Welk Show of years past."

As a rule, poetry anthologies receive even less critical attention than individual collections, but Keillor's Good Poems had a curious fate. Two reviews of the book appeared in the April 2004 issue of Poetry, the venerable Chicago-based magazine that inherited more than \$100 million from pharmaceutical heiress Ruth Lilly in 2002. Both reviews were written by respected poets. NEA Chairman Dana Gioia wrote a courtly piece, employing a familiar book-reviewing strategy: begin with advance doubts (anticipation of "good critique of Keillor's anthology, your eyebrows had to go up. It was less a review than a shrill attack on the Minnesota-based creator of public radio's long-running A Prairie Home Companion, a weekly variety show with skits, songs, a monologue from the host, and occasionally poems from a visiting poet. Kleinzahler called the Companion" comfort food for the philistines, a contemporary, bittersweet equivalent to the Lawrence Welk Show of years past." That was gentle compared with his treatment of the "execrable" Writer's Almanac. Keillor

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY

has "appalling" taste, Kleinzahler wrote. Any good poems in Good Poems probably got there because a staffer slipped them in; a "superannuated former MFA from the Iowa Workshop would be my guess." (Though to my knowledge, there is no such thing as a "former MFA" — the degree is something you have for life and Kleinzahler's point was clear enough.) Keillor should be "burned," or perhaps merely locked up "in a Quonset hut" until he renounces his daily radio poem. In brief, Kleinzahler avoids the sound of Keillor's "treacly baritone" voice just as he avoids "sneezing, choking, rheumy-eyed passengers" on the streetcars of San Francisco.

When he gets around to talking about Good Poems, Kleinzahler articulates the anti-populist argument that underscores his contempt for Keillor. In every age, Kleinzahler says, there are "very, very few" poets whose work "will matter down the road." The

effort to spread the word and enlarge the audience for poetry —an effort that Keillor enthusiastically participates in is a bad thing, because reading poetry often results in writing poetry, and most poetry is bad,

and bad poetry is bad for you and bad for the art. Kleinzahler is vehement to the point of hyperbole: "Poetry not only isn't good for you, bad poetry has been shown to cause lymphomas." Keillor's brand of "boosterism" may sell books and spur more poets to write, but it amounts to a form of "merchandising" that is itself

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"the problem, not the solution."

The anti-populist argument has its attractions. Many of us love poetry as a high art and regard our commitment to it as a vocation. And high art has its hierarchies, its idea of greatness or genius as something that few possess. As a poet you are continually inventing yourself by eliminating some models and electing others, defining your idea of what constitutes "good" and "bad." And if your aesthetic commitment is extreme, or your revolt against a prevalent style is desperate, you may come to regard bad poetry as almost a moral offense. This is one reason we need criticism: it can help us to understand those crucial terms, "good" and "bad," whose meaning seems almost always in flux.

But anti-populist arguments tend by their nature to be defeatist and somewhat self-fulfilling. The dubious assumption is that if, against great odds, a poet or a poem wins some public acceptance, it must be bad to the precise degree that it has become popular, and not merely bad but harmful, contagious. Yet Gresham's Law - the economic doctrine that says that bad money shall drive out good — does not really apply here. No one hated bad poetry more genuinely and with greater passion than Kenneth Koch. But as a teacher of children and nursing home residents, and as the author of a genial "Art of Poetry," he suspended the natural arrogance of the avant-garde artist. Poems, he says, are "esthetecologically harmless and psychodegradable / And never would they choke the spirits of the world. For a poem only affects us / And `exists', really, if it is worth it, and there can't be too many of those." It may turn out that the enlargement of poetry's community of readers depends on a toleration not of bad poems but of other people's ideas of what constitutes a good poem. Moreover if few poets

Moreover, if few poets in any given era will retain the fame of a Keats or Whitman, it does not follow that the appreciation of poetrygreat, good, and otherwiseis an activity for only a chosen few. Nor does it follow that the several originals among us are, in Kleinzahler's words, "drowning in the waste products spewing from graduate writing programs." Kleinzahler feels that the great talent of the 19th Century went into the novel and that poetry's competition today is even stiffer and more diverse; he names "movies, television, MTV, advertising, rock 'n' roll, and the Internet." I don't buy it. The amazing thing is that despite all discouragement, significant numbers of brilliant young people today are drawn to poetry. Many are willing to make pecuniary sacrifices in support of their literary habit; more each year enroll in the degreegranting writing programs at which Kleinzahler sneers. Consider the growth of lowresidency programs in which faculty and students convene for ten days twice a year and the rest of the work gets done in correspondence. In 1994 when the Bennington Writing Workshop began, it was the fourth such program in the country; today there are more than two dozen. As for Kleinzahler's contention that "American poetry is now an international joke," I think rather the opposite is true. But then he offers no evidence to support his position, while the evidence I could present to support mine — books published, copies sold, translations made, international conferences devoted to American poetry — Kleinzahler might dismiss out of hand. The surplus contempt

in Kleinzahler's piece — the anger so out of proportion with what had nominally occasioned it, and in such sharp contrast to the mildmannered article that preceded it - generated a lasting wonder. It was as if one of the two reviews of Good Poems were in favor of civilization and the other in favor of its discontents; as if one spoke with the adjudicating voice of the ego, while the other let loose with the rebellious rant of the id. That the two pieces when juxtaposed failed to produce any ground for goodfaith discussion seemed perfectly in accordance with the corrosive level of political discourse in 2004. "We campaign in poetry but govern in prose," former New York governor Mario Cuomo has said. But there was no poetry in last year's campaign rhetoric. I noted also that Good Poems, the modest and inoffensive title Keillor had chosen for his anthology, had not proved any more resistant to hostile comment that an anthology whose title dares to make greater claims for its contents. The idea of running

two reviews of the same

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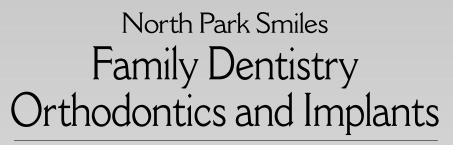
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book is one innovation that Christian Wiman has made since becoming editor of Poetry. There remains a problem with the criticism of poetry in America — too little of it is valuable — and Wiman is trying to do something about that. He is trying to create dialogue and exchange, and though not all attempts succeed, sometimes the failure is so spectacular that we're still talking about it months later. He seems to be discouraging easy pats on the back and encouraging people to go public with their peeves. And he prints letters arguing with the critics. All this has made *Poetry* a livelier, more compelling magazine than it had been. But it is also worrisome that the back of the book — the part devoted to criticism — has grown steadily. More voices, more pages, do not equal greater clarification. It is sometimes said with heavy tones of lamentation than in this day and age everyone's a poet. The criticism in Poetry implies that on the contrary everyone's a critic. And criticism is too often the sound of a gripe and the taste of sour grapes expressed with all the sensitivity and thoughtfulness of a midnight blogger.

Wiman spruced up the October 2004 issue by asking a band of poets to register their antagonisms and talk about them. In his editorial note Wiman says in passing that only the rare student will have the requisite "acuity and temerity" to challenge professors and anthologies by suggesting that "Tintern Abbey' would be better without its last fifty lines." As Wiman notes, every editor has the right to be wrong, especially when the goal is to stimulate debate. But as one who cannot read "Tintern Abbey" aloud without tears at the end, and is all too familiar with college students' aversion to Wordsworth (though their own first-person-singular work may owe more to Wordsworth than to any of the other Romantic poets), I must rise to the defense of the poem as Wordsworth designed it. The last stanza, the poem's second climax,

culminates in Wordsworth's moving prayer for his sister, Dorothy, as lovely a tribute in verse as ever brother penned for sister. But it is the passage just before the prayer itself — a single serpentine sentence spun out across sixteen lines of Miltonic blank verse ---- that is aston--ishing. It is like an equation in which either "nature" or "the mind," or the latter as a reflection of the former, triumphantly opposes evil and woe. The poet speaks

- Knowing that nature never
- did betray The heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege
- Through all the years of this our life, to lead
- From joy to joy; for she can so inform
- The mind that is within us, so impress
- With quietness and beauty, and so feed
- With lofty thoughts, that neither evil tongues,
- Rash judgments, nor the sneers of selfish men, Nor greetings where no kindness is, nor all
- The dreary intercourse of

daily life,

- Shall e'er prevail against us, or disturb Our cheerful faith that all
- which we behold Is full of blessings.

The passage is like a bridge across an abyss, with the reader progressing from joy across the chasm of low spite to a place of safety and blessing. It is a passage that you might quote for its smart use of line-breaks. It expresses the "cheerful faith" that is the heart and soul of Romanticism — the conviction that the mind is superior to what it beholds and that imagination can redeem bitter experience. There then follows the "Therefore"—the completes and unifies the poem, just as the address to the infant son completes and unifies Coleridge's "Frost at Midnight," the model for "Tintern Abbey." The "conversation poem" that Coleridge initiated and Wordsworth perfected has a form, and "Tintern Abbey" needs its last fifty lines to fulfill the demands of that

form. Lop off the last stanza and you risk grave peril to the whole; as with the butchering of a cherry tree's branch, it could cause the death of the tree.

Defender that I am of "good poems" and advocate of great ones such as "Tintern Abbey" and "Frost at Midnight," I know it is up to readers present and readers future to decide whether The Best American Poetry 2005 lives up to its name. Like its predecessors in a series now eighteen volumes strong, it reflects the best efforts of a guest editor, himself a distinguished poet, who went through the periodicals of 2004 looking for seventy-five poems that merit and reward our attention. Paul Muldoon, who made the selections, brings a unique trans-Atlantic perspective to the task. Born in Belfast, an eminent figure in contemporary Irish and British poetry, Muldoon has lived in the United States since 1987 and is an American citizen. He holds a titled professorship at Princeton University, and when he

began reading for this anthology, he had just completed a five-year stint as the Oxford Professor of Poetry, which is pretty much the highest academic appointment you can get in the United Kingdom. He had also recently won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize in poetry for Moy Sand and Gravel. I have admired his poetry since discovering Why Brownlee Left (1980) and Quoof (1983) when I worked on a Newsweek piece in 1986 about the extravagance of literary talent to have emerged in Northern Ireland, site of the "troubles." Muldoon's handling of a form like the sestina "The Last Time I Saw Chris" in The Best American Poetry 2004, for example — or an ad hoc form like the errata slip ("For 'ludic' read 'lucid'"), his expert use of rhyme and off-rhyme, make his work exemplary. He is crafty, skillful, able to reconcile rival traditions, and I believe his take on American poetry will prove valuable for many years to come. Like Paul, I am proud of this year's book, and delighted to have had





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this chance to collaborate with him.

The late Thom Gunn observed that it may make sense to have movements and sects, with or without manifestos, when there is a "a monolithic central tradition," as was true when Eliot and the New Critics ruled the roost. But when there is no central tradition, as now, the "divide and conquer" mentality — with poets "separating ourselves into armed camps"—struck him as unprofitable. No volume in this series has been the exclusive province of a sect. While each editor will naturally represent most amply the poems he or she feels most in sympathy with, each has worked to transcend a narrow bias and labored to bring to the fore talents unlike their own. Lyn Hejinian, guest editor of The Best American Poetry 2004, when asked about the omission of certain redoubtable poets known to be her friends, said pointedly that she did not want to represent somebody with less than that person's best work.

The life of the poet is still felt to be full of perils. In April 2004, an article in the Journal of Death Studies reflecting a professor's study of 1,987 dead writers from different countries and different centuries revealed that poets tend to die younger than do other writers. Poets on average die at 62, playwrights at 63, novelists at 66, and nonfiction writers at 68. This study in comparative lifespans came as news to CNN and the New York Times, which ran stories speculating on the psyche of poets. James Kaufman of the Learning Research Institute at California State University at San Bernardino, whose study caused the fuss, suggested that the poets' higher death rates might correspond to their higher rates of mental illness. Franz Wright, who learned earlier in the same month that he had won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in poetry, was asked to comment on Professor Kaufman's study."Since in the U.S., the worse you write the better your chances of survival, it stands to reason that poets would be the youngest to die," he said gloomily. Meanwhile, the backlash against National Poetry Month continues, as witness a brief item that ran in the satirical newspaper The Onion in late April 2005: "This month marks the 10th National Poetry Month, a campaign created in 1996 to raise public awareness of the growing problem of poetry. We must stop this scourge before more lives are exposed to poetry,' said Dr. John Nieman of the American Poetry Prevention Society at a Monday fundraising luncheon. 'It doesn't just affect women. Young people, particularly morose high-school and college students, are very susceptible to this terrible affliction. It is imperative that we eradicate poetry now, before more rainy afternoons are lost to it.' Nieman said some early signs of poetry infection include increased self-absorption and tea consumption."

Nevertheless, despite the glum news, more people are writing poetry, and going public with it. Rosie O'Donnell's blog features what she calls "the unedited rantings of a fat 43-year-old menopausal ex-talk show host," mostly in verse. From a typically lively March 2005 entry: "marriot marquee / lois walks me in thru the kitchen — / I felt like elvis presley - a head of state / a great fake important me." Who says poetry and Wall Street are incompatible? Business Week began a profile of Robert Smith, the fund manager of T. Rowe Price's Growth Stock mutual fund, with eight lines from Smith's "Up on Deck," which he says is a metaphor for risk-taking in the stock market: "And never saw how close the wreck / And never cheered the winds first still / As I might have up on deck." Calvin Trillin gathered some of the politicallycharged doggerel he has written for The Nation and the book became a surprise best-seller. "A lot of people in America hear the words 'rhyme' and 'poetry' and think it might as well be Canadian," Trillin quipped. He has no plans to give up what he calls his "deadline poetry." In "A Poem of Republican Populism" from The Nation of October 11, 2004, the Republican Party is the collective speaker. Here's the poem's conclusion: "Yes, though we always represent / The folks who sit in corporate boxes, / The gratifying paradox is — / And this we love; it's just the neatest — / The other party's called elitist."

News reports circulated that Saddam Hussein writes poetry in his air-conditioned cell in a U.S. military prison. One poem concerned George Bush, though the leak did not specify whether it was number 41 or 43. In the New York Times "men's fashion" supplement of September 19, 2004, Michael Bastian, the "man behind Bergdorf Goodman Men," held up Frank O'Hara as a fashion template."We wanted to capture that whole tweedy, rumpled city-guy feeling, like a character in Cheever or Salinger, or like the poet Frank O'Hara," said Bastian, sporting a \$995 Cantarelli tweed jacket and \$390 Marc Jacobs chinos. Poetry is glamorous! For a reality check, we had the movie We Don't Live Here Anymore. Peter Krause ("Hank") plays a blocked writer, who looks sad despite getting word that The New Yorker has accepted one of his poems. Laura Dern ("Terri") tries to cheer him up. "You're getting published," she says. "It doesn't get much better than that." He replies sharply. "It's a poem, Terri. It's really nothing important."

One other celebrity almost made news as a closet poet last year. In March 2004, a senior editor at Us Weekly asked me to read and comment on a poem that Jennifer Lopez had written. The poem had three stanzas. The phrase"I am lovely" appears in two of the stanzas; in the first, the line reads, "I am lonely." Wanting to praise something in the poem prior to suggesting revisions or making criticisms, I singled out the progress from "lonely" to "lovely" — only to learn that the variation was the product of a typo in an editor's e-mail. In the end, the story didn't run, because more pressing news bumped it: Tom Cruise and Penelope Cruz had broken up. It remains a pleasure to welcome J. Lo to the poets' club, which is as democratic among the living as it is elitist when canons are fixed and all entrants are posthumous. — David Lehman

*Originally published in* The Best American Poetry 2005.



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# What's in a NAME?

Huh?

Patrick Daugherty of Escondido

#### My birth certificate reads, "Patrick Daugherty."

When I was a child everyone called me Pat. My first love, a bigbusted, traveling woman, dubbed me Patrick, gave my full name back to me, but that happened a long way down the road.

I began to walk and talk when I was two. I didn't care about my name then, I was just delighted to be here. At six, I became ambivalent about my name: Patrick was too formal, too distant; Pat was too intimate, too gender vague. Elementary school enemies called me "Patty" or "Patricia" or "Fat-Pat" or "Pat-the-Fat," epithets that required immediate combat.

When I was eight, my family moved to West University, Texas, then a suburb of Houston. I transferred into school the day before Halloween. That first morning, dressed in the hated clothes my mother had bought at J.C. Penney the previous afternoon, I arrived at a red brick, two-story elementary school. My mom handed me off to the vice principal, who escorted me down the hall to my homeroom class. There, the stern and evil Mrs. Quick ordered me to a front-row seat. After my protector left, Mrs. Quick directed me to stand up. I stood, facing a classroom of strangers, my little duck feet pointing outward, even then bowlegged. Mom had me decked out in brand-new, black, high-top tennis shoes, brand-new blue jeans, a brandnew haircut, and most shameful of all, a brand-new, conspicuously orange, short-sleeved shirt. My enemy announced, "Everyone, this is our new student, Patricia," pause for laughter, "Pat Daugherty." My classmates tittered. The palms of my hands, already wet, began to drip sweat onto the gray linoleum floor. Sweat rained down from my forehead; my face took on the color of a baboon's ass.

Morning recess rang at 9:30. The class of 27 students marched out of homeroom, single file, underneath a Texas state flag, into a cement courtyard and then through an open gate onto a large expanse of grass.

As the new kid, I didn't know what

to do or what the other kids were doing. Girls gathered in a circle on the far end of the field. Boys were playing with a blue ball, the size of a soccer ball. The boys ran with the ball, passed it, kicked it, picked it up, and threw this blue ball to no one in particular. The action seemed random; I couldn't decipher whether there were teams, or what the activity's purpose was. I stood still and waited to see what would happen. A big, blond boy ran toward me. He was running after the ball, getting closer, closer, and to my astonishment, the bastard crashed into me and knocked me down. "Are you the new girl?" he taunted.

#### I stood up and slugged him.

Fighting words have a way of changing over time. After I turned 13, my family moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. On the opening day of school, I stood in line at the registrar's office, under a gray drizzle, behind 500 students, on the campus of Los Altos Junior High School. I collected my blue class packet and began trudging through strange buildings, wondering who was going to be in my class, who I should sit next to, what the teacher would be like, and struggling, unsuccessfully, to look as if I fit in.

10:05 a.m., Day 1. I glanced down at my third-period ticket for the 35th time in five minutes. 27B was printed on the top right hand corner. At 13 I had already learned the male trick of never asking directions, so I spent ten minutes walk-jogging the entire campus, until finally, out of breath, frenzied, my head throbbing, I found, at the very last second, a low-slung, redwood building, across a red-tiled courtyard from the woodworking class, 27B.

As the bell rang, I and 23 girls shuffled into the room. 27B was the site of Home Economics 101. It had been 12 months since I discovered that girls had magical breasts, often wore tight blouses and skirts, had different butts, had different smells, walked differently, talked differently, put lipstick on their mouths and God knows what on their faces, did complex things with their hair, and lived in an entirely different world than the one I inhabited. I was curious and I was afraid.

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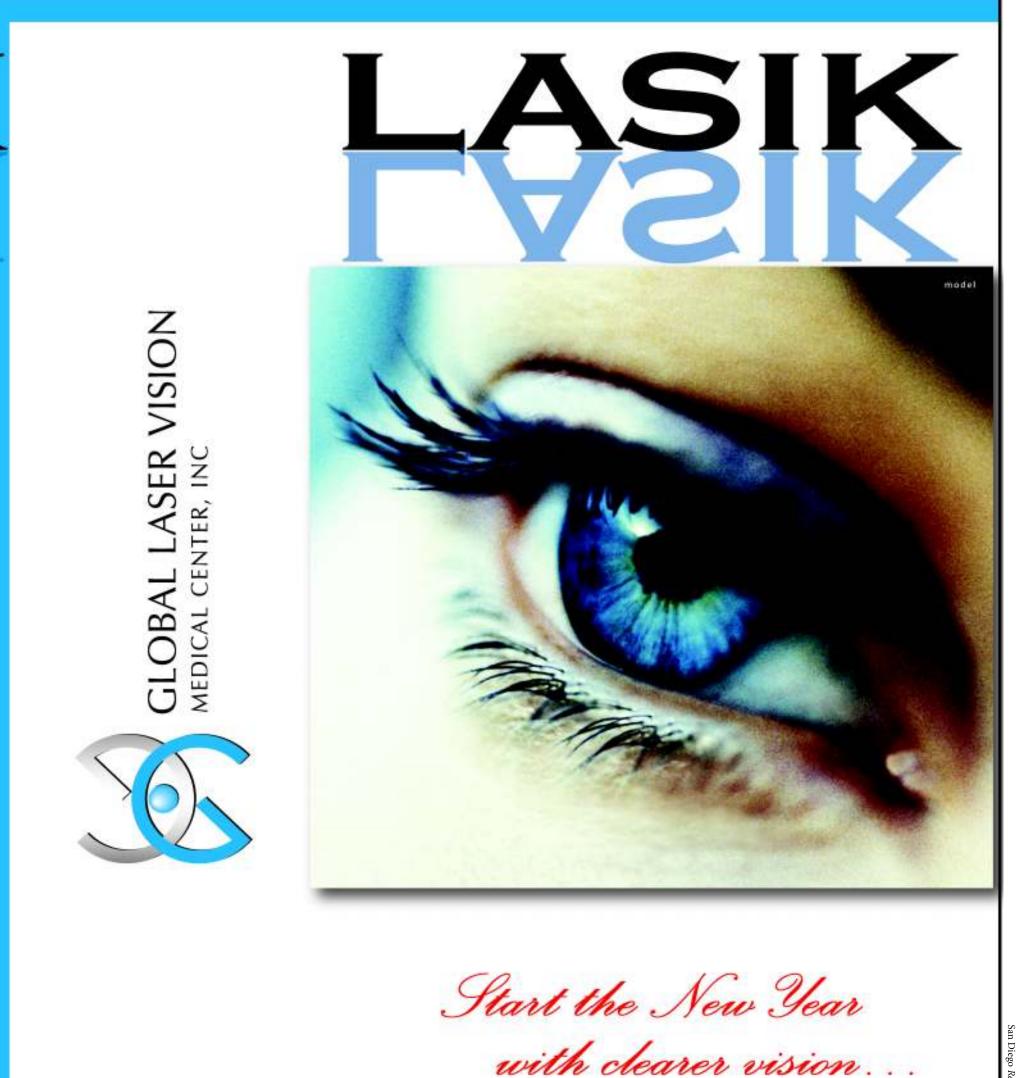
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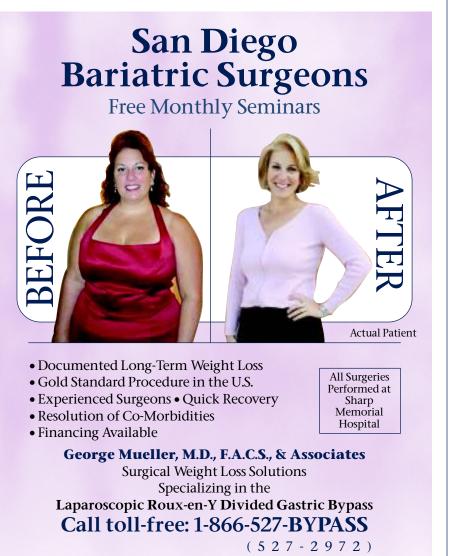
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erators. On the wall behind our teacher's desk hung a color print depicting the four major food groups. An accompanying print depicted a pyramid divided into three sections. One section presented grains and breads, another fish and fowl, the third cheese and milk. Farther down the wall was a framed illustration of fruits and sheep. I have never understood the meaning of that image.

Six workbooks sat on

each table. I grabbed one and grazed. The first chapter was all about the fun we were going to have learning how to bake bread. A second bell rang, the teacher, Miss Innes, read the roll, and shortly I heard, "Patricia Daugherty." She stopped, looked at me, looked down at her roll book, said, "There's been a mistake." The class laughed. After roll, everyone was

told to read the first chapter in the textbook. Miss

Innes beckoned me to her desk, said she would write a note and I should return to the office to be reassigned. I knew instantly, the way you know that being warm and full is better than being cold and hungry, that this was a far better class than making table lamps with the guys, which even then had a prison feel to it. I stammered and allowed as how I would like to stay on. "Always wondered about making bread," I said.

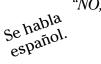


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Miss Innes smiled a forreal, sexy smile, one that sent a powerful electric jolt through my hormoneexploding body. "No," she said softly, lazily, "breadbaking will have to wait."

I thought about her for years.

All during high school I was misidentified at registration time. But by then I was well over six feet tall, so there wasn't any "Pat-the-Fat" or "Patricia" coming my way from schoolyard detractors. Mostly I didn't think about my name; it was just there, like my arm, or my bed, or mowing the grass on Saturday morning.

I did notice an absence of historical pals. There was

no President Patrick or General Patrick or King Patrick or Explorer Patrick or Painter Patrick. It was me and St. Patrick and Patrick Henry and that was about it. I always liked St. Patrick, liked to hear about him driving the snakes out of Ireland. I liked it that a saint was named Patrick and when, many years later, St. Patrick was decertified, I was surprised how annoyed I was.

I spent half my childhood in Georgia and Texas and California. Occasionally, very occasionally, adults would say, when I was introduced, "Now that's a good Irish name," and I would chuckle and allow that it was. But I had no clue what Irish was, none. It was my name, it meant me, it didn't mean whatever people had in their heads about Irish. My mom was a Flannery, but her family had been in the country 120 years and had thoroughly melted into the pot. My dad was a Daugherty, a black Irishman's descendent, and his family had been in the states for 200 years. My parents knew more about Chinese history than Irish history. I felt as much connection to the old sod as I felt for Ukrainian dancers I saw on The Ed Sullivan Show. And then I entered into

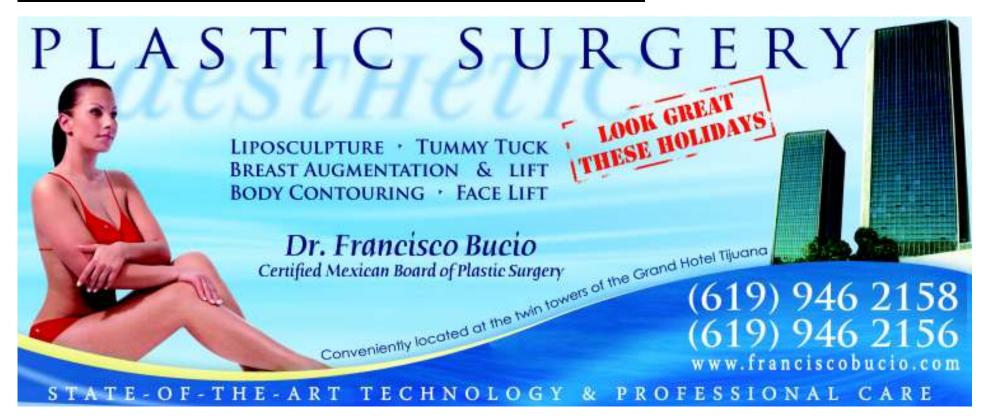
the adult world of sex and money. I got too busy to think about my name.

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY

It wasn't until three years ago, when my extended family held a family reunion in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, that I returned to the subject. I decided to attend for the hell of it, which has often turned out to be the best reason to do something. I had not seen my relatives in 35 years. My maternal grandmother was one of 11 children, my maternal grandfather was one of 11 children. Two hundred fiftynine blood relatives attended that picnic on the banks of the Allegheny River, and I wouldn't have recognized one of them on the street. On the one hand, it was

like being with 259 strangers, except everyone was nice to







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Payment plan available • All major credit cards 10-7 Monday-Friday • Saturday by appointment Se habla español you. On the other hand, I was amazed to grasp that names meant a great deal to these people. I was the only Daugherty in attendance. Flannerys and Fridays and Connallys were hovering over picnic tables and beer kegs, and they would beam over the sound of their names. It was the oddest thing to watch; you could actually see people stand a little straighter, become more attentive when their name was called over a loudspeaker or mentioned in conversation. I watched that go on all afternoon, and ever since that rather ordinary picnic I've wondered, regularly, what's in a name? What is in a name? I

mean, what if I'd been named Edward, an upstanding, reliable, if stodgy name. Would I have allowed it to be corrupted to the nerdy Ed? Would I have liked math? How about Charles? Would I have chosen the too-familiar Charlie or the aloof Charles? Could I have been a poet? What about Dexter? Would I be a carpenter now, or would I be pacing a 6x9foot cell, counting the days off a 32-year prison term? How would I have reacted to the sound of another name, to the feel of being called Edward or Charles or Dexter by every human being I met over a span of 50 years? Would that have changed who I turned out to be?

I decided I could never know what had not occurred, and I don't have the option of changing my name now and then waiting 50 years to see what will happen. So, I figured the next best step was to find other Patrick Daughertys. What do they think about our name? What kind of people have they become?

According to a national search, there are 682 Patrick Daughertys living in the United States of America who are listed in phonebooks. In San Diego and Imperial counties there are five.

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This is how I came to meet Patrick Daugherty of Escondido. Patrick lives in a comfortable suburban ranch house tucked behind a snatch of well-kept lawn. I park, walk up his newly swept concrete driveway, and ring the doorbell. A thin man, 35 years old, five foot ten, clean-shaven except for a faint black mustache, answers. The man appears to have Hispanic ancestry. I learn later his mother's family name is Perez. We shake hands, I say, "Hi, I'm Patrick Daugherty."

"Pleased to meet you,

I'm Patrick Daugherty."

We pass through an entryway into a large living room where three people wait dressed in Sunday-best clothes. Patrick makes the introductions. "This is my youngest daughter, Nicole, with my girlfriend. This is my older daughter Angela, my son Drew, both from my first marriage. Drew is 10; Angela is 18, come January. Nicole is 6. Nicole, can you say hi to Patrick?"

"Hello, Patrick."

"Hello, Nicole, it's a pleasure to meet you." I take a seat on Patrick's hard-won Ethan Allen recliner, accept a Diet Pepsi, look over to four expectant faces, ask Patrick, "Where were you born?"

"Right here, Oceanside, Camp Pendleton." "What was your dad's name?" "Patrick." "Where does he live?" "Michigan."

"Is he retired?"

"He's still working back in Michigan. He's a mechanic by trade. He's at Oxford, outside of Pontiac, doing tool-and-dye in one of the auto factories. He's in his late 50s, early 60s. I didn't have any contact with the old man for 17 years. My stepdad raised me."

"Did your dad send any money or was he just gone?" "No, he didn't send

money." I take a sip of Pepsi,

everybody appears happy to be here. The living room is clean, white curtains hang over sliding-glass doors, it feels like Christmas Eve. I lean forward and ask,"How did you first meet your dad?"

"I flew back to see who he was, find out a little background. My dad is a typical Irishman, loves to drink, consequently has a drinking problem. In fact, when I arrived, he was doing a year on a work-release pro-

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gram. He got caught up in Windsor, Canada. He was a convicted felon, so he got a year on that offense. I met my sister on that trip."

"What was he caught for, a DUI?"

"I'm sure it was alcohol-related."

"How did you know where he was?"

"Aunts and uncles. I knew he was from Michigan. He was a 17-year-old kid when he joined the Marine Corps, stationed in Pendleton, met my mom. He was around until I was four or five. Apparently, he'd run into some hard luck, did some time at Jackson State Penitentiary. That was one reason why there was no contact, but I'd always known he was in Michigan."

"You said you met your sister for the first time on that trip. Didn't you know you had a sister?"

"No, not until then. It was weird, but it was great. I flew back to meet my dad and got to meet my sister for the first time. Like I say, my dad was on a work-release program. I talked to him on the phone and he said, 'I won't be able to pick you up, but your sister will? And that's when it kind of hit me. 'Oh, no kidding.'

"I got off the plane in Detroit and I knew right away, and she did too. I found her in a crowd and she found me coming off the plane and we connected. I was 34 and she was, I think, a year younger. Her name is Debbie.

We hit it off. I visited my dad at the facility where they were keeping him or where he worked during the day. I stayed with my sister, stayed a couple weeks, trying to catch up on background, grandparents, that type of stuff."

"Did your sister know she had a brother?"

"I'm sure she knew for a long time, yeah."

"How come she never got in touch?"

"I have no idea. I tell you, the whole mentality is different than it is out here. I've lived everywhere as a result of the military. My stepdad had a career in the Marines, so I've been everywhere in the United States.

It's just a different mentality back in Michigan. I don't know why. My sister and I talk," his voice lowers, saddens, "twice a year. Christmas for one, and usually some other time in the year."

"When did you go back?"

"Nineteen eighty-seven." "How long did you stay with your sister before you saw your dad?"

"The next day." "Where was he?" "He was on the workrelease program, he was a mechanic for a garage."

"Had your sister seen your dad all along?" "Oh, yeah."

"So what was that like? Did she drive you over?"

"Our background is not unique in the sense that I have a half-sister there, a half-brother with my stepdad, and I have a half-sister also. So I got to meet two half-sisters back-to-back, one on my dad's side and one on my mom's side. One had spent a lifetime looking for us, was only able to catch up to us because the records were sealed. My

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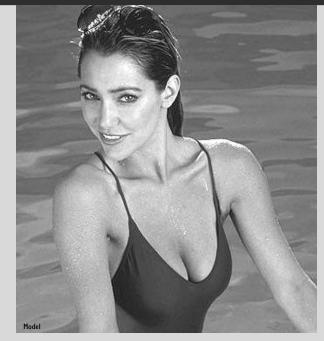
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mom had given her up for adoption. At that time we were taken by the state from my mother. My daddy had been incarcerated, the state stepped in and took the four of us. Then we went back with my mom. My mom had remarried at that time and recovered and lived with a guy. I call him Dad now; he raised me from the time I was six or seven. He raised all of us. I have all the respect in the world for this man."

At first I want to laugh — this is first-rate jumble. Then I feel all that pain, see all those empty places. I want to fill them. What happened to the mom, recovered from whatbooze, drugs? Whose halfsister, how many half-sisters, where are they now, how did the family get back together? Did they get back together? Why did the state step in? Which state? When? The stepdad, what happened? I want the when, where, how, and it's 8 o'clock at night and this guy has invited me into his house, been as honest and gracious as can be, and he's sitting proudly on



a quilt couch surrounded by his family and doesn't have a clue what this is going to look like in print. I take another sip of Diet Pepsi. knowing I'm supposed to go get it, knowing he'll give it. And I say to myself, 'The hell with it, I'm not going in there,' and move on to another question.

"What did you say the first time you saw your dad? Was he working? Was he on break?" "He was in the shop, working on a car, in a lube bay. I went up and shook his hand. I had met him before. Years earlier, he came out here looking for us and found my brother. I have a brother, Dennis, who's 11 months younger than I am. At that time everyone was going through a period of not wanting to know him. I just said, 'Hi,' shook his hand and that was all of the conversation. That was it. I still had a lot of resentment. Then, as I got older, got married and divorced, I went back and that's when I started my relationship with him."

"What was the first thing he said to you?" " 'How are you doing,

son?' I said, 'Pretty good.' " "What were you looking for?"

"I was divorced, raising kids — at that time I had two kids. I wanted to learn my family background.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

I knew absolutely nothing about my family. And I wanted to figure out why I am such a moody S.O.B. and this type of stuff.

"I learned about my grandparents, aunts, and uncles. I got to meet a sister I never knew I had. There's a whole clan of Daughertys—typical Irish, they love to drink."

"What kind of a fellow is Patrick senior? Is he a happy fellow, a sad fellow?"

'From what I can remember he was a guy who loved his buddies. Never, ever took a drink at home, but he would come home blitzed, drunk. He's a character, seems to be a guy that never accepted much responsibility in his life. We talk five or six times a year. We take turns calling each other. I can tell when he's hittin' the bottle. He doesn't drink any hard stuff, just beer, that's his drink. He seems like a mellow, low-speaking kind of a guy."

Nicole, dressed in pink cotton pajamas, runs to the back of the house, then returns holding a teddy bear. Patrick watches carefully, enthusiastically.

I interrupt his thoughts, "Did you like the name Patrick when you were six years old?"

"Yeah, I did."

"Did you ever get teased, playmates call you Patty or Patricia?"

"Oh yeah, all the time. They'd call you Patty, Patricia, all that stuff."

"Have you ever wished you weren't named Patrick Daugherty?"

"At times I wished for an English name, John Smith or something. I've thought about that once or twice. But for the most part I've always been proud of my name. I've always liked the name Pat. I never did want to be called Patrick, though. Never did."

"A little too formal?"

"Probably, probably. I get the Big Pat and Little Pat. I used to get that all the time. Even when I went back to see him, it was Big Pat and Little Pat.

Angela carries a tray of cheddar cheese and crackers from the kitchen. Nicole



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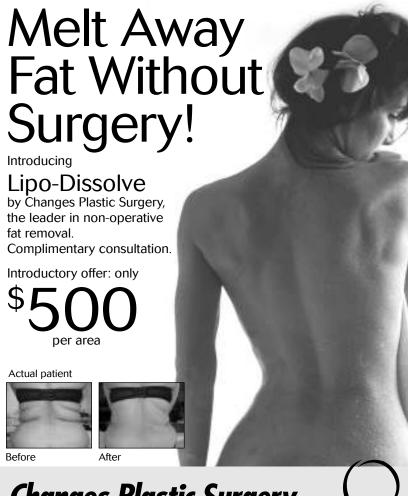
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cradles her teddy and says, quietly, calmly, "I would like some cookies." Two adult voices announce, "Too close to bedtime."

Patrick volunteers, "I've been supporting a family ever since I can remember. Started in '74, right out of high school." Soft brown eyes canvass the living room. "Got a long way to go. I'm a painting contractor. My first job out of high school was selling paint; that's all I've ever done. My background is sales, outside rep. I've been a regional supervisor, store manager, always for paints, wall coverings. Right now I'm a foreman for one of the biggest residential repaint contractors around. Business, for us, is quite good, that's why I stay with this guy."

Patrick and I step outside to have a cigarette. He explains, "They don't let me smoke in the house." We stand in the driveway, autumn's first breeze pushes against our sweaters. Patrick lifts the garage door, points to three all-terrain vehicles.

I regard the ATVs and

ask, "Do you do a lot of camping?"

"I do a boys' trip every year, me and a buddy, up to Pine Mountain, out of St. George, Utah. We spend days and days on the mountain. Take pack horses, camp, shoot, ride, drink. I'd like to start taking the family. Horses have always been my love. I want to be somewhere and have horses."

#### \* \* \*

"My dad's name was Charles Walt Daugherty. I have five half-brothers and sisters; they were all by my mother's first husband."

Speaking in a low, accentless voice is Valley Center's Patrick Daugherty. He doesn't want to meet but will talk over the phone, which is better than Spring Valley's Patrick Daugherty, who has refused to meet, speak, or write.

Valley Center Patrick tells me he's six foot, two inches, 312 pounds, has a full head of silver hair with one small bald spot in the back, wears glasses, and sports a full Santa Claus beard.

Patrick says he's lived in a one-story stucco house in Valley Center since 1978. I ask when he was born.

"I was born in 1931. I'm retired from Edison. I got a kid by my first wife, and two kids with my second wife that were hers when we married. That was 37 vears ago.

"I like my name and I like being Irish, but when I was growing up there weren't Polish jokes, just Irish jokes. The drunk Irish, the dumb Irish. The big, dumb Irishman did this; the big, dumb Irishman did that. I've always been a big man, so I was the big, dumb Irishman. My dad told me about the 'Irish and dogs keep off the lawn' and 'Irish need not apply for this job' and 'Irish do not enter this building.'

"I left Illinois in 1948 for the Navy, and I never went back home. It was a year enlistment — that was allowed then. I was a machinist in the Navy, and I've been a machinist ever since."

My doorbell rings. Keeping the phone to my ear I peer out the window,

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per session Stronger, deeper exfoliation Cellulite and \$75 **Detoxification Treatment** First-time trial Sheds up to 5 actual pounds, not water weight (reg. \$99) Burns up to 4,000 calories per treatment Cleanses the body and improves circulation

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wave to a friend. He enters the apartment, I point to the coffee pot in the kitchen, ask Patrick, "How do you feel about your name now?" "Well, I'm very proud

of it." "Has the name ever

done you any good?"

"I don't know if you talked to the Patrick Daugherty in Escondido, the painter. When I was building my house, I went into the paint store to buy some paint and said my name was Pat Daugherty, so they give me a discount. Then, the manager comes around and says, 'You're not Pat Daugherty,' and I said, 'The hell I'm not!' I'd already got the discount and I showed him some ID and he says, 'You're not the Pat Daugherty.' I said, 'Well, maybe not, but...'And then I went to get some overhead doors and there's another Pat Daugherty who is a contractor and I got the overhead doors at cost because my name is Pat Daugherty."

I slowly push a strip of bacon through three egg yolks and remark, "Well, Patrick, that sure beats the hell out of anything I ever got."

\* \* \*

This is an impeccable fall day in Brawley, California. Temperature is in the high 70s. Laid just underneath the afternoon's warmness

is an undertow of autumn. Two seasons at the same time, my little toes tap inside my shoes.

I drive into Brawley on Main Street and park opposite the Plantation Hotel. On the city park, Fun in the Sun Expo is going on. The Expo is primarily a crafts show. Fifty-two booths fill the park, most offering homemade paintings, pottery, belts, sandals, thick wooden bookends, ranging in quality from hideous to pretty good. Tucked amongst the commerce are a half dozen meet-the-candidates booths. Signs announce Schonover for School Board. P. Vasquez for Brawley City Council. Aguilar for Brawley Elementary School Board.

I walk one block east on Main to meet Patrick Daugherty, owner of Desert Shoes and son of Patrick Daugherty, father of Patrick Daugherty, and grandfather of Patrick Daugherty.

I am greeted by a young lady at the door, who turns and calls for Mr. Daugherty. An elderly man steps out from the back room. I give him my business card and say hello.

Mr. Daugherty is 74 years old, five foot, nine inches tall, looks to be 150 pounds. He has a full head of thin black hair and wears thick, black-rimmed glasses. The glasses rest on his large nose, which jumps out of a deeply lined prune face. Mr. Daugherty takes a seat behind his mahogany desk, scrutinizes my card, smiles. I explain my mission. As he nods, I ask where he grew up.

"My dad was a railroader for the Southern Pacific Railroad. We went to Jerome during the Depression because he couldn't work. The railroad had a bump system — seniority, you know. He only had 18 years in, so he was laid off for a while. His area was between Yuma and New Orleans. Yuma to Los Angeles was a different line, same company. My dad died in 1937, had 28 years in by then. I was 16.

"I was 22 when I left home, went into the service in '42, sent to the South Pacific, Navy. Got out in '45. "I'd worked in a chain

shoe store back in the '30s. When I got out of the service, I came home to El Centro and went back to the shoe business. Along about 1950, a couple partners and I bought two stores, one in Brawley and one in El Centro. Later, I bought one of the men out, operated the stores and, four years ago, closed the one in El Centro.

"My accountant told me, 'Close Brawley and stay in El Centro.' Well, we've been living in Brawley, raised our children here, so we stayed here. Clara and I have been married 50 years. We have five children. I educated all my children; they've all been to college."

The young girl who let me in walks to the front window, stops, puts a hand on the door frame, gazes out-

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

side. I hear a sigh. The store is quiet, serene.

"Six years ago the bottom fell out of Imperial Valley. I used to have four people working for me, now I have one lady and one parttime girl. Things have been bad; we're going into the sixth bad year.

"I've run a shoe store for 44 years. I sell nothing but quality shoes. I have nothing cheap. I believe service is what's done it. And you've got to be honest with these people, because we live with them."

Mr. Daugherty removes his glasses and massages two purple eyelids, looks up, slowly surveys his empty store. "Shoe shows are held in Las Vegas now. The entire Las Vegas Convention Center is filled with products. I purchase shoes for the next three to six months. For men, for a good shoe, you buy duplicates. Women's shoes are different. I'll buy three or four pair of what we call 'the heart,' the guts. Women's shoes, in the average sizes, in the heart, I buy more than two pair.

"Back when business was good, when the fad was big on certain shoes, I'd order two dozen, 24 pair of the heart sizes, which is 7 through 9. I haven't done that in years.

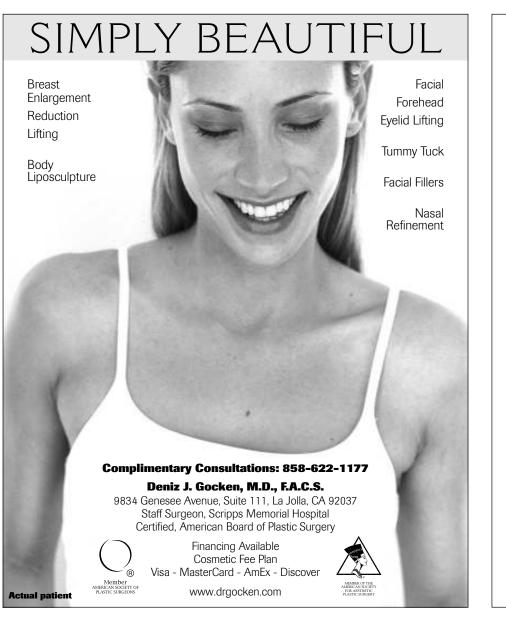
"Women's shoes, that's the one thing I don't like about this business. Everything is fashion, style. You can buy something, and by the time you get it, it may be obsolete. Women's clothing can be obsolete in 30 days. The shoe business is a gamble, so is farming."

A woman walks into the store, middle-aged, vastly overweight, wearing the first polka-dot dress I've seen in months. She looks to her left, then her right, then abruptly turns and leaves. I ask Mr. Daugherty, "Are you called Pat or Patrick?"

"I was Pat most of my life, up until the time I got married."

"Were you teased as a kid?"

"Sure I was teased; people called me Patsy. I have an Uncle — Uncle Charlie, he was a railroader too — and up until the time I was 45



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years old, he called me Patsy. It was all right because he was my uncle, and he did it with a lot of respect, but I remember, back in '34, having a neighborhood fight because I was called Patsy.

"My dad was Pat. It was always Big Pat and Little Pat. My son is called Pat by my family. His wife and in-laws call him Patrick. But to confuse the thing, this side of the family calls our grandson Patrick. Nobody calls him Pat."

Mr. Daugherty leans back, his body relaxes, a musing tone enters his voice. "I've always liked my first name. The problem has been my last name. For instance, I'm often called Doge-Her-T. All my life, it's been irritating the way people pronounce my last name. And now my two sons are getting it. I think it's comical, because they're going through what I go through, having to spell my last name over and over again on the phone, having people mangle it everywhere you go."

"What are your plans?" "Ten years ago I could have retired, maybe. Today I don't feel I could. I'm a lot older now. I don't know what's going to happen. I'm going to keep working, but we're not alone in this town or in this valley."

Mr. Daugherty and I say our goodbyes. I leave Desert Shoes and walk past the park. Fun in the Sun Expo is gearing down; many vendors have left. I see two women carrying cardboard boxes filled with dolls, paintings, and pitchfork-sized wooden salad spoons to a nearby station wagon. An east wind has picked up, gusting hard, blowing paper cups and an occasional balloon across Main Street. I climb into my van and head south on Highway 111 to I-8 and San Diego.

My VW does not have a heater, and as I climb Tecate Divide the van's interior becomes chilly, then cold. Further up, at 4100 feet, I see my breath push against the windshield, notice my fingers have changed colors from a brown tan to lobster pink. Evening has arrived, moving into a moonless, black night that seems too dark to be real. Passing Manzanita, I notice that the stars have exploded; five new layers of stars appear in the sky. I feel a guilty tug in my mind and realize I haven't looked at a virgin sky in months. I turn on the radio, wanting to find some road music, think better of it, and turn it off.

I have rediscovered one of life's great pleasures, to be in the right mood, driving through country at night, alone, the world absolutely still except for a 1200cc VW engine working and winding. This is unaccustomed privacy; there's no one here to watch, no one to know, no task to perform except gliding into the night. Suddenly, many things seem possible. What the hell, why not turn right and drive up to Idaho, catch the first snow? I lean down and pick up my old stainless-steel Stanley Thermos from the floorboard, pour hot black coffee into a dirty mug, spill some on my leg.

> What's in a name... ■ — Patrick Daugherty

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY

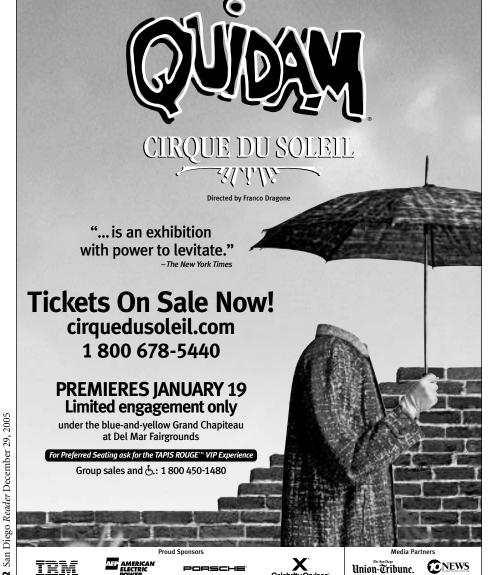


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Z





## LETTERS

continued from page 16 and friends and their deals in Kensington, an article that denies much-deserved recognition due Jansen, a true master at manipulating communities into bland development projects.

The Reader should win an advertising industry award for the piano-tuning story that you cleverly used to give the appearance of content between at least 20 pages of ads.

The letter from reader Michael Sousa deserves both ears and the tail of the bull just for daring to denounce His Pop Holiness, John Lennon (how dare he!), and all that Bono stands for. However, in comparing the banality of popular music versus classical, Michael's criticism is like the attack of a papal inquisitor on the works of Miguel de Cervantes. It takes humility to understand the power and beauty in the simplicity of a brilliant ballad. What are you thinking, Michael? Mahler and Beethoven, Sibelius, Dvořák, Rachmaninoff, Mozart, Hindemith, Cage, Copland, Stockhausen, Lebow, etc., all built great compositions around popular musical themes. Jazz virtuosi like Ellington, Dolphy, Mingus, Davis, Jarrett, Marsalis have turned so many classical compositions into moving improvisational explorations. The work of contemporary singers like Gillian Welch and songwriters like Sam Phillips is alive and relevant, and I'd sooner listen to them than 98 percent of the works of the dead flute society (and I'm the guy who hides in the mezzanine to watch symphony rehearsals). Come on, give peace a chance! (For a change.)

In the spirit of that rebuke, let me be the first to admit that it is just unfair to compare the literary trash between the ads of the Reader (and every other publication in San Diego), with the poetic clarity of Neruda or the imaginative fiction of Gabriel García Márquez.

I respectfully submit that if you propose to cover stories about things that really affect our lives (no matter how well or poorly written), when you get to the end of a story, ask yourself the question, "So what?" My guess is you'll find what's missing, and unless you're willing to say it, please, save some trees, as well as your readers' and your self-respect, and just print the ads. I applaud Ms. Ashby's letter and say ho-hum to all the rest. Now, ain't that a shame -- all that wasted ink and paper just so one little nugget gets printed. Lenny Bruce suggested that a lot of art with a little s--t is okay, but he drew the line at the converse, i.e., a lot of s--t with a little art. Michael Winn

You Lost Me

I'm calling to lodge a complaint. I will never read the Reader again. The cover article was Duke Cunningham, talking about his heyday as

via e-mail

a fighter pilot ("When Duke Was King," December 15). I know Duke Cunningham, and the recent scandal with the way he's been acting is the only reason we should be talking about him. Don't say anything positive about him unless you're going to balance it out with what he's done recently. We do not need to be kowtowing to these ridiculous masculine folks who are making terrible decisions for our local community and the planet. You lost me as a reader.

Name Withheld

#### Unfounded

Tovon berry: It is historically unfounded that the toyon berry was the impetus for the name Hollywood (Events Listings, December 22). Liz Ireland

via e-mail

#### Soul Food

Yes, it may be true, as reported in the Book of St. Albans, that "the salmon is a gentyll fysshe" ("Sporting Box," December 15), but this saying should not be confused with "the salmon is a Gentile fish!" Because although we can't claim ownership of the salmon, we Jews do claim a special affection for the salmon -especially when it is smoked, accompanied by cream cheese, and put on a bagel! In fact, lox, bagel, and cream cheese is a true form of Jewish soul food! So all of us should enjoy some this holiday season!

Donald H. Harrison Columnist San Diego Jewish Times





## Old Mission Dam Nature Stroll

had new knees and my wife got new hips. One of the things that is really bad about the recuperative process is that we couldn't really handle a hike," says volunteer trail guide Henry Shenkman. "I talked to Fred Kramer, chairman of field guides at Mission Trails Regional Park, and told him I'd like to [organize] this kind of hike, called a nature stroll, on flat ground. It's designed for people who can't move very well and for people who are interested in going into [the subject of] nature more in depth."

Calendar Local events

Shenkman's "Guided Nature Stroll at Old Mission Dam" stretches from the park-



tches from the parking lot to the dam, or "about 75 to 80 yards in an hour." The dam was built to supply water via a flume, or aque-

duct, from the San Diego River to the Mission of San Diego de Alcalá, located five miles from the dam. This was the first of the California missions, founded in 1769 by Father Junípero Serra. According to the National Park Service, "The precise dates of construction of Old Mission Dam, as well as the aqueduct and flume, cannot be ascertained...the dam was probably started in 1803, following a two-year drought. By 1817 it had certainly assumed its final form."

"The dam was built with primarily Kumeyaay Indian labor," says Shenkman. "It had a tile-lined flume, and there are still parts of it today that are hidden from the public so that they won't go out and destroy it." The park's visitor's center houses a replica of the flume. "On the south side of the dam you can see the layer of old tile and mixtures of different kinds of cement. They maintained the level of the dam by putting in wooden boards. On the other side of the dam you can see a small sort of slot for under the water wheel where they used to have a grist mill.

"A lot of people from the East who moved out here and retired miss the trees and miss the verdant forest," Shenkman says. "But then they come out here on the walk and see how diverse it is, and they become very interested...San Diego is the most bio-diverse place in the continental United States. We have over 73 different habitat zones in the county — in Alaska there are 3." On this nature stroll alone there are five different habitats: hard chaparral, soft chaparral (coastal sage), grasslands, riparian, and aquatic.

During the month of December Shenkman points out galls to his tourists. "Galls are actually zits, like pimples, on leaves and trees where insects have laid their eggs. If it's warm enough you get to see bees, butterflies, maybe a wasp or two, and then by the water, later in the year when it's warmer, you see water striders and midges [tiny flies]."

Shenkman digs into the soil to unearth a few insects and keeps an eye out for lizards and birds. "You'll hear the wren tits; they sound like a ping-pong ball. We might see one or two raptors: red-tailed hawks, and there may be a golden eagle in the park.

"A lot of what we do is look and see where the sun is on this day of the year, how much the wind is blowing, how damp the soil is. Now we're into the beginning of the wet season, and a lot of things are just sitting there and waiting for the storms." According to Shenkman, the four sea-

sons in San Diego are the Santa Ana, the



Henry Shenkman (right) on nature stroll, Old Mission Dam site

rainy season (in the winter), the stratus season (for the stratus clouds present during "June gloom"), and the monsoon season.

"We don't think about it much, but in [San Diego's] east county and Arizona and Nevada, when we get hot weather in the summer, there are occasionally big storms down in Baja that send a monsoon up into the area...some of the biggest rainfalls in the county occurred in August."

Shenkman continues, "Southern California is a Mediterranean zone, not a desert. In a desert you get less than six inches of rain, and we average eight to ten. A desert implies that there's nothing growing. There are only five places in the world that have this [Mediterranean] climate: the Mediterranean Sea, Patagonia in Chile and Argentina, Southern California and Baja California, Australia, and South Africa. They all have cold water-currents off the coast, [fresh] water, mountains, and are between 16 and 36 degrees latitude."

Shenkman begins his tours with what he calls the Goldilocks Principle of Ecology. "This is a theory of ecology I designed." Based on the well-known ending to the fable about a little girl and three bears, Shenkman says that for a "niche, or place in a habitat, everything has to be *just right.*" — Barbarella

Guided Nature Stroll at Old Mission Dam Tuesday, January 3, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Old Mission Dam parking lot (north on Father Junípero Serra Trail at Mission Gorge Road) Mission Trails Regional Park Cost: Free Info: 619-668-3281 or www.mtrp.org





Events that are underlined occur after January 5.

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

BAJA

mation: 011-52-664-687-9600 x50.

OUTDOORS

**Exceptionally Low and High** 

Tides in San Diego will occur over

the New Year weekend. A -1.6-foot

low tide is predicted for Friday, De-

cember 30, at 3:06 p.m.; a -1.7-foot

tide happens Saturday, Decem-

ber 31, at 3:49 p.m.; and a -1.7-foot

tide occurs Sunday, January 1, at

4:32 p.m. High tides during this pe-

riod measure +6.6 feet (Friday at

7:37 a.m.); +6.7 feet (Saturday at

8:21 a.m.); and +6.7 feet (Sunday at

9:06 a.m.). Winter storms or strong

ocean swells coinciding with high tides like these could cause flooding

of low-lying coastal areas such as

Cross-Country Skiers are in for

a short-lived treat late this month

through February if winter storms

intense enough to drop several

inches to two feet of snow hit San

Diego County's higher mountains.

As the clouds are clearing, you may

Mission Beach.

(TIJUANA)

The Last 5K of 2005 in Baia starts at 8 a.m. on Saturday, December 31, at Unidad CREA, in Zona Río, Free, 011-52-664-215-9000. (TUUANA)

Nortec electronic music, Saturday, December 31, 8 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución), 619-734-2333, (TIJUANA)

Tijuana Cultural Center, the center (CECUT) offers guided tours in Spanish and English of exhibit on history of Baja peninsula, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cultural and artistic exhibits. Entrance fee is approximately \$2 (two-for-one entrance on Tuesdays).

Screening in the CECUT Omnimax: Fuerzas de la Naturaleza, Tiburones, Oasis Marino.

The center is located at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. Showtimes and infor-

## <u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

SALUTE TO VIENNA New Year's Day Concert, Copley Symphony Hall, Sunday, January 1

(SEE CLASSICAL MUSIC)

be able to take advantage of good skiing conditions along Highway 79 through Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and along Sunrise Highway through the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. More limited opportunities for cross-country skiing may briefly exist on Palomar Mountain. Farther north in Southern California and higher in elevation, the forested crests of the San Gabriel, San Bernardino, and San Jacinto Mountains offer more dependably good snow conditions.

New Year's Eve Walk to see lights hosted by Walkabout, Saturday, December 31. Moderately paced, flat walk around downtown starts at 7 p.m. at County Administration Building (on Harbor Drive, between Grape and Ash Streets). Optional snack follows. Free. 619-231-7463. (DOWNTOWN)



in Town

Reader December 29, 2005

San Diego

2



#### MOUNTAINS

#### **Romantic Julian Getaway!** Mid-week—Beat The Crowds

joy the crisp mountain air at Butterfield B&B. We h freshly baked goodies, tea, cider, cocoa and freshly freshly baked goodies, tea, cider, cocoa and freshly brewed coffee awaiting you in our pantry. Soak up the calm, refreshing environment while enjoying a walk in our beautifully serene gardens. Enjoy all of our rooms, some with fireplaces. Your mornings will begin with our 2-course gourmet country breakfast shop in Julian or just savor the beauty. Stay in Black Oak Cabin for the ultimate seclusion and privacy. Don't miss out! Call 800-379-4262, www.butterfieldbandb.com.

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"The Top Of The Hill" Weekday Packages From \$75! Only a short drive from San Diego, Atipahato Lodge, nestled among the trees in beautiful Idyllwild, offers weekday packages from \$75 including breakfast at the Bread Basket Restaurant! All of our comfortable knotty pine guestrooms have forest-view balconies. Luxurious cabins are available with Jacuzzi tubs and cozy fireplaces from \$135! AAA approved. www.atipahatolodge.com; 888-400-0071. SEA **Relax At The Only Beachfront Hotel In Del Mar!** 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.

## **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 dinners. Iwo 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. Saturday night only \$158. www.rosaritobeachhotel.com. 1-800-343-8582.

#### **Encinitas Romantic Getaway!**

\$89-\$175! 5 quality, private, ocean-view rooms. Feng shui! Penthouse Shangri-La: A true hidden paradise with 8' hot tub! Enjoy enchanted gardens. Fish pond with wedding grotto. Perfect for intimate weddings or renewal of vows! Seabreeze B&B. 760-944-0318 or www.seabreeze-inn.com.

#### **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

#### **Whale Watching Adventures**

Join in the adventure of an offshore whale watching cruise during the winter migration of the California gray whale. Go to sea on a Coast Guard-certified vessel designed for open waters, in comfort with full food service available, indoor and outdoor seating, naturalist interpretations Choose from several trip options: 3-hour coastal,
 5-hour Mexican island cruise or 11-day seagoing expedition. Daily, now through mid-March.
 H&M Landing since 1935. 619-222-1144.
 www.sandiegowhalewatch.com.

#### EVERYTHING ELSE

#### A Great Gift Idea Is Our Adventure Gift Voucher

A balloon or biplane adventure by California Dreamin' offers a Temecula Sunrise Balloon Ride over enchanted European vineyards with a gourmet buffet breakfast after the flight. Sunset Coastal Balloon Flights are offered in Del Mar. Both flights include a photo flight coartification and the surface offered in the flight. flights include a photo, flight certificate, and wine tasting tickets for two to South Coast Winery. Our vintage biplane rides will amaze you. 800-373-3359. www.californiadreamin.com

Guided Nature Walks on Saturday, December 31, and Wednesday, January 4, 9:30 to 11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free 619-668-3281, (SAN CARLOS)

**Migrating Winter Birds Sought** when naturalist Tom Lyon leads easy three-hour bird walk, Sunday, January 1, in Daley Ranch. Join group in main parking lot on La Honda Drive at 8 a.m. Bring your binoculars. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680, Free, (ESCONDIDO)

Nature Hike, mountain naturalist Clint Powell leads nature hikes around Lake Cuyamaca the first Sunday of every month, including January 1, 1 p.m. Three-hour hike covers about 3.5 miles. Bring binoculars. Day-use fee: \$6 per car. Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District center, 15027 Highway 79. 877-581-9904, 619-447-8123. (JULIAN)

The Quadrantid Meteor **Shower**, delivering a brief and sometimes intense display of "shooting stars," is best seen this year on the morning of Tuesday, January 3. The moon will be absent from the sky nearly all night, but only those observers situated far from city lights are likely to see meteors in abundance. The best viewing time this year is between 4:30 and 5:30 a.m., when the sky begins to brighten.

Guided Nature Stroll at Old Mission Dam, designed for those with limited mobility and others, Tuesday, January 3, 10 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park, Kumeyaay Lake Campground (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Focus on history of dam, park ecology, interaction of local plants, animals, the elements. Wheelchair friendly, Free, 619-668-3281, (SAN CARLOS)

Help Reopen Sunset Trail during work party on Saturday, January 7, 9 a.m. to noon, in San Diego Audubon Society's Silverwood Sanctuary (13003 Wildcat Canyon Road). Preserve was badly damaged during Cedar fire. Vol-

## Action Ski & Snowboard **Club Wants** You!

We are an active social group of singles and couples 21 and over with year-round activities and events. Great ski trips to Jackson Hole, Utah, Colorado, Canada, Europe, and 6 trips to Mammoth.

Join us for our fun-filled meeting at 6 pm the first Thursday of each month at La Jolla Brewery, UTC Mall West Side.

For more information, call 858-279-7949 or go to www.actionski.org.



## <u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

## HOLIDAY DANCE

Masson for San Diego Dance Theater, through December 31.

(SEE DANCE)

unteers will dig out steps, create erosion-control berms. Expect strenuous physical labor with shovels! Bring gloves, long pants, old clothes; all tools provided. Free. Registration: 619-682-7200. (LAKESIDE)

#### DANCE

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

Good Food, Good Music, Good Dancing, Good Time! Championship fiddler Jamie Laval and master picker Ashley Broder play for New Year's Eve contradance on Saturday, December 31, at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Callers: Graham Hempel and JoAnn Koppany. English

\$**20 Off** 

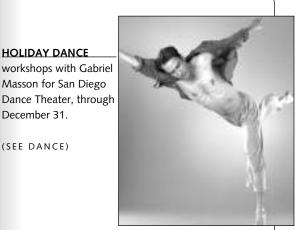
per person

Reg. price per passenger Adult \$185

Teen \$160 Child \$140

Del Mar Sunset

**Book Online:** 



country demo dances by Ellen Riley, Ellie Konitshek; waltz breaks by Steve Maranto. Beginner's workshop at 7:30 p.m.; dancing from 8 p.m. to midnight. \$15. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

Salute to Vienna New Year's Day Concert is Sunday, January 1. Cast of over 75 professional





Romantic Mou In-room Jacuzzis • Fine Dining • Coo Fireplace, 2-story, A-frame cabins,	cktails • Lodge • Near Acorn Casino
Address and	Overnight prices for two people:
A St. A	Sunday-Thursday \$9
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www.liveoaksprings.com	Honeymoon • Birthday • Anniversary Certain restrictions apply. Gratuity and tax not included.
	Oak Springs Resort (619) 766-4288 ay 80 (60 minutes east of downtown San Diego, 2 miles south of I-

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)

Start the New Year Sufi Dancing led by Toni Michael, Monday, January 2, 7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street, room 112). Live music. \$3. 619-692-3079. (HILLCREST)

#### FILM

"Tu la Conosci Claudia?" Massimo Venier's film with "three popular and very funny Italian film comics" - Aldo, Giovanni, and Giacomo — screens in Italian with Italian subtitles, Thursday,





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\* Ask about RVT video technology

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December 29, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). \$2. 619-237-0601. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Pay It Forward," starring Helen Hunt and Kevin Spacey, screens during First Tuesday Films series exploring "controversial social issues," January 3, 6:30 p.m., at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Discussion follows. Free. 760-839-4656. (ESCONDIDO)

#### The "Time-Fractured Mystery"

November, directed by Greg Harrison, screens for Film Forum, Wednesday, January 4, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). The 2004 thriller screens starring Courteney Cox, Anne Archer, James LeGros, Nora Dunn. 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

#### New Subtitles, Remastered

Soundtrack! Satyajit Ray's Classic Apu Trilogy screens on Thursdays in January at Museum of Photographic Arts. Ray's debut film, Pather Panchali, screens January 5; Aparajito on January 12; and The World of Apu on January 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 (through January 1), Mystic India: An Incredible Journey of Inspiration, Mystery of the Nile. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

#### LECTURES

"Science of the Human Brain: Who We Are and What We May Become" and "National Security vs. Freedom of Expression" presented by Brandeis University professors Robert Sekuler and Stephen J. Whitefield, Tuesday,



popular, short hike to the

Sinks, participants will

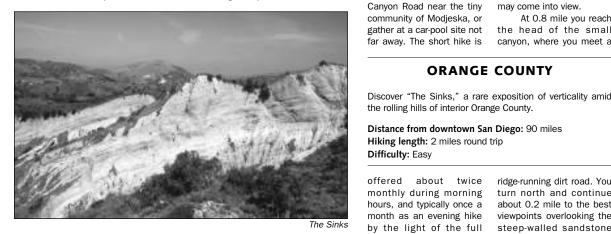
either rendezvous at the

trailhead (parking space

permitting) on Santiago

#### A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

ange County's 50,000-acre Irvine Ranch Land Reserve - essentially a Dig olive branch extended to the County of Orange by the Irvine Company in exchange for development rights in that county's remaining open spaces is bit by bit being transformed into public parkland. About 5000 of those acres, east of the city of Irvine and west of Santiago Canyon Road, lie in what



is known as Limestone Canyon Preserve. The preserve is not yet in full public ownership, but will someday become a fully accessible wilderness park. Meanwhile, the Nature Conservancy is charged with offering guided hiking,

equestrian, and mountain biking tours of the property, ranging in length from 2 miles to 15 miles. Limestone Canyon Preserve's most popular tour features an easy, twomile round-trip hike to a viewpoint overlooking the Sinks, a colorful, dramatically sheer piece of landscape that looks out of place amid the gently rolling foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains. No one is allowed unaccompanied by a guide on the Limestone Canyon property, and roving guards ensure

enforcement of that rule. Contact the Nature Conservancy at 714-832-7478 or e-mail irvineranch@tnc.org for a tour schedule and reservation instructions. For the

January 3, 9:30 a.m., at Temple Solel for local Brandeis University National Women's Committee chapters. \$36 fee includes continental breakfast, lunch. Reservations: 760-471-8992 or 858-673-0883. (CARDIFF)

"Intro to GPS" offered on Tuesday, January 3, 7 p.m., at REI Encinitas (1590 Leucadia Boulevard: 760-944-9020). Class repeats Wednesday, January 4, 7 p.m., at REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive; 858-279-4400). Free. (ENCINITAS, KEARNY MESA)

"African-American Reparations - Is It Time?" Discuss the subject on Wednesday, January 4, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911. (HILLCREST)

Tour the Night Sky during "The Sky Tonight" planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, January 4. View real sky through telescopes (weather permitting) after show. 619-238-1233. \$6.75 general. (BALBOA PARK)

moon

You'll begin with a

crossing of the wide, boul-

dery bed of Santiago

Creek; then you follow an

old dirt road heading up a

small canyon on the far

side. Graced with shade-

giving live oaks and lush

riparian vegetation, the

canyon is recovering from a

century or more of cattle-

grazing use. Expect

progress to be slow; your

"Designing With California-Friendly Plants" presented by landscape designer Jan Tubiolo, Wednesday, January 4, 6:30 p.m., at Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Site analysis, environmental factors, plant grouping, more. \$10. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

ridge-running dirt road. You turn north and continue about 0.2 mile to the best viewpoints overlooking the steep-walled sandstone gorge named the Sinks. Erosion of the soft sedimentary rock here has led to the formation of a receding cliff - most dramatically sheer on the north side, where it exhibits a relief of about 150 feet. Iron oxide is responsible for the ruddy color of the rock. The scene is impres-

Nature Conservancy guide

will likely point out every

significant type of plant,

and spin yarns about vari-

ous birds and animals that

the head of the small

canyon, where you meet a

At 0.8 mile you reach

may come into view.

**ORANGE COUNTY** 

Basics Course" offered annually by the Sierra Club? Slide-show presentations by course leaders on Thursday, January 5, 7 p.m., at REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive; 858-279-4400) and again on Monday, January 9, 7 p.m., at REI Encinitas (1590 Leucadia Boulevard; 760-944-9020). Free. (KEARNY MESA, ENCINITAS)

examines U.S.-North Korean rela-

sive under mid-morning sunlight, and eerily spectacular in bright moonlight. **Considering the "Wilderness** 

Ambassador Christopher Hill tions, Thursday, January 26,



7 p.m., at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). RSVP by January 20: 619-260-4236, (LINDA VISTA)

#### IN PERSON

**Classic Reading Series** continues with Lysistrata by Aristophenes and a New Year's Eve party, Saturday, December 31, 7:30 p.m., at 6th@Penn Theatre (3704 Sixth Avenue). Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-688-9210. (HILLCREST)

Soul of San Diego, evening of "praise and celebration" with gospel DJ Psalms 150, Out Tha Darkness, Evangel, more, Saturday, December 31, 8 p.m., hosted by KURS 1040 AM at World Beat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). \$30. 619-570-1040. (BALBOA PARK)

Luther Hughes and the Cannonball-Coltrane Project take stage for Jazz in the Park series, Wednesday, January 4, 5:30 p.m., San Diego Museum of Art. \$17. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Poetry Unlimited showcases poetry and art by Diane Gage, along with music by Devora Susman and others, Wednesday, January 4, 5 p.m., at Florence Riford Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Open readings follow. Free. 858-552-1657. (LA JOLLA)

"Elevated," poetry reading featuring Eugene Albert, Thursday, January 5, 8 p.m., at World Beat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). \$5. 619-795-9587. (BALBOA PARK)

"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)

#### SPORTS

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

The Regular Football Season Concludes when San Diego Chargers host Denver Broncos in Qualcomm Stadium, Saturday, December 31, 1:30 p.m. 619-220-TIXS. Broadcast on CBS. (MISSION VALLEY)

Last Ride of 2005 hosted by Knickerbikers bicyclists is a 25-miler for "tourists" starting at 9:30 a.m. at Woodland Park (at corner of Woodland Parkway and Rock Spring Road). Bicyclists will





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ramble through San Marcos area, have lunch at Old Spaghetti Factory (bring money). 858-453-3687. (SAN MARCOS)

South Bay New Year's Resolution Run 5k run/walk, Saturday, December 31, noon, at Sunridge Park (at Beechglen Drive and East J Street). Free. 619-271-6600. (CHULA VISTA)

The Downtown YMCA 36th annual 5k/1-mile Resolution Run is also on 31st, starting at 12:15 p.m. at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Free. 619-232-7451, (BALBOA PARK)

Start New Year With Century, join Bicycle Touring Society riders for 100-miler from Camp Pendleton to San Clemente and back. Sunday, January 1. Jaunt begins at 7:45 a.m. in Dovle Park (8175 Regents Road). Bring money for lunch in San Clemente, (UNIVERSITY CITY)

New Year's Day Paddle into La Jolla sea caves, Sunday, January 1, hosted by Hike Bike Kavak San Diego (2246 Avenida de la Plava). Appropriate for families, beginners, aged eight and older. \$35 fee includes equipment, guide. Re-



quired reservations: 858-551-9510.

San Diego Gulls host Alaska

Aces, Wednesday, January 4,

7:05 p.m., at iPayOne Center.

Tickets: \$12 to \$25, available

through Ticketmaster (619-220-

SPECIAL

Port of San Diego Big Bay Bal-

loon Parade, Thursday, Decem-

ber 29. Floats, marching bands,

and enormous balloons. Parade

begins at 10 a.m. on North Har-

bor Drive (along Embarcadero),

proceeds to Seaport Village. Free.

Need New Wheels? San Diego

International Auto Show showcases

new models, preproduction vehi-

cles and concept cars from over 30

manufacturers, December 29-Jan-

uary 1, at San Diego Convention

Center (111 West Harbor Drive).

619-283-5808. (DOWNTOWN)

TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

(LA JOLLA)

Enjoy a FREE Whale Watching Adventure Cruise Purchase one adult full fare whale watching ticket and get a second for free. Valid for up to 6 people. Not valid on holidays, special events or in combination with any other offer. Must mention discount at time of purchase and present before boarding. Coupon code: RDW06. Expires 1/01/06.



\$10 general, discounts for seniors, military, children. 619-525-6226. 

Spanish Wine Discoveries illuminated, Thursday, December 29, 6 to 9 p.m., at San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (200 Harbor Drive, suite 120). Live jazz, and an "ever-changing selection of cheeses and cocktails." \$7 wine flights. 619-231-6400. (DOWNTOWN)

Garden of Lights, tenth annual event at Quail Botanical Gardens boasts gardens decorated with 90,000-plus sparkling lights on plants and trees. Holiday Garden of Lights can be enjoyed 5 to 9 p.m. through December 30. Ornament and wreath making, music by strolling musicians, marshmallow roasting, children's activities, and food (for sale). Gardens found at 230 Quail Gardens Drive. Admission: \$6 general, \$2 for those under 12. 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

"Kwanzaa: A Season of Celebration, Meditation, and Recommitment" is presented Friday, December 30, 5 to 8 p.m., at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market

### Hornblower Holiday Cruises Scenic Champagne Brunch Cruises

Nightly Dinner Cruises New Year's Eve Celebration Cruises New Year's Day Brunch Cruises Valentine's Day Cruises



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stomer. Some restrictions apply. First-time customers only. Expires 1/12/06.

## **TWO POEMS WITH SNOW FALLING IN THEM**



After vespers, after the first snow has fallen to its squalls, after New Wave, after the anorectics have curled into their geometric forms, after the man with the apparition in his one bad eye has done red things behind the curtain of the lid & sleeps, after the fallout shelter in the elementary school has been packed with tins & other tangibles, after the barn boys have woken, startled by foxes & fire, warm in their hay, every part of them blithe & smooth & touchable. after the little vandals have tilted toward the impossible seduction to smash glass in the dark, getting away with the most lethal pieces, leaving the shards which travel most easily through flesh as message on the bathroom floor, the parking lots, the irresistible debris of the neighbor's vard where he's been constructing all winter long. After the pain has become an old known

Poetry

friend, repeating itself, you can hold on to it. The power of fright, I think, is as much as magnetic heat or gravity.

After what is boundless: wind chimes, fertile patches of the land, the ochre symmetry of fields in fall, the end of breath, the beginning of shadow, the shadow of heat as it moves the way the night heads west. I take this road to arrive at its end where the toll-taker passes the night, reading. I feel the cupped heat of his left hand as he inherits change; on the road that is not his road anymore, I belong to whatever it is which will happen to me. When I left this city I gave back the metallic waking in the night, the signals

of barges moving coal up a slow river north, the movement of trains, each whistle like a woodwind song of another age passing, each ambulance would split a night in two, lying in bed as a little girl, a fear of being taken with the sirens as they lit the neighborhood in neon, quick as the fire as it takes fire & our house goes up in night. After what is arbitrary: the hand grazing something too sharp or fine, the word spoken out of sleep, the buckling of the knees to cold, the melting of the parts to want, the design of the moon to cast unfriendly light, the dazed shadow of the self as it follows the self, the toll-taker's sorrow that we couldn't have been more intimate. Which leads me back to the land. the old wolves which used to roam on it. the one light left on the small far hill where someone must be living still. After life there must be life. From A Hunger by Lucie Brock-Broido, published by Alfred A. Knopf

#### After a Death

Once there was a shock that left behind a long, shimmering comet tail. It keeps us inside. It makes the TV pictures snowy. It settles in cold drops on the telephone wires. One can still go slowly on skis in the winter sun through brush where a few leaves hang on. They resemble pages torn from old telephone directories. Names swallowed by the cold. It is still beautiful to hear the heart beat but often the shadow seems more real than the body. The samurai looks insignificant beside his armor of black dragon scales.

by Tomas Tranströmer From The Winged Energy of Delight: Selected Translations by Robert Bly, published by Harper Collins.



Street, at Euclid). Guest speaker is Maulana Karenga, CSU Long Beach black studies professor. Free. 619-527-3405. (ENCANTO)

Ring in 2006! Year-end bell-ringing ritual purges 108 frailties and passions experienced during year, allowing for fresh new year. Program includes history of Friendship Bell, sutra chanting, incense offering; participants may take turns grabbing and swinging rope that guides the big wooden log against huge bonsho bell during ceremony on Saturday, December 31, at 11:30 p.m., part of annual Buddhist tradition. Shelter Island Friendship Bell is located at 1402 Shelter Island Drive. Dress warmly. Free. 619-239-0896. (SHELTER ISLAND)

First Night Escondido, alcoholfree community celebration (for the whole family) of new year through arts starts at 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 31, at a dozen sites throughout Escondido. Live music, dance performances, puppet shows, magicians, storytelling, fireworks, much more.

Event is bordered by Escondido Boulevard, Valley Parkway, Broadway. Tickets: \$15, available at four ticket booths on perimeter of event, as well as at California Center for the Arts box office. 760-420-9701. (ESCONDIDO)

The Dragon Ball hosted by San Diego Museum of Man, Saturday, December 31, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., with music by Karsh Kale, Janaka, dancing by Urban Tribal Company, "circus-esque" performance by Mythologram Theater, 21 and older. \$60 fee does not include food or drink, 619-239-2001, (BALBOA PARK)

Holiday of Lights at Del Mar Fairgrounds is display of seasonal festive lights, with holiday-themed displays and more than 350 displays on view through Sunday,

at Japanese Friendship Garden. Included in garden admission. 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK) Improve Your Well Being, posture, and balance when Jaruska Solyova leads eight-week yoga course starting Tuesday, January 3, 9:20 a.m., at La Jolla Cove Bridge Club (1160 Coast Boulevard). Free

> 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 January 1 and 2). Free. 619-239-0512. (BALBOA PARK)

> introduction. Reservation:

858-456-9964. (LA JOLLA)

January 1. Visitors view lighted

creations from their vehicles, driv-

ing along 1.5-mile route through

day-Thursday; 5:30 to 11 p.m. Fri-

day and Saturday. Admission: \$12

per vehicle (up to five people), \$17

per vehicle with six or more peo-

Skating by the Sea, outdoor

ice-skating rink overlooking Pa-

cific 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-

**Experience a Traditional Tea** 

Ceremony when Sohya Ayako

Stott and assistants present

demonstrations, Tuesday, Jan-

uary 3, 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.,

3533. (CORONADO)

ple. 858-793-5555. (DEL MAR)

Hours: 5:30 to 10 p.m. Sun-

fairgrounds, around racetrack.

#### What's New on the Water?

18th annual San Diego Boat Show featuring in-water and on-land displays, boating lessons, seminars, kids' activities, boats and luxury yachts to peruse. January 5-8, at San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Marina.

Show hours: noon to 8 p.m.



Vedding Guide

A free, 24-bour line for planning your wedding.

Call 619-233-9797 and press the 4digit extension (in bold type) of the topic or advertiser that in

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Clergy	2
Consultants <b>511</b>	
Dance Lessons <b>511</b>	7
Decorations 511	3
Disc Jockeys <b>511</b>	0
Florists <b>510</b>	
Formal Wear	3
Gift Registries 511	
Health & Beauty 511	
Honeymoon	
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78 San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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## <u>OUT & ABOUT</u>

#### NEW SUBTITLES

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Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. (Marina portion closes at 6 p.m. each night.) Admission: \$10 general; \$5 for those 12-16, free for kids under 12. 858-274-9924. (DOWNTOWN)

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'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. (DOWNTOWN)



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Show hours: Wednesday-Friday, 10 and 11:30 a.m.; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find the theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general, 619-544-9203, (BALBOA PARK)

"Sea Strollers: Mouths" is theme when "A, B, Sea Club" for kids up to 24 months meets 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, January 3-6, at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Class includes aquarium exhibits, live animal encounter, free play.

\$25 per adult/child pair. 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

## **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

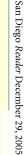


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2

# Reading

## Snowbound

Part one of two



Whose woods these are I think I know, His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow.

to introduce us to the enigmatic element in poetry.

It is the poem that ends with that grim quatrain to which teachers resorted

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What I don't like about where I live is that snow never falls. I saw a glass ball that has a snowman in it. You shake the globe and "snow" falls. I bought it. I put it in my bedroom. I get up in the morning and shake the globe and watch snow drift and swirl onto the rim of the snowman's black top hat. I miss snow. I go to my bookshelves and search - in poems, novels, essays, short stories - for snowfalls, snowstorms, blizzards, icicles, sleigh rides, ice-skating. The poem that we learned in

school is Robert Frost's "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep.

The teacher always asked, "What do you suppose the poet intended with his 'promises to keep?" I didn't care then, and don't now, what Frost intended. I am satisfied to say out loud: "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening. Those seven words start snow sifting through cold air, sticking on bare black boughs.

Frost's poem "The Onset," less well known, offers a more closely observed snow that

> ...lets down as white As may be in dark woods, and with a song It shall not make again all winter long Of hissing on the yet uncovered ground.

Easily as wonderful a Frost snow poem is "Dust of Snow," whose first quatrain so quickly establishes its presence that words vanish and nothing remains but...

> The way a crow Shook down on me The dust of snow From a hemlock tree.

Basho's On Love and Barley contains three haiku, the first of which "works" in much of the way of the Frost four lines - the words disappear, the world to which the words point, remains.

> Snowy morning one crow after another. Come, let's go snow-viewing till we're buried. Snow-whisk sweeping this path, forgets the snow

This bit of snow writing is not a poem, but it's written by a poet. Why we construe from his name an adjective that describes its object as "heroic - or, 'mock 'heroic - and romantic" comes clear once more when we read what Lord Byron, on January 5, 1821, wrote in his journal:

Rose late - dull and drooping the weather dripping and dense. Snow on the ground, and sirocco above in the sky, like yesterday. Roads up to the horse's belly, so that riding (at least for pleasure) is not very feasible. Read the conclusion, for the fiftieth time (I have read all W. Scott's novels at least fifty times), of the third series of Tales of my Landlord - grand work - Scotch. Clock strikes - going out to make love. Somewhat perilous, but not disagreeable And, remember this, from T.S.

Winter kept us warm, covering Earth in forgetful snow,

Eliot's "The Waste Land"?

Wallace Stevens's "The Snow Man" stalks you for years, and finally one day hits you in the heart. Were I going to give the poem a title based upon the effect it has, I'd title it "Exit Wound."

> One must have a mind of winter To regard the frost and the boughs Of the Pine-trees crusted with snow; And have been cold a long time To behold the junipers shagged with ice. The spruces rough in the distant glitter Of the January sun; and not to think Of any misery in the sound of the wind.

"Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening." Those seven words start snow sifting through cold air, sticking on bare black boughs.

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.L." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The

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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, January 12.

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 QUARTER)

Heritage Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post

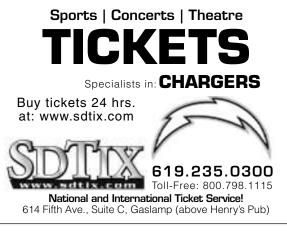
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office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway's past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 14134 Midland Road; 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

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, iades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dvnastv (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.







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In the sound of a few leaves. Which is the sound of the land Full of the same wind That is blowing in the same bare place For the listener, who listens in the snow, And, nothing himself, beholds Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.

None of these is my favorite snow poem (although the Stevens comes close). That is reserved for Robert Penn Warren's "Function of Blizzard." Back when I lived where snow fell every winter, a friend and I. on the occasion of the year's first snow, would recite this poem. We would take the book with us. outside, and stand on the street

The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus, 12110 Cuvamaca 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,

corner under lamplight and read the poem out loud together. Last week, standing at his window he saw that snow was falling on the mountains. He called me and read:

God's goose, neck neatly wrung, is being plucked. And night is blacker for the plethora

Of white feathers except when, in an air-tower beam. Black feathers turn white as

snow. Which is what they are. And in the blind trajectory travelers scream

toward silence. Black ruins of arson in the Bronx are whitely

Redeemed. Poverty does not necessarily Mean unhappiness. Can't you

hear the creak of bed-slats Or ghostly echo of childish laughter?

Bless Needle plunging into pinched vein.

Bless coverings-over, forgettings. Bless snow, and chains beat-

ing undersides of fenders. Bless insane sirens of the Fire Department

And Christmas whirl of alarm lights. Bless even

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)

Three infants locked in a tenement of Harlem. God's bosom is broad. Snow soon will cover the anguished ruin. Bless snow! Bless God, Who must work under the hand of Fate, who has no name. God does the best He can, and sometimes lets snow whiten the world As a promise – as now of mystic comfort to The old physicist, a Jew, faith long since dead, who is getting High-lonesome drunk by the frosted window of The Oak Room bar in the Plaza And bless me, even With no glass in my hand, and far from New York, as I rise From bed. feet bare, heart freezing, to stare out at The whitening fields and forest, and wonder what Item of the past I'd most like God to let Snow fall on, keep falling on, and never

Melt, for I, like you, am only a man, after all.

It's difficult to know, after that,

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 which so nearly says all there is to say about man and God and love and snow, what can follow, Joseph Wood Krutch in The Twelve Seasons suggests: "The snow itself is lonely or, if you prefer, self-sufficient. There is no other time when the whole world seems composed of one thing and one thing only." For 20 years I've been read-

ing and marking in my copy of Gaston Bachelard's The Poetics of Space. Bachelard meditates upon what he calls "praiseworthy space" - the closets, corners, cellars, garrets that attract and focus the poetic imagination. In chapter two, "House and Universe," Bachelard "reads" houses and rooms "written" by writers.

Although at heart a city man. Baudelaire sensed the increased intimacy of a house when it is besieged by winter. In Les paradis artificiels (p. 280), he speaks of Thomas de Quincey's joy when, a prisoner of winter, he read Kant, with the help of the idealism furnished by opium. The scene takes place in a cottage in Wales: "Isn't it true that a pleasant house makes winter more poetic, and doesn't winter add to the poetry of a house? The white cottage at the

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)

**Ramona Pioneer Historical** Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlague House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wag"Isn't it true that a pleasant house makes winter more poetic, and doesn't winter add to the poetry of a house?"

end of a little valley, shut in by rather high mountains; and it seemed to be swathed in shrubs." Reading Baudelaire's passage, Bachelard suggests that we too are "swathed' in the blanket

of winter. And we feel warm because it is cold out-of-doors. Further on in this deep-winter "artificial Paradise." Baudelaire declares that dreamers like a severe winter: "Every year they ask the sky to send down as much snow, hail, and frost as it can contain. What they really need are Canadian and Russian winters. Their own nests will be all the warmer, all the downier, all the better beloved." Like Edgar Allan Poe, a great dreamer of curtains, Baudelaire, in order to protect the winter-girt

ons, antique exhibits, and artifacts.

There is a cowboy bunk house,

women's clothing and accessories

from 1700 to 1800, a ranch black-

smith 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 re-

search library are also part of the

complex.

house from cold, added "heavy draperies that hung down to the floor. Behind dark curtains, snow seems to be whiter. Indeed, everything comes alive when contradictions accumulate."

Russians, of course, dependably produce snow description. Chekhov's "Heartache" opens thus:

> Evening twilight. Large flakes of wet snow are circling lazily about the street lamps which have just been lighted, settling in a thin soft layer on roofs, horses' backs, peoples' shoulders, caps. Iona Potapov, the cabby, is all white like a ghost. As hunched as a living body can be, he sits on the box with-(continued on page 82)

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.













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Concurrently, see "The History 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. Nikolai set off after the first troika; the other two noisily fol-"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 RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan 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

DOMAINS of WONDER Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting

The Apu Trilogy

## January 5 - Pather Panchali January 12 - Aparajito January 19 - The World of Apu

SDMA is screening one of the greatest trilogies of all time in conjunction with the exhibition Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting.

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 III), a World
 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

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 artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

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Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale

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items, and memorabilia from

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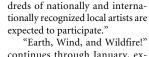
San Diego Electric Railway Association, located in historic National City Santa Fe Depot (922 West 23rd Street), offers exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

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 rail-

roads 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. "Hun-



continues through January, 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)

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. (LA JOLLA)



### CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after Ianuary 5.

#### 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.

Seasonal Gems by Rutter, Victoria, Berlioz, and Joubert and others may be heard when 16-voice chamber choir Cappella Gloriana performs Friday, December 30, 7:30 p.m., at Saint Paul's Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). Donation: \$20. 619-298-7261. (MIDTOWN)

Choir offers 45-minute concerts beginning at 9:45 and 10:45 p.m., Saturday, December 31, for First Night Escondido at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). \$15. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Salute to Vienna New Year's Dav Concert is Sunday, January 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)

Civic Organist Carol Williams presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, January 1, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Music to Welcome the New Year is promised by Scott Pratt for First Thursday Concert on January 5, 7 p.m., in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

"The Magic Flute," celebrate Mozart's 250th birthday with Classics for Kids performance (in English), Sunday, January 22, 1 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Led by a comical bird catcher and his magic flute. Prince Tamino must save Princess Pamina from Queen of the Night. Dana Mambourg Zimbric leads Classics Philharmonic, joined by San Diego Ballet dancers, opera vocalists. Tickets: \$11-\$15 for children, \$19-\$25 for adults. Reservations: 619-435-9111. (NORTH PARK)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after January 5

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

#### ART MUSEUMS

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 mas-ters" 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

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Adams" boasts small-scale portraits of dogs done with heavy impasto and bright colors.

All four exhibits close Sunday, February 12. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard: 760-839-4120 (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, more than 90 bottles, bowls, platters, and tiles made between 1940 and 2004 are included in retrospective "The Art of Vivika and Otto Heino." Vivika Heino died in 1995, but Otto Heino continues to make pots in his Ojai pottery, throwing 100 pounds of clay at a time.

"Norway — Art of the Land and the People" celebrates 100 years of Norwegian independence. Exhibit includes arts of daily life such as metalwork, jewelry, bunads (festival costumes), textiles, 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, February 26.

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

The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum, North County Satellite, "Timeless Glass - From Byzantine to Dale Chihuly," includes a blownglass 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" 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. (DOWNTOWN)

**Museum of Contemporary** Art San Diego, La Jolla, over four decades of work made by artists from Los Angeles to the Mexican border showcased in "Southern Exposure," continuing through December. Some of the art is politically motivated, some is concerned with formal considerations. Highlights include important early works by John Baldessari, Ed Ruscha, Robert Irwin

Raymond Pettibon's work, often showing darker side of society and American hypocrisies, is on view through Sunday, September 3. Pettibon - known for "his idiosyncratic renderings and room-sized installations" - exhibits a large-scale wall drawing.

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

Museum of Photographic Arts, more than 250 works of photography revealing "tumultuous history of the representation of race in America" gathered in "Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self," on view concurrently at Museum of Photographic Arts and San Diego Museum of Art. Exhibition spans wide range of genres and movements, with pieces dating from mid-19th Century to present, continuing at both museums through December.

Seven photographs by Moroccan-born photographer Lalla Essaydi may be seen through Saturday, 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)

San Diego Museum of Art. "Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting" may be seen through Sunday, January 22. Exhibit features 124 paintings, two bound manuscripts from museum's Edwin Binney 3rd Collection, ranging from 14th through

late 19th Century. Concurrently: "Indian Colours," exploring materials, pigments, tools, techniques of Indian painting used by South Asian artists to create the intricately detailed paintings on display.

More than 250 works of photography revealing "tumultuous history of the representation of race in America" gathered in "Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self," concurrently at San Diego Museum of Art and Museum of Photographic Arts. Exhibition spans wide range of genres and movements, with pieces dating from mid-19th Century to present, continuing at both museums through December.

Paintings, sculptures, and objects from Nepal, Tibet, and India featured in "Devotional Arts of Nepal." Buddhism and Hinduism have "enjoyed a peaceful coexistence for over 1500 years" in Nepal's Kathmandu Valley; exhibit "explores fruits of this commingling." Closes Sunday, April 2.

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

Timken Museum of Art. between late 1650s and mid-1660s, Rembrandt Harmensz Van Rijn created a number of half-length portraits of religious figures. Paintings were created during difficult time in Rembrandt's life. "Rembrandt's Apostles," on exhibit through Sunday, January 15, 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)







HUNTEP<sup>•</sup> (R) Northern Trust HME

San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

8

WELLS FARGO



# Puppets and Puppeteers

*"The audience experiences the art from several perspectives at once."* 

You know you're about to see a theatrical icon when the audience applauds as the house lights dim. And for sheer spectacle, *The Lion King* delivers right off the bat. Animals parade down the newly created aisles of the Civic

Theatre: zebras, antelope, 18-foot giraffes. The cheetahs resemble centaurs — half-beast, half-human; others have a lion's head above the human one and look

like Aztec royalty. Animals multiply so fast you can't take them all in. Then they swarm around Pride Rock, form a "circle of life," and praise the birth of a lion cub that will eventually devour them whole.

Okay, okay, in the food chain of Broadway musicals, *The Lion King* is just *Cats* gone carnivore. The plot is stencil thin, the theme generic (birth, death, rebirth), and the marketing strategies behind it give new meaning to the expression "corporate greed." But what surprised — and impressed — me about the touring production is what it celebrates.

Julie Taymor had a problem. The director known for visually imaginative stagings including *The Green Bird*, a dazzling confection at the La Jolla Playhouse (1996) — got the assignment to stage an extremely popular movie: a cartoon, no less, whose mythical images had



become ingrained in its fans' genetic code. So what to do: defer to the best seller? Imitate the movie's cartoon realism? Or, far more risky, make it come alive with a theatrical sea change? Taymor chose not only the magic of theater

but also to expose its tricks: show the puppet and the puppeteer. "Audiences relish the artifice behind theater," she said in an

interview. "When we see a person manipulating an inanimate object like a puppet and making it come alive, the duality moves us...We become engaged by both the method of storytelling and by the story itself."

Taymor calls this a "double event." When props sail in, or an animal flies around, the strings holding them are in plain sight. You see the cheetah, sleek as the world's fastest car, and also its human manipulator tilted back, windswept, as if barely able to keep up with the animal whose strings it pulls.

"Watching puppetry at its best, the audience experiences the art from several perspectives at once," said Taymor, adding, "hidden special effects can lack humanity. At every turn I was looking for elements that would make this *The Lion King* a live theater event and not a duplication of the film onstage."

Among the most unforgettable sights are the



**The Lion King,** music and lyrics by Elton John and Tim Rice, book by Roger Allers and Irene Mecchi **San Diego Civic Theatre,** Third Avenue at B Street, downtown

**Directed by Julie Taymor**; cast: Larry Yando, Rufus Bonds Jr., Gugwana Dlamini, Damian Badlet, Derek Hasenstab, Phil Fiorini, Wallace Smith, Ta'Rea Campbell, Melvin Abston, Shaullanda Lacombe, Robbie Swift, Khaleel Mandel Carter, Michael Nino Locke Jr., Milan Barnes-Shuford, Kenisha Simone Harris; scenic design, Richard Hudson; costumes, Taymor; lighting, Donald Holder; sound, Steve C. Kennedy; mask and puppet design, Taymor and Michael Curry

Playing through January 15; Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 1:00 p.m. 619-220-TIXS.

human grasslands. Similar to carrying water jugs on their heads, people wear flat-top haircuts made of foot-tall grass. And when Mufasa dies, the lionesses weep ticker-tape tears.

When Simba goes to the Elephant Graveyard, the lights slowly come up. At first we see a round, gloomy structure silhouetted against a dark backdrop. More light and the structure becomes vague curves and large hooks. Full light: it's the immense ribcage of some mega-pachyderm, soon to be peopled by Scar (great name for a villain!) and some evil hyenas. I wish every kid in San Diego could see that transformation — and also how Taymor turns loose a stampede of wildebeests onstage: at first they look like surfers gliding down a wave way out to sea. Then they come forward; then they're upon us, in droves.

The musical's signature number, "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" is the kind of song you wish was on the radio when you were parked by the lake with your recalcitrant sweetie. It's an odd twist that, as he sings Elton John's hit, Simba actually *doesn't* feel the love. You'd think just crooning that tune would generate plenty.

Another twist: *The Lion King* makes a useful critique of Bobby McFerrin's airhead ditty, "Don't Worry, Be Happy," which struck me as the worst advice you could ever give someone. "Hakuna Matata" contends that there are saner ways to conduct one's life.

Rather than defer to the movie, Julie Taymor theatricalized *The Lion King* and enhanced its mythical status: in fact, combining one's memories of the live and movie versions creates another "double event."

There is something bothersome about that status: why is it that the majority of cultural myths growing in our lifetime are about monarchies? *The Lion King* — the Great Food Chain of Being (which is cyclical; every animal should know its place and not try to change things); *Star Wars*, monarchy; *Lord of the Rings*, monarchy; "King" Kong. Whatever hap-



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pened to democracy? FIELD NOTES:

Erratum: A feature I wrote about Richard Baird going to the Ashland Shakespeare Festival announced he would earn \$600 a month. Actually it's \$600 a week, non-equity contract with health benefits, and cut-rate rent for an apartment near the theater. Baird left for Oregon yesterday.

MAJOR TRIBUTE: Robert Brustein's Letters to a Young Actor: A Universal Guide to Performance reads more like a memoir of his own productions than useful advice for actors (his "universal" tip: go to Yale or Harvard drama school and network). Toward the end, he lists some of the greatest "past moments" of live theater: Helene Weigel's Mother Courage; Laurette Taylor's Amanda in The Glass Menagerie; Jason Robards in The Iceman Cometh. The usuals. Brustein mentions only one unforgettable performance from the past 25 years: "Jefferson Mays's impersonation of 40 different onstage characters in IAm My Own Wife" - performed in 2005 at the La Jolla Playhouse—"each with his or her own distinctive personalities."

#### THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

#### An American Christmas

Lamb's Players and the Hotel del Coronado present an "interactive feast and celebration," set 100 years ago. GRAND BALLROOM, HOTEL DEL CORON ADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 30: DOORS OPEN NIGHTLY (EXCEPT FOR CHRIST-MAS DAY) AT 6:30 P.M. 619-437-0600

#### How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

The Old Globe Theatre presents its popular holiday show about the demonsterizing of an erstwhile meanie. Jack O'Brien directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. BALBOA PARK, THROUGH DECEM-BER 31 THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-2255.

#### Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

The Culy Theater hosts "not-soordinary interactive dinner theater," as Joey and Maria tie the knot. LAFAYETTE INN AND SUITES, NORTH PARK, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

#### **Killer Reunion**

Mystery Cafe's newest interactive comedy takes place at a high school reunion that doesn't go according to plan.

IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, BANKER'S HILL, OPEN ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas

For its annual holiday show. Lamb's goes to "jazz-filled 1928 St. Louis," where a family debates the merits of Christmas celebration

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH DECEMBER 29; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-437-0600.

#### 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

#### **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 Keely

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-UARY 22; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATI-NEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-789-7008

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#### San Diego Theatresports A cross between improvisational

comedy and Family Feud. Improv. making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but San Diego Theatresports' "game show" is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had "Team Sports" - two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and "Gorilla Theatre" — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a "forfeit" (other formats include "Micetro" and "Improv Survivors"). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, 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

#### Sister's Christmas **Catechism: The Mystery of** the Magi's Gold

This sequel to Maripat Donovan's popular Late Nite Catechism feels like 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 palpable threat this time comes when Sister picks people for the nativity and the audience averts its eyes. Christmas would probably fare better if



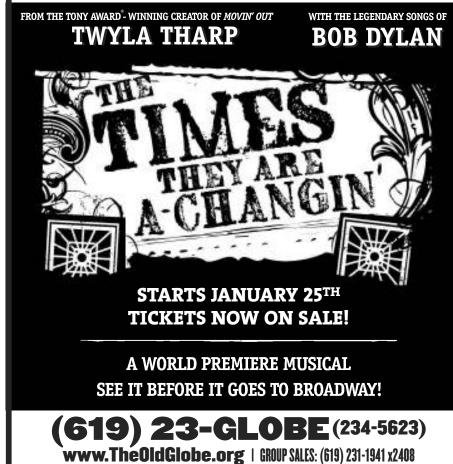


DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! Book & Lyrics by Timothy Mason | Music by Mel Marvin Directed by Jack O'Brien Now - Dec 31 | Old Globe Theatre

Join the Whos in Whoville for San Diego's favorite holiday tradition. Don't be left out in the cold... order your tickets today!



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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; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 858-481-1055

#### 6th@Penn Classic Reading Series: The Birds

6th@Penn continues its new reading series with Lysistrata by Aristophanes.

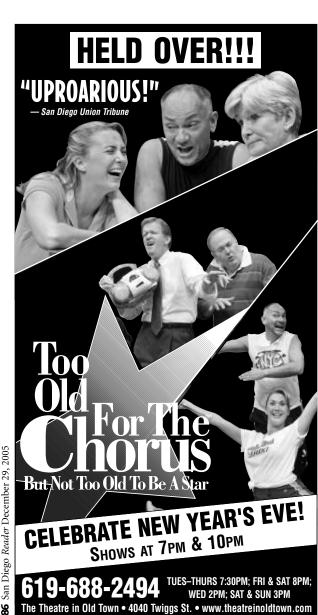
6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, ONGOING RUN; SAT-URDAY, DECEMBER 31 (TIME TBA). 619-688-9210.

#### 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.

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 pre dictably) 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



("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 (espe-cially "Lunch Hour Lift," about quickie plastic surgery; the Wordsworthian piece "The Child Is Father to the Man"; and Holmes's touching rendition of "Dog Passages," in which the singer marks the years by the dogs he's had). The rest, though always well done (and the cast snappily dressed by Jill K. Mesaros), are negligible. They hold down slots till better songs come along - of which Too Old could use at least six. The revue has a frame: the five performers are auditioning for a chorus, and, of course, for the next phase of their lives. To merit a callback, Too Old needs major reinventing. THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN, THROUGH FEBRU-ARY 5; 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

does a spectacular tap number

#### **Triple Espresso: A Highly** Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt's done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — "Grape," "Scandinavian Blizzard," or "Mokoko Cocoa Mocha" — Hugh plays '70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh's



anniversary, got stuck in the '70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far.

3535 Adams Ave., North Parl (619) 640-3900 www.actors

28 Horton Plaza, Downtown (619) 497-5000

ww.sandiegoperforms.com

ww.asianamericanrep.org

60) 724-8218 vw.beacontheatresd.com

The Broadway Theatre

ww.premiereforkids.com

**Carlsbad Village Theatre** 

2822 State St., Carlsbad (760) 729-0089 www.carlsbadvillagetheatre.com

**California Center For The Arts** 340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido

(760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Centro Cultural De La Raza 2004 Park Blvd., Balboa Park (619) 235-6135 www.centroraza.com

**Christian Community Theater** 1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon

(858) 570-1100 www.sdccc.org

**Community Actors Theatre** 

ww.communityactorstheatre.com

Holmes Elementary 4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont

2957 54th St., State College (619) 264-3391

**Copley Symphony Hall** (619) 235-0804 www.sandiegosymphony.com

**Coronado Playhouse** 1775 Strand Way, Coronado (619) 435-4856 www.coronadoplayhouse.com

Diversionary Theatre 4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights

**Cygnet Theatre Company** 6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. N, College Area (619) 337-1525 www.cygnettheatre.com

(619) 220-0097 www.diversionary.org

East County Performing Arts Center 210 E. Main St., El Cajon

Educational Cultural Complex

(619) 440-2277 www.ecpac.com

**Theater** 4343 Ocean View Blvd., Southeast (619) 527-5256

**Eveoke Dance Theatre** 644 7th Ave., Downtown (619) 238-1153 www.eveoke.org

The Falibrook Players

231 N. Main St., Fallbrook (760) 728-0998

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**Clairemont Community Players** 

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Arts Tix

2804 Adams Ave., Normal Heights

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 comedi-

Festival of Christmas

ans are far too talented to play inept characters. One's a whiz at the piano. Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.) Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND 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 cultures.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. THROUGH DECEMBER 31; THURSDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE THURSDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

## THEATER DIRECTORY

Actors Alliance Of San Diego The Fault Line Theatre 3152 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest (619) 692-3382 www.faultlinetheatre.com Adams Avenue Studio of the Arts

(619) 072-002 **Fem Street Circus** (619) 235-9756 www.fernstreetcircus.org **The Fritz Theatre** (619) 233-7505 www.fritztheatre.com Full Circle Theatre Company

Parker Auditorium 750 Nautilus St., La Jolla (858) 454-3081 x 150 Grossmont College Stagehouse Theatre, El Cajon

(619) 644-7234 nt.gcccd.cc.ca.us/ The Hispanic Theatre Of San Diego

H.I.T. Productions Dinner Theater Shirley's Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon Blvd. La Mesa (619) 561-8673 (619) 561-8673 www.dinnertheater.net Horton Grand Theatre 144 Fourth Ave., Do (619) 234-9583 **Iris Theater** 4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd. (619) 271-4144 www.iristheater.org

Laguna Playhouse 606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach (949) 497-2787 La Jolla Plavhouse Mandell Weiss Center, UCSD

(858) 550-1010 www.lajollaplayhouse.com La Jolla Stage Company

(858) 459-7773 www.thelajollastageco.org Lamb's Players Theatre Paul and Ione Harter Stage 1142 Orange Ave., Coronado (619) 437-0600 www.lambsplayers.org

Lamplighters Community Theatre 8053 University Ave. Lo Mar-8053 University Ave., La Mesa (619) 464-4598 www.lamplighterstheatre.org

**Lyric Opera San Diego** Casa Del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park (619) 239-8836

w.lvricoperasandiego.com Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater

(619) 685-5990 Mesa College Theatre Company lege Dr., Clairem (858) 627-2621

Miracosta College Theatre One Barnard Dr., Oceanside (760) 795-6815 www.miracosta www.miracosta.cc.ca.us

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild (858) 693-7328 Moonlight Stage Productions 651 E. Vista Way Vista 651 E. Vista Way (760) 724-2110

www.moonlightstage.com The Muse Theatre (619) 239-2894 www.then heatre com

Mystery Cafe erial House Restaurant nia St., Hillcrest (619) 544-1664 www.mysterycafe.net

National Comedy Theatre 3717 India St., Miss (619) 295-4999 ational comedy com

**New Village Arts Theatre** (760) 633-1130 www.NewVillageArts.org

North Coast Repertory Theatre 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach (858) 481-1055 www.northcoastrep.org

North Park Vaudeville 2031 El Cajon Blvd., North Park (619) 647-4958 The Old Globe Theatre

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Onstage Playhouse 291 Third Ave., Chula Vista (619) 422-7787 www.onstage.itgo.com Palomar College Theatre 1140 W. Mission Rd., San Marcos (760) 744-1150 x2453 www.palomar.edu

Patio Playhouse 201 E. Grand Ave., Escondido (760) 746-6669 www.patiopl www.patioplayhouse.com

Pine Hills Lodge 2960 La Posada Way, Julian (760) 765-1100 www.pinehillslodge.com

**Point Loma Nazarene University** 3900 Lomaland Dr., Point Loma (619) 849-2433 www.ptloma.ed na edu

Poway Center For The Performing Arts 15498 Espola Rd., Poway

(858) 748-0505 www.powayarts.org **Poway Performing Arts Company** 13250 Poway Rd., Powa (858) 679-8085

http://powpac.tripod.com Ramona MainStage Theatre 626 Main St., Ramona (760) 789-7008

**The Rehearsal Room** 1159 6th Ave., Downtown (619) 589-9963

San Diego Actors Theatre P O Box 880285 92168 (858) 268-4494

.sdactorstheatre.net San Diego City College Theater 15th and C Streets, Downtown (619) 230-2676 www.sdcity.edu

San Diego Junior Theatre Casa Del Prado Theatre P-II do Theatre, Balboa Park (619) 239-8355 www.juniortheatre.com

San Diego Opera 1200 Third Ave., Downtown (619) 232-7636 www.sdopera.com

San Diego Repertory Theatre 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown (619) 544-1000 www.sandiegorep.com

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San Diego Theatresports 1531 Tyler, Hillcrest (619) 465-7469 www.improvise.net Scripps Ranch Theatre 10455 Pomerado Rd., Scripps Ranch (858) 578-7728

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.org

Southwestern College 900 Otay Lakes Rd., Chula Vista (619) 482-6367 www.swc.cc.ca

The Spreckels Theatre av. Do (619) 235-9500

Star Theatre 402 North Coast Highway, Oceanside (760) 721-9983 www.startheater.org

Starlight Musical Theatre Starlight Bowl, Balboa Park (619) 544-7827 www.starlighttheatre.org

St. Cecilia's Playhouse (619) 544-1484

Sushi Performance & Visual Art 320 Eleventh Ave., Downtown (619) 235-8466 www.sushiart.org

**Teatro Mascara Magica** 9 Horton Plaza, Dowr (619) 231-3586 www.sandiegoreps.cor

The Theatre in Old Town 4040 Twiggs St., Old Town (619) 688-2494 www.theatreinoldtown.com

**Theatrx** 155 East Grand Ave., Escondido (760) 735-2491 www.theatrx.8 www.theatrx.8m.con

**Torrey Pines High School Theatre** 3710 Del Mar Heights Rd., Del Mar (858) 755-0125 ext. 2142 www.tpplayers.com

**Truax Performing Arts Center** 400 Rancho Del Oro, Oceanside 760) 967-7918

University Of California San Diego Mandell Weiss Center (858) 534-4574 v-theatre.ucsd.edu

University Of San Diego (619) 260-7934 www.sandiego.edu

Vantage Theatre (619) 262-6162 http://home.san.rr.com/vantagetheatre

Welk Resort Theatre 8860 Lawrence Welk Dr., Escondido (760) 749-3448 www.welkresort.com/sandiego

The Wild Parrot Players Community Theatre Point Loma United Methodist Church 1984 Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach (619) 269-6946

**Women's** (619) 282-3277 Women's Repertory Theatre



The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in Blurt. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

#### Tales from the

**Trenches** Bill, a musician, says he didn't take part in a December 3 "battle of the bands" at Mira Mesa's all-ages

2002) held by Toronto promoter Gary Gottlieb. The December 3 event, organized by the same promoter, "went from noon to midnight," Bill says. "There were 30 bands. It's a nightmare with 30 bands."

No judges were evident at the competition, but the band that won, Repulsed, says there



Epicentre. He's been down that road, though. "If you were standing in line for a big concert somewhere like Rimac, this guy would come up to you and ask kids in line

REPULSED STOMACHS THE NAYSAYERS

if they were in a band. If you

say you were, he tells you he

gives you a flyer, but he

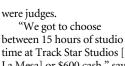
of-the-bands thing."

battle of the bands (in

can help you get bookings. He

doesn't tell you it's for a battle-

Bill participated in the last



between 15 hours of studio time at Track Star Studios [in La Mesa] or \$600 cash," says Brian Tyranski, vocalist for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Repulsed. "We

took the studio time. We're used to this thing where promoters take all the money. But we do it so we can get our name out there." Bill says,

"Whoever sells the most tickets wins. If you sell the most tickets, you get the best time slot and you also win.

They say it's all about audience response."

Tyranski, whose band sold 75 of the \$12 tickets for Gottlieb, doesn't agree with all of Bill's statements. "We know another band

called Our Ivory Tower,"

Tyranski says. "They also sold 75 tickets. Two other bands sold all 100 of their tickets.... The bands who sold the most tickets got to pick their time slots."

Epicentre assistant manager Albert Zaloga says Gottlieb rented out the Epicentre.

"We didn't seem to have any issues with him," says Zaloga. Gottlieb did not respond to a request for comment.

— Ken Leighton

**Bipartisan Block Party Poopers** "[District 2 city council candidates] Kevin Faulconer and Lorena Gonzalez say they are



HEY, COWBOY! LET'S BLOCK PARTY!

supporting [an end to the Pacific Beach Block Party], and I don't see them rallying around Kevin [Hellman]," says Benjamin Nicholls, executive director of Discover PB. The organization of Pacific Beach business owners is opposed to hosting the annual event. "The entire parking lot behind me is a giant public toilet," said businessman Marc Nussbaum after the last PB Block Party. Hellman, executive director of the San Diego Music Awards and associate publisher of *City Beat*, selects bands and acquires the sponsors for the block party.

"Kevin is doing everything in a vacuum," says Nicholls. "That's why he has no community support.... Discover PB has a right to do its own street festival without Kevin. People want a street

festival; they just don't want one that Kevin has cooked up in his basement." Hellman has announced that he wants to organize a new PB street event on April 22. Nicholls says, "[Hellman] pulled that date out of thin air" and that the city has not granted Hellman a permit. Nicholls admits that there may not be enough time for Discover PB to organize a different sort of PB street

festival for 2006. Last week, Hellman said he was "not ready to talk" about future events.

— Ken Leighton

**"I'm just the old guy** with a beard sitting at the bar until I get up to play," says singer/songwriter/guitarist/ harp player Hugh Gaskin, 56. "After my set, people buy me all these drinks.... But it almost got me arrested last week. By the time they got to me [for a breath test], I was legally not drunk....

"I've been playing in this town for 41 years.... My first band was called Street Noise. We played the beaches in the late '60s, early '70s. We played this bar in Mission Beach called the Bathhouse. It's now Guava Beach. It was a biker hangout.... [In PB], we'd play in the alleys. It got so packed, people would dance on rooftops. Girls would wear these granny dresses. I



GASKIN READY TO ROCK

remember when the sun went down you could look up and see a silhouette of a female figure right through these granny dresses....

"In December, I got an early retirement from Cox [Communications]," says Gaskins. "I'm going to start playing more."

The Hugh Gaskins Band appears at O'Connell's on New Year's Eve. — Ken Leighton

#### Joker Holds Court in Studio Two weeks ago, Rookie Card's Adam Gimbel sent out a mass e-mail to friends and

acquaintances. He asked them RO to meet the band at Earthling Studios in El Cajon to sing, clap, and/or say something to record for the band's upcoming release. About a dozen people arrived to take Gimbel up on his offer of making a guest appearance. Gimbel asked everyone to step up to a microphone and

say a few words about their

first concert. Those who admitted to seeing performers such as Sha Na Na, Linda Ronstadt, Glen Campbell, or Rick Springfield sounded as though they were confessing to a crime. After the testimonials, headphones were handed out. Before the backups and handclaps were recorded, Gimbel lightened the mood and explained the ideas behind the lyrics; he convinced even the wallflowers that they needed to get in front of the microphone.

Along with Rookie Card, Gimbel brings together musicians for cover and parody bands that can make the most jaded scenester crack a smile: Cover Me Badd (Color Me Badd), Geezer (costumed old men who perform Weezer songs), Wookie Card (Rookie Card dressed as Star Wars characters), Rabbi Gimbel's Jews Explosion (Jon Spencer Blues Explosion), and Rookie Ricardo, which backed El Vez as a wedding band.



What's on Second? is scheduled for release in April 2006. — Larry Harmon

-

Neither Silent nor Violent After six years together, Morricone Youth, a NYC sextet of ex–San Diegans, has released its first CD.

Every Thursday **Every Wednesday** \$2 off HAN cocktails Tribe dnigh \$1 off shots \$2.50  $HAN^{s}$ Red Stripes \$4 off vases of Special Dj's ASIAN VODKA Kings Friday <u>Saturday</u> Present: @Large **New Years** "The Riddim Roll" Eve!!! Dub, Hip Hop RASHI DASH EYE **Drink Specials** & Disco Funk UNITE JESTER Special Di PERIL Hours: Sunday Lunch 12-3 m-f Call~ Every Tuesday Dinner 5:30-midnight 619.295.3272 Last call sushi 11:45 **Sean Perry** Go to<sup>^</sup> Closed 3964 Harney Street Specials: Visit<sup>^</sup> Electric Soul/ Late night happy hour Harneysushi.com Mash-up Industry Specials **Resos recommended** IN OLD TOWN!



Silenzio Violento is full of sounds that recall noir thrillers, monster movies, and spaghetti westerns. Though reminiscent of work done by cinematic composers Lalo Schifrin, Henry Mancini, and Ennio Morricone, the tracks are originals.

the band's decision to write originals.

"This guy approached us, kinda drunk, raving about the music; said he was an in-house engineer at Electric Lady [the NYC studio built in the '60s by Jimi Hendrix], he had the keys, and he'd love to record us for fun after-hours. But his enthusiasm waned when he found out we did all covers, and he asked, 'Have you guys written any originals?' 'We can,' we told him. So, turns out the guy was for real, we wrote a bunch of originals, and eventually he tells us, 'Okay, come down this weekend, studio's free, let's do



EVERYTHING'S RIGHT WITH THE YOUTH TODAY

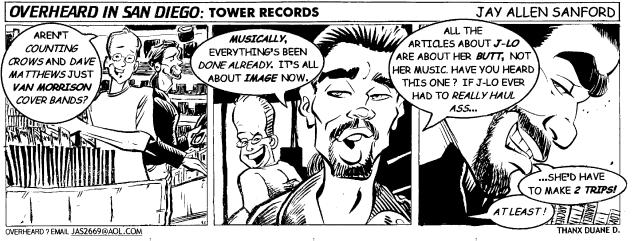
"We have all these recordings of us doing actual soundtrack stuff, which we've played around town for years," says guitarist Devon Goldberg, who founded M.Y. in 1999, a year after moving to New York from S.D. He'd gone to college here and played in Creedle, Rust, and the Holy Love Snakes. "But part of the reason we never [issued the recordings] is, by law you have to pay mechanical royalties on somebody else's compositions.... At eight cents or more a track, if you have ten covers and release even just a thousand CDs, that's at least another \$800 you have to come up with.

After a gig in Brooklyn last year, an encounter catalyzed

San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

it' — but it turns out Dave Matthews showed up to do some vocal mixing and it never happened. After a couple of these false alarms, we decided to record the new stuff elsewhere.'

Goldberg also plays in NYC rock trio Pretendo with fellow M.Y. member John Castro. Castro moved from S.D. in 2000, after years manning the bass in the Rugburns (for which he still comes West to do reunion shows). Morricone Youth drummer Greg O'Keefe played in aMiniature while he lived in S.D. during the '90s. Vocalist Dreiky Caprice, who joined M.Y. in 2003, was known for vears as one of three drummers in San Diego's



intended to dance to."

The lawsuit claims Gates

told the dance team they could

not perform "because of the

whole Christian issue." The

dancers — some of whom

reportedly cried when told

onstage - are alleged to be

"impermissible viewpoint-

based discrimination against

forum." The plaintiffs, backed

Association, request a jury trial

- Jay Allen Sanford

religious speech in a public

and are seeking unspecified

When Cobain Roamed

the Earth Twelve years ago

played the Sports Arena. The

source of two widely circulated

bootleg albums: Smells Like TJ

captures all 100 minutes onto

today (12/29/93), Nirvana

band's 24-song set was the

by the American Family

damages.

they wouldn't be allowed

victims of Chula Vista's

defunct Crash Worship. Morricone Youth plays the Belly Up Tavern on Friday, December 30.

– David Stampone

#### Fan Power "I started off with no idea of what's involved in putting on a concert," says Debbie Siegelman, "but [Dougie

Maclean] hasn't been in San Diego since a 1998 show at the La Paloma Theatre, and I wanted to see him.'

Siegelman is such a fan, she contacted the Celtic singer/songwriter through a publicist. She says she will front around \$6000 to bring Maclean's solo show to the 492-seat Sherwood Auditorium in La Iolla on February 12.

"The hall wanted \$1500...the North Park Theatre has 700 seats, and they wanted \$2500 to \$3000 for a whole night, and Symphony Hall was asking \$20,000."

Siegelman won't disclose how much she'll pay Maclean, but the musician requires a \$1500 deposit. And, she says, "I'm still looking into insurance. The permits are covered by the venue, and Ticketmaster takes their fees off the top." With only about 25 tickets sold at \$29 each in the days before Christmas, she says, "His shows usually sell

out, so I think I'll do okay...at least I'll probably be able to get him to do a few of my favorite songs by request." – Jay Allen Sanford

#### **No Break for Hip-Hop**

An incident at a recent holiday program in Chula Vista has resulted in a lawsuit against the city. On December 3, recreation department supervisor John Gates allegedly prevented a Christian



LAWSUIT THREAT TRUMPS REASON FOR SEASON

hip-hop dance group from performing. The plaintiffs six minors, some parents, and a dance instructor — allege the church-sponsored dancers, aged 8 to 12, "were not allowed to perform because of their T-shirts [with crosses and 'Jesus Dancer' logos] and the Christian theme music they



NIRVANA...ALL BUSINESS a Hi8 master, while Pissongs is missing most of the unidentified mystery finale. After the third song, "Breed," bassist Krist Novoselic told the crowd, "Nice to be playing San Diego, hometown of Eddie Vedder.' After covering Bowie's "Man Who Sold the World," Novoselic asked, "Who here is from San Ysidro?" Two songs later, he continued, "We used to play here in San Diego, we used to play, like, the Casbah and Iguanas, where you have to wait at the McDonald's in San Ysidro because the federales were on the payroll to let you cross the province.' — Jay Allen Sanford

**CONTRIBUTORS** William Crain, Dave Good, Jeremiah Griffey, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Mary Montgomery, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford





San Diego *Reader* December 29, 2005 **89** 



# **Insomniac Minstrel**

"The previous night I had a migraine headache and had taken one too many Vicodin..."

INTERVIEW

he problem with music is musicians" is Aaron Bowen's motto on his page at mvspace.com.

He took up the violin in the first grade, but the guitar became his instrument of choice.

Aaron suffered a work-related injury in 1999, severing tendons in his right hand. After several surgeries and a lot of physical therapy, MICHAEL HEMMINGSON he regained 40 percent movement in his right thumb. Aaron had to relearn the guitar and come up with his own technique and

hung up the electric for the acoustic. Aaron often performs at Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company.

#### TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

"My biggest problem is trying to keep my energy level up...I feel like I need to be pushed. If you put me onstage every night with people that could kick my ass, I could give 110 percent. When I play with people I look up to as artists, I feel like I play a lot better."

#### **INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT?**

"I have a Dana Bourgeois acoustic guitar, a Northwood 12-fret 000 acoustic, a custom handmade Tele, a 1923 tenor banjo, 1930s Electromuse lap steel, a cheap \$100 Martin knockoff (one of my faves), a 1970s Japanese P-Bass copy, and an autoharp.'

#### DREAM INSTRUMENT AND GIG DREAMS?

"My dream instrument is definitely a clarinet (and the ability to play it). I don't dream about gigs, but sometimes I write music in my dreams, or dream about writing songs, but I rarely re-

member them when I wake up. Actually I don't dream much at all because I hardly ever sleep. I'm an insomniac."

#### **BEST AND WORST GIGS?**

"[The best was] when I was invited to play at Grossmont College. I thought I was going to be playing for the recording class, but when I got there they had a stage set up in the middle of the quad. The previous night I had a migraine headache and had taken one too many Vicodin to knock it out. I was a mess that morning. When I started playing there were approximately 20 people; by the middle of my first song there were roughly 200. They stayed for my short set and then dispersed. My worst gig was definitely at the Mint in Hollywood. It went something like this: Gas, \$20; lunch, \$10; playing to a room of 30 people who wouldn't listen to me even when I screamed in the microphone, priceless.'

#### **BRUSH WITH THE FAMOUS?**

"I seem to meet a lot of famous people under the strangest circumstances. I went to see Rufus Wainwright when he opened for Tori Amos a

few years back. After his set I ran into him in the lobby. He invited me backstage, where he proceeded to hit on me. Let's just say that I like his music a lot, but I don't want to date him."

#### **BEST FAN STORY?**

"I was scheduled to play a show and put it on a website. Somebody contacted me and said they liked my sound clip and wanted to buy my CD (this was before I had a CD). The show got canceled, but I ended up meeting [the interested person] Kris at another one of my shows. I gave her a demo CD, and ever since then she's been my guinea pig for all my new songs, and boy, am I glad to have met her.'

#### GINGER OR MARY ANN?

"If my memory serves me correctly, Ginger is the debutante and Mary Ann is the farm girl, right? Since I'm not big on high-maintenance dames, I'll take the farm girl.'

#### TOP FIVE END-OF-THE-WORLD CDs?

1. The Beatles, Magical Mystery Tour. "'I Am the Walrus,' 'Fool on the Hill,' and 'Strawberry Fields Forever' - need I say more?" 2. The Band, "The Brown Album." "They are one of my favorite bands of all time, and the album is a timeless masterpiece. It feels like a piece of American history.'

3. Stevie Wonder, Songs in the Key of Life. "I like



Aaron Bowen

to think of it as songwriting that is bigger than one man.

4. Paul Simon, Negotiations and Love Songs. "I know it's a best-of CD .... "

5. "Choosing a final CD sucks. I'm going to have to say Rufus Wainwright's self-titled first album. I love that disc." ■





San Diego *Reader* December :29, , 2005



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#### **EXTENSION 4000**

#### THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

#### THURSDAY

Reverend Horton Heat: House of Blues, Thursday, December 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

#### FRIDAY

**The Rugburns** [263]: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, December 30, 143

VantaVâS

South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497. Common: House of Blues, Friday,

December 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

#### SATURDAY

Karl Denson's Tiny Universe: 'Canes, Saturday, December 31, 3105 Ocean Front Walk. 858-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

Chris Isaak [466]: House of Blues, Saturday, December 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.



#### UPCOMING CONCERTS

#### JANUARY

Los Lobos [476]: House of Blues, Friday, January 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**Eldar:** Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, Thursday, January 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. 619-224-3577.

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.

#### Acoustic Music San Diego, Wednesday, January 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176 Disturbed: House of Blues

The John Jorgenson Quintet:

Wednesday, January 18, 1055 Fifth



#### BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Montreal's Wolf Parade came together quickly in 2003, when guitarist Dan Boeckner and keyboardist Spencer Krug landed a gig opening for Arcade Fire — even though they didn't really have a band. They grabbed a friend, wrote some songs, and had a couple of practice sessions. The result prompted Toronto's Globe and Mail newspaper to posit: "Grab any three people in Montreal, put them together in a room with instruments, and you'll get a great band."

And, as it turned out, Wolf Parade's debut album, Apologies to the Queen Mary, came out in the midst of an unprecedented craze for Canadian indie rock. With every-

Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Disturbed: House of Blues Thursday, January 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Pennywise [268] and No Use For a Name [216]: 4th & B, Thursday, January 19, 345 B Street, downto 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Eliza Gilkyson [504]: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, January 20, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Pennywise [268] and No Use For a Name [216]: Soma, Friday, January 20, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San

Gilmore Girls going nuts about Arcade Fire, and with the press buzzing about Toronto's Broken Social Scene (and their many side projects and related artists) and Vancouver's New Pornographers (with even more side projects and related artists), the Great White North was the place to be from in 2005.

one from David Bowie to the

Beyond that, Wolf Parade owes a debt to Washington state's Modest Mouse, another band that had a lot of attention in 2005. Modest Mouse's Isaac Brock brought the Canadians to the attention

of Sub Pop Records and helped with the recording of Apologies. Later, Arcade Fire brought Wolf Parade on tour as its opening act. Both moves were lucky breaks, but they made it all too easy to point out that Wolf Parade sounds a lot like a cross between

> 25, 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.

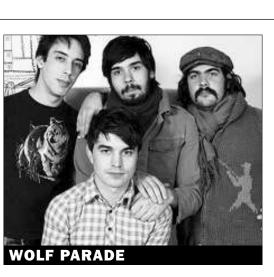
The Dead Kennedys: House of Blues, Sunday, January 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**Cake** [168]: House of Blues, Monday, January 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

**The Violent Femmes:** House of Blues, Tuesday, January 31, 1055 Fifth



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Arcade Fire and Modest Mouse. That may be a difficult trap to get out of. For now it's not a bad trap to be in

WOLF PARADE. The Casbah. Monday. January 2, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. Sold out.

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

Jars of Clay [475]: House of Blues, Thursday, February 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Alex de Grassi: Acoustic Music San Diego, Thursday, February 9, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

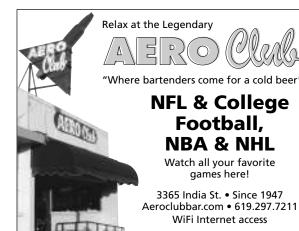
Little Feat [459]: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, February 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497.

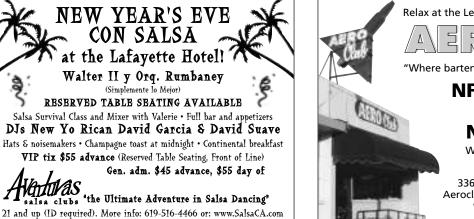
Aerosmith [529] and Lenny Kravitz: San Diego Sports Arena, Friday, February 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. 619-220-8497.

**Jeff Tweedy:** Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, February 11, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500 or 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,





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The Cannonball-Coltrane Project, led by charismatic LA bassist Luther Hughes, pays tribute to the original, legendary 1959 album.

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San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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Diego. 619-226-7662 or 619-220-8497. Raphael Saadiq: House of Blues,

Sunday, January 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 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. Dramarama and Thomas Dolby:

House of Blues, Wednesday, January



San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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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.

Nada Surf [194]: House of Blues, Tuesday, February 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Robyn Hitchcock [509]: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, February 23, 143 South Cedros Avenue. 858-481-9022 or 619-220-8497.

"San Diego Brazil Carnaval 2006": 4th & B, Saturday, February 25, 345 B Street, downtown 619-231-4343 or 619-220-849

Sinead O'Connor [116]: House of Blues, Sunday, February 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Tom Russell: Acoustic Music San Diego, Sunday, February 26, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

#### 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.

David Gray [610]: Copley Symphony Hall, Monday, March 20, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-220-8497 or 619-220-8497.

Kem: 4th & B, Thursday, March 23, 345 B Street, downtow 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Chuck Pyle: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, March 24, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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.

Toni Braxton: Pala Events Center, Friday, April 7, 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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Press the the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 4002 for alternative rock). At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performer you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

## EXTENSION 4002

ALTERNATIVE American Filter: Dreamstreet Anavryn: The Jumping Turtle Autobomb: Soma The Bartender's Bible: The Casbah Bleeding Through: Soma Broken Silence: 'Canes A Dead Giveaway: The Jumping Turtle d.fRost [389]: 'Canes



Johnny Different: Blind Melons Doomsday Device: Brick By Brick Eighteen Visions: Soma False Image: The Jumping Turtle The Farmers: Belly Up Tavern 51 Guns: 'Canes Fishbone [177]: 'Canes The Gizzards: The Rhythm Lounge Headtrip Superstar: Blind Melons The Hogs: Dreamstreet I Am Ghost: Soma Idle Train [112]: Blind Melons Intake: Brick By Brick Lower Definition: Soma Lucy's Falling: Lestat's Coffeehouse Anya Marina [118]: Lestat's

Morricine Youth: Belly Up Tavern The Mother Hips: The Casbah Negative Filter: Dreamstreet Of Hearts & Shadows: Soma Off Track: The Jumping Turtle Gregory Page [186]: The Ould Sod Pro Am Racer: Lestat's Coffeehouse RDG: Dreamstreet

The Reverend Horton Heat: House of Blues Right Above the Platypus:

Dreamstreet
The Rugburns [263]: Belly Up

Tavern Saosin: Soma Scary Kids Scaring Kids: Soma Shea's Rebellion: The Rhythm

Lounge Shot Down Shy: 'Canes Sinisin: Brick By Brick Spoken Gun [131]: 'Canes

The Sweet & Tender Hooligans: The Casbah

#### Switchblade Affair: The Jumping Turtle

The Trusted: Dreamstreet Thee Corsairs: House of Blues

Thee Corsairs: House of Throwdown: Soma

Variable: 'Canes Chad VenGaalen: The Casbah

The Vision of a Dying World: Brick By Brick

The Walking [142]: Lestat's Coffeehouse WFO: Dreamstreet

Zero 2 None: Blind Melons

### EXTENSION 4003

## ROCK

A Kaos: Dreamstreet Agave: Tiki House Aquatribe: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub The Blasphemous Guitars: The Casbah The Blasters [478]: Belly Up Tavern Blown Fuse: Second Wind (San Carlos) Bottomline [597]: Woody's Sports

Rip Carson: Tio Leo's Lounge Custard Pie: Leucadian Bar Disaster Magnet: Fannie's Nightclub

Drunk Poets Society: Winstons Earthshine: Dreamstreet

El Fantastic Duo: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

**The Electric Waste Band:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, Winstons

The Experiments [419]: The Rhythm Lounge

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DUCTION ALINET GYONATION

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The Fall Guys: McP's Irish Pub and Grill Faye: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub Fever: Blind Melons

Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub

Mike Gardner: Mas Fina Cantina The Gooses: O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub Happy Ren Hill: O'Connell's Pub

Jightclub The Taylor Harvey Band: Don's

Cocktail Lounge Hog: 'Canes

The Hosty Duo: Blind Melons Huge Rooster: Winstons

Iron Workers — Local 69: The Jumping Turtle

Chris Isaak [466]: House of Blues The Jefferson Jay Band:

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub Jihad: Brick By Brick

Johnny Sketch & the Dirty Notes: Winst

Leo Rising: Island Sports & Spirits Married by Elvis: Blind Melons

Billy Midnight [414]: The Casbah

The Monsters of Rock: The Driftwood Loung

Dennis Moore: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Nick ATeen: Dreamstreet

Nite Hawk: Carvers

Nude Blues: Bahia Belle Cruise The Pricks: Brick By Brick The Prime Ministers: Surf N'Saddle

Private Domain [489]: Dick's Last

The Rat City Riot: The Jumping The Restless Natives: Covote Bar and Grill Reward Drive System: Blind Melons

Robot Aroma: Blind Melons The Rock Star: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Rockford: Dreamstreet J.D. Romance: Dreamstreet Ron's Garage: Island Sports &

Spirits, Dick's Last Resort

Saint Dog: Brick By Brick Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee) The Shooters: Brick By Brick

Silverside: Dreamstreet Sleeves: Blind Melons

The Stilettos: McP's Irish Pub and Grill, Riley's Sports Bar

The Stone Senses: Brick By Brick Straight Six: Dick's Last Resort 34 Below [437]: 'Canes The Truckee Brothers [541]: Lestat's Coffee Tumblin' Dice: Pal Joev's

Uptown Groove: Boar Cross'n The Wild Ones: Second Wind (San Carlos) Wolf Parade: The Casbah

#### EXTENSION 4004

#### **POP / TOP 40**

B Natural: Bahia Belle Cruise Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel The Love Rangers: The Alley Rick Lyon: The Imperial House Makai: Humphrey's Pop Rocks: Jimmy Love's



#### BY DAVE GOOD

At first, Chris Isaak came on like an heir to the crown of Roy Orbison, who bested the Beatles with a number-one hit in 1964 during the British Invasion that stunned so much of American pop. In his day, Orbison could emote in three octaves and often lingered in the high range. Isaak's got that. His effortless falsetto streams like a man in search of his anima. But there's Isaak's image: pure Ricky Nelson '50s teen idol rockabilly. To me, Isaak had the countenance of a modern media package made of past heroes. I had a hard time buying in. At arm's length, Isaak was surreal, as if an actor had been hired to play the role of Chris Isaak, pop star.

It came as little surprise later when something like that actually happened: Isaak

Rising Star: Humphrey's The Wrecking Crew: The Jumping

## **EXTENSION 4005**

#### JAZZ / BIG BAND

The B-Side Players [649]: 4th & B The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restauran

The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies

music. Isaak's first major hit soldiers on as a staple of soft-rock stations across the country. "Wicked Game" is a trip through the ice caverns of the relationship double negative: I don't want to fall in love because I don't want to break up. It has the chilled sound of a man walking on his own grave. "Wicked Game" appealed to David Lynch, who used an instru-mental version in his weird psychodrama Wild at Heart, Isaak's dark riff lingering in one's

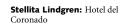
> Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect John Giulino: Pasquale on Prospect The Jim Guerin Duo: Jack & Giulio's Italian Restaurant

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Loung

Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra: Winston Daniel Jackson: Hotel del

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Brian Levy & His Quintet: Dizzy's



self to be disarmingly funny. "Did you get that

jar of pickles I sent you?" he asked an inter-

viewer once. "No? Darn. The postman must

CHRIS ISAAK, House of Blues, Saturday,

December 31, 9 p.m. 619-299-2583 or

Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado Luna Llena: The Calypso Cafe

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's Chuck McPherson's Funky Drummer Orchestra: Winstons

Charles McPherson Sr.: Winstons Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet [660]: Hotel del Coronado, Croce's Jazz Bar

Jose Molina Serrano: Humphrey's David Negrete & His Quartet: Dizzy's

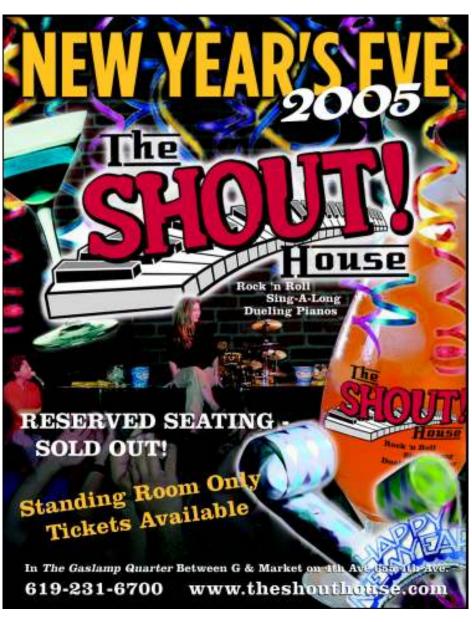
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have kiped 'em."

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subconscious long after the ending credits had rolled. By contrast, I found Isaak him-Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado John Cain [703]: Elario's Bistro &

Croce's Jazz Bar Gilbert Castellanos [667]:

Jesse Davis: Humphrey's

Coronado

Halina: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel









played himself in his eponymous

TV sitcom on Showtime a

few years back. I never

saw it but was told the

plot was crafted around

the rock-star-next-door image.

With Isaak's acting career gain-

ing momentum on the side,

my impression of a Ricky

Nelson redux was set. One

could almost imagine the

theme to Ozzie and Harriet

saving grace lies in his

But, like Nelson, Isaak's

playing in the background.

Sky Lounge, Hotel del Coronado

Excelsi

Jorge Camberos & His Quintet:

Jo Dark: The German-American Societies

Karl Denson's Tiny Universe:

Mike Nelson: The Lodge at Torrey Pines, Qwiigs Bar & Grill The Old Town Jazz Band: The

Metaphor Coffeehouse The David Patrone Quartet [647]: Croce's Jazz Bar, Riley's Sports Bar

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel Carlos Rull: Bistro 221

Richard Samuels: The Calypso Cafe

Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce's Jazz Bar

**Reggie Smith & Pressed for** Time: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's **The Stage 4 Jazz Quintet:** Buon Giorno Restaurant

Tokeli & the Ed Kornhauser Trio: The Laurel Restaurant and Bar

The Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet: Coronado Island Marriott The Jaime Valle Quartet [704]:

Tutto Mare The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson

Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar & American Grill Jason Weber: Mister A's

**EXTENSION 4006** 

#### **REGGAE / SKA** The Jerry McCann Band: Coyote Semisi & Fulabula [747]: The Calypso Cafe Stranger: Winstons

#### **EXTENSION 4007**

#### COUNTRY

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club Cash'd Out: Blind Melons Pirate Radio: Mulvanev's Southbound Jonny: Renegade Inn

#### **EXTENSION 4008**

#### ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Brian Benham: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub Harold & Chris: Blarney Stone Pub The Hatchet Brothers: The Ould Sod

Andrew Jackson: Brick By Brick The Justin Brothers: McP's Irish Pub and Gril

My Boy Kevin: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

Sean O'Donnell: Blarney Stone Pub Steve Poltz [815]: Belly Up Tavern

Steve Poltz & the Rugburns:

Primasi: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

Shana: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Dave Wilson: Hennessey's Tavern Wood'n Lips: Borders Books and

Music (El Cajon)

#### **EXTENSION 4009**

#### **BLUES / SOUL**

The Backwater Blues Band: The Jumping Turtle

Bad Habit: Neimans Bar and Grill The Bayou Brothers [948]: Patrick's II

Tommy Budd & Windy City [957]: Island Sports & Spirits

Charles Burton Blues Band [931]: The Kraken **Tomcat Courtney & the Blues** 

Dusters [932]: Hancock Cafe, Chateau Orleans The Fremonts [923]: Tiki House

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen [912]: Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille The Hugh Gaskins Band [944]:

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub Chris James & Blue Four: Patrick's

Johnny "B" Blues: Coyote Bar and Grill

Kalama Blue: Blind Melons The Kingfish Turner Blues Band: The Kraken

Lady Star and Her Blues Revue [977]: Princess of Wales

Lafayette & the Leasebreakers [930]: Patrick's II Michele Lundeen [952]:

Humphrey's The Bill Magee Blues Band [947]: Patrick's II

Mojo Rising: Patrick's II Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe Plato Soul: The Kraken

Len Rainey & the Midnight Players /921/: Patrick's II. Humphrey's

#### Scary Larry and the Boogie Monster: Princess of Wal

Dean Smith: The Calypso Cafe Soul Diego: Patrick's II 3 EZ Pieces: The Kraken Uncle Bob & the Earthmovers:

The Bonita Golf Club The Valtones: Los Cabos Mexican Mesquite Grill

Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill, The Gordon Biersch Brewery, Patrick's II

#### EXTENSION 4010

#### EVERYTHING ELSE

Armenta de San Diego: La Calima /984/: The Calypso Cafe The Capriccio String Quartet: Tutto Mare Common: House of Blues



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8 pm-12 am • Scorching Blues





Friday, December 30

9:30 pm-1:30 am • Dance & Disco



Saturday, December 31

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8 pm-12 am

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Sunday, January 1

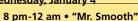
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Tuesday, January 3 9:30 pm-1 am • Chicago Blues

Len Rainey & The Midnight Players



Jesse Davis





**The Steely Damned** 

Saturday, January 7 9:30 pm

2 Shows: 8 & 10:30 pm

Friday, January 6

## Michael Burks Special Guest: Lady Star & Her Bustin' Loose Band



Thursday, January 12

2 shows: 7 & 9 pm • Reserved seating Award-winning Jazz Pianist Phenom Tickets now available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey's

Friday, January 13 – Coco Montoya Friday, January 20 – Rod Piazza

Friday, January 20 – Adrian Legg Friday, January 27 – Kenny Neal

Eldar

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#### **DJ EVENTS**

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**ZPM - LUNATIES** 

THE HERO

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If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or fax information to 619-881-2401 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Basis: Wednesdays, progressive house, breaks, and trance with guest DJs. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m; 21 and up. No cover. The Marin Lounge, 548 Fifth Avenue (below Tesoro Restaurant), downtown. 619-234-5670.

Club '80s: Thursdays, new wave electro, and new romantic with DJs Bryan Pollard and Sickboy. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m; 21 and up. Shooterz, 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Club Notorious: Sundays, 6 a.m. to 1 a.m., breaks and house. Bacchus House, 3054 University Avenue, North Park. 619-299-2032.

Darkwave Garden: Wednesdays punk, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard, AryRose, and Synex 9 p.m. to 2 a.m; 21 and up. Kadan,

4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

**Deep:** Thursdays, drum 'n' bass with DJs Wallkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Honey Bee Hive, 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown, 619-517-2030.

**Dig:** Thursdays, house music with DJs Mark E Quark, Red Sonya, and Andy Boswell. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, middletown, 619-543-0933.

**Flying Bridge:** Third Saturday of the month, house, breaks, and 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 reggaeton. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Liquid: Fridays, funk, downtempo and drum 'n' bass; 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Marin Lounge, 548 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5670.

MixLab: Thursdays, DJ Dex spins an eclectic listening session: alternative hip-hop, urban soul, and Latin grooves. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. Candelas, 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-702-4455.

**Moondoggies Pacific Beach:** Saturdays, Saturday Night Mix, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Enigma and Cisco. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

One Nation: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, new wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

Red C Lounge: Thursdays, Bounce Rock Skate, roller skating jams, crunk, and fun with DJs @Large and Onesix. Fridays, Choice Fridays, deep house music with Dustin Brown. Saturdays, soulful house with Mark Alan. Sundays, drum 'n' bass with Calculon. Tuesdays, groove Tuesdays, groovy house with Red Sonya. Wednesdays, Hump Wednesdays. No cover; 21 and up. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2838.

Sabbat: Second Saturday of the month, Rich's, 1051 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-2195.



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Fourth Saturday of the month, the Flame, 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-295-4163. DJs Adam Atom, Dekay, and Robin Roth, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.

**Solo Para Mujeres:** Wednesdays, reggaeton, rock en Español, and 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. 619-574-0744.

**Transport:** First and third Saturdays of the month, Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

CLUBS	BY AREA
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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. Thursday, 9 p.m., the Blasters and the Farmers, alternative rock. Friday, 9 p.m., the Rugburns, Steve Poltz, and Morricine Youth, acoustic/pop/alternative. Saturday, 9 p.m., Matisyahu.

Bistro 221, 221 Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-737-7398. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Carlos Rull*, jazz.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Friday, *Uptown Groove*, classic rock.

**The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe**, Flower Hill Mall, 1-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., *Primasi*, Eastern European folk.

**Bub's Whiskey Dive,** 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-BUBS. Call club for information.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Luna Llena*, Latin jazz. Friday, *Semisi & Fulabula*, reggae. Saturday, *Jeff Moore* and *Dean Smith*, blues. Monday, *Richard Samuels*, jazz. Tuesday, *Calima*, flamenco. Wednesday, call club for information.

**Carvers,** 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *Nite Hawk*, classic rock.

**Cheers**, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Steve Poltz & the Rugburns*, acoustic/alternative/pop.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday. 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Billy Watson*, blues, 10 p.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Jerry McCann Band*, reggae; 10:30 p.m., DJ event. Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *the Restless Natives*, rock/reggae. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Johnny* "B" Blues, blues.

**Game Time Tavern**, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock. Tuesday, *Bradley Leighton*, R&B/jazz/dance.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/alternative. Thursday, Switchblade Affair. Friday, False Image, Off Track, A Dead Giveaway, and Anavryn. Saturday, the Backwater Blues Band and IronWorkers — Local 69. Sunday, the Wrecking Crew and the Rat City Riot.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, 3 EZ Pieces, swing. Friday, the Kingfish Turner Blues Band. Saturday, Plato Soul. Monday, Charles Burton Blues Band.

Leucadian Bar, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *Custard Pie*, classic rock.

**Longshot Saloon,** 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Call club for information.

Los Cabos Mexican Mesquite Grill, 12955 El Camino Real, Suite G7, Del Mar. 858-792-2226. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Valtones*, blues. **Mas Fina Cantina,** 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock.

**McCabe's Beach Club**, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the California Rangers*, country.

**The Metaphor Coffeehouse**, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Thursday, 6:30 p.m., *the Old Town Jazz Band*. Friday, 8 p.m., *MC Refuge*. Saturday, call club for information.

Neimans Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday, 8 p.m., *Bad Habit*, eclectic blues/rock. Saturday, call club for information.

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, *Nude Bar-B-Q*. Saturday, *the*  Prime Ministers, rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m., open mike. Woody's Sports Bar, 2329 South

**Woody's Sports Bar**, 2329 South Centre City Parkway, Escondido. 760-735-8599. Friday and Saturday, *Bottomline*, classic rock.

#### BEACHES

Blind Melons, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Hosty Duo*. Friday, *Idle Train*. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Kalama Blue*, blues; 9 p.m., *Cash'd Out* and *Married by Elvis*.



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Monday, Johnny Different. Wednesday, Reward Drive System, Fever, Sleeves, and Robot Aroma

'Canes. 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Broken Silence, 34 Below, Variable, and Shot Down Shy. Friday, Fishbone, d.fRost, 51 Guns and Hog. Saturday, Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, jazz, with On the One.

Chateau Orleans, 926 Turquois Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-6744. Thursday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Tomcat Courtney & the Blues Dusters, blues.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Music is alternative/rock. Thursday, *A Kaos*, NickATeen, and Earthshine, Friday, 6:30 p.m., the Trusted, Right Above the Platypus, WFO, and RDG. Saturday, 7 p.m., Silverside, Negative Filter, American Pharaoh, J.D. Romance, Rockford, and special guest.

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, internationa dance music

Excelsior, 1025 Prospect Street #201 (second floor), La Jolla. 858-454-8092. Friday, hip-hop. Saturday, DJ event, call club for information. Wednesday, Gilbert Castellanos, jazz.

Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla), 909 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-7625. Call club for information.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847, Friday, Dave Wilson, acoustic. Saturday, My Boy Kevin, acoustic.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to

10:30 p.m., Armenta de San Diego, world lounge music. Sunday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Rick

**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.

Pacific Beach Bar and Grill, 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278. Call club for

**Pasquale on Prospect**, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Friday, Nick Fiore, John Giulino, and Dave Scott, jazz.

Qwiigs Bar and Grill, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1101. Thursday and Sunday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz guitar. Friday and Saturday, live rock

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, the Fremonts, blues. Saturday, Agave, rock.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. Thursday, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Chuck McPherson's Funky Drummer Orchestra featuring Charles McPhersor Sr., jazz/blues/hip-hop. Friday, Kumha Dawa and Middle Earth Saturday, Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra, jazz. Monday, Drunk Poets Society and Electric Waste Band. Tuesday, Johnny Sketch & the Dirty Notes. Wednesday, Huge Rooster.

#### SAN DIEGO

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. Call club for information.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departs 6:30 p.m. Friday, B Natural, Top 40. Saturday, Nude Blues, classic rock.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Harold & Chris, Irish folk. Sunday, open mike. Monday, Sean O'Donnell and Allison Gill. Tuesday, Irish jam



>hometown CDs

Artist: Christopher Cash Album: Hollywood Mirage

#### Label: self-released

Songs: 1) Flicker of Light 2) Hollywood Mirage 3) Pardon Me 4) Cynthia's Smile 5) Kithicor Wood 6) Broken Sky 7) Under the Table 8) Legends Lost 9) Brace for Collision 10) Precarious World 11) Taxi Driver 12) Unpracticed Pose 13) Butterfly 14) Evergreen 15) Electronic Religion

Extra info: Christopher Cash plays regularly at Twiggs and O'Connell's

Website: www.christophercash.com

The title track, "Hollywood Mirage," is an upbeat "coastal" song, featuring saxophone and bongo drums, similar to any Jimmy Buffett ballad. The lyrics, however, are tragic

session. Wednesday, call club for

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE.

Music is alternative/rock. Friday, the Pricks, Saint Dog, Stone Senses, Intake,

and Sinisin. Monday, the Vision of a

Dying World, Andrew Jackson, Jihad,

The Gordon Biersch Brewerv.

5010 Mission Center Road, San Dieg 619-688-1120. Friday, Billy Watson,

Hancock Cafe, 3554 Hancock

Street, Point Loma 619-296-2060

Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Tomcat

Courtney & the Blues Dusters, blues.

and Doomsday Device. Tuesday,

Project 44 and Digital Mindy.

information

blues

and dark. "She crashed through the glass in an ocean of red / When she saw her face she put a gun to her head / If she couldn't be beautiful she'd rather be dead." Peppy, ain't it? Steel drums aren't fea-

Harry's Bar & American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252, Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-299-2583. Thursday, the Reverend Horton Heat and Thee Corsairs, alternative, Friday, Common. Saturday, Chris Isaak, rock. Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241

Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Michele Lundeen*, blues. Friday, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Makai, disco/dance Saturday, Makai and Rising Star Sunday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Jose

tured on the song, although they would not feel out of place if the song were an instrumental and without the noir lyrics.

"Cynthia's Smile" is a shift to a slower, contemplative kind of song without the sax, organ, or bongos, but with a piano and strings section. With a little work, this could be a quiet, acoustic piece, but as it is the vocals are contrived, like a lounge singer.

Right after "Cynthia's Smile" ends, the album jumps into an annoying Puff the Magic Dragon song about Kithicor Wood. Accompanied by cheesy organ and acoustic guitar, the teenage fanfiction lyrics speak of a wood where "dark elf thieves" and the "undead" menace our heroes in this "online fan-

Molina Serrano, jazz. Tuesday, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., Len Rainey & the

Midnight Players, blues. Wednesday,

8 p.m. to midnight, Jesse Davis, jazz.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia

Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525.

Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center

Road, Mission Valley, 619-291-8635

**Restaurant,** 2391 San Diego Avenue, Old Town. 619-294-2074.

Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Jim Guerin Duo*, jazz. Wednesday, 8 p.m.

to 10 p.m., Bob MacLeod, pianist.

11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

Call club for informatio

Jack & Giulio's Italian

Christopher Cash

tasy." I'm not sure, but I think this is about a video game or some such terrible crap.

This CD seems as if it's trying to blend different elements: '80s pop with '60s folk? Calypso and dead porn stars? Acoustic lounge? The result is either immeasurable irony or a really bad CD destined for use as a coaster.

#### 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

The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-543-0933. Thursday, DJ event, house music

Lestat's Coffeehouse, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Friday, *the Truckee* Brothers, rock. Saturday, Anya Marina, alternative/pop/folk. Monday, open mike. Wednesday Lucy's Falling, the Walking, and Pro Am Racer, alternative.

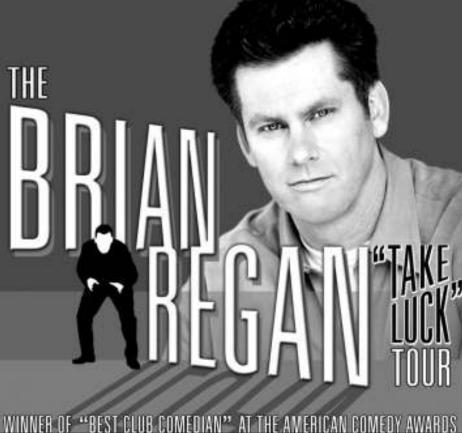
Mister A's, 2550 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-239-1377. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9:30 p.m. Jason Weber, jazz saxophone.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday,

Irish MUBLIN SOUAL Born & Gull Athblian shona duit! Sláinte! **NEW YEAR** RISH **IRISH DANCE CABARET & LIVE IRISH MUSIC** Four-course gourmet dinner A glass of Sterling Vineyard wine An after-dinner aperitif & a Champagne toast First Seating 6:30-8:30 pm rish eyes are smiling! Second Seating П 9 pm-12 am per person Tax & gratuity not included. Call for **Reservations & Info:** (619) 239-2499 **LIVE IRISH BAGPIPERS** Absolutely EVERYTHING shipped from Ireland, including some of the staff! Best Irish Pub S.D. City's Best Bar Best Corned Beef, Most Irish of Irish Pubs SATURDAY, JANUARY 7 SPRECKELS THEATRE

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## Times Square West Saturday - December 31, 2005 Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine

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What would New Year's Eve be without the famous Times Square West Midnight Spectacular and Ball Drop - a 15-minute choreographed show that includes pyrotechnics, lasers, video screens, music and 500 pounds of confetti shot from 24 cannons as the Countdown Ball lowers from the 16th floor of the Hyatt Regency La Jolla.

Individual tickets include unlimited access to the event including five stages of entertainment, party favors, complimentary light hors d'oeuvres from 7 to 9 p.m., and the unbelievable outdoor Times Square West Midnight Ball Drop and laser light show. All attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

Call Times Square West today: (858) 552-6000 www.TimesSquareWest.com





9 p.m., the Electric Waste Band, classic rock. Saturday, the Jefferson Jay Band, the Gooses, Dennis Moore, the Hugh Gaskins Band, Aquatribe, and Happy Ren Hill, rock/blues.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Gregory Page*, acoustic/alternative Tuesday. traditional Irish jam session. Wednesday, the Hatchet Brothers, folk,

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday, Tumblin' Dice, rock/swing.

**The Rhythm Lounge**, 3048 Midway Drive, San Diego. 619-224-4835. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Experiments*, the Gizzards, and Shea's Rebellion, punk

Riley's Sports Bar, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635. Thursday, classic rock. Friday, 80s music. Saturday, house/hip-hop. Wednesday, the Stilettos, rockabilly.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos, 619-465-1730, Friday and Saturday, the Wild Ones, classic rock. Tuesday and Thursday, Blown Fuse and guests.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Saturday,

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**Of Montreal** 

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Friday, January 27

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**She Wants Revenge** 

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6 p.m., Saosin, Bleeding Through, Throwdown, Eighteen Visions, A Thorn for Every Heart, I Am Ghost, Scary Kids Scaring Kids, Lower Definition, Autobomb, and Of Hearts and Shadows, heavy rock/alternative.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, *Rip* Carson, rockabilly. Saturday, Jump Jones. Wednesday, the High Society Iazz Band.

Top of the Cove, 1216 Prospect Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-7779 Friday and Saturday, 7:30 pm, Kristi Rickert, piano.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Capriccio String Quartet*, classical music. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Quartet*, Brazilian and mainstream jazz.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee **Company,** 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., *Shana, the Rock* Star, and Brian Benham, acoustic/rock/folk.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* with vocalist Halina, jazz.

### DOWNTOWN

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, downtempo/swanky lounge.

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, Steve Brewer, acoustic.

**The Casbah**, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, One Nation under a Groove with DIs Bart Blackstone and Atari. Friday, the Sweet & Tender Hooligans and Blasphemous Guitars. Saturday, the Mother Hips, Billy Midnight, and the Bartender's Bible

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the David Patrone Quartet. Friday, Yavez. Saturday, call club for information. Monday, Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, Jorge Camberos

Croce's Top Hat Bar and Grille,

802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. Friday, *Fuzzy & the* Bluesmen. Saturday, call club for information.

& His Quintet.

Deco's, 731 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-696-DECO. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information



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Posh VIP booths & bottle service: call 619.231.4343, e-mail vipg4thandb.com





# Calendar

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, *Private Domain*, rock and roll. Saturday, *Straight Six*, rock. Tuesday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Wednesday, call club for information.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Friday, 8 p.m., David Negrete & His Quartet, jazz. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Brian Levy & His Quintet, jazz.

**4th & B,** 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Kinky* and *the B-Side Players*, Latin jazz.

**The Honey Bee Hive,** 1409 C Street, downtown. 619-702-6010. Friday and Saturday, live music. Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday, 6:15 p.m. to 10:45 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Pop Rocks*, '80s dance music. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, jazz/dance/Top 40.

**The Laurel Restaurant and Bar**, 505 Laurel Street (corner of Fifth and Laurel), downtown. 619-239-2222. Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Tokeli &*-the *Ed Kornhauser Trio*, classic jazz.

**On Broadway,** 615 Broadway Avenue, downtown. 619-231-0011. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, DJ events and live music.

**Onyx**, 852 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-235-6699. Call club for information.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Bill Magee Blues Band*. Friday, *Len Rainey & the Midnight Players*. Saturday, *Soul Diego*. Sunday, Mojo Rising. Monday, Red Lane. Tuesday, Bayou Brothers. Wednesday, Johnny V & the Usual Suspects.

Princess of Wales, 1665 India Street, downtown. 238-1266, Friday, Scary Larry and the Boogie Monsters, blues. Saturday, Lady Star and Her Blues Revue.

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, *Orquesta Guarare*, salsa. Friday, *DJ Hector*, Latin/Euro-house. Saturday, *DJ Joe*, Latin/Euro-house. Monday, *rock en español*. Tuesday, *Primo*, salsa.

**The Shout House,** 655 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Call club for information.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Fran Loskota*,





NFL Football all day New Year's Day



pop/jazz/Top 40. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Faith* Page, jazz.

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WILSON

4-8 PM: Free Local

Art Showcase

AM: PLAYOFF FOOTBALL

HOWARD

The Bonita Golf Club, 5540 Sweetwater Road, Bonita. 619-267 1103. Saturday, 9 p.m., Uncle Bob & the Earthmovers, blues.

**Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110** Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. 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.

Coronado Island Marriott, 2000 Second Street, Coronado, 619-435-3000. Friday, call club for



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information. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet.* 

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Rose Winters*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jim Gibson*.

Palm Court: Daytime entertainment. Music hours are from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Friday, Ray Briz. Saturday, Guillermo Espinal. Sunday, Joey West. Monday and Wednesday, Ray Briz. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet.

Palm Court: Evening entertainment. Music hours are from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday and Friday, *Ray Briz*. Saturday and Sunday, *Guillermo Espinal*. Monday through Wednesday. *Joev West*.

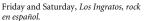
through Wednesday, Joey West. Prince of Wales: Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Shep Meyers Quartet. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Daniel Jackson. Crown Room: Saturday, 5 p.m. to

Crown Room: Saturday, 5 p.m. 9 p.m., *Ping Hu*, harpist. Sunday, noon to 7 p.m., *John Cain*.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Thursday, *Tommy Budd & Windy City*, blues. Friday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Saturday, *Leo Rising*, rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, the Justin Brothers, acoustic. Friday, the Stilettos, rockabilly. Saturday, the Fall Guys, rock.

**Over the Border,** 3008 Main Street, Chula Vista. 619-427-5889.



#### EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music, 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Thursday, 6:30 p.m., *Wood'n Lips*, folk/bluegrass.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

**Don's Cocktail Lounge**, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *the Taylor Harvey Band*, rock.

Driftwood, 9325 Mission Gorge Road, Santee. 619-562-2429. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *the Monsters of Rock*, rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Saturday, *Disaster Magnet*, 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.

**Mulvaney's**, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8550. Friday and Saturday, *Pirate Radio*, country rock.

**Renegade Inn**, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *Southbound Jonny*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.



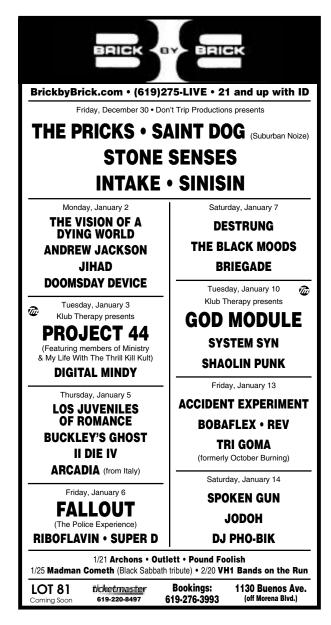
The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the *Reader's* website. • indicates North County.

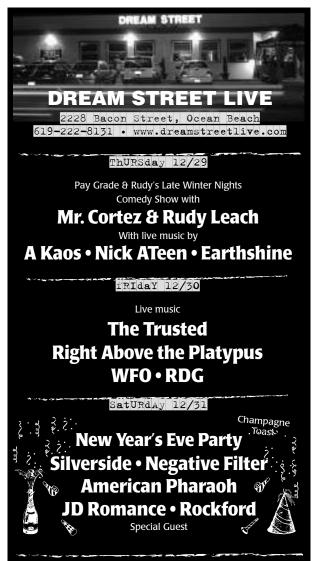
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Brick By Brick	2 for 1 admission
CA Express VIP Card	Free card
4th & B	2 free comedy tickets
In Cahoots	<u>\$1 off cover</u>
Jolt'n Joe's	Free pool
Longshot Saloon	\$2 off cover
Lucky 7 Match	\$5 off speed dating
McCabe's Beach Club	\$2 off admission
Patricks II	<u>2 for 1 cover</u>
Riley's Sports Bar	<u>1/2 off drink</u>
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# **Best Bites of 2005**

Another year, another hundred-plus restaurant meals under my belt — some great, some mediocre, and some so unspeakable they couldn't be reviewed while the libel laws stand.

This year I tackled a bunch of well-reputed "Gold Coast" restaurants that were last reviewed here before the turn of our century, to see if they could still cut the mustard (mainly, yes), along with some interesting new ones in that shining land beyond the Merge of Death. Some of the oldies (there and elsewhere) were true goodies. Roving chefs also kept me busy with revisits, and some of their "remade" restaurants reached new heights of performance. At the same time, many of the year's debuts have centered in and near the new downtown hotels and cater to conventioneers with pricey steaks, seafood, and cookie-cutter Cal-French-Mediterranean-Pacific Rim-influenced hotel menus. I never want to see another crab cake, Caesar salad, whatever-crusted seared ahi or molten chocolate cake again - unless, of course, they're *fabulous* crab cakes, etc.

Here, then, are the highlights of my year in dining. Just as last year, I can't and won't choose a single "Best Restaurant" or "Best Chef." There are too many varieties of restaurants and cuisines to make direct comparisons.

• Best New Restaurant: Magnolias (Market Creek Square, 342 Euclid Avenue, near Market Street, Lincoln Park, 619-262-6005). Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans? The Bushman went to Jackson Square and made big promises, but he and his buddies in Congress are still lollygagging about sending real money, while they throw \$5.6 billion a month at Iraq. (Latest promise is about two weeks' worth of the war budget to fix the levees. Five weeks' worth would actually do it.) What's endangered, among other cultural treasures, is America's most distinctive and exuberant cuisine, as so many line cooks and sous chefs were washed out of the Ninth Ward and can't come home again. So I'm glad that we have Bessie Johnson from Lake Charles, Louisiana, keeping it real here at Magnolias. In addition to great gumbos, scrumptious etouffée, and a perfect jambalaya - not to mention a fabulous crab cake — she turns out the most delicious Southern-fried chicken I've tasted anywhere.

• Best Remake: Nine Ten Restaurant (Grande



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Colonial Hotel, 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400). This was the site of the most exciting, exquisite dinner I ate this year. Two major changes transformed the restaurant: Competent new people, from the house man-

ager on down, were hired for the front of the house, replacing the former crew of headless chickens. Even more important, ingenious

pastry chef Jack Fisher rejoined the kitchen, and his collaboration with executive chef Jason Knibb has been the catalyst for extraordinary inventiveness. For example, last summer, Fisher's house-made mozzarella cheese and experimental balsamic "gelée" (cut in cubes that resemble melting garnets) sparked Knibb's reinvention of *insalata caprese* as a fresh, thrilling dish. Ingredients are tops, and the chefs know the latest avant-garde techniques and aren't afraid to use them.

• Best-Kept Secret: Molly's (Marriott Hotel Marina, 333 West Harbor Drive at Front Street, North Tower, sub-lobby level 1, downtown, 619-230-8909). This is another outstanding remake, where a new hotel manager brought in a San Francisco chef (a veteran of luxury-grade Italian restaurants up north) worthy of heading

the resort's "fine dining" restaurant. The menu descriptions look like ordinary Cal-Mediterranean dishes, but the superb produce and deep-flavored combinations

on every plate tattle that Brian Sinnott's cooking is done with intelligence and care. Unexpected ingredients present culinary crosswords to enjoy, taste-teasing mysteries to solve. And Sinnott is one of very few local chefs who rolls house-made pastas as thin as they ought to be. Local foodlovers, arise, and liberate this treasure from the conventioneer occupation forces!

• Best Fusion Cuisine: Asia Vous (417 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-5000). This restaurant straddles two years — because the second dinner for review had to wait past the hectic holidays — "best new restaurant" last year, and one of the best meals of this year. What elevates Riko Bartolomei's version of "fusion" is his thorough understanding of Pacific flavors and grasp of the tastes and textures that work best together. His combinations are bold, unexpected, and sometimes revelatory. (I'm still happily agape over the pairing of sweetbreads with Chinese sausage.) Riko's also one of the few chefs whose desserts are as expert as the earlier courses, a oneman band whose appetizers and entrées are equally delicious and whose ethereal sweets fit perfectly into his exotic flavor-rainbow.

• Best "Gourmet Gulch" Berkeley Restaurant in San Diego: A.R. Valentien (the Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6635). Chef Jeff Jackson uses gorgeous ingredients, including local produce, matches them up intelligently, cooks them expertly, and serves them with no heavy sauces to disguise them (and no unnecessary calorie-loading). The food speaks for itself, eloquently. You could be eating at Berkeley's legendary Chez Panisse — but Torrey Pines' scenery is prettier.

• Best New Ethnic Restaurant: Puerto La Boca (2060 India Street at Hawthorn, Little Italy, 619-234-4900). This lively, cosmopolitan restaurant serves the purest Argentine cooking in the San Diego area. The menu includes terrific beef empanadas, flavorful seafoods, and an honest mixed grill (parillada) with grass-fed steak, short ribs, zesty South American sausages, and organ meats cooked to your specification, served with a vibrant chimichurri salsa. Several of the appetizers (e.g., matambre and a shrimp-avocado salad) are rare this side of the equator. The staff are determined not to compromise their cuisine to gringo tastes — and they don't have to. The local South American expat community has adopted this restaurant as a taste of home.

• Best Mexicans of the Year: Casa Reveles (Harvest Farms Village, 29000 Lilac Road, Valley Center, 760-749-8041). Chef-owner Sergio Reveles comes from Zacatecas, in the Valley of Mexico between Mazatlán and the capital, and his fare is what his grandmother cooked — especially his 16 house specialties from the Mexican heartland. These include world-beating *carnitas*, moist and tender, and a deluxe *machaca con huevo* (shredded beef-and-egg scramble). Even tortilla-wrap dishes like *enchiladas suizas* are cooked with care that you can taste, making them Mexican haute



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cuisine. Metro-area runner up: Chilango's (142 University Avenue near Second Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-8646). Here the style is Mexico City proper, meaning a sophisticated compendium of the regional cuisines of the nation. There are no tortilla-wrap "combos" at dinner (they're available at lunch, the meal where they belong), just plates laden with zesty flavors, including a fruitriot version of the rarely found specialty chiles en nogada (stuffed poblano chiles with walnut-cream sauce). A common element to both restaurants: guacamole mashed by hand, not by an infernal machine.

• Sushis of the Year: Samurai Sushi (Loma Santa Fe Plaza, Garden Section, 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, one block east of I-5, Solana Beach, 858-481-0032). When sushi first came to the U.S., its most striking feature was its aesthetic component - exquisite or amusing miniature landscapesculptures vanishing down the gullet. (How Zen!) It's easy to forget this, now that every supermarket carries packaged sushi and kids gobble it for schoolday lunches. Samurai still cleaves to the aesthetic. Let the chefs loose there (even the younger guys), and their sushi compositions look as beautiful as they taste. Nearby Nobu (315 South Highway 101 near Dahlia Drive, Solana Beach, 858-755-7787) is a close runner-up. Both restaurants perform consistently even when the head chef's away. (And it's easier to get a barchair than at jam-packed Ota in P.B.)

• Best Southeast Asian: Le Bambou (Del Mar Village, 2634 Del Mar Heights Road at Mango, Del Mar Heights, 858-259-8138). The winner of so many reader polls now wins the critic's "best" list. The fare is the charming, sophisticated elegant, rather than hearty. Appetizers are outstanding - an inventive series of brilliant tidbits, each with distinctive flavors, to wrap in lettuce with fresh herbs and joyfully eat with your hands - including sugar-cane shrimp, a royal delicacy that's rarely managed with such a light touch in these parts.

• Best Budget Seafood: Blue Waters (3667 India Street at Chalmers, Middletown, 619-497-0914). Plastic plates, low prices, order at the counter — but fresh, fresh, fresh! Instead of formality, you get pristine fish prepared to maximize its natural flavors mainly grilled just right, with a choice of simple garnishes and (along with entrées) a huge salad with your choice of superb house-made dressings. The raw oysters are luscious, and the clean-flavored grilled swordfish taco with perfect garnishes converted me from its battered cousins. What's more, the retail fish counter sells the same superior stuff, raw and ready for your own inventions. My sainted mother (who always loved "a nice piece of fish") must be rolling in her grave, yelling, "Let me out and let me at it!"

• Best Healthy Fast Food: Chipotle (many locations). It's not a spin-off of McDonald's, it's an acquisition — and it sticks to the original chef-entrepreneur's concept of a taqueria serving wholesome ingredients and tender, naturally raised meats (wherever possible), all prepped and cooked fresh on-premises. (Most local taquerias use cheap meat premarinated by the meat jobber.) The carne asada burrito is fabuloso. (But if you don't want rice in it, you've got to tell them at the very start of your order.) They do have a liquor license (to correct a review error), so the margaritas are full-strength tequila versions — proceed con cuidado, compañeros!

•Best Italian Pasta: Spaghetti al Cartoccio at Osteria Del Pescatore (1201 Camino Del Mar at 12th Street, Del Mar, 858-509-9293). This frequent special sings a song of the south of Italy, mingling spaghetti, clams, rock shrimp, and artichoke hearts baked in a tomato sauce with garlic and a rich undertone of anchovies. (Only anchovy lovers will perceive their presence.) As they bake together in a sealed packet of parchment paper, the clams open and spill their juices into the sauce, and the maritime flavors permeate the pasta. Peeled open before serving, the parchment package resembles a big white flower with a red center that exudes a perfume that can drive you mad with seafood lust.

• Best Trend: The Rise of the Neighborhood Bistro. We have more and more wonderful wine bars serving tasty snacks, but a true bistro goes a few steps further, turning out full meals of delicious and affordable food from Europe's "wine countries" to complement the sips or gulps. Among their numbers are the Italianslanted Apertivo (North Park), Parisian-chic Chloe (East Village), and francophile the Third Corner (Ocean Beach). They're all delightful places to hang out, sip, and nosh. Special plaudits go to Apertivo, for proving that even with a barebones budget, a restaurant can serve tasty, creative produce rather than the dreaded "Sysco medley" - if the chef does his own shopping and thinking.

Come to think of it, I ran into the Sysco combo (you know, the inevitable carrots-broczuke) about half as often in 2005 as in previous years. If that's a trend, too, can it mean that San Diego is really becoming a food city?

• Mama, Look, a Boo-Boo: I got food poisoning from the salsa bar at a highly touted new taqueria, from a neighborhood pizzeria-cum-cheesesteak joint, and from a cheap buffet lunch near the town of "Pizza" (Phitsanuloke), Thailand - but the culinary disaster of 2005 wasn't at some low-down dive. Quite the opposite: It was at a restaurant I hoped would merit my first five-star rating. But the kitchen was evidently having the mother of all off-nights, with the appetizers arriving 40 minutes after we ordered, the temp waitress playing John Wayne ("Never apologize, never explain, never refill the wine glasses"). Every dish was either badly undercooked (foie gras) or overcooked (steak). No, I won't name the perp. This chef is usually terrific, so I'm sure it was temporary insanity under holiday stress. My other gripe is perpetual: At so many new restaurants, the owners think that a painfully loud sound level equals a "lively atmosphere." That's fine for clubs, not restaurants.

Omens: The U.S. government, busily removing native species from the endangered list, did recognize that a species actually can go extinct and embargoed beluga caviar from the Caspian anarchies formerly part of the USSR. Well-farmed sturgeon roes from Europe and the U.S. are filling in the gap, at the same old high prices. Just proves that Cheney, G.W., and their good ol' boys don't eat caviar, since its only oil is fish oil.

Then too, five years ago, the 30th Street corridor was "from hunger." This year alone, Apertivo, Lefty's Pizza, the Linkery, Spread, Tazablanca, the upcoming Vagabond, and Zensei all moved in, plus there's a gourmet deli/wine shop, Grant's Marketplace (2953 Beech, west of 30th Street, 619-231-0524) with Bread & Cie bread (if you get there early enough), Aidells sausages, Asento pastas, Thai Kitchen curry pastes, etc., al-beit at "gentry" prices. On the other hand: The Albertsons originally announced to open in the East Village is this month still a hole in the ground, while the Gala supermarket on Fern is rumored to be doomed to be replaced by condos. Trader Joe's, Henry's - Brother, where art thou? Oh, and Happy New Year,

all. The sun will rise again!

• Other Culinary Signs and



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# **Cool Volcano**

# "Avast! Shake a leg, you lousy, lazy landlubbers!"

ey! Krakatoa! Avast! Bigorrah! Drop anchor, me hearties. Aaaarr! Oh Lord. I cringe. This is Hank, making like a pirate again. Back in September, we

missed national "Talk Like a Pirate Day," and he's so bummed that a phrase or two bursts out of him every once

in a while. "Krakatoa, matey!" he cries. "Half a league on the larboard bow!'

A volcano in Golden Hill? We're driving around up here where San Diego's robber barrons — pirates, you might say

used to live. Earlier, we'd been downtown, looking for lunch in all the wrong places. Like, every place we could afford had already packed up. I said we should go down to TJ. They'd just be starting the noon meal there.

But Hank wanted food now. And he has the wheels. So we've cruised up 25th to the park. Spotted this dense little jungle across the alley from the Turf Supper Club. I stand outside, waiting for Hank to park the wagon. From behind the foliage — and between the roar of planes on approach — I catch burbles of conversation, a crinkle of newspaper pages being turned by folks who sit under red "Illy" coffee umbrellas that pop out like pagodas from the tropical greenery. Place is bulging with bamboo, loquat trees, papyrus, plantains, and one 30-foot cypress tree that guards the entrance. Huddling in the middle is a swampgreen, '40s-style clapboard house. It's got a big wooden deck with cutouts for the trees to grow



through. Very cool. Treehouse in Kenya sorta thing. Good to see that, even at this hour, the deck

is loaded with oh-so-hip diners and their laptops. And now here comes Hank. "Looks like neck and

particle-board-floored space with South Sea gods — one's a five-foot Easter Island face — staring back at us from the walls. Little Richard's hollerin' out "She's Got It." We head on over to the black-var-

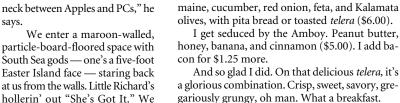
nished counter, where this gal Stephanie waits to take orders. Hank gets a blood-orange iced tea (\$1.50), and I get a coffee (\$1.50). We check the eats.

Interesting names here. The Wonchi, the Traitor's Head, the Ubehebe, the Amboy.

'What's that all about?" I ask Stephanie.

"Each sandwich is named after a volcano," she says

So the Wonchi, named after an Ethiopian caldera, is a breakfast sandwich of scrambled eggs with cheese with a cup of fruit (\$4.50, or with ham or bacon, \$5.75). Served on a "toasted telera," which turns out to be the three-headed Mexican torta bun, a kind of bolillo that grew. Great, 'cause I love their crisp outsides and tender innards. Lunch sandwiches include the Traitor's Head (an actual volcano in Vanuatu in the southwest Pacific), basically roast beef with horseradish (\$6.50). and the Ubehebe - a dormant volcano in Death



Outside on the jungle deck, wires snake around trees, connecting laptops. People talk, chew, think, compare tattoos, read papers, laugh intimately into cell phones. They're a groovy bunch. One guy, Sean, sitting in the shade of a loquat, turns out to be an architect. His buddy Mitch, who's working on a Milos, is a barman. "This place is good design," Sean says. "It's become the neighborhood hangout."

Valley; who knew? - which sounds finger-lickin'

good with its roasted turkey breast, maple-cured ham, cream cheese, and cranberry sauce, plus ro-

Hank's happy, 'cause they have two salads.

The first I almost fall for: El Pinacate (which is,

hey! a caldera just south of the Arizona border),

fruit salad Mexican-style. That means a big plate

of fruit chunks with cottage cheese, granola, and

raisins (\$6.50). But he goes for the Greek salad,

called Milos after a Greek island volcano. It's ro-

maine, red onion, and mayo (\$6.75).

'Two, three years ago, it was just a beat-up old

The Place: Krakatoa, 1128 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-230-0272 Type of Food: Sandwiches, salads

abandoned house," says a girl sitting nearby. "It was creepy to walk past." She's sucking on an IPC root beer (\$1.50). Her partner is drinking a large special of the day, a hot caramel apple cider (\$3.00)

"This house has a history for sure," says Stephanie. "It's haunted. Ghosts. I've felt funny things when I've been here alone. Pots have fallen off shelves. One of our other guys was sure he'd seen something flitting through."

It turns out most of the people working here, like Mikey, who prepared these dishes today, are musicians. Mikey sings with Business Lady. Nina, who has been here since it opened in February 2003, plays guitar in a group called the Glossines. "It's an egalitarian place," Mikey says. "Like, if you have a gig, or you're touring, others will fill in, and vice-versa.

"Yes, and here's the irony," says Stephanie. "Young, struggling musicians always tip better than well-heeled business people."

Uh-oh. I only tipped a buck. Hank saves the day by jumping up.

"Avast! Shake a leg, you lousy, lazy landlubbers! Anchors aweigh!

"Hey, dude," I say, "we're at Cool School here. Can you can it for a bit?"

"How long's a bit, matey?"

"Till next September?"

**Prices:** The Wonchi, breakfast sandwich of scrambled eggs, cheese, with cup of fruit, \$4.50; with ham or bacon, \$5.75; the Traitor's Head, roast beef sandwich with horseradish (\$6.50); the Ubehebe, roasted turkey breast sandwich with ham, cream cheese, cranberry sauce, \$6.75; El Pinacate, Mexican fruit salad with cottage cheese, ranola, raisins, \$6.50; the Amboy, peanut butter sandwich with honey, banana, cinnamon, \$5.00; add bacon, \$6.25 Hours: 6:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. daily; Sundays, till 6:00 p.m. Bus: 2

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# **Reluctance to Retail**

## "How passionate are you about the wine?"

hen Matt Francke was working for Orfila Winery, trying to get San Diegans to buy San Diegan wine, he felt hampered by the fact that "the winery didn't want to be in any retail." It's a common enough tactic for

a winery seeking to build a reputation - retail sales outside of the winery generally mean wholesale sales to a distributor, who then sells it to the retail establishment. And once you put your wine out there at a certain price wholesale, you give up a measure of control over the retail price. If the retailer

can buy whole bunches of product from the wholesaler and so get a deep discount, the retailer may choose to pass the savings along to the customer in the form of lower retail prices than you had planned. (Or the wholesaler might sell the wine to retailers with less cachet than the producer would prefer.)

It's different with restaurants. In a restaurant, you can almost always count on a certain degree of markup. But out there in the marketplace, not so much. Given the persistent connection in the consumer mindset between quality and price, it might not be worth it to see your \$20 premiere bottling - available on restaurant wine lists for \$44 — on the shelf for \$15.99. This may be especially so if you're a small producer, one who counts on each bottle to bring in a certain number of dollars.

"I don't agree with that at all," says Francke. "Especially if you want to get your name out there.



I think retail is a very important part of that when you're just getting going." It's not a debate that's likely to end soon, although it is interesting to note that Francke recently became the owner of San Diego Wine Company, a store known for its

aggressive pricing — their motto is "The best wines, the lowest prices." The shop operates on volume — if you move a ton of product, you can afford lower margins, and that means lower prices. It's a concept that appealed to Francke from the day he discovered it back in 1993, when he

was still selling for Orfila. Five years later, he started working for Tom Kowalski, San Diego Wine Company's original owner. As of this past November, Francke owns the place and has no plans to fix what ain't broke though he may not be above a bit of tinkering.

Thanks to connections made through his uncle, a California wine-biz veteran, "I've talked about some new boutique wineries coming on board," he says. "But this is not going to become a bottle shop. We're still very happy to sell a \$4.99 bottle of wine. It takes us literally 100 wines to find a really good \$4.99 bottle. And I'm still going to expect the guys on the floor to be fully knowledgeable about the wines. With the exception of the wines we get only a few allocated cases of, we taste every wine that comes into the store. Today, we'll line up 40 wines. I'll go through them in about ten minutes - the old sniff, swirl, and spit, just to get an initial take. Then all the guys come

up and taste them, and we get together and see if we agree on them. If the opinion is split, it's a question of 'How passionate are you about this wine? Are you going to sell it on the floor? Because I'm not crazy about it, and so you're responsible for moving this wine.

"The guys" include longtime staffer Mark Fratta and regular part-timer Alex Daniels. And of late, Rich Potenza, who came up from the Wine Bank downtown. "It really is a small business when it comes down to it," says Francke. 'So many people know so many other people. People jump from broker to broker, distributor to distributor." Or shop to shop.

Longtime San Diego wine salesman David Derby left his Orange County outpost to fill the vacancy created by Potenza's departure. Paris Driggers, formerly Kowalski's right-hand man, left earlier this year to buy into Bacchus Wine Market in the Gaslamp.

About Driggers, Francke says, "I think there was a thought that he would try to buy it from Tom, or that we would buy it together. At the beginning of this year, I told my wife, 'Something is going to happen this year. We're either going to make the jump and do our own thing or ... As it happened, Driggers made the jump, and that gave Francke the right of first refusal when Kowalski decided to sell. "It was tough. Do you go somewhere else and try to reinvent the wheel or do you stay somewhere where everyone knows vou and vou know how the business is run? It was tough because of the dollar amount - it wasn't an easy acquisition. But we ran the pro



formas and it made sense."

He took over in late November, just as the store was heading into the holiday crush, but that wasn't what had him worried. "We're on track to have our best holiday season ever. The most intimidating thing to me, more than the buying or anything else about the shop, was the signage the bold, hand-lettered signs that introduced the consumer to each wine in the store. My wife used to laugh at me. 'Why would you be intimidated by that? It's silly.' But Tom was so good at it; he'd been doing it for 20 years. He was so detail-oriented; he could just whip out a sign and not make one mistake. And the newsletter - he would sit down and write it by hand for hours on a Sunday morning. That part of my brain just does not exist.'

It sounds like a small thing, but San Diego Wine Company's signage was a big part of its sales effort - name, price, origin, and a brief





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commentary, often including the name of the staff member who went nuts over the wine. If you had gotten to know an employee's palate, it was that much easier to gauge your own likely response. "Fortunately," says Francke, "my wife has taken over the signage, and we're going to find a way to do the newsletter on the computer." The shop's website is also getting an upgrade; Francke hopes to build an online following via e-mail newsletters. "We're going to start communicating with the customer, probably on a weekly basis. 'This wine just came in, only 40 cases, 94 points from Parker, \$7.99,' that sort of thing.

continue Kowalski's practice of advertising on cable television, he's shifted strategy, with excellent results. "I've learned a valuable lesson — saturate the market over a shorter time period. My biggest response seems to be CNBC between six and nine in the morning — the stock report. And the Food Network. We're getting great feedback. People are already telling me that they're getting sick of seeing my face on TV, so that's a good sign." ■

And while he intends to

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

#### NORTH COASTAL

reservations.

Bistro Soleil 641 South Coast High way 101, Encinitas, 760-942-9549. The fare here is French but not too "Frenchy," in the sunny Provencal style that seems closer to Italy than Paris, with more olive oil than butter, more tomatoes than truffles. Owned by Claude Barrare, a surfing fanatic transplanted from the Atlantic beach town of Biarritz, the bistro recreates the laidback atmosphere of its cousins over-seas. Naturally, the Gallic comfort food here is more free-form and Californiafied than you'd find in southern France. Highlights of the seasonally changing menu include classic poached *foie gras*, an unconventional but tasty bouill-abaise, and, when available, a luscious mushroom cream soup. Save room for the ethereal fruit desserts. Dinner, Mondays through Saturdays; reserve on summer weekends. Upper moderate. - N.W. (8/03)

Bubby's Gelato 937 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-436-3563. This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelati, and sorbet), but does them exceedingly well. The "gourmet sandwiches" really do live up to their designation, with intriguing Mediterranean combinations (arti-choke hearts, black olives, grilled eggplant, gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that's your flavor.) Gelati are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature an ever-changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla rosewater and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. N.W. (10/01)

Fidel's Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Carlsbad Village Drive), Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It's not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-in-fused, mango-corn salsa on Fidel's menu — but who gives a flyin' fajita when you can order just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and know it's gonna be good? Whether you try the chicken-and-rice soup with fresh cilantro and avocado chunks, fluffy *chile rellenos*, a crab enchilada, *carne* asada with all the trimmings, or a lonely à la carte chicken burrito, you're going to be a happy camper. Add a reliable margarita or a beer and you're set at this popular North County mainstay. Open seven days a week for lunch dinner. Inexpensive. and S.M. (12/03)

Firenze 162 South Rancho Santa Fe Road (at Manchester), West Village Center, Encinitas, 760-944-9000. This big, beautiful, gracious restaurant (lo-cated in the same mall as Harvest Ranch Market, just north of Rancho Santa Fe) offers both a handsome interior and a romantic fire-lit patio. The well-spaced tables are laden with huge portions of accomplished, multiregional Italian cuisine and reasonably priced Italian and California wines

(with bargain wine prices Monday nights). Vegetarians will rejoice in the two dozen meatless selections. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, dinner-only on Sundays. High moderate. — N.W. (11/01)

Hill Street Coffee House 524 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-966-0985. Organic in Oceanside? Really! Look for the sign: "Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar" in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from O'side's past. All their meats, poultry, fish, and veggies are or-ganic and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach breakfast scram ble, frittata *espinaca* ("Greek eggs"), and *pain perdu* (for us peasants that's French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m., try their Cajun chicken. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

I Trulli Trattoria 830 South Coast Highway 101 (between G and H streets), Encinitas, 760-943-6800. An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there's no shortage of Italian restaurants), I Trulli serves modern Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled "Nouvelle Italian Cuisine," resembles the somewhat ambitious, generically "northern Italian" bills of fare that you encounter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. (It is, in fact, a sister restaurant to Hillcrest's Ar-riverderci.) The signifiers of seriousness are the pink peppercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Best bets are the daily specials. which offer the greatest chance for fresh ingredients and creativity. Busy, cramped, painfully loud inside. Street patio next to highway is also noisy. Reserve for dinner on weekends or expect an hour's wait. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.* (11/01)

Johnny Manana's 308 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-9999. Lo-cal teachers hang out at this green-, white-, and red-tiled place because it's such good value. Most dishes are Mexican There's a Caribbean chocolatey. black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. The Big Breakfast Burrito Special (eggs, onions, beans, cheese, and potatoes, wrapped in a large flour tortilla) is *muy popular*, but then so is J.M.'s Great All-American Cheeseburger. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/01)

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard (at Best Western, just west of I-5), Encini-tas, 760-633-3587. In a lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: stunningly fresh uni. world-beating silky toro. The sushimaster also keeps an eye on the restaurant's seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as "salmon tower tartare" and "drunken black cod" are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrées. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Lunch weekdays only, dinner nightly. Moderate. -N.W. (3/02)

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You'll find do mestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the "Caprese" (tomatoes-plus) sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. For breakfast, they carry sfogliatelle, light, moist, faintly lemony multilayered breakfast pastries. The eat-in/take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. - N.W. (8/03)

NORTH INLAND

Ashoka the Great 9474 Black Mountain Road (off Miramar Road), Mira Mesa, 858-695-9749. Seek out this splendid Indian restaurant. The setting is lovely, the service excellent, and the food first-rate. Don't overlook the tandoori dishes. Numerous selections are available for vegetarians. An all-youcan-eat lunch buffet is served daily. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. - E.W.

Athens Market Cafe 11640 Carmel Mountain Road (between Pacific Theatres and Sportmart in Carmel Mountain Plaza, close to Rancho Bernardo, off I-15), 858-675-2225. The same Greek recipes that you know and love at Athens Market downtown are even more carefully prepared here. All entrées with soup or salad. Excellent moussaka, baked chicken, lamb kebabs. Excellent value for tasty product. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.W.

Bistro 221 221 East Grand Avenue (near Kalmia), Escondido, 760-737-7398. This genteel bistro — with comfortable chairs and linen-cov-Escondido, ered tables inside and a shaded patio on the sidewalk — is especially tasty at lunch, with its sophisticated quesadil-las and a classic burger and fries cooked your way. At dinner simple starters shine, including a "blonde" Florida version of gumbo and Maryland crab cakes with minimal filler. The dinner entrées are also the best, including beef tournedos with Gorgonzola grouper caught just off the Florida shores. A "Louisiana" bread pudding is moister (hence more pleasing) than most of its namesakes. No wheelchair access for rest rooms. Free parking behind restaurant. Ordinary wine list. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Friday; dinner Saturday. moderate; dinner moderate to high. -N.W. (10/04)



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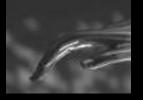
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**La Tapatia** 340 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family-owned favorite, in business since the 1930s. You'll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stonewalled patio. The most celebrated dish is the "cheese crisp," a large tostada covered one-third in ground beef, onethird in beef chunks, and one-third in beans, with cheese, avocado puree, and sour cream over all. Many preparations (grilled seafoods, etc.) are healthy, and veggies taste fresh. Seasonings are rather detuned, but there's a saltshaker and a lively salsa on the table. Moderate. — *N.W.* (*5*/01)

**The Wayside Cafe** 507 South Main Avenue, Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. Locals love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahrs' Service Station. You can even sit in the old Lube Bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain-piles of red-skinned home-fries as a side at breakfast. Open for breakfast and lunch six days a week; closed Mondays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)* 

#### GOLD COAST

Arterra Marriott Del Mar Hotel, 11966 El Camino Real (off Carmel Mountain Road), Torrey Pines/Del Mar, 858-369-6032 or 858-523-1700. Bradley Ogden and his minions — including Arterra's Carl Shroeder — do the perfect cuisine for executive-oriented hotels like this Marriott, which is situated in an inhumanly corporate neighborhood. The fare is fine, classy, but not excessively demanding of attention. Ingredients are seasonal and top-quality, creations are pleasing but not radical. It's a great place to take your boss to dinner. Breakfasts, though, are spectacular, e.g., the airy, bittersweet tangerine souffle pancakes may just be the ideal way to jump-start the morning. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — N.W. (4/02)

Barone's Trattoria Del Mare 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-9063. Nino Barone, owner and chef, has got the Italian restaurant business finessed to near perfection. The taste of his gnocchi or his *tortellini* al gorgonzola is worth ditching your diet for. Outdoor dining offers daytime ocean viewing, while indoor guests en-joy soft-hued decor with linens and fresh flowers. The welcoming staff allow the customer space and linger-time while remaining available. Nino prepares everything in-house: the crusty Italian bread, the pastas and their com-panion sauces, the veal, seafood, and chicken dishes, and the irresistible cannoli. The wine list is generous yet modestly priced and, surprise, it's purely Italian. This off-the-beaten-track Italian restaurant may be one of the most delectable secrets in North County and it won't put a crunch on your entertainment budget. Lunch is a real deal, with soup or salad and dessert included in the price. Open nightly for dinner; call for lunch schedule. Moderate. — S.M. (4/04)

**Red Tracton's** 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Even though you know you're a half mile from the Pacific Ocean and across the street from the Del Mar Racetrack, one step inside Red Tracton's dining room sends you reeling back in time to an upscale, dimly lit, maroon-and-gilt restaurant of 1960s Chicago. The only thing missing is the scent of cigars. Food portions are enormous: The lobster sandwich (a touch heavy on the mayo) easily packs a half pound of lobster. The selection is generous: steaks, prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. On days when you don't give a rip about the Surgeon General's latest warnings, run to Red Tracton's and indulge your All-American appetite. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly; 11 p.m. closing Friday and Saturday. Expensive. — *S.M.* (*3/04*)

S.M. (5064) Spices Thai Cafe 3810 Valley Centre Drive, Piazza Carmel Shopping Center, Del Mar (east of Carmel Valley turn-off), 858-259-0889. Superb Thai restaurant that's not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other delicacies are duck and frog legs. Put Spices Thai Café at the top of your list. Also in La Jolla Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

#### LA JOLLA

**Barbarella** 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-of-the-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème friche, chives, and fried capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh fruit crêpe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily. — S.M. (4/04)

**Beach House Brewery** 7536 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-6279. Don't expect to see the beach. Do expect to taste some good beers made right here and good solid food, such as the prime rib sandwich (which goes great with their Irish Stout) or the roasted potato. Or maybe best of all, the buffalo burger — big, hefty, and low on cholesterol. You'd call this a family, multigenerational sports bar eatery. Nice mix. It's La Jolla, so it's not dirt cheap, but the guys here seem really interested in making interesting brews and good food to accompany them. Open for dinner seven days; lunch and dinner Saturday, three meals Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (1/04)

**Cafe Japengo** The Aventine, 8960 University Center Lane, La Jolla, 858-450-3355. Here Bentleys and Beamers far outnumber Buicks. Inside is contemporary with an Asian flair, complete with kimono stands and bamboo forests. Sushi is the specialty, and it's above average, although the sushi bar chefs aren't very friendly, and the seasoned rice tastes quite salty. The unavailability of highly prized fatty tuna (*toro*) and the replacement of *tobiko* (flying fish roe) with inferior *masago* (smelt roe) are minor disappointments, but the *uni* (sea urchin roe) is pristine. If you appreciate subtlety, try the egg-omelet sushi (*tamago*), a delightful mixture of eggs, sake, and mirin. Creative party rolls are especially popular here, including the amusing Tootsie Roll — sweet and spicy, crunchy and spongy, with fried soft shell crab topped with grilled shitake mushrooms, avocado, and a sake marinade. Entrées are often a letdown, but diners may be satisfied to make a meal from appetizers like the Char Su Duck Salad with goat cheese, candied pecans, and pomegranate vinaigrette; Duck Wontons with coriander pesto and *ponzu* sauce; and an excellent *kim chee* martini. No reservations for the sushi bar; arrive early for prompt seating. Lunch weekdays only; sushi bar opens at 5 p.m.; dinner begins at 6 p.m. Very expensive. — *B.D.* (10/05)

Forever Fondue 1295 Prospect Street #201, La Jolla, 858-551-4509. Also at 6110 Friars Road, Mission Vallev, 619-295-7792. Once every thirty years, a person should experience the novelty of fondue. Forever Fondue offers patrons the opportunity to cook or dip a variety of food items in a shared pot at their own table, accompanying the morsels with six different but universally disappointing sauces. Am-biance is minimal, other than the harsh chemical spray that bussers use for cleaning vacated tables. Dessert, however, is yummy — you can't miss with anything dipped in chocolate. The restaurant is clean and the staff friendly, although service can be extremely slow. Mediocre wine choices. Seating space is limited so reservations are recommended. Open daily for dinner. Moderately priced. — S.M. (2/04)

Fresh Seafood Restaurant 1044 Wall Street (at Herschel), La Jolla, 858-551-7575. The fare is mainly fishy and the room is truly dishy, with lots to look at — the open kitchen, floor-toceiling sculptures, street-patio scene, or the decolleté of the date dresses among the younger half of the crowd. The older half shows up in business suits, whatever their gender. Here you'll find that Chef Matthew Zappoli's seafood creations and lush sauces live up to the restaurant's name, although reined in enough to keep from scaring business-suited palates. Fish not your dish? Meats and poultry are of fine quality, too. Save room for the hazelnut mocha mousse cake, so sensual it should be X-rated. Good wine buys in Sauvignon Blancs and "interesting whites." Dinner reservation suggested. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive (off Torrey Pines Road), La Jolla, 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas - at only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Ma-rine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ultra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. And the tasting dinners themselves (Monday through Wednesday evenings) are something of a bargain — a royal feast for the price of, say, a fill-up for your SUV. Reservations required; slightly dressy but not stuffy. Easiest route: Make a right from westbound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Noisy when crowded. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday, Sunday brunch, dinner nightly. Expensive. — N.W. (9/02)

**Marrakesh** 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and

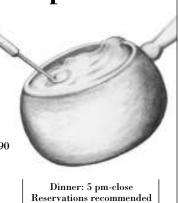
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sheerly hedonistic. At our sole Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (harira), a salad plate, bastilla (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic – tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing in terludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. On quiet weeknights, you can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Dinner nightly, reserve for weekends. Moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Nathan's at Michele Coulon's 7556 Fay Avenue, Suite D, La Jolla, 858-456-5098. Fans of The Belgian Lion, a San Diego institution for over 20 years that closed in 2001, can rejoice. Nathan Coulon, grandson of Belgian Lion founders Don and Arlene Coulon, has stepped into his mother Michele's kitchen to resurrect many of the Lion's signature dishes: *cassoulet, steak au poivre, poulet Normande.* He's also added a few of Grandpa's that never made it onto the menu — try the baby spinach gratin — and now and then slips in something of his own. Ingredients are often first rate and sourced from good local growers. Growing up in the old restaurant's kitchen has taught him well; the *poulet Normande* is one of those deceptively simple dishes that surprises you with its perfection. Thoughtful and affordable wine list. Dinner Thursday through Saturday only. Expensive to very expensive. — A.M. (6/04)

Piatti Ristorante 2182 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, La Jolla, 858-454-1589. Whether you sit inside to enjoy the warm, rustic decor or outside under the giant ficus tree listening to the fountain, you're in for a treat at this secluded restaurant. Meals begin with crunchy corn-studded ciabatta and spicy balsamic dipping sauce, but don't fill up too soon: the appetizers and sal-ads are varied and tasty. All pastas are house-made and served with lively, unusual sauces, including penne agnello, a treat for lamb aficionados. Lemonherbed rotisserie chicken, wood-fired pizzas, yeal picatta, and bistecca (a grilled rib-eye steak) round out the entrées Portions are generous, so pace yourself if you're planning to have one of their house-made desserts. Lunch and dinner weekdays; brunch and dinner Saturdays and Sundays. Moderate. — S.M. (7/04)

**P.F. Chang's China Bistro** 4540 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla, 858-458-9007. The decor and ambiance carry the weight here. Chinese food is only average. This is a place to see and be seen. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Dinner menu available from opening to closing. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.* 

**Roy's** 8670 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde Center (across from UTC), La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy out post of top Hawaii chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain has elements of both "top chef" and "chain" about it. Decoding Roy's Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when ordered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo (including the yummy off-menu ahi poke) by asking for it; 3. Don't waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stickers, *lumpia*, "Kahana" *shutome* (swordfish), or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated, including vege-tarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar. Open nightly. Very expensive. — N.W. (4/01) Sky Room Top floor of La Valencia otel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0771. The stunning ocean view offers three essentials for a memorable evening: privacy, intimacy, and the ability to talk without the interruption of noise. The food is a feast to the eyes as well as the palate. Best bets: abalone and scallop steak appetizer, the daily soup, diver scallops, and lobster. Dinner only, with two seatings on weekends. Very expensive. — E.W. (10/99)

Sushi on the Rock 7734 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This noisy, high-energy spot — a boxy, saloon-like space with a sushi bar in back — draws a lively twenty-something crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike more traditional sushi bars, there's a vast selection of "rock and rolls" — huge, creative *futomaki* party sushi. And they're fabulous, with sparkling fresh seafood and immensely clever combinations. Try, for instance, the shrimp tempura roll, which wraps fried shrimp, crab shreds, *daikon* sprouts and Japanese mayo in deep-fried salmon skin — the combo would be just as impressive as an appetizer at a top

Cal-French restaurant. The Orange Crush is another sublime invention, fresh and crunchy with veggies and *tobiko* wrapped in suave salmon. Even simple rolls are so well conceived, and the rice so nicely seasoned, you won't need soy-wasabi dip. No reservations, long waits (in cramped entryway) on weekends. Full bar, good sake list. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly, with deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quieter) location at 1923 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 858-456-1138. — N.W. (11/04)

Zenbu 7660 Fav Avenue (at Kline Street), La Jolla, 858-454-4540. It was a natural for fisherman-restaurateur Matt Rimel to open a sushi bar-fish house, featuring sparkling fresh catch, much of it from his own boats. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls, which can be lunkish. Don't miss the sashimi of live local uni (sea urchin) served on its shell most weekends. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood, sometimes in almost goofily elaborate preparations. No reservations; 30-minute wait likely on weekends. Sushi bar is up a short staircase; dining room and patio tables are wheelchair accessible. Several vegetarian choices. Full bar, good sake list. Dinner nightly. Upper moderate to expensive. — N.W. (6/01)

#### MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

**King's Fish House** 825 Camino de la Reina (west of Mission Center Drive), Mission Valley, 619-574-1230. To find King's in the megamall, go slightly west of Koo Koo Roa and follow the line of cars to the free valet parking. It's a chain, but it's a classy chain, offering fish and seafoods of a quality that's well above average, including crustaceans from a live-tank and a half-dozen varieties of pristine oysters. Generously-sized entrées come with soup or salad (including a Caesar that's above suspicion) and two hefty side dishes. The vast menu of American-style preparations changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and includes some rotating regional specialties (e.g., New Orleans, Hawaii, New England). Don't miss the prawn potsticker appetizer, if available, and for dessert, the miraculously light bread pudding. The atmosphere is good-timey (with two patios and a barroom as well as a dining room), the service is enthusiastic, and the management will accommodate special requests if you call ahead. Kiddie menu available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. N.W. (5/02)

Korea House 4620 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-0080. Korea House offers floor seating or a table if you want to barbecue your own food. The menu offers fine "down-home" Korean food, such as traditional mandoo (beef) dumplings, gaejang backban, or raw crab, and yookhwe, a steak tartare worth risking. Make a meal from enormous appetizers like gul bosam (raw oysters, pork, and cabbage leaves). Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — M.N. (9/98)

Nijiya Market 3860 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you're not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya's steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you'll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweet bread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (8/99)* 

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Drive (at Montgomery Field), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. The Argentine specialties feature grilled grass-fed beef, including a somewhat Americanized version of the gauchos' great parillada mixta (mixed grill), with a great chorizo but minus any exotic organs. The naturally raised meats are lower fat and lower cholesterol than feed-lot beef but are salted heavily in the kitchen unless you request otherwise. Specify rare or medium-rare, unless you really like brown cardboard. Lighter fare includes free-range chicken and fresh, welltreated seafood. Beef empanadas are a tasty, authentic starter. Potatoes (fries and mashed) are splendid, salads are exuberant. The full bar features Chilean and Argentine beverages with many affordable South American wines by the glass. Park in lot at restaurant's front door, not the back-door lot. Lunch (mainly sandwiches) on weekdays, din-ner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.* (4/02)

The Philadelphia Sandwich Co. 3904 Convoy Street (south of Othello), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummers' costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city's cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffulletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions and your choice of cheese, and expands from

The best Argentine restaurant in San Diego! "San Diego's best **Make Your** steakhouse" **New Year's Eve** - United Airlines Magazine Reservations Today! "Best Ambience," "Best Steaks" - KUSI News New Year's Eve Dinner from 5-11 pm with enchanting harp music ampa. performed by Miguel Lopez and **Esteban** Cerutti ARGENTI<sup>I</sup>NE GRILI 20% Off Dinner Entrée Prime, free-range, 100% natural imported Angus beef. Free of hormones, steroids, pesticides & antibiotics. 15% less fat & cholesterol. Valid up to 5 people. One check per table. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid holidays. Filet mignon (Bife de lomo), 8690 Aero Drive • 858-278-5971 lomo con hongos and pimienta not included. Open Tuesday through Sunday Dinner only. No take-out, please. PampasSanDiego.com Expires 1/12/06





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# **New Year's Eve Special**

3 Seatings: 5, 7 & 9 pm (Reservations Only) • Music \$75 per person • 5-Course Dinner with Champagne

# Enjoy True Italian Ambiance at Poway's New Cucina Italiana

Authentic signature dishes of exceptional quality | Steaks | Pasta | Seafood | Veal | Pizza



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Dinner: Open 7 Days • Lunch: Mon.-Fri. Happy Hour: Mon.-Fri. 3-6 pm Full Bar • Wine Cellar Beer • Gift Certificates Private Room • Catering there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the innocent. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Pennsylvania-packaged foods ("Philadelphia Scrapple" to go, Tastykakes, Wise potato chips) to nostalgic émigrés. Lunch to early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/04)

Pho Tau Bay Restaurant 7604 Linda Vista Road (near Mesa College). Linda Vista, 858-268-3161. Full name La Cai Mi Gia, va Pho Tau Bay, The building looks like a converted Mc Donald's, but the interior is oriental and swanky with large fish tanks, blue carpet, gold metallic wainscotting, silk es, a golden three-foot-tall laughing Buddha, and a red altar with three black-bearded gods. For lunch and dinner vou can choose such exotics as quail, boar, alligator, and "Spicy Chop Frog in Coconut Milk and Curry." Breakfast is cheap, filling, and very Vietnamese. Try mi ga, a gentle rice noodle soup with shredded chicken, or order *banh mi thit*, eight inches of French bread with traditional South Vietnamese beef stew. Puzzled? Ask for Mr. Le. Three meals, daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (11/00)

**Prego** Hazard Center, 1370 Frazee Road (at Friars), Mission Valley, 619-294-4700. In a stylish North Italian restaurant set in a come-as-you-are mall, a million-dollar renovation at the turn of our century has turned down the noise level to match the pleasing, easy-going North Italian cooking. Good starters include the antipasto platter, sparkling salads, and yeasty, fresh-baked rosemary-garlic bread (actually a mini-pizza crust). Pastas (many featuring fresh seafood) are nearly perfect, but risotto can be risky. Entrées are mainly simple grilled or rotisseried meats and fish. Service is warm and well informed. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — N.W. (4/01)

**San Tong Palace** 4690 Convoy Street (between Engineer and Balboa), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-6837. This unassuming, strip-mall restaurant is easy to overlook, but once found, impossible to resist. San Tong's hybrid Korean-Chinese menu draws from these regions' tastiest styles. The Rainbow Salad demonstrates this combination deliciously, and San Tong's dumplings are outstanding. The seafood dumplings are especially remarkable. For the adventurous, I recommend the jellyfish salad, a novel treat for westerners. At San Tong Palace, curious appetites are rewarded well. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (4/99)* 

**Seau's** Mission Valley Center mall, 1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravagant multivenue sports pub is major league fun — a reallife reincarnation of some 1960s McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-normal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream "something for everyone" choices, including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elementary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (1/03)

Sheila's Cafe & Bakery 4577 Clairemont Drive (Wilson Plaza), Clairemont, 858-270-0251. A "Glatt Kosher," a non-dairy Orthodox Jewish restaurant and bakery with a mission. Sheila was determined to create food observant Jews could eat without worrying — from Italian to Mexican to ribs to fried chicken to lactose-free cheesecakes — and that everybody else wouldn't know was different. The result: a menu stretching from chicken soup with matzoh balls to standards like hamburgers and even Sunday prime rib dinners. You don't need a *yarmulke* to feel comfortable here, but it's comforting to know everything down to the least lettuce leaf has re ceived extra-careful preparation. You'll find Sheila's breads and pastries at supermarkets all around town. Lunch and dinner Monday through Thurs-day, lunch Friday, dinner Sunday (closed Saturday, of course). Moderate to slightly expensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

**Tofu House** 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. This stylish little eatery is proof positive that our city has matured for its specially ethnic foods. Tofu House is a Korean restaurant serving up specialty tofu dishes. Flavorful, healthy foods. I highly recommend the *soontofu* soups (beef, pork, seafood, or mushroom) with raw egg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kimchee. Deliver yourself from sorrowfully generic foreign food — Tofu House serves vivid ethnic food. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N.* (2/99)

#### THE BEACHES

**Cafe Athena** Pacific Mall, 1846 Garnet Avenue (at Lamont), Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par *taramasalata*), outstanding moussaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (3/02)* 

**Baleen** Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road (off Ingraham Street), Mission Bay, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask before you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions, including gorgeous lobster bisque, salmon with a clever hummus crust, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better values farther up the range. Reservations recommended. Very expensive. — N.W. (12/00)

The Bar-B-Que House 5025 New Ocean Beach, Street, 619-222-4311. OB's piling in, and for good reason: the chicken and ribs are smoked on an oakwood fire, then char broiled. Beef, pork, and ham spend eight to ten hours in the smoker. Of course, they have pork (but not beef) ribs. A good-value combo is the South-ern-Style sandwich — beef, pork, ham, or chicken with coleslaw inside, along with a sauce that's just right: sweet tangy, spicy. Most original idea? A BBQ burrito with meat, baked beans coleslaw, and sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla. Expanded menu includes gyros. Open seven days, breakfast through dinner; till 10 p.m.weeknights; 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpen-sive. — E.B. (3/04)

**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. Dinner Monday through Saturday. High moderate. — N.W. (2/02)

Cantina Panaderia 966 Felspar Street (at Cass), Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forsaken population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of Latin-Asian-sortahealth-food to the beach. A self-con-fessed "lazy cook," she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include competent eggs, luscious omelets, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Devotees of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, salsa, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. - N.W. (10/04) Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue (at Jewel), Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218.

# 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 Tokyo House 2 for 1 sushi rolls

#### 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**•

#### Uptown & North Park

Garden Grill <u>50% off entrée</u> Harar Ethiopian <u>Sampler for 2 \$15.99</u> Hob Nob Hill <u>\$2 off entrée</u> India Princess <u>50% off dinner</u>• Lips <u>50% off dinner</u> Rannoosh <u>Free entrée</u> Rudford's <u>\$2 off entrée</u> Taste of Italy <u>Free Oreo cheesecake</u>• Teriyaki Cowboy <u>Sake and beer \$5.50</u> Urban Grind <u>50% off lunch or brunch</u> Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa Ashoka the Great <u>50% off lunch or dinner</u> Filling Station <u>Free appetizer</u> La China Philadelphia Sandwich Co. <u>Free sandwich</u> Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet** 

#### Downtown & Point Loma

Alambres Free soup Bacchus Wine Market 10 samples \$10 Beach City Market **<u>\$2 off deli/sushi</u>** Blue Water Seafood 25% off Cafe Loma 1/2 off coffee Chopahn Afghan 3-course dinner \$25.95 Dancing Dog Deli **<u>\$1 off Egg Scrambles</u>** 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 |olt'n |oe'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** Calypso 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



Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Pa-tio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. N.W. (2/02)

Kabuki Sushi Restaurant 4475 Mission Boulevard (entrance on Garnet), Pacific Beach, 858-270-1986, This place has a unique system of delivering tempting dishes to you via boats float-ing along a mini-canal that surrounds the sushi bar. You take food off and pay according to the plate size. The sushi chefs - they can be a show in themselves - have the usual panoply of sushi, sashimi, nigiri. The dragon rolls (crab, shrimp tempura, eel, avocado) and spider roll (soft-shelled crab) are tasty too. It's young and crowded here - is that because you don't have to sweat the menu, just grab what you like off the boat and chew? Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Saturday; dinner only Sunday; closed Monday Inexpensive to moderate. - E.B. (1/04) Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606.

Even on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and *biergarten*, chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to kitchen s reliance on commercial prod ucts (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pan-cakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. - N.W. (6/02)

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-223-3030. One of the city's oldest eateries has been renovated to look like it always has, but fresher. The dining rooms resemble those on a river paddleboat or a small, rakish cruise ship, while the bayside patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by pigeons. The menu runs to sim-ple seafood and steaks (wet-aged USDA Choice), but quality is uneven. Tasty starters include briny littleneck clams on the half-shell, an interesting clam chowder, and a classy house salad (but ask for vinegar and oil on the side to dress it). The coconut shrimp entrée is a good, guilty pleasure, but the fin-fish and fried entrées taste like supermarket frozen food. For the starch accompa-niment, baked potato is the most flavorful option. Full bar, strong cocktails, weak wine list. Kiddie menu available. Daily three meals until 11 p.m. Low moderate. — NW (10/04)

Thee Bungalow 4996 West Point Loma Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-2884. The very soul of Ocean Beach resides in Ed Moore's charming comfortable historic "cottage," where the menu covers classic French bistro fare from pâté to soufflé, including

comfort-food entrées like grandmaman used to make. And like mamhre's, the cooking is a little inconsistent. Skip the over-rated duck and head for the seasonal specials, the rich stews, and — of — the pâtés and soufflés. When course the peppery corn soup is on the menu, leap for it. A huge wine list at very low markups is a special blessing. Slightly dressy; reservations strongly advised. Expensive, but with affordable earlyweeknight dinners. N.W. (11/00)

#### CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

El Comal 2822 Imperial Avenue, Sherman Heights, 619-239-7101. Other location: 534 Broadway (at H Street), Chula Vista, 619-420-3811. No border compromises here - just great homecooking from Michoacan, Guerrero, Jalisco, and Oaxaca, prepared by Luz Herrera Ibarra, a biology teacher from Acapulco. Try the *huarache* (cactus slices with carne asada, frijoles, cheese, and onions) or the *mulita carne adobada* (pork, melted cheese, and gua-camole inside two tortillas) and have a glass of *nuez* (a refreshing walnut drink). Breakfast through early dinner daily. Inexpensive. - E.B. (11/00)

El Morelense 317 Dewey Street, Logan Heights, 619-234-2750. Morelos-style cooking: more pungent than Cal-Mex or Tex-Mex. The Cecina (a kind of carne asada), served with rice, beans, and tortillas, is richly marinated and filling, as is the carne de adobada (pork dish), caldo de res (beef soup), huevos rancheros, and menudo or pozole soup (weekends only) are worth trying. Owner Santos, a true Morelense, makes

Lunch

Buffet

<sup>\$</sup>6.50

THE ONE AND O

Thai Tea or

Soda 75<sup>°</sup>

Ihai Cale

HAI BUFFET

**\$ 1** 00

**IN SAN DIEGO** 

4722 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard • 858-270-8303

all dishes from scratch, including salsas and tortillas. This used to be a tough area, but the new central police station next door has helped change all that. Open daily. *E.B. (12/01)* Inexpensive.

Island Spice 2820 Market Street (at 28th Street), Grant Hill, 619-702-9309. Interesting Jamaican specialties are served indoors or on a sunny patio. Breakfast can include ackee with salt cod. At lunch and dinner there's fine ierk chicken (ask for dark meat, it's moister), but don't overlook lesserknown delicacies such as savory oxtail stew, escovitch (pickled) fish, curry goat, and fish or chicken in a tangy brown stew. Dinner hours and offerings vary, and many patrons get takeout. Call just before you go to learn what's available and place your order. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Inexpensive. - N.W. (2/01)

Mailo's Cafe 4095 30th Street, North Park, 619-528-1602. OK, so Mailo's is a Greek café and Mailo and Blanca aren't Greek, they're Mexican-American. On the other hand, Mailo cooked in an OB Greek restaurant for 14 years before he opened here. Plus, the two have made Greek extremely affordable. Prices are definitely down there for their breakfast gyros, with eggs, lamb, tomatoes, and onion wrapped in a hot pita. And they have this great streetcorner outside deck to eat on. There's also plenty of American standard fare. Mailo's cheeseburger, with avocado and bacon, is the most popular, with the half-pound steak burger close be-hind. American breakfasts are the old fashioned kind with three eggs any style, hash browns, and toast, plus ham or bacon or sausage or even chicken fried steak, at bargain prices. Same for their roast beef dinner, or the quarter chicken, Greek style, served with rice,

Dinner

Buffet

\$8.99

Off

salad, and pita bread. Open Tuesday through Saturday breakfast through dinner, Sunday and Monday till 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/02)

Sister Pee Wee's Soul Food 2971-1/2 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill 619-236-0470. One of the oldest, best soul food cafés in the county, but get there early (it closes at 8 p.m.). Sister Pee Wee says her daily lunch and dinner menu depends on what she feels like cooking that day — you might find big pork ribs with mashed red-skin potatoes, black-eyed peas, collard greens and two-inch-thick corn bread, or Southern-fried chicken, or catfish fillet with all the trimmings. Sister's special is chitlins and catfish. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, ham, sausages, and hominy grits. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

#### EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Greek Town 345 West Main Street, El Caion, 619-441-9708. Just another Greek buffet? Well, yes. Your choices are standard: gyros meat, *spanakopita*, moussaka, *dolmades*. And the décor is the usual blue and white with Greek island posters. But it's the customers who give it an exotic feel, speaking languages from Russian to Greek to Somali. And if you're hungry, this all-you-can-eat deal is great. Have gyros meat, but also try the chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken), or start with the excellent dolmades (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). The leaves' tangy taste and the lemony sauce inside get your juices running. Don't forget salad... or the dessert table (how could you leave without baklava?). Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. – E.B. (1/04)

Mario's de la Mesa 8425 La Mesa Boulevard (at Grant), La Mesa, 619-461-9390. The man on the burro (seen on the restaurant's sign and menu) holds two flags, those of Mex-ico and the U.S.A. — very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the *menudo*) will push the paler palate too far in any direction, but gosh-all, everything is so darn tasty. Tamales are a house special: rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork also gets loving treatment in the *carnitas rojas*, big chunks browned to the barest crisp, which falls away to melting tenderness. Great marinade (cumin?) on the carne asada; intense flavor and buttery richness on the "machaca sonora style" (dry-roasted shredded beef). Beans are so light as to seem whipped; rice is studded with peas and spicy carrots. Service is fast and friendly. Breakfast and lunch Sundays and Mondays; three meals Tuesdsay through Saturday. In-expensive. — A.M. (7/01)

Orchid Thai and Vegetarian Cui-sine 762 North Johnson Avenue #106, El Cajon, 619-447-2819. There's noth-ing fancy or pretentious about this Thai restaurant, but their food is really, re-ally good. Menu is a mixture of Thai, Lao, and Chinese. Best deal: the fifteen permanent lunch specials, from pepper steak (given a Thai twist) to chicken yellow curry to Orchid Noodle ("Thai egg noodle, chicken, broccoli celery, carrot, egg and scallions"). Larb, the Laotian ground chicken salad, is delicious and filling, as is the masaman, curry with potatoes, onion, carrots, and roasted peanuts mixed in sweet coconut milk. Other tasty dishes include prik pow beef, som tum (papaya salad),









**122** San Diego *Reader* December 29, 2005



# All-you-can-eat buffet

*seafood* | *sushi bar* | *hawaiian barbecue* | *dim sum* (OYSTERS, DUNGENESS CRAB, RIBS & JUMBO SHRIMP SERVED AFTER 4 PM)



Lunch or dinner. Minimum \$15 purchase. Expires 1/12/06. With ad. Not valid with any other offer or on holidays.

## Oceanfront Dining Happy Hour MON.-FRI. • 4-7 PM <sup>\$4</sup> Bud Light Pitchers <sup>\$2,50</sup> Coronas & Pacificos

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panang curry, and mee ped (roast duck) noodle soup. Because he replaced a Chinese eatery, the owner, Montry Sengsouriya, keeps dishes like chicken chow mein and a Japanese-style beef teriyaki bowl on the menu. Finish up with a tiny bottle of *Kratin Daeng*, Red Bull. It s a vitamin elixir the Thais and Lao love to glug for energy. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (6/02)

Sala Thai 6161 El Cajon Boulevard (College Plaza), College Area, 619-229-9050. With purple cloth napkins, white tablecloths, green ban-quettes, butter-colored walls, and a portrait of King Chulalongkorn, Sala Thai has all the trappings of a class joint - except you're only paying six or eight bucks for main dishes. The food? A bit gentle on the spice front. *Tom yum kung*, the famous shrimp soup, should make your neck hairs stick straight out, but if that's what you want you'll have to ask the cooks to make it spicier. Chicken *mussaman*, la-beled "medium spicy," is pretty tame but still delicious with its authentic taste-boosters like kaffir lime leaves. Hottest curry: "chicken green." Health treat: Som tum, the famous papaya salad. Lunch, dinner daily; dinner on Sundays. Inexpensive. - E.B. (4/04) Shmoozers Kosher Dairy Restaurant 6366 El Cajon Boulevard (at 63rd Street), College Area, 619-583-1636. Great for vegans! This Kosher eatery promises "all-rennetless cheese, vegetarian food, no meat, no animal fat, certified Kosher, 100% fresh ingredients." Everything is prepared under the supervision of the "Va'ad Harabbonim of San Diego" — meaning, the restaurant is inspected every few days by an Orthodox rabbi to make sure the food is prepared properly. The milk is also checked — Chalav Yis-roel — from milking to bottling. Good eats include "Felafel, California Style," balls of seasoned ground chickpeas, tahini (sesame paste), and salad rolled in a flour tortilla; the 16-inch vegan pizza; and breaded whiting fillets with chips or salad. Closed Fridays. Open Saturdays from one hour after sunset until 11 p.m.; Sunday to Thursday, noon to 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesdays are a take-out-only buffet after 5:30 p.m. Inexpensive. -E.B. (8/01)

Woodstock's Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-0999. It's a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer ballast. (For that matter, the beers — local Stone Pale Ale, Karl Strauss, Arrogant Bastard Ale, and Wyder's Pear Cider, along with the usual Coors Light and Bud — aren't exactly chug-suds.) Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and then folded over at the edge, producing a spongy, crunchcrusted rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy; and the toppings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Happy hour with cut-price beer, etc., 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to midnight. Inexpensive. — *A.M. (4/02)* 

#### FAR EAST

The Hideout Steakhouse and Saloon 27413 Highway 76, Santa Ysabel, 760-782-3656. If you're a Harley-Davidson weekend warrior, this is for you: an old dark timbered roadhouse peeking out of the trees, with its own spring-fed water wheel, 3000 feet up the mountains. Back in the thirties, Hollywood celebs (Roy Rogers, Alfalfa, et al.) used to hang out here on huntin' and fishin trips. Now, bike enthusiasts make it their weekend day-trip destination. It still has a 1920s fireplace roaring at one end, a big pot-belly stove at the other, a honky-tonk upright piano, and a forty-foot-long oakwood bar. Prime rib dinners are the default dish, smoked in hickory and oak, and served with a "Texas-sized baked potato," vegetables, salad, and squaw bread. Other great eats include a delicious prime rib chili (chunks of smoked prime rib, red beans, cheese, onions) and a half-pound "Posse Burger" (with baked beans). Open Saturday and Sunday only. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (5/02)

The Mount Signal Cafe 1201 West Highway 98, Calexico, 760-357-1379.

## "Best Late Night Eats" "Best Spanish Tapas" – San Diego Reader, Readers' Choice

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- 7 pm 5-course dinner and flamenco show \$89\* pp
- 9 pm Flamenco show and midnight celebration, 5-course dinner, show, party favors, champagne toast and access to Club Sevilla \$129\* pp

# Club Sevilla Dinner Show

- 5 pm 5-course dinner and flamenco show \$89\* pp
- 7:30 pm Show and Dance Party, 5-course dinner, flamenco show, dance party, midnight celebration with champagne toast and party favors \$129\* pp or \$179\* pp (relocated to cocktail table after show)

\* Tax, beverage, and 17% gratuity not included. 21+





Out in Yuha desert, west of Calexico, this 40-year-old restaurant remains in the era when Mexicali and Tijuana were rivals for the best bullfighters and bulls north of Mexico City. The owner's mom, Maria de Jesus, was a banderillera, known to fans as "Manolita," a member of perhaps the only female bullfighting team ever. Surrounded by hundreds of bullfighting photos, you'll find traditional casera (homestyle) Mexican dishes. Keep an eye out for old matadors as you dig in. Open Wednesday through Sunday, lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Owl Cafe 674 Main Street (between 6th and 7th), El Centro, 760-336-0298. This classic American café is over 50 years old and still serves good rib-sticking food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate din-ners — and they are full — include roast beef, liver and onions, and chicken-fried steak. Open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday (bar open until 2 a.m.), 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/01)

#### **UPTOWN &** OLD TOWN

Alex's Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), Suite 171, uptown, 619-231-2912. The reborn Alex's (now in the Mr. A's building) is rightly fa-

mous for its "Original Philadelphia cheese steak sandwich" (with fried bell peppers, onions, mushrooms, and mozzarella). Benito Guidagni says what makes his sandwiches so special is that he has the meat trucked in from cheese steak central, South Philly itself. Other Italian-American goodies include the Italian Stallion (Genoa salami, capocolla prosciutto, and mortadella sausage mat), egg plant parmigiana with hot garlic bread, grilled pastrami, and cheese on rye. Partly, of course, you come to see Benny and his family at work. It's, well, very Italian. Open for breakfast, lunch, and just-after-work dinner weekdays. Closed Saturday and Sunday. — E.B. (9/01)

Arrividerci Italian Restaurant 3845 Fourth Street, Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. However you picture an idealized Italian restaurant — sprawling café on the strada or little cozy corner as in *Moonstruck* — somehow Ar-rividerci is "it." The straight-from-Rome look of the crowded sidewalk deck and vellow-and white-awning helps. The menu is a big yet familiar regional pot-pourri. Reliable standards include *vitello bel monte* (veal in a brandy cream sauce with tomatoes); "straw and hay" (*paglio* e fieno al pesto), pale yellow-and-green pasta with string beans and pine nuts in a delicious pesto sauce; baby rack of lamb with rosemary; or shellfish pasta dishes like linguine mediterraneo, with clams, mussels, and big garlicy shrimp. Part of the fun is bumping chairs. Think dining car on a narrow-gauge railroad - you're that close to the next table Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. -E.B. (7/04)

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twiggs Street (at Congress, diagonal to Rockin' Baja Lobster), Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean *pastel de choclo* (a casse-role of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland, spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (citrus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru, earthy Guatemalan chilemal (cilantroladen pork stew), aromatic beef curry from Trinidad, and a sensuous vatapa (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat-and-fowl-free options. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Busalacchi's Ristorante 3683 Fifth Avenue (at Pennsylvania), uptown, 619-298-0119. Remember Olympia Dukakis in *Moonstruck* retreating for comfort to her local trattoria? Busalac chi's has that settled, warm feel, but it's more interesting. Multi-levels create nooks and crannies for liaisons danereuses, or there's the streetside casual level. Niche fountains and faux marble columns make it feel old-fashioned. Being Sicilian, they have plenty of the tomato-sauce-dominated dishes (like torta di melanzana, eggplant layered with mozzarella). But also try the excellent calamari piccata, a calamari "steak" bathed in butter, mushrooms, lemon, capers, and white wine. Simple but delish. Or salads like insalata di fileto with filet mignon, goat cheese, walnuts, eggs, and arugula. And hey, if you want to keep the budget intact, nothing wrong with *spaghetti della casa*. Lunch Tuesday through Friday; dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — E.B. (2/04)

California Cuisine 1027 University (between Tenth Avenue and Vermont), Hillcrest, 619-543-0790. Tod Atcheson is now the chef of this long-lived neighborhood restaurant. Following house tradition, the menu is printed daily and the dishes are chosen according to the harvest and catch of the moment. Still, you can usually count on finding a relatively authentic Caesar salad, a huge and exuberantly garnished bourbon-brined Neiman Ranch pork chop, and irresistible grilled Asian barbecued jumbo shrimp. A summertime special of fresh corn and mussel bisque shouldn't be missed if it's on the menu. There's some day-to-day inconsistency, but a preponderance of deliciousness Save room for pastry chef Lauren Huff-nagel's outstanding, adventurous desserts. Comfortable atmosphere, but interior gets loud when busy. A heated garden patio surrounding a fountain offers romantic al fresco feasting. Dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. ---N.W. (9/04)

Crest Cafe 425 Robinson Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-295-2510. "Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco café backs it up. Cecelia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loyal customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy Vegetable Steam Basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the Fresh Salmon Burger, the OuiOui Burger ("aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted jack cheese") or the wicked, spicy Butter Burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayennecumin mayo and more butter). Best of all, late hours: open 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

**Extraordinary Desserts** 1430 Union Street (at Ash), Little Italy, 619-294-7001; also 2929 Fifth Avenue, uptown, 619-294-2132. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a meal head for the newer Little Italy location, a vast, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates — *mezze* spreads, bruschettas, sandwiches, and cheese plates. Flavors tend to be intense; some creations (such as a bacon-cured salmon sandwich and *pantelleria*, a celery-date spread) are wonderful, others are exhausting even in small portions. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that live up to "extraordinary," to eat on-site or to take home. Chefowner Karen Krasne's incorporates fla-vors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (including champagnes), beers, fruit elixirs. Vegetarian-friendly menu. Both locations are open seven days, three meals, closing at 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at midnight on weekends. Moderate. - N.W. (2/05) Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Boulevard (between University and El Cajon), Hillcrest, 619-295-2244. The

Gulf's faux-rustic, woodsy dining rooms and patio are great hangouts if you like a restaurant with a noisy party atmosphere. The menu focuses on the cuisine of the South and Southwest, with an emphasis on Louisiana and a heavy hand on the salt shaker. The kitchen does best with the straight Southern dishes, turning out divine fried soft-shelled crabs, airy hush pup-pies, and delicious little corn muffins. If you're deeply familiar with Cajun-Creole flavors, though, don't look for pure authenticity — you'll do better with jambalaya, étouffée, or the lunchtime oyster po' boy than with the soulless gumbo or the misconceived red beans and rice. Heated, smokerfriendly front patio. Wheelchair elevator to rest rooms next to stairs. Free parking lot left of the door. Full bar. Lunch Monday through Saturday, brunch Sunday, dinner nightly (early closing Sunday). Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (4/03)

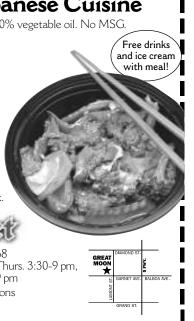
Harney Sushi 3964 Harney Street Town, Congress), Old

619-295-3272. This friendly little spot on a side street serves as a secret haven of pretty-good sushi just a few steps from Old Town's nonstop tacos and margaritas. You can also get sashimi, Japanese appetizers, and a few mixedethnicity entrées (noodles, pasta, teriyaki, tempura) made with seafood or chicken breast. Beef is served, but numerous dishes are vegetarian. Good sake list. Sound system runs loud inside; patio dining available in warm weather. Reservations for sushi bar accepted but not necessarily honored. Open weekdays for lunch, dinner nightly until midnight, with a DJ on Friday and Saturday. Sushi prices lower than most, entrées inexpensive to moderate. - N.W. (4/03)

Jimmy Carter's Cafe 3172 Fifth Avenue (at Spruce Street), Hillcrest, 619-295-2070. This comfy, middleclass eatery has a surprise - great Indian breakfasts (until 11:30 a.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. weekends). Try their chicken curry or pessaratu (mung bean crêpe with onions, peppers, ginger, *dhal*, and chutneys). Or vegetarian *vin-daloo*. Jimmy (no, not the ex-pres) does Chinese too—like the Mongolian beef (Chinese vegetables and beef in a hot chili sauce over rice or noodles), or good Mexican dishes such as chili verde (pork or chicken simmered in spicy tomatillo sauce). But center stage is his all-American Jimmy Burger (1/3pound patty with potato or carrot salad). One bonus: a fine tangential view of Balboa Park's lawns and trees. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/01)

Prado House of Hospitality, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado features cute neo-Nouveau decor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian-with-Asian-touches cuisine. The food brings few surprises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes, a refreshing eggplant "napoleon," and an astonish ingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A meringue-based banana tres leches cake is everyone's favorite dessert. The bar makes a nice stop during a museum-crawl and offers ethereal fried oysters

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Vast interior can be noisy, but heated, umbrella-topped terrace tables are quiet and scenic. Moderate to a little expensive, with reasonable wine list. N.W. (12/00) Region 3671 Fifth Avenue (at Penn-

svlvania), Hillcrest, 619-299-6499. Two of our best young chefs — Michael Stebner and Allyson Colwell — are creating inventive, daily-changing menus inspired by superb seasonal ingredients from local farms and artisans. The decor is rustic and the style is "pure and simple" to showcase the intense flavors of wild-caught fish and naturally raised meats and produce. Don't miss the house-made cheeses and brilliantly unconventional desserts. You can order à la carte, or a whole table can share a well-priced "trust the chef" tasting din-ner drawn mainly from the evening's menu, with an optional matching wine-flight. An adventurous wine list at reasonable markups adds to the fun and the bartender offers inventive cocktails. Reservations urged, especially for weekends. Restaurant is up four stairs; wheelchair lift available (ask bartender). Can be noisy, banquettes are quietest. Dinner Tuesday through Sat-urday. High moderate. — *N.W. (1/05)* 

and a range of gussied-up margaritas. Keep an eye out for special prix fixe dinners that include tickets to museum

exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital.

Saffron Noodles and Sate 3737 India Street, South Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It's the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time. Whatever the recipe is — and Su-Mei Yu, the owner and celebrated cookbook author, says it's from the Isaan, Thailand's ethnic Lao North east - it catches your nose. We're talking "boxing arena grilled chicken," after the place where she smelled its spicy cooking aromas while growing up in Bangkok. You have a choice of five sauces to go with the chicken, from peanut to sweet pepper. Also try the noodle soups, like Tomm Yam with shrimp: sinus-clearing, delicious, and surprisingly filling. The food here is real, fresh, genuine Thai cuisine with Chinese echoes — like Su-Mei Yu her-self. Middle-class San Diego seems to have adopted her eatery, despite the fact you're in a pretty stark gray-andwhite room with views of I-5. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. - E.B. (3/04)

Zocalo Grill 2444 San Diego Avenue (a block north of Old Town Cemetery), Old Town. 619-298-9840. This casual, festive spinoff of the Brigantine chain features "Pacific coastal cuisine," an eclectic international hodgepodge with a faint Mexican accent and "something for everyone." And some of those somethings are delicious — a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados, or co-conut-shrimp kebabs emerging from a pineapple, or a huge, beautifully grilled spiny lobster with avocado salsa. Appetizers are half price at happy hour, and you can make a whole dinner out of substantial "tapas" sized for sharing. The heated, semi-roofed outdoor terrace encourages al fresco dining year-round. Full bar with creative margaritas, eight draft beers, and California wines including Brigantine's own cus-tom blends at good prices. Wheelchair lift in back, ramp at south side of terrace. Reservations strongly advised for weekends. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. -N.W. (10/02)

#### DOWNTOWN

Assaggio 835 Fourth Avenue (near F Street, between the two Bandars), Gaslamp, 619-234-6538. Sit on the sidewalk patio and you'll feel like you're in Italy at this authentic Italian trattoria, which started out as a bakery and evolved into a full-scale eatery. Soups and pastas are usually wonderful (try the *penne ubriache*); however, entrées are more pedestrian and seafood isn't a strong suit. Every meal here has a happy ending: the delightful desserts are made in-house and baked fresh daily. Match them with some of the best espresso in the city (even the decaf tastes the way coffee smells) and you've got the perfect spot for capping your evening after the movies or show. Narrow wheelchair access to rest room. Beer and wine. Brunch/lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday until 11 p.m. — N.W. (10/04)

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Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway (at Street), downtown, Tenth 619-232-6264. This restaurant, near the downtown Senior Center and City College, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they're not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly fine pizza, for instance, is now marred by oily, low-grade mozzarella and notso-great optional deli-meat toppings. But the main thing is, while the rest of downtown snores, they're still open, from 10 a.m. to to 3 a.m., seven days. And they'll even deliver to nearby neighborhoods. Inexpensive. N.W. (9/03)

China Too 916 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), downtown, 619-239-4283 or 619-239-1456. The menu claims "New York Style Fine Chinese Cuisine." Would you settle for decent Brooklyn-or Bronx-style take-out? Way better than at the 99-cent joints, soups are based on sturdy peasant stock (Chinese mother style) and the sound sauces are

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made with no MSG and minimal corn starch. But don't look for fresh-picked veggies, too — it's Brooklyn, Jake. Chef Chen's menu includes Mandarin, Szechuan and Cantonese favorites, with a page of multi-regional "Chef's Specialties (#90-#107). But what really makes this a "New York-ish" spot will bring joy to hungry mouths all over the restaurant-starved stretch east and south of Balboa Park: free deliverv from I-8 to Harbor Drive, from Pacific Highway to 805. Open for lunch and dinner daily (except Saturdays) until 10 p.m. Entrées mostly \$7 to \$10. Inexpensive. — N.W. (7/04)

Downtown Johnny Brown's 1220 Third Avenue (in the Community Concourse at Third and B), downtown, 619-232-8414. Walk up through the Community Concourse past the ship fountain and bingo! — downtown's answer to a European sidewalk café. Place has a generous patio of chairs and umbrellas. All green and white. You get two types here: sport-minded types (a dozen TV screens, Chargers, Padres, Aztecs banners inside), and city government workers. Burgers are good, but try the breast of chicken burger with soup of the day. Chicken's grilled, edge-burnt, spicy. Soup's bobbing with fresh-cut vegetables. Also, salads: taco or Southwest Chicken. What's best: sitting outside and watching people — not traffic — bustle by. — *E.B.* (4/03)

**Greystone** 658 Fifth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lobster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at \$35 to \$50, but roars up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, su-per-Tuscans and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly "suits" with deep expense-account pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up or downstairs). Reservations urged, but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. -N.W. (12/01)

Monsoon Exotic Cuisine of India 729 Fourth Avenue (off G Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5555. The younger sister to Hillcrest's Bombay Exotic Cuisine shares the same chefs and serves much the same standard repertory of "Northern Indian cuisine made easy," with a few tropical additions vaguely inspired by Southern flavors. Curries are indistinct from each other and run to the mild side, no matter what you specify. Breads are good; tandooris disappointingly soft-surfaced. A room-dividing fountain recreates the roar of

the namesake tropical downpour. Add a lively dinner crowd and it's a (Gunga) din Solid wine list, some Indian beers. full bar specializing in sweet cocktails, Open daily. Inexpensive buffet lunches; moderate à la carte dinners until 11 p.m. — N.W. (10/04)

Mr. Tiki's Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Avenue (at F Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-1183. If you loved Trader Vic's (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here. Check out the "grass skirt" decor with huge tiki gods and the vaguely "islander" cuisine featuring greasy Cantonese-American fried classics, elementary sushi, and the occasional sprint into fusion-cuisine seafood. But, as you might guess, the greatest creativity in the house goes into the silly umbrella cocktails, and those are mainly delish. Age 21 and over after 9 p.m. (even with parents). Dinner nightly until 11 p.m.; weekends until 1 a.m. Moderate. — *N.W. (10/04)* 

Old World Restaurant 452 Eighth Avenue (at J Street), downtown, 619-238-0568. This is a delight for anyone who loves Northern European food. Their "Great Grilled Grueben" homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, "gemütlich." Also, try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy mus-tard, and rye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch

on Saturdays. Inexpensive. – E.B. (8/01)

Osetra 904 Fifth Avenue (at E Street). Gaslamp, 619-239-1800. Possibly the most expensive restaurant in San Diego. Osetra is named for a precious, near-endangered caviar (which it serves) and attracts patrons who enjoy throwing their money around. The atmosphere is pure Las Vegas, with two floors of loud ambient music, glitzy décor, and a "wine angel" in black tights hoisting herself around a gleaming glass tower to fetch your precious bottle. Celebrities and big spenders get atten-tive service, others take their chances. The menu is mostly seafood, but it, too, carries the Vegas imprimatur of vulgar bad taste. Too many bold flavors are at war on almost every plate, and even the simplest dishes are overwrought frenzies of fusion. Best bets for satisfying your palate and curiosity: raw ovsters, the cold seafood platter, caviar (if your wallet and conscience can afford it). Disabled access to first-floor dining room only. Full bar. Dinner nightly until 11 p.m., to midnight on weekends. Reserve well ahead. Exorbitant. — N.W. (10/04)

Po Pazzo 1917 India Street (at Grape), Little Italy, 619-238-1917. The restaurant's name means "a little crazy," but owner Joe Busalacchi was crazy like a fox to open the first seriously swanky eatery in Little Italy. The decor resembles the set of a Manhattan supper club in a black-and-white movie, right down to the gray color scheme and curvy booths. Music plays loudly (with a live pianist on weekends), keeping the energy and noise levels high. You almost expect to see Frankie and Dino at the next table. The USDA Prime steaks are flash-roasted in a special oven at 1700 degrees (in the stvle of Ruth's Chris), and if they're a little chewy, they're also flavorful — especially the "Sicilian steak." But the pasta dishes are even better, and the veggies accompanying the entrées often outshine the proteins — the kitchen is still Italian at heart and the fundamental things apply. Full bar. Lunch and dinner daily until 11 p.m. weeknights and 1 a.m. weekends. Reservations advised. Expensive. - N.W. (10/04)

Tamale Cart Outside Rancho Fresco, 1852 National Avenue, Barrio Logan 619-338-9140. If you've ever wondered what it would be like to eat as the Aztecs ate, come here and try some of the tamales - classic Aztec food - in all their flavors. Tamales are sort of steamed cornmeal dumplings wrapped in corn husks, served with sauce. The choice of goodies stuffed in the middle can include strips of pork, beef, chicken, or cheese, as well as pineapple, strawberries, or coconut. While you're at it, try the traditional accompaniment, the *champurrado* drink: milk mixed with *masa* — ground corn meal — chocolate, and cinnamon. In this mainly Spanish-speaking market you can sit, watch, and pick up a few bargains too. Tamales make a great breakfast. Three should do you. These are made by the Restaurant Chiapaneco up at 25th and Market. Open breakfast through late lunch, seven

bor Drive, downtown, 619-234-4867. The upper-crust upper floor of the downtown Fish Market (see Multiple Locations listing) has largely the same food as the downstairs, plus a few lux-







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ury items (e.g., abalone) and occasionally some creative appetizer specials. Prices are about 25% higher for identical items, in exchange for a slightly elevated view and a dressier, whitetablecloth setting that's almost "formal" by San Diego standards — flipflops and tank tops (on men) aren't allowed, and collared shirts (e.g., polos) are suggested at dinner. That doesn't mean that the atmosphere is quietly gracious — the room's just as huge, packed, and raucous as the lower realms, even on the terrace. Reserve, and expect a short wait anyway. Elevator provides wheelchair access. Open daily. Expensive. — N.W. (9/01)

# SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

El Dorado 311 Palomar (at 3rd Avenue), Chula Vista, 426-4545. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America, and Chula Vista's growing Peruvian community expects authenticity. El Dorado is there for them. The papa relleno is pure bliss — a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. *Seco de cabrito* features young goat in a complex, herbed stew exploding with cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with chancho, smoked hominy-corn kernels. Alas, here in the far north, the cuisine's fire is tuned way down for the kiddies — but there's always hot sauce. Reflecting the local population, half the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but more serious dinner dishes, especially seafood, carried out with above-aver-age flair. Three meals, seven days. Inexpensive to *N.W. (10/04)* moderate.

The Family House of Pancakes 562 Broadway (across from Chula Vista Center), Chula Vista, 619-425-5133. This is a great place for three things: your family, your kids, and your appetite. The restaurant is famous for its "Grandma's" buckwheat pancakes, its banana-pecan pancake, and its rolled pancakes, oozing with berries and topped with cream and powdered sugar. Just try and survive their 8-12 egg omelet! Other good bets include a deluxe burger with French fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and a grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Breakfast/lunch only, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

**Flamingo Cafe** 396 Broadway (at G Street), Chula Vista. 619-691-1076. Generations have been coming to the Flamingo ever since its grand opening in July, 1925, when it was a lone building amidst the vegetable fields. Regulars on fixed incomes form the backbone of this institution, so the meal deals are real: hearty portions of chipped beef on toast, meatloaf sandwiches with fries, or lunch specials like half a sandwich and a cup of soup. One favorite: the bef stew special in a bread bowl. Evenings, there's always a "Sundowner" special. Open 24 hours, 7 days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)* 

**Island Pasta** 1202 Orange Avenue (at Loma Street), Coronado, 619-435-4545. This unassuming, spillout-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the sidewalk, daily made-on-the-premises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure al fresco with a glass of wine, sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One good — and vegetarian — special to ask for is the *verdure* pasta, a combo of artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghettini. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/01)

La Bella Pizza Garden 373 Third Avenue (at F Street), Chula Vista, 619-426-8820. From the outside, La Bella looks like an Italian farmhouse, with geraniums, bright green shutters, and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are: long hours (from breakfast until after midnight daily), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with mushrooms, pepperoni, and sausage. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/01)

Mary J's Cafe 1930 Cleveland Avenue, National City, 619-477-6645 or 619-477-5306. Mary J and her café have been around for 40 years and about the only thing to change is the prices. This is the real National City. The regulars start piling in at 5 a.m. Mary always has specials going, but check the big board menu above the stove too. One of their most popular items is the Trucker's Breakfast (three eggs, ham, bacon or sausage, home fries, and toast), or steak and eggs with hash browns and toast. Mary's son Vic, the morning cook, alwavs gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also hefty: cheeseburgers or tuna melts (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 5 a.m. to 6 p.m, weekdays only. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (6/02)

**Miguel's Cocina** 1351 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-437-4237. Also 2912 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-2401 and 970 Eastlake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Cached inside the courtyard of a "Spanish Colonial" mini-mall, Miguel's breezy trellised patio draws a dense dinner crowd from the nearby Del. The prime-time wait for a table may be worth it if you're in a gringo-Mex mood, especially if you've got kids in tow. Although the cooking is blandly pleasant (even the guacamole is underseasoned), it's surprisingly painstaking. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the numerous shellfish-stuffed tortilla concoctions (shrimp enchiladas, lobster burritos) are positively luscious. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W. (900)* 

**Tin Fish** Imperial Beach Pier, 910 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-628-8414. At a table by this fish shack at the far end of the pier, you can watch people and pigeons (and people feeding pigeons) as you dig into huge portions of simple seafood, appetized

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by the sea air. The bill of fare features fish — fried, grilled, chowdered, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwiches. The big fried combos are about what you'd expect, but more piquant pleasures come in smaller packages. (Portions are generous, whatever you order.) The ovster shooters, for instance, boast a sauce made from fresh diced tomatoes topped with horseradish. The spicy fish tacos are re-ally spicy, while the fried onion rings are of surpassing delicacy. Best of all, the crab cakes are huge and seriously crabby, with plenty of meat and very little filler. Live music on weekends, good vibes all the time. "Tin Fish Shut-tle" (50 cents) runs from parking lot to the restaurant. Open daily, breakfast (to 10:30 a.m.) through early dinner. A second branch at 170 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-8100, open daily lunch and early dinner, offers patio dining across from the Convention Center. Inexpensive to low moderate, – N.W. (7/01)

#### BAJA

#### From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388 (at 8th), Zona Centro, Tijuana, 685-4955. Eat here and you're sur-rounded by ghosts: Errol Flynn, John Huston, Rita Hayworth, Anthony Quinn, Ava Gardner, and, they say, Ernest Hemingway, who all ate — and drank vino tinto — here. Plus the great stars of boxing and bullfighting. But mainly it was a haven for Spanish jai alai players desperate for Old Country food. This is one of Tijuana's great his toric eateries, its tale written on the walls. Old border photos, Don Quixote art, fighting bull ranchos' brands, and a matador's framed green cape with his blood still on it. The food's all Spanish so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork sausages), *bacalao* (cod fish) *a la Viz*caina, trout with olive oil and garlic, and Gallican octopus. Open daily. In-expensive to moderate. — E.B. (5/02)

El Nido Boulevard Benito Juárez #67 (1-1/2 blocks north of Hotel Festival Plaza), Rosarito Beach, Baja, 661-612-1430. Head south if you're looking for a great dry-aged, mesquite-broiled steak at a bargain price — but don't stop there. Try the house specialty, quail with garlic sauce (*codorniz al mojo de ajo*), or venison, especially the savory *machaca de venado* (strips of meat with peppers, onions, and tomatoes). Both are locally raised on the restaurant's own ranches, and may be united in a brilliant breakfast of quail eggs with deer machaca. Seafood and surf-and-turf variations are tasty, too. The restaurant's name means "the nest" and the amusing indoor-outdoor decor is a sort of multiroom aviary with birds singing, chirp-ing, and fluttering all over. Full bar. If sensitive to smoke, don't sit next to the mesquite-burning hearth on the roofed patio. Dressy-casual. Bilingual staff and menu. Open daily, early morning to late evening. Mostly moderate; cash only. -N.W. (4/03)

La Diferencia Avenida Sánchez Taboada 10611-A, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-3346 or 634-7078. Mexican haute cuisine, with inventive combinations of traditional flavors. The creative menu reframes the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries (Monte Xanic and Cetto) at reasonable prices. Secure, free valet parking next to exterior courtyard. Menu is in Spanish (in a hard-to-read font), but some staffers speak some English. The restaurant is often noisy, even louder when mariachis play. Smoking permitted. Wheelchair access marginal. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (1/02)* 

La Espadana Avenida Sánchez Taboada #10813, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-1488 or 634-1489. If you learn only one word of Spanish, learn this one: Bor rego. Because this place does the greatest oven-cooked leg of lamb ever. The meat tastes as if it was cooked in wine, garlic. and herbs, but the owners insist it's just Tecate lamb baked slowly in its own juices with a bit of oregano. But most folks come here for beef - steaks and the popular beef fillet, sizzled at a big flame and-smoke display counter BBQ grill. All terra-cotta and timber, this is where the local middle classes come for their cross-border food fix. Think Tijuana's version of Mission Valley. Still, it's charming, and you can have fun. For instance, don't forget to ask them to ring the bells set in their espadañas (holes cut in the Mission frontage) above the great arched wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they're great for celebrating your 21st birthday, mom getting her degree - whatever. Open for

breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — *E.B.* (11/04)

La Fonda Roberto's Avenida Cuahutémoc #2800 (at Agua Caliente Boulevard), Tijuana, 686-4687, How often do you get to eat something totally new? Like *huazontle*, the Aztecs' "red spinach"? Roberto's presents it as an eggcovered mass of baby sprigs wrapped around a sausage of Monterrey cheese, all swimming in a chocolatey mole sauce. You haul the *huazontle* branches through your teeth to de-seed them, just as Montezuma did 500 years ago. This is the fascination of Roberto Reves's eatery. It's a tribute to his home state of Puebla in the heartland of Mexico. Cactus plays a big part: Dedos Montezuma ("Mon tezuma's fingers") is cactus stuffed with steak; torta de camaron seco is a shrimp patty topped with cactus; cecina Oaxaqueña is cured meat with cactus salad. But there're also steaks, mole poblano (chocolatey chicken with seven different chiles), and the delicious chile en nogada (chile pepper stuffed with beef, fruits, and nuts — fried in egg and covered with creamy nut sauce). Nice dining room too — built around a fountain. Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Mondays. Moderate. - E.B. (2/05)

**Los Pelicanos** Calle de Cedro 115#45 (west of Juarez), Rosarito Beach, Baja, 661-612-0445 or 661-612-1737. This hotel dining room is El Nido's little (and less gifted) sister, with a much shorter menu (no venison) and perhaps less careful cooking. It serves good steaks and surf-and-turf in a handsome room and, at lunch, on a pretty ocean-view terrace. To find it, look for large sign on west side of Juarez, north of the tourist hub, directing you to the site. One winding flight up to the restaurant, no elevator. Bilingual staff and menu. Full bar. Open daily, three meals. Moderate; cash only. -N.W. (4/03)

Mercado Sobre Ruedas From the toll road, take first Rosarito exit. At third traffic light, turn left and then take immediate right into Colonia Lucio Blanco. Don't miss this huge flea market that materializes every Sunday (from morn ing until mid-afternoon) a couple of miles north of the tourist part of town. Its dozens of food-booths offer a vast variety of local treats, ranging from barbecued mutton (borrego) to savory Jaliscostyle goat stew (*birria de chivo*) to all manner of tacos, made-to-order hotcakes with syrup, "Mexican hamburgers," and Sno-Kones (don't worry about the ice; by law, it has to be made with pu-rified water). The food is totally authentic, cooked to Mexican tastes, and it's a carnival for the mouth. Many vendors speak some English. Rock-bottom prices; cash only. — N.W. (4/03)

**Tacos Varios y Aguas Frescas** Corner of Constitución and 3rd, Tijuana. This is "ijust" a cart, but don't let that stop your making the effort. Students, local businesspeople, and workers agree: this is the real thing. It's always causing a people-bulge on the sidewalk. However, the cart is only here from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., so you have to time it right. But from tongue to chicken mole, to *milanesa*, steak ranchero, *carne asada*, *diil*, but *from tongue to chicken casala* (fish), they create really big taco meals right there. Bonus: standing around chomping in the street is a great way to meet people and practice your Spanish. Nighttime only. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (*1/04*)

#### MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Anthony's Fish Grotto 1360 North Harbor Drive (at Ash Street), down-town, 619-232-5103; 215 West Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 619-425-4200; 9530 Murray Drive, La Mesa, 619-463-0368. You're going to get a sore neck at the downtown flagship of this local chain, splitting your time between your meal, your partner, and the harbor scene outside. If you don't want over-complicated food, Anthony's obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. Or Mama's Platter, cod combined with batter-fried calamari, shrimp oysters, scallops, and clam strips. Anthony's has been up and running for six decades now, with the buying power to get the pick of the catch. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, plus — if you've got the bread — delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, winey sauce. Try to be there at sunset when the water-sky show will do its darndest to distract you. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. - É.B. (12/05)

**Buca di Beppo** 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822; 1921 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-479-2533. People come here to celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of "themed" Italian. Bucca di Beppo ("Joe's Cellar") is a mighty national chain — but it works. Downtown's rabbit-warren of lowceilinged dining rooms is plastered with Italian photos (check out Sophia Loren, transfixed by Jane Mansfield's breasts) and crowded with customers chowing down from portions large enough to feed two or more. Try the *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the popular chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff, but

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what the heck — you're having fun. Don't leave without conquering the mountainous, wicked Bella Festa, two huge balls of ice cream on double chocolate cakes running with sambuca sauce, caramel, and nuts on an 18-inch plate. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (12/05)

Fish House Vera Cruz 360 Via Vera Cruz (in back of "Restaurant Row"), San Marcos, 760-744-7346. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood eatery packs in diners like sardines. Fresh fish and lots of it is the happenin' thing. On a recent day, 23 different fresh fish selections were available as daily specials, on top of the reg-ular menu of crab, lobster, oysters, shrimp, catfish, etc. All fish is mesquitebroiled with no sauces and no special preparations but a dab of tartar sauce. The seafood is so fresh you don't really mind. Each entrée includes a choice of two side dishes. The Manhattan chow der is especially tasty, as is their "krab" salad. This is an ideal place for families, but don't even think of it for a romantic meal out. Open daily for lunch and din-ner. Moderate. — *S.M. (3/04)* 

The Fish Market 750 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-232-3474. There's something fishy about these crowded, noisy, ever-multiplying restaurants — namely, mesquite-grilled, skew-ered, steamed, or panko-fried seafood, plus piscine chowders, pastas, and salads. Preparations are generally simple and consistent among locations. All the raw seafood is processed at the chain's Northern California facilities, so when the menu refers to a "local" species it merely means it's from somewhere in the Pacific. Small retail fish market in the downtown branch offers slightly fresher products than most supermarkets. Identical products and dishes are served in the dining room, the oyster bar, and at Top of the Market. But the sushi bar is emphatically the top Fish Market venue, with just-right rice, pristine seafood, and expert preparation. The "Ichiban Hamachi" (also available in the dining rooms) is outstanding — and for a sexy treat, share a pair of "Honeymoon Oysters" with your honey. No reservations but the space is vast so waits are brief. Restaurant open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. Also in Del Mar at 640 Via Del Valle, 858-755-2277 mini-branch near Fashion Valley, 2401 Fenton Parkway, 619-280-2277. -N.W. (9/01)

II Fornaio 1333 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4911. Also at Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-8876. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering

around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing - but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. "*Il fornaio*" means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rus tic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from sfi-latino con bistecchina (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce bistecca alla fiorentina, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple penne alla sorrentina pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pizza put-tanesca is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. - E.B. (1/02)

Oggi's At least ten branches all over the suburbs; see phone book for the nearest one. Is it the pizzas or is it the housemade brewskis (six ales, one lager, one stout) that make Oggi's so popular? Is it the sports-bar ambiance (with multiple video screens) or just the near-ubiquity of branches that has won this chain numerous "best pizza" citations? The pizzas are Americanstyle, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate toppings that sound more adventurous than they taste. (All the cheese alternatives are equally mild.) The menu also offers pub snacks, decent soups and salads, hearty sandwiches, and American-Italian entrées so mall-adapted that no *mamma mia* in Bensonhurst or North Beach would even recognize them. Full bar, lunch and dinner daily at most branches; free local delivery with minimum order. Inexpensive. N.W. (7/04)

**Uno Chicago Bar and Grill** The 1943-born Uno chain made its mark by transforming the flat Italian pizza into something a little more upstanding. Deep-dish pizzas have become one of Chicago's better-known exports. Now Uno does serious steak too, with variously sized Angus top sirloins. They come pretty much as is, but the meat itself is plenty flavorful and tender. Another find from its expanded menu (which includes fajitas, ribs, shrimp scampi, steak'n cheese burgers) is the wicked "grilled honey-mustard salmon." Still, most lunchtime customers we saw seemed to stick to the staple: deep-dish pizzas and salads. Open daily, continuous service, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. 4465 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-483-4143; Fashion Valley Center, 619-298-1866; 5th and H, Chula Vista, 619-420-8660. — *E.B.* (8/01)

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# **An Unsettled Score**

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DUNCAN SHEPHERD

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hen Steven Spielberg's frustrating courtship of Oscar finally reached consummation, it was for the one-two punch of 1993. A monstrous (in more than

one sense) summer blockbuster, *Jurassic Park*, followed up, in the year-end awards season, with the epit-

ome of the Prestige Picture, Schindler's List. Dinosaurs on the one hand, the Holocaust on the other. A man of many parts, an artist of vast range. A similar game plan appeared to have been mapped out this year. War of the Worlds in the summertime, just to prove that Spielberg can still pack them into the seats, and then at the holidays a hugger-mugger film of such gravity, such bravery, such integrity, that it refused to stoop to the sort of crass marketeering that got Spielberg to the top of the pedestal he sits upon today. For Munich, an account of the terrorist massacre of eleven Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics and the bloody aftermath, the Best Picture Oscar might not suffice. Nothing less, perhaps, than the Nobel Peace Prize will do.

But something went wrong with the game plan. A pre-release *Time* 

magazine cover ("Spielberg's Secret Masterpiece"), coupled with an exclusive interview inside, seemed to deviate, even to *stoop*, and in response the left-out members of the press got

defensive. Early editorials on the film found fault with it, at least from the perspective of the Zionist hard-

liner, for its perceived appeasement of terrorists, its evenhandedness its virtual equivalence - in the treatment of Palestinians and Israelis, its unwillingness to take sides, its avoidance of a point of view, its political naivety. Meanwhile, Brokeback Mountain, which had not been hiding its Roman candle under a bushel, jumped out to a big lead in the amassment of prizes from critics' circles. The goslow strategy of Munich - or in the sports metaphor of the season, the grind-it-out ground game, disastrously abandoned for one single backfiring forward pass - has put it in a hole. Which has put me, in turn, in the unaccustomed position of coming to Spielberg's defense.

The essential thing to be said about the film is what shouldn't need to be said, that *Munich* is no more a peace

plan, no more a Middle East policy statement, than *Brokeback Mountain* is a referendum on gay rights or a vote of censure on homophobia, although such extrinsic considerations always will cloud critical judgment. *Munich* is first and last a story, a thriller, a tale of revenge, albeit "inspired by real events." The historical starting point is of course well known, but not so well that we can't benefit from a refresher: the breach of security at the Olympic Village by a commando team of the then unknown Black September group (getting unwitting assistance from some drunken American athletes), the taking of hostages in the Israeli dorm and the issuing of de-

mands, the televised standoff (with archival commentary from ABC's Jim McKay, Howard Cosell, Peter Jennings), the springing of the trap at the airport, the initial reports that all the hostages were safe, and then the sad truth: "They're all gone." This is handled economically, with some nice supplementing of familiar news





footage (the famous shot of the skimasked terrorist on the balcony is ingeniously viewed on a TV screen and restaged simultaneously from a different angle inside the apartment), and a legitimately heart-wrenching clip of each of the actual eleven victims in previous good health.

The rest of the story -- this story, as scripted by Tony Kushner and Eric Roth, never mind the true story — is apt to be a revelation: the assassination contracts on eleven suspected Black Septemberists — an eye for an eye, eleven for eleven — authorized by Prime Minister Golda Meir herself ("Forget peace for now. We have to show them we are strong"), the team of five Mossad hit men selected for their unfamiliarity in intelligence circles rather than their proven efficiency in the field (the actors, accordingly, selected for their low candlepower, their distance from Tom Cruise: Eric Bana, Ciarán Hinds, Mathieu Kassovitz, Hanns Zischler, and the man ironically selected later to be the next James Bond, Daniel Craig), the adoption of tactics that bear a marked resemblance to terrorism (a commando assault in Beirut clearly echoes the original assault in Munich), the inevitable transformation of the hunters into the hunted, the mounting deaths, the rising doubts, the growing paranoia, and the final tally, at the end of the game, of six targets eliminated, three team members lost, and untold collateral damage. Additional details of what happened in Munich will run through the mind of the tortured team leader, in two separate installments along the trail of vengeance, as if to strengthen resolve. A third and final installment will run through his mind when he's off the job and on top of his wife in bed, dripping with sweat and straining with effort, looking like it's Round 12 in a Rocky movie, a mortifyingly overwrought sequence. For a very large fraction of its two-

and-three-quarters hours, however, the action is tense and unpredictable, kept within the straits of credibility by various means: by a consciousness of, if not a strict fidelity to, the factuality of the case; by a care not to let the thrills overpower the aversion to violence; by an accent on the human factor. I have had plenty of occasion to note, over the years, how suspense can be heightened by proximity to life and paradoxically lowered by pumped-up exaggeration of it. I wasn't sure that the director of the Indiana Jones films had ever noted that. I was pretty sure, nevertheless, that he knew a thing or two about directing. And his low-slung camera here, tilting the plane of the image backwards, tipping the axis of the world off-kilter, recalls the Germanic influence on American filmmakers from Orson Welles through Anthony Mann through John Frankenheimer. For the first assassination assignment in Rome, targeting a seemingly harmless translator of The Arabian Nights, Spielberg even borrows a patented gimmick from Frankenheimer's The Manchurian Candidate, when the lethal bullets bring forth a gush of milk instead of blood. (This made a big hit in 1962 with one of Spielberg's early critical champions, Pauline Kael.) In the next assignment in Paris, substituting a

bomb for bullets, the untimely return of an innocent little girl into the target area may be hokey — why do we say may be when we mean is unquestionably? - but the management of space and subjective points of view reminds us why Spielberg used to conjure comparison with Hitchcock. The ongoing difficulty of the team's demolitions expert, a toymaker by trade, to calculate the force of his blasts, demonstrates in a nutshell how credibility, how humanity, heightens tension. And the independent intelligence outfit in France, a shadowy Deep Throat entity, serves not just to facilitate the narrative but also to complicate it. Will the seller of secrets sell out their buyer as well? Michael (sometimes Michel) Lonsdale has a good part as the avuncular head of the organization, a former Resistance fighter, on a convivial estate in the country, but it pained me to see a resplendent European star of the stature of Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi thrown nothing but a couple of table scraps.

Incontestably, Spielberg has not rid himself of his grandiosity and his self-indulgence. The overextended running time is simply, contradictory





though it sounds to say so, a shortcut to Importance, a direct equation of size with significance. And the assorted lightening, whitening, fading effects in the cinematography of Janusz Kaminski (Schindler's List, Amistad, Saving Private Ryan, etc.) call attention to themselves in their inconsistency. But of Spielberg's "views" on the Middle East, I know nothing, and need to know nothing, outside the film itself. I did not read the *Time* interview, let alone the studio press notes, and thus when one of the attacks on the film argues that you cannot sit down and reason with terrorists, I am compelled to protest that the film nowhere says you can. At one point in it, when the assassinations have touched off titfor-tat reprisals, one of the Israelis grimly proclaims, "We're in dialogue now." So much for peace talks. Somewhere, apparently, because I see it quoted everywhere, the director has described his film as "a prayer for peace." I wouldn't describe it that way. I would describe it as profoundly pessimistic, an outlook verboten among politicians but perfectly permissible among artists - if I may use the term broadly enough to include Spielberg — and within the conventions of tales of revenge. (In that respect, the shortcoming of Spielberg's oeuvre overall is that he has been too much the politician and not enough the artist: too much campaigning, too much glad-handing, too much telling people what he supposes they want to hear, not enough telling his own truth.) That a story has connections to the real world and to current events does not require its teller to propose a solution. His only duty is to the story. This one, making its case strongly,

brought back to mind another story of a Mossad assassination plot, The Little Drummer Girl, a John le Carré spy novel put on screen in 1984 by the late George Roy Hill. Though a topnotch thriller, a notch above Munich, it came and went without much of a stir. We can only imagine how the very same film would be received if it were made today. (Provided we can imagine in the first place that it could ever get made today.) To be sure, the world has changed a good deal in the interim. The media blanket is so much more smothering, for one thing. For another, it's now post-9/11. And for another, the conflict in the Middle East has dragged on for precisely twenty-one more years. In Munich, one of the humanized Arabs, a PLO henchman, is heard to say, "It will take a hundred years, but we'll win." If we're marking the days from the birth of Israel in 1948, a hundred years start to sound, at the current pace, like a conservative, an optimistic, estimate. Spielberg's pessimism should not want for sympathizers.

### 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. • (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20;

PALM PROMENADE 24; VOGUE)

Breakfast on Pluto — Odyssey of a transvestite, self-christened Saint Kitten, from postwar Irish Catholic orphanhood to Swinging London in the Sixties and on through the Disco Daze into the Thatcher era. Cillian Murphy, speaking at the breathy top of his range, is so obnoxiously overconfident, dauntless, irrepressible, etc., as to not only renounce our sympathy but thoroughly rout it. It isn't just him. Director Neil Jordan sets an overall tone of obnoxiousness with his thirty-odd chapter headings (from "In Which I Am Abandoned" to "It's Tearing Me Apart"), a Greek chorus of subtitled songbirds, and a parade of goldie-oldies ("Honey," "Me and Mrs. Jones," "Feelings," "The Windmills of My Mind," and on and on) as congested as that in any Cameron Crowe comedy. The previous film of Jordan's that merits a mention on this occasion would obviously be The Crying Game. "I'm not a girl," the hero confesses to none other than Stephen Rea, who, unlike in that other film, wasn't fooled: "Oh, I knew that, princess." With Liam Neeson, Brendan Gleeson, Ian Hart. 2005. • (KEN)

Brokeback Mountain — Here's fulfillment of 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 arrives long after that, and with a clearer, cruder sense about it of payback, of axe-grinding, of remedial education. There is also a sense about it 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 sumowrestler 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



Memoirs of a Geisha

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. Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, 2005

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★ (FLOWER HILL 4: HILL CREST CINEMAS: LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA CINEMAS)

**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, finger ing the scarf under the inquisitive gaze of an agent from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, who, tugging on his hat brim when taking his leave, says in turn, "Sears, Roebuck.") The story of a man who, in the end, fits his chosen title as well as either the murderers or their executioners. It is not a story with a moral to it, although some viewers will feel compelled, for their own comfort, to draw one; it is simply, and complicatedly, the story of an artist at work. In its general outline - what price art? — it may be a bit old-hat; in its particulars it is like-new. Philip Seymour Hoffman, even after you have gotten over the initial funniness of his celebrity impersonation, serves as our constant reminder to take the story with a grain of salt, to put quotation marks around the name of Capote. His whole-souled commitment to the part, his concentration, his emotion, his

expressiveness, his nuance, his

multiplicity - all of that helps to make a good story better. Whether or not truer. With Catherine Keener, Chris Cooper, Clifton Collins, Ir., and Bruce Greenwood; written by Dan Futterman; directed by Bennett Miller. 2005. ★★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 — A family feud, over Labor Day at Lake Winnetka, between the twelve-kid Bakers and the eightkid Murtaughs, or anyway between their hotly competitive dads (Steve Martin, Eugene Levy). Humor and sentiment every bit as cheap as Cheaper One. The only notable change is in the suddenly sculpted Hilary Duff, who either has done some work or, odds are, had some work done. (The change in directors, Shawn Levy to Adam Shankman, is undetectable.) Bonnie Hunt finds a few crannies in which to do something resembling acting. With Piper Perabo, Tom Welling, Carmen Electra. 2005. 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; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE)





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Diego Reader December

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**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 cartoon conformists anxious to show off their pop-culture hipness. With the voices of Zach Braff, Joan Cusack, Steve Zahn, and Garry Marshall; directed by Mark Dindal. 2005.

• (MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; VOGUE)

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion. the Witch, and the Wardrobe — The mythic children's book by C.S. Lewis makes for a good children's film, better, to pick a couple of nearby co-ordinates, than any of the 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 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 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, populated by talking animals and a messianic lion named Aslan. (The transitions between the two worlds are dreamily seamless.) A prophecy, they further discover, has foretold of their coming as well as their overthrow of the reigning Wicked White Witch, wonderfully visualized - an icicle crown frozen-stiff hair, snowman's lump-of-coal eyes, clammy, oystery skin - and commandingly played by Tilda Swinton. The narrative incidents unfold smoothly and swiftly and at times quite excitingly. 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. His immediate resurrection, although the logic of it had been withheld from us, and although the Christian allegory of it cannot be ignored, is nevertheless easier to swallow

of cowardice. With Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, and the voice of Liam Neeson; directed by Andrew Adamson. 2005. ★★ (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 SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Family Stone — Christmas comedy about the gathering of a clan, and allies, in snowy New England at the holiday. The core family, name of Stone, numbers seven, so a lot is afoot: terminal cancer, a pregnancy, a gay-couple adoption (minorities within the minority: the couple is interracial and one-half hearing impaired), an old flame, a guttering flame, two new flames. It all sorts itself out, in a next-Christmas coda, with no sticky residue. The cast, including Sarah Jessica Parker, Claire Danes, Dermot Mulroney, Luke Wilson, Rachel McAdams, Elizabeth Reaser, Ty Giordano, Diane Keaton, and Craig T. Nelson, could use any help they can get, but what they get from the bilious photography is skin the complexion of uncooked chicken. Written and directed by Thomas Bezucha. 2005. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ENCINITAS 8: ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Fun with Dick and Jane — Fast and loose remake by Dean Parisot of the all but forgotten 1977 social satire by Ted Kotcheff, the American Nightmare reimagined specially for the epoch of Adelphia, Enron, and other corporate miscreants. Fast pacing, that is, and loose plotting. Jim Carrey, as the out-of-work executive who stops his financial free fall with a spree of armed robbery (armed with a squirt gun), can still ex-





ecute a pratfall and can still out-flex Gumby, but now a little more restrained, a little more aged, he is starting to look less like the new Jerry Lewis and more like the new Johnny Carson. Ace cinematographer Jerzy Zielinski (Agnieszka Holland's The Secret Garden, Washington Square, and The Third Miracle, for three) sees to it that the star, his co-stars (Téa Leoni, Alec Baldwin, Richard Jenkins), and their antiseptic surroundings at least look good. 2005. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GALAXY 6: GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 Boogeyman. (Mc-Carthy, seen only in grainy archive footage, looks even cruder than usual in opposition to the crisply photographed thespian smoothies.) Clooney, son of a TV newscaster himself, and high-profile Hollywood liberal, would no doubt be pleased if the sitting duck of the past were taken to be a stand-in for the fluttery fowl of today Rush Limbaugh, Oliver North, and Co., the religious right, Karl Rove, take your pick and pleased, too, if Murrow's example were held up to the news networks of half a 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; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

#### 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. ★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL SAN MAR-COS 18)

Jarhead — The Gulf War through the eyes of Marine Pfc Anthony Swofford (a somewhat desensitized Jake Gyllenhaal), on whose memoir the script is based. Fundamentally this is a lot of old stuff made over for a new war, a new era, a new age in filmmaking. Which means, whatever else it means, a bleached-out image, long before we're under the desert sun; a compact disc's worth of golden oldies; a crutchlike dependence on first-person voice-over; a surplus of four-letter words; a bluntness in the depiction of piss, shit, puke; a nose rubbing focus on the physical, the palpable, and a blindness to what we might blushingly call the spiritual; a spotlight, taking its cue from the recreational screening of Apocalypse Now at Camp Pendleton, on the absurdity, the futility, the brutality, the insanity. (John Ford's alternative view of the military is "wrong" in the sense that a derby hat is "wrong," the fashion sense.) While the commitment to the material is never in question, while the effort is never less than intense, the details that might make the old seem fresh again are only occasional: the hard-ass drill instructor who compels the new enlistee to "blow" reveille without the aid of a trumpet, and then for an encore Stevie Wonder's "You Are the Sunshine of My Life"; or the Wall-of-Shame at the base of operations in Kuwait, a bulletin board of faithless wives and girlfriends, the Dear John correspondents, back home. Those sorts of details grow thicker the closer the movie gets to the front line: the horrific tableau of charred bodies and vehicles frozen in flight; the black rain; the 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. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

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,



#### MARK BYRNE

Film teacher, Francis Parker School

*Teddy Bears' Picnic* is a political comedy written by satirist and Spinal Tap bass player Harry Shearer. The setting is a retreat for the elite in Northern California where the powerful go to unwind. Shearer's weekly radio program *Le Show* can be heard on KCRW or on the web.

Many of the half-hour episodes of Rod Serling's *The Twilight Zone* are great, most are very good, and the worst do no harm. Serling's final walk-on summaries save the weak ones. In a subversive way, the series maintained prime-time sponsorship while taking on the Cold War, prejudices of all kinds and the disorientation caused by late-2oth-century technology. Serling challenged human beings to be larger than their fears.

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC (USA) 2002, ThinkFilms List price: \$9.99 THE TWILIGHT ZONE (USA) 1959-64, Image Entertainment List price: \$99.95 (six discs) GUY HANFORD

Owner, Kensington Video

David Milch's western *Deadwood* takes place around 1876 in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Populating the town are gold miners, a passel of con artists and miscreants motivated by greed, and a sprinkling of decent people. Tight dialogue, strong characterizations, and fast-paced action will keep you glued to the screen.

In Nicole Kassell's directorial debut *The Woodsman*, Kevin Bacon brilliantly portrays a man whose past crimes will forever haunt him. It's virtually impossible to feel any empathy for this pathetic character. He embodies a parolee seeking to fit into a world repulsed by his crimes. When you start to feel that he may change, his offensive desires start to surface. To ignore this film is to ignore what lives in all of our communities.

DEADWOOD: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON (USA) 2004–05, HBO Home Video List price: \$99.98 (six discs) THE WOODSMAN (USA) 2004, Columbia Tristar List price: \$26.96

#### MARTIN LOPEZ

Motion-picture sound designer and graduate of UCSD's Film program

David Fincher's Fight Club is the kind of anarchy best viewed on an HD flat panel in your comfortable chair. Some moments transcend its mainstream upbringing, brushing it up against true greatness. Rich with humor, irony, and cinematic playfulness, down to the flash frames of pornography sprinkled throughout (explained later by the protagonist's stint as a deviant film projectionist). The divided protagonist is starved for genuine human experience. Pain wakes him from his slumber of a life. Everything the madman says makes perfect sense. He's bent on bringing down the whole Ikea-Starbucks complex, and unless you're numb, Republican, or a corporate CEO, you're right there with him. Great music and superlative sound design by Ren Klyce and Richard Hymns. Bonus disc is first rate.

FIGHT CLUB (USA) 1999, Twentieth Century Fox List price: \$34.98

Anna Faris, and Chris Klein; directed by Roger Kumble. 2005. • (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

King Kong — Fresh from The Lord of the Rings, Peter Jackson could presumably have done anything he wanted. What he apparently wanted was to do a remake. Check that, a second remake. A 21st-century Kong. A CGI Kong. A kung-fu Kong. (Three T. rexes at a time, one hand tied up with a savory maiden.) And not least, a three-hour Kong, even though it takes over an hour to get to him, and though he must share screen time after that with an entire ecosystem of slimy, slithery critters. Jackson, remaking almost slavishly the 1933 version rather than the rerouted 1976 version, returns the action to the original period, plays up and jokes up, with help from the turtle-faced Jack Black, the film-within the-film element (Fay Wray is unavailable because "she's shooting a picture with

RKO"), and imbues the beauty-and-beast theme with the sort of modish, operatic amplification that says so much about our Age of Indulgence, squeezing every last drop of emotion from the death of the ape, all the way down to the emotion (among the most sensitive individuals) of mirth. The Kong films show a sharp decline, this one a farther step down from the last than the last was down from the first. Three hours are not automatically "better" than one and three-quarters or two and onequarter. Even the supposed progress in special effects — from stop-motion models to computer animation — is largely illusory. The former falsity of stiffness and creakiness has simply been replaced by the falsity of fluidness and facileness. Exhibit A: the stampede of brontosauruses, an enlarged replication of the running of the bulls at Pamplona, wherein these nimble, fleetfooted behemoths scarcely seem to occupy the same space as the humans, even when stepping on them. Exhibit B: the attack of

the giant bats on Kong, flittering like shadows and creating a timely diversion that affords the boring romantic couple (Naomi Watts, Adrien Brody) a means of escape by hang-gliding from a bat's feet, easy as catching a ride on the trolley. In whatever measure such effects might be "better" than the old, it's too short a measure to make up for the falloff in imagination. 2005. • (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: TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Memoirs of a Geisha** — Nipponese bodice-ripper, from the best-seller by





San Diego Reader December 29, 2005 133

# **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) Call theater for program information

#### DOWNTOWN

#### Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:15, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45) 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:15; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:10, 3:40) 7:05, 10:25; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri.,-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; Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:15, 3:45) 7:15, 10:35; Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:40, 3:55) 7:10, 10:10; Syriana (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:05, 1:50) 4:50, 7:50, 10:40; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the **Wardrobe** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:00, 12:05, 1:00, 2:00, 3:20) 4:10, 5:00, 6:40, 7:20, 8:10, 9:50, 10:20; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:45, 12:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 5:45, 7:40, 8:15, 9:55, 10:45

Horton Plaza 14 Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri. (1:00) 6:45; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:10, 5:00, 5:30) 7:30, 7:55, 9:55, 10:20; Good Night, and Good Luck (PG) Fri. (12:25, 2:50, 5:25) 7:50, 10:25; **Jarhead** (Not Rated) Fri. (3:25) 9:05; **Just Friends** (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 5:15) 10:15; **Munich** (R) Fri. (11:55, 12:30, 3:30, 4:05) 7:05, 7:35, 10:35; **Ru**mor Has It (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 12:45, 2:40, 3:10, 5:10, 5:40) 7:40, 8:05, 10:10, 10:30; The Family Stone (PG-13) Fri. (1:05, 2:45, 3:40) 6:25, 7:45, 9:00; **The Producers** (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 1:10, 3:35, 4:10) 6:40, 7:10, 9:40, 10:20; Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 3:00) 6:10, 9:15; Wolf Creek (Not Rated) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:30, 9:55

#### LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13); Munich (R); Rumor Has It (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); The Producers (PG-13); The Ringer (PG-13); Wolf Creek (Not Rated)

#### La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) Brokeback Mountain (R) Fri. (11:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 Sat. (11:00) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:30 Sun. (11:00) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00; **Good Night, and Good Luck** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 2:10, 4:45) 7:15, 9:45 Sat. (11:30) 2:10, 4:45, 7:15 Sun. (11:30) 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Pride and Prejudice (PG) Fri. (11:15, 2:20, 5:10) 8:15 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15) 2:20, 5:10, 8:15; **Ushpizin** (PG) Fri. (1:55, 4:05) 6:15 Sat.,-Sun. (1:55) 4:05, 6:15

#### **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) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); Harry Potter and (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Must Friends (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13); Munich (R); Rumor Has It (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); The Producers (PG-13); The Ringer (PG-13); 6 Wolf Creek (Not Rated)

Mission Valley 20 1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Chicken Little (G); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Decode the of the office office of the office office office of the office office of the office office office of the office offic Diego Rumor Has It (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, San and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); The Producers (PG-13); The Ringer (PG-13); Wolf Creek (Not Rated); Yours, Mine. and Ours (PG)

#### Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sat. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00 Sun. (0.00) 7.00, 10.15 Gat 11.00 (0.00) 7.00 Gat 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45; **Memoirs of a Geisha** (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sat. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30 Sun. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30; **Rumor Has It** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **Syriana** (R) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7.00 Sun 10.00 (1.00, 4.00) 7.00, 10.00; The Family Stone (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45,

8:15 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45

#### **STATE UNIVERSITY** Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:55, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55, 10:15; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:25, 3:00) 5:30, 7:45, 9:55; King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun (12:00, 3:45) 7:35; Rumor Has It (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:00, 3:30) 5:50, 8:00, 10:25; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:30, 3:35) 7:20, 10:20; Wolf Creek (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. (12:15, 2:50) 5:15, 7:30, 10:10

#### Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) Breakfast on Pluto (R) Fri. (1:00) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 Sat. (1:00) 4:00, 7:00 Sun. (1:00) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

UPTOWN

#### **Hillcrest Cinemas**

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) Brokeback Mountain (R) Fri. (11:00, 12:15, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:00, 5:00) 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00) 12:15, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00; **Capote** (R) Fri. (11:10, 1:55, 4:40) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10) 1:55, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45; **The Squid and the Whale** (R) Fri. (11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20) 7:25, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center** 1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) Mystery of the Nile (Not Rated) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 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, 7:00 Sat.,-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Santa vs. the Snow**man (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00, 3:00 Sun. 3:00

GOLDEN GLOBE® NOMINATIONS BESTACTRESSDRAMA ZIYI ZHANG One Of The Year's Best Films NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW · BROADCAST FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION · TIME MAGAZINE

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TIME

COLUMBIA PICTURES DREAMWORKS PICTURES SPYGLASS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT AN AMBLIN ENTERTAINMENT/DOUGLAS WICK & LUCY FISHER PRODUCTION A ROB MARSHALL HIM 'MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA' ZIYI ZHANG KEN WATANABE MICHELLE YEDH KUJI YAKUSHO YOGUL KUDOH KAORI MOMOI AND GONG LI "FIJOHN WILLIAMS" MURE JOHN DELICA PREMERSINGER BIRNBAUM GARY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICK MODIN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHER BOBBY CHEN THE HARTHUR GOLDAN SWICORD MEMORY BARBER PATRICIA WHITCHEN MATURE SUBJECT MATTER, SOME SEXUAL CONTENT

DIRECTOR

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CHICAGO

East H Street Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement. & Tierra Del Rey For Additional Information, Call Theaters Or Check Directorie

#### EAST COUNTY **EL CAJON**

### Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:00, 9:25; Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri. (11:15, 1:50, 4:25) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15, 1:50) 4:25, 7:10, 9:45; Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun. (12:00); **Fun with Dick and Jane** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:05, 4:35) 7:05, 9:35 Sat.,-Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 4:35, 7:05, 9:35; 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, 5:05) 10:30 Sat., Sun. (11:40) 5:05, 10:30; King Kong (PG-13) Fri. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00) 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:00) 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 10:30; **Mem**oirs of a Geisha (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:05, 3:25) 6:45, 10:05; Munich (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:10, 2:50) 6:30, 10:10; **Rumor Has It** (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:30, 5:05) 7:40, 10:15 Sat.,-Sun. (11:55, 2:30) 5:05, 7:40, 10:15 ana (R) Fri.,-Sun. (2:05) 7:30; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. (10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15) 7:00, 7:30, 10:15, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (10:15, 12:00, 12:30, 1:30, 3:15, 3:45) 4:15, 7:00, 7:30, 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; **The Producers** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (12:50, 3:55) 7:10, 10:20; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:20, 4:50) 7:20, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 4:50, 7:20, 9:50; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri. (4:40) 7:50 Sat.,-Sun. 4:40, 7:50; **Yours**, Mine. and Ours (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:20, 4:40) Sat.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40

#### I A MESA

#### **Grossmont Center** Grossmont Center (619-465-7100) Call theater for program information

**Grossmont Trolley** 8555 Fletcher Parkway (619-466-1401) Call theater for program information

#### **RANCHO SAN DIEGO**

Rancho San Diego 15 2951 Jamacha Road Call theater for program information

SANTEE

#### Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) King Kong (PG-13); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG)

#### **SOUTH BAY**

#### CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 suit. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:00; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00, 8:00 Sun. 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00, 8:00 Sun. 10:45; Rumor Has It (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, (12.13) 5:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00 Sun. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 10:00; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15 Sun. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri. 11:15 (1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sat. 11:15 (1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15 Sun. 11:15 (1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Wolf Creek (Not Rated) Fri. 10:30 (12:45, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:30 (12:45, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:30 (12:45, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Aeon Flux (PG-13); Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Chicken Little (G); Fun with Dick and Jane (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); Rumor Has It (PG-13); Syriana (R); The Chronicles of Narnia: The

PACIFIC THEATRES GROSSMONT CENTER STADIUM TEN Grossmont Shopping Center 619/465-7100 FASHION VALLEY 18 Hwy. 163 at Friars Rd. West 858/558-2AMC ULTRASTAR FLOWERHILL 4 LA JOLLA 12 I-5 Freeway/Via De La Valle 619/646-9425 I-5 at Nobel 858/558-2AMC PACIFIC THEATRES EDWARDS CINEMAS GASLAMP STADIUM 15 5th Avenue at G Street 619/232-0400 EDWARDS CINEMAS MIRA MESA STADIUM 18 W. of I-15 on Mira Mesa Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #160

THE

ROM

Road

PACIFIC THEATRES CARMEL MOUNTAIN 12 I-15 at Carmel Mountai 619/674-9770

AMC ENCINITAS 8 220 N. El Camino Real 760/942-5544

REGAL CINEMAS ESCONDIDO

STADIUM 16 350 W. Valley Parkwa 800-FANDANGO #519 Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); The Producers (PG-13); The Ringer (PG-13); Walk the Line (PG-13); Wolf Creek (Not Rated); Yours. Mine, and Ours (PG)

#### Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707) Call theater for program information

#### Vogue

226 3rd Avenue (619-425-1436) Aeon Flux (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 4:15, 9:15; Chicken Little (G) Fri.,-Sun. 12:45, 6:00; Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 2:30, 7:30

#### **IMPERIAL BEACH**

#### South Bay Drive In

do Avenue (619-423-2727) 2170 Coros **Cheaper by the Dozen 2** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 9:55; **Fun with Dick and Jane** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 11:00; Just Friends (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 9:15; King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 10:55; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 7:30, 11:40

## **NORTH INLAND**

#### CARMEL MOUNTAIN

#### **Carmel Mountain**

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri. (11:15, 1:40) 4:30, 7:20, 9:45 Sat. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:40) 4:30, 7:20, 9:45; **Fun with Dick and Jane** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 1:10, 3:30) 5:50, 8:10, 10:30 Sat. (10:45, 12:55, 3:20) 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:30) 5:50, 8:10, 10:30; Harry Potter and the **Goblet of Fire** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00) Sat. (10:30) Sun. (11:00); **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 12:00, 2:45, 3:45) 6:30, 7:30, 10:15 Sat. (11:45, 12:35, 3:30) 4:30, 7:15, 8:15 Sun. (11:00, 12:00, 2:45, 3:45) 6:30, 7:30, 10:15; Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 3:50) 7:10, 10:25 Sat. (11:50, 2:55) 6:05, 9:00 Sun. (12:30, 3:50) 7:10, 10:25; **Rumor Has It** (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 3:00) 5:25, 7:50, 10:15 Sat. (10:30, 12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:25, 7:50, 10:15; **Syriana** (R) Fri. (2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Sat. (1:35) 4:10, 6:45, 9:20 Sun. (2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; The Chroni-cles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and **the Wardrobe** (PG) Fri. (11:50, 3:10) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. (12:10, 3:10) 6:10, 9:00 Sun. (11:50, 3:10) 7:00, 10:00; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:15) 4:50, 7:40, 10:05 Sat. (11:55, 2:20) 4:45, 7:10, 9:35 Sun. (11:40, 2:15) 4:50, 7:40, 10:05; **The Producers** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 1:55) 4:50, 7:45, 10:40 Sat. (12:30, 3:25) 6:20, 9:05 Sun. (11:00, 1:55) 4:50, 7:45, 10:40; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri. (11:10, 1:20, 3:40) 6:00, 8:20, 10:35 Sat. (10:30, 12:40, 3:05) 5:10, 7:25, 9:40 Sun, (11:10, 1:20, 3:40) 6:00, 8:20, 10:35; Wolf Creek (Not Rated) Fri. (12:50, 3:20) 5:40, 8:00, 10:20 Sat. (12:20, 2:40) 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 Sun. (12:50, 3:20) 5:40, 8:00, 10:20

#### **ESCONDIDO**

Escondido 16 350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)

Call theater for program information Galaxy 6 5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784) **Cheaper by the Dozen 2** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00 Sun, 10:00 (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sat. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00 Sun, 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45; Rumor Has lt (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1.00, 4.00) 7.00, 10.00 Sat 10.00 (1.00, 4.00) 7:00 Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **The** Family Stone (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15)

5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 POWAY

#### Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Chicken Little (G) Fri .- Sun 10:45; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) (12:00) 2:49) 5:17, 7:45 (10:15; 7:47) Potter and the Gob-let of Fire (PG-13) Fri., Sun. 10:30; King Kong (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00, 10:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00 Sun, 10:15 (11:00, 2:15, 3:00) 6:15, 7:00, 10:15, 10:45; Rumor Has It (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat.

10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **The Chronicles** of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:30 (1:00, 1:30, 5:00, 5: 4:00, 4:30) 7:00, 7:30, 10:00; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15 Sun. 10:00 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **The Producers** (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sat. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15 Sun. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

#### 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) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri.,-Sun (11:15, 2:15, 4:55) 7:35, 10:15; Chicken Little

(G) Fri.,-Sun. (12:05); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (10:45, 1:25, 4:05) 7:05, 9:35; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (9:50, 1:15, 4:40) 8:05; King Kong (PG-13) Fri. (10:55, 11:30, 12:00, 3:30, 4:10, 4:45) 5:00, 7:25, 8:00, 8:50, 9:10 Sat.,-Sun. (10:55, 11:30, 12:00, 3:30, 4:10, 4:45, 5:00) 7:25, 8:00, 8:50, 9:10; **Memoirs of a Geisha** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:45, 3:35) 7:05, 10:20; **Munich** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (10:30, 2:30) 7:00, 10:40; **Pride and Prejudice** (PG) Fri,-Sun. 7:45, 10:45; **Rumor Has It** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:00, 1:40, 4:20) 7:00, 9:40; Syriana (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:50, 3:15) 6:25, 9:30; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (9:45, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:20, 3:45, 4:15) 6:35, 7:30, 9:50; **The Family Stone** (PG-13) Fri,-Sun. (10:40, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00; **The Producers** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:25, 4:00) 7:20, 10:25; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (11:40, 2:10, 4:50) 7:55, 10:30; **Walk the Line** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:10, 4:25); Yours, Mine, and Ours (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 7:40, 9:55

#### VISTA

Vista Village Metroplex 15 Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive

#### (760-945-7469) Call theater for program information

#### NORTH COASTAL CARI SRAD

#### Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) **Cheaper by the Dozen 2** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 11:10, 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:00; King Kong (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 12:00, 3:45, 7:30; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:55

#### DEL MAR

#### Del Mar Highlands 8 El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, (12.15, 2.45) 5.30, 6.00, 10.00 (12.15) 2:45) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 Sun. 10:15 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; King Kong



(PG-13) Fri. 10:45 (11:00, 2:45, 3:00) 6:45, 7:00, 10:30, 10:45 Sat. 10:45 (11:00, 2:45, 3:00) 6:45, 7:00 Sun. 10:45 (11:00, 2:45, 3:00) 6:45, 7:00, 10:30, 10:45; **Rumor Has It** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **Syriana** (R) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch**, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00 Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **The Family** Stone (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sat. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **The Ringer** (PG-13) Fri. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sat. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15 Sun. 10:45 (1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

#### Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) **Brokeback Mountain** (R) Fri. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sat. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45 Sun. 10:45 (1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45; **Memoirs** of a Geisha (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sat. 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30 Sun 10:30 (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30; **Munich** (R) Fri. 11:30 (3:15) 7:00, 10:30 Sat. 11:30 (3:15) 7:00 Sun. 11:30 (3:15) 7:00, 10:30; The Producers (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15

#### **ENCINITAS**

#### **Encinitas 8**

220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544) Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13); Rumor Has It (PG-13); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13)

La Paloma 471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW) Walk the Line (PG-13) Fri. 6:00, 8:50 Sat.,-Sun. 3:00, 6:00, 8:50

#### LA COSTA

La Costa 6 6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2** (PG) Fri. 10:00 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat. 10:00 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45 Sun, 10:00 (12:30, 2:45) 5:15. 7:45, 10:15; Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00 Sun. 10:15 (12:45, 3:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **King Kong** (PG-13) Fri. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45 Sat. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00 Sun. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:15 Sut. 11:0 (3:00) 7:00 Sun. 11:00 (3:00) 7:00, 10:45; **Ru-mor Has It** (PG-13) Fri. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30 Sun. 10:00 (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG) Fri. 10:00 (1.00, 4.00) 7.00, 10.00 Sat 10.00 (1.00, 4.00) 7:00 Sun. 10:00 (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00; **The** Producers (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15 Sat. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15 Sun. 10:15 (1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15

#### OCEANSIDE

#### **Mission Marketplace 13**

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG); Chicken Lit-tle (G); Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13); Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13); King Kong (PG-13); Rumor Has It (PG-13); The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (PG); The Family Stone (PG-13); The Ringer (PG-13); Wolf Creek (Not Rated)

#### Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) Call theater for program information



Arthur Golden, though it plays as if it could just as well have been by Danielle Steel, a Cinderella story of the rise and fall and rise and fall and rise of a blue-eyed geisha in pre-war and postwar Japan. "A story like mine," she starts out, meaning more than she means, "should never be told." Nor should it be illustrated with the frenzy. flamboyance, and insufficient illumination accorded it by the razzle-dazzle director of Chicago, Rob Marshall. (Earlier in the gestation, it was going to be Steven Spielberg.) Gong Li is still Gong Li, and still beautiful, but in the lead role Zhang Ziyi is now Ziyi Zhang: the boom in Asian imports has brought no consistency in appellation, only confusion. (The catty rivalry on screen between the older actress and the younger, and eventually the all-out catfight, gains an added dimension when you recall that the one was bumped by the other in the films and affections of Zhang Yimou, or Yimou Zhang.) Using Chinese actresses is of course defensible in a movie aimed at the American masses, just as their speaking in English is defensible. Their speaking in unintelligible English rather defeats the purpose. With Michelle Yeoh, Ken Watanabe, Koji Yakusho, Youki Kudoh. 2005. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ENCINITAS 8; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM



PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE) **Munich** — Reviewed this issue. With Eric Bana, Daniel Craig, Ciarán Hinds, Mathieu Kassovitz, and Geoffrey Rush; directed by

Steven Spielberg. ★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VAL-LEY 20; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**November** — Alternative-reality exercise, written by Benjamin Brand and directed and edited by Greg Harrison, offers up three different versions of a conveniencestore stickup, padded out at barely over an hour in running time. The bottom-drawer digital photography looks as if you forgot to remove your sunglasses on entering the theater. Courteney Cox, who doesn't have much of a big-screen career going, settles Rumor Has It

get her nowhere. With James LeGros. 2005. • (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1/4, 6:30 P.M.) Pride and Prejudice — By this time the

for a big part in a puny picture. It should

Jane Austen novel qualifies as a repertory piece, a mettle-test for would-be Darcys and Elizabeth Bennets, little different from Romeo and Juliet. The team behind the present production of it, apart from their attempt to replace the titular conjunction with a dashing ampersand, earn no points for imagination or courage in finding their way to so trafficky a corner of the library. (Can no one, for a change, find his way to the shelf of Thomas Love Peacock? George Meredith?) And the prospect of again sitting through the machinations of the author's mating game (match four from Column A to four from Column B) sounds quite tedious in advance. Nevertheless, the filmmakers have not failed to make it involving. Austen herself made it hard for them to fail, as long as they stuck close to the text. Joe Wright, a British TV director in his feature debut, certainly did more than his share to gum up the works, with an anemic, coarse-grained image and a lot of mushy telephoto camerawork: a pale substitute for the MGM sheen of 1940. And Matthew MacFadyen makes a dull Darcy, a blank, more stuporous than brooding, a kind of waxwork Stan Laurel. Any doubts, however, as to the star potential of Keira

Knightley - and after the likes of Domino and *The Jacket* and *King Arthur*, how could there not have been doubts? — are decisively routed. She may be too pretty for Elizabeth, she may be too young, but she is just sufficiently feisty, just sufficiently fiery, without being too and too. It's a tightrope she walks, and she keeps perfect balance. Two old pros, Brenda Blethyn and Judi Dench, bring solid support as two very dissimilar women, the high-strung Mrs. Bennet and the haughty Lady de Bourgh. Any well-bred young woman who can endure the one on a daily basis and stand up to the other in a moment of crisis must be made of stern stuff. Donald Sutherland, Rosamund Pike, Jena Malone, Tom Hollander. 2005.

★★ (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**The Producers** — For posterity, Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick reprise their roles in the Broadway musical, together with Gary Beach and Roger Bart, while Uma Thurman (with a funny SVEE-dish accent) appropriates the cheesecake, and Will Ferrell goose-steps into the part of the playwright of Springtime for Hitler, "A New Neo-Nazi Musical." (Director and choreographer Susan Stroman, too, reprises her offstage roles.) At first the actors might seem to be still projecting for live theater, but their energy eventually, or intermittently, pulls you in. The musical version reminds you of what was good about Mel Brooks's 1968 original (a bit less of a musical, but a bit of a musical all the same), and there is enough newness in it to keep it interesting: a chorus line of tap-dancing blue-haired old ladies on walkers (well, their walkers tap-dance at any rate), a delightful pas-dedeux between Broderick and Thurman, and more. The action is advisedly set in the Fifties (although some of the flaming gayness feels later), and its vaudeville roots remain brazenly exposed. 2005. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSS-MONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION VAL LEY 20: PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18: TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

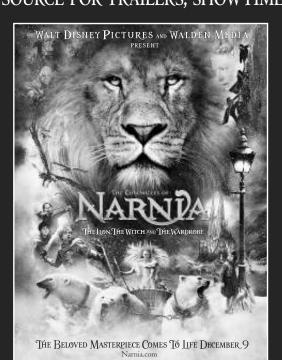
The Ringer — Sports comedy, namely the Special Olympics, starring Johnny Knoxville, directed by Barry Blaustein. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT TROL-LEY; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MAR-KETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Rumor Has It** — Barren ground for the comic charms of Jennifer Aniston, as a hesi-





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tant fiancée investigating the possibility that her Pasadena family was the model for the Robinsons in *The Graduate*. That would make Shirley MacLaine Mrs. Robinson, and Kevin Costner the nuptial Lochinvar. (A self-described "dilettante Che biographer," he ignorantly pronounces his subject's surname as "Gwa-vara.") When those two once again come face to face at the climax, the music comes from a different 1967 movie, The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. The script is similarly heavy-handed, a hammering rhythm of easy set-ups and smashes. With Mark Ruffalo, Richard Jenkins, and Mena Suvari; directed by Rob Reiner. 2005.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The 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 distantly, less distinctly. But the characters of the children are unqualified successes, especially the older one, whose age, by no mere coincidence, closely matches that of 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)

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



Wolf Creek — Unsolved Mysteries, Australian-style, from tyro filmmaker Greg McLean. A malevolent Crocodile Dundee

("Now that's a knife," or rather, "Nah thet's a knoif") is postulated to explain the disappearance of two pretty British backpackers

in the Outback. And untold others besides. Wretched, low-budget, psycho-boogeyman antics, more exasperating than exciting. Cassandra Magrath, Kestie Morassi, Nathan Phillips, John Jarratt. 2005.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEAN-SIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 pro-totypes of the banana peel and the cream pie. With Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo (it was Henry Fonda and Lucille Ball in the 1968 version); directed by Raja Gosnell. 2005.

• (MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; SANTEE DRIVE IN: VOGUE)

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; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SOUARE 14)

Ushpizin — Benign Israeli comedy centered on a destitute Hasidic couple who are obliged to host two uninvited guests, two escaped convicts, on the Succoth holidav. 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 years dead instead of mere months, but the same backstage tale of early poverty and tragedy, meteoric ascent, marital discord, drug abuse, salvation. Fewer people this time, in describing Joaquin Phoenix's impersonation of the Man in Black, will be inclined to link the adjective "uncanny" to the noun "likeness." Though he has obviously studied hard for the part, copying the horselike head-toss and breaststroker's airgulp in performance on stage, he lacks both the stature and the weight: a sort of Cash shortage. It doesn't help that his singing (separate from his head-tossing and airgulping) is of dog-howling caliber. Reese Witherspoon's June Carter — a ten-yearold voice on the radio in Cash's cottonpicking childhood, a touring mate in the mid-Fifties along with Jerry Lee, Buddy, and Elvis, and finally his second wife in the late-Sixties, when the movie ends - dances rings around him. And sings them, too With Ginnifer Goodwin and Robert Patrick; directed by James Mangold. 2005. ★ (GROSSMONT TROLLEY; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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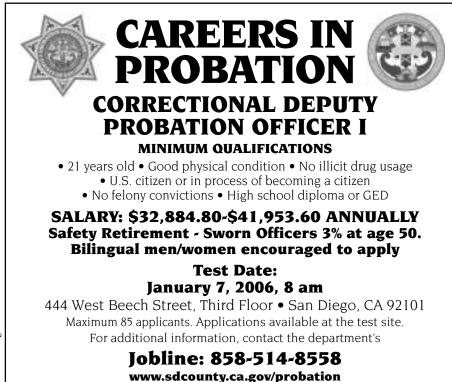
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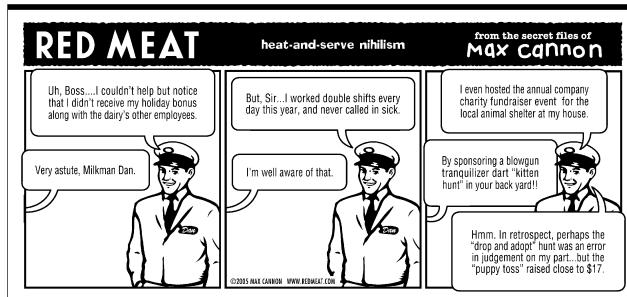
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Fax: 619-281-0495, www.viscentinorg. JOB COACHES. Community-oriented, Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County, 1:4 group ratio maximum, \$8,50-\$9,50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full time, finarear@wahon.com. Call 619. full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Call 619-440-6802, or fax 619-440-6864.

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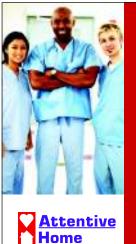
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Jolla. Salon Victor Magna, 858-459-6325. MANUFACTURING ASSEMBLERS and Material Handlers. Apply 8am-4pm. Tues-day-Friday, December 27-30: 8400 Mira-mar Road, #270, San Diego. Remedy In-telligent Staffing invites you to register for these temporary positions. Manufacturing Assemblers: 1st shift; salary depending on experience. Must bring proof of right to work in the U.S., photo ID, 2 employ-ment references. 80% ability to speak, read, write English. Pre-employment criminal background check and drug screening required. Fax resume: 858-635-3236. Call 858-635-3239. E-mail re-sume to remsoresumes@remedystaff. nedystaff. resumes@rer

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Pamela Savell Food Server Mission Valley

ll the time. I've done this since All was a kid; it's dorky and I don't think I've ever admitted to people. I carry on conversations in the mir-ror. As a kid, I'd do both sides of the conversation. It prepares me for whatever possible answer I need; I have been known to write things down, like the subject headers. My acting background helps; what I say doesn't sound rehearsed. It may be my acting background that makes me want to practice and be prepared. I think it gets the most out of the conversation. On the spot, you sometimes say things that you don't want to say, need to say or you get off the phone and realize that you didn't say what you needed to say. There are those conversations where you have the stock answers; [for friends back home] I talk about school, I talk about my boyfriend and maybe coming home or about going on trips. You usually end up having the same conversations. When I talk to my grandparents, they're really, really old, so sometimes it's just a race to the finish with them. Maybe not everyone scripts it out, but you usu ally have a reason to call someone.



Jordan Meleena Writing Tutor

College Area usually don't, unless it's something a little more serious than calling my friends. [Calling for a job] I'll have a script in my head, just thinking more professional. When I call my grandparents I sound a little more excited, upbeat, and interested, but I just see where it goes. I talk to my parents all the time so it's not really scripted. It's very rare [that I drunk dial] but when it happens, it's anything but a script. It really hasn't happend that much; I'm pretty good about that. I definitely think that when you call someone, there's always an incentive to it; even if it's just a loose script in their head.



Josh Link *Student* 

Clairemont No. I'm more spontaneous; I think you say more that's on your mind at that exact second when you don't rehearse. When I call someone, I usually have at least one thing I want to say to them and just go from there. With my parents, they lead the conversation. It happens sometimes where I'm not ready for some-thing in a conversation, but it's hard to say offhand. I haven't really had to deal with it where I have to plan it out beforehand. I guess if you're spontaneous, then you're not really worrying about the outcome. I'll plan more when I get more serious. You shouldn't worry about it too much, then you forget about the main idea of keeping in contact.



Jill Anderson Student

College Area No, I don't. I guess sometimes I do with my boyfriend, but not normally. After we get in a fight or that type of thing, I make sure I keep my composure. When my parents call me, they usually have their list of questions, so that's why it's good to listen to their messages before I call them. I call my grandma, like, three times a week; we're really close, so we have a lot to talk about. I do some drunk dialing to my friends at home it's funny to hear what I said to them when I talk to them the next morn ing. I talk to my friends a lot, so they like it when I call them when I'm out at night having a good time. I've told them that I'm gonna drive up to visit them in San Francisco, but I didn't go. A lot of times, things remind me of people and I'll call them to tell them stories, but otherwise it's pretty spontaneous.

Student Escondido No. Maybe if I'm calling about a job or something, but if I'm just talking to a friend or family I don't usually rehearse. After I got married, because I got married in Vegas I did have to rehearse that one...calling my mom. They didn't know I was engaged, but I had been dating my husband for a year; there was still a little shock. We just decided to go to Vegas to get married. We were talking about getting engaged and looking at rings, so we just decided to skip that part. I was just scared she [my mom] was going to yell. I asked her what she was doing, making sure it was a good time and she really wasn't that surprised, actually. She said she had just got home from church, so I figured it was a good time then because she was all peace ful. She wasn't shocked; she kind of laughed. I called her the next day; I chickened out after we did it. It was kind of nerve-racking, and my husband kept telling me, "Call her, call her." I didn't want to call her before because I didn't want her to try and talk me out of it. I felt after the fact might be better.

Karen Pack



Marissa McGregor Student

Pacific Beach Isation will entail. If it's some sort of conflict, then yes. It's just so that know what I'm going to say to back myself up, to reassure myself. Sometimes I make an outline with points I want to make. If it's going to make people feel more confident, I'd recommend it; if not, I wouldn't bother. Sometimes [drunk phone calls] get you in trouble, so I don't really recommend those to anyone, although you might be more honest when you do.

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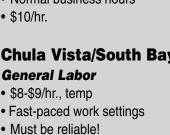
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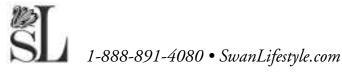
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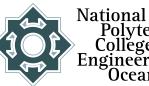
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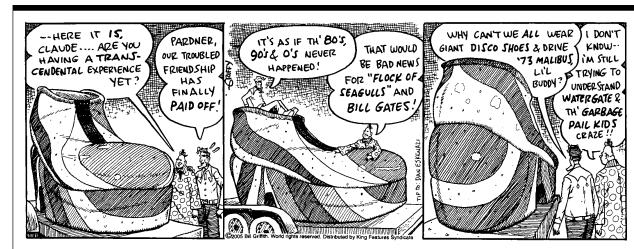
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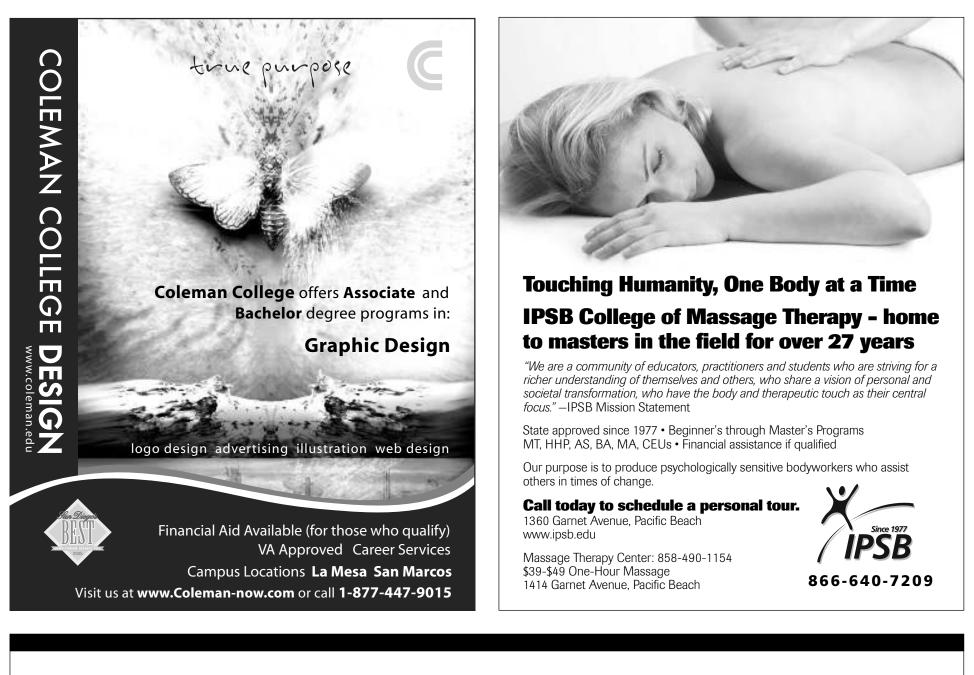
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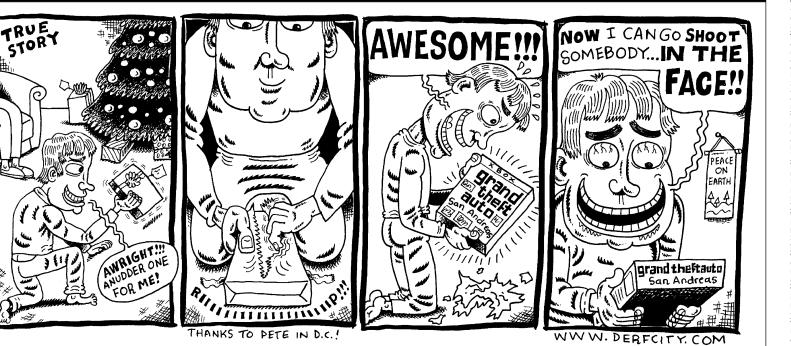
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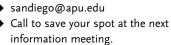
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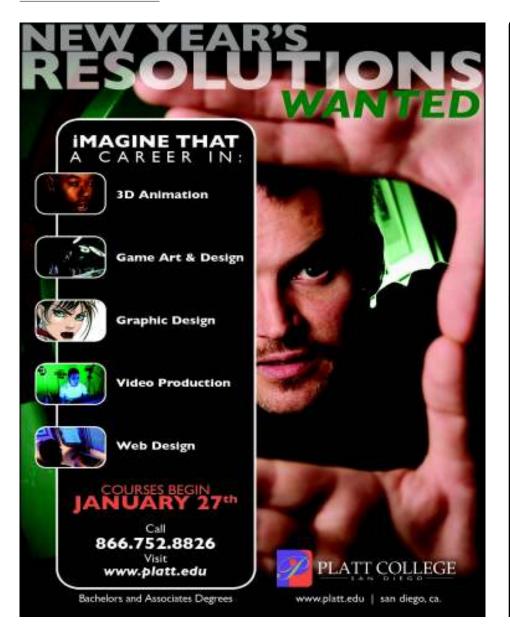
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## THE READER PUZZLE

## Across

- 1. Alamo competitor
- 6. \_\_\_\_-Seltzer 10. Hippie's home
- 13. "Goodbye, Gerard!" 14. Near the warning track
- 15. Dieter's dread
- 16. Purple shade
- 17. She said, "Working in 54-Across
- does give one a certain expertise in the field of prostitution."
- 19. Brian \_\_\_\_, 1989 NHL Rookie of
  - the Year
- 21. Green Monster clearer
- 22. Double curve
- 23. Solo in space 25. Good deal
- 29. She said, "In 54-Across when people die they don't say 'Did he leave a will?' but 'Did he leave a
- diary?""
- 31. Family subdivisions
- 32. It may be glossed over33. She said, "54-Across is a place where they'll pay you a thousand dollars for a kiss and fifty cents for your soul."
- 38. Query from Miss Piggy
- 39. Where a young girl lost her whey?40. She said, "54-Across is the only place in the world where an amicable divorce means each getting fifty percent of the
- publicity. 45. Shout after hard labor, maybe
- 46. Perfect game spoiler
- 47. Fa follower
- 50. The "L" of XXL
- 52. It may be herbal
- 54. Subject of this puzzle 58. Lots of land
- 59. Like some games
- 60. Year in old Rome
- 61. Actress Thomas
- 62. Neighbor of Okla.
- 63. Sammy Davis Jr.'s "\_\_\_\_ Can" 64. Drag one's feet

#### Down

- 1. Berry on the silver screen 2. Falco and Brickell
- 3. Bugs
- 4. An udder thing
- 5. Ratatouille ingredient
- 6. Modifying word: Abbr.
- 7. Remini of "The King of Queens" 8. Surname in "Star Wars"
- 9. Tarzan, e.g.
- 10. Harsh review
- 11. Word after first or financial

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8

12. It's genetic

53. Exam for a doc-to-be 54. Magician's prop 55. Need to pay 56. Not tight \_ care?' 57. "What

15. Stuff to the gills

20. Eye color

26. Distribute

28. Tuck's partner

29. Celtic sea god

33. Castle protector

30. Kind of ray

24.

34.

18. "Charlotte's Web" girl

27. Rival of Jimmy and Björn

31. Julius Caesar's first name

36. Giants and Titans, e.g. 37. Buddhism, e.g.: Abbr.

38. 1051 on monuments

43. Lillehammer's country

41. Come from behind

Blue Dolphins"

49. Popular disinfectant 51. Geological spans

44. Olden 47. Sculptor Richard

\_\_\_\_\_ Ado About Nothing"

42. Noted 1998 initial public offering

48. Scott who wrote "Island of the

34. "\_\_\_\_\_Ado About House,"
35. "Inebriate \_\_\_\_\_ am I / And debauchee of dew": Dickinson

a soul

#### RULES OF THE GAME

- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt. 2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address. 4. Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible. 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five

prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery. 6. All answers must be entered in the

space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office. 7. One entry per person.

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HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS. (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www. SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

LOST ENGAGEMENT RING. 12/19 be-LOST ENGAGEMENT RING, 12/19 06-tween DSW/Marshall's Mission Valley/Fashion Valley mall. Was great-grandmothers, can't be replaced, great sentimental value. Significant reward, An-drea 619-339-1124. MOVIE BUFFS: Interested in watching

movies then discussing it afterwards, like book clubs? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS Incorpo rated, non-profit, wishes to thank Hanger Prosthetics for everything. Seeking sports wheel chair, dental surgeon for unusual dental dilemma. Dharma basket, 619-248-829

248-8291. **OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE** Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. Free. Information, 619-757-6603.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Over weight? 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. 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. SELLING COOL ART. Beautiful poem/delicious recipe, to help research for cure for cancer and homeless. Please send \$20, cash/money-order/check to 1219 Morena Boulevard, San Diego, 92110, Adam Nguyen.

SEX and/or relationship problems? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and 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. SUPPORT YOUR GUARDIAN ANGELS.

Safety Patrol, Tax-deductible, we need headquarters, equipment, funding. S.D. Guardian Angels, 6161 El Cajon Boule-vard #404, San Diego, CA, 92115, non-profit, 619-529-1904. www. sdquardianan SOGUARUIAINANGONS.org. SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and

Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.siawso.org. 619-282-4798; www.siawso.org. 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.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building ap-proach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

support groups. 858-546-1100. **VOLUNTEERS.** 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. voices4children.com. voices4children.com. WHAT THE BLEEP, Do we know? Discus-sion group explores ideas based on movie. Range of topics. Meets weekly 6:30, Hillcrest/North Park, more informa-tion xxxlogosxxx@yahoo.com.

## TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! **DISCOVER COSTA RICA** Paradise! 35 ----- SUSIA RUCA Paradise! 35 lovely hotel/apartments. Best area of San Jose. From \$195 weekly. www.hotels.co.cr/scotland.html or for in-vestment, www.2buyrentsell.com. Call 760-822-1508.

PARK CITY, UTAH Beautiful 4 bedroom log home. Lake and ski resort views. Sleeps 9-16. Conveniently located to all. Available year round. 858-495-9334; 858-472-3567. www.parkcity4u.net.

SACRIFICE TIMESHARE. Lawrence Welk Resort Villas, Escondido. Week 25, beau-tiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, sleeps 6, overlooking lake and mountains, all recreation, golfing. Owner 951-672-3297.

## **P** ersonals

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! CHRIST IS NOT A PERSON, But a state of being in goodness. Merry Xmas, Happy Holidays: Christ, Hanukkah, Allah, American Indians, Tanka, Buddha, Brahman, Tao, Yoga, Kwanzaa, and other gods.

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."

> DAVIEBABE Is in the East! And all the with candy canes. Still crazy after all these years! The Grinch!

FREE BOOK, Or past lives, dreams, soul travel and Eckankar, "Ancient Wisdom For Today." Dial 1-800-Love God, for your free copy or 800-568-3463.

The bug is among using the second sec THANK YOU, Holy Spirit for prayers an

## MATCHES

## SHARED INTERESTS

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! COUPLE. Normal couple, mid-40e. No children. Seeking same for movies, din-ner, happy hours, shopping, concerts, sking, bowling, board games, exercise and just hanging out. (1/4) 249371

## MATCHES WOMEN SEEKING MEN

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at classified ads not printed here! CREATIVE, WARM, INTELLIGENT, spiritual, attractive, blue/blonde, navy widow, retired. Enjoy healthy lifestyle, cruises, swimming, cultural activities. Seeking christian gentleman, relationship, friend-ship, companionship, British back-ground. (1/4) 249357

HAPPY 2006 AND GOD BLESS America. Mature, Caucasian, kind, caring, active woman. To meet tall, Caucasian, 70+, ac-tive, nonsmoker man. For possible long-term relationship. (1/11) **T** 49382

THE PICTURE FRAME HANGS empty or the wall. Designed to embrace image of my absentee lover. I await! Ageless ro-mantic, 48-62. Inspired music, song, dance. (1/4) 249359

BRONZE, VOLUPTUOUS, attractive fe-male, black/Spanish, 40s. Seeking quality relationship with a handsome, kind, ro-mantic, loving professional male who would pamper me like a queen. (1/11) 249383

249383
SENSUOUS, INTELLIGENT, funny 57 lady would like excitement, adventure with handsome, sexy, sense of humor gent, 46-63. Are you ready for friendship, romance or whatever? (1/4) 249377

The provided and the second se HEALTHY LIFESTYLE, young, slender, at-tractive. Caucasian female looking for same in mate, 65-75, to enjoy family, travel, theatre, dancing, arts, and each other. (1/4) 249376 BEAUTIFUL, STRIKING blonde, intelli-

BEAUTIFUL, STRIKING blonde, intelli-gent, genuine, unique, sophisticated, sexy, elegant, glamorous, great figure, 47. Desire extremely accomplished, up, scale, stable, sincere, single gentleman who appreciates the best. (1/4) 249360 SINCERE, ATTRACTIVE, youthful lady, 5'6", trim, athletic, enjoy outdoors. Seek-ing tall, healthy male, 50-68, wanting to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (858). (1/4) 2 49375

HEY YOU! You're between 45-60, not bald, nonsmoker/nondrinker, 5'10"+, bald, nonsmoker/nondrinker, 5'10"+, health conscious, not psychotic, a zest for life and passionate. Must be secure. (1/4) PHOTOS ONLINE. Attractive, smart, cheerful, affluent, Chinese, 53, 5'3',

cheerful, affluent, Chinese, 53, 5'3', slim/toned, retired pharmacist. Seeks in-telligent, flat-ab, nonsmoker male, in ex-ploration of mutually enriching/fulfilling friendship. (1/4) **2** 49378 ASIAN, VERY PRETTY, 5'6", slender, ed-

ucated, funny, monogamous. Desire: smart, sincere, healthy gentleman for long-term relationship leading to mar-riage. 38+, nonsmoker, no drugs. North County. (1/4) **2**49369

HAPPY, ADVENTUROUS sprite seeks haro. Petite, feminine, 47-year-old red-head wants man who loves new adven-tures. Especially like intellectually curious men who belly launch (1/a) 74/364

ures. Especially like intellectually curious men who belly laugh. (1/4) 2 49364 **MR. PERFECT,** Move on this 50s, 5'3", Goya's Maja, 150, "Average Joe" for ca-sual dates, early evenings. You: honest, happy, sincere. (1/11) 2 49389

HAWAIIAN BEAUTY QUEEN. Integrity, model, artist, author, dancer, loves moun-tain cabins, animals, never married. You: never married, handsome, integrity, qual-ity, 40-59, animal lover, special heart. (1/4) **2**49363 special

HELP PRETTY LADY GET OUT of this pursuit for a 58+ tall gentleman who is ro-mantic, unencumbered, fun loving, ad-venturous. Lots of time to play. (1/4) **7**49368

C 439368 GREAT LATINA GIRL. No drugs, smoking, games! You: childless, 30-45, profes-sional and fun. Be active, secure, good communicator. Will return all calls before you know! (1/4) C 49367

you know! (1/4) 2 49367 FEMALE, 53, OCEANSIDE, 5', thin. Seek-ing long-term relationship with only Chris-tian who believe the ways of the bible. Loving, active, outdoors, humor, fishing, travel. (1/4) 2 49358

uaver. (1/4) 2749358 START THE NEW YEAR Right, with me, blonde, blue eyes, 5'3', looking for rela-tionship, dating, movies, horseback rid-ing, dinner. Seeking an honest man aged 40-55. (1/11) 2749386

SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL? Looking for a woman who'll stand by your side? Children, if any, are grown. We enjoy music, people, travel, etc. Call! (1/4) @49372

ASIAN SEEKS TENDER-LOVING care for long relationship, possible marriage. I'm faithful, sin-cere, honest, expect same. Like to go out for drinks, dancing, out of town. (1/11) 249380 Mirks, dahcing, out of town. (1/1) 249380 MistLetoe, Warm Kisses, holiday parties, dancing. Warm, pretty, petite lady, 48, who's fit, likes to dress up, great music, fun, outgo-ing, optimistic, nonsmoker. (1/4) 249370

PRETTY, PETITE, HISPARIC, 41. Seeking fi-nancially secure, white or Hispanic man, for love, romance, fun, support. Positive, sincere, enjoy wild fun! Let's share the holidays! (1/4)

A 49374 SANTA BABY, PLEASE MAKE him with val-ues, sense of humor, active, time for love, spiritual, nonsmoker, for this many interests, classy, curvaceous, Hispanic. 55-70. (1/4) 49373

243973
35, GREEN EYES, Brown hair, 5'8', plus size, attractive, loving, caring, honest, faithful, affectionate. Seeking male, 35-40, relationship minded, likes children, family-oriented, enjoy time together. (1/11) 249388

PETITE, YOUTHFUL, professional woman who enjoys travel, working out, dry martini. Seeking grounded, professional, established, spontaneous gentleman, 45-60, with quick wit for light-hearted romance. (1/4) 🕿 49365 Wittornight-fleaned romande: (1/4) 249365 FRENCH, SEXY, ATTRACTIVE, fit, 41, 56°, blonde/blue, 130lbs., golden-hearted, roman-tic, outdoor/indoor, sports, travel, dancing. Gentleman, 41-55, handsome, athletic, same. (1/11) 2749384

COSMOPOLITAN, EUROPEAN. attrac tive, intelligent, health-oriented. Inter-ested in masculine scholar, gentleman, cultured, refined, financially stable, gen-erous, genuine. Downtown San Diego, Seaport Village. 50-70 if useful. (1/4) 249361

San Diego Reader December 29, 2005 16





## the most beautiful single women on the west coast

With over a decade of experience, Model Quality Introductions is the most effective agency in the nation for commitment minded men seeking beautiful women. If we meet, you will want to join, we guarantee it!

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## **PICTURE STORY**

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



an Diego Marlin Club representatives, c. 1930s. Marlin are "any of several large marine billfishes," according to Webster's dictionary. In 2003, the club reported that its members

brought in 12, the lowest amount in the club's 50-year history. Last year, 117 were caught. In 1963, over 1400.

- by Robert Mizrachi

ATTRACTIVE, JEWISH, Lady, 39, enjoys the outdoors, theate, travel, movies. Seeks 39-49, adventurous, honest, caring man for friendship, fun and perhaps more. (1/11) **2**49387 **NEW YEAR!** Special, vibrant Latina, 48. Seeking a sincere gentleman, 43-52,

must like everything life has to offer. Let's enjoy it all together. (1/4) 249362 MAKE TODAY COUNTI Plus-size woman seeking man to enjoy pleasures of life. You: 30-40, honest, trustworthy, love kids. Are you ready for adventure to-gether? (1/11) 249381



San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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## **NEW YEAR'S EVE** SINGLES PARTY COUNTDOWN Doubletree Club • 8 pm-1 am

Reserve your place now! Invite a friend, get a discount! Good fun! Great music, hors d'oeuvres, champagne toast at midnight, party favors, a cash bar, free parking. DJ Di will teach some dances and we'll have icebreakers! Special raffle for valuable prizes including 2 nights free lodging at select destinations (Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Honolulu, Orlando, Sedona and more!).

Call or visit our website to lock in your ervation: www.catholicsinglesnetwork.com or call: 1-888-208-9555 x87

easygoing, unencumbered. Enjoy dining, music, quiet times, romance, inti-macy. (1/4) 🕿 49839

**EASY-GOING**, **55**, looks 45, 5'10', 185lbs., multiple homeowner, travel, sports, concerts, movies, sport cars. You: slim, smart, beauty, to enjoy great adven-tures together. (1/11) **2** 49855 6'2", EYES OF BLUE. Seeking Jewish woman, 35-50 with similar interests. Ten-nis, swimming, movies, theater, concerts and travel. (1/11) 249865

BLACK MALE WITH disability seeks black female for companionship. I am ready so be patient. (1/11) 249857

be patient. (1/11) 27 49857 PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, debonair, 6'1", 165lbs., 53, blue/red, bald, swing dancer, bicycle road racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking someone with the right chem-istry/connection. (1/11) 27 49863

tsuyrconnection. (1/11) ☎49863 BLACK TEDDY BEAR, down to earth, hu-morous, affectionate, huggable, Sagittar-ius. Seeking Hispanic or white female, full-figure a plus. Calls answered promptly. Don't delay, call today. (1/4) ☎49826

**L** 49320 **KICKBOXING, MUAY THAI,** extreme fit-ness, dancing. 54, divorced white male, part-time dad, emotionally and spiritually ready for that special lady for long-term, monogamous relationship. Smooch! (1/11) **2** 49859

YES MA'AM. Strikingly handsome, 50, 6'1', 190lbs., emotionally/financially se-cure. Seeking mature, assertive, beauti-ful, sublime woman to show her the re-spect she deserves. (1/11) 249861 HERPES. NICE HISPANIC GUY wants

Japanese Asian. Like jazz, concerts, movies, walks, running, happy times. You: slim, nice legs, 40-55. Me: 52, 5'6\*, beautiful heart. (1/4) 49841 CHRISTIAN COLLEGE DEGREE, 69, easy

going, humorous, slim build. Like danc-ing, travel. Seeking classy lady, 60-72, for



HEALTHY OLDER WHITE widower. Seek-ing woman for companionship, dining out, plays, etc. Nonsmoker. House shar-ing possible if we are mutually interested. Carlsbad location. (1/11) 2749856

59-YEAR-OLD MAN seeks nice non-smoker woman with good sense of hu-mor, who likes her life and herself. In North County who wants same. (1/11) **2**4985

**70s GENTLEMAN,** enjoys dancing, dining out, theatre, bridge. Seeks personable lady, thoughtful, sincere, rather full figured, with interests that are similar. (1/11)

MEXICAN WOMEN WANTED. 6'1", white male, La Mesa, divorced father, romantic sexy. Seeks hot lady for intimate, passior ate sexy evenings, candles, kisses, soft music, me. (1/11) 249870

SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN, charming and handsome, graduate degreed, wishes to make happy a lady in her 30s, who is sensitive, attractive and well educated. (1/4)

DESIRE OUT-OF-THE-BOX thinking female for relationship of conscious, personal growth, fulfilling self-expression, healing, entrepreneurial, prosperity, peace, joy, love, intimacy, rapture. 5'6'. (1/4) **24**9844

YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT could be me! Really nice guy; not rich; somewhat hand-some, fit, 53, 5'10°, thin, creative type. Seeking enchanted, exciting, easygoing woman. (1/4) **2**49848

NEW YEAR WITH ME, Healthy fun guy, 61, good shape, wants counterpart for fun, as in travel, tennis, ocean, lakes, movies, adventure, and eventually love. (1/11) **T** 49869 BOYISHLY HANDSOME, AFRICAN- Scot-

tish ancestry, soulful, considerate. Love jazz, learning saxophone, 49, 5'10', 177lbs. Needs mature, thoughtful, playful, shapely, sexy woman with no hang ups. (1/11) 2749831

ATTRACTIVE BLACK LADY, 35-50, fit, sense of humor, sought for friendship, rosense of humor, sought for friendship, ro-mance, with successful white male, blue eyes, affectionate, muscular. Let me spoil u. (1/4) 🕿 49851

you. (1/4) **22** 49851 **NORTH COUNTY BACHELOR!** Trim, great shape, educated, financially secure, homeowner. 50ish, light brown/blue, 5'9', 150lbs. No kids! You: 40ish, attractive, overweight and available! (1/4) 19845

NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNING, New romance, new adventure, divorced white male, 60s, enjoys all life has to offer. Seeks nice Caucasian lady for nice rela-tionship. (1/11) 249868

**53, FIT, SLIM,** divorced, father, degreed, humorous, mannered, fun, varied inter-ests. Seeking 43-53 lady, nonsmoker, sin-cere, feminine, trim, North County, for conversation, outlings, possibly more. (1/4) **2** 49834

HOTE: (1/4) 20 49634 HANDSOME, SPIRITUAL, surfer, ex-hip-pie, 58, 5'11', great smile. Love Baja, na-ture, animals and fun! Laid back, honest, sincere and passionate. You smillar qual-ities, interests. 760. (1/4) 20 49829

47, 5's', 150bs, professional, sincere, Aquarian, metaphysical, unconventional. Looking for one special person to spend my life with. No dogs or children at home. (1/4) 2549836 GENTLEMANLY, NONSMOKING, retired

serior widower. Love music, theater, con-certs, travel, cruising. Seeking unencum-bered, uninhibited, compatible lady counterpart for friendship, companion-ship to enjoy our lives together. (1/4) 249837

HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL, South Bay, 52, divorced, healthy, fit. Enjoy life, travél, theater, concerts, movies, all sports. Clean, neat, homeowner, a gentleman, live alone with pets. (1/4) **2** 49835 TIRED OF LOOKING THROUGH these

ads? Would you rather be in a meaningful relationship with chemistry, respect and an understanding of the effort it takes to maintain this? Are you spontaneous, ad-venturous, in very good shape? Can you see yourself on the back of a Harley? If a call DTU dnk worv bandrom so, call. Tall, dark, very handsome, 49. (1/4) 249827

YOU'RE SOMEONE SPECIAL. Black male, 5'9", 160lbs., 51 and fit. Seeking white female, 51°, 160lbs., 51 and fit. Seeking white female, slim to average, 38-50 years, for friendship and more. Enjoy din-ners, movies, walk, bicycling. No smok-ers. (1/4) **T** 49843 TALL, ATTRACTIVE, BLUE eyes, 54, white

male; fun, fit, romantic, financially stable. Seeking slender to average woman for



Meet single people today Overcome self-imposed fears Market yourself and save thousands Save big money on dates Be more assertive on dates Increase dating confidence Women learn how to:

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Check-in at 7:00 pm Events at 7:30 pm

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quality time together. Is that you? (1/11) WHERE ARE YOU? There is a tall, hand-some, 40 something, black male looking for you. He's funny, intelligent, big heart and a great smile. (1/4) 249833

SENIOR WOMAN WANTED. Fine gentle-man, slim, 5'8', well groomed, outgoing. Seeking companionship with mature se-nior woman, 65+. (1/4) ☎49853

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. (1/11) 249858

**Outgoing, SPANISH MALE** seeks Italian female, 27-39, easygoing and fun to be with. Into Italian cuisine and music. Me: 35, 170lbs., green eyes, fun. (1/4)

DEAR SANTA. ALL I WANT for Christmas is a playful, caring, silly, passionate, sexy, sensual lover to keep me warm at night, please! (1/4) 249842

**IF YOU ARE THE GIRL** Next door, the one in my dreams, white picket fence, flowers. Easy going guy, early 60s, waits for you. (1/11) **2** 49871

49, POLICE OFFICER. Healthy Caucasian, secure, gentleman's standards/ morals, live in Fashion Valley. Seeking 42-50, content, fit, motivated lady to enjoy life with, relationship. (1/11) 249860

HO HO HO. This Santa is coming down from North Pole. Looking for Miss Santa. Me: 6'4", 45. Miss Santa: 35-45, hot co-coa, fireplace. (1/4) 249852

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relation ship. I'm 55, 5'3", 145lbs., good looking. I love music, nature, walking, fun at home, more. La Mesa area. (1/4) 249846

ATTRACTIVE WIDOWER, TALL, healthy

fantastic looks, educated, virile. Retired businessowner, homeowner, financially secure, genuine! Seeking attractive, af-fectionate, sensual, curvaceous lady, 48-65. Dates, fun, romance, trips. (1/11) **3** 49864

ROOMMATES

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at

SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! ALPINE. \$257. Ten minutes east of Alpine. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 23' small trailer on 5 acres. \$300 deposit. 1/4 util-ties. Quiet. Pet negotiable. Single only. 619-473-1214; 619-857-7707; 619-235-2415, v26512

BAY PARK/MISSION BAY, Very nice

home, \$600, near 5, UCSD, stores. Quiet, big canyon garden, prefer male, non-smoker, \$200/security deposit, lyricstudents@hotmail.com. 619-276-

1966. CARDIFF. Private entrance/bath, \$675 plus utilities/deposit. Community living with privacy. Vegetarian/seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry, distilled water. Nonsmokers, no pets. 760-753-2000

CARDIFF. Your own private floor in beau-tiful home. Bedroom, bath, large living room/office area. Separate entrance. Walk to beach. Pets DK. \$850. 760-753-3545; 619-235-2415, x11305.

3545; 619-235-2415, x11305. CARLSBAD. Cheap rent. Beautiful, brand new million dollar home. Private bath, ca-ble, laundry room, storage. Fully fur-nished. 3 plasma TVs. Only \$950. 760-822-8464; 619-235-2415, x24390.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN, \$550, Bedroom and full house privileges in clean, quiet beautiful home. Utilities, WI-FI, cable in-cluded in room. Smoking outside. No pets/drugs. 619-933-8686.

pets/drugs. 619-933-8686. CARMEL VALLEY. Room in luxurious 2-bedroom townhouse. Beautiful, carpeted master bedroom with track lighting, phone line. Features bright wood flooring, large kitchen, modern appliances, washer/dryer, fireplace, cable, patio. Pool, jacuzzi, clubhouse, shopping, restaurants. Freeway access. Torrey Pines beach nearby. \$725/month, \$725 deposit. Available now. Paul, 858-481-9551.

CARMEL VALLEY. 2 rooms available for \$1400 plus half utilities. Private bathroom.

Luxury apartment, resort living, spacious, quiet, laundry, pool, fitness, no smoking. Must see! Available 2/1/2006. 858-509-

CHULA VISTA/OTAY LAKES. \$595.

Clean room for rent with view and private bath in house. Parking, washer and dryer. Close to Southwestern college. Female preferred. 858-334-5930

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. \$650. Room available. Beautiful condo located in heart of Eastlake. 1525 square feet, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bath. Ready for move in today. 619-235-2415, x10023.

**7**49832



MATCHES Men Seeking WOMEN

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! I AM 33, I LOVE SPORTS, football, soc cer, boogie boarding, poker and any other sport you can think of. Looking for a nice Asian lady. (1/4) **2**49838 BOYFRIEND PACKAGE: Mature man outward, young of heart inside. Seeking smart, sassy, confident woman, 30ish-50ish. Coffee, movies, nature, hiking, dancing. 49, white, 5'11\*, 195lbs., ath-letic. (1/4) 249828

FULL-BODIED WHITE FEMALE, 180+lbs. wanted by attractive black artist, property owner, building mountain home. Seeking to share it with large passionate woman wanting permanent relationship. (1/11) **2**49862

57-YEAR-OLD MAN looking for a nice lady for long-term relationship. I'm a non-smoker. I enjoy working out, movies, quiet ady for long-term relationship. I' moker. I enjoy working out, mov mes together. (1/11) 249866 ALL AROUND GOOD GUY looking for lady for long-term relationship. Love hugs and kisses. Ready to give all my heart. Call me. (1/4) 249840

MATURE, OLDER WOMAN SOUGHT by

tall, loving, affectionate, white male, a I'm financially/emotionally secure, play

Singles Parties Best

...happen every Tuesday at the 94th Aero Squadron ...happen every Saturday at the Skies Lounge in the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 8110 Aero Drive

...happen every Sunday at the Riverwalk Golf Club 1150 Fashion Valley Road

# New Year's Party Skies Lounge in the Four Points Sheraton

8110 Aero Dr. Saturday, December 31 • 8 pm-1 am

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Men learn:

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Please R.S.V.P. for location in San Diego for seminars on Sunday, Jan. 8 & Saturday, Jan. 14, from 1:45 to 5 pm. 1-888-436-DATE

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CHULA VISTA, \$495, female only, in-cludes utilities, washer/dryer. No alcohol/drugs/pets/overnight visitors. Close to Southwestern College and the 805.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$550. kitchen, new appliances, granite coun-tertops, ocean views. Great location, close to I-5, bay, shops, bus line. Female only. 858-549-3197.

CLAIREMONT. \$800/month, 1/2 utilities. Roommate needed. Share house in Clairemont. Bedroom with private bath. Quiet neighborhood. Available 1/1, pos-sibly sooner! Call Chad, 885-565-0866; 619-249-5676.

CLAIREMONT. \$550 plus deposit and 1/2 utilities. Female wanted for private room and bath. No pets, smoking. Pool, laundry, cable. Large apartment. Avail-able now. 619-540-1520.

CLAIREMONT. \$500, plus deposit, 1/3 utilities. Clean, quiet, 3 bedroom, 1 bath house on canyon. Washer/dryer, cable. No smoking/pets/drugs. Call Dave, 858-40, 461

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Master bedroom with own bath, \$625/month. Close to freeways, shopping center, and more. No drugs/smoking/pets. Small de-posit, Joe 858-279-3125.

posit, Joe 858-279-3125. CLAIREMONT, \$600, month-to-month lease, 3 bedroom, office, 2 bath, big backyard, fully furnished house, garage. Own bath \$45/more. \$667/deposit. Have dog, will consider other. 858-735-8453. CLAIREMONT, NORTH. \$550, 1/4 utili-ties, \$500 deposit. Room in 4 bedroom house. Across park, near bus. No pets, have 3 dogs. Smoking OK. 858-752-9436, 858-200-7676.

CLAIREMONT. \$500. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home, laundry, cable, Internet. Near buses 25 and 44. Great location. No smokers or pets. \$400 security. 858-279-5053; 619-235-2415, x23586.

CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom house, in quiet neighborhood, central location. quiet neighbornood, centra rocate... Storage space, laundry facility, hot tub. Utilities included. \$615/month. 619-454-

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$480/

■▓■ ━ ━ ■

room, private bath, quiet, rental is room only. No cooking or microwave. Great area. 858-270-9038; 858-504-1760. COLLEGE AREA. Newly remodeled. 2 rooms. 1 with private entrance, \$600. 1 rooms. 1 with private entrance, \$600. 1 master (20x16), 2 closets, \$800. House has fireplace, jacuzzi, washer/dryer, yard. 858-337-7417.

COLLEGE AREA. \$600. Master bedroom shared bath. Ready now. Females only please. Mirrored closets, large kitchen, washer/dryer. Good neighborhood. No pets. Christine, 619-813-3113.

COLLEGE/MISSION VALLEY. Master bedroom, private bath, laundry, parking, pool/jacuzzi, large closets, private phone, in very clean remodeled condo \$675, includes utilities, 619-559-0996

COLLEGE/SAN CARLOS. Furnished room, private home, separate bath, washer/dryer/kitchen privileges. Walk Lake Murray/Cowles Mountain. Available 01/01/06. Utilities included. \$600. 619-027.0941

COLLEGE/SDSU. Male/female room mate wanted. \$495, includes utilities. Share clean, beautiful, upgraded 3 bed-room, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Friendly neighborhood. Alan, 619-855-2321; 619-235-2415, x12918.

235-2415, x12918. 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-roal.

**DOWNTOWN.** Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath at Avalon at Cortez Hill. Pool, other 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, plus utilities. 2-bed room suite in house, private entry/bath Pool, quiet neighborhood, full privileges. Close to freeway. No smoking/pets. 619-

572-2502. **EL CAJON.** Female only. \$530 includes utilities and cable. Deposit required. 2 bedroom condo with 1-1/2 bath. Pool and tennis court. 15 minutes to SDSU. Call 619-749-5061.

## NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Some like it slippery) The "Skating by the Sea" ice rink on the Windsor Lawn at the Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado (where *Some Like It Hot* was filmed). The rink has been so successful, the hotel reportedly bought the equipment. This season it'll stay up until January 2. (Last week's winners: Jim Richards, Arleene Branson, Sheri Ryan, Andrea Driskill, Dawndie Goodrum)

**Clue:** Warning: these cars will follow you.

**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 vour 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.

## 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.

PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	_3	4	5	6
7	_8	9	10	<u>11</u>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20		22	23	24
25/FREE	_26	27	28	29	30

**FREE AD DEADLINE:** 7 am Saturday

Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Online:** SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday Fax: (619) 233-7907 Phone: (619) 235-8200 Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego *Reader* does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all renies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made asainst the San and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San and air reputes to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego Reader as a result hereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego Reader and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

Name Address Zip City Phone (day) (

Phone (evening) ( )

#### Signature

To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)

□ Woman seeking a man

□ Man seeking a woman

E-mail:

Choose One:  $\Box$  Shared interests

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox ......\$ FREE Headlines \_\_\_\_\_x \$12 each line ......\$ First 25 words of printed ad.....\$ FREE Additional words \_\_\_\_\_x \$1.20 each......\$ Late fee/walk-in fee: \$20.....\$ **TOTAL**.....\$

No cancellations. No refunds. Make check or money order payable to San Diego Reader. To order using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

Card number

Expiration date

Signature

## We must have the following information. Please print.

EL CAJON. \$470, 1/3 utilities, deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Share bath. Washer/dryer, cable Internet. Close to all. No drugs, smoking, pets. 619-250-7144. EL CAJON. \$600, 1/2 utilities. Share Washer/dryer. Near Cuyamaca College. Share with owner and mellow dog. 619-888-5696; 619-235-2415, x28383.

EL CAJON. \$700. Share 3 bedroom town-home. Furnished. Washer/dryer. Shared bath. Pool. Close to Grossmont College. No smoking, drinking, drugs or pets. 619-328-8134; 619-235-2415, x24393.

EL CAJON/MT HELIX. Share nice house in great location. Freeway access. Garage parking. Furnished. Utilities paid. \$575. Male preferred. 619-517-8080. EL CAJON/MT. HELIX. \$600, \$600 deposit. Large room with beautiful view, 16'x11', 8.5' closet, share large bath. Util-ities, DirecTV, laundry included. Dave, 619-588-8280; twoofeverything@hotmail.

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.

2415, x10/61. 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, v11726 long. x11736

ENCINITAS. Room available in 2 bed-room apartment. Clean, spacious, up-stairs. Pool overlooks the ocean. Next to grassy park. \$795. 619-235-2415, grassy x29715.

ESCONDIDO. \$450, includes washer/dryer, own bath. Nice, clean, quiet house. Parking. Tennis court, pools, jacuzzi, clubhouse. Convenient to free-

SERVICES

Happy New You!

ways. No pets/smoking. 760-473-7015; 760-746-0576. 760-746-0576. FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$535. Room in 15 19 163 malls. Pool.

condo near I-5, I-8, 163, malls. Pool Jacuzzi. Laundry in unit. Internet hookup Security patrolled. No smoking/drugs 858-342-9327. GROSSMONT WALK. Private room. Avail able immediately. Share bathroom. Fe

able immediately. Share bathroom. Fe-males only. Beautiful 4 bedroom home. Pool, cable TV, computer hookup. \$450. 619-667-9142; 619-235-2415, x11299. HiLLCREST, \$525, deposit, 1/2 utilities. High ceilings, wood floors. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Laundry hookups, yar porch. Downtown, park, buses close. Pets OK. 619-296-5994; 619-235-2415, 18978

LA COSTA. \$450. Elegant house on cul-de-sac. Small bedroom with shared bath Washer/dryer and kitchen privileges Large yard. No drugs, smoking, or pets Large yard

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$695, plus utilities, de-posit. 2000-square-foot home. Fireplace, n-ground pool, gazebo, fountains, wire-ess Internet, off-street parking. No pets

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA BEACH. \$1050 Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Com-pletely furnished, includes everything. Another: \$800, furnished room in house. Nonsmoker, no pets. 858-459-3089; 619-235-2415, x29783.

LA MESA, \$500/month, half utilities, avail-able immediately. Clean, new carpet, near freeway 8. 619-337-0520, 714-878-8057.

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.

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LEUCADIA, Beach bungalow, 2 blocks to beach, pet possible, \$500/month, prefer female, Non-smoker. 760-436-1925. 760-

LINDA VISTA, \$600/month, \$600 deposit. es. Room available in house. Fire-fenced backyard, garage place. washer/dryer. Good neighborhood. Fe male preferred. Sara, 619-933-8854; Na talie. 619-920-4081.

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. \$400, share house, pool. , deck, cable, wireless Internet, dryer. Female only. No pets. 858-

MIRA MESA. \$600. \$300 deposit. 4 bedroom house, very clean. Unfurnished, own bathroom, cable, phone line. Utilities, washer and dryer included. Full house privileges. No smoking/pets. 858-733-1195 or 858-271-6647.

1195 or 858-271-6647. **MIRA MESA.** 1 bedroom \$600 plus de-posit, utilities and cable included. Washer/dryer, swimming pool, Barbecue, kitchen privileges, must love pets, near all. 858-549-3676, 619-920-7027. an. dob-049-3676, 619-920-7027. MIRA MESA. \$495, room in large, quiet 4 bedroom recently redecorated home. Pri-vate phone line, male, nonsmoker, no pets/drugs, bus nearby, available now, 858-695-9892.

888-695-9892. **MIRA MESA.** \$550 1 bedroom, \$575 fur-nished. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1/4 util-ities. Remodeled bathroom. \$500 de-posit. Have cats. Neighborhood pool. 1 person only. 619-247-8071.

person only. 619-247-8071. MISSION BEACH. \$700. Share 4 bed-room, 2 bath condo. Large living room, dining room. Fireplace, laundry, parking. Steps to bay. Share all utilities. 209-678-6695. MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. \$715, 1/2 utili

ties. Own room/bath. Plus patio, carport, dishwasher, fireplace, microwave. 4

houses to bay. No smoking/pets, 858-488-8113,

MISSION VALLEY/SERRA MESA \$700, 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.

MISSION VALLEY. \$550, 1/3 utilities and cable/Internet. Room in 2 bedroom condo in Mission Plaza. Near trolley. 24Hour Fit-ness, freeways. Nonsmoker. Have cats. 619-283-2789.

## 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

MISSION VALLEY. \$750, plus 1/2 utilities. Female to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Great amenities. Furnished ex-cept for bedroom. Available now. Lee, 619-220-0603; 619-235-2415, x25506. MISSION VALLEY. \$800, plus deposit. Female to share Stonecrest Townhouse, 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Nonsmoking, no

updated daily

pets. Laundry, garage, gym, pool, and more. 619-220-7006; 619-235-2415,

x22196 MISSION VALLEY. \$950, 1/2 utilities Roommate wanted, 2 bedroom, 3 bat 3 bath condo. Own bathroom, walk-in closet. Garage, access to Escala amenities. moking, no dogs. 858-610-1746 MISSION VALLEY, EAST/SDSU. Must see. Own room, own bath. Very nice clean, quiet, secure. No smoking, no drugs. Female preferred. Pool, jacuzzi, \$525, 619-204-9959.

MISSION VALLEY. \$600 rent. \$600 deposit, 1/3 utilities. Pool, spa., Near trolley, gym. Available 1/6. Male preferred. Cal Sandra, 619-977-5779; 619-235-2415, 22801

MURRIETA. Roommate wanted in 4 bed-room house. \$550 plus utilities. Washer/dryer and kitchen privileges. 951-

NATIONAL CITY/PARADISE VALLEY. \$700. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Quiet heighborhood. Own bath. Available 1/1. No pets, drinking, smoking. Split utilities. \$350 deposit. 619-200-2013.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$600. Beautifully re-modeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Own bedroom and bathroom. Near Adams. Safe/quiet neighborhood. Storage, washer/dryer, parking, balconies. 619-808-5733.

NORTH PARK. \$650 plus security, in-cludes utilities. Share 2 bedroom condo with female plus 2 cats. Bedroom, private bathroom. Female wanted, No smoking/pets. gibsong88@yahoo.com, 619-574-6925.

013-074-0925. OCEAN BEACH, Furnished large bed-room with bath, 3 blocks to beach, free-way, parking, view, credit check, \$750/month, deposit. No pets/smoking/drugs. Half utilities 619-929-4450.

650/month, utilities included. Quiet, clean, furnished bedroom, bath. Parking, view, gated. Fireplace, laundry, cable, skylights. Near shops, freeways, bus, beach. 619-546-5700. OCEANSIDE. Senior community. 45 or older. \$575, includes utilities. Call Ron, 760-415-0604.

CEANSIDE. 3 blocks to beach. Share nice, spacious 2 bedroom apartment. New carpet/paint, laundry in complex. In-cludes satellite, utilities. No drugs. \$550/ month. 619-920-3449; 619-235-2415, x18246.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$650. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath quiet apartment. 4 blocks from beach. No smoking/pets. Photos online. 858-488-3851; best to reoly: DonnaByczkiewicz@aol.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Share townhouse. cable, telephone, washer/dryer, all am-menities. No pets/smoking. 858-483-

PACIFIC BEACH, Quiet beach house, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, off-street parking, fenced yards, washer/dryer, storage. \$900, plus deposit, 1/2 utilities. 2021 Dia-Street, 619-818-4762.

PACIFIC BEACH, 3 bedroom, 4 bath condo, walk-in closet, tiled bathroom at-tached to room, washer/dryer, garage.

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No pets/smoking, \$900/month, \$800/de-posit, utilities split, 858-740-7727.

post, utilities spin, 355-740-7727.
PACIFIC BEACH. Great 2 bedroom, 1 bath, just footsteps to water, with yard. No smoking, no pets. Available between 12/28-11. \$590/month. 858-337-4367; 619-235-2415, x31228. PACIFIC BEACH/MT. SOLEDAD. \$675

sunny spacious house. All amenities, maid. Prefer female nonsmoker. Sorry, no more pets. 858-483-3326.

POINT LOMA, PARK. Room available. \$650. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Garage, washer/dryer, Olympic-size pool, spa. New carpet/paint. 619-994-1617.

POINT LOMA \$695. Nice downstairs room with own full bath, views. Pool room, weight room, guest room, laundry, yard/garden, balcony, fireplace, garage. Jon, 619-222-3366.

**POWAY.** \$500, includes utilities and ca-ble. Room close to bus, shopping and I-15. No smoking, drinking or drugs. Call 858-679-9459.

RanCHO BERNARDO, Gated community, Room for rent with full house privileges. Swimming pool, jacuzzi. Internet and ca-ble ready. \$475 inclusive. Deposit \$150. Available 1/1. Close to 15. 858-385-9287. RANCHO SANTA FE. \$500/month. Fur-nished. 1 bedroom/bath. No smoking. Prinisned. 1 bedroom/bath. No smoking. Pr vate entrance. Includes utilities. Small re frigerator. Available now. 858-756-1543. re Ingerator. Available flow. 858-756-7543.
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.

SAN MARCOS. \$535. Share house. Un-TV plus movies. Utilities included. No pets/smoking. 760-744-0633.

pers/smicking. /bu-/44-0533. **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 Mike, 949-533-1207.

SOLANA BEACH. \$600. Private furnished bedroom/bath in quiet home overlooking San Elijo Lagoon. Share utilities. No smoking, drugs, pets. Female preferred. 619-993-9126; 619-235-2415, x28092. SOUTH PARK. \$550, share utilities/maid, \$300 deposit. Room for rent in large house, yard, deck. Share bathroom. Cable, modem, laundry. No pets. Travis,

**TIERRASANTA,** \$675/month, plus \$200 utility in clean and quiet 4 bedroom house, includes broadband Internet, ca-ble, gardener, washer/dryer, pool, fire-place, no smoking/pets. 619-920-9990.

## **R** ооммате SERVICES

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space, but great location! Holistic Health Center, 842 Washington Street, second UPTOWN/BANKER'S HILL. Professional

office available. Single exterior office, se-cured parking, janitorial utilities, signage all included. \$450/month. Call Greg, 619-THERAPY/TREATMENT OFFICE space

Pacific Beach Yoga/Healing Center, Turquoise/Cass. Private entrance, basin, skylight, ceiling fan. Free yoga classes/ utilities. \$550/month or share. Kate, 858-499 772

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. Private massage therapist room. \$650/month. Share building with counselor and detox therapist. Great, quiet location. 760-804-0477. NORTH PARK. Office space available be

315 to 1130 square feet. Great for usiness or expanding. 3930 Oregon Street. 858-598-1111 x193, www. DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Storage/

work loft-like area. \$1050/month. Approxi-mately 1,000 square feet. Bath, off-street parking, Bob, 858-229-5398 DOWNTOWN ART WORKSPACES. \$175

\$295. Great area. Associate with other artists. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 114-200 square feet. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x102.

Management, 019-239-109-203-102. BANKER'S HILL, Prime location! Presti-gious building, Perfect for professional of-fice, salon, spa, manicurist, retail. Ap-proximately 1250 square feet. Way below market! \$1.95/square foot. References. 619,298,253. 619-29

TIERRASANTA. 4926 la Cuenta Drive, Suite 201. Tierrasanta Professional Build-ing. 450 square foot, 2 room office space. Available in January. \$575. 858-483-3221.

JAPUL. Steel Warehouse, 1800 square-feet. Dry Storage, Light Manufacture use. 2-roll doors, 12'wide x18'high. Wood stove, single 220. 1-3 year lease. \$1295, leave message, 619-468-6932.

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

og. **MISSION BAY.** Office suite. 481 square feet at \$1.10. Next to I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard, #204. Juno, 619-275-3455.

frigerator, washer/dryer, barbecue in-cluded. Available 1/20. \$1690. 619-254-RENTAL 1021

SERVICES **CHULA VISTA/OTAY.** 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. Loft, 2-car garage, appliances included. \$1850/month. Call 619-934-8608. PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-

sands of classified ads not printed here!

RENTALS

HOUSES

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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

BAY PARK. \$2295. 3 bedroom. 2 bath. 2

car garage. View, hookups, dishwasher, large patio. Available now! 3074 Lloyd Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.

BONITA, \$2900. 3 bedrooms, large mas

ter, 2 bath. Granite countertops, natural stone floors in entry/kitchen. Backyard with swimming pool. Pets OK. Great neighborhood. 619-267-2004.

**BOULEVARD,** Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, over 1100 square feet, horse/pet OK, washer/dryer hook-ups, fantastic view. \$950 plus deposit, 619-766-9105.

CARDIFF. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. vaulted liv

ng room ceiling, large kitchen, fireplace ard. \$1695. Call 760-753-6575.

CARDIFF. 3 bedroom, 2-1/5 bath. 1900 square feet. 2 car garage, ocean view, walk to beach and village, gardener. \$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. Ouiet cul-de-sac. No pets. Agent, 619-296-3189.

CARLSBAD. \$1800. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. 2,000+ square feet. New paint, carpet, tile. New appliances. Gardener. Beautiful area. No pets. Please call 760-

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH. \$1695. Near Highlands Banch School 2 bed

room, 2 bath. Very nicely upgraded. Gar-dener. All appliances. Panda Realty, 858-

CHULA VISTA. \$1900, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, in Rolling Hills, no neighbors be-hind, washer/dryer, fridge included. Near Thurgood Marshall Elementary, close to

Eastlake Plaza. Available now, 619-271-

CHULA VISTA, EASTLAKE, 4 bedroom 4 bath house. 2-car garage. 3,500 square feet. Pool/spa. No pets/smoking. Avail-able 1/1/06. \$2600 plus deposit. 619-517-

CHULA VISTAASTLAKE. 3 bedroom, 2-

1/2 bath, 2-car garage. Gated commu-nity. Close to Eastlake High School. Re-

9-807-0327

CHULA VISTA. Charming 3 bedroom 2 bath, 1-1/2 car garage. 1680 square feet. Hardwood floors, fireplace, all appli-ances. New gas range, large closets. Fenced yard with patio. Quiet street. Close to everything. Pets OK. \$1750. Good tenant discount \$1700. 619-591-9119.

CHULA VISTA. Otay Ranch, \$1925/month, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, on a cul-de-sac. Washer/dyer, refrigerator included, no pets, community pool, available now, 858.733.0424 3-0424

bb8-733-0424. CITY HEIGHTS. Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Large patio off kitchen, private fenced yard. Washer/dryer. Garage avail-able. Quiet neighborhood near Down-town/freeways. Pets OK. \$1250/month. 619-847-9125.

013-047-9125. CITY HEIGHTS. 5044 Auburn Drive, SD 92105. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with garage and backyard. Interior com-pletely remodeled. \$1400/month. Agent, 619-843-0179.

**CLAIREMONT.** \$2450/month, beautifully remodeled, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath remodeled, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, pool/jacuzzi, fireplace, near shopping, freeway, quiet cul-de-sac. 6349 Hannon Court, 760-788-4555, or 619-889-4398. CLAIREMONT. House for rent. Com-pletely refurbished. \$1800. 4-5 bed-rooms, garage. 4021 Clairemont Drive. Call 619-892-4590.

Call 619-892-4590. CLAIREMONT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Family room. Beautifully done. Hardwood floors, new carpet, tile. Exotic landscape. Close to shopping, freeway and La Jolla ac-cess. No dogs. Available 1/1/06. 22000. 4910 Gallatin Way. 858-866-5636.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Garage. Washer/dryer hookups. bath. Garage. Washer/dryer hookups. Backyard. Ask about pets. 4534 Seminole Drive. www.homes4rent.com. 619-435-

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 2-car garage. Laundry hook-ups. Quiet neighborhood. Central location close to freeways, restaurants, shopping, trans-portation. \$1695. 4474 Berting. 619-972-7792.

COLLEGE AREA, \$995, \$900 deposit, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Refrigerator. Hardwood floors. Gated. Exclusive dog run. Near all. 5822 El Cajon Boulevard. 619-285-3822. COLLEGE AREA. \$1795. Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Quiet area. View, large canyon lot, garage, range, refrigerator, laundry hookups. North of Montezuma. 610,222-4071

COLLEGE AREA. Beautifully renovated CULLEGE AREA, Beautifully renovated Spanish, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, new hard-wood floors, fireplace, landscaping, pa-tio/barbecue, garage, new washer/dryer/refrigerator/stove. Holiday special, water included, \$2100, 858-342-2702 COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, plus den, \$1450. Charming canyon home, new car-pet, indoor laundry, yard, covered patio, gardener. Quiet cul-de-sac. Move in spe-cial! Agent, 619-296-3189.

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garage, yard, fireplace, appliances. Quiet neighborhood. New paint. Covered patio, canyon view. Gardener. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$2300. Steve, 619-990-5801. DEL CERRO. \$1900. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with 2-car garage and large yard. No smoking. 1 year lease. 7515 Rowena. Call Michael, 858-597-6100 x321.

EL CAJON. Must see! 3 bedroom, 2 bath autifully renovated, new carpet, arage, pool, quiet cul-de-sac. 1900/month includes utilities. 1651 raddon Way. 619-980-7118, 619-980-076 garage, \$1900/m

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Agent, coso-out-2334. 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.

ENCINITAS. \$1975/month. Charming Moonlight Beach. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Moonlight Beach. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, appliances and yard. Parking available. Available 12/20. 1-year lease. Nonsmokers. 422 Third Street. 626-335-4892.

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Nited. 619-236-1186. **HILLCREST.** Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1 block from Balboa Park, great neighborhood, completely remodeled, garage, laundry, fenced patio, pet ok. \$1895/month. Call 619-549-4959.

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HILLCREST/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 3

bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Craftsman house. Fireplace. New carpet. Garage. Yard. Ap-pliances included. Pets OK. Great neighorhood. Available now. \$2000. 858-945-4500

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619-301-8654. **KENSINGTON.** \$1595. Upper duplex house, 1100 square feet. Nonsmoking. No dogs. New wooden floors, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Avail-able Jsnuary 1. Colleen, 619-280-1800.

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LEMON GROVE/SPRING VALLEY, \$1895 rent, \$1500 deposit. OAC. Large 3 bed-room, 1 bath. Detached oversized 2 car garage. Huge yard. 1 outdoor dog upon approval with extra deposit. At 1508 Drexel Drive. Agent, 619-299-4034. LINDA VISTA. \$2100. Beautiful brand new 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. Garage, new appliances, yard. Central lo-cation near USD/Fashion Valley. 2047 Drescher. 619-335-3922.

Linda VISTA. \$1500 plus deposit. 2 bed-room, 1 bath. Garage, refrigerator, stove, and pool. Bus, USD, Fashion Valley. No pets and drugs. New carpet and paint. No dishwasher. Good credit only. 858-020 peters.

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2228. MISSION HILLS. Charming two story 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2100 square feet. For-mal dining room. New carpet, new paint. Washer/dryer. 1 carport/2 open parking. Balcony. Patios. Deck. Fenced yard. 4136 Ibis Street. Available 12/10. \$2495. 619-423-0123.

619-423-0123. MISSION HILLS. \$2800. 2 bedroom, 2 both Vosemite near downtown. 1914 bath. Yosemite near downtown. Craftsman in spruce and pines. -ire-. 721 Bush. 619-688-1631, 619-435-2362



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San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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NORTH PARK. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath

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includes gardener. 619-846-7585. PACIFIC BEACH. \$2795. 3 bedroom 2 bath home. 1900 square feet. Carport Loft den and family room with wet bar Wood and carpet flooring. Laundry room with appliances. 1721 Reed Avenue Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious 2200' square home. Blocks to beach. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2

home. Blocks to beach. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Outside office, fireplace, washer/dryer. Fenced yard. Stainless ap-pliances. Dogs considered. 619-459-3392 PACIFIC BEACH. \$1250, 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Parking. Patio. Laundry fa-cility. Walk to bay. No pets. 4115 Ingra-ham Street. Pacific Crown Villas. 858-270-4674.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS, \$2100/month, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, refriger-ator, washer/dryer, no pets, Poway school district, 15260 Amalia Street, 858-518-4082, 858-722-9710.

SAN CARLOS. \$1995. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 car garage. Water/trash and landscap-ing included, large yard. 8824 Highsmith Lane. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

SAN DIEGO. 1 h-1

SAN MARCOS. San Elijo. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2300 square feet. Quiet cul-de-sac. Near I-5/78 Highway. Fenced yard. Pets OK. View mountains/ocean. \$2100. 619-519-5150

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RENTALS

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Sureager.com/rent/2037. BALBOA PARK/GOLDEN HILL. \$750 in-cludes utilities. Smail studio, beautiful courtyard setting. Unique plan, four lev-les, loft, appliances. No pets. 1235 27th Street #B 619-507-7119.

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BANKER'S HILL. \$625 studio. All utilities

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ment, 619-422-5709. CHULA VISTA. \$550. Studio. Beautiful garden courtyard setting. Pool, controlled access, air conditioning. 540 Naples. Tor-rey Pines Property Management, 619-422-5709.

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Visit: www.sdreader.com/rent/ 10/0. CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Call for spe-cials! Traditional 1 bedrooms starting \$890, Designer 1 bedroom starting \$980. Traditional 2 bedrooms from \$1035, De-trigener 1 bedrooms orditing \$100, Det signer 1 bedrooms starting \$1180. Pets welcome. Cool breezes, Olympic size pool, gym, movie theatre. Reserved garages. Toll free: 888-500-0471. www. sdreader.com/rent/1031.

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Beautitul, \$2100. app@ajprop.com. A & J Property Management, 888-826-6050. CLAIREMONT. \$875. Clean and cozy 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Lots of pri-vacy. No pets. Garage. Yard. Ample parking is available. 858-274-3351.

parking is available. 858-274-3351. **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.

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http://www.sureader.com/rent/2109. DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP.Lofts starting at \$1250. \$300 off first month's rent with a 3 month lease. In the heart of Gaslamp. Washer/dryer in units. Dogs and cats OK. Underground parking. 777 6th Avenue. Torrey Pines Property Management, 619-544-0017.

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San Diego Reader December 29, 2005

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son. 619-312-0606. EL CAJON. \$900. Large, deluxe 2 bed-room, 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 dee for credit check/rental history. 619-444-4843.

The for credit Check/rental history. 619-444-4843. EL CAJON. \$725-\$925. 1 bedroom and 2 bedrooms. Pool, laundry, parking on-site. Month-to-month lease. 1019 Peach. 619-588-4773. Ask about move-in special. EL CAJON. \$960. 2 bedrooms. Commu-nity complex. Gated pool. Parking, Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-823-5527. EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom. Ask about move-in special. Clean, quiet, off-street parking. Pool, barbecue, laundry room. Gated. Air conditioning/heating. 718 South Magnolias. 619-401-8063. EL CAJON. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Condo with central air. Se-cure gated community with pool and laundry. Easy freeway access. 619-665-3490.

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Sherry, 619-726-7933. EL CAJON. \$1125. Quiet 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in gated community. Garage plus parking space. Washer/dryer inside condo. Fenced patio, fireplace, water paid. 1483 Broadway #G, The Broadway Timbers. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

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ENCINITAS. Fantastic location! Ocean-front street near shops. Awesome luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Granite and marble in kitchen/bath. \$1995. 760-753-4101.

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pool, tennis. Agent, 619-888-1700.
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1340 Eureka Street #11. 619-298-5820. **FASHION VALLEY, WEST.** Presidio Place condos. Furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath with fireplace, air conditioning, new kitchen appliances. Pool, spa, tennis, common garage parking for 2 cars. Avail-able now. Lease to 7/106. \$1650/month. No petsl R.A. Properties, 858-483-3989. **DESURE VALLEY.** 6106. Leng. 2 bed

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**GOLDEN HILL.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex house, \$1245. Quiet, private, sunny, reno-vated. Nice block. 1 year lease. Non-smoking. No pets. 619-980-6700.

GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom apartment, \$835. Quiet, private, sunny, renovated. Nice block. 1 year lease. Nonsmoking. No pets. Call 619-980-6700.

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Must seel Harriet, 760-594-1359. **GOLDEN HILL**, \$720. Large studio in small 1920s building. Hardwood floors, lots of windows. Big walk-in closet, built-in storage. Cute kitchen with built-in table and seating. Free hi-speed wireless Inter-et. One year lease, absolutely no smok-ing. Call 619-239-2278. **GOLDEN HILL**, \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled Victorian apartment. Bay view, fireplace, optional garage, cat OK with deposit, \$1100 move-in deposit. Agent, 858-279-8925.

OK win deposit. 31100 move-in deposit. Agent, 858-279-8925.
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 GOLDEN HILL \$1850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath loft. Gleaming hardwood floors. Fire-place. Formal dining room. 2-car garage. Shared yard. Cats OK. www. goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.
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GOLDEN HILL, \$775. 1 bedroom. Quiet courtyard. Great floor plan. Assigned parking. Laundry room. Move-in special! 619-501-6585 or 619-296-3189.

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	AGE		Generic-Only Rx (PE48)	
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•	30-34	<sup>\$</sup> 64	<sup>\$</sup> 67	\$ <b>77</b>
	35-39	<sup>\$</sup> 72	<sup>\$</sup> 76	\$ <b>87</b>
	40-44	<sup>\$</sup> 101	<sup>\$</sup> 106	<sup>\$</sup> 124
	45-49	<sup>\$</sup> 128	<sup>\$</sup> 133	<sup>\$</sup> 157
	50-54	<sup>\$</sup> 161	<sup>\$</sup> 167	<sup>\$</sup> 201
	55-59	<sup>\$</sup> 239	<sup>\$</sup> 248	<sup>\$</sup> 298
	60-64	<sup>\$</sup> 312	<sup>\$</sup> 321	\$ <b>380</b>

Level 1 monthly rates for No Rx (P958), Generic Rx Option (PE48) and Comprehensive Rx Option (PE49) effective 3/1/05. The rates shown are for Area 6: Imperial, Riverside (except ZIP code 92883), San Bernardino and San Diego Counties. Rates are illustrative only and may vary based on an individual's underwriting review. Some areas may have higher or lower rates. Refer to the plan for a more complete list of coverages, conditions, restrictions, limitations and exclusions.

## Michael Freeman



Authorized Independent Agent 3511 Camino Del Rio So., Suite 303 San Diego, CA 92108 (800) 660-4313 CA Insurance Lic. #0619120 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 name and symbol are registered service marks of the BCA.



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ramic tile. Laundry. Microwave. Floor-to-ceiling windows. Covered parking. Locked bicycle storage. No pets. Park East Apartments. 111 West Pennsylvania Avenue. Park East Apts@att.net. www. sdreader.com/rent/1006. 619-298-3225. **HILCREST.** \$1895. Large 2 bedroom, Laundry hookups. Private 2-car garage. 1-parking. No pets. 3644 3rd Ave. 858-212-7373.

#3. Call Chris, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. 619-405-2185.

212-7373. HILCREST. \$1195, large 2 bedroom (equal size), 1 bath, Berber carpet, vaulted ceilings, 1 parking, laundry. No pets. Walk to Balboa Park. 3828 Third Av-enue at Robinson Avenue. 619-295-7113. HILCREST. Two bedroom, one bath. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, com-pletely remodeled. Deck in yard overlook-ing canyon. Block from Balboa Park. Pets OK. \$1495/month. Call 619-649-4959. OK. \$1495/month. Call 619-549-4959. HILLCREST. Spacious 2 bedrooms start-ing at \$1295. Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047. HILLCREST. \$650. Includes utilities. Small canyon studio, feels like treehouse. Ex-tremely quiet. Large closet, full kitchen, nice neighborhood. No smoking/pets. 619-997-7377

619-297-7377. **HILLCREST.** \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit. Newer berber carpet and paint. New cabinets in kitchen. Laundry onsite. Street parking. Deposit \$500. No pets. Call Pey-ton for showing at 858-483-5111 x41. elroyproperties.com.

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SERVICES

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any. 619-269-5237.
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b615; 619-952-5374. HILLCREST. Very large 1 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman. 936 square feet. Huge canyon view lot, hardwood floors, cul-de-sac, fireplace, formal dining room. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and washer/ dryer included. Pets OK. \$1605.1201 Maryland Place. Available now. 619-871-0635.

0635. HILLCREST. \$850. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled. Laundry. Great loca-tion! Close to shopping, restaurants busline, freeways. Nice, quiet complex 4170 Park Boulevard. 619-335-3922. 4170 Park Boulevard. 619-335-3922. **HILLCREST.** \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Air conditioning, 1 parking space, laundry on-site. Dishwasher, ceil-ing fan. 1033 Robinson. Available for viewing by appointment only. 619-295-

/.kandrproperties.com HILCREST. \$1220. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, air conditioning, microwave, dishwasher, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, upper unit. 4094 Georgia Street #6. CCPM, 619-296-

6699. **HILLCREST.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1295 and up. Pool, view, laundry. Heart of Hill-crest. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4149 6th Avenue. Harry, 619-298-1059. **HILLCREST.** Lovely studio loft, \$950, in-cluding utilities. Newly renovated. In the heart of Hillcrest. Controlled access. Hot tub. Barbecue, picnic area. Hillcrest living at its best! Near bus, shopping, freeways.

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Avenue, 619-299-2615.
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Aliatenii.com, 513-653-7538. HILLCREST, \$965. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Immaculate, bright second floor apart-ment. Barbecue patio. Coin laundry. No pets. Near Henry's Marketplace. 4219 Georgia Street. Manager, 619-299-1004. HILLCREST. 3650 Florida Street. 2 bed room with beautiful hardwood floors room with beautiful hardwood noors, \$1195. All new paint, appliances, coun-tertops, cabinets and more. \$500 gift card at move in for your holiday shop-ping! Call 858-270-5500 x48. www

HILLCREST. \$1100. Lavish landscaping **TILLERES**1, \$1100. Lavish landscaping with a fountain in the courtyard will greet you at the entrance to this 1 bedroom up-stairs apartment home with a full kitchen, dining room, rounded ceilings with arched doorways, original built-ins, and lots of closet space. Also comes with a garage! 3967 Centre Street. 858-270-5500 x44. www.msbrowar.com.

SUU X44. WWW.INSDRWAR.com. **HILCREST**. \$950 rent. \$800 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, dish-washer, washer/dryer, underground park-ing with elevator. Section 8 OK. 4155 Georgia Street #106. 619-297-7662. HILLCREST. Studio, \$795. 1 bedroom, \$895. \$100 off 1st month! Great location, quiet area. Off-street parking, laundry. Cat OK, 4166 4th Avenue. 619-298-7868.

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/ww.rasnyder.com.

www.rasnyder.com. HILLCREST. \$695. Second Floor Studio. Hardwood floors, parking, no pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent. HILLCREST. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move in special-1/2 off first month's rent! On-site laundry and subterranean park-ing. Close to medical center, shops and restaurants! Arbor Place Apartments, 4202 4th Avenue. 619-291-8060. HILLCREST (JECOM). \$1460. 2 bod HILLCREST/UPTOWN. \$1450. 2 bed-room 1 bath. 1200 square foot Penthouse suite, includes private garage, off street parking and beautiful art-deco building.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$995. Up-Washer/dryer. Covered parking. Balcony. Great location. Cat OK. 3782 First Avenue. 858-273-6429.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$750 rent, \$600 deposit with approved credit. Stu-dio. Parking spot #6. Laundry. No pets. 4030 Front Street #6. 619-299-8515.

4030 Front Street #6. 619-299-8515. HILLCREST/UPTOWN. \$1100. 2 bed-room, 1-1/2 bath. Brand new carpet. Large bedrooms! Small balcony, walk-in closet, parking and laundry onsite! Avail-able for move-in now. No pets. 3620 Georgia. Agent, 619-283-2144. HILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$795. Large

1 bedroom, hardwood floors. New win-dows. One parking space, tile kitchen and bath. On-site laundry. Small private complex. 3935 Mississippi Street. 858-272-1234. IMPERIAL BEACH. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in treetops. Spacious/spotless. Charming, quiet 6-unit building. Walk-in closet, laundry, parking. Available. 809 9th Street. 619-429-0498, 619-435-2362.

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Way. 619-683-9239. www. aspenpark.rasnyder.com. MISSION HILLS. \$750. Furnished stu-dio apartment, private patio, screened porch. Utilities paid. Coin

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MISSION HILLS, \$725. Studio. Great location, parking, full kitchen. Non-smoking. (India Street going west to Chalmers Street, Chalmers to 1527 Linwood Street #1.) 619-261-9315. MISSION HILLS, \$825.1 bedroom, 1 both 1 bothing, lowed use a tis. 6

bath. 1 parking, laundry on-site. 6-month lease. 1767 Torrance. 858-483-3534, www.cal-prop.com.

3534, www.cal-prop.com. **MISSION HILLS**. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1795. Drop dead gorgeous. Corner unit, 3-balconies, views to downtown. Sunken living room, dining room, new appliances, plantation shutters. Mas-ter bedroom, dressing room, Jacuzzi tub. Small pet. Agent, 619-296-3189. **MISSION VALLEY**. Stonecrest Village. 2 master bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage. All amenities: tennis. pool, workout room. No smoking/pets. Available now. \$1900. 619-316-1986. **MISSION VALLEY**. 1 bedroom fur-

MISSION VALLEY. 1 bedroom fur-nished. Near trolley & SDSU. Ameni-ties. Covered parking. \$995. Please call agent, 619-303-0821.

can agent, e19-303-0821. **NISSION VALLEY.** Lido condo, 1500 square feet, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 4th floor, mountain view with large deck, large master bedroom, luxury up-grades. Lease or lease to own. Easy move-in program. \$2275/month. Available 12/19. Call 949-922-1599 or 714-689-8888.

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Gaby, 619-336-1776.s NATIONAL CITY. \$100 off move-in special! Large upgraded 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$950 with \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom, \$775. Parking, 116 Palm Avenue. 619-474-4441.

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1-car garage. 858-598-1111 x111, www. utopiamanagement.com. NORTH PARK. \$825. Charming upper 1 bedroom handcrafted cottage-style du-plex. Lush 'secret garden' with fountain and artistic touches. Gated. Laundry. Squeaky clean! No pets/smoking. 4146-1/2 Utah. 858-454-2024.

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www.cethron.com. NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath newly renovated apartment. Gated, parking, pool. No pets. \$1290. 3929 Kansas Street. Call Steve, 619-543-0730. www. melroyproperties.com.

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NORTH PARK. \$800. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Parking. Laundry on site. Gated. No pets. Available now. 4053 Cherokee Avenue. More Property Management, 856 514 9201

858-514-8201. NORTH PARK. \$725. 1 bedroom 1 bath apartment. Laundry on site. Assigned parking. Courtyard. Quiet. Gated. No pets. Available now. Manager on site. \$10.569.0272

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site. 619-546-6732. NORTH PARK. \$925. Luxury, 1 bedroom apartment, completely remodeled. Gran-ite counters. Ceramic/hardwood. Garage. Near Mortey Field Park. No pets. Behind 3751 Mississippi. 619-443-0550; 619-464.1652.

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NORTH PARK. \$750 rent. \$600 deposit OAC. 1 bedroom apartment. Parking. No pets. At 4222 Alabama #15. Agent, 619-299-0951.

299-0951. NORTH PARK. \$825. Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Private garage. Security building. Air conditioning, dishwasher, vaulted ceiling with skylite. Laundry on site. No dogs. 619-393-8525.

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nt! 4360 25. street parking. Please call Derek, 619-584-4928. , 2 bath NORTH PARK. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath.

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1178. NORTH PARK. \$1275. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator. Large downstairs unit in duplex. Fenced yard. Parking. Dog/cat upon approval with extra deposit. Canyon view. Available now. 2343 Boundary. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www. delsolpm.com.

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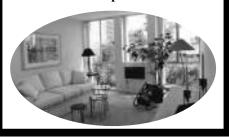
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Dets. 019-224-0746. OCEAN BEACH. \$1100. 1 bedroom, downstairs in south Ocean Beach. Ocean view. Laundry. No pets. 4946 Del Mar Av-enue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

Refrigerator, stove. No petition dupits and paint. Close to beach. Parking. 5057-1/2 Muir Avenue. 619-226-7368.

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Saul. воск to beach. On-site laundry Stop by 4871-1/2 Del Mar. Call 619-226-7368.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs apartment with hardwood floors. 1 block to beach! No pets! 2192 Abbott Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com. OCEAN BEACH. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2

bath upstairs apartment with balcony new carpet and vinyl. Has laundry on-site. No petsl 4231 Voltaire Street #8 Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www

Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www. sunsetpacificrealty.com. OCEAN BEACH, \$895.1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment in south Ocean Beach with laundry! Blocks to beach! No peti-4852 Santa Cruz #8. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com. OCEAN BEACH. \$1800/month. 2 bed-room, 1 bath. New remodel. Hardwood floors, granite countertops, stainless ap-pliances. 100 yards to beach. Off-street parking. Available now. 619-990-1159. OCEAN BEACH. \$1025. Large 1 bedroom plus den, 1-1/4 bath, upper unit. View. Laundry. 2 blocks from beach. 5060 Muir Avenue 28. 619-698-6911. OCEAN BEACH. \$8365. Large 1 bedroom

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5970

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Now. 856-270-4492 X203.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 blocks to ocean. Nice and clean. Off-street parking. Laundry room. No pets. Available mid-January. 1050 Horn-blend Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

blend Street. 858-270-4492 x203.
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, new carpet, fireplace, dishwasher, washer/dryer, 2 parking spaces. No pets. 1500 block Missouri. Available now. 619-444-2039.

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Iease. 4467 Dawes. 558-453-4553.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1045, deposit \$1095.
Cute, downstairs 1 bedroom in small, quiet complex. Street parking, Near shop-ping and bus stops. No pets. Available now. 1547 Chalcedony Street. Coastal Choice Properties, 858-539-7430.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BEACH. Shes you Check Crown Management wishes you a safe, happy holiday season. Check back in January for new listings! 24-Hour Rental Line: 858-454-1900.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. Large condo. 2-master suites, 2.5 baths. 2-fireplaces. Deck. Washer/dryer. 2-car garage. Non-smoking/bets. \$2050. Available 1/15/06 elena@dietzgilmor.com, 619-218-9299.
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room, 1 bath, upper unit. Balcony, court-yard, laundry. Available 12/29. No dogs. 2239 Garnet Avenue. 619-224-7583. PACIFIC BEACH. \$995-\$1150. 2 bed-... \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / JOB - 0 I JOB / 2 DEG-s. Garage available for \$125 extra. Security gated building. Laundry Near bay/bike trail. Available now. Igs. 858-454-3841. Quiet.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1660. Bright 2 bed-room, 2 bath, upstairs unit. Fireplace, dishwasher, laundry, patios, walk-in clos-ets, upgraded, clean. No pets/smoking. 1683 Thomas. 858-272-9204.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom apartment, \$900. Cat OK! Refrigerator, stove. Fee. Free search at www.sdrentals.com. 858-324-1780.

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#21. Feltity, 658-270-1619.
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www.delsolpm.com.
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room, 1 bath duplex. Parking. No smok-ing. 1025 Opal. 858-483-3534. www.cal-

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bath, two story, parking, 2 blocks to beach. 915 Diamond. 858-483-3534. w.cal-prop.com

WW.carprop.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1175/month. 1 year lease. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 2124 Grand Avenue. No pets. Nonsmoking. Call Michael, 858-597-6100 x321.

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10. 9/150/monn. 619-224-7/91. POINT LOMA. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Newer unit in 3 unit complex. Laundry in unit. 1 bedroom/bath downstairs. Living/ master upstairs. \$1650. 3040-C Poe Street. 619-225-5844.

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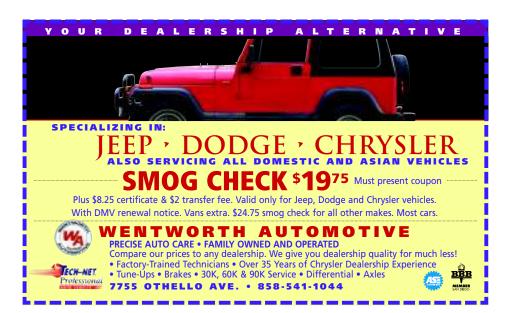
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#### LEAD STORY

British store owners seeking to drive away obnoxious congregating teenagers have turned to security consultant Howard Stapleton's recent invention, similar to a dog whistle, that emits a high-frequency sound audible to most teens but few older people. "The Mosquito" (it's "small and annoying," Stapleton told a New York Times reporter, who vouched that she couldn't hear it, either) emits what one merchant called a pulsating chirp, not painful but surely irritating. A professor of neurophysiology verified that the ability to hear high frequency dissipates with age but that some people in their 20s and 30s could probably still hear it.

#### Least Competent People

- (1) Robbin Doolin, 31, accidentally fell from her car while driving on U.S. 71 in Kansas City, Mo., in July when she opened the door to spit and leaned too far. (She quickly jumped up and chased her car, which left the road and ran down an embankment.) (2) In Amarillo, Texas, Bobby Reynolds, 74, and his son Gary, 43, were hospitalized in July after an incident in which their car got stuck on tracks at a railroad crossing. After unsuccessfully trying the move it, reported the Amarillo Globe-News, they somehow fell asleep in the car and were later hit by a train.

- In November, Parker Houghtaling, 23, standing on a station platform in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., was hit in the head when he leaned out too far over the tracks as a Metro-North train was arriving. The Poughkeepsie Journal reported that Houghtaling was similarly hit by a New York City subway car in 2002 when he leaned out too far. (He was hospitalized both times.)

#### **The Litigious Society**

- Barnard Lorence filed a \$2 million lawsuit in Stuart, Fla., in November against the First National Bank and Trust, accusing it of falsely advertising that it cares about its customers. He said he

had been charged a \$32 fee for overdrawing his checking account by \$5, was unsuccessful in asking for a waiver, and said the stress from the incident exacerbated a 2001 brain injury

#### **The Poor Dears**

The Boston Globe reported in September that the elite Palmer & Dodge law firm in Boston had been awarded almost \$100,000 in fee reimbursement after putting a partner and three other lawyers to work representing a prison inmate upset mainly at being restricted in his use of the prison law library and being prevented from receiving "sexually explicit" photos in the mail. The complainant, Daniel LaPlante, murdered a pregnant woman and her two children, reportedly smirked at the jury, and was described by his trial judge as so detestable that the judge would have "no problem" personally executing him.

 Inmate Robert Murray refused to appear at a court hearing in September in New York City because he "found it humiliating" to have to wear Hannibal Lecter-type restraints. (The HIV-positive Murray had admitted to at least four attempts to infect police officers by spitting blood at them.) ... Biswanth Halder, facing 338 felony counts, including aggravated murder, in a shooting spree in Cleveland, declined to come to court in November until the judge let his lawyers go buy him a hairpiece. (The judge acquiesced.)

#### **Book-Learning Overrated**

— A judge in Santa Maria, Calif., ordered Nobelprize-winning physicist John Robert Schrieffer, 74, to prison for two years in November after he acknowledged that he killed a man and injured seven others when he fell asleep at the wheel of his car at more than 100 mph. Schrieffer had nine previous speeding tickets and was driving at the time on a suspended Florida license. He also admitted that he lied to police about the cause of the collision. (Schrieffer and two others shared the 1972 Nobel for their theory of electrical superconductivity.)

#### In Their Own Words

(1) Singer Kenny Chesney, explaining to Life magazine in October how profoundly he felt the loss when he and actress Renee Zellweger ended their recent brief marriage: It was "like opening the door to your house and having someone come in and take your big-screen TV off the wall during the big game, and there's nothing you can do about it." (2) Kelley Borland of Evans, Colo., in September received a \$100 ransom demand for the return of his missing dog, authenticated by what was supposedly a sample of the dog's droppings. "It looked like my dog's poop, but I'm not a dog poop expert."

## **Recurring Themes**

"Cargo cults" have made "News of the Weird" several times in this column's 17 years and still flourish in Papua New Guinea, whose police arrested 320 cultists recently for practicing sorcery. (The cults typically believe that Western products, brought by missionaries before World War II, are gifts from God, and they even worshipped the airstrips on which the goods-bearing planes landed.) A female leader of one of the groups involved in the recent arrests said she "found strange teachings about women and their monthly period" in the Bible's book of Leviticus. The leaders concluded that menstrual blood was sacred water that let them see "invisible things," according to a Reuters report quoting The National, a newspaper in Boroko.

"News of the Weird" last reported on Hormel Foods Corp.'s Spam in 2002 when McDonald's was test-marketing a breakfast containing the luncheon meat in Hawaii, where Spam is a delicacy. It is perhaps even more highly revered in South Korea, where (according to an October Los Angeles Times dispatch) an estimated 8 million cans are sold each holiday season, and a gift set of 12 in upscale department stores goes for about \$44. Jeon Pyoung Soo, the South Korean Spam brand manager, continues to be puzzled at the product's U.S. reputation: "I can't understand what is funny about Spam."

#### **Compelling Explanations**

 Latest Insanity Pleas: Rvan T. Green was convicted of murder in Pensacola, Fla., in October despite his defense that he was certain the "A" on his police officer-victim's hat was for Antichrist, whom he was obligated to kill. ... Clayton E. Butsch was convicted of murder in Everett, Wash., in October despite his defense that he was part of The Truman Show movie and had been ordered to kill by a pet cat. ... Reyes Olivares was charged with murder in Las Vegas, Nev., despite his defense in October that his construction foremanvictim was a sorcerer who put a spell on him with his flatulence.

• A November paper by Sheffield (England) University education lecturer Pat Sikes argued that not all teacher-pupil romances are bad and that, in fact, sometimes "the seductive nature and 'erotic charge' often characteristic of 'good' teaching" can provoke a "positive and exciting response." Dr. Sikes, 50, who met her husband in 1970 when she was 14 and he was a 22-year-old history teacher, estimated that 1,500 pupil-teacher affairs develop in Britain every year.

#### **Latest Truck Spills**

- (1) "Hundreds" of Krispy Kreme doughnuts onto Vineville Avenue in Macon, Ga., in September, when a delivery truck overturned to avoid a dog. (2) 30,000 pieces of mail to IRS (mostly estimated-tax payments) into San Francisco Bay in September when a truck was involved in a collision on the San Mateo Bridge. (3) 35 tons of cooking oil onto already-icy Interstate 65 near Lowell, Ind., in November when a tanker overturned. (4) And just hours apart in June in Ohio, one truck overturned, spilling 19 tons of stick dynamite on Interstate 70 near Summerford (forcing nearby evacuations) and another carrying 16 tons of toilets overturned on Interstate 275 near Sharonville.

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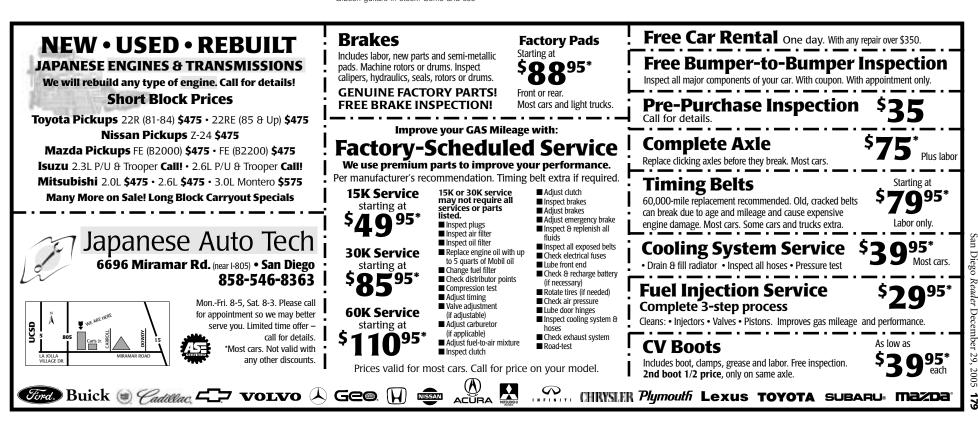
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## Dear Saffron,

My older sister's husband rules their house with an iron fist. They have three children under the age of seven. Two of the kids are still in diapers, and my sister has her hands full as a stay-at-home mom taking care of the kids and housekeeping. She desperately wants a cleaning lady to come in once a week, but her husband won't "permit" it. He says that since he does his job (earning money) he expects his wife to do hers (all domestic tasks). He doesn't help around the house one bit. He says it's woman's work. I don't think he has any idea how hard it is taking care of kids or how depleted my sister has become. They could easily afford help. My sister had a bad lingering flu this fall, and it was hard for her to watch the kids, do all her chores, and keep up with housework. So when my sister's husband went on a business trip my mother sneaked her cleaning lady over to my sister's house, with my sister's consent, and had her clean

there. My sister was so grateful and then seemed slightly less worn out. I don't see why this can't continue now that her husband is back. My mother and I want to talk to her husband to try to persuade him to reconsider. He gets to clock in and out at work, but my sister's job is 24/7, and she never has time off. My sister seems terrified about the idea of my mother and I speaking to her husband about this and begged us not to. We feel it would be for her own good. What do you say?

CONCERNED LINDA VISTA SISTER

## Dear Concerned,

Stellar as your intentions might be, I think you should back off. I sympathize with your sister's plight, but this is a marital issue between sis and her mate, and you don't want to get caught in the crossfire. It's up to your sister to speak to her husband if she feels she needs help around the house, and if she hasn't given you and your mom permission to raise this question with her husband then I think you have to keep your peace for now.

## Dear Saffron,

When my husband and I moved into this neighborhood four months ago our next-door neighbor came right over on our second day in our new home. "We do not park on the street around here," he told us. No welcome to the block, or "Hi, neighbor," or anything

- just "You can't park on the street." When I asked if it was illegal or dangerous to park on the street, he said, "No, it just looks terrible." I explained that our garage was filled with boxes because we were moving in, and even after we finished unpacking we would probably need to park on the street. I tried to be polite, but he got mad and stormed out. Later, my husband noticed that his car, which is the one usually parked on the street, was getting badly corroded on one side. We couldn't figure out how it was happening, but it got worse every day. My husband decided to set up a video camera in our living room and train the camera through the front window onto his car to see what was going on. Lo and behold: the mean next-door neighbor was spitting on our car every single day when he drove by, and this was eating the paint away! My husband called the police and told all, including the fact that we had tape of this man spitting on our car. I thought the police would laugh, but they came out and went with my husband to confront the neighbor. The guy had to admit what he'd done. His wife was horrified. The police told him he was liable for the destruction of the paint job and got him to pay to have the car repainted. Now we have a very uncomfortable relationship with the next-door neighbors and don't speak. I wonder if you have any suggestions about repairing that?

NEW IN THE OCEANSIDE 'HOOD

#### Dear New,

You can let the crazy neighbor know that all is

forgiven and you want to let bygones be bygones — if that's the way you feel. If the wife seemed sympathetic, maybe you can approach her and ask how she thinks this chilly relationship might be thawed. Your neighbor sounds like a real case. I'd be cautious when dealing with him and not get your expectations up. If you can get to the point where you give each other a pleasant nod when you cross paths, rather than sending each other hate rays, that would be incredible progress.

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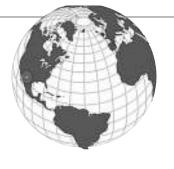
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FOGUEIRA KWAN ZHENG DAO



## THE BANKRUPT BUDDHIST

Texas

It's the hellidays. I can tell because the globally warmed weather went from 85 to 34 yesterday and revved the locals to cut in front of each other on the freeway at breakneck speeds. Shopping days are dwindling; debts are mounting. I smelled the gray, cold scent of their fear. It matched the low clouds, which forgot to rain as we sat in rush-hour traffic. I heard someone honk his horn, which is, like, so Yankee.

How much do I not care? Let me count the ways. I am out of the loop in four different ways: I'm a Jewish Buddhist bankrupt vegan. I have "party pooper" written all over me.

It was not always this way. I was born into a nonpracticing Jewish family with a mom who wanted to keep her youngest daughter happy. We celebrated Hanukkah and Christmas, or at least we had the symbols. There was the menorah with the candles that melted too fast into colorful blobs, and the tree with generic, supermarket ornaments. Each night of Hanukkah my mom gave me a present, and on Christmas Day my cousin, a lawyer, sans Santa suit but with the shtick, gave everyone presents. Every year my sisters would have a race to see who could rip off the wrapping the quickest and bitch the most about the gifts.

This nonpracticing Jew went to an Episcopalian prep school and sang in the choir. I wore a Waspy white robe and a black skirt and carried one of those candle flashlights in my hand. "I-De-o," we intoned, "I-De-o, I-De-o, glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo." The Latin was so beautiful, so otherworldly, so filled

with hope. In the real world, I came home from choir practice one day to find my mother dying of a cerebral hemorrhage. There were no more holidays after that.

A few years ago I was rehabilitated from the addiction of credit by going bankrupt, which keeps me on the other side of the fence from shopping. The mall no longer means all. The TV can blat all it wants, and it's just sound and pictures to me.

Then there's that nomeat thing. "Do you want ham or turkey for our holiday lunch?" the queen of marketing tweeted. "Oh...that's right...you're a vegetarian." I could feel her backing away from the phone. "Doesn't make a damn bit of difference to me," I said. "You can have anything you want." I carry my Emergency Protein

Source — pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, rice protein powder, nutritional yeast everywhere I'm likely to eat out without a vegan option. I just sprinkle the stuff on the apologetically presented

mashed potatoes, or whatever else is offered to me, and I have a lovely meal without any suffering involved.

I used to feel guilty for being so out of the cultural loop, so seasonally affectively disordered, so sternfaced in the psychological flannel of an old-lady nightgown, shaking a depressed finger while revelers



yahooed below stairs. I felt lonely away from family and friends, oblivious to my beloved husband and my five baby doglets. I felt as if I was missing something. I'd hear Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and visions of pill bottles danced in my

## head.

The longer you stay away from a place, the dimmer its memories become. One day, the clangor stopped. The guilt and sadness fled from my mind. I was out of the loop and gone from the culture, never to return. But still...

The fat Italian pines in my yard don't need ornaments; red berries adorn them.

> Family and art suffice, and are so priceless that Master-Card hasn't yet acknowledged them.

In a pinch, there's a titmouse or cardinal around to go head to head with Handel or Crosby, and I don't have to spend an hour trying to down-

load them from iTunes. Whether you're on or off the bus, or in or not of the world, may you survive

these holidays, and may next year bring happiness and peace to you and all other beings.

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San Diego Reader December 29,

, 2005

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CLUTCH

27

# It's a CRIME

DUI Location: [1400] Vulcan Avenue, Leucadia Time/Date: 1:52 a.m. on 12/17/05

**Incident:** Deputies responded to a vehicle accident...upon their arrival they saw five damaged vehi-



cles as well as a damaged fence. The two vehicles that caused the accident were a Nissan Sentra

and a Nissan pickup truck. Those two vehicles had been driving at a high rate of speed northbound when they struck three legally parked vehicles and a white picket fence. The Nissan pickup and a Dodge Durango were on their sides. The driver of the Sentra was arrested for felony driving under the influence. He is Alberto G., a 24year-old Hispanic male adult. The driver of the pickup fled the scene. Investigators feel that driver may have significant injuries based on blood evidence at the scene. Three passengers were taken to the hospital. Only one was admitted for a dislocated hip.

## **RESIDENTIAL PROWLER**

Location: Near SDSU

**Time/Date:** 10/09/09-11/25/05, various times

**Reports:** Two incidents, the first on Sunday, October 9, at 5:10 a.m. and the second on Thursday, November 25, at 2 a.m., were committed at off-campus, residential locations, near SDSU, by the same perpetrator. The suspect is described as a black male in his early 20s, approximately 5'8" to 6'2" tall. He has a medium build, sporting short, black hair, a medium-to-dark complexion, and having a medium-pitched voice.

During the early morning hours of October 9, the suspect entered a residence, through an unlocked door. Finding the occupant asleep in her bed, the intruder proceeded to sexually assault her. The woman woke up, and began to scream at her attacker, ordering him to get out and he left.

Then again, early morning of November 25, the sus-

 VERBATIM POLICE REPORTS

 pect entered another residence, this
 transported by air to the UCSD Burn
 mitt

pertentered another residence, thistransportedtime through an unlocked back door.Unit where sOnce inside, he entered two of the bed-<br/>rooms and asked the females asleep in<br/>each room if he could sleep with them.Condition. VEach female told the suspect to leave.<br/>The suspect fled through the same<br/>back door he had entered.good condit

## DEATH INVESTIGATION

Location: [900] La Presa Avenue, Spring Valley

Time/Date: 2:59 p.m. on 12/17/05

P	iedmont	st \star	
Ramona Av	Maria Ave	a Presa Ave	Picos St

Investigation: Fire units from San Miguel, Bonita, San Diego, Lemon Grove, La Mesa, and CDF responded to a second alarm fire...in the unincorporated community of Spring Valley. Upon their arrival, fire personnel entered the burning residence and rescued an adult female in her late forties. San Miguel Fire Captain Gehrig Browning discovered a deceased 76year-old adult female lying on the floor just outside of the north side kitchen area on top of her walker. She was carried to the front west side front door and determined deceased. The discoverv of the deceased occurred at approximately 3:05 p.m.

San Miguel Fire Incident Commander Gary Croucher requested Sheriff's Bomb/Arson Investigators to respond to the fire scene and investigate. At approximately 4:20 p.m., San Diego County Medical Examiner George Dickason arrived on the scene and took possession of the deceased. Victim #2 was transported by air to the UCSD Burn Unit where she was listed in serious condition. Victim #3 was transported to Kaiser Hospital in San Diego with smoke inhalation and is considered in good condition. Victim #4 was transported to the UCSD Burn Unit with smoke inhalation and is also considered in good condition.

#### FORGERY

Location: [400] Autumn Drive, San Marcos Time/Date: 5:00 p.m. on 12/13/05



Investigation: Detectives from the San Marcos Sheriff's Station arrested a suspect in a series of fraudulent check cases that occurred in San Marcos and Vista. 27-year-old Paul K. had been passing checks he had stolen from numerous businesses in the San Marcos and Vista areas. Following a comprehensive and exhaustive investigation. Detective David Schaller. Detective Jeff Miller and Deputy Jason Rothlein located and arrested K. K. admitted taking checks from various businesses where he had been employed. Then he would make the checks out to himself and cash them at various businesses. Some of the affected businesses were Adlife Laminating, B&H Printing, San Marcos Market and The Check Center. Additionally, K. cashed checks that were stolen in a residential burglary in Vista. At the time of his arrest, K. was planning to flee to Mexico.

K. told investigators he had com-

mitted the crimes to support his drug habit.

## DEATH INVESTIGATION

Location: [500] North Melrose Drive, Vista

Time/Date: 12: 59 a.m. on 12/17/05



Investigation: Vista Patrol Deputy Nanette McMasters and her Ride-Along Caesar P. observed smoke and flames coming from the Melrose Trailer Park. They immediately drove into the trailer park where they observed flames shooting straight up from a burning twenty-three foot trailer parked in Space #17. The Vista Fire Department arrived on the fire scene and extinguished the flames. Vista Fire Captain Ned vander Pol, Engine #1211, located the burned remains of an adult female at approximately 1:32 a.m. The victim was found lying on her back inside the front south portion of the trailer. She was burned beyond recognition.

The Incident Commander, Acting Battalion Chief Patrick Murphy, requested Sheriff's Bomb/Arson Investigators, along with Vista Fire Department Investigator Adrian Able, to respond to the fire scene [and] investigate the cause and origin of the fire. At approximately 3:35 a.m., San Diego County Medical Examiner Jerry A. Simmons arrived with a Recovery Officer and took possession of the deceased.

— Michael Hemmingson

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## AUTOMOTIVE



## **STORY MINUTE**



### BICYCLES

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\_\_\_\_\_

## AUTOMOTIVE



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by Carol Lay ©2005

ANTIQUES & Collectibles

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here!

ABUNDANCE OF CASH FOR RECORDS. We have a lot of money to buy your vinyl collections. Jazz, soul, punk, rock, metal, more. Record City, 3757 6th Avenue, Hill-crest. 619-291-5313.

ALL ANTIQUES WANTED! Cash paid. An-ALL AND CEMANES Cash paid. An-tiques/collectibles. Also, quality furniture, pianos. 1 piece or houseful. Cash paid. Same day pickup. Bonded. Licensed. Since 1965. 1-800-840-4447, www. southcoastauction.net. ANSTEAD'S AUCTION. We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appli-ances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/ bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

ANTIQUE NORTHLAND HICKORY SKIS. Bindings are rubber foot rest, 1 leather belt wraps around boot, 77" long, 3-1/4 wide, Excellent condition, \$100, 619-656

INCREDIBLE BASEBALL CARDS. Mickey Mantle, Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, thou-sands of valuable cards. Every old star there is, modern cards too, \$2500, 619 507-9711

## GARAGE SALES

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thou-sands of classified ads not printed here! LINDA VISTA, Moving sale, navy blue couch, dressers, kitchen table, bookshelf, couch, dressers, kitch dishes, clothes, dishes, clothes, queen size boxspring/mattress, entertainment cen-ter, luggage, much more, dirt cheap, 619-501-8040.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great stuff in good con-dition. Saturday. December 31. 7:30am-1pm. 1904 Wilbur Avenue. Indoor/outdoor furniture, gas grill, appliances, men's-women's clothes and more. 619-985-8486.

## A PPLIANCES

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at sands of classified ads not printed here! APPLIANCES: Refrigerator frost-free en-ergy saver, stove, washer/dryer: \$135 each. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can de-liver free. 619-702-3270.

APPLIANCES, Upright vacuum \$13. Blender with glass jar \$15. Table/floor lamps \$7/each. Toaster \$5. Coffee/Espresso maker \$10. Portable barbecue grill \$7, 760-685-8290.

APPLIANCES. Appliance storage yard, has warranty. Dryers, \$75. Washers, \$95. Refrigerators, Frost-Free, \$100. Stoves, \$125. Can deliver. 619-235-0500. Cell, DISHWASHER/DRYER, Late mode

multi-function. Dishwasher under counter or portable, dryer can stack or rest on floor, \$80/each, 619-670-8356. nder counte

GE APPLIANCES FOR SALE. 30" built in electric oven/convection and 30" natura gas cook top. 1998. White. Excellent con-dition. \$400. 619-571-8998.

**HOT POINT REFRIGERATOR.** White, in excellent condition! Large, 68" tall 35" excellent condition! Large, 68" tall 35" wide and 37" deep. \$150. Call Bob in Encinitas at 760-753-8750.

**KENMORE DRYER,** Heavy duty, ultra fab-ric care. Electric, white, brand new heat-ing mechanism. Works great! Perfect for family. \$100/best, 619-248-8434.

REFRIGERATOR, Amana, 20 cubic foot, almond color, 2 door, bottom freezer, frost free, energy saving option, tempera-ture and humidity controlled drawers, glass shelves, \$195, 858-277-3065.

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.

**REFRIGERATORS**, 2 mini ones. 1 32" high by 21-1/2" wide, \$45. 1 18-1/2" high by 17-1/2" wide, \$25, 858-459-7177.

17-1/2 wide, \$23, 836-439-1/17. WASHER/ORYER SETS: Both pieces from \$250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, \$145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

## Electronics

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at Reader.com. Also, see thou-classified ads not printed here! CELL PHONE. Assume my T-Mobile cell phone account. No activation fee, and only 6 month commitment! Select your own phone and account plan. Sheldon, 858-578-2012.

COLOR TV. 13" beautiful with DVD built in All features, with remote, new condition, still in box, \$100. At this price, better hurry, Escondido, 760-745-7873.

LASER, high-powered solid state diode, emits a green intense beam of light. In ex-cellent condition. Can be used for laser shows, hologram demonstrations. \$500. 610-282-3657

PANASONIC TV. 20". Good condition, only \$50. 858-486-4812.

SONY, 150 watt home system. Complete with turntable, equalizer, 3-way speakers and wood cabinet. Excellent condition, \$100, 760-809-1381.

**TV, COLOR, 27".** Remote stereo TV, like new \$115. 27" remote \$99, excellent pic-tures, 619-463-3317.

## FURNITURE

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at goReader.com. Also, see thou-f classified ads not printed here! ARMCHAIR/MODEL HOME FURNITURE

Sale-- Bedrooms, living rooms, dining rooms, mattresses and more. All 50%-70% off store prices. Delivery available.

BED \$1 A BARGAIN OFF \$139 An Ortho-Pillow Queen, new in plastic with war-ranty, mattress/box. Also King, \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490. BED \$1 A BABY-SOFT QUEEN \$130 Pil-

lowtop mattress set. Brand new, in plas-tic, with warranty. Must move. Can de-liver 858-688-2781 BED \$100 ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The

Furniture Warehouse now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our larger wateriouse birlet. Course see our larger showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boule-vard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writ-ingl Fast delivery. 619-426-2727.

BED \$199 CAL KING PILLOWTOP Mat tress set. Brand new, in plastic, with war-ranty. Must sell. \$199. Can deliver. 858-688-2781.

688-2781. BEDROOM A 6-PIECE \$595. Brand new, still in boxes, solid wood bed, chest/night-stand/mattress/box. Retail \$2000, must move, \$595. Can deliver. 858-688-2781. BEDROOM SET, Antique white with gold trim. Matching chest of drawers and 2 night stands and bed frame, excellent condition \$80, 760-809-1381.

CALIFORNIA KING, Quality pillow-top mattress set with frame, Smarte-foam technology, more. Purchased at Jerome's, my cost over \$1800, sell for \$900, all offers considered, 619-881-0535.

CHERRYWOOD SLEIGHBED. Beautiful, brand new, still in original boxes. Mat-tresses available, can deliver, \$250, call 858-229-3472.

858-229-3472. CHINA CABINET. Mahogany, Duncan Phyfe, antique, sacrifice \$699, value \$850. Patio table, chairs, bar height, mo-saic, new \$198, yours \$120. Roomba, compare \$250, yours \$150. 760-729-6574

6571. COUCH AND LOVE SEAT. Awesome. never used, in original packaging. Nee! Can deliver. Both only \$295. Ple call 11am-7pm, 619-426-2552.

\*

We Specialize in Open Sun. for Smog Only 11 am-3 pm EAGLE MOTORS <u> B<u></u><u>B</u><u>B</u></u> **All European Cars** ٩ MON.-FRI. 8 am-6 pm SAT. 9 am-3 pm 30 years' experience · Factory trained **FREE Car Rental** \$**89**<sup>95</sup> Mobil 1 Brake One Day with any repair over \$350 All car models and years. SUVs, pickups and light trucks \$10 extra. No hidden Special | **Synthetic** Reg. \$130 fees. No appointment necessary. Bring DMV papers if available. **Oil Service** \$**99**<sup>95</sup> FREE Inspect and top off all fluids: Bumper-to-bumper Coolant • Transmission Mobil Inspection Per axle. Brake fluid • Washer fluid (New!) Top of the line. Inspect all major components of your car. Plus parts. Add up to 6 quarts of Most cars. Printout before and after. Mobil 1 Synthetic Oil 里白 LUro 3-Way Induction Service and factory oil filter. & Clean Injectors CAR SERVICE "Check Engine" Free Diagnostic Transmission Power-Flush **Complete repair and service center** Light On? CHECK With repair. Cooling System Power-Flush Free Towing Free Shuttle With repair. Service Within 10 miles. We specialize in service and repair for the following vehicles: Call for details. BMW · Porsche · Audi · Volvo · Mercedes cording to manufa use only factory pa **2120 University Avenue** Volkswagen · Lexus · Jaguar · Fiat · Land Rover San Diego, near Hillcrest Saab · Alfa Romeo · Rolls Royce · Ferrari (619) 295-7300 We accept extended warranties. (We handle all the paperwork.)



San Diego 88

2005

29,

December

Reader ]

## The SUV Feeling

Brett Burner tells me, "My first SUV was a 4Runner. I went from the car to the SUV because I didn't like the minivan. Everyone, the media and everyone, made the minivan look lame to have and the SUV look cool to have, and so everyone who wanted something that was bigger to carry all the stuff and had all the storage room and yet had a better image went with the SUV. I mean, we're Americans, we're about image.

"My wife took over the 4Runner when we had our first kid. I didn't want to go back to a car, so I bought a Toyota Land Cruiser. And when my wife took that, I bought the Tahoe, and then recently we bought a new Honda Pilot. So now she's got the Pilot, and I drive the Tahoe, and we're going to sell the Land Cruiser. "I adore the Pilot. On the outside, it looks kind of small, but on the inside it's extremely roomy. We bought it because the Tahoe ate up so much gas and my wife does all the driving around. I just drive the Tahoe to work. It's only a few miles each way, so I only fill up about every three weeks.

"I probably should've sold the Land Cruiser before we bought the Pilot, but it was one of those things when you figure, 'Oh yeah, I'll make a quick sale.' But it's been up for sale a few months. Maybe I'm not trying hard to sell it because it's really nice. It's got leather and all the other goodies."

I ask, "Which of the three SUVs do you like best?"

"They all have their merits. There's something romantic about driving a Land Cruiser. It doesn't matter if it's the old Jeep-looking kind or the '80s version, or a newer one; every time you look at one you get reminded of *National Geographic* specials or something like that, and they're lumbering through the Chinese mountains or just chugging along the back roads of Africa. When you think about it like that, you want to drive the Land Cruiser, windows rolled down, looking for adventure."

"So," I say, "you're driving down the road in Spring Valley, but in your mind you're heading into the wilds."

"You know, when I'm in the Land Cruiser, I'm constantly ready to keep on driving out the 94, and it's not uncommon for me to do something like that, to just go driving. I love to drive. I hate to commute but I love to drive, especially the Land Cruiser."

"And the Tahoe?" "The Tahoe is just beefy. You're

trying to merge into traffic, and you just slam the pedal down, and it's like taking off on a catapult. It's got the power. A big V-8.

**DRIVER: BRETT BURNER** 

- VEHICLE: 1997 CHEVROLET TAHOE
- BOUGHT: 2001 FROM A SMALL DEALERSHIP ON MISSION GORGE ROAD
- **PRICE:** \$14,500
- === MILES: 125,000

"So now, the question is, once we sell the Land Cruiser, do we sell the Tahoe and get something else? My tendency is to start looking at a new car after about two years. And I think for the first time I'm debating, do I get into another SUV or get into a car? If it's a car, though, the top's got to come down. Maybe I'll look for an old '60s or '70s ragtop, drive that to work and back."

To suggest future Driven stories, e-mail ken@kenkuhlken.net

**DESK,** 30x59, light oak color. 5-drawer, very good condition, as is \$75, 619-501-1888.

DINING TABLE. Drop leaf, seats 2-8, solic wood, antique finish, cost \$350, sell \$175, 858-483-2118.

END TABLE, Large, burl wood finish 3x5" a steal at only \$100. Call Kelvin 858-232-9271.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER. Solid Canadian Cherry, good condition \$75, 858-272-4027

ENTERTAINMENT UNIT, 6'x5.4' adjustable, any size TV, stereo, etc. easycarry, \$79. Headboard, oak, king/queen, side-pier and smaller cabinets with slide doors, built-in lamps, \$389, 858-549-7005.

Tous. FURNITURE. Coffee table, solid oak, needs refinishing \$20. Twin mattress \$10. Foldable mattress \$10. Headboards \$7/each. TV/DVD/microwave stand \$10/each, 760-685-8291.

pletely foldable with bag \$15. Bar chair \$9. Ikea recliner with ottoman, excellent \$80. Plastic dresser great storage \$10, 760-739-7675. **GREAT FURNITURE,** At great price! Contemporary black leather coach set \$800.

temporary black leather coach set \$800. Matching coffee/end-tables included. 27" flat screen \$450, not/LCD/Plasma. much more, christopherbergendahll3@htmail. com. IN HOME HAIR, Salon stylist-wet bar. Like

FURNITURE. Insta bed full/queen com-

new, grey in color, client chair, mirror, dryer chair included, \$2000/best, 858-722-3291. LOVE SEAT, LEATHER, White, \$100.

Matching ottoman \$40. Bar glass, bar table \$100. 2 bar stools, \$50/each. 619-987-6518.

MATTRESS \$100 ABSOLUTE bargain! The Furniture Warehouse now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$88! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writingl Fast delivery. 619-426-2727. **MATRESS 5139 A BARGAIN.** Beautiful Ortho-Pillow set, new in plastic, warranty, Queen \$139. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

**OFFICE TURNITURE.** Almost new, desks, filing cabinets, credenzas, bookshelves, conference tables, stackable chairs, executive chairs/desk chairs, priced to sell, 619-368-4643, or 619-368-0800.

QUEEN BEDROOM SET, Cherry, very elegant, great condition. Classic old-fashioned woodwork, headboard, footboard, sideboards, dresser, mirror, nightstand included, \$1499/best. E-mail nika@ nikajoy.com, or 619-992-9308. SOFA \$250. A Pottery Barn style brandnew Ultrasuede sofa, still in original wrap.

new Ultrasuede sofa, still in original wrap Loveseat and chair available. Can deliver. 858-688-2781. SOFA AND LOVE SEAT. Awesome, never used, in original packaging. Must seel Can deliver. Both only \$295. Call 11am-7pm, 619-426-2552. SOLID OAK, Round dining table, great condition 3.5' diameter with extra leaf insert, 1 year old, only \$295, call Kelvin 858-232-9271.

sert, 1 year old, only \$295, call Kelvin 858-232-9271. **TABLE OR DESK.** Wood lodge pole, white-washed handcrafted L60'xW 27.5'xH31", beautiful \$299. http://www.dejavuandcompany.com/

misc/desk/, Cherie 760-214-3695 **UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT** Center, plasma mount on back, metal/glass/wood combination. Cable management system hides cables. Willing to sell entertainment center/plasma-mount separately, \$500. 619-819-5097.

## Miscellaneous For Sale

PLACE FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thousands of classified ads not printed here! ADIDAS-KOBE Bryant clothing collection, unique, still bagged, leather coats and pants, sweatshirts, shorts, T-shirts and more. Buy all or part. Call, 619-501-2111. ART, Beautiful framed pictures from our North County home. Contemporary style, original art, small to very large, dozens at giveaway prices \$20-\$120, 858-668-1773. BEACH VOLLEYBALL, Tennis net. High quality, good condition. 26 feet, 3 inches x 3 feet. Each small square double knotted at each corner \$25, 619-296-9415. BEAUTIFUL PERSIAN hand made semiantique rugs, various colors and dimensions, perfect for the holiday gift. Starting from \$400. For more information, call Verpriner 610-201.1405

BED \$139 A BARGAIN! ORTHO-PILLOW Orthopedic mattresybox, new in plastic, warranty. Queen \$139. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County. 800-464-6490. BOWLING BALLS, bags. shoes, like new, size 8, \$25. Bookcase, oak finish, \$50. Armoire with matching nightstand, oak finish, \$75 both. 858-277-7197.

**A** UTOMOTIVE









CARPET AND PADDING, Beige plush, 1100 square feet, newly taken up, never used, Dupont Stain Master, paid \$3900 selling for \$1500, 619-994-5577, 619-464-8901.

**CLOTHING,** St. John, new, black knit double breasted blazer. Moving gold buttons, small, can be blocked, originally \$1000, \$399, 760-753-6996.

CUISINART DELUXE FOOD Processor \$50. Countertop reverse osmosis unit, \$50. Canton bookshelf speakers, \$50. Between 8am-9pm, 619-291-0830.

Down SLEEPING BAG, Long, excellent condition \$40. French bench 48' long \$345. Copper fire pit \$90. Pendulum glass lamp \$20. Sansui record player \$50, 619-421-5822.

\$50, 619-421-5822. FLAG POLE, white, 21' high, 2-3/8" diame-ter, galvanized, new with all accessories, ter, galvanized, new with all accessories, except flag. \$230 installed. Steve, 858-

FOR SALE. Kirby vacuum G4, self-pro-pelled \$150. Makita drill kit \$45. Black leather jacket, \$45. Original oil painting, Kinkaid-style, framed \$150, 619-449-

## GARDEN OR PATIO, Swing, excellent \$35. Lawnmowers, 2 push and gas reel \$35/both. Love-seat rocker, excellent \$35. Antique hutch cabinet, 5', \$165, 858-

GENERATOR, Electric Coleman Power-mate Maxa3000-OHV. Used one time. \$300/firm. 619-670-5734.

**IBM SELECTRIC II,** Typewriter, excellent condition, professionally rebuilt, just like new. With owners manual and dust cover, \$200, 76,800,1091 \$200.760-809-1381.

LADIES' SKIS/BOOTS, Dynastar Cobra 170s with Salomon bindings. Nordica NS 170s with Salomon bindings. Nordica NG 800 boots, size 8/8.5, good condition, \$35 takes all. 760-942-2412.

LAWNMOWER, Snapper rear bagger \$135, and McLane lawn edger \$110. Both nice condition, not used much, would be great for a gardener. 760-732-1315. LUGGAGE, \$10. Bar stool 26", \$15. Metal bed frame \$15. Honda accord LX 1983, not working, possible head gasket \$400/as is. Men's white shirts long sleeves \$150, 619-583-3751. MINI-XMAS Lites, indoor, stands, \$1-\$4. Large tree sta

Window Tint

## Αυτοмοτινε

ARMOR ( ) I

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Automotive, Commercial & Residential Tinting

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5299 Linda Vista Rd. • 619-327-3900

\$10. Beautiful succulent plants \$1-\$5, 619-283-0397.

MISCELLANEOUS. Push button commer-cial door lock, \$150. Air compressor, \$140. Portable air tank, \$25. CD changer, \$25. Snow chains \$35/each/pair 619-339-7318.

MISCELLANEOUS. 8 new Rubbern blue stack chairs or 2-green rattan chairs with cushions, \$28. Aluminum folding walker, or commode, \$25. La Jolla Shores. 858-454-1422.

MODEL TRAINS HO SCALE. Lifelike Proto, 2000 E6, A&B units Santa Fe, with 8 passenger cars, \$175 new. CNW ABA with 10 car passenger set \$225. 858-483-

MOVING SALE. Antiques, aquarium/stand, stereo, TV/stands, refrig-erator, washer/dryer, entertainment cenfiles, bookcases, beds, dressers, recliner. 619-670-7821.

MOVING SALE, 260 watt speakers \$50. Ikea bed (mattress and frame). Tailgate chair (seats 2), \$15. More! Photos upon request. 619-291-4065.

Moving Sale. All items like new! 34" Phillips wide screen TV, \$450. Tall round Phillips wide screen 1V, \$450. ram rourno dining table/chairs, \$150. Black leather/vinyl sofa, \$200. Full size bed/headboard, \$100. 4 deep metal bookcases, \$50 each. Desk, \$50. 3 piece coffee/end set, \$150. Entertainment stand, \$150. Call Michael 619-871-1094.

15%

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NEW LAPTOP, 60 GB, 512 ram, new/used computer monitors, TV, stereo, back up power battery, new hard drive co s router hen/more, 858-623-8434. OCEANSIDE SALE, Beautiful, 10 piece traditional wood queen bedroom set, ex-cellent condition \$450. Leather jackets, ski suit \$20. Table lamps \$15. Snowboard boots \$30, 760-806-3344.

OUTDOOR SPA. Lifespring spas LS7000, seats 4-6, paid \$4500 1 year ago. Excel-lent condition, make me an offer, 858-705-3444.

POOL, 33'x18'x4', \$1100. Aviary 7'x6'x3' \$125. Guitar, \$125. Piano Yamaha Clavi-nova 88, \$1200. Pickup \$1025. Baby items/car seats, toy etc. 619-660-8491. PYREX GLASS BOWL, And lid, new, never used, still in box. Excellent gift \$10. Speak slowly, hearing impaired, City Heights, 619-283-1767.

RADIO CONTROLLED ELECTRIC PLANE. 48" wingspan, excellent condition. 3 channel ready to fly. Includes 3, 8.4 volt batteries, new motor, extra parts, San Diego, \$125, 800-482-6483.

REFRIGERATOR, Works good, \$75. Sofa with sleeper, \$75. Bookcase fake antique, \$25. VCR Panasonic, \$30. 3x6 feet dining table, \$50. 858-273-2290.

SHED/GARAGE STORAGE. Or workshop. SHED/GARAGE STORAGE. OF WORKShOp, L16:W6'5'xH8'5', mobile with wheels, wooden, waterproof, locking double doors, pitched tan roof, rafter storage, great condition \$999, Daniel 760-510-8344.

SHOP AIR COMPRESSOR, 60 gallon cast iron tank, upright, 230 volt. Speedaire model 5Z185B. Motor works perfect, compressor needs small leaks sealed, Špeedaire compressor needs sm

SLIDING CLOSET DOORS, 2, each 77"x36" wide, white, \$50. 36" square teak table opens to 68", \$170. White shelving 31x71", \$50. Piano lamp \$20, 619-421-

SMITHVILLE CEDAR. Over 300lbs. of cedar coasters, candle holders, and vari-ous other shapes from Texas, \$2-\$39/each. Pictures available online. 619-890-5880.

SPA COVER. "Sun Star," 7 foot octagon, 2 inches thick brown in near new condition, \$175/best, 858-829-5161.

\$175/best, 858-829-5161.
SPA-HOT TUB. Therapy pump jets, air blower, heater, lights, multi-seating, red-wood siding, manual, L91'xW91'xH32', manufacturer Hurricane, great condition, delivery options \$1599. Dan, http://www.dejavuand.company.com/misc/spa/760-798-1878.
SPA/HOT TUB. Deluxe 2006 model!
Neckjets, therapy seat, many jets. Never used! Warranty. Can deliver. Worth \$5750. Sell \$1750. 858-530-0384.

**WATCH** by Croton, men's 18k gold, brand new in gift case. Original owner, rich look-

ing, beautiful X-mas gift. Hard to find. Asking \$5,199/best. 858-736-4953.



Dealer Service and F We Use only Factory We've moved! N	Repair Without the D Parts! Truly a Dealer ow bigger to better serv 4-wheel alignment made	<b>Dealer Price!</b> • <b>Alternative!</b> /e you.
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<b>15K • 45K • 75K</b> Includes: • Oil change • Transmission drain & fill	• <b>105K FACTOR</b> • Tire rotation & balance • 38-point inspection	Y SERVICE \$109 <sup>99</sup> Most cars
Includes: • Change spark plugs • Maintenance tune-up • Drain & refill radiator • Change air filter • Inspect brakes • 4-tire rotation • Inspect suspension • Change engine oil & filter	90K FACTORY S • Transmission drain & refill • Inspect PCV valve (if applicable) • Inspect fuel filter • Top off all fluids • Clean battery terminals • Check & tighten all belts • Free 3&-point inspection extra. With coupon. Plus haz	\$189 <sup>95</sup> 4-cyl. \$209.95 5-cyl. & 6-cyl.
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<b>GRE</b> FIONDA 7960 RO Behind P	Varranty • Visa/MasterCard/An	nEx/Discover
<b>85</b> greenlight A web	am-6 pm, Sat. 8 am-4 p 8 <b>-569-1511</b> auto7853@sbcglobal.net site worth looking at: <b>enlightHonda</b> .	ī.

- "ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE QUIET DOWN. LET'S PICK A MOVIE. How do I do that?" "You have to go to the On Demand screen, then ... "
  - "Where the hell is that?"
  - "It's back two things. You have to push that."
  - "Do I push it here on the remote or is it a menu item on the...wait, what just happened?" "You're on the wrong channel."
  - "Can't I push this yellow triangle and go through the 'Browse By' menu?"
  - "No. You have to...here, give me the remote."
  - "No. I'm doing it."
  - "You're doing it wrong. Now, give me the remote."
  - "No, wait. I got it. Get your hands off."
  - "Give me that damn...
  - "Listen. Wait. Let go. I've got it! Look!"
  - "No, you did it wrong. Isn't this your job? Aren't you 'The TV Guy'?"
  - "I know how to do this. It's easy."
  - "You've got your head up your ass."
- "Give that back. I had it. Now you're ruining it. Let's give in and go to Blockbuster. This ordering-movies-from-the-TV thing is stupid."
  - "Shut up. See? I've got it. Those are the movies we can watch."
  - "Just those ten?"
- "No, retard. Those are 'The Top Ten.' There are others. How the hell do you write about TV when it's obviously over your head?"
  - "All right. See? I got it to work. I want to watch Batman."
  - "No, you didn't get it to work, and I want to watch Mad Hot Ballroom."
  - "I'll tell you right now. There's no damn way we're watching a movie about little kids
- dancing. I will throw that remote control out the window before we..."
  - "Hey! Give that back! Oh, good job, mo-mo. Now it's broken."
  - "It's not broken. The battery fell out. I can put it back in."
- "That wire goes back in there and then the battery. You are incompetent, aren't you?" "Let's drive down to the movie store and rent a DVD. I fail to see what's wrong with the
- old-fashioned way." "You fail to see what's wrong with that? The movie store's closed. It's Christmas. Now, fix
- the damn remote and ... "
  - "Shhh...Batman's starting." "You mother..."
  - "Merry Christmas."

### WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29 GERALDO AT LARGE KUSI 8:30 P.M.

WEDDING GOWN, Size 8, no tears/stains/marks. Cathedral length/Chiffon train, beaded lace, sweetheart bodice

bow, accents back, with slip, boxed \$150, 619-297-3767, 619-508-2567.

way thicker than mine. I've never been able to get out of the "My First Mustache by Hasbro!" stage. I grow that teenage patch of dirt above my lip. But, Donna. Donna could rock a Geraldo if she didn't stick to a strict waxing, bleaching, and plucking schedule.

#### JACK FROST (1998) FAM 8:00 P.M.

A story of a man who dies and comes back to life as a snowman. Included in the cast is Henry Rollins, who now, ironically, has a show on Sundance in which he lambastes "bad" movies. Also of note is the soundtrack to Jack Frost. If you turn your volume WAY up during the quiet scenes you can hear the dump truck that's hauling away Michael Keaton's career.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT CA4SD 8:30 P.M.

What the hell? Christmas was last week. This is like that family in your neighborhood that leaves all the plastic reindeer and light-up Santa and electric snowflakes and Day-Glo candy canes and crap all over their front lawn for three months after the New Year. You'd tell them their yard looks REALLY tacky, but if they don't even want to pick up the mounds of dog turds, then you're certainly not going to talk any sense into them.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 LION KING SPECIAL

#### ABC 7:00 P.M.

The Lion King came out in 1994, and Disney is still cramming Simba up our wazoos. Oh, yes, the Lion King play is amazing. Your daughter has a beautiful Lion King backpack, all purple and lemon-colored. After your aunt's huffed Lion King oven cleaner through a Lion King paper towel roll she'll show you her battery-operated "surrogate boyfriend" that's shaped like that toucan from the movie. The inundation is enough to make me want to chew on the barrel of my Timon and Pumba revolver.

## SNOW DOGS (2002)

#### ABC 8:00 P.M.

A black dentist from Miami becomes a dogsled racer in Alaska: starring Cuba Gooding Jr., Sisqo, and Michael Bolton. The alternate title to this movie is The First of Seven Seals that Must be Breached in Order to Touch Off the Start of the Apocalypse.

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 BRIAN BOITANO SKATING SPECTACULAR** NBC 1:00 P.M. No wonder Europe hates us.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 2 EXTREME SURGERY

#### TLC 6:00 P.M

You wanted a program about PUSHING THE LIMITS of surgery! Well, now you've got it, mis-



My Date with the President's Daughter

pop you up on a trampoline and when you've reached a nominal height of 12 feet, rock-androll legend Ted Nugent is going to open you up with a 12-gauge shotgun blast to the abdomen. Then it's INTO THE SHARK TANK!

#### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 3** HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (1998) AMC 8:00 P.M.

How Stella got some young ding-a-ling. The sequel should be about how Taye Diggs gets his citizenship by marrying Angela Bassett. Surprisingly, after he relocates to the States he shows no interest in her at all and instead buys a small lap dog and opens a flower shop. You know. They're "married." Wink!

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

#### MY DATE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER (1998) DISN 8:00 P.M.

One of my fantasies involves marrying Chelsea Clinton and encouraging her to make her first million while I cook and clean our cozy and tasteful mid-century ranch house in the Hollywood Hills. On the weekends I'd sit on the porch with Bill and smoke cigars and bitch about Hillary. Another fantasy involves breathing underwater and a mermaid, but that's a story for another time.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 5 THE O'REILLY FACTOR FNC 8:00 P.M.

The opening in a barrel where a tap is inserted is called the "bung hole." I'm sure you can make the connection here. No need for me to explain.

ter! First, we get you in a hospital gown and

MOTORCYCLE, 2001 KX 80, Engine to-tally rebuilt by Quincy, fmf gold, precision concepts suspension, tag bars, new radi-ator, have all stock parts \$2,000, 619-561-8332.

## Αυτοмотіνе



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available. We make housecalls too! Call 619-464-2131. HARLEY PARTS. Fat boy rims, tires, cus-tom frames, stretch tanks, swing arms, triple trees, forks, seats, handle bars, lights, primaries, many more accessories, **LEMON ROAD BIKE.** 1999, Chambrey 55cm Saturn team, red/black. Lightweight

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dition, 96k miles, new brakes, bat-, tires, \$10,500, 858-435-4852. BMW, 33ci,2002, black, automatic, power all, sport package, 42K miles, Harman Kardon audio, suncof, excel-lent condition, \$26,400. 858-472-0499. BMW, 740IL, 1995, black exterior, grey interior, every option good condition 160,000 miles. \$7,000/best located in

**\$8 CLASSIFIEDS!** 24-hour Internet

Carlsbad, evening please 260-413-7018. BMW, Z3, 1997, convertible, 77k miles, 1.9, 4 cylinder, auto, all power, heated seats. Onboard computer, blue/tan leather, good con-dition, \$8,000/best, 760-672-1963.

These discounts are in addition to advertisers' printed offers.

CHRYSLER CONCORDE. 1995. Gently used, only 68,000 miles. Bronze with leather interior, V6, fully equipped in-cluding CD. Excellent running condi-tion. Very clean. \$3400/OBO. 760-727-2616 tion.

FORD ESCORT, 1995, 1 owner, auto transmission, dual airbags, good tires, interior, paint. AM/FM cassette, 4 cylin-der, air conditioning, \$700/best leave message, 619-470-0275. FORD FOCUS. ZTS sedan, 2004, fully loaded, charcoal grey, automatic, leather, alloy wheels, power every-thing, 23k miles, airbags. Still under warranty, excellent condition, \$13,500, 619-813-8845.

FORD MUSTANG. Convertible 1998, great San Diego car, black convertible top, CD player in excellent shape, 98,000 miles. Well maintained, asking \$4800. 619-200-9226. FORD MUSTANG GT. 2002, high per-formance, 5-speed, 40,350 miles, air tormance, 5-speed, 40,350 miles, air conditioning, power steering/win-dows/locks, air bags, premium wheels. Excellent condition, \$13,500/best. Paul, pablopeterson@hotmail.com, 858-232-2316.

FORD TAURUS, 1995, 82,000 miles, all power, runs well, smogged until 12/07. power, runs well, smo \$2000. 858-273-7063. GEO PRIZM LSI. 1995, 102k miles.

ires/clutch, roof rack new brakes/tires/clutch, roof rack, CD/MP3 with subwoofer, maintenance receipts, \$3000, call Rick 619-988-0722.

DISCOUNT

Complete Axle

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MAZDA PROTEGE, 2002, LX, excellent

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changer, super clean, like new, must see, \$9495, 760-486-8777.

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VOLVO GL, 1994, 4 door, dark green, immaculate, loaded, new tires, brakes, recent tune up, beige leather seats, \$4150, 858-502-1240.

VOLVO, 1993, 940 station wagon, 170k miles, leather, sunroof, all power, new miles, leather, sunroof, all power, new brakes/battery/tires, good condition, \$2400/best, must sell, 760-960-4729. **VOLVO.** 850R, 1997, white with tan/leather/suede interior. Loaded, high performance suspension, engine, power everything, heated seats, memory driver/passenger seat settings \$8000, 619-846-6170.

VW JETTA TURBO. 2000. 79k miles automatic, black, power windows/locks/mirrors. Premium sound, alloy wheels, new tires, front/side airbags, excellent condition, \$9,750, 858-705-7848

\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS. Cars. trucks, SUVs from \$500. Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

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CHEVY PICKUP, S10, 2003, white, black interior, 4 cylinder, automatic, power steering/brakes, air condition-ing, air bags, new tires/front-brakes, more, 57k miles, \$9,999, 619-701-4454.

CHEVY TAHOE. 2002, for sale, 48,500

miles, very well maintained, power ev-erything, \$22,500 call 858-583-6077, or E-mail steve stehrenberger@

DODGE RAM, 50, 1988, 4 wheel drive, with shell, 5-speed, power steering, Kenwood stereo. New tires, radiator, valve job, excellent condition, runs great \$2400, 760-809-1381.

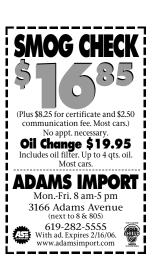
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892-3733. **PONTIAC TRANSPORT,** Minivan, 1990, Iow miles, all power options. Well maintained, with many new parts, ex-cellent condition, runs great, \$1500, 760-809-1381.

Toyota 4RUNNER. 1997, limited edi-tion/TRD upgrades, must sell, moving! Black, tan leather, Alpine CD player/remote, power everything, sun-roof, 140,000 miles, \$12,500, 619-665-3668. britt2626@gmail.com.

**TOYOTA SEQUOIA**, 2003, Iow mileage, super clean, power everything \$26,500, 760-722-8249.

TOYOTA TACOMA XTRA-CAB, 1999 Automatic, 4 cylinder, white, new tires. \$8995. Stk#926, vin#454076. Miramar Trucks, 8650 Miramar Road. Call 1-877-330-1417. www.miramartrucks.



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ODent Time 10% or \$15 off dent repair

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Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales \$20 off major tune-up

Inter Auto Parts 10% off total purchase

2005

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<u>8</u>

International Auto Service Brake service \$34 plus parts

O Japanese Auto Tech Free bumper-to-bumper vehicle inspection

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Oasis Trade Window Tint 10% off window tinting Overseas Automotive Repairs Factory-scheduled service from \$45.95

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Suspension Plus Full Service Center One free shock or strut

• T&T Smog Test Only Check \$10 off service

Thao Automotive Smog check \$16.75

Transmission SCA Free oil change with transmission service

USA Autosound Free window tint

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Wentworth Automotive \$29.95 AC service



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## Small indulgences will make up for quiet resolutions.

By John Brizzolara

I will not clip my nails in public.

mail access word, my pharmacy phone number, etc.

While exceptions will be made, as in the following example...

... I will not stack word count, fill white space, or weasel out of actual creative

column-writing by gratuitously including usually useless and often inscrutable

... "There are aphorisms that, like air planes, stay up only while they are in motion."

"The only way to read a book of aphorisms without being bored is to open it at ran-

dom and, having found something that interests you, close the book and meditate."

of swelling the tide of exhilaration, or other expansive emotions, incident upon the

exodus of the old and the inauguration of the new year."

what I'm savin'?"

cult, but necessary.

novel I ingest.

agents, and lawvers.

aphorisms such as,

Or...

that begin with the letter I.

to reading (keep it achievable).

#### Resolutions:

Like everybody else, I feel the need to make some; but why set oneself up for failure? Achievable goals is the ticket.

I will do anything to insure that I will not have to listen to the expression "It's all good" ever again. This will involve insisting, every time I hear it, that its perpetrator qualifies the statement, "Oh, really? All of it? It's all good as opposed to evil or just bad or ...?" I resolve to badger whoever it is and no doubt make an ass of myself. I'm willing to pay.

I will do something similar to someone miming a phone call by splaying their thumb and pinky alongside their head. I will ape the gesture back at them until they stop, or maybe I'll just keep doing it for no apparent reason.

I don't expect these measures to accomplish much, but these small indulgences will make up for quiet resolutions having to do with becoming a better person.

My cardiologist wants me down to my high school weight. I'm almost there, so I think I can make it. I will eat no more than one pint of Häagen-Dazs per day/night or two of Dreyers if I am reduced to such.

I really will, this year, refrain from putting more that 15 items in front of the checker at the express line at Vons.

I will refrain from placing Post-It notes full of savvy literary criticism into library books, and I will return them on time. I will rewind rented videos and return books borrowed from friends.

I will stop saying "No" to people who end their sentences with, "Know

Keeping it Real in The word "cool" will be dropped from my vocabulary. This will be diffi-In future, I will employ time previously wasted while waiting for the hair conditioner to work in the shower with attempts at memorizing my ATM PIN, my Yahoo password, my AOL password, my driver's license number, my Social Security number, my T-Mobile PIN, my checking account number, my voice I will read new poets. This will be difficult. Maybe just poets I'm unaccustomed An effort will be made to read one nonfiction text for every popular/pulpy I will refrain from ascribing human characteristics to landlords, literary An attempt will be undertaken to limit the number of paragraphs I write "New Year's is a harmless annual institution, of no particular use to anybody save as a scapegoat for promiscuous drunks, and friendly calls, and humbug resolutions..."

> Or really good ones disguised as stunningly obvious — or the other way around — like things Boswell might have written:

"Surely, it is much easier to respect a man who has always had respect, than to respect a man who we know was last year no better than ourselves, and will be no better next year."

— Samuel Iohnson

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On the whole, the business of 2006, for me, will be a matter of keeping my nose clean. Not a reference to cocaine use, which I indulged in briefly and then abandoned quickly in the 1980s as it made me more of a nervous wreck than usual. but minding my side of the street. That sort of thing. I have been guilty of minding other people's business for them now and again, but I don't think I've made much of a habit of it and so will find it an achievable goal I think, to do even less of it.

As always, to be realistic, or to "keep it real" (a phrase I never use, so I will find it achievable to continue its disuse), there will be exceptions. The one that springs to mind is getting that babe who starred in Memoirs of a Geisha to stop seeing other men, return my phone calls, come over, and show me truly what it is like to be both manly and well-bathed.

Happy New Year.

WHEELS ENKEI. 8.5'x15', set of 3, direc-tional, 34 offset, from Toyota 4-Runner, some scratches/pitting, overall good con-dition, \$99. http://www.dejavuandcom-pany.com/misc/wheels, Daniel, 760-215-9982.

AUTOMOTIVE **S**ERVICES

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CHEVY EL CAMINO, 1978, new engine/paint/tires/rims. Under 5,000 miles on engine, runs/looks great. Serious callers with cash, please, \$7000/best. 619-850-4338, 619-850-4337.

TRIUMPH GT6. 1970. Flip front coupe, dual Stromberg carburetors, new tires, good paint, black, unusual classic, \$5450. 1953 MGTD-TF, 1973, 450SL Convertible, \$4450. 858-350-3727.

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CAB OVER CAMPER. 1984. Lancer. Fully self contained, queen size bed, air condi-tioning, shower, microwave. No leaks. Ev-erything works. Good condition. \$3600/OBO. 619-571-8998.

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— William Makepeace Thackeray

AUTOMOTIVE

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— Mark Twain

— Vladimir Nabokov

- Prince de Ligne

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## Instead, I will limit the number of quotations to no more than, say, one per month, so I won't be including any until well into spring, it looks like. Again with exceptions only that rank among, for example... "Certain opuscules, denominated Christmas Books, with the ostensible intention

# nsidePa

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