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Story begins on page 26
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San Diego Reader
May 11, 2006

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**San Diego Reader May 11, 2006**


Anti-Aguirre Plans Hatched Over Breakfast

By Don Bauder

We are losing the war,” lamented Kris Michell, an aide to Mayor Sanders, Saturday morning, April 22, at Ortega’s restaurant in Ocean Beach. That’s according to my source — to be identified in this column by the unisex appellation “Pat” — who was sitting in the next booth, overhearing what appeared to be a Sanders administration strategy session. Understandably, the source doesn’t want to be identified.

Michell, Sanders’s director of legislative services, was huddling that morning with Mayor Sanders, former assistant city attorney Les Girard, and Fred Sainz, another mayoral aide. The enemy Michell was attacking was city attorney Mike Aguirre, who by most reports is indeed winning the public opinion war in his efforts to roll back pension benefits granted in 1996 and 2002.

“I interpreted the meeting as the mayor’s camp versus Mike Aguirre,” says Pat. “It seemed like a planning session,” as the group “tried to figure out how to neutralize and besmirch Aguirre.”

Sanders took a telephone call, then left early. Pat couldn’t definitively catch what the mayor said. “Les Girard did most of the talking, and the others were agreeing,” says Pat. After a lengthy anti-Aguirre colloquy, Girard was next to leave; Michell and Sainz stayed on to lay some more plans.

A few days later, Sainz told one publication that the continued on page 8

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

Big eaters San Diego’s legislative delegation continues to chow down and otherwise carouse at the expense of the Third House. Sacramento’s nickname for the host of free-spending lobbyists who frequently exercise more power over the fate of legislation than do members of the state Assembly and Senate. Near the front of the pack last year, according to an expose in the San Francisco Chronicle last week, is Democratic assemblywoman Lori Saldana, who chairs the Assembly’s Select Committee on Bioethics, and a $200 ticket to a holiday event from Biocom, a $52 meal at the Hyatt Regency Monterey courtesy of PricewaterhouseCoopers, the accounting giant.

In addition, AT&T put up $84.67 for Saldaña’s dinner worth $126.49 at the Monterey Bay Aquarium as part of the company’s sponsorship of “Scientific American.”

Lori Saldana

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Lori Saldana
Reservoir Keepers Get Sweet Deals

By Joe Deegan

In houses only minutes from their jobs, reservoir keepers remain on call 24 hours a day. Who would begrudge them the low rents they pay the city? I ask keeper Diane Dine what it’s like to be stuck day and night at Sutherland Reservoir, northeast of Ramona. She has a daytime office at the reservoir’s public-access docks, and her city-owned house sits on Sutherland Dam Road, west of the lake and several hundred yards above the dam. “I wouldn’t say I’m stuck,” says Dine, who has worked at the lake for nine years. “I like it out here.”

After another keeper, Joe Hughes, vacated the Lake Hodges city-owned house in early summer 2004, San Diego Water Department acting director Charles Yackly received a recommendation to almost double its rent. In a June 22, 2005, e-mail to Yackly, the Real Estate Assets Department’s Diane Drake wrote: “If the new reservoir keeper wants to rent it, or if the water department has another employee for that property, please let me know, so that I can start preparing the lease. I haven’t seen the house yet, but the current rent is $255 and if we rent it to another reservoir keeper, we should increase the rent to at least $495 per month…. This is still substantially below market.”

Yackly returned Drake’s e-mail after two days, referring to an existing Water Department plan to charge the reservoir keepers 50 percent of market value for their rents. He asked, “Does the $495 per month reflect 50 percent of the market?” The department soon realized, however, that all its reservoir houses were priced well below 50 percent of market value. Apparently to correct the situation, the department several months later, on October 5, produced a proposal to raise rents at seven of the houses. It recommended raising two Barrett Lake houses from $204 and $210 to $425, two Sutherland Dam houses from $208 and $300 to $450 and $550 respectively, and the Lakeside Pump Station house from $344 to $490. It also proposed pricing the San Vicente Dam house at $450 and the Lake Hodges house at $500. No one occupied the latter two houses at the time.

In December of last year the Water Department sought to put reservoir keeper Conway Bowman into the Lake Hodges house. Craig Gibson, supervising property agent at the Real Estate Assets Department, assigned employee Brett Maxfield to write up a lease for Bowman. Maxfield is an attorney and licensed real estate broker. The Real Estate Assets Department would fire Maxfield three months later.

E-mails and Water Department documents reveal that as property agent Maxfield began his assignment, he immediately clashed with his boss, Craig Gibson. The Water Department, despite its own internal recommendation, had yet to raise the house’s rent to $500.

But to Maxfield there were more serious problems. In an early morning message on December 22 to acting real estate assets director Jack Farris, Maxfield wrote: “I spoke to Craig about this assignment yesterday after reviewing what is being asked of me. I brought up the issue that though this lease may have merit as compensation for exchange of services, the lease…on its face has an appearance of being a gift of public funds. The market rent on this house as of 2003…states that rent should be between $900 and $1,100, but I am asked to make it $255, about one fourth of market rent. This was the rate given in 1992.

Nothing in the lease makes reference to this lease being in compensation for services of being a dam keeper and, according to Craig, this is done on purpose and that is why it is a month to month lease. I am not saying the substance of this transaction is wrong or illegal but it is not being done in a proper form in my opinion and I am not comfortable proceeding as I have been directed. I brought this up to Craig. He got mad and told me it is not my policy call and just do it, so I bring it to your attention and ask for direction as to how to proceed.”

In the meantime, Maxfield sought an outside perspective. “Haven’t seen you in some time,” he wrote to Greg Levin in the city auditor’s office. “Are you free for lunch today? I have something I would like to ask you about.”

In the afternoon, the two exchanged e-mails discussing the previous Lake Hodges house lease of $255 between 1992 and 2004. Maxfield added that Jack Farris “spoke to me after lunch and told me to write up the lease so that it accounts for the rent being discounted in exchange for services rendered. I will assign a value to the difference. However, it is the water department that will have to sign the lease and make sure that the reduced rent is accounted for as to the employee’s payroll. I will make sure that those in Water are made aware of this change....”

The following day, December 23, Maxfield sent a message to Craig Gibson and Jack Farris in his own department, to Water Department acting director Charles Yackly, and to several others. “Gentlemen,” it began, “I have been asked to write up a lease for Conway Bowman for the house at Lake Hodges. It is my understanding that he will be a reservoir keeper and that the house will be part of his salary for exchange of services and that he will pay the other half of the rent from an automatic deduction from his paycheck.... I will include language in the lease which reflects this in the new lease agreement. The old lease agreement did not make any mention of this. I trust that Water will make sure the proper accounting takes place...”

continued on page 10

Lake Hodges Dam

Photographs by Joe Klein

San Diego Reader May 11, 2006
Anti-Aguirre breakfast
continued from page 6

The mayor’s office was unhappy with actions of the city attorney’s office in one case. Around the same time, former mayor Dick Murphy and council president Scott Peters filed papers to disqualify Aguirre and his staff from appearing in a pension-related case. It appears the jihad is gaining momentum.

Initially, the only person Pat recognized was Sanders. “It was bizarre. What was he doing in Ocean Beach? What was so shocking was why would he sit and talk in public?” Pat recalls thinking. (Ortega’s employees are still talking about Sanders’s surprise visit.) Says Pat, “He probably didn’t think he would be recognized.” Or overhead.

Then Pat was provided with photographs of others who might have been there and identified Michell, Sainz, and Girard.

They are corporate-welfare cheerleaders. Michell worked for former mayor Susan Golding from 1994 to 1998 and was a lobbyist for the Padres. Sainz, Sanders’s communications director, was deputy chief of staff under Golding and worked on the ballot campaign for the Padres ballpark. Later, he handled public affairs for the Convention Center. When Sanders named Michell and Sainz to their posts, city hall reformers suspected that there would be no new breeze wafting through the City’s fetid air. Establishment vassals were still in power.

Girard left his job as assistant city attorney in September of last year to join the law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge. He had been appointed assistant city attorney in 1996. On his law firm profile sheet, he boasts that he oversaw projects such as the City’s deals with the Padres and Chargers — hardly accomplishments to brag about, since in both cases San Diego got outlawed, or more to the point, fleeced.

Girard has been called to testify in the pension investigations by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the federal grand jury. The City is paying his legal bills, although he is not a subject of the probes.

I e-mailed Sanders, Michell, Sainz, and Girard and gave each a day and a half to respond to a list of questions. None replied. A Reader attorney asked Sanders’s office for documents — e-mails, letters, etc. — about the breakfast session. Press assistant Kevin Klein quickly came back and said there were no documents related to the “alleged meeting.”

The principals may be silent now, but there was a lot of talk on April 22 at Ortega’s, according to Pat. “They wanted to have outside counsel to review Mike’s decision on the budget problem,” says Pat, referring to Aguirre’s opinion that pension obligation bonds must go to the voters. “But they said the problem was that Mike would have to sign off on any such move.”

In both the public and private sectors, a honcho not liking a lawyer’s opinion will go shopping for a lawyer who will say the reverse — for a price. In this sense, lawyers are like consultants: they give the clients an opinion they want to hear.

“Then they moved on to Aguirre’s litigation in private practice,” says Pat. “They said, ‘We should get what his record was — wins, losses.’ They said he has not won cases as he said he did. But they asked, ‘How do we do that?’ He has filed cases in all types of jurisdictions — New Jersey, etc.” According to Pat, the plan was to see if Aguirre was claiming court victories in cases that were actually won by subordinates.

Then the conversation drifted to alleged low morale within the city attorney’s office. The participants talked about the complaint filed last month by deputy city attorney Amy Lepine, who told the City’s equal opportunity investigation office that Aguirre complained women on their appearance and allegedly deems women inferior to men. She filed her complaint after Aguirre supposedly told her what to say in a pension hearing.

According to Pat, the breakfast group discussed whether Lepine had not been prepared for a hearing and Aguirre had been forced to step in for her. Aguirre may have been “retaliating,” Pat says of the participants speculated. A spokesperson in the city attorney’s office acknowledges that Aguirre stepped in for her at one point in the hearing but said that Lepine was never demoted and had resigned.

The breakfast strategists thought that Anita Noone, who had been temporarily in charge of hiring, had been demoted. She did not respond to my e-mail. A city attorney spokesperson said Noone is working on litigation as an assistant city attorney and has not been demoted.

The breakfast session but apparently not around anti-Aguirre investigative. But there is a nagging question: why was he in attendance when the topic was how to slam Aguirre, whom the mayor is continued on page 10
Anti-Aguirre breakfast continued from page 8

at least pretending to embrace publicly?

“find it hard to believe Jerry Sanders would do such a thing,” says Aguirre. “A smear campaign and dirty tricks —

I don’t think the mayor would participate in or condone such a thing.”

Reservoir deals continued from page 7

as to Bowman’s salary since the property seems to be given him partly in exchange for services. I just want to make sure all parties understand. I don’t want to be part of income tax fraud. Income tax fraud

is a felony. I am going to ask Craig to authorize a request to

be included as part of your salary for the 20 percent of the time he spends there for personal use. Does this make sense? Is it a valid arrangement from your office’s point of view?”

Then Bowman wanted to know about another detail. “I read the attached from Charles Yackly,” he said that the rents will stay the same, but I’ll be responsible for the taxes?”

Bowman also took the opportunity to make his case further. “Living on station is a part of my duties as a reservoir keeper,” he wrote. “I’m responsible for the protection of the resource on a daily basis. I’m in essence on call 24 hours per day. Because of this responsibility, the keepers have always paid a greatly reduced rent on all the reservoir houses. Hence the $255 per month at Lake Hodges. I believe this issue is about 20 percent of this. I could write up the lease stating that 80 percent of his time at the house is considered a duty of his job as a dam keeper and thus not part of his salary, which is what seems to be his understanding of the arrangement. Thus, he only pays for the 20 percent of the time he spends there for personal use.

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Reservoir deals
continued from page 10

was taken up with labor relations and it was determined that the rents were not going to be raised. “I understand,” Maxfield replied. “I just need to work with auditors to write up the lease in a way which reflects this arrangement correctly.” That was December 28. On January 19 Bowman asked, “Any progress on the house lease at Lake Hodges?” Maxfield replied that he was waiting for the appraisal. He didn’t get it until February 8, when he wrote Bowman, “The appraisal is $1300. I will write up the lease to attribute $250 to your personal use and the remainder to facility use. You mentioned that this is what was negotiated between labor relations and water management, correct? Is there any writing concerning this I can reference in the lease? If not, can you tell me when this agreement was reached and who the key decision makers were? I want to reference the agreement in the lease.”

In response Bowman named lakes program manager Joe Weber, who right away sent Maxfield “Reservoir and Pump Station Tenant Expectations.” Among the eight expectations are carrying and responding to a city pager and conducting a random patrol of the recreation and dam areas on days off. By February 24 Maxfield had written the Lake Hodges house lease. It stated $255 as the rent amount, noting it as approximately 20 percent of $1300. That was in anticipation, wrote Maxfield, “that Conwy Bowman shall only use this property for his personal purposes for 20 percent of the time.” Bowman would not have to pay the other 80 percent of fair market rental value due to his work responsibilities. Maxfield also included the following proviso: “This arrangement was negotiated by and agreed to by the Water Department, not by Real Estate Assets. Real Estate Assets leave the validity of the assignment of value in proportion to services rendered and facility overhead to be evaluated and validated by the City Auditor.”

When Joe Hughes (the tenant before Bowman) rented the property, Maxfield tells him he is “not familiar with that aspect of the matter. I hope so.”

In explaining his own firing by the Real Estate Assets Department later in the month, Brett Maxfield cites “rooting out too many skeletons in the City’s closet,” including cooperating with a Reader Public Records Act request in the recent Carlton Oaks Golf Course lease case. The City ended up not renewing the lease on its old terms largely due to Maxfield’s insistence that it gave the City a low return.

In a March 27 “Notice of Probationary Failure” to Maxfield, Real Estate Assets Department acting director Mike Boyle did not mention the skeletons in the City’s closet. Instead, among other things, he cited Maxfield’s “dubious charges of tax fraud and unilateral involvement of City Auditors, outside the chain of command.” Reached later by phone, Boyle and Craig Gibson decline to comment on details of the Maxfield case, both characterizing them as confidential personnel matters. Gibson resigned from the City in late March. It was his own decision, he says.
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  - CBTE 162 WEB Page Creation  
  6/2-6/15
  - CBTE 163 Intro To Microsoft Frontpage  
  6/2-6/15
  - CBTE 170 Desktop Publishing  
  6/2-6/15
  - CBTE 180 Microsoft Office  
  6/2-6/15
  - CBTE 186 Intro To Quickten  
  6/2-6/15
  - CBTE 186A Project Lab I  
  6/2-6/15

- **CHEMISTRY**
  - CHEM 100 Fundamentals Of Chemistry  
  Multiple
  - CHEM 108A Fundamentals Of Chem Lab  
  7/6-8/19

- **CHICANO STUDIES**
  - CHIC 141A U.S. History/Chicano Perspectv  
  6/2-6/15
  - CHIC 141B U.S. History/Chicano Perspectv  
  6/2-6/15

- **CHILD DEVELOPMENT**
  - CHIL 101 Human Growth & Development  
  Multiple
  - CHIL 111 The Child, Family & Community  
  6/2-6/15

- **COMPUTER AND INFO SCIENCE**
  - CIS 120 Intro/Computer Presentations  
  6/2-6/15
  - CIS 121 Intro/Local Area Networks  
  5/6-6/30
  - CIS 131 Intro/Inter Area Networking  
  6/2-6/15
  - CIS 132 Inf Technology Sys/Infrastructures  
  Multiple
  - CIS 133 Inf Technology From PCs  
  6/2-6/15
  - CIS 161 Visual Basic Programming  
  6/2-6/15
  - CIS 190 Java Programming  
  6/2-6/15
  - CIS 192 C/C++ Programming  
  Multiple
  - CIS 193 Microsoft Off & Word  
  6/2-6/15
  - DRAM 105 Intro To Dramatic Arts  
  6/2-6/15
  - DRAM 136 Hist/Genofrani Theatre-Anthol  
  6/2-6/15

- **DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS & SERVICES**
  - DSPS 020 Intro To Accessible Computers  
  6/2-6/15

- **ECONOMICS**
  - ECON 100 Principles Of Economics I  
  Multiple
  - ECON 120 Principles Of Economics II  
  Multiple

- **ENGLISH**
  - ENGL 043 English Review  
  6/2-6/15
  - ENGL 051 Basic Composition  
  6/2-6/15
  - ENGL 101 Reading And Composition  
  6/2-6/15
  - ENGL 205 Critical Thinking/Inf Comput  
  6/2-6/15
  - FIRE PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY  
    - FPT 103 Fire Protection Equip & Systems  
      6/2-6/15
    - FPT 104 Fire Protection (For Fire Prot)  
      6/2-6/15
    - FPT 105 Fire Behavior And Combustion  
      6/2-6/15

- **GEOLOGY**
  - GEOG 100 General Geology  
  6/2-6/15

- **HEALTH EDUCATION**
  - HEAL 101 Health & Life Style  
  Multiple
  - HEAL 102 Health Education For Teachers  
  Multiple

- **HISTORY**
  - HIST 101 History Of The United States I  
  Multiple

- **HUMAN SERVICES**
  - HMS 100 Social Work Field Service  
  6/6-6/30

- **NETWORK AND WEB TECHNOLOGIES**
  - INWS 003 Conv Netw Tech/Comp Telephony  
  6/2-6/15
  - INWS 005 Conv Netw Tech/Lan  
  6/2-6/15
  - INWS 094 Conv Netw Tech/VOIP Essentials  
  6/2-6/15

- **INWS 140 Security & Certification Train  
  6/2-6/15

- **JOURNALISM**
  - JOUR 202 Intro To Mass Communication  
  6/2-6/15

- **MATHMATICS**
  - MATH 035 Pre Algebra  
  Multiple
  - MATH 085 Elementary Algebra & Geometry  
  6/2-6/15
  - MATH 086 Intermediate Algebra & Geometry  
  6/2-6/15
  - MATH 104 Trigonometry  
  Multiple
  - MATH 116 College Algebra and Trig  
  Multiple
  - MATH 121 Basic Tech/Consumer Math  
  6/2-6/15
  - MATH 131 Precalculus  
  6/2-6/15

- **MICROSOFT**
  - MSFT 103 Install/Config & Admin/Windows  
  6/2-6/15

- **MUSIC**
  - MUS 100 Introduction To Music  
  Multiple

- **PERSONAL GROWTH**
  - PERG 107 College Success Skills  
  6/2-6/15
  - PERG 140 Life Skills & Personal Skills  
  Multiple

- **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
  - PHYE 123 Fitness Activities  
  6/6-6/30

- **PHYSICAL SCIENCES**
  - PHYN 100 Survey Of Physical Science  
  6/2-6/15

- **POLITICAL SCIENCE**
  - POLI 102 The American Political System  
  6/2-6/15

- **PSYCHOLOGY**
  - PSYC 101 General Psycholgy  
  Multiple
  - PSYC 258 Behavioral Science Statistics  
  6/2-6/15

- **REAL ESTATE**
  - REAL 101 Real Estate Principles  
  Multiple

- **SOCIOL GY**
  - SOCO 101 Principles Of Sociology  
  6/2-6/15

- **SPEECH**
  - SPEE 100 Intercollegiate Communication  
  Multiple

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**San Diego Community College District**

[City College] [Mesa College] [Miramar College] [Continuing Education]
Vivid And Continuous Dream
I enjoyed Suzanne Finnamore’s honest and courageous article, “Missionary Man,” in the May 4 Reader. Her coming to terms with supposing Finnamore had to be indicative of the facts that he is not only completely clueless but devoid of any ability to discern humor. Which are sure signs of being completely out of their minds, I witnessed much the same extreme behavior in North Park. While I initially thought the person created in her article was just an amalgam of different people, it occurred to me later that there could be such a stream of intolerance from someone who culturally would be perceived as a normally accepting, tolerant person. Are we to be defined by the religion we practice or the stores we shop at or the clothes we wear? How tragic that it’s come to this: anti-tolerance is trendy, Yikes!

Thanks for bringing some thought into the day, Barb! Keep up the good work!
Rita Abraham via e-mail

Another Of Barbs’s Peeps
The “Diva” article on tolerance (“Diary of a Diva,” May 4) begged me in that I live in Mission Hills/Hillcrest, am a quasi metrosexual (quasi because I don’t spend lavish amounts of money on wardrobe or home accoutrements), who does cry upon Mimi’s death and Rodolfo’s lament (every time), who is a member of SDMA, who knows the lyrics to most classic Broadway show tunes, and who is quite heterosexual and quite Republican. I have many liberal, progressive, revolutionary, socialist, radical — whatever — friends whom I love dearly. I disagree with them on so many things, but I find that interesting and stimulating. I cherish their (what I consider bizarre) positions. I love their passion and conviction. However, many of these forward-looking, progressive-thinking, modern-day Bohemians are the most intolerant and unaccepting people on earth. I am not saying this in a derogatory or demeaning way; it just is what it is. I try to accept, tolerate, and respect differences (which I often find myself doing). I have personally accepted, 100% financing available OAC.

CC via e-mail
Another Supporter Of Barb
This letter is in reference to Barbarella’s article titled “Tolerance” (“Diary of a Diva,” May 4). Most dictionaries define tolerance as “The willingness to recognize and respect the beliefs or practices of others.” My favorite definition is “A disposition to allow freedom of choice and behavior.” If we shut ourselves off to other people solely because their religious beliefs are different from ours, we become closed-minded and entrenched in our own belief system, unwilling to listen to another’s point of view even if it doesn’t concern religion. I consider myself an agnostic, and I very much respect the religious beliefs of others. People are not the sum total of their religion. I have personally

continued on page 90
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It’s Just Lunch directors:
Dear Matt:

When I opened my wallet this morning, I pulled out a dollar and noticed it had a little star printed on it, right after the serial number. None of my other dollars has a star. What does it mean? Another way to prevent counterfeiting? And if my dollar is unique, should I hang on to it in case it’s valuable someday?

— LeeZee, in the Navy

Wow! Thinkin’ maybe you’ve won the Federal Reserve’s equivalent of the Super Lotto — five million unclaimed bucks in your wallet! If you’ve taped that bill under the toilet tank for safekeeping, I’d suggest you rip it off and take it down to the 7? Eleven and invest in a Sharpee or something. All you have is what’s called a star note. It just means that somebody at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Rubbed up. As you can imagine, quality control is a major concern when you’re printing currency, and when you’re printing currency, you give each bill its own serial number. When a substantial bill comes off the press, it’s destroyed, then reprinted with the bad bill’s serial number followed by a star to indicate that it’s a replacement. Star notes are unusual; less than a half a percent of the annual government print run gets messed up and replaced. The bills are collected by some hobbyists, but don’t count on your buck to finance the kids’ college or a tank of gas. Sorry, Lee, but your life really is tedious and uneventful, just as you suspected all along.

Matthew:

First of all, what do Tropicana and Minute Maid and companies like that do with all the orange peels they generate? Is there a use for them? Second, why is orange juice in concentrate made from concentrate? Why is the water removed from the juice, then put back, then put in the container? Why not eliminate two steps and just squeeze the juice into the container?

— ELS, San Diego

Good Morning, Matt:

Why does my apple juice contain juice from the following countries: USA, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Chile, Argentina, and New Zealand?! Come on! Aren’t there plenty of good apples right here at home?

— Sandy, downtown

I’m glad to see there are still a few starry-eyed folks who can look at a glass of juice and imagine rosy-cheeked, smiling farmers in Florida or Washington carefully picking only the sweetest oranges or apples from robust trees, carrying the baskets to Ma in her sunny country kitchen, where she gently presses out the juice, packs it, loads it into the family pickup, and delivers it to your breakfast table. Truth be known, fruit juice is a major element of big-time international agribusiness, which shuffles around the globe absolutely every type of edible, from squid parts to your breakfast table. Truth be known, fruit juice is a major element of big-time international agribusiness, which shuffles around the globe absolutely every type of edible, from squid parts to your breakfast table. Truth be known, fruit juice is a major element of big-time international agribusiness, which shuffles around the globe absolutely every type of edible, from squid parts to your breakfast table."
A year ago I wrote a column welcoming the Golden Baseball League (GBL) into the pitiful predatory jungle of sports capitalism. The GBL, an independent Class A baseball league headquartered in Pleasanton, California, opened for business with eight teams, one of them in San Diego, the Surf Dawgs.

I liked it that they put a team in San Diego. I liked the story of the GBL, mindful that it is a story, a product of writers and paid publicists, and could not possibly be true in that all the sweet and lies and fear and broken hearts have been stripped from the public version. Still, what was left had a good feel, how Dave Kaval, Stanford University graduate student and his bud, Amit Patel, both in their 20s, decided to put on a Broadway play, make that, decided to draw up a business plan for their class project. (They might have used a fancier term than “class project”). The pair went on to reel in investors, raised $5 million, and, on May 26, 2005, the GBL began playing baseball.

So, a year has passed. How did they do?


All of the above-mentioned examples were failed attempts at major sports leagues. The body count for defunct minor sports leagues is an order of magnitude higher. The body count for individual teams within minor professional sports leagues is a number too large to count without using machines. If the Golden Baseball League makes it, they will be muy especial bucklehoors.

Okay, what do we have after one year? First, the GBL has high-end sponsors. Safeway signed on early, $1 million over three years. Then, the GBL has high-end sponsors. Safeway makes it, they will be professional sports leagues is a number too large to count without using machines.

The Golden Baseball League decided on the league-owns-all-the-teams business model, which has been used, at one time or another, by Major League Soccer, XFL, WNBA, Women’s United Soccer Association, American Basketball League, and the National Lacrosse League. Basically, this eliminates labor problems and owner problems. Makes folding or moving franchises as easy as telling an underlying, “Make it so.”

The league doesn’t want to own real estate. They only went into cities that had existing stadiums, often on college campuses. In San Diego, that means Tony Gwynn Stadium on the campus of San Diego State. In Reno that means Peccole Park on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. In Fullerton that means Goodwin Field (Cal State Fullerton). A 2007 expansion franchise will be placed in St. George, Utah, and that means Dixie State College. (By the way, if you, like me, wondered how in the hell a thing named Dixie State College wound up in Southern Utah, Dixie is the name of the plain next to the Virgin River, which is reasonably close to St. George or so Dixie defenders claim.)

The GBL had their cost under control from Day 1. In fact, it’s hard to see how they can cut costs any further. Except for a few stars (Rickey Henderson), the GBL paid it’s players around $1,100 a month. If you were working a 40-hour-a-week job, $1,100 a month rounds out to about $6.87 an hour. The minimum wage in California is $6.75 an hour. If the league is going to increase revenue, it won’t come from squeezing payroll or rent. They’ll have to sell more hot dogs and beer, that’s where the money is. In order to do that, they’ll have to entice more hot dog eaters and beer drinkers into their stadiums. Here’s the money-making-life-giving question: How do you do that? What do you have to offer customers this year that you didn’t have to offer last year?

The GBL says the 2005 count was 451,505 attendees, which sounds like a lot until you factor in a 90-game season. After the 2005 season the GBL folded two teams and moved the Mesa (Arizona) Miners to Reno. It’s been reported that only one team made money last year, the Chico Outlaws. The league is playing a 80-game regular season this year as opposed to 90 last year. Play begins June 1 and runs until August 28.

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Anna-Marie
I hit two parties in one day. The first was an afternoon affair in PB. A guy named Bruce wanted to get rid of a bunch of Rocky Mountain oysters, or as he called them, “bulls’ balls.”

Bruce and his friends were raising money for the VFW, which is where the party took place. I watched as the guys deep-fried the testicles. A cook asked me if I’d have any of the Montana tender groin. I said, “No way. This is a party, not an episode of Fear Factor.”

I met a German guy who everyone said was a great cook. He made tongue at the last party he was at the top of the lists.

Bruce felt guilty that I won’t eat anything that’s already been in another mouth. A few people talked about the weird foods they tried. Ablone, snail, and frogs’ legs were at the top of the lists.

Bruce explained that he got the Rocky Mountain oysters from a butcher in town. “Usually they use calves instead of the bull, because those are the size of walnuts. These are huge.”

I overheard a few guys who were drinking talk about being “functioning alcoholics.” One said, “Bode Miller, that Olympic skier, he’s an alcoholic. Not a functioning one, though. Idiot didn’t win a single medal. What a waste!”

I watched as the chips and sandwich meat were put out on a table. Bruce saw how many people were going to that table and said, “Wow, those non-organ meats seem to go fast.”

A vegetarian woman said, “I don’t even eat the normal parts of an animal.” Bruce saw how many people were going to that table and said, “Wow, those non-organ meats seem to go fast.”

One woman sipped a gin and tonic. I asked if that drink went well with the bull meat. She said, “Oh, no, I’m not touching those.” Bruce came over and convinced her to try one. She said, “It’s good.”

One guy was cracking “bull ball jokes.” He rattled off ten different names for them and told a guy at the bar he’s had “more balls on his chin than a seal at SeaWorld.”

Bruce explained that that was his own store item. Everything was full of shrapnel.

As I headed off to go to the next party, I glanced over and saw that there were still several untouched oysters.

One of the guys I had met at the corn dog party the week prior showed up together where they worked. They told me that they care for mentally retarded patients at ARC. They called it “assisted living.” I asked how accurate people with that disability are portrayed in movies. “Juliette Lewis was high-functioning, but the guy she was with in that movie, he was low-functioning. Those two would never have been together. That doesn’t work.”

They told me some heartbreaking stories, such as the patients who don’t have family who visit, but the stories made the job sound rewarding.

One guy was cracking “bull ball jokes.” He rattled off ten different names for them and told a guy at the bar he’s had “more balls on his chin than a seal at SeaWorld.”

I asked him how scared he was when this was happening, and he said, “I was so young, and it’s hard to explain war to a kid. I just heard a lot of explosions. I was interviewed for a TV show about it, though.”

As I headed off to go to the next party, I glanced over and saw that there were still several untouched oysters.

One of the guys I had met at the corn dog party the week prior invited me to a party near UCSD in La Jolla.

When I arrived, I met an interesting character who called himself Duff Norway. He explained that that was his

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**Crasher**

**COWBOY CAVIAR**

by Josh Board

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"Michael Vick name." Vick is an NFL player who went to Mexico and gave a woman herpes. Vick told the woman that his name was Ron Mexico. So, this guy sometimes goes by the name Duff Norway. Norway told me he likes to go to protests and hold up signs that don’t make sense.

When the UCSD campus had meetings about the pornography that was shown on the TV station, he held a sign that read, “Porn is murder.” People didn’t believe in animal sacrifice, something crazy like they believe in animal sacrifice, I probably wouldn’t have done it.” I told him about the party I had just come from.

He told me another story about his brother buying Olympic jackets. Three of them went into a bar in Idaho wearing the jackets, and everyone there assumed they were on the Olympic team. The bartender was bringing them pitchers of beer for free. “Women who were just hockey coaches.” I heard another guy approach a woman and say, “Let’s talk literature, shall we?” It sounded geeky, but these were UCSD students. That’s probably a good opening line.

A guy named Jeremy who had become an ordained minister on-line introduced me to a friend whose wedding he had performed. I asked Jeremy what he wore. “I initially wanted a pope hat or to wear all black. I ended up going with just a suit.” He told me anyone in California can become a minister, because the state can’t debate what is a “real religion.” He said, “It’s the Universal Life Church. They had two creeds and I agreed with both. Had it said something crazy like they believe in animal sacrifice, I probably wouldn’t have done it.”

I told him about the party I had just come from.

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x42 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

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### Faces of God

_by Barbara_  

“When it comes to life, the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.” — _G.K. Chesterton_

“I spare no expense when it comes to my girls,” Dad said with a satisfied smile. I lifted my slice of pepperoni pizza as though it was a glass of champagne, toasted my father’s sarcastic sentiment, and filled my mouth with melted cheese and soft, hot dough. He mimicked my actions and, after wiping a bead of tomato sauce from his graying whiskers with a handful of white napkins, Dad posed the same question he always asks when I join him for lunch at Costco: “Where else can you get two huge slices of pizza and two sodas, with unlimited free refills, for less than six bucks?”

The outside dining area at Costco in Mission Valley is forever plagued with breezes that whisk away your napkin the moment you let down your guard. I used my soda to anchor my plate (I had already chased after it once) and continued to enjoy the tasty calorie bomb in my hand. “It’s a pretty good deal,” I said.

“It’s a great deal,” Dad corrected. Though he enjoys a busy schedule, my father prefers a simple life with plenty of routine. His Saturday regimen for the past several years has been working up a sweat in an aero-bics class at his local gym, then (after a social soak in the gym’s Jacuzzi) going to Costco for lunch and any necessary shopping, and, finally, bustling about town to attend any events he finds listed in the paper that promise to be both interesting and free of charge.

We finished our slices and headed inside for what Dad likes to call “dessert” — on Saturday, nearly every aisle in Costco begins and ends with a small table, behind which stands a person in a white coat and a hair net, serving up samples of edible products, free for anyone who pays the annual membership fee (or in my case, anyone who knows someone who pays the annual membership fee).

As we approached one such table, Dad quickly jerked the cart to the left and made a U-turn in the middle of the aisle. “Buffalo wings, no good,” he said. “Those are too messy; they take too much work. We need something simpler.”

“Gotcha,” I responded, and followed him back to the other end, where he waited patiently for a hot chunk of boneless, skinless chicken breast doused in KC Barbecue sauce. With the little paper cup containing his chicken in hand, Dad led me to the office supply aisle. There we stood, looking for a printer that would suit his needs.

My father’s frugality is no secret and, at least in our family, the butt of many a joke. Dad seems both proud and ashamed of his reputation when it comes to money — proud because it takes a clever man to find a good deal and ashamed because people often equate frugality with being stingy; he shudders at the idea of being thought of as an ignoble miser. He is selectively generous, and vocal about those whom he feels are deserving (and undeserving) of his generosity, regardless of whether it is his time or money he is donating.

“Did I tell you what happened with Chubs the other day?” Dad asked me.

Still scanning the side of a box for the low-down on a printer’s system requirements, I said, “Nuh-uh. What happened? He still keeping the streets clean for you?”

Dad walks five miles every morning before sunrise from his home in Mission Hills to Balboa Park and back. When Dad first told me about Chubs, the homeless man he encounters near the Starbucks on Robinson Street during his early morning walks, he described him as “about 35 years old, maybe five-foot-nine, and really dirty. He’s not a bad-looking guy, but one of his eyes is really messed up.”

Upon seeing the “poor unfortunate,” Dad will approach him and say, “Chubs, how ya doi’n?” Chubs never seems to remember my father, even though their frequent meetings have followed the same script for two years.

“Oh, hi, sir,” Chubs will respond. “I’m cleanin’ up the street, pickin’ up the place. I was downtown, helpin’ ‘em out down there, and now I’m here. Do you have any spare change? A couple of quarters maybe so I can get a cup of coffee?”

My father, a man who doesn’t believe in handouts, used to give Chubs a dollar, but, realizing the destitute man could hardly buy a cup of coffee with that amount, Dad upped his offering to five bucks, or what he calls a “fin.” Each morning, after tying his sneakers and donning his jacket, Dad puts a five-dollar bill in his pocket, specifically for Chubs. For years there have been few variations in his morning routine. But on this day, as Dad began to explain, something different happened. I stopped reading the box in front of me and gave my father my full attention.
At around 6 a.m., Dad spotted Chubs and, prepared with his five-dollar bill, he approached him. “It’s funny, because I don’t think he ever recognizes me, but I crossed the street and said, ‘Hey, Chubs, how ya doin?’” and he answered, ‘This and that, cleaning up the streets,’ you know, so I pull out the five and I give it to him and I don’t think he realizes what it is and he goes, ‘Oh, thank you, sir, thank you very much,’ and I tell him, ‘Hey, get yourself something to eat. If you get coffee, don’t get it here,’ because you could drop the whole fin on a cup of coffee at Starbucks, and that would be stupid.”

I remembered from previous stories that Chubs tends to spend the money on a large coffee and a sandwich from 7-11. But then he looks at what he has in his hands,” Dad continued, “and he realizes what it is and, like always, his face lights up and he goes ‘OH! Thank you, sir! Thank you, sir! Have a great day!’ Whatever, he’s really nice, but this day was different, this day was interesting. Have you ever felt like you were in a scene from a movie? Because that’s how I felt after what happened.

After Chubs had accepted the money, Dad turned around and continued on his walk. He had only made it about 15 feet when behind him he heard Chubs, in a sober, sincere tone of voice, say, “I love you.” “You know, not funny, not facetiously, not ‘I love you, man!’ like the sports morons, those jocks in the locker room, but like he really meant it,” Dad explained.

“When I turned around, I was expecting to see Robin Williams or George Burns playing God or something, you know what I mean? But when I did, Chubs was just standing there, his head down, looking at the money. He said ‘I love you,’ he just said it. He wasn’t interested in me turning around to respond in any fashion, so I turned back and kept walking, and as I’m walking down the street, I thought, eh, that’s a pretty neat moment, you know? I’m always trying to see the face of God in other people, which is really, really difficult, and I thought that was just a little, ‘Hey, you’re doin’ all right.’ It was just a really sweet moment.”

Dad sniffed at the air and cleared his throat. His eyes glistened and he looked up, as though suddenly trying to read the sides of the boxes on the shelves that stretched to the high warehouse ceiling.

“Oh, okay, I need a printer, and I refuse to spend more than $100. I don’t need any of that photo crap, just a straight-up color printer,” he said, pushing his thoughts of his poignant encounter with Chubs back into his head.

“I think this one might do the trick,” I said, pointing to the box I’d been reading a few minutes earlier. “Let’s plop it in the cart and go see what they’re cooking up at the end of the frozen food aisle. Something smells tasty.”

“Roger that,” Dad said, and we were on our way.
When I informed my best friend almost nine years ago that I was expecting a male child, she said, after a distinct pause, “I can’t even imagine you with boys.”

I couldn’t imagine it either, in spite of the fact that I’d been trying to get pregnant for four years and had just conceived with the help of a fertility stimulant. I knew that boys could be and frequently were the outcome of pregnancy. I was just assuming that, given my personality, a boy wouldn’t be the outcome in my case.

It’s not just that I am ignorant of baseball, basketball, football, and the subtleties of world wrestling. It’s not that my main hobbies are baking, knitting, reading, and watercolor painting. I do not camp. I do not ski. I do not surf. But for hundreds of years, women did none of these things and managed to raise boys.

So I think it was something else that my friend was contemplating during that distinct pause. I think we both knew the odds. There are certain children who are going to run screaming through the house with imitation guns and certain children who are going to sit and move the Fisher-Price people in and out of the toy barn, and we all know which genders are most likely to do which.

I am the sort of person who would do well with a child who wanted to move the Fisher-Price people in and out of the toy barn.

Still, month after month, the doctor studied the quivering black and white lines on the ultrasound and said it looked like a boy to him. I reminded myself that Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, my father, and my husband had once been boys. Boys could be pensive, bookish, and sweet, like Christopher Robin. As a child, my husband had collected baseball cards and listened to entire Yankee games on his radio. My father had sat beside his mother’s stove at age three and pretended the rectangular bits of coal were train cars. Of course, when he got a little older, my father moved on to blowing up mailboxes and shooting hawks, rats, lizards, jackrabbits, beer bottles, tin cans, and cottontails.

I decided to concentrate instead on the act of giving birth. Giving birth was what women talked about the way veterans talked about war. Giving birth was so painful that it was routine to numb the whole lower half of the body or to cut open the mother as if she were a wolf in a fairy tale. Giving birth was what I began to prepare for: how to do it without numbing or cutting.

I tried to assure myself that I was a mammal, and a mammal does two things. It gives birth to live young, and it nurses them. These are the two seminal qualities. There is nothing else: not “mammals have two legs” or “mammals live on land” or “mammals like to sit quietly and color.” You’ll notice, in fact, that men don’t even qualify as mammals by this definition. It’s the women who certify the species for mammal status, and they are thus equipped, like whales and wild coyotes, to do these things without technical assistance.

This was the working principle of my doula. A doula is a birth assistant, a woman without the medical training of a midwife who takes the historical role of the mothers, aunts, and elderly females in the cave, who would, I gathered from my reading, help the birthing woman push the baby out while men were clubbing edible mammals. I was still planning to go to the hospital, just in case, but I knew the doctor...
a woman who takes the historical role of the women in the cave.

wouldn’t be there until the last minute and the nurses would be busy with all the other birthing females. I also knew that if my husband said, during the 16th hour of labor, “You’re doing fine! Keep pushing!” I would look at him and know he wasn’t even a real mammal — how would he know?

My doula, on the other hand, had given birth herself. She had helped other women push out live young, and if she said I was doing fine, I would believe her.

What the doula said to me in the last month of pregnancy was this: You are just like a whale or a wild coyote. You can, if necessary, give birth all by yourself. If you go into labor on a dirt road somewhere, and you don’t have a phone or a human being to help you, you can give birth all by yourself.

I found this extremely comforting. I was built to give birth! It was my destiny! I could do it all alone!

Obviously, it’s not 100 percent true. I’ve read enough history to know women used to die giving birth to live young. Frequently. But I had also read The Good Earth in ninth grade, and the only thing I remembered about it was that the main character works in the fields for a while, goes in the house, gives birth, and goes right back into the fields, as if all she’d done was take a coffee break.

When the contractions began before dawn on April 28, 1998, I started out like a good Chinese peasant woman. I worked all day at my desk. I wrote most of a story about the revival of the Lindy Hop. Then the doula came over and we walked around in a field. By 9:00 p.m. the contractions hurt enough to make me say the word, “HOSPITAL,” so my husband and the doula and I went to the hospital so that I could be a coyote/whale/Chinese peasant in a bed, wearing a gown.

For the next seven hours, the doula sat beside me and said, “You’re doing fine.” She did some acupressure on my right hand. The nurse came now and then to measure and count. At 3:30 a.m., the doctor appeared, and at 4:00, I pushed like a coyote, or perhaps a whale. For a moment, it seemed that I was the coyote and Sam was the whale. But then he emerged. Our baby was alive, human, healthy, and fine. We admired him tearfully for one, maybe two triumphant minutes, and then it was time for Sam to do what nurses call “latching on.”

I had just pushed live young through a narrow and sensitive orifice without painkillers or screams. I felt like one hell of a mammal, and I was not afraid of the Second Mammalian Imperative. My breasts would fulfill their destiny. The nurse helped me arrange myself. My tiny naked boy latched on.

This is the moment I began to question Nature.
and my place within it. In the first place, a “latch” is a piece of metal or plastic that clamps down hard on an insensible object. I was not insensible. I was all I could do to keep myself from prying my tiny naked helpless baby off my nipple. Suckling was not the gentle process of milk passing from breast to mouth that I had observed in Old Master paintings! It was latch ing on.

I admired Sam in his turn. I was glad when the latch was properly engaged. Sometimes, I would say, and they would ask, “Then he’s not latched on properly.” They would have me stick my finger into Sam’s mouth. “Does it hurt?” they would ask. “Yes, it does,” I would say. “Then he’s not latched on properly.”

They would say, “Try again.” They would have me latch it into Sam’s mouth, thereby breaking suction, and try again. “Does it hurt?”

“All the next day, in a kind of sleep-deprived ecstasy that was quickly turning into primal fear, I admired Sam in his capsule and tried, with the help of various nurses, to become a food source. I had been warned by Lamaze classes and pregnancy books that the worst thing I could possibly do in the hospital would be to let my baby sleep outside my room with the nurses. If I did, they would feed him with bottles. The baby, spoiled and greedy, wouldn’t bother to learn the more technically demanding art of breast-drinking and he’d be addicted to formula, then Kool-Aid, herbal tea, and no doubt heroin

ied my breasts with guarded skepticism. They would stand to the side and show me how to pinch my nipple and thrust it into Sam’s mouth. “Does it hurt?” I listened. I could not. “Is your milk letting down?” How would I know? Nothing had ever happened inside my breasts before. For thirty years, they had just sat there. “I don’t know,” I said. “Well, your milk may not have come in yet.”

This was an alarming detail. For the last 40 weeks I had been preparing for this baby—signing up with a diaper service, buying a crib, pre-washing his things, prepping for this baby — signing up with a diaper service, buying a crib, pre-washing his clothes, buying colostrum, a sort of maternal vitamin syrup. Colostrum was so concentrated that the baby couldn’t really chug-a-lug it, so probably things were going just fine. We’d watch Sam’s diaper and see. We’d watch for wetness and we’d watch for poo.

The situation made me consider my breasts with the eye of a used-car salesman. They were not large. They were not

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San Diego Reader May 11, 2006
I was not like comparing a koala bear, c’est moii! I needed to avoid zookeepers at all costs. In any case, Samuel was a very quiet little package. Why not just go home? Everything would be absolutely, completely fine.

I have a notebook on my shelf that contains phone numbers and interview notes. I was writing a weekly column when Sam was born, and the notes go right from questions about turtle gardens and the Lindy Hop to a fanatically detailed account of my time with Samuel from Thursday, May 7, to Wednesday, May 27.

Sam cried when he wasn’t nursing, and he nursed nearly all the time. I nursed him until my nipple felt, with each compression of his mouth, as if it were being pierced by a sewing machine needle. I stared out the second-story window of our house at the pink climbing roses. The spring was wet and cloudy that year, and the roses trembled in the wind. A pair of bluebirds had nested in a birdhouse I could see from the sofa where I sat hour after hour, nursing, and I watched the father bluebird carry insects to the chicks and then come out again with their droppings in his mouth. Well, at least I don’t have to do that, I thought.

I took Sam to the pediatrician for his one-week checkup, and he was found to be losing, not gaining weight. “The thing is,” he said, “not all women can nurse. Babies can be fed in other ways. You’re probably going to have to supplement.”

Le koala bear, c’est moii! I held tightly to Samuel and considered the word “supplement.”

The doctor meant formula, and it’s hard to convey the distaste with which natural-birth people view formula.

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Since 1976
For nine months I’d heard that formula is the junk food of the infant world and the loathsome tool of corporate greed, sold to Third World women who have no choice but to mix it with filthy water. Cans of Similac, like cigarette packages, contain a small government message: “Breast milk is recommended.”

I had also read about thelegions of sadly misled women who give up on nursing because of perfectly fixable problems like the failure to latch on properly. Maybe this was a perfectly fixable problem.

So like any sane, flat-chested koala bear, I asked the doctor if he knew a lactation consultant in town, and he made a phone call that probably went something like this: “Hi, Lottie. This is Dr. S. I’m sending over a new mother in a few minutes.” I imagined him lowering his voice. “A little worked up, yes. Remember Glenn Close in *Fatal Attraction*?”

Lottie, whose name I have changed here, was also a children’s dentist, and she did breast feeding consultations in the back room of a building that smelled like mint and high-speed drills. She had a motherly air and, underneath her dentist’s smock, breasts much larger than mine. (I suppose only Hugh Hefner is more focused on this part of the anatomy than I now was.)

Once Lottie had me seated in the lactation room, she smiled, admired Sam, and asked me how many times a day Sam soiled his diapers. I said that sometimes not even once a day. Again, I was quizzed: Did I feel my milk let down? Did Sam seem to be swallowing? Did I hear liquid going down his throat? He did not. I did not.

Lottie hesitated. She had become a lactation consultant because breastfeeding was wonderful for her and because she had been surprised to learn, after her own success, that some women had trouble with it. She wanted to help those women. But in my case, the doctor was right. I had to supplement. It was like a priest telling a supplicant she was going to have to fasten with the devil.

I didn’t remember everything in the right order after that, due to excessive, non-Chinese-peasant-style weeping, but I know that I rented a breast pump. Lottie told me to nurse Samudd and then to give him an ounce or two of formula from a tiny medicine dropper (not from a bottle, because he might learn to prefer the silicone nipple to my own) and then pump my breasts to stimulate further milk production. If he didn’t wake up every two hours at night, I needed to strip him, tickle his feet, apply a wet washcloth to his head and rouse him because he needed to keep eating. He needed...
A man came once a week in a Tidy Didy Babyland Diaper Service truck and picked up a sack of soiled diapers.

and after I nursed him, I weighed him again. Sometimes he weighed two ounces more after nursing. Two ounces is half of a newborn's milk bottle, half of what bottle-makers call a "serv." On one giddy occasion, I wrote: "lots of swallowing and some actual slurping."

A few days later, when Sam still wasn't producing the desired number of soiled diapers or gaining the desired weight, I rented an electric baby scale from Lottie so that I could measure the ounces Sam imbibed naturally. It worked like this: before I nursed Samuel, I weighed him, and after I nursed him, I weighed him again.

I'd never heard of this as a biological diagnosis. That self-assessment had come to me many times in the dressing rooms of lingerie stores and swimsuit departments, but not while I was reading breastfeeding tracts. I suddenly wondered if that was why I had needed fertility pills even to conceive a child. All by myself, without the makers of Clomiphene and Similac, I was incapable of rearing live young. I wasn't really a mammal after all.

I hung up the phone.

I held Sam in my arms and he latched on. It didn't hurt anymore, perhaps because of the lanolin. A chemist somewhere, or maybe a desperate shepherd, had discovered that pure lanolin — the oil found in wool — would heal a cracked nipple without harming the baby. I considered giving up the nursing as I nursed. Unfortunately, Sam was happy in only two situations: while nursing, or while in constant motion, as I carried him through streets, stores, fields, and parks. He didn't like pacifiers or bottles or anything except the authentic article, and in this we were the same. When he nursed, I felt like a real mother, like the incarnation of the most sacred idea we have.

For the next three months of Sam's life, I bought formula and mixed it and heated it and offered it to him after the nursing sessions. Often, he cried when I tried to give him the bottle, perhaps because he was full, perhaps because he was sleepy. Once, I was so tired and frustrated, so afraid that he was going to starve, that I threw the rejected bottle across the room. Bottles are made of plastic now, so not much happened. To give my husband his due, he did the bottle-feedings whenever he could.

At four months, Sam refused the bottle so many feedings in a row that I decided to risk it. I decided to go...
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breasts-only. It was the trial of the mammary tissue.

I watched him day by day, hour by hour. He still wet his diapers about the same, but not more. At Sam’s checkup a nurse told me that it was okay that he only soiled his diapers once or twice a week (instead of ten times per day). “That’s within the range of normal,” she said. “The outer range, but still.”

I wondered where she had been in the early weeks, when it seemed that if my baby didn’t poop enough he was going to die. Anyway, we went bottle-free. I felt as if I had overcome an addiction to heroin. We were on the wagon, by God, and we were doing it the natural way.

Many people are probably wondering, as my own mother did, why I felt so strongly about this. Probably it was egotism: the unwillingness to believe that some part of me was insufficient. It was also an ingrained aversion to plastic. A man named Eliud came once a week in a Tidy Didy Babyland Diaper Service truck and picked up a sack of soiled diapers and dropped off a stack of snowy white clean ones, one hundred percent cotton. I felt better about those diapers, too.

* * *

When I was expecting Sam, I had believed everything I was told about how much newborns slept and how easy it was to feed them. I did not believe this anymore. My husband and I had a name for babies who were Not Like Sam. Usually they were female, but sometimes they were male. They were Sitcom Babies, named after the ones who are held briefly by television characters and then set down in playpens so that the characters can do other things. These babies do not cry when attention is turned away from them.

Sam prompted two diametrically opposed responses from people. If I was out shopping for groceries or walking along the beach with Sam strapped to my chest, his face forward and his legs kicking manically against my hips, he invariably smiled so hugely at the people we met that they said, “What a happy baby!”

If I were in a closed-in space, like my house or the doctor’s office, Sam cried, and people — including child-care workers, nurses, and parents of five or more children — would say, “What’s wrong with him?” I didn’t know.

Other mothers seemed to live in harmony with their babies. Their babies slept, ate, or observed the world on their mother’s schedules, graceful appendages who needed a lot of time and care but who when given this time and care enjoyed their existence.

Sam did not enjoy...
What’s wrong with so that more people tried to arrange our day and we nursed and we people do. We walked enjoy a Pat Mat. baby who could not and overly analytical. Of controlling, melancholy, more, I was stubborn, beginning. Further-

him work so hard in the tissue, which had made the lack of mammary was my fault. There was Nature or nurture, it made him this way. I believed that I had he didn’t cry much. I back of a box of cereal, potatoes or study the unmistakable shape of a little boy. I was thrilled and I

plams, no anxious tests. As before, the doctor did an ultrasound. As before, he saw the unmistakable shape of a little boy. I was thrilled and I was very, very afraid. I thought of that Sylvia Plath poem in which she says she’s a riddle in nine syllables, that she’s boarded the train you can’t get off. Plath, of course, lost her mind.

While I was trying to be more thrilled than afraid, we hit another snag with Sam. Always too small to be above the tenth percentile on the charts, always smaller than you would expect the child of a 5’10” woman and a 6’1” man to be, he was still adorably, alarmingly small. He still ate too little, even though he was now eating solid foods. The doctor called it “failure to thrive,” a diagnosis more common for listless babies and toddlers.

The doctor, who had five grown children, two of them boys, watched Sam tear around the examining room, opening every cupboard, tugging at me and the rolling chair and the toys, and he shook his head. “It’s strange,” he said. “He could take this place apart.”

But everything else was worrisome. Why didn’t he grow more? The doctor ordered tests.

First we eliminated cystic fibrosis. Then we did an X-ray of his hand to see if he had something called primordial dwarfism.

Fortunately, he was not a primordial dwarf. He was just little, and he was picky. I grew rounder, and we waited for the baby, whom we called Hank. Sam began to say words. When people saw us out together, they invariably said, “You’re going to have your hands full.”

As the due date approached, the doctor told me, somewhat strongly, that I should really go ahead and wean Sam before the baby was born. I was only nursing Sam at bed and nap time, but I was so worried that Hank

would have Sam’s feeding troubles that I was essentially calling the breastmilkman. I was not going to have empty mammaries when the next baby showed up.

Nervously, a month before the due date, I weaned Sam.

* * *

Hank was born on St. Patrick’s Day, the holiday of green beer. It is also, for me, a privately religious holiday. It is the day of green beer. It is Patrick’s Day, the holy day of the Miracle of the Breast Milk, the day when I ceased to be a defective mammal, the day the only person in the world who could have set Sam and me free arrived.

It was like that dream we all have of rewinding the tape and doing it over. I was in the same hospital room in the same season of the year. I was wearing a gown, and I had a newborn baby boy. But this time I knew what I was doing, what to listen for, and how to proceed. Milk was needed, and milk was there. When people weighed Baby Hank, they did not look concerned and afraid. They looked nonchalant. He wet. He soiled. He nursed. He slept. We went home to watch the father bluebird carry poo out of the nest.

For the first two months, Hank showed signs of the kind of fussing that had once driven me to wish, while driving a speeding car on Highway 76, that I could drive straight into a pylon and hear no more crying, ever again. But either because I stopped eating ice cream, cheese, milk, and yogurt or because of some mysterious process that will never be known, Hank stopped fussing and became content.

This was the saving of us all. I no longer believed that I was the cause of everything my children did or felt. Sam was a boy, Hank was a boy. We had made them both, and yet they were not alike. If we had produced a girl, we would have thought that was the difference — that girls really were easier than boys. Had we produced only Hank, we would have consciously or unconsciously taken credit for his sunny, placid self. But I knew that I had not made Hank that way.

So perhaps I had not made Sam so passionate either, so demanding, so pensive, so bookish and sweet, so completely unwilling, at the age of three, to move the Fisher-Price people in and out of the barn. Although the nurturing could certainly be laid at my feet, his nature simply is. That he lived, and remained mine, is also a miracle. I think of that sometimes when I see him running through the house with an imitation gun, screaming, or hurling a baseball, or grinning at strangers, his legs as thin as Christopher Robin’s. We escaped the Darwinian fate of the unfit and walk the earth as grateful mammals, no longer failing to thrive.

— Laura McNeal
Mental Illness

STRANGE AND AMAZING

Not long ago, I worked as a courtesy clerk at my local grocery store. A day did not pass when a mentally ill person would come in and encounter demeaning looks from customers. Customers would get out of the checkout line they were in just to avoid the mentally ill. They would skip an aisle to avoid saying, “excuse me.” Whenever I bagged a mentally ill person’s groceries, they did act differently than “normal” people: they would always say “thank you” and offer compliments and try to start a friendly conversation. The “normal” customers were rude and judgmental.

The National Association on Mental Illnesses describes mental illnesses as “biologically based brain disorders.” In the United States, up to 15 million people currently suffer from a mental illness. Anyone is susceptible, even you or me. If I become mentally ill, I wouldn’t hope for an immediate cure; I’d hope that people would treat me with the respect I deserve because I would be different. I would be different, just like everybody else.

Heard all about him during water-polo season. He was the funniest kid on the team, always upbeat and always smiling. According to his teammates and coaches, he provided the most motivation for his water-polo team, even though he struggled twice as hard as his teammates. Having Down Syndrome didn’t faze him, but only seemed twice as hard as his teammates. Having Down Syndrome didn’t faze him, but only seemed twice as hard as his teammates. Having Down Syndrome didn’t faze him, but only seemed twice as hard as his teammates.

After I volunteered to write an article about him for my school paper I found out how amazing he is. I learned through interviews how much he loved playing water polo and being a part of the team. He has more love for the sport than many of the top high school water-polo players. While most sports players dread hell week, he looked forward to it. The morning of the first hell-week practice, he came down early, already dressed and smiling. His mom grinned back and reminded him that his practice was still five hours away. Every time I interviewed someone about him, talked to him, or watched his water-polo games, I was more inspired. I wasn’t the only one; fans saw how hard he worked during the games. When the coach sub’ed someone in for him, the crowd cheered and gave him a standing ovation.

He has a likable personality one can learn from. His quiet optimism makes him someone people can’t help but like. He plays from the heart and never gives up. Most of all, he is himself. He doesn’t care what other people think of him: with all the judging that high school students do, it is a relief to meet someone like him.

My first experience with a mentally ill person occurred at the age of seven. My family and I were attending a wedding reception when we came across a man named Ross. He adored me and I adored him. My parents took a picture of me sitting on his lap, and his smile suggested...
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pure joy. His love for anyone that would accept him taught me to try to attain that same kind of love. Attending church has provided me with numerous opportunities to interact with mentally ill people. Every time I go to church, I walk up to a teenage girl in a wheelchair who flails her open arms in hope for a hug. Julie suffers from a disorder that affects her physically and mentally. One day I visited her at her house and we decided to color. She consistently dropped the crayons, and when I attempted to help her retrieve them, she refused my help. She maintained her patience and worked hard to grab the thin crayons. She eventually picked them up and put them on the table. She smiled. She displayed more patience and persistence than I could ever imagine myself using.

I once dated a guy from church, Brant, who has a mentally ill brother named Jake. The times I visited Brant at his house, I would always see Jake watching Disney movies and clapping his hands. I loved giving him a hug and talking to him about the movie. Brant mentioned to me that I was the only girl who would talk to his little brother. This surprised me...he was a loving boy. Mentally ill people have the capability to love, care, and teach in a manner that’s different and sometimes more meaningful than the majority of people in this world.

— Alexis Sebring, Carlsbad H.S.

I have encountered several people with mental illnesses in recent years. There is a student at my high school who is autistic. He would always say hi to me and knew me by name. For the longest time I felt like the biggest jerk because I could never remember his name. He always had something positive to say, a compliment or a question. He always cared about what I was up to or how this or that was going; he made an effort to be my friend. I have learned that he has amazing musical talent. He has perfect pitch identification and plays the piano well. It is strange and amazing that some are given great talents and some form of mental handicap.

Another autistic boy I know is one of the sweetest people I have ever met. He loves war history (current interest: World War II) and collects war-movie DVDs. I was privileged enough to spend a day with him, and we went to the park. He played on the equipment, laughing and even playing imaginary war. He is an innocent and free-spirited child, also with musical talent. According to his parents, he pulled out an electric piano from the closet and started to play “Joy to the World.” His parents came to see what the noise was. When they asked him where he’d learned to play the piano, he said, “I taught myself.”

— Derrick Sun, Mt. Carmel H.S.
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I’ve lived a long time in Southern California. The autumn Santa Ana still surprises me. I wake up. My sinuses ache. Sparks arc between my fingertips and the bathroom doorknob. Crows loiter in my neighbor’s persimmon tree, inky silhouettes against the blue sky. Termites swarm and discard wings on my windowsills. My skin itches. My mouth is always dry. The basil in the garden goes to seed and withers.

“If you can run for 30 minutes, you can run for an hour. If you can run for an hour, you can run for 90 minutes.” A friend gave me this advice the fall I returned to San Diego after my marriage ended. My friend had run marathons. I started to run at night because it gave me something to do. “Drink lots of water. Keep yourself hydrated. That’s the important thing.”

It was an unusually hot and dry autumn. I was in a one-bedroom apartment with no furniture, a computer, many unpacked boxes. I bought myself a pair of running shoes. I ran and ran in the dry night air until my lungs ached and my mouth tasted of copper. I came home. I drank tap water from plastic jugs I kept in my white refrigerator.

I ran on the sidewalk until my shins ached and my friend said I needed to run on a forgiving surface. I joined a 24-hour gym. I started going late at night when I could occupy a treadmill for as long as I wanted. I lugged chilled water with me.

I’d go to the gym after midnight. I bribed an attendant with a $20 bill to show me how to override a treadmill’s 60-minute limit. I wanted to run for two hours, undisturbed, without the machine beeping at me or stopping. The room of 15 treadmills faced a bank of six televisions tuned to the same channel. Many nights I was alone. I stared at the televisions. I listened to my breathing. After seven and a half miles, my sweaty tank top grew dry and stiff with salt. I could think only about water. Thirst eclipsed other preoccupations. The trick was to keep running, to sustain my parched isolation for as long as possible. Run ten miles, I told myself, and you can drink all the water you want. Water so cold it burns.

One night at the gym, I noticed a young woman. She was panting on a treadmill on the other side of the room. She was pretty. Blonde. In her early 20s. Flat-chested. She wore a pale blue leotard. The skin across her chest was taut and tan; I could see her clavicle. The night she ran on a treadmill in front of me I saw she had a young boy’s ass. And there

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was a gap at the top of her thighs. My arms were larger than her thighs. As she ran her damp leotard revealed her ribs. One night before her run she knelt beside her treadmill and carefully spooned four tablespoons of Gatorade into a liter bottle of water. She saw me watching. She smiled. She ran fast, her legs a spidery blur. She’d sprint for ten minutes, hop off the treadmill, take a few sips of Gatorade-spiked water, hop back on. This went on for an hour. I told the night attendant, “The skinny blonde’s going to drop dead.” He shrugged, snapped his chewing gum. “See it all the time. We can’t order ‘em out of the gym until they faint from exhaustion.”

The night she fell I was watching the televisions. A cartoon bear chased a cartoon rabbit. With a weak little cry, the blonde dropped. Instead of surrendering to the treadmill’s momentum, let it slide her to the floor, she fought against it, scrambling on her hands and knees. Finally, she gave in. The treadmill pushed her to the floor where she lay, a damp heap. I went to her and knelt beside her, my hand on her shoulder. I could feel bone. I offered her water. “Don’t touch me!” she howled. “Don’t fucking touch me.”

She got up, limped from the room. Our empty treadmills spun crazily. On the televisions, the bear chased the rabbit. I tried to run a few more nights at the gym, but even my dry mouth, my longing for water, couldn’t make me forget the blonde. In my mind I kept seeing her fall. I saw her self-starvation as a parody of my self-imposed drought. The treadmill’s steady thrum no longer comforted me. I started to run just before sunset at the beach. I still do. There’s a fair number of us, middle-aged, sweating, making our solitary way up and down the coast. To one side of us, acres of dry sand. To the other side, the endless, undrinkable sea.

— Max Nash
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San Diego Reader May 11, 2006
Ever since Charlie Christian hot-wired a mike to his guitar box in the 1930s (or maybe Eddie Durham did it first) and Gene Krupa went nuts on a full drum kit (though maybe he should be let off the hook on this one, he has enough to answer for in every bad drum solo performed since 1927) — rehearsal space has been at a premium for amplified American music.

The ranks of available garages have thinned — though the suburbs may still offer them. Booming urban real estate with condos, lofts, office space, and parking have fed the need for virtual or cyber bands rather than the real thing. Still, the lofted gentry, the same yuppie dot-com moguls who are pricing out the scruffy and scrabbling rockers and jazzbos, are the first to whine around the Gaslamp, The music scene here sucks.

If you're a kid from North Park, El Cajon, East San Diego, or Clairemont, you've got your bass player and drummer and you can all pool some change from your jobs at Dominoes or Starbucks, you'll be dealing with either Senile Republican Realtors Inc. or Gucci-Frappacino Rentals for practice space. That's the way it is.

Here's the way it is in the heart of downtown San Diego (the center of the universe if you're from here) at a top, double-secret location beneath the very noses and feet, concrete, asphalt, cables, water pipes, and decrepit infrastructure of Our Town: down among the rats and the darkness, the frayed wiring and extension cords that feed the electric dreams of three-chord poets and the statistically doomed: still expensive.

A couple of reasons to be nonspecific about where, exactly, this place is: for one, there's a lot of expensive equipment down there. The kind of stuff that makes instruments real goddamned loud (loud enough to vibrate loaves of fresh-baked bread off of "the bakery center" above) and there is a brisk mug's trade in hot Marshalls, etc. Security is good, though. So good, potential thieves might as well just go audition for World's Stupidest Criminals before attempting a job. Of course, stupidity has never dissuaded any thieves I know. Another reason is that there is some question as to whether or not the landlord of this historical building has any idea of what's going on under the butts of the lawyers and corporate consultants to whom he is leasing his address. Entrepreneur and business manager of the rehearsal and recording studios Johnny ("just Johnny") says the owner is an older, wealthy gentleman and knows about it. Okay.

Exploring this underground terrain, I feel I should have a pith helmet and khaki shorts, a clipboard and tape measure. I will ask my assistant with the camera to capture moments with me and rock/toll renegades like Swan and the Fiction Engine. Get a shot of this: me like an anthropologist from the future, winding my way through Sheetrock corridors, avoiding rat traps, pointing to frayed, hanging cables, extension cords, and duct-taped leads from recording equipment to amplifiers to vintage guitars — mutants of 3/4-length necks, Gretsch monstrosities and hot lace Stratocaster pickups promising and delivering screams, inhuman moans, cat-in-heat-dream-growls, and punctuations to puberty-gone-wrong nightmares. I envision a photo taken of me in my pith helmet and shorts, grinning at the camera, with my tape measure around the skull of a San Diego rock musician.
Lost in the drywall maze of half-baked dreams or fully baked dreams in progress, looking to trace the sounds of sex and technology pulsing through the corridor from some nonspecific direction, I want to raise my fist and shout, Spinal Tapishly, “Hello, Cleveland! Rock and roll!” But after ten minutes of wandering the underground maze, completely lost, I can’t find my way to anything except the CIA-locked, super-secret-coded elevator, like you have to have high security clearance to enter and perceive Rock Limbo. Give me a break. Well, this shit costs money...okay! Swan is the loudest rock and roll band I have ever heard. I have heard the Who live many times, Hendrix, Blue Cheer, and high on the list is Keith Richards, well into his 50s with the X-Pensive Winos, drowning out openers and industry sperm Soul Asylum. Swan shuts ’em all down, no kidding, and it’s not just garbage. The bassist has mastered the effect of his Fender at high volume in an arcane way: an ariform John Entwistle, Roger Waters, the guy from Ten Years After, and in this century, Flea — though I hate to say it: I’d rather punch him than admit, as I’ve done, that he’s good.

I was invited in to Swan’s rehearsal space by (I guess) their manager/sometime drummer, Angel. Mostly their drummer is a cat named “the Matrix.” The very act of opening the door is to be gut-punched with the sound

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*OAC. See store for details.

Wife Wanted

NEW 2006
PFAFF HOBBY

In boxes, making room for new models. Pfaff, a well-known German company, has just released for sale to the public a limited number of new “Hobby” by Pfaff heavy-duty, 18-stitch function with 10 built-ins, free-arm zigzag sewing machines. Sews all fabric, Levi’s, canvas, nylon, stretch to silk.

EVEN SEWS ON LEATHER!
No attachments needed for any size buttonhole. Monograms, hems, sews on buttons, satin overcast, darts and more. Just set the dials for most functions. We trade-ins, terms or layaway now! Free lessons and 10-year warranty included. Incluye libro español de instrucción.

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of Ragnarok, Armageddon, the sounds of huge machinery mangled by robots (like in Terminator) being randomly destroyed in an explosion of glass, metal, and men by sonic weaponry. Two of the members—a very heavily tattooed youth (you can’t quite call him a singer, so he doesn’t either) who introduces himself only as “Robert Kain, Dragon Stylist” and the above-mentioned bassist, even more thoroughly tattooed, though it hardly seems possible, and bald—have extended, stretched earlobes. The entire effect is bizarre. The bassist looks exactly like that gay in the original Moby Dick, only instead of a harpoon, he is wielding a huge Fender bass. All social graces fled, I just looked at him, shook his hand, and said, “Holy shit, man! You look like a fuckin’ Maori harpoonist!” He actually said, “Thanks, man,” and smiled.

On keys is the “Preying Mantis,” and on that day they were auditioning for guitar. Tonight’s contestant was a shy-looking, kind of punked-out young lady who played the most amazing notes. With calm, decisive authority, on top of a rhythm section that sounded like a rabid rhino charging at trash cans full of household appliances (like blenders) and broken glass and bullets, she would find a sustaining discord from God knows where on any fretboard I’ve seen. And do it like Yehudi Menuhin or Heifitz with no doubt of the aptness, the perfection of that particular choice. I don’t think the auditionee made the cut, but it gave me pause for days as to what the criterion may have been.

After four songs in that room, I felt as deaf as the unholy offspring of Pete Townshend and Helen Keller. I stood, shook hands with “the Matrix” or “the Dragon Stylist,” or it might have been Angel. I shouted, “You guys are pure, undiluted evil!” Smiles and thanks. “I have to go now. I’m scared,” I said. This was attended with grins and bobbing heads. Great guys, really. Very understanding.

The other group I visited has a name I truly love: “the Fiction Engine.” Their names are Frankie Fiction, Albion Nathaniel, and “the Pig,” and you can hear them at新区.com/fictionengine. They have been together for over a year, or four years if you count the songwriting and incubation process. I was kept off-center, standing out in the street (a main drag downtown) while several members of TFE kept saying “cheers” to absolutely everything I would say. Back in my day, by crashes, that meant someone was buying you a drink—or at the very least offering congratulations. To these guys it expressed general agreement, a generic affirmative. These punks today picking up crap from Australians or Italians or wherever—it don’t sound American, I’m here to tell you that!

“It’s definitely an alternative style of dance rock,” says Frankie (or is it Albion?) in describing their stuff. He invites me in through the swinging stone portals that will moan open when the correct brick is pressed (third on the upper left, just above the gargoyle knocker), “People say we have the elements of the Rolling Stones, the Smiths, and the Cure—and a lot of Brit rock.” The band comes from as far as Chula Vista, Mission Hills, and University Heights. The songwriter/guitarist Frankie has wary black hair and nearly jaw-length sideburns. This effect is romantic; less rock ’n roll than Byronic.

Taking a torch through the dank stone corridors that lead to their chamber, being careful to step over the skeletal remains dumped at random angles, I mention the 19th-Century poet look. He seems pleased and tells me a huge influence on him is Keats.

“We’ll,” I say chuckling, “how about that ‘Ode on a Grecian Urn,’ eh? I mean, ya got no complaints there.”

He looked at me a little oddly but nodded, “Cheers. A literary man, eh?” I chuckle again. “Aw, Hell, I could tell you stories.”

At the end of a winding staircase, we come to the chamber. It is the Fiction Engine’s work space and the home of Stingaree Records (619-234-5298).

Has your doctor told you:

You have fibroids of the uterus?

Fibroids are benign tumors of the uterus and are found in 30% of women in this country. They cause pelvic pain and pressure, as well as excessive bleeding. They are the most common cause of hysterectomy in the United States. A research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for the reduction in size and symptoms of uterine fibroids.

To possibly qualify:
• 18-50-year-old premenopausal females
• Have at least one fibroid tumor in your uterus
• Must have regular or steady periods
• Not on hormonal contraception

Participants will receive:
• Examination by a board-certified OB-GYN
• All study-related medication or placebo, lab studies, ultrasound, EKG, Pap smear
• Compensation for your time and travel

For more information, call: (619) 521-2841 Medical Center for Clinical Research

Research Studies

Schizophrenia
Bipolar Disorder
Major Depression

We may currently or in the future have inpatient and outpatient research studies involving investigational medications for the conditions listed above.

Qualified candidates will be reimbursed for time and transportation ($50 for each inpatient hospital day and up to $100 for each outpatient visit).

For more information, call: 858-566-8222
The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC
“CNRI, LLC”
recordings. What they’ve got is better than what was used on Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band. Owner Beau Hart and partner take up only about a fourth of the area in the room. The rest is all the Fiction Engine’s. Now you don’t invite yourself to someone’s rehearsal and then review them — only a cretin would do that. But I like FE’s music. Frankie has a neat sense of pop song construction that’s less and less easy to find outside of Fastball or the Bare-naked Ladies, and the bass player actually plays scales. Walking scales! Think Chas Chandler or Bill Wyman. And he knows what he’s doing. You just don’t hear rockers under 90 playing, at least not electric, this way and it’s great stuff.

Listening to them, I was mentally rubbing my hands together thinking: I should produce these guys! I could guarantee them huge industry success in a couple of weeks if they just do everything I say!

Down the hall is Modesto. Four guys who are not hard to listen to. 'Leavin’ Modesto I forgot my dobro It was sittin’ with a six-pack by the door… Santa Monica rises up in my windshield And the ocean, baby’s, so wide It won’t yield… to no horizon line' They also sent me liner notes for their new CD, The History of Driveways. Here’s part of it: “Tex and Sam had written some great and simple songs in the sand and learnt ’em before the hot low winds could blow ’em away. They premiered as the duet, Thumbhaddy, with soulful abandon, a biggish voice, and an unwieldy Rich hol-lowbody, in a San Diego peck-hole called the Tiki House, to thanks and claps on their backs and smiles a mile wide. Shrugging, the accidents were happy ones…

“Al called it MODESTO and got a room with ’lectic-rity in town, under the street, where more’s been writ, and on…

Manager Johnny (from Jersey) is running a valu-able operation to the local scene, but even he admits it ain’t cheap. Maybe he could have a word with the mys-terious elderly gentleman who owns the place and ask him, “Excuse me, sir, but exactly how much more damned money do you need?”

— John Brizzolara

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Depressed? Sleeping Too Much? Not Enjoying Life?

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65 and have not responded to treatment for depression, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication.

To learn more, please call the Sharp Mesa Vista Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350.

Yes. Radiant Research is seeking healthy volunteers to participate in clinical research studies. To qualify you must:
- be a man or woman
- be age 18 to 50
- be a non-smoker
- be able to participate in overnight stay(s)

You may be compensated up to $3,200 for your time and travel.

Call Mon-Fri for more information

1.866.818.3253 (English)
1.866.977.8322 (Spanish)
9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200, San Diego, CA
www.radiantresearch.com
We believe we can help.

Well-known pharmaceutical companies are conducting important research studies for a limited number of qualified participants.

I fall asleep, but once I wake up, I am up!

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

- Restless sleep disturbs the normal rhythms of the body.
- When sleep difficulties become a regular problem it can affect your health.

If you have chronic problems returning to sleep after waking up in the middle of the night, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

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

Qualified participants:
- Will receive up to $700 for time and travel.
- Receive study-related medication and study-related medical care at no cost.
- No reports are made to your employers, schools, or insurance companies.

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.

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 receive up to $1105 for your time and travel.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Depression

steals more than your mood; it robs you of life's pleasures.

Are you over 18 years old and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty?

California Clinical Trials has been assisting the pharmaceutical industry with finding new medications for depression over the past 20 years.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
- You will receive up to $700 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Anxiety

doesn't just stress your mind.

We know it can...

- Decrease your immune response • Decrease your physical and mental functioning • 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.

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

Qualified participants:
- Will receive up to $450 for time and travel.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Creepy, Crawly, Nighttime Legs

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

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
- You may receive up to $350 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Is your hyperactive child not sleeping?

Experts believe that ADHD children sleep poorly due to their illness or medical treatments, and poor sleep can worsen ADHD symptoms.

If you have an ADHD child 6 to 17 years of age who complains of poor sleep or tiredness, they may qualify for a sleep research study of an investigational medication designed to help your child sleep.

Your child will stay on current ADHD treatment and receive an investigational medication designed to help your child sleep.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
- Both parent and child will be compensated for time and travel.
- All research medication and study-related medical care will be provided at no cost.

858-571-1188
Toll-free 800-571-1188
www.cctstudy.com

San Diego • Los Angeles • Glendale • Anaheim

Finding Answers Together – Since 1982
When Mark E. Quark Takes Over the Turntables

at the Flame on Monday nights, the outside world gets lost between the beats. Quark, house DJ during a venue club called G-Force, steps into the booth around 10 p.m., carrying his only instruments: two crates of records. He’ll work the discs between three turntables, blending and overlapping the sounds with a small mixer. Standing to Quark’s left, a guy bounces up and down to the beat, flipping horizontally mounted light switches that toggle strobes and multicolored lights. Quark rarely bothers to look out of the DJ booth at the dancers, purposely avoiding contact — for fear they might break his focus on the electronic pulses he’s laying down.

Quark has a hard time describing the music that he plays. The best description he can find is “somewhere between house music and disco.”

“There are so many [styles] that I wouldn’t be able to tell you what it is,” Quark says. “For the moment, what I like in my music is a good beat, a really funky-ass beat. I like my beats to be funky and have a big, strong bass line. I once asked a friend what kind of music I played, and he said, ‘You play house music, but it’s got sprinkles on top.’ It’s really like drugged-out disco.

“When I go on I never try to hit people hard in the face with powerful music. Basically, I’ll have a few songs in mind that I really want to play. I’ll use all my other records to build up to those songs. So those will be different peaks in my set.”

In addition to his weekly stint at the Flame, Quark also spins vinyl three or four times a month at underground parties; occasionally he is flown to other cities to deejay. Performing in the 2–6 a.m. slot, Quark has made a name for himself as a “sunrise DJ.”

“I kind of got that through the first Narnia party, which I think was the summer of ’92,” he says. “I guess I played a really good set at dawn. From there, everybody wanted me to spin in the morning, which has been great, because for me, that’s the best time to spin. At the same time, I always want to spin at peak hours, but there’s not too much I can do about that. At that Narnia party, if I had played earlier in the morning, I would have played the same stuff. If I’m playing a lot earlier in the night, I
ATTENTION DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER
With Difficulty Sleeping

ADHD

Has your child or adolescent previously been diagnosed for ADHD and having difficulty sleeping at night?

PCSD-Feighner Research, under the direction of Michael McManus, M.D., is conducting a 12-week clinical research study to evaluate an investigational medication which may be administered along with your child/adolescent's current ADHD treatment. This is an investigational medication for children. If your child/adolescent is 6 to 17 years of age and has difficulty sleeping at night, he/she may be eligible to participate in this study.

If your child qualifies to participate, study-related assessments will be conducted by our research staff. Investigational medication may be provided at no cost. There will be a screening office visit, two sleep studies, and approximately eight office visits. Compensation is provided for time and travel.

For more information please call:

PCSD-Feighner Research
1-877-FOR-INFO
(367-4636)

---

do you suffer from Schizophrenia?

Do you hear voices or see things that other people don’t?

Do you feel that people are following you, talking about you, or are out to get you?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study.
Compensation of up to $2000.

CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION: 760-806-9200

EXCELL RESEARCH
BOARD-CERTIFIED PSYCHIATRISTS PROVIDING EXCELLENT PATIENT CARE AND QUALITY RESEARCH
3998 Vista Way, Suite 110, Oceanside, CA 92056
DO YOU HAVE DEPRESSION THAT KEEPS RETURNING?

Do you know someone who has depression that keeps returning?

If you or someone you know experiences recurring episodes of sadness, sleep disturbance, low energy, feelings of worthlessness, emptiness or guilt...

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study for an investigational medication for Major Depressive Disorder. You must be between the ages of 18-64. You will receive study medication or placebo, study-related care, and diagnostic exams at no cost.

For more information and a prescreening evaluation, please call:

PCSD ~ Feighner Research
1-877-FOR-INFO (367-4636)

Attention Alcohol Drinkers:

Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop new treatments for alcoholism. Volunteers are needed to participate in clinical research testing different drugs: both drinkers who want to stop, as well as drinkers who are not trying to stop. Qualified participants will be paid.

For more information and to find out if you qualify for any of these studies, please call 858-784-7867 or 858-784-7325, or visit www.pearsoncenter.org for more detailed information.

Research Study on DEPRESSION

Do you suffer from these symptoms?
• Difficulty concentrating/remembering
• Difficulty sleeping/eating
• Fatigue/loss of interest
• Persistent sadness/hopelessness

The UCSD Psychopharmacology Research Initiatives, Center of Excellence, is conducting research study on major depression. The research study involves the use of an investigational drug compared to placebo. 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. Participants will be compensated for their time and travel.

For more information and to find out how you can participate, call: 1-866-UC PRICE (1-866-827-7423)

BACK PAIN?

Do you have back pain that makes it difficult to walk or move freely?

Each year more than 700,000 women and men suffer from vertebral compression fractures that are often caused by osteoporosis. The pain can make it difficult to walk or move freely.

Doctors are studying a new treatment for vertebral compression fractures that may help to reduce pain and restore mobility. To find out more about this important study, ask your doctor or call the number below.

CORE ORTHOPAEDIC MEDICAL CENTER
(760) 943-6700, x162
332 Santa Fe Dr., Suite 110, Encinitas
Visit our website at: www.coreorthopaedic.com

CORE Orthopaedic Medical Center
Scirps Memorial Hospital Encinitas
Do you or someone you care for suffer from DEPRESSION?

Common symptoms include:
- Sadness and/or irritability
- Loss of pleasure or interest in usual activities
- Changes in sleep patterns, appetite, and energy levels

Optimum Health Services is conducting a clinical research study in depression. If you are between the ages of 18-65 and are experiencing symptoms of depression you may be eligible to participate. Eligible participants will receive:
- All study-related procedures, including psychiatric assessments, physical examinations, laboratory tests, monitoring and ongoing evaluations, and experimental study drug at no cost.
- Compensation for time and travel may be available.

For more information about this clinical research study, please call: 888-290-9255

Optimum Health Services

Tired of Heavy Periods???
...But don’t want hormones!!!

A 12-month research study is underway to evaluate a non-hormonal investigational oral medication for women with heavy periods. If your periods leave you embarrassed by how much you bleed, and you want an alternative to hormones, this study may interest you.

Participants Must Be:
1. Healthy females, 18-49 years of age, with regular cycles every 21-35 days for the past 6 months
2. Have a normal pelvic exam (fibroids are OK) and Pap smear
3. Not presently taking or are willing to stop birth control pills 2 months prior to study entrance

Participants Receive At No Cost Study-Related:
1. Examination and consultation by a board-certified OB-GYN
2. Medications
3. Laboratory tests, pelvic ultrasound, Pap smears and EKG
4. Compensation for time and travel

Interested? Please call:
The Medical Center for Clinical Research
(619) 521-2841

Are You Post-menopausal and Concerned About Osteoporosis?

If you are:
• 40 to 64 years of age
• have not had a period for at least 6 months
• have not had a hysterectomy

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study to explore an investigational medication to treat the symptoms of menopause and prevent osteoporosis.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
• study-related tests and investigational medication
• study-related physical and gynecological exams
• mammograms
• bone density scans, if eligible

Compensation for time and travel is available for qualified participants.

Call Mon-Fri for more information
1.800.949.8518
9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200, San Diego, CA
www.radiantresearch.com

ADHD?
Does Your Child Have Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder?

Pacific Sleep Medicine is evaluating an investigational medication for Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder with associated Insomnia.

To be eligible, the participant must:
- Be 6 through 17 years of age (inclusive)
- Have a history of insomnia
- Have a parent/legal guardian willing and able to comply with study procedures and restrictions

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

For more information, call (toll-free):
877-927-5337
Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

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(619) 521-2841
It was a night that didn’t do too well, so I went up and asked the DJ. I had a pretty good-sized record collection, and I just wanted to play it to a bunch of people. He said, ‘Sure, come on in.’ The next thing I knew, I was the in-house DJ. At the time, I was spinning a mixture of styles between acid house, industrial, and disco.

They ran clubs usually on Friday or Saturday. Through the two years I was there for one night or the other, bands were downstairs and I was upstairs. I was the only DJ, so I was deejaying five, six hours by myself, which I enjoyed.

After so long at his SOMA stint, Quark itched to do other things. He was living with friends in a warehouse on Tenth Avenue between G Street and Market. Looking for a way to cover their rent one month, they came up with the idea of throwing a party to raise the money. They dubbed the party, “Where’s the House?” Quark would DJ and his roommates would take care of sound, lighting, and decorating.

“For the party, I changed my name to Mr. E. Quark, because I didn’t want Len [Paul, owner of SOMA] to know that was me. So that’s where the Mr. E. came from. It was kind of a joke, and the Quark, that was for several reasons. Quark is a computer program on Macintosh. So I stuck with that."

Quark started performing more frequently. “But Len found out. Len wanted his artists to be kind of exclusive, so to speak. I could understand it if I was doing something on the same night, or maybe even the night before, but it could be a Wednesday night thing and he would say, ‘If people are seeing you somewhere on a Wednesday night, we’re gonna have less people come here to see you on a Saturday.’ He’s a businessman. I could understand his point of view, so what I did was change my name. My name back then was Joy 23, which was kind of like a DJ hook that had stuck. I changed my name to Mr. E. Quark. This was at the time of the birth of the so-called rave scene, back in ’90 or ’91. It’s probably one of the best things I’ve done.

“Every cop is different. There have been cooperative police who come in and see what’s going on, and they’re, like, ‘These kids are having fun, they’re not bothering anybody.'"
BIPOLAR DEPRESSION

Do you...
➢ Feel sad or anxious
➢ Have feelings of hopelessness
➢ Feel tired, lack energy or are unmotivated
➢ Have difficulty concentrating or making decisions
➢ Feel restless or irritable
➢ No longer have interest in once pleasurable activities

If you are experiencing some of these, you may be eligible for a research study.

Some qualifications are:
➢ Aged 18-65 years
➢ Non substance/alcohol dependent
➢ Using reliable contraceptive
➢ Not pregnant or lactating
➢ Non diabetic

For more information, please contact:
Synergy Clinical Research
1-888-619-7272

If you or your child has ASTHMA, this study may interest you.

An adult with asthma, or a parent with an asthmatic child, knows how trying it can be to keep track of the inhaler and remember the daily treatments. Delayed or missed dosings can be a common occurrence. As a result, researchers believe new asthma treatments must be explored.

Today, local doctors are evaluating an investigational medication that could someday help treat persistent asthma that is difficult to control.

To learn more about this local study, please contact:
The Research Center at AAMG
619-229-2355

To qualify for participation in this study, you must:
➢ Be 18-64 years of age
➢ Have had trouble falling and staying asleep for more than 3 months

Study participation includes, at no charge:
➢ Study visits with a medical professional
➢ Investigational study drug
➢ Study procedures and tests

Qualified participants could receive compensation for incidental costs and travel.

For more information, call (toll-free):
877-927-5337
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BIPOLAR DISORDER
DEPRESSION
SCHIZOPHRENIA

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

For more information, please call the Clinical Research Department at (858) 694-8350.
Do you have trouble falling asleep?

A research study is being conducted to evaluate an approved medication in an investigational use in the treatment of insomnia.

If you have been diagnosed with chronic insomnia and experience difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep, you qualify for participation in this study.

Qualified participants will receive study drug and study-related physician visits at no cost and could be compensated up to $1,200 for time and travel.

If you would like more information or think you may be eligible for this study, please contact the physician’s office below.

For more information, call:

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
877-927-5337

If you have been diagnosed with chronic insomnia and experience difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep, you qualify for participation in this 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.

Call
Synergy Research
1-888-619-7272

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.

Call
Synergy Research
1-888-619-7272

Heartburn? Acid Reflux?

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

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

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

Patient compensation for time and travel.

For more information please call:

Medical Associates Research Group
(858) 277-7177

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Social Anxiety Disorder?

- Do You Fear Meeting New People?
- Do You Fear Social Events?
- Are You Worried About Being at the Center of Attention?
- Are You Worried About Being Around People?

Affiliated Research Institute is evaluating an investigational medication for Social Anxiety Disorder. Affiliated Research Institute has 25 years of experience in managing clinical studies. To qualify for this research study, you need to be at least 18 years of age. If you qualify, you will receive study-related medical care at no cost. You may be compensated for time and travel as well.

For more information about how the study works, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

DEPRESSION STUDY

Signs and symptoms:
- Feeling down and depressed?
- Lost interest in your normal activities?
- Lost your appetite?
- Having difficulty sleeping?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Depression. Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Depression. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Depression at no cost to you.

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Are you sad due to Bipolar Disorder?

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

To qualify, you must:
- be at least 18 years old
- have been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder
- be experiencing symptoms of depression

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams
- Study medication

For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

ANXIETY STUDY

Signs and Symptoms:
- Feeling anxious?
- Feeling restless, irritable, or tense?
- Having difficulty sleeping?
- Having difficulty concentrating?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Anxiety.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Anxiety. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Anxiety at no cost to you.

For more information regarding this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

BIPOLAR DISORDER and ALCOHOLISM STUDY

Signs and Symptoms:
- Do you have mood swings or difficulty concentrating?
- Feeling trapped in either a manic “up” episode or a depressive “down” episode?
- Do you find yourself drinking to cope with your mood swings?
- If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Bipolar Disorder (also known as Manic Depression) and Alcoholism.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Bipolar Disorder and Alcoholism. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an experimental medication for the treatment of Bipolar Disorder at no cost to you. If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 21 and 60, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

HIGH Blood Pressure Study

Acceptance is participating in a worldwide research study for patients with high blood pressure (hypertension). The purpose of this study is to compare two currently marketed medications to a sugar pill (placebo) in an investigational setting for reducing your blood pressure.

If you are 18 years or older and have been told by your doctor that you have high blood pressure, you may qualify for this study. Your participation in this study will last 13 weeks. As part of your study participation you will receive at no cost to you:
- Study visits
- Study medication
- ECG
- Laboratory work for the study

After your initial visits, study participants will be seen approximately every 2 weeks.

If you are interested in finding out more about this research study, or if you know someone such as a family member or friend who might be interested in this study, please contact the person listed below.

Accelovance
Dr. William Shapiro
619.291.2845

Are you worried about being at the center of attention?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Social Anxiety Disorder.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Social Anxiety Disorder. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an investigational drug for the treatment of Social Anxiety Disorder at no cost to you.

For more information about how the study works, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have high cholesterol?

If so, you may be qualified to participate in a 22-week study, in which participants must:
- be at least 18 years old
- discontinue any current cholesterol medication
- follow a diet recommended by the American Heart Association
- be willing to have blood tests taken and safely monitored at each study visit

If you are interested, please contact the physician listed below for additional information.

Dr. William Shapiro
619.291.2845

All studies are conducted in accordance with an approved protocol, clinical study conduct guidelines, regulations and ethical principles. Participant confidentiality is strictly adhered to, and all participation is strictly voluntary.
in Encinitas, with two crates of records, each one weighing about 60 pounds. Maybe 200 people are hanging out in the back yard drinking, while a handful dance to a DJ in the rear garage. The party isn’t the type where Quark would normally perform, he protests. “It wasn’t anything that was related to the underground scene, other than the fact that there was a DJ in the garage,” he says later. At 1 a.m., Quark is still waiting to go on. Four Encinitas sheriffs arrive to shut the party down, due to noise complaints from neighbors.

The warehouse location for the after-hours club is located somewhere between Kettner Boulevard and Pacific Highway, near the railroad tracks. Quark doesn’t find out until after he arrives there that this party also has been shut down; the warehouse lacks proper emergency exits. The only thing happening downtown after-hours that night is at a house one block away on Cedar Street that is pumping out disco tunes. Quark heads back home for three hours of sleep before his 10:30 a.m. flight to Albuquerque.

We catch up after his return. “It was a pretty phenomenal experience. I spun at a club in downtown Albuquerque. I can honestly say he’s the best DJ I’ve ever heard,” Quark says.

The heavy schedule did take its toll. “I had a total of five hours’ sleep over the weekend. It’s not very fun. I got kind of moody; I didn’t want to talk to anybody. I just wanted to go home. My crates [of records] are really heavy. If I’m staying in a hotel room, I gotta wake up, jump in the shower, haul my crates down, call a cab, and jump on a plane.

“I had a lot of bad experiences happen. [In Albuquerque] I and this other party were waiting for cabs. Since we were both going to the airport, we decided to split the fare. The cab driver said, ‘No, you both got to pay separate fees.’ I was already late and almost missed my plane. I couldn’t argue with him. When I got into San Diego and took a cab, the driver wouldn’t help me with my stuff. He said, ‘No, no, I might hurt my back.’ Okay, fine. Then I told him I usually carry these things by myself. I had two crates. So he takes me home, drops me off, and he’s touching my crate. I told him, ‘If you want to help, you can.’ He said, ‘No,’ then I told him that usually cab drivers help me out a little bit if they want a tip. He went into this whole thing about, ‘It’s not my job to help you with your bags. I’m just here to drive a cab, and I’m a minority and this is the only job I can get.’ Look, I don’t care. If you don’t want to help me, I won’t tip you. I don’t want to hear about your life story!’ He starts in, ‘It’s people like you…’ Oh, God.”

— Larry Harmon

Looking for a positive approach to manage your depression?
UCSD researchers are conducting a 12 week study to learn more effective ways to manage depression.

The PACE PRO study includes:
• Lexapro, an antidepressant medicine
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• A mood management skills guide
• Weekly phone support from a Family Nurse Practitioner
• Compensation for time and travel

For More Information please contact:
Catherine Pearson-Bennett, FNP, Study Coordinator
Phone: (858) 457-7282
Website: www.pacepro.org

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We are seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medicine under investigation for the treatment of depression due to bipolar disorder.

TO QUALIFY:
- You must be at least 18 years old
- You must have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder
- You must be experiencing symptoms of depression

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:
- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams
- Study medication

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL:
Optimum Health Services
Toll-free at 866-346-0798

Do you find yourself nodding off during the day?

A research study for an investigational medication for insomnia is taking place. You may qualify for this study:

If you are over 18 years of age
-AND-
If you experience difficulty staying asleep and difficulty during the day due to sleepiness.

If you qualify for this study, you will receive investigational medication or placebo and study-related physical exam at no charge.

Please call Optimum Health Services at 866-217-9207

Gambling Addiction?

Compulsive Gambling?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study for people experiencing problems with gambling if you:
- Are preoccupied with gambling, or
- Can’t control your gambling, or
- Have risked relationships or jobs due to your gambling

Patients will receive a study-related comprehensive mental health evaluation and medication at no cost.

Qualified volunteers will be compensated for their time and travel.

For more information or to see if you qualify, please contact OPTIMUM HEALTH SERVICES toll-free at: 866-735-0412

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

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

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

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

Some symptoms of schizophrenia include:
- Delusions, or having false beliefs that others don’t share
- Hallucinations, or seeing or hearing things that others don’t see or hear
- Paranoia, or unnecessary mistrust or suspicion

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

To find out more information and to see if you qualify please contact Optimum Health Services at:
866-217-9206

ARE YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

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Sometimes I forget just how long ago that was — the Challenger space shuttle explosion stands as an ominous marker in memory, a national tragedy illuminating the end of a personal catastrophe. Since putting down the bottle, I’ve been free to pursue a journey of the spirit — following a path of regeneration that would not have appeared had I not drunk self-destructively. I was spared through grace. The irony: I am grateful to be an alcoholic. Because in the past four and one-half years, I have finally discovered that which I’ve always been longing for. In tenuous glimpses, in sudden moments of clarity, I’ve experienced that undeniable place in my heart where reason and belief intersect: the crucible of faith.

In her latest nonfiction book, Practicalities — an amalgam of candid reminiscence and imagination — the French novelist Marguerite Duras reflects on the subject of alcohol. She offers details about her fight to quit drinking; she speculates on the deadening power of the drug itself. Unashamedly, she declares: “I became an alcoholic as soon as I started to drink.”
I have heard this statement uttered time and time again by recovering alcoholics. It is true for me also. Twenty-three years ago, just barely a teenager, I had my first taste of beer from an unguarded keg; a generic family picnic at El Monte Park became a swirling and ecstatic adventure. The walls of one world fell away, and I entered another brighter, warmer, more joyful place. I was transformed. One drink led to another, and — as they also say, time and time again — one beer was too many and a dozen were not enough.

Earlier this year, scientists claimed to have discovered the alcoholic gene. As Richard Wright explains in a recent New Republic article, these scientists “looked at cells taken from 70 dead people, half alcoholics, and found that the alcoholics were markedly more likely to have the gene than nonalcoholics.” Wonderful. Science can warn of a predisposition to a life-threatening disease. The myth of willpower crumbles (“You just have a drinking problem; buck up and take a deep breath, and fight it!”). In recovery I have been relieved of the obsession to drink. This obsession was removed, quite honestly, by a power greater than me. Genetic restructuring or biological forewarning had nothing to do with it. I am convinced this most recent transformation in my life came about through nothing short of grace.

When I was in the Army (led into service, no doubt, by an internal alcoholic compulsive, soldiers’ whining or even genuine calls for help were rebuffed with this chilling phrase: “Sounds like a personal problem.”) The implied slap in the face was, plainly, “I don’t want to hear about it; keep it to yourself.” Alcoholism is certainly that — very personal — but the social conditions in this country that nurture any genetic warp for self-destruction seem to touch us all, alcoholic and nonalcoholic alike.

For instance, addicts are caught up with the need to control. For decades, I attempted to control every aspect of my life — and I failed. Time and time again. Each failure drew me to the bottle for longer and deeper drafts. Question: Is this control problem also genetic? Is it possible to isolate the control gene? Or did my environment make a contribution? A further for instance: Quite rapidly, in very recent memory, American troops and aircraft and warships were deployed to the Persian Gulf, to Saudi Arabia, in response to Saddam Hussein’s Kuwaiti anschluss. Baghdad was out of control. Baghdad committed the despicable crime of replacing an unfavorable government with one more to its liking, Baghdad had to be controlled. Don’t mention a similar undertakings in our own hemisphere some months ago; don’t recall American combat troops murdering Panamanian civilians; don’t remember the papal embassy in Panama besieged by teenage warriors in camouflage, blasting David Bowie jams throughout the night in an attempt to wear down another out-of-control dictator, Manuel Noriega. This is not to suggest the butcher of Baghdad is not a despicable tyrant; it is to suggest that our options might have been broader and not limited to preparation for war.

What could all this be leading up to: alcoholism, militarism, addiction, and the spirit? Sounds like a personal problem. A backhanded response: This country’s war on drugs is a joke. The question I wish I could answer: Why does America need such a massive quantity of drugs to begin with? A footnote closer to home: Why has San Diego County become the methamphetamine capital of the world? Apparently, our country has become a black hole of illicit need, sucking in cocaine through every orifice, by the unholy ton, bending and tweaking the laws of gravity, of supply and demand. Add plenty of other domestic drugs to keep things interesting, to maintain the buzz, to fuel the violence and the self-destruction. Something is rotten in River City. Intelligent answers seem unavailable or are
The human heart never ceases to amaze me—all those intersecting sections of motivation and confusion; emotion and logic; fear and domination. A novelist, if he does anything, serves as cartographer of this thorny region. In my capacity as mapmaker, following my best instincts as novelist, I journeyed recently to a wild isle—an Assembly of God church on a balmy Sunday evening—to witness a crusading fundamentalist lecture on Satanism.

The house was fairly packed with all manner of good bedrock Christians. The church was new and clean; the stage, referred to as an altar, was functional—devoid of icons and art. A muted neon cross graced the back wall, in front of which stood a large choir and a small band of musicians (drums, piano, trumpet, tambourine). An enthusiastic young pastor led the congregation in an upbeat singing along the lyrics praised Jesus, while the music felt as cheery as the Tonight Show theme.

Between choruses this pastor paused to address the flock directly. Attired in a three-piece gray suit, all the while handling his microphone and long cord skillfully, the pastor tolled of bringing the evening’s guests of honor to the church a few hours earlier. “I picked him up at the hotel,” he said brightly, “and the desk clerk told me he couldn’t wait to get off work so he could relax and top off his evening with a couple of beers.” The implication was clear: the desk clerk was another lost soul. The pastor smiled broadly and shouted, “But we don’t have to worry about that. After tonight, we won’t go to bed with a hangover. Praise Jesus!”

Drinkers don’t go to bed with a hangover. No matter. Another implication presented itself, perhaps unbecknownst to both pastor and audience: that topping the evening off with alcohol, cer-
San Diego Reader

The anti-Satanist crusader would speak in a moment, but first his warm-up act would appear, a soloist — a gentle-looking young man, also in a three-piece suit, his skin pale and his hair combed in a modified pompadour. His uniform placed him from somewhere in the South — Mississippi, Texas, perhaps Louisiana — in marked contrast to the primarily casual dress of his audience. A pre-recorded tape kicked in; slick upbeat music flowed through the loudspeakers; the soloist sang with feeling and skill — forcing close scrutiny, to determine if he was actually singing or merely mouthing the words.

The combination of song, movement, and projected images was cleanly presented yet undeniably theatrical and not a little manipulative. However, there was nothing devious or condescending about the display; rather, the slickness of the staging seemed perfect, in context, like the opening moments of a televangelism program on cable TV, and something the rock would consider quite appropriate — tastefully contem- plate, yet rooted in the deep traditions of fundamentalist appeal.

The most compelling aspect, however, was the fact that this warm-up for the ensuing anti-Satanist passion play took place on a relatively barren stage; candles and podiums and ornate religious iconography were replaced by a multimedia arrangement of songs, smiles, and succor, which in itself appeared as nothing short of ritual — the liturgy of the Hard Sell.

Everything I knew and felt about addiction and control — the dynamic of fear, followed by control, leading to inevitable failure, followed by more fear and further attempts at control — struck me at that moment with the same force that seemed to galvanize those around me into a flurry of excited hand-clapping and hosannas. I squirmed at the completion of my dental procedures.

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While we tossed down brew after brew, gliding through the salt marshes just south of Mexicali — silently daunted by the lunar crags and precipices — we were unable to maintain — you’re a wimp, a weasel, a fag, a suspicious tan- gle of malformed sexuality. This distorted doctrine of manhood ensured a relentless self-destructive dynamic of the disease seems to be self-flagellation before self-expres- sion. In my case, a prison fear was created, within which I suffered in solitary confine- ment, despite any public face I might be hiding behind, despite any momentary excursions into bragadocio and boasting.

Onward we rode in my friend’s manly truck, cutting through desolate, inhuman stretches of sand and butte and mesa, my soul as brittle as any of the twisted green cactus surrounding us, their skins withered and scabbed from the ravages of rodent teeth.

As reserved and shy as much as they could without losing control, I’m a stud. If you can’t keep up with me, if you get sick — if you can’t maintain — you’re a wimp, a weasel, a fag, a suspicious tan- gle of malformed sexuality.
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HEALTH AND BEAUTY

A succession of about a dozen beachfront campgrounds lies outside San Felipe proper. Unseen from the highway, each camp — to include one called El Paraiso (Paradise); every place in Mexico catering to tourists seems to have an El Paraiso — is introduced by huge billboards boasting of facilities and pleasures. We found ours and hastily set up a temporary home, which entailed nothing more than staking out a plot of sand surrounded by RVs and trucks by tossing down a pile of sleeping bags and rucksacks. This is ours; don’t sleep here. Then we lurched into town to find a suitable bar. Not a restaurant, despite the fact that we hadn’t eaten anything at all the entire day. But a bar. And I wouldn’t see that camp or my friend again for over 24 hours.

What follows is blurred and sad, in memory. An alcoholic wages a fierce battle while confined in his self-made prison of fear. Each drink represents the possibility of extinguishing that continual terrified feeling that the alcoholic many times accepts as natural and necessary. He knows no other way to live. Yet something inside, some tentative glimmer of hope — the germ of faith and deliverance — fuels the battle. The irony is grotesque. While drinking, the alcoholic cannot win. He fights and thrashes and suffers terribly, crushed within a vise driven by a deadly force: that which was once a will to live — in the absent freshness of his youth — now is transformed, following years of relentless drinking, into a bruising, implored violence. He is overwhelmed by corrupted emotions, compounded by a crushing need for release. Yet at this stage, his attempts toward freedom are nothing less than devastating. Liquor is seen as a liberating agent; in reality, it hastens his demise.

In the bar — a crowded disco at the end of San Felipe’s main drag, not far from a fleet of grounded fishing boats awaiting repairs or the next high tide — we elbowed our way inside, ordered more drinks, and began our search. Cross-purposes confounded our efforts. On the one hand, we were men on the hunt, in competition; on the other, the hunt masked a more genuine need for love. Plain and simple.

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4 Free Microdermabrasions

Skin Treatments

Brazilian Wax
whomever you were crushed against, repeating yourself, raising your voice, watching shoulders shrug and mouths harden into smiles. Thick. Deafening. Clumsy. A young local boy threaded his way through the crowd, pausing when he found another sucker, another mark. From his neck hung a leather strap that supported a heavy black box decorated with dials and switches. He held out two thin chrome cylinders. His game: Inside the box was a strong battery; an electrical charge flowed into the chrome wands; a rheostat atop the box regulated the intensity of the charge. Studly gringos would pair off, mano a mano, each one grasping an electrified metal tube while the boy cranked up the juice. The first guy to drop his wand was a wimp, a weasel, a fag.

As drunk as I was that evening, I was still standing, despite having consumed beer at a near-nonstop pace since sunup. My twisted alcoholic thinking, fed by pernicious cultural myths, accepted this unlimited capacity for booze — the hollow-leg syndrome — as a badge of manhood. Now, today, in light of having made the decision to get sober, I find this former condition of mine quite absurd and somewhat comic — but only because I survived. And the fact that I survived — the reality of having lived through dozens of San Felipes and Tijuanas and Mazatlans and Ensenadas — allows me to say with conviction, especially when I pass a slumbering drunk on the street or read about a hit-and-run murder or watch friends still suffering, “There but for grace go I.” Which genetic marker determined that I would drink furiously for 13 years yet be spared from an early death, an asylum, a prison term?

My cells spasmng from alcohol overload, I lost my friend in the disco. Stumbling (I assume), I slipped outside, intent on finding a more suitable drinking establishment — something quieter, cozier, more Mexican. Ah, yes. In my wayward quest, guided (I know) by a yearning for society, for intimacy, I waddled from bar to bar, from slumber to saloon, swilling my way (what a man!) to a tiny deserted dive — El Perro Negro (The Black Dog). The hound of heaven. Surprisingly, memory at this point is quite clear: a Mexican couple cuddled in a booth in the back; the center of the joint was a bare concrete slab; the bar was ringed by empty stools. I sauntered up and ordered yet another beer. End of recollection, Black-out. What happened after that is anybody’s guess.

The following day, I woke up flat on my belly, hugging a pile of dirt at three in the afternoon. Never in my life had I felt that sick; raising my head was impossible; the throb was murderous. Paralyzed, I peed from side to side and discovered myself lying in a dumping ground just off the business district. Amazingly, my wallet was still inside my back pocket. I was encircled by little mounds of dirt; wisps of white toilet paper fluttered in the stale breeze atop each one. The rusted hulk of an old refrigerator lay close by, under a crooked tree. Across an empty field rose small hills, near the road into town, topped by a ramshackle crucifix. More than anything, I wanted to be dead.

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I managed to scrape myself together. Wandering around town, searching for the way back to the beach camp, I walked in circles, feeling invisible — hoping I was invisible. When sickness became hunger, I stopped for greasy tacos from a street vendor; a crew of tourists exited a souvenir shop; the kids pointed and stared at my matted hair, my haggard expression. I felt suddenly ostracized and cast out — an exaggerated icon of the alcoholic’s worst fear. Too afraid to ask for help (the alcoholic’s second worst fear), I retraced my steps three or four times before stumbling onto the road north. Past remote homes, I trooped along, rehearsing possible excuses for my friend. Scrappy guard dogs (more hounds!) raced to meet me, yapping in chorus from a safe distance; the bravest ones nipped at my boots, pursuing me tenaciously until I had drifted far enough away.

At the campground, my friend had already settled himself in and was drinking beers and telling jokes around a community bonfire. I told him this story: After leaving the disco, I found a great, homey bar, El Perro Negro, and there I met a wonderful Mexican couple. After a few rounds, they took me home, fed me, gave me a place to sleep, talked politics, fed me again, shook my hand, commiserated about this and that and everything in between, and invited me back some other time. I don’t know if he believed me or not, and I was too stupefied to care. One thing was certain: I wasn’t going to tell him the truth. The alcoholic’s credo.

I did accept another beer, and it wasn’t long before I was pounding them down. Again. And the night didn’t end before a trio of renegade bikers rolled up, loaded and disoriented. They descended, parked their hogs, and stumbled through the fire pit right toward me. Or so it seemed. The leader turned out to be a long-lost friend of mine from high school who had quit the Hell’s Angels to lead his own gang of motorized misfits. What a coincidence. (Chesterton called coincidences “spiritual puns”). What a sign. What an emphatic affirmation of my closeness to death. Needless to say, the party broke up shortly thereafter. And I kept drinking for another five years.

I tell this story without shame — perhaps against my...
better judgment — yet with no small amount of gratitude. Because the person who
endured that anguish, for all intents and purposes, is gone — a previous incarnation at best.
Thankfully, the memory remains. Therein lies the value — as a touchstone, an
emblem, a confirmation of grace. The story about the Mexican family — embody-
ing the alcoholic’s longing for succor, comfort, connection — was not a lie as much as it was
desperate need expressed as fantasy, a most crucial form of wish fulfillment. A cry for
liberation.

As I recall that experience with my friend, reliving our passage southward on a tide of cheap beer and Mexican promises — myself disabled by a double-stranded lash of fear and control — I’m dou-
bly struck by the memory of last week’s fundamentalist preacher, the anti-Satanist crus-
der. In the course of his lecture, he verily taunted his audience — calling into question their faith and the quality of their spiritual lives. He remarked, on the heels of a particularly graphic descrip-
tion of the circumstances of a teenage suicide: “Some of you are just playing church. And
Jesus knows which of you are sincere and which of you are not.”

In our shrinking world, we’re cursed with Great Satan and Evil Empires. Dubious rhetoric is too often taken seri-
ously by those who reject the bumper-sticker wisdom, “Question Authority.” Sadly, one man’s vision of the Fiend incar-
nate is another man’s vision of truth, justice, or democracy. Addicted to Oil, I Will Kill for Exxon.

The fundamentalist crusader, Jerry, begins his anti-evil presenta-
tion with a film. In the first few frames, he is depicted speaking with teenagers at a school rally. With G-man sever-
ity, he stands by, neutral and without pity, while these kids offer their worst stories: “I’ve tried to kill myself six times”; “My father gave me herpes.” The voiceover, a semi-friendly
authoritarian male, declares, “And Jerry brings an authen-
tic love to the children of America. At the end of every high school assembly, he plays a dramatic suicide tape. The students are asked to relive the last minutes of a disillu-
sioned young man tripping on LSD and recording a good-
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tive call-and-response dialogue or the indisputable premise of us-versus-them salvation, I could appreciate the workings of an elaborate and collective closed system—not unlike the perilous closed system of addiction.

Certainly I don’t seek to discredit this evangelist or his religion. In fact I admire his devotion, considering the falls some of his brethren have taken recently. What struck me first and foremost was this notion: As a recovering alcoholic, I often considered myself damaged or broken; I viewed my recovery as an attempt to mend and heal, and ultimately as an attempt to reconcile with my society, my culture, my Southern California version of America. However, I am beginning to see that this society, in many important ways, is just as damaged and broken as any addict. If this is true, what happens to the idea of reconciliation? How does one aspire to wholeness in a fractured world?

Today I attended an exhibit of powerful art—installations, drawings, sculpture—all of which represented five years in the healing process of the artist, an adult child of alcoholic parents. One participatory section of the exhibit included a large wooden cross resting on the floor, surrounded by a basket containing smaller flat wooden crosses, a pair of hammers, and a request: to write the name of a loved one who had died of alcoholism on one of the small crosses before nailing it to the large host cross. I did so, contributing the name of a grandfather who died more than ten years before I was born. The large wooden cross was covered over.

Microphone in hand, Jerry continues: “Satanists have a communication network as sophisticated as the FBI.… I compare the revelation of the widespread existence of Satanism to the disclosure nationally of the incest phenomenon 15 years ago.… In two weeks, I will be traveling to Germany to speak to the soldiers—because Satanism in Germany is at an all-time high.… By the way, we had 91 decisions for Christ this morning at College Avenue Baptist Church.… Next to the jambox was a letter that his mother gave me, addressed to the Prince of Heavy Metal, Ozzy Osbourne.… The Judas Priest album does not have backward masking only; it also...
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has audio subliminals, which, up until this time, have never been discussed on a national level…. When I begin talking specifically about the topic, I ask, unless it’s an emergency, for you to move as little as possible. We’ve found when you address the topic of Satanism, if anything can go wrong, it will go wrong. At one church, there were huge globes strung throughout the auditorium, and as I was giving this address, one of those globes fell and shattered all over the piano…. Just thought I’d warn you in advance. Look very carefully, very prayer-fully…. Make those checks payable to…. Sean’s babysitter was a covert Satanist…. He started sacrificing animals, he took up a preoccupation with the color black…. After killing a Circle K convenience store clerk…. He knelt before the altar in his bedroom, after he donned a black cape, under- wear, and hood…. I said, ’Son, how could you kill your par- ents?’ and he said, ’Because I loved them’…. Flip Wilson’s old comedy line now has a completely new meaning to it in 1990…."

Jerry’s book on the rise of Satanism in North America...
was available in the lobby (Visa accepted), with a foreword by Geraldo Rivera.

In the grip of ruthless denial, an alcoholic will refuse to accept the fact that he might have a “drinking problem,” even when he is lying face-down in a foreign refuse heap. His position is rigid; he is right and you are horribly wrong. As I left the church, slipping through the crowd that pooled around the table where Jerry signed autographs, I squirmed with discomfort. Again. As it has been said before, the spiritual life can be compared to walking a razor’s edge. But by design, so hard-line and absolute? That’s where I came from. That’s what kept me sick.

The irony: I have been given a new life, and in a fundamental way, I have been born again as well. I have seen too much death and half-death, and I have struggled to rise up from the grip of the nonliving. Certainly I have had help, not the least of it from hundreds of souls like me who have tasted a piece of Hell. We all know where it is and what it’s like — and now, amid grace, this new journey takes on an entirely different meaning. Life. Survival. And more. Serenity. Possibility. Strength. Re-creation.

As I write these words, I strive to celebrate, to ease free of shackles and restraints, to live a life of faith, to exercise that demon I call fear. These words, the act of stringing them together, is proof, is witness, is testimony. However trendy in the eyes of skeptics, recovery is possible, recovery is real. Re-creation.

* * *

Pen in hand, Marguerite Duras continues: “No other human being, no woman, no poem or music, book, or painting can replace alcohol in its power to give man the illusion of real

**HEALTH AND BEAUTY**

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of the writer as drinker seems to be a particularly American one: no such line of thinking prevailed among European or English writers, suggesting that on the subject of alcohol we are a nation apart.” When I teach literature to community college students, a frequent complaint arises after we study authors such as Poe or Hemingway or poets such as Richard Hugo, Hart Crane, or James Wright: “Are all writers drunks? Why do we have to study these crazy people anyway?” I’ve never come up with a suitable answer, something that would reaffirm my conviction and faith in literature and sustain this faith for my doubting students (I once had a student, a science major, possessed by a seething rage, who violently declared D.H. Lawrence’s prose to be no more worthy or stimulating than Karen Carpenter’s song lyrics; what was he afraid of?). Yet their questions and complaints presuppose a certain understanding about American society — that it is fundamentally okay and that these crazy writers are aberrant and dysfunctional. Bad genes, maybe. Never is this possibility entertained: that the society itself is flawed and that these artists were destroyed — sooner or later — largely through misguided or misapplied attempts at deliverance through creativity. I write, therefore I drink. Or for much of my life. I want to be a writer, therefore I will uncontrollably. Only the engine of fear

Strangely enough, the illusion of creation was so overwhelming that for years I was unable to ignore the fact that I was drinking - consuming more than was healthy for me. Whatever lies I told, no matter what was created when I was sober, I couldn’t escape the fact that I was addicted to alcohol. I'd been drinking for years, and I knew it was bad for me, but I couldn’t stop. It was like a drug, and I couldn’t imagine life without it.

In his book *The Thirsty Muse: Alcohol and the American Writer*, Tom Dardis writes, “In the 20th century, the idea of a successful or substantial writer being an alcoholic was widely held. Drunkards were accorded the same respect and reverence as other cultural heroes, from the enigmatic John Keats to the tempestuous T.S. Eliot.”

He continued, “In a society that was often hostile and suspicious of creativity, many writers turned to alcohol as a means of coping with the pressures of their profession. Alcohol provided a temporary escape from the doubts and anxieties that plagued them, allowing them to write with greater ease.”

But the reality was far more complex. Alcohol often impaired their ability to create, and it was a source of guilt and regret. Many of these writers struggled with addiction for their entire careers, and some never shook it.

In struggling to reconcile their love for writing with their reliance on alcohol, many writers grappled with the question of whether their addiction was a crutch or a weapon. Some believed that their creativity would suffer without alcohol, while others knew that their work was better when they were sober.

Karen Carpenter's song lyrics, "Don't Go Breaking My Heart," were a powerful reminder of the toll alcohol takes on the body. The song describes the pain and heartache of someone who has been broken by alcohol, and it serves as a cautionary tale for those who struggle with addiction.

Yet the allure of alcohol remains strong for many writers. They are drawn to the idea of using it as a tool to enhance their work, even as they know it is destroying their lives. The struggle between creativity and addiction is a constant battle, and it is one that many writers must face alone.
drives a man to such excesses. Now that much of this fear is dissolving, I’m able to look around me and see how deeply this same fear surges through others — individuals and institutions. I’ve worked in colleges where administrative policy is partially based on fear of the lawsuit. Measures are taken to implement curriculum plans that will head off possible (feared!) student-initiated litigation. Certainly these districts are obsessed with the bottom line at the expense of the student mind — with the fear of the lawsuit. Measures are taken to implement curricula: Where administrative policy is partially based on fear of the lawsuit. Measures are taken to implement curriculum plans that will head off possible (feared!) student-initiated litigation. Certainly these districts are obsessed with the bottom line at the expense of the student mind — with the fear of the lawsuit. Measures are taken to implement curricula: Where administrative policy is partially based on fear of the lawsuit.

In my role as teacher, I have for years considered the primary saving grace to be my students. My first obligation has been to them, and I focus my efforts on providing education. Simple. What else should off possible (feared!) student-initiated litigation. Certainly these districts are obsessed with the bottom line at the expense of the student mind — with the fear of the lawsuit. Measures are taken to implement curricula: Where administrative policy is partially based on fear of the lawsuit.

The upside: This class represents an opportunity for students to use their imaginations, to cultivate a respect for the power of language, to explore the possibilities that words can trigger. In my midst of an otherwise fill-in-the-blank and multiple-choice academic world, where the Scan-'n-ron sheet and the almost empty grade become the bale and end-all of instruction. I also have noticed the tracks of many teachers leading into your cave. None, however, lead back out. I teach creative writing, and the more of these particular classes I teach, the more I feel like a squirrel or a rabbit.

The downside: Years of being restricted and controlled and psychically bludgeoned in public schools have taken their toll on many students by the time they reach community college. How often have I begun a new class, trusting the Socratic Method, only to discover that my students have collectively trained me to answer my own questions by the end of the second week? Why? Because they are afraid. So in my little oasis of creativity, upon assigning a wide-open writing exercise — something challenging, something demanding thought and imagination — with unfortunate frequency I hear this student refrain: “This is too hard. I...”
never had an assignment like this before. I can't do it.” The implied whine: there are no blanks to fill in, no multiple guesses to make. Quashing is Job One. I Will Bite the Hand that Feeds Me.

In the face of such difficulties, I sometimes revert to the tools of the trade — falling prey to the unforgiving system that crackles and slithers all around the classroom — and issue commands to my students who sit trapped within constrictive plastic chairs. It goes something like this: “You will write 16,000 words this semester or you will not pass this class.… Plan on keeping a journal more sophisticated than the FBI.… I compare the revelatory powers of creative writing to the widespread need for validation that has plagued us for years.… By the way, I had 23 students pass this course last semester.… You will write relentlessly, all the while striving to discover who you are, even if you have to make it up.… Words are that strong.… Work, work, work.… All papers must be typed, and late work is not accepted.… Creative writing is not easy, your instructor is not a magician, you will suffer and strain if you're doing it right.… When I begin talking specifically about creative writing, I ask unless it's an emergency for you to move as little as possible. Once, when discussing the fine points of plot, this podium exploded, sending splinters flying, and not one student blinked!… Read this story by Hemingway, the Prince of Modernism, and analyze it for the presence of symbolic subliminals, which up until this time have never been discussed on a national...
level…. After two unexcused absences you will be dropped…. Just thought I’d warn you in advance…. Because I love you…."

My novel on the torments of repression in America is available in the campus bookstore (checks okay), with a forward momentum that’ll singe your synapses.

I explain to them once in a while, as I take roll with meticulous regularity, something that must sound like this: “Creative writing would be different if you were taking this class with the absolute desire of a drowning man gasping for breath. It would be more fun. It would be important. You would learn and you would discover. But no one really wants this to happen. Instead, there are three units at stake here, which fake prece- dence above all else. We are responsible to strict state guide- lines. Even though the center will not hold, we must do this, and we must do that. Grades must be both means and ends.

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**HEALTH AND BEAUTY**

San Diego Reader May 11, 2006

Don’t be late. Don’t. Don’t. And you will be creative.”

This I hate. And I strain for answers, for causes, for reasons and rhymes. This sys- tem is cunning, baffling, and powerful. Solutions are not forthcoming. The case grows darker, and I lose sight of my role, my purpose — as the susurrous torch of literacy flickers grimly. Those who cannot do, teach. Quisling Is Job One. I Will Not Write for the Sake of Writing.

The critical idea, then, is this: Once the alcohol is gone, how is “real creation” realized? More critically: How is “real creation” engendered in a class- room, in line with the current educational system, without resorting to control? And above and beyond yet oh so all-important: How do recovery and grace figure into this equa- tion? Truly, this is the story of my life, as yet unfinished. Now, to spell it out more clearly and tip my hand completely: If my experience and observations, however personal and unique, are nonetheless universal in the sense that, shall we say, my classroom is a microcosm of societal dysfunction in gen- eral, I want to know, how do we lose this grip of fear and control? As any recovering soul...
soon discovers, to change the world before changing one’s self is folly. The answer must be in there someplace.

* * *

In the beginning, we are told, there was the Word. And the Word, they go on to say, was God. Creation. Creative writing. Re-creation. In a dozen different ways, I remind my students that writing — if it is creative — is essentially an act of discovery. One does not know, completely, what one is going to write about until one sits down to write. We use language to uncover what it is we truly want to say. In the West, we’ve been conditioned to think of creation as producing something brand new. But I prefer the Eastern way of looking at creation. Great thinkers and philosophers in India, for example, have likened the process to uncovering a primal path in a jungle as opposed to hacking out an entirely new course. In this sense, creation becomes rediscovery. Recovery, then, for me, is rediscovering who I really am. That is “real creation.” The act of writing amounts to nothing less than a search for our ancient path, using words to chop through tangles of creepers and vines. How do you teach that in an English class? And, if indeed an entire nation stands in need of recovery, what then?

In The Thirsty Muse, Tom Dardis asks, “If alcoholism does have a genetic factor, why haven’t European writers been victimized to the same degree as the Americans?” (In a dis-satisfied review of The Thirsty Muse in the London Times Literary Supplement, Jay McNerney adds an interesting corollary: “Meanwhile, how come British rock and rollers, including notorious substance abusers such as Keith Richards and Eric Clapton, have such admirable longevity compared to American counterparts such as Hendrix, Joplin, and Jim Morrison?”) Writing in The Atlantic Monthly, Stanton Peele attacks the genetic theory of alcoholism and concludes: Addictive drinking is one of a range of dependen-
ties that people may acquire in attempting artificially to regulate their sense of themselves and their world. Some people become compulsively enmeshed in destructive drinking as they pursue sensations that they are progressively less able to attain through any other means. And yet we cannot take the power and the seeming inevitability of this self-destructiveness for proof that it is written in the genes.

For an American writer, particularly a recovering alcoholic American writer, creative life revolves around the notion of regulation versus recovery. The drinker plays a wicked game of managing, combating, and drowning his feelings in the name of regulating his life. This is control at its meanest. And yet we can’t take the power and the seeming inevitability of this self-destruction for proof that it is not written in the genes.

As Hendrix, Joplin, and Jim Morrison?** (“Writing in The Thirsty Muse, Tom Dardis asks, “If alcoholism does have a genetic factor, why haven’t European writers been victimized to the same degree as the Americans?” In a dis-satisfied review of The Thirsty Muse in the London Times Literary Supplement, Jay McNerney adds an interesting corollary: “Meanwhile, how come British rock and rollers, including notorious substance abusers such as Keith Richards and Eric Clapton, have such admirable longevity compared to American counterparts such as Hendrix, Joplin, and Jim Morrison?”) Writing in The Atlantic Monthly, Stanton Peele attacks the genetic theory of alcoholism and concludes: Addictive drinking is one of a range of dependen-
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Duras again: “Drunkenness doesn’t create anything, it doesn’t enter into the words, it dims and slackens the mind instead of stimulating it.” This is reality. The drinker, however, possesses another version, and in the grasp of alcohol, he truly feels, as Dardis explains, that “drinking can” open the windows of the soul; true vision is achieved only when the mind has been liberated by liquor.”

However, at this moment, my recovery cannot be separated from my creative life, which cannot be separated from the divine. As I look over the history of my struggle with alcoholism, first and foremost I acknowledge the existence of a higher power, which for too long I shut out and rejected and which all the while — despite my protests and denials — was always there. Another irony: in the most accelerated and violent period of my drinking, when I hampered down liquor at a furious pace, momentarily condemned to slaking an unquenchable thirst, I was even then yearning for something spiritual. In a letter to a recovering alcoholic, Dr. Carl Jung succinctly brought this situation into focus: “You see, ‘alcohol’ in Latin is spiritus, and you use the same word for the highest religious experience as well as the most degrading poison. The helpful formula therefore is: spiritus contra spiritum.” In other words, there’s a big difference between wine and the divine.

Outside my window, I hear a Navy man speaking with one of the neighbors, an elderly woman. The wind blows holes in their dialogue, but I do know they’re talking about Iraq, and I do know the Navy man is shipping out for the Middle East within the week. He says, “They’re fanatics.” The old woman nods her head and responds; her words are unclear. But the sailor’s comeback is distinct: “In that case, we’ll just have to kill ‘em all.” I smell big, bad American trouble up ahead. I see thousands of bodies strewn across foreign refuse heaps. I’ll Write for Light.

— Hank Larson

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- Viva Wellness Medical Groups: Botox $50, Contour Thread $300
- Wellness & Longevity: $50 off initial consult
- West Coast Eyecare: $100 off any product or service
- Dr. Travis Westermeyer: Podiatrist $50 off first procedure
- Work’s Acupuncture: 10% off acupuncture
- World Spa: 3 spa treatments $149

RETAIL
- Blue Guitar: 20% off new stringed instrument
- Blue Mezinn Records: Free CD
- The Bouncing Baud: 10% off beads, stones
- Brilliant Reef: 10% off entire purchase
- Consonant Classics: $100 off purchase
- Enhancing Jewelry: Watch battery $33.99
- Green Heights Tea & Treasures: $75 off tea furniture
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- Brands: $200 Home Depot gift certificate
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- Soin Records: 25% off used records & CDs
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ELECTRONICS
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- Car Audio Heaven: Autocare damp car $169 installed
- Laptops Plus: Free computer diagnostic
- San Diego Auto Stereo Outlet: $20 off labor
- Sounder: Headrest monitors, DVD $299
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- A Royal Limousine: Free hour
- Advantage Limousine: Prom package, 6 hours $670
- Bing Box Storage, Inc.: One month free storage
- Blyde: $100 off hot tub rental
- Goldfish: $100 more
- Multi Media Arts: Free voiceover class
- NoMoneyDownExperts.com: Free credit report

EVERYTHING ELSE
- A18 & Air Adventures: Free flight video
- A Balloon Flight: $20 off hot-air balloon rides
- AA Ballons: $10 off balloon rides
- A+ Truck & Car Rentals: Rent a Harley $100/day
- Arthur Murray Dance Studio: Free private lesson
- Athletic Singles Association: Bonus 3 months of membership
- Atlas Tickets: Free delivery ($10 savings)
- Blue Sky Motorcycle Rentals: $30 off Harley rental
- Bridal Bazaar: $5 off admission
- Cathedra Terrace: $100 off retirement living
- The Comedy Store: 2 for 1 admission
- Gem Fair: $3 off admission
- Hornblower Cruises & Events: Free harbor cruise
- Kita Ceramics: $10 off lessons
- M.A.E: Learn guitar $75
- Miramar Speed Circuit: Free race
- Pacific Coast Skydiving: $125 tandem skydive
- San Diego Bridal Show: $50 off admission
- San Diego Harbor Excursion: $5 off cruise
- Skateworld: 2 for 1 Adults only
- Sky Zalina: $15 off aerobatic glider ride
- Skydive San Diego: $50 off wedding tandem skydive
- The Social Place: $50 off admission
- Spanish Learning Center: Free language book
- Theatre in Old Town: $50 tickets
- Tally Ho: 20% off lease party rentals
- Vertical Hold: 2 for 1 introductory lesson
- Voice Mail Depot: Free voice mail first month
known people who consider themselves a certain religion but don’t agree with all of the dogma their church teaches.

Respecting diversity and living in harmony does not mean only respecting people with whom you have similar beliefs. It may be harder to respect people who are different, but I believe it is well worth the effort. In this country other people’s beliefs (race or sexual orientation for that matter) have no bearing on my life. I assume that most people I meet are respectful and tolerant. In return, I treat people with respect and tolerance until their behavior tells me otherwise. I enjoy learning about other cultures and beliefs from individuals rather than from the media. Associating with people who have a different belief system is not only a practice in tolerance but a learning opportunity. The best way to practice tolerance is to associate with people who are different from yourself. Perhaps 9/11 would never have happened if we were all a little more tolerant of each other.

Denise Arneson
via e-mail

One Negative, Vacuous Statement

I thought Geoff Bouvier’s April 20 article (“Sax”) on saxmen Charles McPherson and Joe Marillo captured a good deal of the essence of the love affair players have with this wonderfully temperamental instrument. Few musicians have to deal with and develop through the vagaries of technique, equipment, and ultimately the expressive issues that sax players do. Mr. Bouvier’s well-written article communicated well in an interesting and informative manner the highs and lows that the journey presents. However, he makes one rather negative, vacuous statement that I feel the need to confront and address from an experiential point of view.

In the first place, as Mr. Bouvier states, the sax was originally designed to imitate the human voice, so how could it be an affront to its pedigree to play vocal lines? Many artists have covered vocal tunes beautifully and expressively.

Kirk Whalum coming to mind, for example.

Another point of interest is that Kenny G (for example) is the all-time best-selling instrumentalist for a reason — millions of people like to listen to his music, myself included! I think it is because all music has emotional associations — my way of putting it is that a song makes you feel like dancing, romancing, relaxing, reflecting.

On the Kenny G point, I can tell you after jamming with my world-class sax teacher for years and having a personal front-row understanding of what great sax playing really is all about that Kenny G is an absolutely incredible player, one of those whose teacher came to the defense of when Pat Metheny made his vicious, self-serving, and musically arrogant diatribe a few years ago in a jazz publication. By the way, my mentor is one of the most recognizable, sophisticated, and talented jazz musicians in the world. He has often told me that everyone’s music is an expression of themselves and should be respected as such.

I feel strongly that empathetic but negative statements such as Mr. Bouvier’s regarding “soft jazz” are based in the indisputable fact that most jazz players in general are not great commercial successes and their financial frustration spills out in these kinds of comments. The main reason for this limited commercial appeal is also indisputable — most people, myself included, do not really enjoy just listening to straight-ahead jazz for an extended period of time. Most people are not musically sophisticated enough to even understand what is being played and therefore can have no emotional association with it. This is typified by the fact that even the good part of an audience at a straight-ahead concert is usually other jazz musicians! I feel an analytical reason for this is that becoming an advanced musician involves so many thousands of hours of sheer repetitions that the more commercially desirable formats of music are simply not very technically challenging. However, I think that playing any song with personal, individual expression is always interesting.

Thanks for the many excellent articles in the Reader and for letting me express my point of view. I think much better now. I feel much better now. I feel much better now.

Mike Whisler

Encinitas

Like To Punch Retard

I’m calling in regard to a section printed in the April 20 issue that’s written by Ollie in “Bar Crawl” (“Den of Zombies,” Pop Music). I don’t know why you’d print anything written by this retard. It’s a total piece of crap, as far as I’m concerned. I’d like to meet the guy someday so I could punch him in his mouth.

Name Withheld

Great, But Who? Where? What?

I just read the story called “High Flyers” (March 16), about a trapeze school in San Diego — Escondido to be exact — and it was a wonderful article, but it didn’t have quite enough information. I did talk to David Ayers from the school, and I think it would be very nice if in the future you get your people to include the information it took me a while to accumulate, such as where they’re located and what their phone number is, so that people who are interested in these types of things can contact them.

Dennis Warren

Boulevard

San Diego Reader, May 11, 2006
History Now
Document Self, Neighbors with Downtown
High Tech

‘B’ringing a picture of your dog and saying, ‘This is my family dog,’ is not much of a story,” says San Diego Public Library representative Lynn Whitehouse. “But if you bring a picture of your family dog and then talk about the day you found him at the shelter, that would be different. We don’t want someone coming in and just bringing artifacts — they really need to tell a story.”

Through June 30 (on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays), the San Diego Public Library, with the help of Media Arts Center of San Diego, will conduct individual recording sessions of a participant’s account of a period or event in local history with the use of its new Digital Community Storytelling Station.

When the project began on April 3, Whitehouse explains, it took three to six hours to record and edit what would become the final five-minute-long video. “Now we have a template, and stories should take only an hour to record,” she says.

The first step on the template is to select a story setting: “Choose a local place you found him at the shelter, that would be different. We don’t want someone coming in and just bringing artifacts — they really need to tell a story.”

To add emotional and visual ambiance to their short videos, storytellers are asked to bring a “CD with music to help reinforce the mood and message” and any photographs that might help to illustrate their stories. Photographs are preferably digital and on a CD. Each person who records a story can take the final version home if he or she brings a blank CD or DVD on which to record it.

“The hardest thing for me was to have an awareness of myself as a speaker,” says Anna Daniels. “I am completely unconscious in my day-to-day life of my voice, and I was absolutely horrified at how my voice sounds.” Daniels told a story about a community garden that once existed in City Heights.

Daniels begins her story with a quote from an article written by Karen Kucher, a staff writer for the Union-Tribune, in 1995: “For five years a swath of land in the concrete-filled community of City Heights blossomed with tall stalks of corn, yellow mustard plants, and plum tomatoes. Blighted land cleared for a freeway bloomed into an oasis, a teeming 1.5 acre community garden where 120 families tended the soil and enjoyed bountiful harvests.”

As the slideshow plays, Daniels shares details of her experience volunteering in the garden with fellow community members who were originally from Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Mexico, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Philippines. “Woven through [the garden] is California,” she says. “The only language we all share is the green eloquence arising from the mute throat of a seed.”

Volunteers in the garden communicated to each other through their children, most of whom spoke English. “My involvement in the garden was the most meaningful thing I’ve ever done in my life. It lasted five years.” According to Daniels, five years is the average lifespan of most community gardens in the United States. “They exist until a higher use is found for the land, and in the U.S. it could be a parking lot or a freeway, but it always means concrete.”

The City Heights Community Garden generated $60,000 worth of food each year for local residents. In the end, it was paved over with the construction of Interstate 15. Stories will eventually be viewable on the Media Arts Center’s website. So far only three stories (a man’s account of growing up in Tierrasanta in the 1970s, a man in his thirties describing the recent founding of City Works Press, and Daniels’s recollection of the City Heights Garden) have been completed using the new station, which was implemented with the help of a $10,000 California State Library grant.

Daniels’s story begins with the inception of the City Heights Garden and ends with a description of its final harvest. After the last photo appears on the screen, depicting the stretch of freeway that replaced the garden, the speaker’s face is finally shown, and she says, “My name is Anna Grace Daniels, and this is how I remember it.” — Barbara

“Tell Your Community Story” at the San Diego Public Library’s Digital Storytelling Station
Now through June 30
Representatives on site Monday and Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (reservation required)
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BAJA

Two-Piano Concert by Faniat Tchiborova and Raúl Herrera, Thursday, May 11, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseos de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: $20, $30 U.S. 011-52-664-681-7084. (TIJUANA)

“Las Plegarias de mi Boca” signed and discussed by author Dée Pardo, Thursday, May 11, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseos de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. Free. (TIJUANA)

Babasonicos in concert, Thursday, May 11, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). $20 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

The Play Aventures performed Friday, May 12, 8 p.m., at Auditorio Municipal (on Boulevard Agua Caliente). Tickets $20-$50. 011-52-664-688-1080. (TIJUANA)

Randa el Recodo performs Friday, May 12, 8 p.m. ($25), and Saturday, May 13, 8 p.m. ($30), at Las Pulgas on Avenida Revolución. 011-52-664-685-994. (TIJUANA)

The Suicide Machines take stage Friday, May 12, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). $15 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

Outstanding Wines of Baja showcased during tour led by Baja Vino Tours, Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. $85 fee includes bus transportation from Old Town Transit Center to Guadalupe Valley, luncheon, shopping opportunities. Reservations: 619-227-8579. (GUADALUPE VALLEY)

Frank Delgado in Concert, Saturday, May 13, 9 p.m., at El Lugar del Nopal (Callejón 5 de Mayo) #1320. 011-52-664-683-1246. (TIJUANA)

Ginny Silva, Ricardo Ochoa and Rockin’ Devils (take stage on Saturday, May 13, 8 p.m., at Bicentenario de Río de Ruta (on Avenida Revolución) between 3rd and 4th). 011-52-664-607-5163. (TIJUANA)

“Rumarosa’s Round Rocks and Rock Art,” adventure to La Rumarosa, famous for granitic boulders and walls and Kumeyaay rock art, Saturday, May 13, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum. Tour and tasting at Tcete Brew-ery: $92 fee includes bus transpor-tation, activities, meal, snacks. Reservations: 619-215-0203. (LA MENTA)

X-Plots Freestyle Motocross, Saturday, May 13, 5 p.m., at Estadio Calmacha. Tickets: $5-$86 U.S. 011-52-664-681-0699. (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.-4 p.m. Cultural and artis-tic exhibits. Entrance fee is approxi-mately $2 (two-for-one en trance on Tuesdays).
Wildflowers of San Diego County’s highest mountains are in bloom this month. Take a walk along any trail above 4500 feet in the Laguna, Coyamaca, or Palomar Mountains and enjoy a palette of colors ranging from crimson red to indigo blue. Among the most common varieties are lupine (blue, occasionally yellow), wallflower (yellow), paintbrush (red), scarlet bugler (red), blue-tongue (blue-purple), checker (lavender), woolly blue curls (violet), forget-me-not (white), wild hyacinth (purple), and yarrow (yellow and white).

Land Bird Migration is in full swing in San Diego County, with warblers and flycatchers among those most commonly seen. Warblers crawl along tree limbs and branches to dine on their favorite insects, while flycatchers, as the name suggests, catch their meals on the wing. Riparian areas such as the San Diego River through Mission Gorge and Marian Bear Park in San Clemente Canyon are favored by both birds and birdwatchers.

The Full Moon rises dramatically from the east horizon on Friday, May 12, at 7:35 p.m., almost at the same moment the sun sets. The moon will spend the entire night arcing from east to west across the sky and will finally set over the ocean near dawn on Saturday. Only during full phase does the moon truly “rule the night.”

“Moonbeams and Moon Dreams,” enjoy Mother’s Day full moonrise overnight at Font’s Point hosted by Anza Borrego Institute, Saturday, May 13, 4 p.m. until Sunday, May 14, 10 a.m. Participants watch moonrise, take night hike, take night photos. $30. Reservations: 760-767-5416. (ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK)

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours offered on second Saturday of each month, including May 13. Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese Historical Museum (404 Third Avenue). $2. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. (SAN DIEGO)

Birding Export: Claude Edwards plans guided bird walk, Saturday, May 13. Join group at 9:30 a.m. in front of Cabrillo National Monument visitors’ center (1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive). Bring binoculars. $5 per vehicle. 619-575-5400. (POINT LOMA)

Cute Chicks on the Beach! Learn about Western snowy plovers and what you can do to help plover chicks on Silver Strand State Beach, Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m., at Tijuana River Estuary visitors’ center (301 Caspian Way). Bring binoculars. Free. 619-575-3613. (SAN DIEGO)

Tend California Native Plants, remove invasive interlopers, pick up litter with Friends of Famosa Slough around treatment ponds at urban wetland, Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.–noon. Meet at corner of West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard with work clothes, bring work gloves and tools if you have them. 619-224-4991. Free. (POINT LOMA)

Gaslamp Folklore and Legends Walking Tours offered Saturdays, 10 a.m.–noon, by tour guide Gino Lizardo, who reveals romantic past and characters of the area. $10. Reservations: 619-239-7515. (DOWNTOWN)

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For more information call: 866-501-CORR

JUNE GLOOM,” the generally dreary, overcast, late-spring weather along San Diego’s coastline, typically begins in May and often intensifies in June. Occasionally, the low clouds will stick around for several days. This is usually triggered by a “Catalina eddy,” in which moist marine air drawn inland from the area around Santa Catalina Island forms low clouds over a wide area. In the absence of Catalina eddy conditions, San Diego’s inland areas, at least, experience plenty of midday and afternoon sunshine.

The Silk Oak Tree, a fast-growing import from Australia, comes into short-lived glory this month. Golden flower clusters decorate the silvery-green branches, an effect that is particularly striking when seen in contrast to the blue-blossoming jacaranda trees often planted nearby. A common tree in San Diego-area parks, the silk oak is also a popular street and backyard tree in the older residential areas.

“June Gloom,” the generally dreary, overcast, late-spring weather along San Diego’s coast-
LOCAL EVENTS

An Expert Birder from San Diego Field Ornithologists leads bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek on Saturday, May 13, starting at 9 a.m. Bring water, wear sturdy shoes. Free. Directions: 760-765-4098. Moderately difficult.

Oceanide Beach Cleanup hosted by San Diego Coastkeeper on Saturday, May 13, starting at Oceanide Pier at 9 a.m. Free. 619-758-7743. (Oceanide)

San Diego Kite Club hosts kite flying second Saturday of each month, including May 13, 10 a.m., at Tecolote Shores North Park (on Marine Bay Drive, north of Fiesta Island entrance). Free. 619-277-0319. (Mission Bay)

Native Plants of Point Loma provide topic when James Lightner, author of San Diego County Native Plants, makes presentation, leads native plant walk along Bayside Trail, Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m., Cabrillo National Monument (1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive). $5 per motor vehicle, $3 on foot, bike. 619-557-3540. (Cabrillo Point)

Where’s Iron Mountain? Find out during strenuous hike led by Canyoners, Sunday, May 14, 8 a.m. Steady uphill climb heads through “exceptional native vegetation”; at summit trail junction, choose to return (3 miles round trip) or continue to summit (6.5 miles round trip). Free. 619-235-0203. (Iron Mountain)

Discover and Identify Track and Sign from many animals when tracking team at Mission Trails Regional Park leads guided nature walk, Sunday, May 14, 9 a.m., starting at west end of Marine Street. Equipment provided, bring water. Free. 858-722-2115. (San Diego)

West Coast Swing and night-club dance party at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center, Thursdays, May 11 and 18, for singles and couples of all ages. DJ Jane Hance plays music for open dancing 8–10 p.m., dance lesson. Find center at 1253 West Morena Boulevard. 619-275-3533. Admission is $6 general, $4 for full-time students, free for first-timers. (Bay Park)

OUT & ABOUT

TRAGIC BALLET!
City Ballet of San Diego and Carmen, Friday-Sunday, May 12–14, Spreckels Theatre.

(SEE DANCE)

PHOTOGRAPH BY DALE STOKES

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Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, May 12, 13, 19, and 20; 7 p.m. on Sundays, May 14 and 21; 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Tickets: $29.50–$33.50. 619-239-8836 x1100. (NORTH PARK)

Sushi’s New-Wave Showcase runs May 12–14. Five short works include a physical theater piece based on images of René Magritte, a multimedia/live sound performance, a site-specific visual art and dance installation, and two contemporary dance pieces. Choreographers include Amanda Waal, Gregorio Coral, Moriah Evans and Evelyn Donnelly, Don Nichols, Jillian Chu.

Curtain rises at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. on Sunday, in UCSD’s Wagner Dance Building, Studio Theater No. 3. $20 general, $15 for students, those under 12. 858-486-1036. (NORTH PARK)

“Con Alma/With Soul” — Liana Flamenco performances with Luis Peña, Lakshmi Basile, Marysol Fuentes, José Tanaka, Juan de Valle on Friday, May 12, 8 p.m., at Weingart/City Heights Library Performance Annex (3795 Fairmount Avenue). Tickets: $25, $30. 619-446-8846. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Faculty Dance Concerts, boasting original choreography in variety of styles, May 12–14, in Howard Brubeck Theater at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). Performances begin at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. $12. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Polka, with Variations (featuring at beginner-friendly dance, Friday, May 12, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m., followed by open dancing for all ages. Partners not required. Free. 619-383-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Tragic Ballet! City Ballet of San Diego class season with Carmen and The Seasons, May 13 and 14, at Spreckels Theater (121 Broadway).

Curtain rises at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. General admission: $31, $42. 858-272-1472. (MIRA MESA)

Contradance to calling by Steve Barlow, music by a community band, Saturday, May 13, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (1030 Thorn Street). Beginner’s workshop: 7:30 p.m. $7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

Hustle San Diego Club meets on second Saturday of every month, including May 13, for beginners’ instruction (8:30 p.m.) and dance afterwards at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). $7-760-803-9982. (ENCINITAS)

Una Noche de Flamenco hits Dana Middle School (1775 Chatsworth Boulevard), Saturday, May 13, 7 p.m. Choreography by Sara Oliver, performed by Flamenco Olivar students and company. $20 general, $15 for students, those under 12. 858-405-7264. (POINT LOMA)

Ballet Folklorico performed by Chula Vista High School and Sweetwater High School students, Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m., in Plaza del Pasado in Old Town State Historic Park. Free. 619-297-3100. (OLD TOWN)

Mother’s Day Bellydance Show, Saturday, May 13, 9 p.m., at Zorba’s Greek Restaurant (100 Broadway). Live entertainment including international music, Greek folk dancing, bellydancing by Marianne, Carla, Stacey, Violeta. Included in dinner. Reservations: 619-422-8853. (LA JOLLA)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6 to 9 p.m., at Joan Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Janet Arnold calls on May 14. Beginner’s instruction at 6 p.m. $6 per class; $20 per month. 858-486-9160. (POINT LOMA)

Sunday Zapateado on May 14, 2 p.m., at Centro Cultural de la Raza (2123 Park Boulevard). Ballet Folklorico en Aztlán performs dances from different state of Mexico each month. Free. 619-235-6135. (BALBOA PARK)

Lindy Hop and Swing Classes — all levels — new sessions taught by Jim and Margie of 2oGroove Dance. Three-levels of classes run 6:30–9:30 p.m. (one hour each), Tuesdays, May 16, at Portuguese Hall (2818 Avenue de Portugal). $80 for series, $12 per class. (POINT LOMA)

The duo also presents swing-dance classes for all levels on Wednesdays, beginning May 17, 6–9 p.m., at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). $12 per class. 619-291-3775. (ENCINITAS)

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- Time Warner Cable
- Transportation Security Administration
- University of Phoenix
- US Bank
- And More!
**A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond | By Jerry Schad**

Just south of today's city of Escondido a lazy river once ran, fed by tentacle-like tributaries that drew water from as far away as the desert-bordering mountains, several days journey to the east. On the banks of this river dozens of kinds of wild plants grew, providing the prehistoric Kumeyaay people with food, fiber, and medicine.

Some of these plants were deliberately cultivated; others were pressed through controlled burns and other means. Many were simply left undisturbed to thrive or to fall under the pressures of natural selection. Small game was hunted and captured amid the rocky hills. Fine-grained, river-bottom soil was collected for use in making clay pottery. Pigments fashioned from soluble minerals, wits seeds, and insects were carefully applied to the surfaces of large tule reed baskets. The geometrical, abstract designs of the resulting pictographs expressed the ritual and ceremonial practices of the Kumeyaay.

Fast-forward hundreds of years to 2006.

Place yourself on the high point of the San Dieguito River Park's Piedras Pintadas Interpretive Trail.

Down below, where willows once swayed on the soggy banks of the river and smoke from cooking fires rose, a smooth sheet of water spreads wide. Imprinted by the Lake Hodges dam a few miles to the west. Off in the distance, a muffled roar emanates from ever-wider Interstate 15, and a carpet of winding streets and homes creeps over the hills and dales of Escondido and Rancho Bernardo. Hidden above the trail, on boulder-studded slopes guarded by thickets of chaparral, the Kumeyaay pictographs slowly fade under the imperceptibly slow onslaught of solar radiation, acidic rainfall, and drying winds.

Today, while the Kumeyaay rock-art site is officially off-limits to visitors, you can stroll the nearby trail, designed to educate and inform the public. You’ll get the equivalent of a small book’s worth of historical, cultural, and botanical information if you stop to read each of the many plaques scattered along the trailside.

The 3.8-mile, looping Piedras Pintadas Trail departs from a trailhead on West Bernardo Road, just south of Lake Hodges and across the street from a large retirement complex. (Note that due to the current widening project on I-15, the West Bernardo overpass was recently demolished, and there will be no access from I-15 north-bound to West Bernardo Road until next year.) The trail can be covered on foot in an hour at a speed-walk pace, or in two hours if you care to read every interpretive panel. Mountain bikers are allowed on the trail, and leashed dogs are welcome. Free guided hikes are offered on some weekends; call 858-674-2270 for more information.

**PIEDRAS PINTADAS TRAIL**

Learn about Kumeyaay culture and get a fine view of Lake Hodges on the Piedras Pintadas Trail near Escondido.

距市中心San Diego 28 miles

Hiking/biking length: 3.8 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

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**FILM**

"Cinema Under the Stars" gets underway with Four Weddings and a Funeral, starring Hugh Grant and Andie McDowell, Thursday–Saturday, May 11–13, at Tops enue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue. $12. 619-295-4221. (MISSION VALLEY)

San Diego Surf Cinema, see Puerta Underground 4: Alma y Corazon when it’s shown on Thursday, May 11, 7:30 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). $9. 619-222-2385. (LA JOLLA)

The French Film A Very Long Engagement screens for International Film Series at MiraCosta College, Friday, May 12. See film at 1 p.m. in room 201 at MiraCosta’s San Eliso campus (3333 Manch-ester Avenue). Film also screens at 7 p.m. in room 3601 on campus at One Barnard Drive. 760-795-6612. Free. In French with English subtitles. (CARPINTERIA, OCENSDON)

"Al Otro Lado" — based on a theme of absent father figures, film about three kids screens for Cinem a en tu Idioma series hosted by Media Arts Center, May 12–18, at Ultrasound Valley Cinemas at Hazard Center (7510 Hazard Center Drive). $8.30 general; "pay what you can" on June 4. Performances begin at 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Li- brary (820 E Street). 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

"The Gods Must Be Crazy" currently screening in the IMAX theater: Greece: Secrets of the Past and Wired to Win: Surviving the Tour de France. "Fridays at the Fleet" features The Human Body (6 p.m.) and Boras at 7 p.m. on May 12. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-239-1233. (REUBEN H FLEET SCIENCE CENTER)

**Lectures**

**What Do We Want from a City?** Explore changing nature, shaping of our communities in lectures series in Pepper Canyon Hall room 106 at UCSD. “Dangerous Spaces of Citizenship: Gang-Talk, Right-Talk, and the Rule of Law in Brazil” presented by UCSD anthropologist James Holston on May 11. Series concludes when UCSD history professor Suzanne Cahn discusses “The Rise of Global Strategy and Changing Long-term, the Capital of Tang, China,” on May 18. 7:30 p.m. Free. 858-534-2099. (LA Jolla)

Innovative Collaborations combining “functionality and a do-it-yourself attitude” discussed by SIMPARCH artists Matt Lynch and Steven Badgett during art talk, Thursday, May 17, 6 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Included in regular admission. 619-723-3456. (GOLDEN HILL)

**Commercial Human Space-flight:** Faster, Better, Cheaper” presented by Jim Benson of SpaceDev for Mars Society, Friday, May 18, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., in Center Hall 101 at UCSD. Larry Goldstein examines “Scientific Foundations,” “Moral Costs” explored by Wesley Smith; John Evans probes “Public Per- ceptions,” and Alta Charo focuses on “Political Implementation.” Following panel presentations, participants gather in small groups led by leaders in various disci- plines. Free. Required reservations: 858-822-2647. (LA JOLLA)

"The Stigma of Growing Old in America" discussed by author Pat Estelle for Humanitar- ion, Monday, May 21, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-670-4159, 619-344- 0640. (DOWNTOWN)

**Borders**

Border Activist Enrique Mo- rozes of Border Angels/Gente Unida examines cross-country Marcha Migrante on Friday, May 12, 7 p.m., at Chicano Park Morgan Square (161 National City Boulevard). Donations accepted. 619-474-7335. (NATIONAL CITY)

**Book Arts Demonstration** planned by Stephen Sloan for Clairemont Art Guild, Saturday, May 13, 12:30 p.m., at South Clairemont Recreation Center (3605 Clairemont Drive). Free. 858-278-5596. (CLAREMERT)

"Social Justice and Stem Cell Research: Who Gains? Who Loses?" Ponder questions during conference on Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., in Center Hall 101 at UCSD. Larry Goldstein examines "Scientific Foundations," "Moral Costs" explored by Wesley Smith; John Evans probes "Public Per- ceptions," and Alta Charo focuses on "Political Implementation." Following panel presentations, participants gather in small groups led by leaders in various disci- plines. Free. Required reservations: 858-822-2647. (LA JOLLA)

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Art. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Learn About the Slap, Finger Snaps, Finger Rolls, and pops when Raquy Danziger leads intermediate dumbek drum class, Monday, May 15, 6 p.m., WorldBeat Center (2000 Park Boulevard). $15. 760-703-1487. (BALBOA PARK)


“Mozart in France” — Konrad Oberhuber and Victoria Martino chronicle late baroque, rococo, and neoclassical/classical art and music from Mozart’s point of view during lecture series continuing Tuesday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). $19. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Preparing for Mount Whitney is subject for clinics planned Tuesday, May 16, at REI Encinitas (1590 Lecuadria Boulevard; 760-944-9020), and on Wednesday, May 17, at REI San Diego (5556 Copley Drive; 858-279-4400). 7 p.m. Free. (REI)

“We Were in Terezin: Three Former Inmates of Terezín (Theresienstadt)” share memories of how they arrived, how they survived, and how they were affected, Tuesday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., in Tor Judais Library at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Speakers are San Diego residents Eve Gentile, Lilli Greenberg, Ruth Sachs. Free. Required reservations: 858-457-3030. (CLAIREMONT)

“Creating Digital Audio Visuals” demonstrated by Bill Harkins when Tri-City Computer Club gathers, Tuesday, May 16, 1 p.m., at Salvation Army (3935 Lake Boulevard). Suggested donation: $5. 760-724-8673. (OCEANSIDE)


Who Should Declare Bankruptcy? Attorney Mark L. Miller conducts educational seminar on many facets of bankruptcy, Wednesday, May 17, 6 p.m., in third-floor auditorium at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5894. (DOWNTOWN)

“Some Crazy San Diego Place Names — and How They Got That Way” explained by Leland Petzer (San Diego Place Names A to Z) when SD/PEN Editors Network gathers on Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 p.m., in Clairemont Community Room (4731 Clairemont Drive). Free. 858-451-3286. (CLAIREMONT)

Bands are subject to change. Green Flash concerts will take place rain or shine. Reservations are encouraged as space is limited. Aquarium admission, concert, and parking are included.

858/534.FISH aquarium.ucsd.edu

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6-game premier packages starting at just $65!*

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www.sandiegogulls.com
Call 619-224-4625 ext. 7 for information.
Full of insights and practical advice, the following wedding directory provides a comprehensive listing of wedding services and suppliers. Whether you're planning your big day or looking for ideas and inspiration, this guide offers a wide range of options to help you create a perfect wedding experience.

**Planning Tips**

- **Artistic & Affordable Wedding Photographers**
  - **www.ReceptionsBG.com** (Receptions Bilingual Guide)
  - **www.Over200WeddingDresses.com**
  - **www.DiscountRides.com**
  - **www registrado.com**
  - **www.Florists.com**
  - **www.BridalBouquet.com**
  - **www.weddingplanner.com**
  - **www.Artistic&Affordable.com**

**Wedding Photography**

- **Ceremonial and Creative Photography**
  - **www.ReceptionsBG.com**
  - **www.Over200WeddingDresses.com**
  - **www.DiscountRides.com**
  - **www registrado.com**
  - **www.Florists.com**
  - **www.BridalBouquet.com**
  - **www.weddingplanner.com**
  - **www.Artistic&Affordable.com**

**Discount Rides**

- **www.DiscountRides.com**
  - **www.Sheilds.com**
  - **www.PamperedChef.com**
  - **www.Artistic&Affordable.com**

**Discount Balloon Rides**

- **www.DiscountRides.com**
  - **www.Sheilds.com**
  - **www.PamperedChef.com**
  - **www.Artistic&Affordable.com**

**Token of Elegance**

- **www.BridalBouquet.com**
  - **www.weddingplanner.com**
  - **www.Artistic&Affordable.com**

**WEDDING GUIDE**

A free, 24-hour line for planning your wedding. Call 619-235-9797 (on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com/wedding)
**“A Musical Feast”** is served up by Palomar Chorale and Live Oak Kodaly Choir, Saturday, May 13, 7 p.m., in Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts (2400 South Stagecoach Lane). Program includes music by Cecil Effinger, “Prayer,” masterworks, folksongs, selections from *The Magic Music* ($10 general / $10 students). 760-744-1150 (PALLASCO)

**San Diego Novelist** John D. Wolf discusses Orphan Records, Saturday, May 13, 1 p.m., at Rancho Peñasquitos Library (13350 Salmon River Road). Free. 858-583-8159 . 800-988-4253 .

**177 West** bluegrass band performs Sunday, May 14, 2:30 p.m., at Scripps Miramar Ranch Library (10301 Scripps Lake Drive). Donations accepted. 858-583-8158 . (SCRIPPS RANCH)

**King of the Cabaret,** Michael Feinstein promises “cabaret-style concert,” a musical journey through some of America’s best-loved songs, Sunday, May 14, 3 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). $40–$55 . 800-988-4253 . (ESCONDIDO)

**The Jazz Association All-Stars** perform at 1:30 p.m. for party guests at Scripps Miramar Ranch Library (10301 Scripps Lake Drive). Donations accepted. 858-583-8158 . (SCRIPPS RANCH)

**Second Sunday Poetry Series** commences with Steve Garber, Kep Peckham, and open readings, Sunday, May 14, 3 p.m., at Open Door Books (4761 Cass Street, 858-270-8642). Free. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Honeymoon with My Brother: A Memoir** will be discussed and signed by author Franz Werfel and brother Kurt, Monday, May 15, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). The Werfel siblings visited 60 countries in two years after Franz’s wedding fell through. Free. 858-292-3800 . (DOWNTOWN)

**Big-Band Jazz** promised when Palomar College’s Four O’Clock and Seven O’Clock Ensembles perform, Monday, May 15, 8 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre (1140 West Mission Road). $12 general . 760-744-1150 x2453 . (SAN MARCOS)


**Progressive Middle-Eastern Music,** with emphasis on drumming, with Rayqi and the Cave men perform with Middle-East Ensemble, guest bellydancers, Tuesday, May 16, 8 p.m., Kava Lounge (2812 Kettner Boulevard). $10. 619-543-0933 . (LITTLE ITALY)

**Pulitzer Prize-Winning Local Cartoonist** Steve Breen is editorial cartoonist for San Diego Union-Tribune, and his comic strip “Grand Avenue” appears across the country. Breen discusses his work, Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m., at gaslamp. (2181 Kettner Boulevard). 858-292-3800 . (DOWNTOWN)

**A Trio of Horror Authors** visit Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard) on Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m. Meet Brian Keene (*The Conqueror Worm*), J.F. Gonzalez (*Stucktome*), and Alan Neyes (*Garbyley*). 858-288-4747 . Free. (LA JOLLA)

**A “Mock Slam”** is planned during Poetry and Art Showcase, Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m., at San Diego Art Institute, Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado). Performers include reggae, Rudy Francisco, Viet Maa, Whitney Lawrence, others. artwork by Visual Graffiti. Open mike. $5. 619-957-3264 . (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego’s Premier Bay Cruise**

**Mother’s Day Brunch Cruise**

This year, treat Mom to a relaxing bay cruise with fabulous food and breathtaking scenery. San Diego Harbor Excursions’ Mother’s Day Brunch Cruise is the city’s finest. Enjoy a two-hour cruise plus unlimited champagne, made-to-order omelets, carved top sirloin and breast of turkey, fresh waffles and muffins, assorted pastries, a chilled seafood station, and, for dessert, fresh cakes and pastries plus a chocolate fountain she will never forget.

$69.50 per person. Reservations required.

**ADOPT A RUSSIAN CHILD**

**ADOPTION OPTIONS, INC.**

**5/25/06.**

**San Diego Reader** May 11, 2006

**99**
**S&O TIXS**

Find casino 15 miles north of Escondido, 5 miles east of Highway 76. (Pala Casino Resort (found 15 miles north of Escondido, 5 miles east of I-15 on Highway 76).)

**Songs My Mother Taught Me**, performed by Lorna Luft, daughter of Judy Garland, Saturday, May 27, 7 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Tickets: $100, 815-619-28836. (NORTH PARK)

Hong Kong Songstress Frances Yip in concert, Saturday, June 3, 7:30 p.m., at Pala Casino Resort. Tickets: $43–$96, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-7877). Find casino 15 miles north of Escondido, 5 miles east of I-15 on Highway 76. (Pala)

**Goya** — evening of poetry and verse exploring renowned Spanish master, Thursday, May 18, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Program boasts Iromco Rothenberg, Roberto Tejada. Included in museum admission. 619-496-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

 Authors Brian Keene (Conqueror Worms) and J.F. Gonzalez (Surviver) visit Borden Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North) to sign their books, Thursday, May 18, 4 p.m. Free. 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)


“**Vellvet Circus,**” Palomar Concert Band performs this original composition by band member Adam Wolf, along with contemporary arrangements by Sammy Nesico, Thursday, May 18, 8 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). $12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

**Performer**

**Alice in Chains**

May 19, House of Blues

**Il Divo**

June 25

**San Diego Padres** conclude series against Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday, May 11, 12:35 p.m. in Petco Park. The Pads head to Chicago for games against White Sox, Friday-Sunday, May 12-14, at 11:20 a.m. each day: Road trip continues in Arizona against Diamondbacks, Monday-Wednesday, May 15-17, at 4:00 p.m. each night. Tickets: 817-727-7867. (EL CAJON)


**Tour de Cure,** Sycrean Great Western Loop and Mentis Century biking events, Saturday, May 13, at Caryum college (900 Rancho San Diego Parkway). Routes: 62 miles (7 a.m.), 42 miles (8 a.m.), 30 miles (9 a.m.) 800-342-2383. (EL CAJON)

**What the Weather Dictates** — Knickerbocker bicyclists will head west or east for a 30-mile ride, depending upon weather forecast, Sunday, May 14. Join riders at 9 a.m. at Carmel Valley Park and ride. Bring money for lunch. 858-484-7596. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Mother’s Day Brunch Kayak Adventure in San Diego Bay hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum, Sunday, May 14, 9 a.m. Adventure starts at Glorietta Bay on Silver Strand with introductory paddling lesson, includes scenic paddle under Coronado Bridge to Coronado Ferry Landing. No-host brunch at Bay Beach Cafe. Fee: $70 for adults, $25 for kids 8-12. Registration: 619-235-5203. (SAN DIEGO BAY)

El Capitan Express, take an “epic 50-mile plus ride” with Sierra Club bicyclists, Sunday, May 14. Ride with steep grade heads through Mission Gorge and rural Lakeside to “little-known ap- proach” to El Capitan Reservoir. Bring money for food. Meet at 9 a.m. in upper parking lot of Lake Murray (Kiowa Drive). 619-571-8303. (LA MESA)

**El Divo**

June 25

**Sports Alive Banner Auction and fireworks fundraiser, Friday, May 12, 5–8 p.m., at beach community center (350 North the Strand). Bid on a hand-painted vinyl banner focusing on theme “OceanSide: Take a Closer Look”; the banners were displayed on Coast Highway. Bidding begins at $100. 760-754-4512. (OCEANSIDE)

**Autonomous Robotics Vehicle Competition** sponsored by Intelligent Systems Society takes place May 12–14 at Reuben H. Fleet Sci- ence Center. Competition is open to anyone up to 17 years old. Finals are on Sunday. Details 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

“**Small Treasures,**” artwor less than 20 inches (on a side) showcased by Julian Arts Guild in ex- hibit opening with reception, Friday, May 12, 5 p.m., in Julian Town Hall (2129 Main Street). Ex- hibit opens at 10 a.m. each morn- ing, closing at 7 p.m. Friday-Sun- day, 5 p.m. on Monday. Free. 760-765-1825. (JULIAN)

**Afroca Live!** Master drummer and dance Lumine “Dibo” Ca- mara and Abdoulaye Camara from Guinea, West Guinea, perform with Damaru, Friday, May 12, 8 p.m., at WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard). $10. 619-230- 1190. (BALBOA PARK)

**Pup and Circumstance, Canine Companions for Independence hosts graduation ceremony — when humans graduate with their new helper dogs — Saturday, May 13, noon, at Mission San Luis Rey (4050 Mission Avenue). Free. 760-901-4500. (EAST VILLAGE)

Art in the Valley, Carmel Valley Artists host 43rd annual spring show and sale, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13, noon, at Mission San Luis Rey (4050 Mission Avenue). Free. 760-901-4500. (EAST VILLAGE)

**SPECIAL**

**DANCE for $30**

for 4 weeks

**Classes Still Open**

**Monday**

• Argentine Tango

**Tuesday**

• Latin/Ballroom • Nightclub 2-step • Hustle

**Wednesday**

• Jitterbug & Swing*

**Thursday**

• Lindy Hop* • West Coast Swing

**Friday**

• Salsa* • West Coast Swing

Country-Western Two-step* 

**Social Dance Specialists**

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Every Sunday: Jitterbug/Swing

**Pattie Wells’ Dancetime Center**

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dancetime@gmail.com www.dancetime.com

*Classes in bold with the ad, first-time student. Introductory classes only. Expires 5/31/06. Sorry, no credit cards accepted.

**Entertainment**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**All games**

**Gipsy Kings** July 27, 28

**Al Green** July 29

**Julie Iglesias** July 31

**Bill Maher** August 11

**Ben Harper** August 13

**Death Cab for Cutie** August 15

**Buddy Guy** August 16

**Los Lonely Boys** August 16

**Shakira** August 16

**Red Hot Chili Peppers**

**Def Leppard/Journey** August 23

**Randy Travis** August 25

**James Gang** September 9

**Bonnie Raitt** September 13

**Alicia Keys** September 24

**Toby Keith** September 17

**Pepe Aguilar** September 23

**“Pageant of the Masters**” July 1–31, 1

**“Wicked”** July 26–Aug. 6

**Acura Tennis Classic** (La Costa)

July 29–Aug. 6

**Openly May 12, 2006**

Tracing the history of tattoo, piercing, and scarification.

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**BODART ORNAMENTATION**

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Openly May 12, 2006

Tracing the history of tattoo, piercing, and scarification.

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619-239-2001 • www.usa.museum.org

The Death of Achilles: A Fandorin Mystery

By Boris Akunin
Translated by Andrew Bromfield
Random House, 2006, $12.95; 320 pages

FROM THE JACKET:

In 1882, after six years of adventures abroad, the renowned diplomat and detective Erast Fandorin returns to his beloved Moscow — but his homecoming is anything but peaceful. In the hotel where Fandorin is staying, his old war-heroes friend General Michail Sobolev (a.k.a. “Achilles”) has been found dead in his armchair, felled by an apparent heart attack. Fandorin suspects foul play, and his instincts lead him to the boudoir of his beloved Moscow — but his homecoming is anything but peaceful. In the hotel where Fandorin is staying, his old war-heroes friend General Michail Sobolev (a.k.a. “Achilles”) has been found dead in his armchair, felled by an apparent heart attack. Fandorin suspects foul play, and his instincts lead him to the boudoir of

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

“A criminally talented writer.” — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

“A Slavic Sherlock Holmes who speaks Japanese and English, is skilled in martial arts, and has lady-killer good looks.” — The Wall Street Journal

“One of the most successful recent mystery series to have been imported to the United States from faraway lands.” — The New York Times

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Boris Akunin is the pen name of Grigory Chkhartishvili, who was born in the republic of Georgia in 1956. A philologist, critic, essayist, and translator of Japanese, Akunin published his first detective stories in 1996 and has already become one of the most widely read authors in Russia. He has written 11 Fandorin novels to date, and is the author of two other series as well. He lives in Moscow.

The four in the Fandorin series that have been translated and published in English are: The Winter Queen, Murder on the Lebistan, The Turkish Gambit, and most recently, The Death of Achilles.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

Boris Akunin is in New York, attending PEN international literature festivals, appearing on panels, on the radio, and launching his fourth historical mystery set in 19th-century Imperial Russia, and starring his dashing sleuth, Erast Fandorin. He is touted as being a Russian Sherlock Holmes because of his deductive talents, but he is much more physical, a dashing aristocrat-Artillery Sergeant who takes on the Knights Templar, and is served by a Japanese samurai estate steward whose life he saves, thereby obliging the man to follow him faithfully, forever.

We rendezvous in the lavish PEN penthouse of the Roger Smith Hotel, 16 stories above Lexington Avenue, and settle into a huge sitting room. It is somewhat dark, the shades mostly drawn. After many days of meeting and greeting Americans and fellow international authors, Boris Akunin is all business, and we get right to it.

“I know Akunin is a pen name,” I say, “but are the rumors true that you were almost Molotov? As in the gasoline bomb? Or is this apocryphal, this story?”

Akunin ponders. When he speaks, his voice is clear and small — a few decibels.

“In the beginning I was thinking of maybe taking the pseudonym Molotov, because of the Molotov cocktail [an improvised incendiary device used by Russian soldiers during WWII] and because of my books being sort of a combustible cocktail of Russian history. I almost a miracle, because it was very hard to get out of the country.”

Mr. Akunin hums. “It was almost a miracle, because it was very hard to get out of the country.”

(continued on page 102)


“Godspell” presented by Young Actors Theatre, May 11–13 at 7:30 p.m., and May 14–15 at 2:30 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B St). Tickets: $12 children, $16 adults. Showtimes, reservations: 619-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

“The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe” presented by Imagination Express, Fridays and Saturdays, May 12, 13, 19, and 20, 7:30 p.m., at First Church of Christ, Scientist (950 Oakland Drive). Tickets: $3 for children, $4 seniors, $5 general admission. (LA JOLLA)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, May 13 and 14, at Rohr Marine (5454 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48” must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. (SAN DIEGO)

“Dr. Zhivago” plays the La Jolla Playhouse, May 2–14. Tickets: $38–$94, 212-682-5000. (LA JOLLA)

The Musical Rompicholist in My Name is My Name is presented by J*Composers May 13–15, 7:30 p.m., at the SPSO Center. Tickets: $3 for children, $4 seniors, $5 general admission. (LA JOLLA)

“Sing Like a Coyote,” don a coyote mask, duck into a badger hole, and mimic coyote’s growls, yips, and howls during youth program, Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. $15. Registration: 619-235-2023. (BALBOA PARK)

Take the Space Capsule Challenge planned for San Diego Aerospace Museum Family Day workshops, Saturday, May 13, at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (SAN DIEGO)

“Is It Working?” Defend your opinion.

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All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, May 13 and 14, at Rohr Marine (5454 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48” must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. (SAN DIEGO)

“Dr. Zhivago” plays the La Jolla Playhouse, May 2–14. Tickets: $38–$94, 212-682-5000. (LA JOLLA)

The Musical Rompicholist in My Name is My Name is presented by J*Composers May 13–15, 7:30 p.m., at the SPSO Center. Tickets: $3 for children, $4 seniors, $5 general admission. (LA JOLLA)

“Sing Like a Coyote,” don a coyote mask, duck into a badger hole, and mimic coyote’s growls, yips, and howls during youth program, Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. $15. Registration: 619-235-2023. (BALBOA PARK)

Take the Space Capsule Challenge planned for San Diego Aerospace Museum Family Day workshops, Saturday, May 13, at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (SAN DIEGO)
And everybody was writing about maifers and KGB and all that. So, finally, I went to the chief editor of a big publisher that I was working with and asked him to read the manuscript, just tell anybody. He read it. Said, “It’s okay. But I’m starting a publishing house of my own. I want it to be the first book.” I said okay. So that’s how it started. Afterwards he became evident that he had not much experience. No money. It was a tiny publisher. No money for advertising. So all went the hard way. The first four novels were a disaster. It was too and a half years before the books began to sell.

I refer to my notes. “The first book, Winter Queen, sold six thousand copies. The next three sold okay, but not spectacularly, until the fifth book.” Akunin closes his fist like an apple. “You. The fifth book was like a bomb. Then the previous ones also instantly became bestsellers.”

“And that fifth book was the Jack-the-Ripper story?”

“The book is called Special Assignments. There are two short novels. The first is a picaroon novel, ‘Jack of Spades,’ and the second is all about Jack the Ripper. It’s called The Decorator.”

“And that’s the one that really launched you in Russia? That first book, Winter Queen, which first sold six thousand volumes, I understand has reached eight million. Is this true?”

“Fifteen.” We both laugh. “Fifteen million! Not the same publisher, though.”

“No, no, not anymore,” Akunin replies. “Not any more?”

“No. It takes six to eight months.” He sighs at the thought. “Ah! Yes, I loved your comments about having run out of all the good words after writing so many books.”

“This is a problem.”

“You’ve also said”—I quote him—“I must choose carefully because once you write, once you write in Russian, no one ever goes anywhere on promotion tour, unless it coincides with material that has decisions to make. What are the crossroads this time? And what are the decisions?”

“A silence follows. The room grows darker still as the afternoon winds toward early evening.

“The usual ones. The bigger ones. Decisions between individual values and collective values. Russia has always been between those two poles. After [Tsar] Aleksandr II was killed by terrorists, Aleksandr III was so frightened that he started just putting ‘stone pavements over the grass’ so nothing would grow. He was hoping to just stop the time, which is impossible. So the pressure simply grew until [everything] burst in the beginning of the 20th Century and almost nothing was left of Russia. The same mistake is being repeated now because, after the liberal reforms of the 90s, now we are getting a period of a sort, as we call it in Russia, ‘screwing the balls.’ Which is not a pretty sight.”

“Your translator turns an elegant phrase. He is very graceful. I assume he is mirroring your ornate style. It’s very a complemented piece. Frankly, American publishers hate translations. They inevitably come in so rough, require so much work and added expense. And yours is as smooth like liquid. How did you and he work together?”

Boris Akunin leans back on the couch. “I was very cautious about my English translator. I didn’t want it to be a book to an English language market for a long time. [They were among] the last countries where I sold translation rights. There were several

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eral translators who wanted to do the job. Andrew Bromfield, from England, was by far the best. He feels the style. He has just the right professional background, because he has translated both Leo Tolstoy and Viktor Pelevin, who is sort of Irvine Welsh.

“You have said that you do not write from the heart. That you do not have a sincere soul. That you write with your brain only. What do you mean?”

“I mean that I am not an exhibitionist.” Akunin says, with some measured tones. “Like practically every highbrow writer. I do not want to... He struggles for the word.

I tease: “You don’t think Ulysses is the greatest novel ever written in English?”

Amused, Akunin shoots back: “You don’t think that James Joyce is committing a public nazi-kiri with this novel? He is.”

“It is celebrated here.” He grows serious. “Actually, the only writer, really big writer, who is not an exhibitionist is Nabokov. And still I am not sure of that. Myself, I do not want to talk about my inner problems. My readers have enough problems of their own. I want them to forget their problems. I do not write for myself. My real writer would write for an audience. And if I don’t have readers, then I won’t write. I have a lot of friends who are real writers and actually they do not care. They want their books to sell, but no one bought their books. It’s a kind of writing.”

“You don’t think Charles Dickens was a real writer?” I challenge. Actually, Akunin’s character are more North than the top and entertaining.

“It’s better not to talk about [the 19th Century] literature. The literary scene has changed so much. It’s really useless to speak about whether Charles Dickens is mass literature or not mass literature. [The] cultural situation is different. Each then only educated classes read fiction at all. Now everyone can do it.”

I disagree: “Actually Dickens’ sales were phenomenal in the U.S. I think when the American population was 8 million, he at one point sold over five million copies. Can you imagine.”

“No, I think it must be an exaggeration.”

“No, it’s in old printing (industry) books.” (Cheap Book Pro- duction in the United States, 1870 to 1891), by Raymond Howard Shaw, University of Illinois. Edwards Brothers Inc., Ann Arbor, 1937. Page 139.) I do the debate: “So you write two days a hour. Why is your schedule so busy. What are you doing the other 22?”

“Relaxing. Recharging.”

“Playing cards.”

“Computer games. I have computer games.”

“Arthurian characters will be out next year.” But I absolutely spent after those being writing hours and not good for anything. And there are different stages of writing a book. Some of them are more delicate. A trifle is enough to do in a day. It can be a telephone call. It can be...just anything. You feel like you are a glass aquarium. I...”

“What kind of cards did you play, bridge or poker?”

“Poker.”

“Can you describe the ‘west’ when Russia experienced mass culture for the first time and everything was lawful and open. And that was the bad part. But the good part was that it was so open, and for the first time you could write anything. It was a really fascinating sight to watch this big nation discovering mass culture. And it was very fast. And it was very full, very energy. But speaking about the book market, in the first wave the translations (were) of American hardcore crime fiction and all those books for house- wives, like, there was Sandra Brown and Patrice Frank. And all of these works were very funny. And a part of modern-clownish read- ing. And, of course, translations were very [publishers] extending to our [Russian] authors started to write by themselves, and it was even worse. Because they were not professional. They thought the more blood, the more moves, the better. So it went in waves, one after another. The third one started with [Ivan] Turgenev, [Alexan- dra] Marinova, which was a decent wave of a decent level. Intelli- gentia started to read and enjoy it — a psychological detective, without all that filth.”

“I am surprised that in ten years you’ve written 25 books.”

“Eight years.”

“Yet you’re still not that I thought. Writing at a pace of two hours a day, in eight years you’ve produced 25 books. Only four books were translated here in the U.S. so far. There are three series, Fanordin, of course. The Russian literature is now enduring, to learn, stars a Russian Orthodox nun as the sleuth. And the only weapon she wields is knitting need- les. How did you come up with that?”

“It was easy. I just crosse- Dad Father Brown and Miss Marple. That was it.”

“You write in the Fanordin series.”

“For reasons. One is that I counted 16 subgenres of crime novel. And each of Fan- don optimistic, Frosts reports, a differ- ent subgenre. Another is that I counted 16 types of human char- acter(s) in the world. And each of those books is addressing one of those [psychological] types.”

“So if we can come up with more subgenres for you, you have to keep writing Fanordin stories.”

He laughs. “Film rights have been sold to Winter Queen, the first title in the series, yes?”

“To Paul Verhoeven, who made Basic Instinct, yes.”

“You seem to be taken with film.”

“I note. You speak of Tarantinian movies these are quite simi- lar to what Tarantino is doing in cinema. I mean the constant allu- sions and quoting, and his fun in classics with a quasi-aunar- chist way. I love his films.”

“They’re very playful.”

“Mmm. You never know what to expect from Tarantino’s movies. They’re so bold; they’re so fearless. So unorthodox for Hol- lywood. Of course, he has become a Hollywood pattern by now, but in the beginning he was breaking all the rules. So, yes, Playful and, what I value most of all, abso- lutely unpredictable.” — Juris Jurjevs
San Diego County Recorder Society convenes for instruction on Friday, May 12, with guest conductor Peter Farrell leading group (7:30 p.m.). Beginner and intermediate instruction at 8:30 p.m. Tierrasanta Recreation Center, 1120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 619-334-1993. First visit to Tierrasanta. A Magical Fairy Tale Told with Mystic Symbolism! Mozart’s Magic Flute is final production of season for San Diego Opera. Cast includes tenor Rainer Trott, soprano Ute Sebìg, Daniel Boriswoski, Martin Zystn, others. Sung in German with English translations projected above stage.

Performances at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 12, 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, and 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 14, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17. Tickets range from $20 to $110. See the opera at San Diego Civic Theatre, 202 C Street. Reservations: 619-333-7000. (DOWNTOWN)

The Spring Music Festival celebrating graduates and Point Loma Nazarene College music department ensembles is Friday, May 13, 7:30 p.m., in Brown Chapel on Point Loma Nazarene University campus (3900 Loma and Drive). Free. 619-489-2235. (POINT LOMA)

USD Concert Choir plans concert, Friday, May 12, 1:30 p.m., in Shiley Theatre of the University of San Diego (1998 Alcalá Park). Concert repeats on Sunday, May 14, 12 p.m. $10 general; 619-260-1471. (POINT LOMA)

The Orpheus Chamber Ensemble and pianist Leon Fleisher perform works by J.S. Bach, Beethoven, and Joan Tower for La Jolla Music Society’s Celebrity Series on Saturday, May 13, 3 p.m., in San Diego Civic Theatre (202 C Street). Tickets: $20–$105. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (DOWNTOWN)

“Altogether Mozart” is theme for San Diego Symphony Family Festival concert, Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Matthew Garbutt leads orchestra. Tickets: $12–$82. Reservations: 619-233-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

“Carlsbad to Karlovy Vary” vocal competition finals are open to public on Saturday, May 13, in Schuman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Singers vie for participation in International Antonin Dvorák Vocal Competition (in November). Preliminary rounds start at 11 a.m., finals sing arias in finals rounds beginning 7 p.m. Free. 760-434-2904. (LA JOLLA)

Goodloe Scholarship Recipients perform Sunday, May 14, 2:30 p.m., for concert series at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

Civic Choir Carol Williams performs Sunday, May 14, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-231-1095. (DOWNTOWN)

The Baroque Pipe Organ played by Hollice Jones in concert, Monday, May 15, 7:30 p.m., at All Souls’ Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard, at Chatsworth). Guest soloist. 619-223-6394. Donation: $5. (POINT LOMA)

San Diego Jewish Music Festival boats violist Zina Schiff in recital “Music Played in Terezin,” Monday, May 15, 7:30 p.m., Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Schiff plans music modeled after recitals in Terezin (Theresienstadt) with selections from classics, Jewish composers. $10 general. 858-386-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Red fish blue fish in concert, Wednesday, May 17, 8 p.m., in UCSD’s Salk Institute Auditorium. $8 general. 858-534-4350. (LA JOLLA)

Pianist Yefim Bronfman joins San Diego Symphony for final “Ja-coho’s Masterworks” concerts of season. Programs include Schnitke’s “(Not) A Midsummer Night’s Dream”/Kevn Sommer-nachsturman “Concerto No. 3 for Piano and Orchestra in D Minor” by Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky’s “Symphony No. 4 in F Minor.” Concert begins at 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard), $29–$49. Concerts offered in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street) at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, May 19 and 20, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 21. Tickets: $20–$60. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (ESCONDIDO.COM)

Music 206 Recital, experimental, interdepartmental, workshop sequence fostering collaboration between performers, composers, improvisors, and technologists — in concert! Thursday, May 18, 8 p.m., in Recital Hall at UCSD’s Mandeville Center. Free. 858-534-4830. (LA JOLLA)

Events that are underlined occur after May 18.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number (including area code), and a phone number for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-804-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Chamber Music Concert with performances by San Diego Youth Symphony’s wind quintet, brass quintet, flute choir, Camarata, Oak Symphony’s wind quintet, brass performances by San Diego Youth Chamber Music Concert on the events section.

Contributions must be submitted information online at SanDiegoReader.com for public information to READER ART, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Please include phone number, and a precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a description of the event, including the date, time, cost, contact phone number, and a phone number for public information to READER ART, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

“No Requirements,” group show with work by 15 artists opens with reception, Friday, May 12, 7 p.m., at Brokers Building Gallery (3907 Island Avenue). Live music, food. 619-546-9546. Free. (NORTH PARK)


Ray at Night, over 20 art venues showcase local art on second Saturday of each month, including May 13, 6–10 p.m., at Ray Street and University Avenue. Live music, food. 619-546-9546. Free. (NORTH PARK)

Expressionist Painter Demarcon has solo show opening with reception, Saturday, May 13, 5 p.m., at Expressions of Art (3807 Ray Street). Closes Thursday, June 8. 619-546-9546. (NORTH PARK)
**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.

*Always...Patsy Cline*

The Welk Resort Theatre presents this musical about the great Patsy Cline and her friendship with Louise Seger. Larry Raben directed.

**WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH JUNE 11; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448, OR 888-802-7463.**

*Blue Door*

South Coast Repertory Theatre presents the world premiere of Tanya Barfield’s drama about a sleepless African-American math prodigy visited by four generations of ancestors. Leah C. Gardiner directed.

**SOUTH COAST REPETORY THEATRE, 8 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH MAY 14; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 714-566-2000.**

*Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit*

One of the sharpest, and funniest, theater criticism around! The revue’s a Special Victims Unit for Broadway clunkers — doesn’t last two minutes before it disappears. But no matter. Gerard Alessandrini’s latest attempt to “turn the Great White Way gray” is a winner, thanks to his ever-present wit and amazing performances. Jeanne Montano (co-author of Six Women With Brain Death, who slaughters Sarah Brightman), Male performers Jared Bradshaw and Kevin B. McGlynn certainly hold their own (especially Bradshaw’s demolition of Harry Connick Jr. and McGlynn’s take on a forgettable Robert Goulet, who slaps lyrics from Camelot onto South Pacific). The revue reprises old favorites: no Forbidden Broadway would be complete without some Les Mis and Lion King trashin’ (“Can You Feel the Pain Tonight?” one sings, under the weight of Julie Taymor’s gigantic headgear), and Alessandrini’s spoof on Chicago and how to dance the Fosse style (“bowler hats,” “spread your fingers so”) is a blast. As are the last one of Alvin Colt’s cartoony costumes (often changed in split seconds). Amid near-constant laughs, the revue makes serious points about contemporary Broadway’s disturbing penchant for “puppet” and “jukebox” theater, and its general dumbing down of late. All true, yet never put so memorably.

Critic’s pick.

**LYNX PERFORMANCE THEATRE SPACE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH JUNE 25; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.**

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*The Blue Room*

Gin & Hamlet Productions stages David Harrow’s adaptation (“ten intim- ate acts”) of Schnitzler’s La Ronde.

**STIMPENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH JUNE 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MAY 6 SATURDAY SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-692-4150.**

*Cave*

Lynn Performance Theatre stages Sarah Kane’s drama in which four voices “describe desires, remember losses, and question their future in the face of their psychological dam-/age.” Al Germani directed.

**LYNN PERFORMANCE THEATRE SPACE, 2015 S ARVENE DRIVE, SAN DIEGO VALLEY, THROUGH JUNE 11; FRIDAY AT 9:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-844-2130.**

*The Blue Room*

By Richard Greenberg

Directed by Carolyn Cantor

Old Globe Theatre

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**NORTH COUNTY TIMES**

**TRYING**

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Directed by Richard Seer

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**“A SMART, SUPERBLY WRITTEN PLAY.”**

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**San Diego Reader | April 11, 2006 | 107**
Killer Reunion
Joyce Canale’s newest interactive comedy takes place at a high school reunion that doesn’t go according to plan.
IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 105 KALMAS STREET, BANKFORD HILL. OPEN ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-644-1200.

Late-Nite Catechism
As part of its “Off Nites at NCRT,” the North Coast Repertory Theatre reprises its hit show, an interactive adult catechism class, taught by a sister from the sparse-out-the-red school. The concept doesn’t sound like much. The sister is substituting (it’s the regular teacher’s poker night, don’t tell a soul). She used to teach but was deemed too strict for contemporary students. The sister’s authoritarianism takes the class to unforeseen places (you can hear the cries of recognition from the audience, especially when she taps a hard ruler against her palm). The results: an evening of almost non-stop comedy and a thought-coaxing knowledge failure, abundantly, often quite funny, evening. And throughout Nick Paule’s expert lighting rinses the space with various moods, including snippy effects for scenes set in the past. Great stuff. But, as Hamlet says, the play’s the thing, and D.D. Brooks’s mystery-psycho-drama, even with a talented Lamb’s cast, lacks interesting characters (they are types: the parsimonious producer, the vain romantic lead) and, unkindest cuts of all, is short on intrigue and suspense. Rehearsal’s about a play within the play to catch the conscience of the culprit, in effect, a sting. But it takes all of a long, slowly paced first act to establish a “dun it” — the ficaire didn’t “drop” 12 stories by herself, she was nudged — and a long, slowly paced second to show that the “who” that dun’t isn’t who you think. The bare-stage, black-walled look suggests the epic minimalism think. The bare-stage, black-walled look suggests the epic minimalism

Late-Nite Catechism 2
North Coast Repertory Theatre presents the sequel to Maripat Donovan’s popular audience-participation show, which claims, “Sometimes we feel guilty because we ARE guilty.” NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 600 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SBorna, THROUGH MAY 22. (NOTE: LATE-NITE RUN IN REPERTORY WITH LATE-NITE CATECHISM.2. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 858-481-1055.)

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online: www.lajollaplayhouse.com

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The Art of Flamenco
Includes 3-course dinner and show. Call for tickets.
Featuring JOEL of the Gipsy King’s family

Sunday, May 14 • Two shows
Gipsy Fusion Flamenco
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$23 admission • $20 students/seniors
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Presented at 6th@Penn Theatre, 3704 6th Avenue, Hillcrest

The Odd Couple
The Coronado Playhouse presents Neil Simon’s comedy about a mat- nik and a slob and when the twain were forced to meet. Keith A. An- derson directed.
CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1335 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH MAY 21. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-435-4850.
Pulp! Directionary and Mostie Theatres present Patricia Kane’s comedy with music, a “sexy homage to the pulp fiction.” Delicia Turner Son- serneg directed.
DIRECTIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PINK BLOOM BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, MAY 13, THROUGH JUNE 3. THURSDAY AND SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-637-0160.

Nocturne
New Village Arts presents Adam Rapp’s Pulitzer Prize nominee that begins, “Fifteen years ago I killed my sister.” Joshua Everett Johnson directed.
STUDIO SPACE AT JAZZERCISE, 2460 IMPALA DRIVE, CARLSBAD, THROUGH MAY 27, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

No Way to Treat a Lady
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 600 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH JUNE 4. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

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Romance
The San Diego Rep has re configured the Lyceum Space for David Mamet’s courtroom farce. Seats to the sides resemble jury boxes, which is fitting, since the play’s about the letter and mean spirit of the law, bigotry, racism, homophobia, and, thrown in for good measure, the possibilities for World Peace. Here as elsewhere in Mamet, no good thought goes un punished. Romance peels away surfaces, legal veneers, all sense of accord and reveals a courtroom — and, by extension a country — engaged in internecine war. He scathes until he reaches his implied question: What do Americans really think of each other? Then, in the play’s last third, he retreads into formalism and the silliness of farce. This shift makes for a mixed aftertaste: the play’s last third feels thin, even dity, compared to its opening salvo. Although the Rep has difficulties finessing late-second act says, the Sam Woodhouse-directed production is clear and brisk — and often very funny. Standouts: John Altieri’s “fat plum

The Sopranos’ Last Supper
by rotary Bernard, who gets to shout the author’s message about peace at home and abroad. Peter Van Noorden as the scatterbrained judge with a head cold (one pill makes him yummy, and one pill tweaks his gall). Whether he’s a “we are the world idealist” or a rampant reactionary, Van Norden’s a laugh riot. A word of caution: Mamet’s an equal opportu nity xenophobe. If you find nothing in Romance offensive, you should be on life support.

Worth a try.

The FunHouse
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 companions used in this format, but the “game show” — on Fridays — 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 Godzilla Theatre” — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a “forfeit” (other formats include “Murders” and “Improv Survivor”). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough.; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amaz ing twists and turns. The group makes the bits 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 their parts to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

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The Sopranos’ Last Supper
by rotary Bernard, who gets to shout the author’s message about peace at home and abroad. Peter Van Noorden as the scatterbrained judge with a head cold (one pill makes him yummy, and one pill tweaks his gall). Whether he’s a “we are the world idealist” or a rampant reactionary, Van Norden’s a laugh riot. A word of caution: Mamet’s an equal opportu nity xenophobe. If you find nothing in Romance offensive, you should be on life support.

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complain of difficulties to overcome, to come, she wishes they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this more entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

Worth a try.

DASSAI CENTER STAGE, SIERRA MESA CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, THROUGH MAY 21; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

What’s Wrong With This Picture? It’s a winner...entertainment!

The Broadway Theatre presents Donald Margulies’s comedy about Shirley. Since she died the husband’s been such a mess she needs to go back and straighten things out. Randall Hickman directed.

Worth a try.

BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA, THROUGH MAY 28; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M., SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. MAIDEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

The Women

Premier Productions stage Clare Booth’s satire of Park Avenue elite women. Twenty-two of them dish about the men in their lives. Randall Hickman directed.

The AV Theatre, 203 MAIN STREET, VISTA, THROUGH MAY 14; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 772-2411.

Trying

You can pretty much tell where Joanna McClelland Glass’s drama is headed with one eye tied behind your back. Sarah Schorr becomes the secretary for famous judge Francis Biddle (attorney general under FDR, chief American judge at Nuremburg). He’s 81, blunt, she’s 23, just starting out. So she’s having the time of her life.

The playwright lays the symmetries on thick (death and life: she becomes pregnant). What you might not anticipate are the moment-to-moment interchanges in which nothing, and quite a lot, happens. The real drama’s between the lines, as Sarah and the judge team up to “rally” a life (and an international identity) that has re-emerged from the world stage to smaller and smaller rooms, with the judge wondering which will be the last. Jonathan McMurray does some of his finest work in some time at Biddle, whose body and mind are deteriorating. McMurray shows how that feels. Since age has made the judge’s mind non-linear — it flits from subject to subject — Sarah’s task resembles flying a kite without a tail. So does playing her character since, she’s like, written by a tip of the iceberg. Christine Marie Brown admirably takes just a tip of the iceberg. But I knew I was witnessing a man of great intelligence doing battle, fiercely, with his mortality.

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Flanagan says about 15 people from inside fought against the 10 in the parking lot. “I got kicked in the back of the head,” says Stone Senses lead singer Eric Castaneda. Two members of a different band got beaten the worst: “Anthony [the lead singer] got thrown down and hit a good number of times. They surrounded Ben [the guitarist], who was on the ground. They kicked him a number of times. His mouth was filled with blood. If we hadn’t have rolled him over, he would have suffocated in his blood.”

Flanagan says, “I told [Canes] security there was something going on. They were receptive at first. They walked out about 15 feet and stopped. They stood there and watched everything happen. They didn’t do shit. They said anything that happens outside is not their responsibility. I asked them to call the police. They said they could call Belmont [Park] security.”

Castaneda says, “I called 911. They put me on hold. I got a voice mail, so I hung up and tried again. It was, like, 25 minutes before the cops showed up — SDPD spokesman Dave Cohen says his report shows that police were called at 1:55 a.m. and the first officer arrived at 2:16 a.m. According to the report, there were two men bleeding at the scene, but paramedics (who arrived before the police) were “standing back,” which means they withheld treatment because of a dangerous situation. He says the report indicates that there were two men lying on the ground and bleeding but they declined treatment by paramedics and declined to file a police report. No arrests were made.

Lt. Lawrence McKinney says, “The management has a responsibility for maintaining order for a distance of 100 feet around their establishment…. Violations or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

Where is the Hate? Lil Uno released his CD, The Streets, on his Sicko Records label. The title track borrows a riff from “Still Water (Love),” the 1970 hit by the Four Tops. “We had to go through an independent clearance company for the rights,” says Lil Uno, who paid a licensing fee of $12,000 for the “Still Water” sample. If he sells more than 8,400 copies of his record, Lil Uno will pay the licensing company four cents on every record he sells thereafter. So far, he says sales figures are in the 18,000 range. Because Sicko is distributed by Fontana/Universal, “The Streets” is getting radio airplay in 40 markets, including Houston, San Antonio, and Phoenix. One of the San Diego stations that plays “The Streets” is “Blazein’ 98.9,” the station on which Lil Uno hosts a locals-only hip-hop show every Sunday. Lil Uno says that because he is a DJ on a competing station, Z90 (the other local hip-hop station) won’t play his music.

“When The Streets’ came out, we blasted the song to [Z90 program director] Rick Thomas. He e-mailed us back, saying that Lil Uno took a stand against Z90 and that since he did there was no chance Z90 would support the record.”

Thomas did not deny he sent such an e-mail (and Z90 does not play Lil Uno’s
Small Labeled “31G’s financial situation is not the best at the moment,” says record-label co-owner Alyssa Edwards. “We left our old distributor, the Turgeon music group, to go with Redeye. Turgeon wasn’t too happy about us leaving… they have decided not to pay us anything owed in a timely manner. In fact, they haven’t really paid us at all, which has affected us and our release schedule in a huge way.”

Edwards invested in 31G in 1998, after receiving insurance money from a car accident. Her label’s most recent release (in April) was a Birthday Party tribute record they had in the works for years. Titled Release the Bats, it features such local bands as Kill Me Tomorrow, Some Girls, Cattle Decapitation, and the Plot to Blow Up the Eiffel Tower.

“31G doesn’t make enough from 31G to live on. To supplement her income, she bartends at the Zombie Lounge and Rosie and Joe’s. “I own a house and a dog and have ‘adult’ problems,” she says. “So I have to do whatever I have to do to pay the bills.” 31G has a number of projects in the works, including a Holy Molar EP and full lengths by out-of-town friends Das Oath and Jenny Piccolo.

— Jeremiah Griffey

LOUIS PADILLA ADMITS HIS ACT IS A CHALLENGE is about looks, about being as much like a lady as possible, but an impersonation is a challenge. He lip-synchs song, hour-long performance. He lip-synchs to recorded Shakira tracks. He began impersonating the Colombian-born singer around eight years ago and makes his own costumes.

“I don’t do anything Shakira herself is into.” Padilla, a 29-year-old who cashiers at the EastLake Wal-Mart, earns between $400 and $1000 for a ten-song, hour-long performance. He lip-syncs to recorded Shakira tracks. He began impersonating the Colombian-born singer around eight years ago and makes his own costumes.

“It’s when I put on my Middle-Eastern belts that I really take on her persona.” When the real Shakira kicked off her first world tour at the Sports Arena in November 2002, Padilla was up front, standing on a riser. “She made eye contact and was smiling at me. There was a connection. I could tell she was really surprised to see someone dancing just like her, especially a boy!”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Roger Hedgecock and Merry Space Cadets Thirty-seven years ago today (5/11/69), the grateful Dead appeared along with Canned Heat, Lee Michaels, Tarantula, and the Colombian-born singer Tijuana-bred Carlos Santana.— Jay Allen Sanford
Edge of Magic

“These drums are known to have mystical powers and can wreak havoc if placed in the wrong hands.”

DAMARU

The Damaru is a two-sided percussion instrument that is shaken with two balls striking the membranes as part of spiritual practices in Tibet, India, and Nepal. The most powerful Damaruds are created from human skulls, as described in Mickey Hart’s book Drumming at the Edge of Magic. These drums are known to have mystical powers and can wreak havoc if placed in the wrong hands. In Hindu philosophy the Damaru is the drum held by Shiva through which the universe is created. The Damaru symbolizes the mystery of manifestation and the evolution of the cosmos.”

— Frank Lazzaro, drummer. Damaru performs on the first Thursday of every month at Claire de Lune.

TALL

“I was watching an episode of VH1’s Behind the Music about the Black Crowes, talking about the Robinson brothers’ rocky relationship and how at one point it boiled over as they were completing one of their studio albums. The fight came to blows, and one brother took the masters from the studio and threw them in the garbage. The name of that [Black Crowes] album was going to be Tall, which is a euphemism for getting high.”

— Stuart T. Smith, vocals

HOLIDAY AND THE ADVENTURE POP COLLECTIVE

“Holiday references both vacationing and the great Billie Holiday. When Louis (Caverly) and I began working on old and new songs and decided to ‘get the band back together,’ therein lies the collective. When put together, our name combines the specific with concepts, dreams, and great escape. Think ‘Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.’” — Derrick Oliver, guitar/horns. Holiday and the Adventure Pop Collective perform May 12 at the Whistle Stop.

PRIDEBOWL

“We started in 1994 in Sweden. I’m American and the other four original members were Swedish. After learning a few punk covers and adding a few originals, we were ready to play our first gig in the tiny town we lived in, Varberg, but we needed a name. After some long, weird drive through the country, the word ‘Pride’ popped in my head. Then I thought about how the Swedish bandmembers loved to bowl, since that town’s six-lane alley was probably the only local place one could find people having fun on any given day. So we came up with the name ‘Pridebowl’ and said it over and over until it didn’t make sense anymore. We really wanted a name that wasn’t in the dictionary.” — Aaron Goulding, vocals

THE ROSERY

“One morning I went out to a family IHOP breakfast with all my relatives. My grandma pulls out a big black sheet music box she kept in under the stairs. As I picked it up — a chorus girl’s résumé as I picked it up — a chorus girl’s résumé with a list of songs she knew. ‘The Rosery’ was one of the numbers listed, and Rose happens to be my mother’s and my grandmother’s middle name.” — Lucas Coleman, guitar/vocals

INNERLIMIT

“Our name comes from the idea that the percentage of our brain that people use today is a fraction of what it should be. We have a lot more potential than we can even conceive. Television, media, and the government are all key players in the dumbing-down of the human race. Inner-limit dares one to explore the known realms of thinking…to create a better world.” — Drew Bent, vocals/percussion. Innerlimit performs May 12 at the Static Lounge.

SIMEON FLICK

“I was named after an Indian boy that my father treated at a domestic psych ward during the Vietnam War…this eight-year-old boy named Simeon had a rare pituitary dysfunction that matured him too early so he was, in effect, a boy trapped inside a man’s body. I could probably say the same about myself. People I meet are often disbeliefing at how rock-and-roll my name sounds, so I use it legally changed or anything. I just had cool quasi-hippie parents.” — Simeon Flick, guitar/vocals

BAND NAMES

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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THURSDAYS
Karaoke Dinner Show
6 pm to close
$2 Wells and Beer
after 8 pm

MOTHER’S DAY
CHAMPAGNE
BRUNCH!
Sunday, May 14
9 am-3 pm

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SATURDAYS
LIVE SALSA BAND
RICO TUMBAO
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are now college night!
The SHOUT!
Rock ‘n Roll
Sing-A-Long
Dueling Piano Bar

$2,50 Draft Specials
$2.00 Shot Specials
ALL NIGHT LONG


SCHEDULE

AGENT ORANGE
“Because I Got High”
5/28:
Members of Megadeth present
\textit{Arm The Angels}

ELIJAH EMMANUEL
& \textbf{THE REVELATIONS}
5/19:
Those Dang Robinsons

THE HUSKY BOY
ALL-STARS
5/17:
Blind Melons

STOLEN
“Our name came from the foothills behind our neighborhood in El Cajon. Eight years ago the property was sold to build a new housing development and a Wal-Mart. The hills were a part of all of our childhoods... we felt as if they had been stolen from us. We decided to carve ‘Stolen Hills’ in one of the concrete slabs in remembrance of the hills. When the band formed six years ago, we shortened the name.” — Erik Clabeaux, bass/vocals. Stolen performs May 13 at Scripps Ranch High School.

A PARK TRADITION
“Our three founding members, John, Nick, and Scott, all grew up in a town called Newbury Park (California), where absolutely everyone is in a band. You could go to a show somewhere almost seven nights a week and always have a friend or two playing. It might be because there’s not a whole lot else to do there. When we moved to San Diego for school and realized not everyone is in a band or is supportive of new music, we thought we’d keep up our town’s tradition here.” — Nick Norton, guitar/vocals.

FAT MAN’S MISERY
“One, I’ve been playing guitar for 35 years, and this is my first blues band. I’ve primarily been in progressive rock bands. Two, I’m fat. Not just a little overweight, but at my heaviest I was 431 pounds. It makes me very self-conscious sometimes. Three, I am a very proud member of the second generation native of San Diego, and Fat Man’s Misery was a place in Torrey Pines that my sister the bass player and I used to go when we were kids.” — Lee Loveless, guitar/vocals.

SHOESTRING STRAP
“When our outlaw country/bluegrass band first moved from playing living rooms to having actual gigs, our mandolin player Keith borrowed a strap from our bass player Kent. One day Kent wanted his strap back. You would think a mandolin might have smaller strap pegs than a bass, but not so. It stretched out the [strap] holes so much that Kent’s bass would fall off, repeatedly, onstage. Keith still didn’t want to buy a strap for some reason so I offered to give him a shoestring as a strap. We also wanted a name that’s impossible to say drunk.” — Dave Lowenstein, guitar/bass.

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Friday May 12
Heff Productions presents

ROCKET
featuring Dj Rags

Saturday May 13
Polka Dot & Realignze Tribe present
SPEKTRUM
Alan B’s birthday bash featuring Alan B | Theron | Project 8
Lee Roy Parnell

By Dave Good

“What goes up must come down / The pendulum swings around / Don’t give up / ‘Cause this could be your lucky day / ‘Cause you can’t lose them all,” sings Lee Roy Parnell in a boat of the inverse logic that permeates much of country music. Otherwise, his song owes more to Billy Squier or old James Gang than it does to George Jones or Charlie Rich. But then, Parnell never was wise, his song owes more to Billy Squier or Charlie Rich. But then, Parnell never was cut out for the big time of country music; his career might indeed have been written off as yet another Nashville casualty when he ditched his rooey sound and leaned hard into the slipstream of modern country radio. He charted with “On the Road” and even earlier with “Love Without Mercy,” but after the obligatory duets with a few big country stars, his deal with Arista eventually unwound. That turned out, in my opinion, to be a real stroke of luck.

Parnell eventually changed labels and went back to the sound that made his name — a hard-to-pin-down country blend of bar-bar-rock, gospel, blues, and Texas boogie. Back to the well seethes with slide guitar punctuated by a Hammond B3. Live, Parnell’s guitar solos are long and nasty and generous, far eclipsing the typical four bars allotted most country music solos. With a voice sounding like a trimmed-down Walter Trout yell, Parnell comes off as the antithesis of the cowboy-hatted-star, even though his Nashville roots run deep.

Still, for a country album, Back to the Well is good, and it’s a fair comment to say that not all of the best country has come from red-state mentality. Think of Ray Charles’s Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music or Leonard Cohen, Gram Parsons…even Van Morrison’s recent Pay the Devil. As a fan and a listener, I all require is sincerity, believable singing, storytelling that suspends my reasoning for around three minutes, and the feeling that I’m in the hands of a great musician. Lee Roy Parnell delivers on all counts, minus the mirestones.

Lee Roy Parnell, Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, May 13, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140 or 619-220-8497. $15.

Calendar

CONCERTS

Listen to sample songs of bands in upcoming concerts free on your phone: 619-233-9797. Call any day or day 7 a week.

Concert Soundboard

619.233.9797

Press the 4-digit extension above the category that interests you (for example, 6000 for this week’s concerts).

At the next prompt, press the 3-digit code that is next to the performers you wish to hear. (Performers without codes currently do not have recordings.)

EXTENSION 4000

THIS WEEK’S CONCERTS

THURSDAY


KT Tunstall: House of Blues, Thursday, May 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

EXTENSION 4001

UPCOMING CONCERTS

MAY

(Venue) (283) Comedy Thursdays, Thursday, May 18, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Gaslamp. 619-220-8497.

Doc Mart

JT Donaldson

Wally Callierio

Lamont Moerhaus

Nick C & Frankie M

Pools Party

Pool Side

The Lobby

2223 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92109

Doc Mart

JT Donaldson

Wally Callierio

Lamont Moerhaus

Nick C & Frankie M

AGUA, a Swoon Production welcomes Spundae to San Diego for a series of spectacular monthly events uniting top industry talent, SD Promoters, Global Producers, and local DJs, all dancing together as one, and Partying for a Purpose to benefit the homeless children of San Diego.

Brad Cath & Special Guests

2006

by Dave Good
4th&B
UPCOMING CONCERTS AND NIGHT CLUB EVENTS

Tiesto
MAY 12
sold
out
MAY 13

The Infamous...
MAY 14
mob Deep
MAY 15

Daredevil Jane
MAY 17
Campaign for Quiet
MAY 18

Alejandro Guzman
MAY 19
Felix da Housecat
MAY 20

Gregory Isaacs
MAY 21
T Bone Burnett
MAY 22
Barrington Levy
MAY 23

2 nights
MAY 24
Robin Trower
MAY 25
James Brown
MAY 26

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FRIDAY, MAY 12
Tiesto Presented with Ore Promotions & Event Vibe
+Boris MD (Departure)

FRIDAY, MAY 19
Uberzone (Live)
Static Revenger
+Austin Scott

FRIDAY, MAY 26
The Crystal Method DJ set
+Anthony Ross & Theron

SAN DIEGO READER MAY 11, 2006
LIVE IN CONCERT

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THE MARS VOLTA

AUGUST 22

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Tickets
858-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Heather: House of Blues, Saturday, June 10, 3035 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Gregory Isaacs: 7937 4th St, B, June 11, 1435 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.


Calexico: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, June 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-231-4343 or 619-220-8497.

Smash Mouth: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Tuesday, June 13, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161 or 619-220-8497.

Wolfmother: Canes, Tuesday, June 13, 1310 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 619-488-1780 or 619-220-8497.

Bo Bice: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 14, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161 or 619-220-8497.

The Walkmen: House of Blues, Friday, June 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-8497.

Ozomatli: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Friday, June 16, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161 or 619-220-8497.

Sun, May 28

Mardi Gras Gypsies

The Storm Tour With Aceyalone

Ugly Duckling

The Procussions

Diverse + Imad Mayo!

Wrekizzle

Tues 5/30 • 8:00 PM

Tues 5/30 • 8:00 PM

Tues 5/30 • 8:00 PM

Tues 5/30 • 8:00 PM
October

Peter Mulvey: Acoustic Music San Diego, Friday, June 16, 4601 Manfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.


Buddy Miller and The Love Godz: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, June 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Richard Thompson: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Bonnie Raitt: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, June 28, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Dolly Parton: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


May

Dead and Company: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, May 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Richard Thompson: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


JULY

Kenny Loggins: Humphony's Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, July 1, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Oxymoronic: Canons, Sunday, July 2, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.


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FRIDAY JUNE 23

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THURSDAY JUNE 15

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DIERKS BENTLEY * JAKE OWEN
SUNDAY JUNE 18

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THURSDAY JULY 6

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San Diego Reader May 11, 2006
Blues Traveler: Sunday, July 9, 11 a.m. 2050 Island. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


The Beach Boys: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

The Gipsy Kings: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Concerts in the Park, Friday, August 4, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Humphrey’s: 4th & B, Tuesday, July 25, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.

Humphrey’s: 4th & B, Wednesday, July 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.


Humphrey’s: 4th & B, Friday, July 28, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400 or 619-220-8497.
WIDESPREAD PANIC

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28
ON SALE FRIDAY 11AM!

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herz so good
**Calendar/Festivals/Concerts**

**The Temptations (90s)**: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Tuesday, October 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

**OCTOBER**

**Emmylou Harris (60s)**: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Tuesday, October 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

**Celtic Frost**: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583 or 619-220-4407.

**Queensryche (80s)**: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Wednesday, October 4, 2441 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

**Frank Black**: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, October 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-523-1010 or 619-220-8497.

**Anis Abdul**: PD Events Center, Friday, October 20, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580 or 619-284-6784.

**DJ EVENTS**

If you would like to include your DJ events, email selliss@nethere.com or fax information to 619-881-2801 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

**Ascension**: Second Friday of the month, 20meat:6fry spin electrohouse. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Kadan, 4066 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

**Deepo**: Thursdays, drum ’n’ bass with Djs Klaw/hardcore, Probable Cause, and Skyle Mic. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-233-2838.

**Mixtape Sessions**: Wednesdays, underground hip-hop and downtempo with DJ Ricky Wrecks and guests. 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. No cover. Honey Bee Hive, 1409 C Street, downtown. 619-702-4455.

**Moondoggies Pacific Beach**: Saturdays, Saturday Night Mix, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Riley’s Sports Bar, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-2474.

**MixLab**: Thursdays, DJ Des spins an eclectic listening source, alternative hip-hop, urban soul, and Latin grooves. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. No cover. Candida, 416 Third Avenue, downtown. 619-702-6105.

**Sonic Circus**: Third Saturday of the month, 20meat:6fry spin electrohouse and breakbeat, Clay Elliot on live horns, circus feats by local performers. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-299-3033.

**Therapy**: Fridays, industrial, gothic, and R&B with DJs Bryan Pollard, OT7, and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Aires Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-5483.

**One Nation**: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, new wave, hop-hop, and boogalo remixes with DJs Blackshots and Alex. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

**Rockin’ the House**: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 9 p.m. No cover. Rooftop Sports Bar, 2215 El Camino Real, Oceanside. 760-737-1223.

**Sabbath**: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, gothic, industrial, and dark. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. No cover. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-2474.

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**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. 619-284-5784.
rob thomas
Jewel

Special guest Toby Lightman

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BORDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC, 1405 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0342. Friday, 8 p.m., Patty Hall, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Olga Tropis, folk.

BORDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC, 1160 Ranchos Carmel Drive, Carnd Mount. 760-638-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., Molly Jenkins, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Hooster Baker, folk.

Bub’s Whiskey Dive, 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-737-2525. Live rock, call club for information.


Midnight, Middle Earth, Tuesday, Jack Toppin, folk. Wednesday, Michele Landoni & Blue Steel.

Cafes, 1140 Bernardos Plaza Drive, Ranchos Bernados. 838-066-2400. Friday, and Saturday, Crystal Sage, classic rock.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 101 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Aether. Motown, classic rock; 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Billy Thompson, blues. 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the Blues Plasmatists, blues. 3:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Jeff Moore & the Whiteknighters, blues. 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dave Cornely, folk rock. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Reggie Smith & the Friends for Time, jazz. 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Warhogs, rock.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-740-0015. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

Hennessey’s Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, Saturday, alternate rock; Saturday, Lizard Fish, rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe. 9511 143 South the 145th Street Del Mar. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, live classic rock.

Hennessey’s Tavern (San Marcos), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, Saturday, alternate rock; Saturday, Lizard Fish, rock.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Rd., San Marcos. 760-471-7778. www.theflyinpturtle.com Bring in your wireless computer and take advantage of The Turtle’s wireless technology! Check e-mail, surf the web or research while you enjoy the atmosphere. FREE www.theflyinpturtle.com
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SUNDAY, MAY 14—TUAREG MUSIC: 6 to 7 p.m., Tyrone’s, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive. 858-491-0821.

SATURDAY, MAY 13—BAY BOWL: 9 p.m., San Diego Rock Bowl, 1212 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-483-9929.

THURSDAY, MAY 11—ACOUSTIC GUITAR: 7 to 9:30 p.m., Dust Bowl, 5755 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-453-4420.

SUNDAY, MAY 14—SWING: 2:30 to 6 p.m., Hotel Solamar, 1500 Pacific Beach Drive. 858-483-7844.
The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hostel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-599-7779. Depart 8:30 p.m. Friday, B Natural, Top 40. Saturday, Shades, classic rock.
Blamey Stone Pub, 1171 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2303. Thursday-Friday, Friday-Saturday, Tony Carmona, Irish folk. Sunday, open mike. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, call for club information.
Brick by Brick, 1106 Barons Avenue, Bay Park. 619-273-LIVE. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Belafonte, Sign of One and Noir de Guerre. Friday, Ella, Therapy. Saturday, Jonna Tree and the Skeliftookus Guitar. Sunday, Kill Hannah, Shiny Toy Guns, Clear Status, Jupiter, and Provider.
Camel’s Breath Inn, 10330 Friars Road, San Diego. 619-281-1722. Monday, 7-10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., the Blue Invaders, blues.
Chicano Park Caf e y Culture, 616 National City Boulevard, National City. 619-474-7375. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Bill Calabuig’s Latin Jam.
College-Rolando Branch Library, 6600 Montezuma Road, San Diego. 619-535-2993. Monday, 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., the Leri Bell Sals.
Egyptian Tea Room, 4404 College Avenue, San Diego. 619-263-7287. Tuesday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., Andrea Reneke, contemporary folk.

San Diego
The Aero Club, 1055 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. 7 p.m., the San Diego Blues Trio.

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San Diego Reader
May 11, 2006
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ON SALE FRIDAY 10AM!

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Twigs Tea and Coffee Company, 4109 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-206-0166. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m., Dave Arnes, Gregor Shane, Jeff Rolka, and Laura Konkol. Friday, 8 p.m., Aaron Bower, Ashley Matsu, and The Globe. Saturday, 8 p.m., Barn, Kevin Eren, Kim Miller, and Bret Vogt. Sunday, 4 p.m., The Celtic Ensemble. Wednesday, open mic.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3053 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7090. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Willowsden smooth jazz/instrumental/R&B.

**DOWNTOWN**

Bela, 919 Fourth Street, Gaslamp. 619-251-8200. Call club for information.

Blaneary Stone Pub, 902 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Steve Brewer, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Thursday, 6 p.m., the Bayou Brothers, blues. Friday, 8 p.m., the Denver Rager Band, folk/acoustic/blues.

Cafe Charis, 1123 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-595-0153. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Dylan Sargue and the Danny Greer Trio, jazz.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-8555. HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Young Explorers, Extreme Superhero, Bloodmesser, and Archery. Friday, Atonic, Assyrian Horn, A.M. Vibe, and Matt White. Saturday, the Ballsy, the Spoons, and DJ Safari. Sunday, Helen Keller, Dragmeister, and the Lancers. Monday, the Slackers and the Aggrovators. Tuesday, Jucifer and Sebastian Serious. Wednesday, the Gorgers, the Denizens Delbrook, and the Doofhills.

Chuey's Numero Uno, 1901 Main Street, downtown. 619-234-6597. Thursday, 7 p.m to 11 p.m., M.D. Blues, blues.

Cree's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the David Patterson Quartet Friday, Free. Saturday, Private. Sunday, the Ambrosi. Monday, Dave Scott Tuesday, the Chip Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, Fuzzy & the Bl interior.

Deco's, 731 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-236-0880. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

Dick's Last Resort, 341 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, Prime. Saturday, Blue Rockin', Sunday, the Ghost of Tulsa. Tuesday, the W.W. Wednesday, call club for information.

Dizay's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-250-7467. Thursday, 7:30 p.m., the Governor College Jazz Ensemble. Friday, Peter Sprogo, Josh Nehaves, Bob Magness, Joe Anderson, Tripp Springer, Leonard Parker, Eric Lipe, and Rebecca Ashley. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Danny Green, Dylan Sanders, and Slade Smoor. Latin jazz. Sunday, 7 p.m., Larry Mitchell, Martin Geavan, James East, and Charlie George. pop/jazz. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., the Legacy Big Band.

Dublin Square, 304 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-239-5818. Thursday, Holiday's the Adventure Pop Collection.

The Field, 344 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-9840. Thursday and Saturday, the David Patterson Quartet. 619-233-4355. Sliders Club. Friday, 8 p.m., Todd Schrader. Saturday, 8 p.m., Edon Brown and Eric Henry, cabaret.

Whiskey Girl, 400 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday through Saturday, DJ Moe. Thursday, 8 p.m., to midnight. Les Allen or City Limits, country with occasional rock/blues.

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-4109. Friday, 9 p.m., Tawana Myers & the World Beat Jazz Ensemble, world jazz.

**SOUTH BAY / CORONADO**

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Coronado. 619-475-2660. Thursday, the locals. 619-417-0430. Wednesday, Cabaret. 619-472-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Sandy Chapel and Sonny Constantino, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Forrest Anderson and Joe Garrison, jazz. Wednesday, DJ event.

Caffe Salotto #1, 2240 Otay Lakes Road, Lakeside Village. 619-527-3512. Thursday and Friday, Mark Butler, live jazz. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Tony Sottos, folk/jazz.

Edelweiss Restaurant, 230 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. 619-426-3172. Thursday and Friday, Mark Butler, live music. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 8 p.m., Barbara Jesmeren and the Tamarines. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 8 p.m., Stiletto's at Zorro Landing. Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 8 p.m., Jim Gallo. Palm Court, Thursday through Sunday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Ray Br. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., Joe Yellin.

Crown Room, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., John Cain.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3446. Friday, Carl House Stomp, blues/rock. Saturday, Brad Wilson, acoustic.


Over the Border, 3009 Main Street, Chula Vista. 619-427-5889. Friday and Saturday, Los Injertos, rock en español.

South Bay Fish and Grill, 570 Marine Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-230-2334. Saturday, 10:30 a.m., the Third Coast Jazz Band.

**EAST COUNTY**

Barrett Junction Cafe and Mercantile, 920 Barrett Lake Road, Barrett Junction. 619-466-3416. Saturday and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m., Tom Smock, classic rock/blues/blues/Blues.

Borders Books and Music, 139 Park Boulevard, El Cajon. 619-593-5118. Thursday, 6:30 p.m., WAU's Lips, folk/bluegrass.

Cosmos Cafe, 8278 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-419-4217. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Ken and Jim Zep, acoustic.

DeOro Mine Co., 924 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-684-3551. Friday, the Fun Addicts, country. Saturday, Forgotten, rock.


Don's Cocktail Lounge, 15321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, the Tall Driver, countryrock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-689-2204. Friday, Arewood, rock. Saturday, Tawny, for Gay, Hummer Tongers, and solo, rock.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Mollison Avenue, El Cajon. 619-272-7245. Friday, 7:30 p.m., the Ray Barra. 550 Cahuenga, country/rock.

Las Parrillas, 555 Montrose Court, El Cajon. 619-444-3935. Friday, hip-hop/reggae. Saturday, LatinJB.

Second Wind, 8518 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8380. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., classic rock.

Sity 7 Bar and Grill, 10109 Main Avenue, Lakeside. 619-561-6767. Friday, 9 p.m., DJ Derry, Top 40 hip-hop. Saturday, Danceus, pub rock. Tuesday, DJ Gith, house/techno. Wednesday, DJ Rock, rock.

Viejas Casino, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-495-5880. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, live music, call club for information.

**Thursday, May 11**

8 pm to 12 am • Original Rock

Tapware with Peter Sprague

**Friday, May 12**

6-8 pm • Smooth Jazz

Keith Jacobson

9:30-1:30 am • Dance & Disco

**Saturday, May 13**

6-8 pm • Classic Rock & Blues

Modern Rhythm Band

**Sunday, May 14**

8 pm to 12 am • Smooth Jazz

Fattburger

**Monday, May 15**

6:30-11 pm • Original Rock

**Tuesday, May 16**

8 pm to 12 am • Funk, Soul & Dance

**Wednesday, May 17**

9:30-1:30 am • Hip-Hop & Reggae

**Upcoming Shows**

**Thursday, May 18**

8 pm • Original Rock

Rod Piazza & the Flyers

**Friday, May 19**

9:30 pm • Smokin’ Blues Guitar

Debbie Davies with very special guest Janiva Magness

**Saturday, May 20**

7 pm • Original Rock

Lil Ed & the Blue Imperials

2241 Shelter Island Drive  619.224.3577

www.humphreysbythebay.com

Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at 7th Avenue and Humphreys. Reserved seating for "Upcoming Shows" available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.
Listen to sample songs of performers free from your phone: 619-233-9797. Night or day 7 days a week. To include your music, mail your CD to: Reader Soundboard, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

**Band Soundboard**

619.233.9797

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.)

**ALTERNATIVE**

- The Accident Experiment: Canes
- The Aggrolites: The Casbah
- A.M. Vibe: /939: The Casbah
- Archery: The Casbah
- Arm the Angels: Blind Melon
- Atlas of Id: Canes
- Authority Zero: Soma
- Bird Monster: The Casbah
- Buckfast Superbee: /939: The Casbah
- Cheeky: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- Chris Paul Overall: The Kensington Club
- Circus Minor: Soma
- Clear Static: Brick By Brick
- The Cougars: The Casbah

**Day One: Dreamstreet**

**Dreamstreet Dollroute: The Casbah**
- d/Root: Canes
- Dive Bomber: Canes
- Dreamtiger: The Casbah
- Element 8: Canes
- Elevator: The Kensington Club
- The Exit Theory: Canes
- Fate of a Friend: Soma
- The Fever: Bally Up Tavern
- Five Soft Main: Vocrest
- Forfal: Soma
- Grandview: Soma
- The Great Glass: The Kensington Club
- Guttermouth: /939: Canes
- Hem: Bally Up Tavern
- Heroes: Canes
- Holiday & the Adventure Pop Collective: Dublin Square
- The Insurgence: Leisl’s Coffee House
- Intivisic: Soma
- Jocifer: The Casbah
- Jupiter: Brick By Brick
- Kill Hannah: Brick By Brick
- Kill Radio: Soma
- The Lanterns: The Casbah
- Last Year’s Zero: The Kensington Club
- Lizard Fish: Hemmy’s Tavern (Casbah)
- Love Hate Heroes: Soma
- Mother Grundy: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- Muff: Soma
- Nine Black Alps: Bally Up Tavern
- No Fences: Canes
- Nom de Guerre: Brick By Brick
- Panic Channel: Canes
- Plastic Explosive: /939: The Casbah
- River City High: Soma
- The Rosery: Soma
- Safety Orange: Leisl’s Coffee House
- Sandjacket: /939: Hemmy’s Tavern (Casbah)
- Shiny Toy Guns: Brick By Brick
- Sign of Omen: Brick By Brick

**EXTENSION 4003**

**ROCK**

- Alegen: Tiki House
- Aloha: The Casbah
- Animal Style: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- Arrowhead: Fanny’s Nightclub
- Bad Habit: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
- The Ball英格: The Casbah
- Big Backyard: Tiki House
- Big Sound: Surf N’Saddle
- Bigfellas: Winstons, Humphrey’s
- The Blasphemous Guitars: Brick By Brick
- Bullets and Octane: Canes
- The Cadaver Dogs: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- Coastal Eddy: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- The Clayton Band: Tom Goblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant
- Cricket Sages: Carvers
- Daemonic: Stry 7 Bar and Grill
- The Detroit Underground: Humphrey’s
- The 86’d: Dink’s Last Resort
June

70s Soul Jam featuring The Stylistics, The Spinners, Chi-Lites & Cuba Gooding, Sr. of The Main Ingredient and special guest host Jimmie "JJ" Walker
- Thursday, June 8 • 7:30
- Sunday, June 11 • 7:30

Clarke/Duke Project featuring Stanley Clarke & George Duke with special guest Marilyn Scott
- Sunday, June 18 • 7:30

Baaba Maal/ Richard Thompson
- Monday, June 19

India.Arie with special guest Chistette Michele
- Thursday, June 22 • 7:30

Acoustic Planet Tour featuring Béla Fleck & The Flecktones/ Keller Williams/ Yonder Mountain String Band
- Wednesday, June 27 • 7:30
- Pink Martini
- Saturday, June 24 • 8:00

The 5 Browns
- Wednesday, June 28 • 7:30

Ringo Starr & his All Starr Band sold out!
- featuring Robben Ford, Edgar Winter, Richard Marx, Eddie Money, and special guest host Billy Squier
- Thursday, August 24 • 7:30

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- Humphrey's Box Office Hours
- Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 am-6:30 pm
- www.humphreysconcerts.com
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As far as the music behind the lyrics is concerned, it’s forgettable. It’s basic rock with a hint of country and rock. Very literal protest for Wyoming. Don’t worry about that. Just agree with the music behind it. Little bit of a mixed metaphor here. Not really a big deal except for two things: 1) protest rock is all about its words (the music is nothing special) and 2) this sort of mistake is pervasive throughout the CD.

Orphans often sleep alone / their tears are always dry / and who would care to lay beside the anguish of an orphan’s cry. Orphans sleep alone because they cry and they cry because they sleep alone. Oh, and they cry dry tears. (7) But, don’t worry about that. Just agree with the music behind it. And who can argue with orphans?

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$2 Well Drinks & Domestic Beers until 10 pm • Beer pong

Armed Forces Day - FRIDAY 5/19
Battle of the Bands Bout V
619-222-8131 • www.dreamstreetlive.com
Day One • Without A Warning • Zo
2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach
Gadfly • The Swell • Burnt featuring G (Snoop Dogg's cousin)

Superunloader
Bartenders Wanted

UPCOMING SHOWS
SATURDAY 5/13
Lifestyle with Jäger Girls
THURSDAY 5/11
with Budweiser Girls
presents Live Hip-Hop with Lifestyle
featuring Bing Worthington (Snoop Dogg's brother)
Module featuring G (Snoop Dogg's cousin)

Day One • Without A Warning • Zo
TUESDAY
$2 Tuesdays • No Cover
DJ iPod
$2 Well Drinks & Domestic Beers until 10 pm • Beer pong

HUNGRY SHOWS
FRIDAY 5/19
Battle of the Bands Bout V with Backwater Girls

SATURDAY 5/20
Armed Forces Day • Military Appreciation Night with Japan Girls

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Panjia Fea • Michael Kang • Tom Freund
Samantha Stellonwerck • Brett Bonnen
Alfred Howard • Spam All Stars • Tim Easton
Corinne West • A-Bro. Fea. • Wally Ingram
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Friday, May 12
6:15-10:45 pm

Saturday, May 13
6:15-10:45 pm

Sunday, May 14 & 21
6:15-10:45 pm

Masterpiece
6:30-11 pm

Mystique (Element of Soul)
6:30-11 pm

Insight
6:30-11 pm

The Soul Rebels
6:30-11 pm

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Southpaw Saloon
1/2 off drink
Lucky 7 Match
No cover Thursdays

Red Circle
Happy-hour priced round
Riley's Sports Bar

Second Wind Navajo
No cover
Tio Leo's Lounge
$1 off club admission
Zip & Zack's

Free appetizer

SanDiegoReader.com
The dining room with its huge glass windows is paneled in wood with painted panels in sorbet pastels. Partial walls divide the expa...
nus so thickly glazed that they tasted like brown sugar lumps — with no nuttiness left. (Is sugar Xanax for nuts?) Meanwhile, several plates of the Iris chopped salad (named for the chef’s mom) passed us en route to other tables. We wished we’d ordered it instead.

Island Prime lives up to its steakhouse name, serving USDA Prime Midwestern corn-fed beef, tender, and well marbled. There’s also an aristocratic Kurobuta pork chop among the steakhouse-style entries. Since steak is more common than roast beef at most restaurants, we gravitated to the roast prime rib. We requested and received a rare center cut, which proved fatty, salty, and tasty, and a relish bargain at $21.25 (or $29 for 21 ounces). When we returned, I enjoyed a succulent 18-ounce bone-in ribeye and expected to enjoy it several times more than I doggy-bagged home.

The list of side dishes includes many variations on mashed potatoes, plus fried and roasted beans, spinach, mushrooms, and prosciutto-wrapped asparagus. The best, fresh shaved corn with black truffle shavings and herbs, has become the restaurant’s signature dish. “It’s the only way to eat corn,” she said. I echoed her rhapsodies. The truffle component isn’t the usual splash of oil, but crunchy black truffle shavings, lending earthy contrast to the sweet, crisp corn kernels and luscious cream sauce. This dish alone is worth the voyage.

“The lighty smoked wild mushroom rooms with herbs, garlic, shallots, and red wine” (the menu says) spill out of two rectangular packages of puff pastry. Don’t hope for morels or chanterelles. The mushrooms are mainly creminis (the brown version of button mushrooms), with a few strips of baby shitake and rehydrated porcini. The garlic is hard to detect. Instead, you get a lash of black pepper, heavy salting, and a sharp-flavored sauce. Sautéed spinach with cream, pancetta, and roasted garlic had tough leaves, splonches of melted cheddar, and a peppery cream sauce (and again, no perceptible garlic). At our first meal, our side was a lobster/aged cheddar twice-baked potato, which is not only enough for two as a side (as recommended) but would make a whole meal for a duo at home. Rising from a decapitated, hollowed-out potato was a giant pouf mingling melted cheddar and mashed potato flesh, mixed with chunks of bulk lobster knuckle meat. This type of lobster meat has only a hint of seafood flavor, and its texture resembles fork-mashed canned tuna. Arriving in a nearly burnt potato shell, it had grown chewy from the baking, and the flavor combination confused my taste buds. After the cool summer days in New England gobbled steamed live lobsters with drawn butter, my palate just can’t get around the Californian combination of lobster and melted cheese. Lynne and Fred didn’t say much, and they also didn’t eat much.

Real lobster — in the shell, that is — appears on an entrée of lobster, rock shrimp, clams, and mussels on black squid-ink linguini with an argula-Pernod cream sauce. The sauce is very rich, lightly herbal from the licorice-flavored Pernod, and heavily salted — you don’t taste the salt, but it raises an instant thirst. “Love this sauce,” said the Lynnette. The Australian lobster tail sluicing over the plate proved sweet and reasonably tender. It was surrounded by tiny rock shrimp and sweet little clams, but the mussels were (as at C Level the previous week) a little “off.” They weren’t as funky as they’d been downstairs, but they still had a whiff of their own exudates. (I spoke with chef Deborah about that the next day, and she promised to delve into the problem and correct it. I believe her, because the restaurant’s official muscat handling practices are correct, and because she’s encountered nasty mussels at other people’s restaurants and was agath to hear that some had come out of her kitchen.)

Porcini-dusted rack of Colorado lamb featured ordinary, slightly greasy meat with a deli-meat texture. Only enough for two as a side (as menu says) spill out of two rectangular plates.
The Girl in the Painting

“There must be some damned thing I can afford in there. Hell, I’m worth it.”

S

ee that horse?” says Charlie. I swivel on the low bar stool. But all I see is a naked lady staring down at me. She has wide hips, a wicked smile, and I swear she’s winking. “To the left, the left,” says Charlie. Oh. Yes. The smaller painting, farther along. It’s of a svelte-looking black horse standing proud in green grass.

“That horse created this place,” Charlie says. “His name was Don B. Without Don B, no Bully’s.”

“How come?” I ask.

“The Derby. Do you realize that 40,000 thoroughbreds are born each year, and only 20 of them make it into the Kentucky Derby? He was one.”

Jeez. I’m desperate to hear the rest, but Kahala brings over a petite cut prime rib to the table. “This couple used to hang out here. He was an artist. Crazy about her. Painted this celebration of her. Then he caught her cheating. Notice anything? One night he came back with his brushes. Painted her right eye closed, rearranged her boobs, added to her hips, and gave her a claw-hammer toe. Revenge. We have to get her a claw-hammer toe. Revenge. We have to stick to the burgers.”

The Place: Bully’s La Jolla, 5755 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-459-2768; also in Mission Valley and Del Mar

The English barman started up Bully’s right here in 1967, with Don B’s dough and Beverly’s help. This Bully’s here in Bird Rock is the original one of several that have grown up around town over the past four decades. Charlie shows me the very first menu, hand-lettered by Betty. Oh boy. They charged $4.95 for full cut prime rib ($26.00 now). And $1.50 for a Bully Burger ($8.75 now). “Course, time has passed. George has passed on, and Charlie and Beverly now own all this.”

“So,” I ask, “what’s the story about the naked Madam?”

“Come look,” Charlie says. I get up and we cross to the back wall where it hangs.

“This couple used to hang out here. He was an artist. Crazy about her. Painted this celebration of her. Then he caught her cheating. Notice anything? One night he came back with his brushes. Painted her right eye closed, rearranged her boobs, added to her hips, and gave her a claw-hammer toe. Revenge. We have to live with it.”

My check comes to $13.15, with coffee ($2.25) and onions ($1.00). I’m gonna owe Carla big-time. Come to think of it, she’d love it here. I should bring her.

Just so long as she swears to stick to the burgers.

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on beautiful Mission Bay

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Carving Station
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Purple Teeth

“I can get a full-bodied Cab for 30 bucks? Right on!”

I spent a lot of years working in corporate restaurant America,” says Jim Barrasso, owner of Firefly, a new grill and wine bar in Encinitas. “I had the opportunity to do a lot of work with wine lists.” Part of his duties with Morton’s steakhouse involved being “in charge of all the corporate wine and beverage programs. A lot of my experience came from that — I was fortunate enough to do a lot of wine trips. I got wined and dined a lot, and it’s been kind of a hobby ever since.”

After Morton’s and a couple of other steakhouse chains, he arrived in San Diego in time to “spend a little bit of time with the guys from Fleming’s,” a steakhouse that has staked at least part of its reputation on a broad and accessible wine list with lots of by-the-glass offerings. “When they were developing their core wine list, I dove that that program. We brought every-thing up to Napa, did one of those tastings that was like 150 bottles in two days — purple teeth, that kind of thing.” That’s when he met Tim Hanni of WineQuest; that’s when he discovered the concept of the Progressive Wine List. “It’s preceded by the Stag’s Leap Vignobles and followed by a Rutherford Ranch Chardonnay.) “Maybe it’ll help them choose. Maybe it’ll help them step out a little bit.” If they know about a Willamette Valley Pinot Gris, maybe they’ll move one down in the Dry Light to Medium-Intensity White/Rose Wines category to an Alsatian Pinot Blanc. And who knows — maybe from there to a Spanish Rosé. “It’s a tough sell, but it’s one of those that a couple of staff members have fallen in love with.” (Other staff-supported surprises include a Rosenblum Zinfandel and an Australian Pinot Noir, which are both-outselling any Chardonnay on the list.)

Between Fleming’s and Firefly, there was Steakhouse 66, a casual place that never quite worked out. After two and a half years, he started rethinking the place. Besides expanding the menu from steakhouse to grill fare, he decided he wanted to focus on wine. He’s quick to acknowledge that there are already wine bars in Encinitas — good ones. Further, “All these wine stores have tasting rooms now. You can always get a really good glass of wine, but you can’t get food — maybe a cheese plate, maybe some pâté, maybe some olives. The thought was that there was definitely a need for a place where you could actually experience wine and food together.”

His clearest competition on that front is the recently opened Tastes, but even there, he thinks he’s a bit different. “My vision was for two or three of us at a table here in the bar. You’ve got a glass of wine. I’ve built my own flight — every wine on the by-the-glass list is available in a two-ounce taster. We’ve got glasses of wine on the table and about four or five little plates of food. We’re all checking it out, saying, ‘Hey, what’s cool?’ Or, we go into the dining room and have dinner.” Where Tastes goes in for a portion size somewhere between appetizer and entrée, Firefly keeps closer to the traditional division between the two. “That’s what I thought was missing.”

He shut down, remodeled, and reopened 32 days later with the new concept in place and an advisor for the wine list. Along the way, he tested the Progressive concept on his girlfriend. She scanned down to the Kunde Cabernet in the Dry Full-Intensity Red Wines and said, “I can get a full-bodied Cab for 30 bucks? Right on!’ She got a glass of wine. I’ve built my own flight — every wine on the by-the-glass list is available in a two-ounce taster. We’ve got glasses of wine on the table and about four or five little plates of food. We’re all checking it out, saying, ‘Hey, what’s cool?’ Or, we go into the dining room and have dinner.” Where Tastes goes in for a portion size somewhere between appetizer and entrée, Firefly keeps closer to the traditional division between the two. “That’s what I thought was missing.”

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Hi, I can get a glass of wine for five bucks.” In the future, hopes Barrasso, “It may be that there will be room for a $12 to $15 glass of wine — we can start reaching out to those really discerning folks. But even if you’re the biggest wine geek in the world, you’ll find something you want to drink here.”

And if you can’t find anything on the by-the-glass list, then there’s always the bottle list to consider. “I’ve got Whispering Dove Cabernet for $60, and I’ve gone through about ten bottles in three weeks, which means that somebody who knows what’s going on is saying, ‘That’s a pretty good deal.’ They found the sleeper.”

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara Davis, 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 family’s recipe: his mom’s Lebanese recipe (a large, flatbread-like lamb meatball) is outstanding, as is her lamb fat tea — an exotic nutmeg and clove c fo r instance. A Flying Saucer” — it really takes off, with shredded meat, onions, mild chiles, sour cream, shredded cheese, and a puréed guacamole riding high on an airy flour tortilla. Quick and good, open daily, three meals until 2 a.m.

Open Monday through Saturday, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (5/01)

Pamplemousse Grille (14) Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-750-9900. The locals’ favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom caponata, and tarte Tatin. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Inexpensive. — E.W.

Pizza Port (13) North Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-481-7312. Also in Carlsbad. “Taste Grub & Grog,” says the sign, and that’s just what it is. You come here for three things: the pizza, the beer, and the scene. The place is cavernous, but the tables are communal, with long wooden benches. Rub shoulders with surfers, students, yuppies, and locals. Pizza Port brews their own beer (try Sharkbite Red) and crafts their own beer. New York-style filling combos can be great, like the pesto, mozzarella-grilled chicken, sun-dried tomatoes, arugula hearts, and feta (“Pizza Caribbad”), or shrimp, clams, onions, olives, bell peppers, and mushrooms (“Pizza Solana”). Inexpensive. — E.B. (4/03)

Paseidon 1670 Coast Boulevard (south of 18th Street), Del Mar, 858-755-9345. The two dining rooms and bar have boat-antiqued, slipknot decor and ocean views, and the SKO umbrella-shaded patios is right at water’s edge. Lancha’s trio of seafood, burgers, and filled flatbreads of oceanic competence and uneven preparation: wonderfully creamy fried shrimp, for example, share a sampler plate with deadly dry salmon croquettes. Dinner dishes are modern Cal cuisine — that is, a mix-and-match of Pacific Rim-Mediterranean-Mexican flavors, with some emphasis on seafood. But the view’s the thing here. Fall bar. Open daily, lunch and dinner; breakfast on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (4/05)

Over 400 more restaurant listings at SanDiegoReader.com

Rosy Natural Foods Restaurant 517 North Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-436-0001. You don’t have to be a Self Realization Fellow-ship follower to fit in at Encinitas, but it helps. Rosy was made for the vegg-ieg-crowd who’ve grown up around the famous seaside community. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery: the owners have added chicken and fish for Esenla’s “new people” — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the vegan-veggie spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shalimar Naimi’s own invention: the scrumptious Roxy...
dinner. Inexpensive.

El Biscocho Ranch Bernardo Inn, 17530 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-875-8800. In the rural golf-and-tennis hideaway, Chef Gustin Kaysen features upscale, French-California cuisine, incorporating old-school techniques with imaginative combinations of local ingredients. Desserts run fancy and very sweet. The wine list is extensive, both international and national, with a focus on whites. The menu is also a la carte, upwards from standard set menus. 

Hacienda de Vega 2680 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Center City Parkway), Escondido, 760-736-9805. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference — or two. The setting is a gorgeous resort showcases Italian-California menu.) "Revels," as the menu is called, features simple preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. Averine's homemade burrito. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expense: — E.B. (5/02)

North Inland

Asia You 417 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-5000. Chef-owner (also bartender) produces outstanding tastefully Asian-French cuisine, remodeling the classics with fresh tastes and superb ingredients, including naturally raised meats and poultry. No one does "fusion" better, and there's at least an item on the menu every week. Everyone else's warm goat cheese with beet and feta cheese, olives, mushrooms, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-grain biscuit. Prices are very reasonable. Definitely worth a stop-off when heading to or from the coast. Open breakfast through dinner daily. Friday specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Fun atmosphere, but watch out for karaoke nights. Full bar (cantina attached). Intensive menu available; casual atmosphere. Full bar specializing in margaritas, of course. Open daily, lunch and dinner. — N.W. (9/03)

Centre City Cafe 2608 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-489-6011. In the quiet little "motel city" of Escondido, the Centre City Cafe offers a special menu and no cover charge. Adjoining the cafe is a small, but very well-stocked restaurant located in an accessible area. Otherwise, reservations advised for weekends. Open for dinner Thursday through Saturday. Moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (11/05)

El Biscocho Ranch Bernardo Inn, 17530 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-875-8800. In the rustic golf-and-tennis hideaway, Chef Gustin Kaysen features upscale, French-California cuisine, incorporating old-school techniques with imaginative combinations of local ingredients. Desserts run fancy and very sweet. The wine list is extensive, both international and national, with a focus on whites. The menu is also a la carte, upwards from standard set menus. 

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1014 Grand Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-275-9911. A great place to take your kids after a morning at the beach. This relaxing pub, owned by a true-blue Aussie, offers heaps of good Aussie food. Try the Slow Killed grilled chicken breast with some of the best sauce and cheese “morn ‘n’’’n” between 2 pieces of sourdough or the Aussie Burger (1/2-pound patty, with a fried egg, cheese, barbecued onions, etc., this is big and loaded). For an “outback experience,” order up Vegemite (a beefy kinda paste) and four slices of bread — pretty much made, too, with something for every plate. The most desirable dishes (available first come, first served) are on a lovely floppy-faced plate. Wheelchair ramp and parking in small lot behind restaurant (all ahead and far away you spot). Homey atmosphere, but not too loud. Open daily, dinner only. Moderate. — N.W. (2003)

Sako’s
3769 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Veritable local steak-and-seafood joint that tints border, from the host-oh-homemade teryaki sauce (most up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cutlet-size premade beef. The interior’s low wood-slat ceilings, driftwood beams, dim light, and red-leather booths combine with the take-home plastic packages to make the seat feel like a cow farm, a respite from the brighter haze of Mission Beach. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook’s bottlings for just 20% over wholesale. It’s a good spot, which shares some dishes with another restaurant (call ahead and they’ll save you a spot). Homey atmosphere; can get loud. Affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily. Moderate. — S.A. (2004)

Haggen Deli Bakery
3354 Hancock Street, La Jolla, 858-297-7799. This wine bar-bistro offers an affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., when restaurant staffers drop in for the after-work noshing. Closed Mondays. Lunch and dinner until midnight other weekdays, until 1 a.m. weekends. Low—moderate. — N.W. (12/05)

Umami Sushi
206 Shelter Island Drive (at Shelter, off Scott), Point Loma, 619-226-1135. An instant neighborhood success. The large, cheerful sushi bar and dinner house also offers Japanese and Korean entries, including teppanyaki (cooked in the kitchen, not at the table). Korean rinds, and excellent beef teriyaki of gently grilled prime beef. Sushi highlights include lemon-avy-cho, rich garlic tuna, and a “Crazy Boy” roll spicy enough to direct your palate from the presence of imitation crabmeat. Free parking (lot of ten full). Special kids’ menu available. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Sushi prices lower than most, entries inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

The Corner Wine Shop and Bistro
2283 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-270-3636. For Romanesque restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold and sometimes complex Italian/African flavors, in a bustling converted residence with several rooms and levels. Dinner come with soup or salad, and many entrees are served over rice, sometimes with mushroom or hazelnut pasta. The special kids’ menu even includes a fish and chips with egg mixture. The bay provides the setting nice, warm lights, and cozy little couches. The setting turns into atmosphere and perfectly intimate. Moderate. — A.M. (8/02)

The Beaches

California Cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative, loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking —

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**EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA**

Geno’s West Coast Style Barbeque
291 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-438-8331. Geno’s is a real guy, a refugee from corporate America who turned this ex-Taco Bell joint into a surf-themed BBQ place. He’s a surfer but he’s serious. He has won lots of prizes for his brisket (somebody else has won no less than three times) and he has cooked (or smoked) everything you can think of. Prices here are not high, keeping your pocket full of pocket (for the “California” hot dog, he best deal on the menu). Open 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/03)

**What’s on the menu?**

- **Entrees:**
  - BBQ ribs
  - BBQ pulled pork
  - BBQ chicken
  - BBQ beef
  - BBQ seafood
  - BBQ salmon
  - BBQ chicken wing
  - BBQ turkey breast

- **Sides:**
  - Coleslaw
  - Macaroni and cheese
  - Baked beans
  - Mashed potatoes
  - Grilled corn

- **Drinks:**
  - Beer
  - Wine
  - Soft drinks

- **Seasonal specials:**
  - Brisket
  - Pulled pork
  - Chicken wings
  - Turkey breast
  - Seafood

**What makes Geno’s different?**

- **Atmosphere:** Casual and relaxed with a surf-themed decor.
- **Service:** Friendly and attentive.
- **Prices:** Reasonable, with a focus on affordability.
- **Location:** The restaurant is conveniently located near the beach, making it a great spot for a post-surf meal.
- **Menu:** A diverse selection of BBQ dishes, sides, and desserts.

**Is this a good choice for vegetarians?**

- The menu offers several vegetarian options, including the BBQ mushroom and BBQ tofu, catering to a variety of dietary preferences.

**Conclusion:**

Geno’s West Coast Style Barbeque is a great choice for those looking for delicious BBQ in a casual and relaxed atmosphere. The reasonable prices and variety of menu options make it a standout choice for a delicious meal in the East County & College Area.
For a cheap, light meal, try a couple of low moderate. wines, no corkage for BYOW. Open Good choice of beers, a few affordable with just the right proportions of ingre-

though their sag paneer — hearty, tikka, or paneer pakoras — are equally flavorful. The saucy “pot roast” is definitely a French country café. Open early morn-

A.M. (11/01) — E.B. (12/04)

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800 Coronado Bay Road (Silver Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-4000 or 619-424-4447. The quietly luxurious dining room with a serene bayfront view is romantic and a bit doury, but far from stuffy. It’s not just for tourists, but a lovely evening’s getaway for locals. The California-French cuisine with an occasional Hawaiian touch emphasizes seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations. Along with a multi-course chef’s tasting menu and a carte dîner, a “snack” dinner showcases fresh seafood in build-your-own preparations. A good wine list at a reasonable markup is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochère of the main lobby. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday.

Very expensive. — N.W. (11/01)

Bay Beach Cafe

Ferry Landing Marketplace, 1231 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-4900. The dinner menu here has a bit of a South Pacific flair, read lots of pasta, fish, salads, sandwiches. Try the grilled salmon served with a honey-basil mixture. Your server will tell you which fish the chef seems to have a sweet tooth, since almost every dish involves

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Parmesan cream with penne pasta is safe enough. Or bone-in filet mignon with black pepper zinfandel sauce. But for a chance at a different experience, try the moussaka (eggplant casserole) or the ubiquitous gaucho (meat-stuffed poblano) — more adventurous — includes organ meats and vegetables. You can choose from two different mixed grill plates for one or two people, the first with conventional meats, the other — the more adventurous — includes organ meats and blood sausage. For starters, there are brilliantly seasoned mini-empanadas of various fillings, as well as various salads. Those in a grilled meat-lover’s mood opt for numerous pastas (including a big, meaty lasagna) or the ubiquitous milanesa (breaded beef or chicken paté) of the pompas. Portions are more than generous, and so are the prices. Open daily. Low moderate. — E.B. (12/04)

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana;
Mountains. Still, it’s charming, and you can have fun. For instance, don’t forget to ask them to ring the bell so that their distinctive melodic tunes set in the Mission framework above the picturesque arched wooden entrance door; they clang, and it’s almost as if they’re celebrating their 214th birthday, mom getting her degree — whatever. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — E.R. (11/04)

Mr. Fish. Agua Caliente #9000, Tijuana, 668-3610. Also at City Hall, Paseo Municipal (at Paseo del Centenario and Avenida Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez). Rio District, Tijuana, 868-2020. The sign showing its age and the concept (ethnic middle-class restaurante in the middle of a parking lot) seems dated, but two-decade-old Mr. Fish is still serving good fish and chips. Ask for the Spanish-language menu if you can handle it — it’s far more extensive than that in English. Sit outside under the palm fronds or there’s plenty of room inside. “The Fish Club” lobster, fish, shrimp, and salmon. Probably the most popular game is gringo style — fish and white sauce. Or you can order your fish from the menu, fresh and cooked. E.B. (12/04)

RUSTIC FLAVORS

Mr. Sheep, which is a short distance away, is where the local middle classes come for their fish-film 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 bell so that their distinctive melodic tunes set in the Mission framework above the picturesque arched wooden entrance door; they clang, and it’s almost as if they’re celebrating their 214th birthday, mom getting her degree — whatever. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — E.R. (11/04)

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HOTEL BOULAVARD

1522 Boulevard Agua Caliente (just before El Teatro de Tijuana), 668-1660. Maybe the only smoke-free restaurant in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1986 by health-conscience Doctor Georgina Vallarta de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy products, and whole-grain breads, rolls, salsas — and “meats” like a veal from their own wheat gluten. They make their own yogurt, soy products, and whole-grain breads, rolls, salsas — and “meats” like a veal from their own wheat gluten. Also serving good fish food. Ask for the Spanish-language menu. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.R. (5/03)

Vallarta 1852 Boulevard Agua Caliente (just before El Teatro de Tijuana), 668-1660. Maybe the only smoke-free restaurant in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1986 by health-conscience Doctor Georgina Vallarta de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy products, and whole-grain breads, rolls, salsas — and “meats” like a veal from their own wheat gluten. Also serving good fish food. Ask for the Spanish-language menu. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.R. (5/03)

Salsa eneldo

The soy sauce is compared to dinner at Cafe Milano. Four-course dinner: Chicken Parmigiana: 16625 Dove Canyon (just before Baja Calif. Highway), 947-768-1001. The sign is showing its age and the concept (ethnic middle-class restaurant in the middle of a parking lot) seems dated, but two-decade-old Mr. Fish is still serving good fish and chips. Ask for the Spanish-language menu if you can handle it — it’s far more extensive than that in English. Sit outside under the palm fronds or there’s plenty of room inside. “The Fish Club” lobster, fish, shrimp, and salmon. Probably the most popular game is gringo style — fish and white sauce. Or you can order your fish from the menu, fresh and cooked. E.B. (12/04)

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The throbbing Lalo Schifrin theme music from the original late-Sixties television series is still the best thing about Mission: Impossible III, as it was about its two predecessors. It's hard to decide what's the worst thing.

Tom Cruise would be a too-easy fall guy. Granted, he seems to be getting worse and worse as an actor. (His brief disguise as a Czech citizen at the airport bears a striking resemblance to his Ron Kovic in Born on the Fourth of July, a reminder of an earlier and better phase.) When we dip again into the biography of his Ethan Hunt, we find him at his engagement party — or, to be scrupulously accurate, we first find him in an out-of-sequence predicament, handcuffed to a barber’s or a dentist’s chair in front of his ladylove, a gun held to her head by the counting-to-ten villain, Philip Seymour Hoffman, the newly Academy Award-winning actor treating himself to a nice payday. This preview of things to come rather dampens the mood of the party once we join it, although not for Cruise, who’s carrying on in a giddy, hyper, buzzed-up frat-boy manner that seems a total negation of the two previous chapters. Unless, of course, he’s faking it. And with an actor as phony as Cruise, how can we judge? It used to be that his boyish glow appeared to come from confidence; now it appears to come from bluff. The script puts forth no corroborating evidence of fakery: “When I see Julie,” he confides to one of his IMF colleagues, “it’s life before all this.” A clean slate, a fresh start, a frontal lobotomy. The script also tells us that he has given up field work and devoted himself risklessly to instruction, even if, when push comes to shove, it does not permit him to turn down one of those taped should-you-choose-to-accept-it assignments that will self-destruct in seconds, sending him off on a routinely impossible mission to rescue his pet spy pupil, Keri Russell, and to be kept a strict secret from his unsuspecting fiancée, Michelle Monaghan. The physical approximation of the latter to Cruise’s real-life fiancée, Katie Holmes, is a distraction from the business at hand, as is any idle wonderment about whether his secret life on screen is readable as a metaphor, a synonym, for some secret in his real life. (Mission: Unmentionable.) Let’s just say that his romantic relationship on screen is not more believable than his one off-screen. Yet Cruise, in the larger view, is no more than a cog in the machine. A better actor might supply more grease, but he could not retool the machine.

J.J. Abrams, the new director, the third director in three films, a TV director (of Lost and Alias, if that means more to you than it means to me) in his feature-film debut, is himself closer to a cog than were either of his forerunners, lacking their established personalities. But that’s not necessarily a bad thing, a worse thing, when the established personalities are as gaudy as Brian De Palma’s and as grotesque as John Woo’s. On a project such as this, there’s only so much...
a director can do, and most of what he can do is to make matters worse.

The film — the series — the franchise — remains fatally committed to the ideal of action as swift, smooth, precise, pre-rehearsed, and worry-free as a Cirque du Soleil production number. (Had Ethan Hunt been offered the assignment of Hurricane Katrina — a question he should have accepted to it — everyone would have had a hot meal and a warm bed before the first sunset.) An “impossible” heist from the sixty-sixth floor of an impenetrable Shanghai skyscraper, for example, under the guard of the crime de la crime of the People’s Liberation Army — a heist that might have taken up another entire movie — here consumes no more than ten minutes of screen time from conception to execution to getaway, with Cruise swinging through the air with no variance in conceptions to execution to getaway, than ten minutes of screen time from any further cross-cutting and settles in the passenger of Flight 93.) The power, to be sure, is not so much created in the material: the script with a compact camera at a soirée in the Vatican — and by compact camera, I mean a cosmetics compact that doubles as a camera — and then you whip up a latex likeness on the spot and wait for your man to go to the restroom where you are poised to swap places with him. Et voilà: Tom Cruise playing Tom Cruise playing Philip Seymour Hoffman playing Tom Cruise. There’s something almost pitiful about attempting, after that, to wring suspense from the problem of uploading your subject’s voice to the computer, then downloading it into a miniature stereo speaker affixed to your throat, before the bustling bodyguard enters the restroom to find out what’s taking so long. I was in agony, but not from suspense.

The plot is perhaps too slight to be a legitimate contender for Worst Thing: the black-market sale of something code-named the Rabbit’s Foot, of which we know only the price ($850 million) and nothing more. Nor do we ever know more. Nor, to be frank, do we ever care to. But perhaps, then again, such slightness could loom large as a sin of omission. A plot that threw nothing code-named the Rabbit’s Foot, of which we know only the price ($850 million) and nothing more. Nor do we ever know more. Nor, to be frank, do we ever care to. But perhaps, then again, such slightness could loom large as a sin of omission.

The area in which the collective imagination of moviegoers is apt to be found most wanting, most needful of filling-in, is in the gradual awakening of moviegoers is apt to out saying that even though we know most mere newspaper readers and TV news watchers will have done for news watchers will have done for us. Greengrass has a thoroughgoing job of imagining how the day unfolded, a much more thorough job than most mere newspaper readers and TV news watchers will have done for themselves, and he has maintained a respectable level of integrity in his placement of stress on the “docu” in preference to the “drama,” his reliance on the vérité conventions of scrappy camerawork, jittery cutting, and grainy film stock, his avoidance of cheap theatrics, his employment of a no-name cast in what are inevitably one-note characterizations, including several actual participants in the events, re-enacting unhistorically their own roles in it. (It is odd to recognize, for the rare exception, the U.S. President from The Sentinel, David Rasche, among the passengers of Flight 93.) The power, to be sure, is not so much created, not so much generated, by the filmmaker as it is inherent in the material: the initial obliviousness to impending doom, the later helplessness to avert it. Though there is doubtless a kind of exploitation in that, it is not for purposes of greed.

Much of the discussion of United 93 has centered around the question of whether it is “too soon” for a Major Motion Picture on the events of 9/11 (it’s 9/11, nearly five years). as distinct from minor ones like The Guys and September 11. There can be no single answer to such a question, and those who line up on the too-soon side of the question are at liberty to stay away. They will have another three months to read themselves, or not, for Olive Stone’s World Trade Center.

Clearly it was not too soon for British filmmaker Paul Greengrass, though admittedly it is incumbent on artists as a class to be ahead of the pack on just about any issue whatsoever. (It is worth recalling that his docudrama Bloody Sunday, on a police massacre of protest marchers in Northern Ireland, waited thirty years after the occurrence and still touched off heated reaction.) For all those interested in need, all those who line up on the too-soon side, Green

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FOR SHOWTIMES
Recommen...  

First, the monthly spinoff of the San Diego Latino Film Festival, “Cinema en Tu Tierra,” resumes this Friday, after a post-festival breather, at the Ultrastar Mission Valley 7 in Hazard Center, reprising a Mexican film from the recent festival, Gustavo Loa’s Al Otro Lado, a child’s-eye view of the hot topic of emigration. Second, Tops Salon (or what used to be known as the Garden Cabaret) tonight kicks off its new summer series of “Cinema under the Stars,” thirty-five films, all told, through the end of October, striving this year for more variety by sometimes cramping two films into a weekend instead of only one, and striving also, less commendably, for films of newer vintage. Not that I can argue, however, with the likes of O Brother, Where Art Thou? and The Big Lebowski. For the complete schedule, go to topspresents.com.

I was privately chided last year when I publicly dismissed Landmark’s several-week series of “short films” as nothing more than commercials for Stella Artois beer. (More precisely, it was a series of Stella Artois commercials accompanied by Stella Artois-sponsored shorts.) But I now observe that Landmark continues to show Stella Artois commercials without any additional pretense of art sponsorship. This practice is no better and no worse than the exhibition at the mainstream multiplex of Coca-Cola commercials made by student filmmakers. Commercials, after all, are “films” too. The Stella Artois ones tend to be tolerably clever, and the current American Express one that features Wes Anderson directing Jason Schwartzman on a fictitious film set (with Georges Delerue’s magic-of-movies music from Truffaut’s Day for Night in the background) is more entertaining than almost any film you might select to watch at the multiplex.

**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.

**Adam and Steve** — Forced gay-ry around two men — a Central Park nature guide and a germophobic psychologist — who meet up again, without recognizing one another, seventeen years after their disastrous first date. The disaster is of gross-out proportions, a prologue that sets the sustained tone of trying too hard. With Craig Chester, Malcolm Gets, Chris Kattan, and Parker Posey; written and directed by Chester. 2006. ★★★★★ (Fri., 5/12 through 18)

**Akelah and the Bee** — An eleven-year-old black girl (the appealing Keke Palmer) in the South L.A. ghetto braves the taunts of “freak” and “brassies” to enter the Scripps National Spelling Bee and, on her first try, go clear through to the televised finals in Washington, D.C., where it all comes down to “luporhena” and “pal-christide,” two words to make even an average spell alike a champ. In short, it’s the documentary Spellbound with a fictionalized stacked deck, a palatable if not exactly swallowable family film, the sort of thing Oprah could get behind a hundred percent. Lawrence Fishburne is the moody private tutor and Angela Bassett the distraught single mom; Ice and Tina Turner together again. Written and directed by Doug Atchison. 2006. ★★★★ (Camel Mountain; Cinemex 1; Escondido 16; Escondido 18; Flower Valley 18; Flower Hill 4; Gaslamp 10; Grossmont Center; La Costa 6; La Jolla 12; Miramar 18; Mission Marketplace 13; Mission Valley 7; Mission Valley 20; Oceanside 18; Palm Prime 24; Parkway Plaza 18; Pinyon 10; Rancho Del Rey 18; Rancho San Diego 15; San Marcos 18; Town Square 14; Vista Village; Al Otro Lado) — Mexican filmmaker Gustavo Loa links three stories on the children of absent fathers. (Mission Valley 7, 5/12 through 18)

**American Dreamz** — Spongy satire divides itsirthy forces between the Bush Admin...
Calendar

MOVIES

Art School Confidential — Director Terry Zwigoff re-teams with the writer of Ghost World, Daniel Clowes, on a comedy starring Max Minghella, Sophia Myles, John Malkovich. 

CARMEL MOUNTAIN, ESPERANZA 18; PADRON VALLEY 20; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JUNTA VILLAGE, MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 18; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 38; SAN MARINOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; PROM 5/12

Ask the Dust — Depression-period romance, written and directed by Robert Towne, in a largely dark, nocturnal, sunless Southern California, a star-crossed affair between a gingo and a Chicana, or more disparagingly a “dago” and a “spic,” an impoverished young novelist taken under the wing, at long distance, of H.L. Mencken (whose voice in correspondence is provided by film critic and historian Richard Schickel) and a consummate dance waitress from south of the border, two marginals with a tensous sense of belonging. (The source material is a 1939 autobiographical novel by John Fante.) Because it is so no sort of thriller, it avoids the plotting snarls and snags of Towne’s screenplays for things like Chinatown, The Two Jakes, and the two Mishm: Impossible; but it does not avoid the structural weaknesses of slow, shapeless, and evaporating development. And notwithstanding the complete blankness of their hair, Colin Farrell and Salma Hayek do not have a great deal of chemistry between them, although the combustible Hayek, all by herself, has enough chemistry for them both.

With Edina Monzel, Jeremy Guttley, Donald Sutherland, Eileen Atkins. 2006. ★★☆☆☆ (GALAPAG 15)

The Celestine Prophecy — Adaptation of the James Redfield best-seller, with Matthew Settle, Annabeth Gish, and Hector Elizondo, directed by Armand Mastroianni. (GALAPAG 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PROM 5/12)

Classe Tous Risques — Early and incontestable minor work by Claude Sautet, a contestably minor work by Claude Sautet, a Byzantine getaway route; excellent location work in Milan, the South of France, and Paris; an ending quite shocking, paradoxically, in its discretion; and a gentle emphasis on family, feelings, professional fraternity, which, along with the sparing doses of omniscient third-person narration, nudges the film at least a little ways into Sauter’s “personal” territory. The gangster hero, simply put, is at heart a “better” friend than his old friends, and the difference will prove to be his downfall. Uppermost among its fine qualities, the film features, in the lead role, the great Lino Ventura, a self-possessed, barrel-chested ex-wrestler with a face of forrowed granite and eyes sodden from all they’ve seen: a face no less noble than Bogart’s. It also features a dawy and skinny Jean-Paul Belmondo, just before his big splash in Boubles, as the lone-wolf hoodlum who befriends the hero when the latter’s return from exile in Italy stalls in Nice, after his partner-in-crime and his wife have been gunned down in a shootout (he will run first to the side of his fallen buddy, then to his wife), leaving him with two young sons on his hands, effectively immobilizing him. An ex-boxer in real life as in the present script, with boxing gloves for his ears, with a belly, and in a Paris apartment, Belmondo is already in full command of his cocky charm. “The nice thing about me is my left,” he introduces himself to a lady in distress (Sandra Milo) after cold-cocking her hairdresser. 1960. ★★★★★ (KEN, THURSDAY 5/11)

Four Weddings and a Funeral — A cinematic conceit grosses, with a fixed group of friends passing through four distinct high-spirited movements and one grave one. There’s a lot we don’t learn about these people and crude and overdone comic writing mingles freely, but not spoilingly, with leftist and funny stuff. “When you work in a money market, what good are the novels of Wordsworth?” And Hugh Grant, looser, less stuffy, more flexible than usual, handles the assorted predicaments (e.g., stuck at a table of his ex-girlfriends at a wedding reception) with inexhaustible resource and nuance. Andy MacDowell, Kristin Scott-Thomas, Simon Callow, Rowan Atkinson; written by Richard Curtis; directed by Mike Newell. 1994. ★★★☆☆ (KEN, THURSDAY 5/11)

Friends with Money — There are, to be exact, three friends with money, and one without, a former teacher toiling now as a free-lance maid, helping herself to the bed-side vibrator of one of her employers, and in her spare time harassing an ex-boyfriend with all-hours phone calls and hang-ups. The three with money additionally have...
...and Ellen Page; directed by David Slade.

The, John Cusack, has a passel of kids, plenty of hired help with them, no job and no need of one, enough money to donate a spare couple of million to her children’s school. Assuming the role of matchmaker, she introduces the moneymonger and mateless friend, Jennifer Aniston, to her personal trainer, who begins to tag along with her on her housecleaning jobs and to demand a cut for haphazardly pitching in. Writer and director Nicole Holofcener, of Walking and Talking and Lovely and Amazing, is very adept at finding and pointing out the faults in all these people (no one is exempt), and the entire movie has an air of it of catty girl talk, very concrete and specific and yet ultimately insubstantial and desultory: a litany of everyday outrages (people who cut line at the cash register or steal parking spaces in the lot), a few useful tips for budget living (free cosmetics samples at the department store), and of course some gripes at minimizing it. 2006.

...pair is not the sort of fault that the film—Owen knows what he knows? how did Fosse know?—is concerned to safeguard nothing but his own safety-deposit box. Having stirred up a storm of interest, however, the script neglects to answer key questions (how does Owen know what he knows? how did Fosse get where she’s got?), and it cuts some corners (“You saw Dog Day Afternoon,” the top cop unusually raises a close point of comparison), and it uses every ounce of its cleverness simply to evade difficult choices. Less, too, appears anxious to stay out of trouble. He tosses off a parody of violent video games (Kill Dat Nigra), and shows some sensitivity to racial profiling (post-9/11, in particular), but his primary target has been selected for unanimity: Nazis and their collaborators. His direction of the ex-...
sentently static action is ostentatiously busy. And yes, he remembers to roll out his trademark dolly at one point to give a lift to the ride best huls, literally, on wheels.

**Just My Luck** — Romantic comedy-fantasy starring Lindsay Lohan and Chris Pine, directed by Donald Petrie. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 10; PASADENA 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JULIA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 20; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 5/12)

**Kinky Boots** — Fussiless gender-bender comedy about a staid old British shoemaking firm (“Since 1895”), which, to survive in the brazen new world, seeks out a “chicke market,” namely women’s shoes for men, under the counsel of a cabaret drag queen. Mark is in the bed... The sex is in the heel. (Quality craftsmanship will be insufficient compensation if the style suits “a bloody and dramatic turn.”) The latter role permits quite an expansion of range for the urbane Chivelier Edifor, who looks a bit like Michael Anderson, Jr., past just his prime. Directed by Julian Jarrold. 2006. (CARMEL HILL 4, FROM 5/12; MULHOLAND (3-5-6-8))

**Lucky Number Slevin** — “We are dealing with a bona fide case of mistaken identity here.” No, we are dealing with a bogus case of mistaken identity, pastelly, innocently busy. (African-American and Jewish, or “Darkies”) The latter role permits quite an expansion of range for the urbane Chivelier Edifor, who looks a bit like Michael Anderson, Jr., past just his prime. Directed by Julian Jarrold. 2006. (CARMEL HILL 4, FROM 5/12; MULHOLAND (3-5-6-8))

**Mission: Impossible III** — Reviewed this issue. With Tom Cruise, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Michelle Monaghan, Laura Michelle, and Rebecca Fischburne, and Billy Crudup, directed by J.J. Abrams. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CN EHANA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 10; PASADENA 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 8; LA JULIA 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 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; SOUTH SHORE DRIVE 14; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**La Mujer de Mi Hermano** — Lifetime-y movie from Argentina, and from director Ricardo de Montreuil, slickly, superficially done. The wife of a type-A businesswoman looks to her own brother-in-law for the passion missing from her marriage. Barbara Mori, a classical glamourpuss, grooms in Mexican telenovelas (aka soaps), conducts an even hotter affair with the camera. Christian Mere, Manolo Cardona. 2005. (PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Neil Young: Heart of Gold** — Director, or on this occasion documentarist, Jonathan Demme fumbles through ten minutes of perfunctory interviews with the headliner and his fellow musicians, wretchedly shot in the interiors of cars and elevators, before settling down for nearly an hour and a half of well-recorded concert footage at the Ryman in Nashville. Reflective of the record-less of his father and his own brush with a brain aneurysm, it is a mostly mellow set, even a melancholy one, a conspectus of new Young and old Young, with the now-jowly, scowly singer squeezing out that effortless, powerful, soulful voice from beneath a classic Good Guy’s white cowboy hat. (Which changes to a tan hat, still that of a Good Guy, midway through the film was shot over two nights.) His accompaniment encompasses, in varying combinations, bass guitar, dobro, key- board, percussion, horns, strings, and backup singers. One of these last, Emmylynn Harris, joins him on two duets, of which “This Old Guitar,” a song about and performed on an instrument handed down from Hank Williams, is some sort of high point. “When God Made Me,” a soft-sc, Sozdratic appeal for tolerance, with the singer at the keyboard for the only time and a silhouetted chorus behind him, tops it. Young, to be sure, is amply documented on film, notably in Jim Jarmusch’s Year of the Horse from the late Nineties and his self-di- rected Rust Never Sleeps and Journey through the Past from the Seventies. The rab- bid will need no urging to see the latest ad- dition. The more tepid might require assurance that if they were to limit themselves to just one, this should be it. Let them be as- sured. 2006. (PARKWAY)

**The Notorious Betty Page** — Unwor- thy biopic of “the pin-up queen of the uni- verse,” a brief reign in the mid-Fifties, until a congressional hearing on pornography sent her down the path of repentance, into the sheltering arms of Jesus. Gretchen Mol is game enough in the posing sessions, and has her own kind of vulnerability in the role of the naive and unreflective (so portrayed, anyway) Southern-bred sex object. Yet, besides missing something in the laps, replacing the dangerous curves with the gentleness of slopes, she cannot hope to match the charisma, the mystic, the mys- tery, of her assigned character. (It’s no problem to match the raven hair and bangs.) She finds herself in much the same predicament as past impersonators of Mar- dyan Monroe or Elvis Presley — and no, it is no overstatement to place Betty Page, sometimes Betty Pet, in that company (from the Fifties.) This miscuous, mute phantom of salacious still photos and silent fetishes is a fantasy figure par ex- cellence; and filmmaker Mary Harron’s stuf, flat, plodding rehearsal of some of the known facts of her life — a molesting fa- ther, a battering husband, the private cam- era clubs of New York City, the under-the- counter bondage sideface of the podgy Irving Klave, the cheerful cheesecake of Bunny Yeager, the reversion to That Old- Time Religion — adds nothing to, even subtrahs something from, the enigmatic evidence in her portfolio. It almost makes her seem (what would have been thought impossible) quite dull. Even the black-and-white photography, or rather the gray-and-white photography, seems dull. Backed up by a “dirty” saxophone, it might not im- mediately seem so in the opening proofs of Times Square adult bookstore, past maga- zine titles like Wink, Titter, and Escapade.) As a diligent evocation of an era, it is, truth be told. The flirtat switches into color — a buxant, brilliant, brighter-than-life color that pays knowing homage to 1950s postcards and to Technicolor Hollywood — are anything but dull. One of the things they are, however, is utterly arbi- trary. Chris Bauer, Lili Taylor, Jared Harris, Cara Seymour, David Strathairn. 2006. (MULHOLAND CINEMAS)

**Possession** — Wolfgang Petersen’s remake of the 1972 nautical disaster film, with Josh Lucas, Kurt Russell, Emmy Rossum, and Richard Dreyfuss. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CN EHANA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 10; PASADENA 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 8; LA JULIA 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 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; SOUTH SHORE DRIVE 14; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 5/12)

**The Promise** — Chen Kaige’s colorful, shiny, tall-corn fairy tale, set in China’s mythological past, possesses autivo tech- nique, tuck special effects, and in conse-
AN UNFINISHED LIFE (USA/Germany) 2005, Miramax
List price: $29.99

AMITA SHARMA
Reporter, KPBS-TV and mother of two-year-old Sarina

Paheli is the first Bollywood film I watched with my daughter Sarina. I didn’t know what to expect, but I couldn’t have chosen a better film to introduce her to Indian films. Paheli is about a woman who has an arranged marriage to a man who sets off on a five-year business trip the night after the wedding. The bride is heartbroken until a ghost takes the form of her dead husband and gives her the means to make things right.

The bride is heartsick until a ghost taking the form of her dead husband and gives her the means to make things right. Admiral Kirk is celebrating an unspecific birthday, and his mensanual amities seem to see into every corner of the movie. Indeed, the focus of attention is arguably too much on him to do justice to Spock’s much-publicized demise (and strongly suggested Dracula-style resurrection from a darged coffin). In this, the movie relies overmuch on our past feelings for Spock, and fails to do its own proper work. William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, and Ricardo Montalban; directed by Nicholas Meyer. 1982.

The Sentinel — Someone in the Secret Service, always a suspense-make, aims to assassinate the President. Framed for it is the very agent who blows the whistle, a wily old veteran (Michael Douglas) who once took a bullet for Reagan and is now assigned to the First Lady and has a hot and heavy affair with her on the side. A political potboiler of passable suspense, flimsy logic, with a singed image as if it were sung under a sunlamp: Kiefer Sutherland, Eva Longoria, Kim Basinger, David Rasche, Martin Donovan; directed by Clark Johnson. 2006.

SILENT HILL — Video-game gamut of ghoulies and guilties, crepties and crawlies, in an abandoned coal-mining town in West Virginia. Very little development; plenty of the feeling of a bad dream, and plenty, too, of a bad movie, although the visuals are suited to one. With Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Lauri Henderson, Deborah Kara Unger, and Alice Krige; directed by Christopher Gans. 2006.

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the death the right of free choice. (There is
pointedly no puffing on screen here: over-
protection against charges of hypocrisy.)
But this angle nonetheless leads partially to
the inner sanctum of Entertainment
Global Offices (EGO), the orientalist lair of a
Michael Ovitz-type superagent: "Jeff in-
vented product placement." Further plot
mechanics, although no more ingenious,
never get to be a grind. At a brisk hour and
half, the film can be safely recommended to
all who like their comedy unfiltered.
2006. ★★★ [WALLFLOWER: LIMA JOLLA 12]
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- retail
- sales/marketing
- salons
- security
- trades/labor
No hay tolerancia

América Barceló-Pedernal
Diario San Diego

Como respuesta al bolígrafo, el lunes pasado se ha comenzado a vivir un ambiente de hostilidad y tensión entre autoridades y miembros de la comunidad hispana en San Diego por lo que la población teme que esto genere violencia.

Después del parte nacional y las continua marchas y protestas, agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza y de la Oficina de entrada y Seguridad Fronteriza (ICE) han comenzado a realizar diversas operaciones en las calles.

El pasado fin de semana se intensificaron los operativos especiales y arrestos en varias comunidades del Condado, hechos que según la comunidad son reacción a las marchas para pedir una reforma justa a las leyes migratorias.

En Barrio Logan se registró un operativo donde participaron agentes migratorios encubiertos.

Lucenes, cámara, acción

Después de haber contactado con más de 48 mil asistentes al Festival de Cine Latino en San Diego y con un crecimiento importante de este evento los organizadores prepararon la versión del 2007.

“Hemos vivido mucho la pasada versión nos dejaron grandes avances y cambios que nos dan una nueva perspectiva para mejorar el festival el próximo año”, dijo Ethan Van Thillo, fundador de San Diego Latin Film Festival.

Van Thillo reconoció que una de las mayores dificultades del pasado festival fue la falta de espacios.

“Tuimos excelente producción y una gran allegación por el poco espacio con el contador, es por ello que para el próximo año vamos a extenderlos a cuatro salas”, expresó Van Thillo.

Buen ahorro

Las continuas alzas en los precios de la gasolina y el petróleo han obligado a los concesionarios de automóviles a tomar ciertas decisiones drásticas para enfrentar la crisis debido a que el público no puede comprar vehículos de alto consumo o afrontar el reto de ampliar su línea de autos “híbridos”.

Los autos y camiones híbridos utilizan un equilibrio de gasolina y electricidad, reduciendo la dependencia de continuos aprovisionamientos del combustible.

El fabricante de vehículos Toyota está a la vanguardia en la tecnología de los híbridos. Su Prius sigue gozando de estimulantes niveles de venta. Según un informe a partir de encuestas de J.D. Power and Associates, los conductores típicos de coches híbridos tienen un alto nivel académico e ingresos superiores al promedio.

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Explota controversia

Omar Millán González
Diario San Diego
San Diego

Gran controversia ha causado en ambos lados de la frontera la iniciativa legislativa, mexicana de concretar la aportación de algunas cantidades de drogas. Cuando todo hacía suponer que el presidente Vicente Fox firmaría la ley, el mandatario tuvo que retrasar su decisión debido a presiones internacionales, más que nada, por autoridades federales estadounidenses.

Antes de ser avalada la ley no se concretó el pretexto para alentar el “turismo de narco menudencia”. Mientras el tiempo, el tiempo que el ejecutivo mexicano aprueba esta ley, la controversia ya se desató debido a que se dice que la legislación dispararía el consumo de sustancias entre la población juvenil mexicana.

En casi dos décadas el Centro de Integración y Recuperación para Enfermos de Alcoholicismo y Dropadición (Cirud) jamás había tenido internos menores de 14 años. Este año hay 20 niños entre los 10 y los 15 años intentando aliviar su farmacodependencia. “Desgraciadamente el porcentaje de niños con problemas de drogas se ha incrementado mucho en la ciudad”, afirmaron autoridades de Tijuana.

Pinta de azul

Ante la prohibición de los candidatos a la presidencia de México para hacer campaña en Estados Unidos, grupos de activistas de California hicieron un llamado a que la montaña monta no se la tomen los que viven en tierra, en tanto que ya en la montaña.

Ante poco más de 7 mil simpatizantes del Partido Acción Nacional (PAN) aglomerados en la avenida Constitución del centro de Tijuana, dirigentes del club Míchoacán de California y la asociación civil Angeles de la Frontera que informó al candidato Felipe Calderón mayor apoyo a los migrantes en Estados Unidos.

“No queremos el muro de la mortu o, queremos que nuestra gente se sienta protegida en nuestra frontera. La gente no quiere que los representantes les hagan daño a la gente en Estados Unidos”.

Realizan milagro

Abraham Nuevez
Diario San Diego

Con un hombre muerto, jugando de vislumbrante y un gol del último minuto, Chivas de Guadalajara venció 4-2 a Jaguares Chivas para entrar a las semifinales del campeonato mexicano de fútbol.

Con este triunfo el cuadro tapatío se metió a disputar el título en la serie frente a los Tuzos de Pachuca.

El domingo se sabrá si el conjunto de Jalisco alcanzará la final del torneo que ha sido muy parejo.

Las Chivas cumplen 100 años de su fundación y que mejor que celebrarlo con un boleto para el juego por el campeonato del balompié azteca.

La otra semifinal es protagonizada por los equipos de Toluca y San Luis, conjunto que apenas se salva de descender a la Primera A y que ahora está buscando coronarse como campeones, situación que solamente ocurre en fútbol mexicano.

Las Chivas llegaron a las semifinales a pesar de que algunos de sus jugadores titulares se encuentran con la selección mexicana de fútbol. Esto demuestra el hambre y gran corazón de los jóvenes que con orgullo representan lo que sí da la cara a los migrantes en Estados Unidos.

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- Must have high school diploma or equivalent.

**Test Preparation**

- LSAT
- GMAT
- GRE
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- Experienced faculty
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- Small classes
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**Paralegal Certificate**

A career in law

- Challenges positions in law firms, banks, corporations, government agencies
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- 3-month day/10-month evening
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- Sharpen Your Skills!
- LSAT
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- Experienced faculty
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- Small classes
- Convenient schedules
- Free refresher classes (within 1 year of paid course completion)

**Paralegal Certificate**

A Career in Law

- Challenges positions in law firms, banks, corporations, government agencies
- Internship
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Send an e-mail
Matches are now on the Web. You may search by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and non-smoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros.

San Diego Reader
From this page, click on "Matches."

3 Ways to Respond to READER MATCHES ADS!

Call 1-900-844-6282
The cost is $1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser’s introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating?" Questions? 619-235-8200 x416

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.

Meet your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

OPTIONALHEADLINE: 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.

We must have the following information. Please print.

Name
Address
City
Zip
Phone (day) ( )
Phone (evening) ( )
Signature
To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don’t worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed).

E-mail:
Choose One:
□ Woman seeking a man
□ Man seeking a woman
□ Shared interests

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox ............... $ FREE
Headlines ___ x $12 each line ............. $ FREE
First 25 words of printed ad .................. $ FREE
Additional words ___ x $1.20 each ...... $ FREE
Late fee for walk in fee: $20 ............... $ FREE
TOTAL ........................................ $ FREE

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
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Signature

Counseling & Support Groups

Place free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thousands of classified ads not printed here.

Are you mad at someone? Stockpiling your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your ability to express yourself. Seminars with Jay Schneider, LCSW at 3380. Call 619-532-5073 or 858-355-5090.


Counseling/Dream Study. Curious, or helped by your dreams? It’s time to get your dream story on the page. Call for a nominal charge. You may also listen to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail.

Are you a musician? Want to promote your act? Increase local exposure. Can’t get online? Fill out the form, and on

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.

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PRINT CLEARLY:
First 25 words are FREE. $1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

We must have the following information. Please print.

Name
Address
City
Zip
Phone (day) ( )
Phone (evening) ( )
Signature
To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don’t worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed).

E-mail:
Choose One:
□ Woman seeking a man
□ Man seeking a woman
□ Shared interests

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox ............... $ FREE
Headlines ___ x $12 each line ............. $ FREE
First 25 words of printed ad .................. $ FREE
Additional words ___ x $1.20 each ...... $ FREE
Late fee for walk in fee: $20 ............... $ FREE
TOTAL ........................................ $ FREE

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

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Place free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thousands of classified ads not printed here.

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Counseling/Dream Study. Curious, or helped by your dreams? It’s time to get your dream story on the page. Call for a nominal charge. You may also listen to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail.
YOUTHFUL, FIT SENIOR who enjoys active, adventure, humor, and spirituality looks to share with you... a youthful, fit, attractive, secure, honest asian gentleman. Let’s have fun, lots of fun! (5/17)

ATTRACTIVE, CARING, Dining, vacation, spiritual, sharing interests, seeking lifetime partner with same. Interested in meeting someone for a lifetime relationship, or friendship or more, with same. Love to dress up. Enjoy time with tall, retired gentleman of quality and spirit! (5/24)

NUTRIENT MEDICINE, good-looking, no stress, no sugar, yoga, tai chi, happy, healthy, relaxed, spiritual, non-smoker, call. (5/24)
THE READER PUZZLE

by David Levinson Wilk

Across
1. TNT alternative
2. "Mrs. Henderson Presents" star
3. Channel for the politically aware
4. "Well, ____-di-dah!"
5. Waikiki greeting
6. Similar
7. Nickname for a young Vader
8. "Not now!"
9. Brought forth
10. A Bible-thumping Republican's dream political ticket?
11. Crise de discovery
12. They may be picked
13. Place to order a California roll
15. Is historic
16. "____ tree falls in the forest..."
17. "...and the blades of grass move."
18. Have a word with
19. Half and half
20. "Hey Jude" syllables
21. 50:00, 10:30
22. Across, as an adult
23. Adopted son of Caesar
24. "Bye"
25. Condo division
26. Hogs and hens
27. Featherly accessory
28. Vinyl collection
29. "____ Slave 4 U"
30. "____ Wiedersehen"
31. "Well, ____-di-dah!"
32. "The Addams Family" uncle
33. Is histrionic
34. "____ Wiedersehen"
35. "____ in the forest..."
36. Thanksgiving option
37. "____ Slave 4 U"
38. "____ Wiedersehen"
39. "____ Wiedersehen"
40. "____ Wiedersehen"
41. Bleat
42. It's always at the end
43. Begin liking
44. "____ slave 4 U"
45. Stretching
46. "____ slave 4 U"
47. "Hey Jude"
48. "____ slave 4 U"
49. "Hey Jude"
50. "____ slave 4 U"
51. "____ slave 4 U"
52. "____ slave 4 U"
53. "____ slave 4 U"
54. "____ slave 4 U"
55. "____ slave 4 U"
56. "____ slave 4 U"
57. "____ slave 4 U"
58. "____ slave 4 U"
59. "____ slave 4 U"
60. "____ slave 4 U"

Down
1. "Boo"
2. Fu, mustache
3. Spanish boys
4. "Boozy Gaffie" painter
5. Verve
6. "This is... test"
7. "Big Brother" host Julie
8. "50472"
9. Hack
10. Rain pellets of ice
11. Ebb for he, say
12. Alas, preceder
13. Bring home
14. Son of Jacob
15. "____ Wiedersehen"
16. "____ Wiedersehen"
17. Whistle-blower on a court

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 5:00 a.m. Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to Reader P.O. Box 89801, San Diego, CA 92138-0480).
3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
4. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and absolute. We’ve only got five winners, so we’ll have a lottery. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please do not phone calls or trips to our office.
5. One entry per person.

Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle by 5/16

1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
2. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
3. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and absolute. We’ve only got five winners, so we’ll have a lottery. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please do not phone calls or trips to our office.
4. One entry per person.

The winners are:
1. Shannon Gilbert, Chula Vista
2. Cecilia Zeag, San Diego
3. Bill Gaudens, San Diego
4. Tom Daly, Encinitas
5. David Panta, San Diego

Very Good Looking, Widower, tall, attractive blonde, Seeking Caucasian, evolutionary, educated. Seeking slender to average woman for reasonable, adventurous, liberal, well-traveled. (5/17)

Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle by 5/16

1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
2. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
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The winners are:
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Near 805. Available, need friendliest rent.
No drugs, alcohol, smoking pets. 619-
222-2563.

CHULA VISTA, Room for rent, utilities
included. In 2500 sq ft home. Quiet
neighborhood. Rent includes utilities.
Near SDSU. Available now. Dolly,
619-862-0771.

COLLEGE AREA, $750. Large private
room in 3-bedroom house. Quiet
neighborhood. Snowbirds welcome.

COLLEGE AREA, $750. Room in
3-bedroom house. Near SDSU.
Shared bathroom. Nicely furnished.
Available 7/1. Call 858-279-4825.

COLLEGE AREA, $775. 2 Bath
rooms available in 4 bedroom
house. Across from San Diego
State University. Available 6/1/06.
858-245-7188.

CORONADO, $575. Room in house,
in nice area. Quiet. washer/dryer,
24 hour usage. $450/month, deposit
$400. Available now. Sheryl,
858-245-7188.

DELMAR, $450/month, deposit
$200. Utilities included. Cindy 619-
579-1379.

ESCONDIDO, $650/month, $300/deposit.
Central location. Nonsmoker.
619-235-2415, x1702.

ENCINITAS, Room for rent in 3 bed-
room house. Home is near beach. No
smoking/pets. $450/month, deposit
$200. Available now. Sheryl 858-
245-7188.

ENCINITAS, Room in 5 bedroom
townhouse. Room is in a split
level, includes utilities and cable.
Quiet area. Available 5/12.
858-245-5865.

FASHION VALLEY/USD, $575.
Large private room in shared
house, 3 bedrom. Near bus, downtown,
Pacific Beach. No pets. Available now.
Sheila 858-245-7188.

FASHION VALLEY/USD, Room for
rent in 3 bedroom house. Quiet,
private. $450/month, deposit
$200. Available now. Sheryl 858-
245-7188.

FASHION VALLEY/USD, Room in
3 bedroom townhouse. Large,
sunny room in quiet area.
Shared bathroom. Available now.
619-445-7763.

GOLDEN HILL, $400/month plus
$200 deposit. Share a 2 bedroom
home. Private bath. Washer/dryer,
Fenced Yard. Non-smoking no
drugs. 780-746-5984.

HOTEL & FARM, Quiet, clean
apartment. Have 2 cats. Large, sunny
room in small, quiet beach
house. Private entrance, phone
line, cable. Share bath. Nonsmoker
female preferred. 704-496-3444.

LA JUNTA, Room in 3 bedroom
house, 3 bath. Friendly
family. Includes utilities, cable. Near
SDSU, downtown. Available
6/1/06. 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $450/month, deposit
$200. Utilities/DSL included. Pat,
760-436-9734.

LA JUNTA, Room in 3 bedroom
townhouse, shared bathroom, 2
beds, 2 baths. Quiet/clean. Available
May 1, 619-398-5749.

LA JUNTA, $450/month, deposit
$200. Near freeway and
shopping. washer/dryer, 2-car
garage. Near freeway and
shopping. Available May 1.
619-398-5749.

LA JUNTA, $575/month, deposit
$200. Near SDSU, downtown.
5/12. 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $575/month plus 1/3
utilities ($29). Oceanview 4 bed-
room, 2-1/2 bath house. Available

LA JUNTA, $575/month, deposit
$400. Cat here, no
smoking/pets. Available now.
Sheryl, 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $575. Large private
room in 3 bedroom house with
large, sunny room in quiet
area, near SDSU. Available
6/1/06. 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month, inudes
all utilities. Available 6/1/06.
858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, Room in 2 bedroom
apartment. Part-time companion
needed for household duties and
errands. Call 619-293-2562.

LA JUNTA, $600/month, shared
bedroom, in quiet area. Available
5/1/06. 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month, 1/4
utilities. Male preferred. 2 indoor cats.
Available now. Sheryl, 858-
245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities. Available now.
Sheryl 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, cable, hi-speed internet.
Available now. Sheryl, 858-
245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, hi-speed internet.
Available now. Sheryl 858-
245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, hi-speed internet.
Available now. Sheryl, 858-
245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, cable. Available now.
Sheryl 858-245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, hi-speed internet.
Available now. Sheryl 858-
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LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
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Available now. Sheryl, 858-
245-7188.

LA JUNTA, $600/month. Includes
all utilities, hi-speed internet.
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Bathrooms

Tubs Refinished

Save your old, worn-out bathtubs/sinks by Las Nubes. 858-488-8667. Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover accepted.

Bathrooms Remodel


Cabinets

Custom Cabinets

Custom cabinetry, kitchen cabinets, vanities, countertops, garage, laundry, etc. For free estimate, call 619-629-1797.

Cabinets

Bee Removal


Carpets

JB’s Clean Carpets

$15/month. Includes deep cleaning and personal attention. 619-571-0663.

Contractors

CONTRACTORS

Concrete for Less


CONSTRUCTION

Contractor

Terry's, fungus, dry-rot specialists. Deep, pond cover, home improvements. Licensed, Bonded. 25 years experience. 619-420-3619.

Kitchen And Bath Remodel


CLEARING

Liza’s Cleaning

We offer: Weekly, Bi-Weekly, and Monthly cleaning. We also do window cleaning. 619-377-9844 or 619-432-8504.

Professional House Cleaning

We clean your house weekly or bi-weekly. Monthly rates. 619-475-0097.

Hate to Clean?

Dust Bunnies

Cleaning service by experienced professional. For home, offices, remodeling, house cleaning. 619-401-0454.

We Clean Everything

Houses, apartments, condos, offices, garages, move-outs, etc. Very reasonable rates. Free estimate, special rates for non-profit organizations. 619-391-8815.

Cementar

Concrete


Concrete

Remodeling, Additions and Restoration

Licensed contractor with 25 years experience. Custom homes, remodeling, new construction, additions. 858-686-5804. Work guaranteed. 6 Senior discounts. Member of the BBB. 619-663-6097.

Remodeling, Additions and Restoration

Free Estimates

All your electrical needs. Fast and friendly service. 619-717-8801; 619-401-0454.

Electrician

California Fence


Fence Fencing

Fort Fencing


FLOORING

Floors & More!

Wood, laminate, tile, slate. 619-396-9029.

CROWN MOLDING

Moldings for Less

Professional crown molding installation, repair, trim. 619-663-6097.

DECKS

Deck Construction

Fully licensed, bonded and insured. 619-396-9029.

DESIGN

Creative Designs

Custom design and build. Build your dream home stress free. 619-663-6097.

GARDENING

Las Nubes

Design, landscaping, patios (concrete, asphalt), and new installation. Consulting and management services. 619-663-6097.

GLASS AND MIRROR

Tub and Shower

Decorative glass, mirrors, Sliding doors, Windows and glass, Tempered glass. 619-818-2533.

HANDYMAN

Handyman On Demand

Handyman On Demand in San Diego, Inc is San Diego’s most trusted professional service. Lic#161755. 619-396-9029; 619-694-2369.

Hardwood

Housing Remodeling, flooring and Hardwood laminate installation, installation, refinishing, sanding, and Hardwood floor sanding. Accepting credit cards. 619-396-9029; 619-797-2761.

J ust Call John


24/7 Handyman

Property repairs & maintenance: Interior/Exterior, Carpentry, drywall, painting, electrical, plumbing, cleaning, etc. 15 years experience. 619-401-0454.

Preferred Handyman


All-Out Hauler

Fast, friendly, professional pickup. Also does landscaping, driveway cleaning, lawn cleaning, snow plowing, 411-470-8300. 619-396-9029.
Your own private bedroom with vaulted ceilings and cable. Your own private bath and furniture. Furnished or unfurnished.

Choose your dream home.

Your choice. Share生活方式, garage parking, or garden area. Available May 20.

PACIFIC BEACH, Room $800: Includes shared kitchen, utilities, cable and laundry. Peaceful garden setting. Near shops, cafes, banks, courts, no inside smoking.

Phone: 858-493-0977.


Phone: 858-539-8571.

PACIFICA BY THE SEA: Room $950, includes utilities and cable TV. Amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

PACIFIC BEACH, South: $1100: Includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

PACIFIC BEACH, $800, House: 5 blocks to ocean. Nice, clean and quiet. 2 bedroom, 1/2 bath, utilities. Female Only. Available 6/1. Deposit required.


Phone: 619-292-8528.

POINT LOMA/BUENA VISTA: $700, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.


POINT LOMA, PARK: Perfect, available 5/1. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse, Ocean view, gym, pool, BBQ, 2 year old baby. $1300. Call 858-575-0434.


SAN CARLOS: $600, unfurnished bedroom. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large closets. Large room, own bath. Female only. Available 6/1. Deposit required. Phone: 858-675-0568.

SAN DIEGO: $1500, 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with male. 2 blocks from UCSD. $5000 deposit, 1/3 utilities, cable, internet, 5000 square feet. Available 6/1. Phone: 858-478-9471.


SAN DIEGO: $625, Furnished or unfurnished, large room, own bathroom in bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Unfurnished room, own bathroom in bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Quiet neighborhood. Nonsmoking, drugs, no pets. $750/month, 1/2 utilities. 858-695-1931.


SERRA BONDS: $1150, includes all utilities. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, kitchen, living area, private entrance. Close to UCSD. Ocean view. Heat, cable, Internet, laundry. Amenities. No animals.

Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1100, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1150, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1175, includes all utilities. 5 bedroom, 3 bath, kitchen, living area, private entrance. Close to UCSD. Ocean view. Heat, cable, Internet, laundry. Amenities. No animals.

Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1200, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1300, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1375, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1400, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1410, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1450, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1500, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1550, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1600, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1700, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1750, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1800, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $1920, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.


SERRA BONDS: $2050, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.

SERRA BONDS: $2100, includes utilities and cable TV, amenities. Quiet area in the back of the house. No pets. Phone: 858-575-0620.
The night of the wedding, ha-ha. Oh, you said my least favorite part of a wedding. Well, then I'd say the Mass is my least favorite part. It takes too much time and it's boring. A lot of weddings I've been to have Masses in the middle, and they're-Oh, an extra hour. And you can't just go to the party afterwards, you have to go to the ceremony first! I got married at a civil ceremony because a lot of my family wasn't around for the wedding, but my wife and I are thinking of having a Catholic wedding later when more of our family can attend. I'd say 25 is a good time to get married for a guy, and a girl's good to marry anytime after her 15th birthday.

Getting dressed up can be bad because it's just easier to walk around in bare feet. I love our wedding shoes. The people, the food, the people, the food. It's easy to get drunk at weddings, because there's usually an open bar. Friends might not be able to have any drinks, so I don't get to have any drinks either. I've been to a cash bar, and I didn't enjoy myself. With an open bar, there's much more focus on drunkenness and dancing. Everyone's getting married. I do feel the pressure. My internal metabolic clock tells me my eggs are losing their value and it's not as special as it used to be.
BANKER'S HILL. $895. 1 bedroom cot. $895. 500 3rd Ave. 619-692-6918.


GLOBAL HILL. $1450/month. 2 plus bedroom, 2 bath. Chef style kitchen, granite countertops, fireplace. Call 619-698-2511.


LA JOLLA. $1795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1-car garage. 1504 Drexel Drive. 619-299-6577.


NINE MILE CREEK. $1600, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer. 1032 Pennsylvania. 858-573-0233.


SPRING VALLEY. $2300. 2 plus bedroom, 2 bath. Near bus line. 44531 Calexico Avenue. 619-760-0415.


HOLLYWOOD. $1600, 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath plus separate 2-room guest cottage. All appliances, washer/dryer, skylight, hardwood floors. Shared yard, fireplace, garage. 1520 square feet. 2034 Skyview Drive. 619-298-6339.


LA Jolla. $2400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 car garage. 1504 Drexel Drive. 619-299-6577.

LA Jolla. $2400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1-car garage. 44531 Calexico Avenue. 619-760-0415.

LA MESA. $3100/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Flat fee for water. Must see! 5056 Poway Road. Rent: 858-567-8675.

LA Jolla. $3300/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Flat fee for water. Must see! 5056 Poway Road. Rent: 858-567-8675.

LA Jolla. $3300/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Flat fee for water. Must see! 5056 Poway Road. Rent: 858-567-8675.

LA Jolla. $3300/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Flat fee for water. Must see! 5056 Poway Road. Rent: 858-567-8675.

LA Jolla. $3300/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Flat fee for water. Must see! 5056 Poway Road. Rent: 858-567-8675.
**SONOMA**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - Adjoining 2 bedroom cottage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $1950
  - 619-574-0558

- **3 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2200
  - 619-574-0558

**MISSION VALLEY**

- **1 bedroom cottage**
  - Close to Mira Mesa
  - Pets OK
  - Available now
  - 619-295-1879

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2350
  - 619-574-0558

**MIRAMAR**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $1995
  - 619-299-5249

**MISSION BEACH**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $1800
  - 619-299-5249

**LA JUNTA**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $1995
  - 619-299-5249

**LA Jolla**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2350
  - 619-574-0558

**LA MESA**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2200
  - 619-574-0558

**LA HABRA HEIGHTS**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2395
  - 619-574-0558

**LA COSTA**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2495
  - 619-574-0558

**SAN CARLOS**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2450
  - 619-574-0558

**SANDIEGO**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2595
  - 619-574-0558

**SAN DIEGO**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2695
  - 619-574-0558

**SAN DIEGO**

- **2 bedroom cottage**
  - With garage
  - All utilities included
  - Combined rental price: $2795
  - 619-574-0558
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BAY PARK. Two bedroom apartments, $775. 521-2050.

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PACIFIC BEACH, Bayside

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- Large, upstairs and unit with balcony

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- 2nd bedroom

PACIFIC BEACH, 2 bedroom

- Washer/dryer
- Dishwasher
- Walk-in closet
- Parking

PACIFIC BEACH, 2 bedroom

- Balcony/patio
- Covered parking
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PACIFIC BEACH CROWN POINT

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- Large balcony/patio
- Secure building
- Laundry facilities

PACIFIC BEACH, Bayside

- 2 bedroom, 2 bath
- Fireplace
- Walk-in closet

PACIFIC BEACH, Bayside

- 2 bedroom, 2 bath
- Large, upstairs and unit with balcony

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PACIFIC BEACH, 1 bedroom

- Washer/dryer
- Dishwasher
- Walk-in closet
- Parking

PACIFIC BEACH, 1 bedroom

- Large, sunny, spacious
- Balcony/patio
- 2nd bedroom

PACIFIC BEACH, 2 bedroom

- Washer/dryer
- Dishwasher
- Walk-in closet
- Parking

PACIFIC BEACH, 2 bedroom

- Balcony/patio
- Covered parking
- Large, sunny, spacious

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PACIFIC BEACH, 2 bedroom

- Balcony/patio
- Covered parking
- Large, sunny, spacious

PACIFIC BEACH, 1 bedroom

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PACIFIC BEACH, Bayside

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I would very much appreciate being notified of any jobs with an annual salary of $40,000 (with benefits and bonuses) available for a professional fuck-up. My resume is impressive.

Take, for instance, the fulfillment of a lifelong desire to publish a book. I had no subject for a book until I lost 188 pounds, going from a size 34 to a size 6, after 42 years of obesity. It was sold and published successfully. I'd eaten the night before, resenting that I

Much better my life was with 188 fewer pounds to heave around, then watching my Amazon rating go to 12 that afternoon while eating a key lime pie is fucking up raised to a high art, don't you?

Knowing that my memoir, Passing for Thin: Losing Half My Weight and Finding My Self, would make me, to some degree, a poster girl of slimmer was one part of the encouragement I needed to screw up, but I hadn't waited for it. I gave myself an infinity of encouragement in the four years of eating-dieting-laxatives-eating-increased antidepressant medications—eating-dieting-eating-eating I enjoyed. And for the most part, I did enjoy them. Nearly every illegal bite.

Until a couple of weeks ago. I'd been binging like there was no tomorrow, my nights spent in the embalming comfort of Entemann's, Ben & Jerry's, Cinnamon Life Cereal, European r tic pudding, and the occasional order of Fascati's chicken parmigiana with garlic. I had a vague feeling my eating was out of control when I boarded a goofy black Labrador who sloppily licked ice cream from a size 34 to a size 6, after 42 years of obesity. It was sold and published successfully. I'd eaten the night before, resenting that I

needless to say, I was not called to speak. My opinion would have made for terri-}

The night I didn't wear my Christmas dress, I was sure I would never see Bob, an ex-boyfriend—but-you-never-know-again, not really, I did want to. Especially after he witnessed the rump I had at the party's dessert bar.

You'd think these signs would tell me how well I'd screwed up, but they didn't. They passed when I took a shower or spirited gar-}

Such was my state of mind, my 100-pound gain cracked the air. Smoke may not require all the world's cigarettes, but it can crack the air with hydrogen peroxide. They were buried in the daily planning of what I would crawl in bed with that night so that I could blank out how much more masking my body odors and pains I'd have to do the next day.

But then I house-sat two Italian greyhounds. There was a scale in the bathroom. While the cat-bat-rat-dogs jetted merrily around my feet, I decided to step onto the scale. Foolish, foolish me. The digital read-out settled squarely at 250.

I'd had a normal "diet" breakfast, which I usually do, just in case I'm hit by a bolt of resolve. My 100-pound gain cracked the air. Smoke curled from my toes where they framed the infamous number, the greyhounds swarmed up my legs like hungry succubi. I didn't see myself, musingly my groggy body but the scale spoke the rational and real numbers of simple arithmetic. One hundred pounds in four years. Before that, four years of dieting and main-}

ning, an adventure that began on March 9, 1998. That morning on the borrowed scale was March 11, 2008. That was too much symmetry even with a German chocolate cake for an arithmetic.

A fuck-up capable of the high wire feats I'd already performed had only one option: fuck up the weight gain.
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**LEAD STORY**

Salt Lake City fashion designer Jared Gold recently began offering jeweled brooches featuring brightly colored Swarovski crystals affixed to a live, 3-inch-long Madagascar hissing cockroach that a woman can allow to roam a short distance around her dress or jacket via a silver chain affixed to the roach’s back. The brooch sells for $80 at Gold’s website. An April New York Post story quoted an animal rights spokesperson as calling the bauble “just the gift” for the “person who doesn’t mind a small animal excreting on them throughout the day.”

**Can’t Possibly Be True**

Teachers at several nursery schools in Oxfordshire, England, have been encouraging kids to learn the verse “Baa, baa, black sheep! Have you any wool?” without the word “black” but in its place a variety of emotions (e.g., “Baa, baa, sad sheep”) or colors (including “Baa, baa, rainbow sheep”) because they believe that kids with black skin might feel disrespected. According to a March Fox News Service dispatch from London, the campaign recalls a UK media flurry in 2003 suggesting changing the ending to Humpty Dumpty so that he receives merely a mild bump instead of shattering.

China’s Xinhua news agency reported in a March 7th that the police department in Nanjing has gone beyond fingerprints and now has a data bank of smells taken from criminals and crime scenes to aid police dogs in investigations. Offi-
cials say that storing the scents at minus 18 degrees Celsius retards degradation for at least three years, and already, they say, the bank of 500 odors has led to the identification of 23 suspects.

In March, on state highway 2 near Papamoa, New Zealand, police stopped a 32-year-old man driving 121 km/hr (75 mph), with no license and no insurance, and also no arms, having kept relatively good control with one foot on the gas and the other on the brake. The officer told him he was driving that way for years without incident, a fact that amazed police and an amputee interview

**news of the WeIRD**

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Thirty Years Ago
These are the cars the English ever made, no matter what anyone may say about how much that is. (Some would have believed that England could have won the war with their technology — by sending them to the Germans.) I had had one before — a little gray woody with red leather seats and a wooden dash, that smelled and felt as good as it drove. And I, as do all Morris Minor owners, wear them. Besides, it looks just like Donald Duck’s car: a cross between an egg and a derby hat.

—"MORRIS THE CAR," Jacqueline Garner,
May 13, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago
People bought ecology bumper stickers for their autos in 1970 and planned an Earth Day celebration, but it didn’t seem enough. Then an answer was conceived — a document that could weigh several pounds and could grow to an inch thick.... Educated people paid good money to deliver them with correct signatures, and they’ve been cramming them out since.

And just like that the environment was saved.

This document, the Environmental Impact Report, was created, naturally, by legislation...signed into law by President Richard Nixon on January 1, 1970.

—"THE PAPER MOUNTAINS," Gerry Braun,
May 14, 1991

Twenty Years Ago
I can still recall the date, May 19, 1977, because that was Ho Chi Minh’s birthday. The entire camp was taken out to the fields to clear away the elephant owners — to “compete with each other for Uncle Ho’s birthday”.

I made my way to the grass right by the road where the bus passed because I knew that this was the day my wife, Thuy, was coming to see me. I had learned this the week before through a letter smuggled in a bag brought to me by friends who had come to visit the re-education camp.

—"ESCAPE!" Duong Phuc with Va Thanh Thuy and Neil Matthews, May 17, 1996

Fifteen Years Ago
The top five reasons why Richard Lee Poet said he wouldn’t pay his rent: 1. He had just paid $18,000 to promote a Grand Prix race and “that really cleaned me.” 2. His business partner robbed him; 3. His parents were dying and he had to go home to spend their last Christmas together; 4. Construction workers were on strike; and 5. He was a city building inspector who could get his landlords in trouble if they tried to collect.

—"CITY LIGHTS: WHAT RHYTHMS WITH IMMORTAL?"
Colin Flaherty, May 16, 1991

Ten Years Ago
Almost 20 years ago, for research on behalf of The Duke of Deception, written to give my sons as much of their family history as I could articulate, I gushed details about my father’s final years in California, in and out of prisons and state mental hospitals, on the ole or on the lam.... But till now I’d kept my distance from pretty La Jolla and from San Diego and up close and personal memories of my terminal pileup with my dad. So I was unprepared for the vividness of my recall of that summer, of the effect of me finding our apartment near Windansea each day, reading the news (since torn down) where I last saw my father, of bringing all this back so that maybe (fat chance?) I could get it buried for good.


Five Years Ago
Re: Anne Albright’s “Everybody Stops Whining” ("Kid Stuff,” May 3), I can only hope that next year the Easter Bunny puts some birth control in her basket.

Five kids under the age of ten! Your kids are probably starved for attention, Anne, not Easter chocolate."

—LETTER: "LOATHES ALBRIGHT," David Rizzuto,
May 10, 2001

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TENNIS LEAGUE SAN DIEGO. Play year round. Join the #1 league in San Diego. 858-765-5136
Dear Saffron,

A friend of mine i’ll call Sheila tells white lies. I invited her to a dinner party, and she said she and her husband couldn’t make it because they had to visit her elderly aunt who was seriously ill. Weeks later, her husband mentioned to me that on the night in question they went to some jazz clubs. No mention of aunts, sick or otherwise. Okay, fine — that’s a small social fib. But here’s something more problematic: her son, who are good pals, are in the same fifth grade class. During a recent phone conversation Sheila asked how my son was. I said that he brought home a report card with several ‘D’s. I was quite upset about it. The next day my son comes home from school, slams his backpack down, and storms into my room. When I go in and ask what’s wrong, he says, “Jesse” (Sheila’s son) “is mad at me to go to school and said in front of a bunch of people, ‘I heard you got two ‘D’s on your report card.’ You blew my grades to his mom and she told him.” I was guilty as charged. My son felt humiliated and betrayed. I shouldn’t have told him. Based, in the end I had some privacy, I called Sheila and asked why she’d told her son about the D’s. She denied telling her son anything. But there’s no other way her son could have found out. My son was ashamed of his grades and told no one. I asked him if anyone could have seen his report card and he said ‘no’ because he didn’t want to be honest for telling, because that’s an honest mistake. But to lie to me about telling her son seems crazy. I don’t know how I’m supposed to remain friends with someone who lies like this.

Wise To Her Lies In Old Town

Dear Wise,

I see you, you have two choices. You know this variable wants to help but you try to sabotage, it confront your friend gently but firmly. Let her know that you’re disturbed by her untruthfulness because it erodes trust and makes friendship difficult, if not impossible. Tell her you appreciate her if you can be honest with you from now on, even if she’s uncomfortable. That’s the only way you feel you can remain friends. If you’re too disgusted with her and don’t want to bother, you can pull away and be polite but distant. You can decide that this is a person with whom you have a relationship only because your kids are friends, it’s a limited, bare-minimum relationship. No more confiding in her. And if she really does lie about telling her son your son’s grades, I don’t think that’s a small white lie. It’s a Technicolor whopper.

Dear Saffron,

I’m in high school, and I’m afraid all the time. Not slightly afraid but kind of petrified. For no reason. I don’t know what’s wrong. I can hardly sleep at night because all I can think of are really bad things happening to everyone I care about. It’s like I can’t use my mind for other thoughts anymore. Sometimes my heart is beating so hard it feels like there’s an earthquake, but it’s just me. Sitting in class I often feel like I can’t breathe, even though there’s plenty of air. I told my mom a little bit of this and she said that how all teenagers feel, and I’ll grow out of it. I don’t think I can wait till I grow out of it, and I also don’t think my friends feel this way. It’s like I am far removed from everyone I know now…doing a bad impression of a normal person. I don’t know if I can give you any advice for a weird problem like this, help me with anything. It’s all about all I know about something I can do to feel better would help.

Frightened Senior in Hillcrest

Dear Frightened,

I am so sorry you feel this way. You’re right: what not all teenagers go through.

Something is up with you. Tell your mom or dad or both that you don’t feel well and that you need to go to the doctor. Don’t let them dismiss the problem by saying it’s just growing pains. You have to insist, then tell the doctor everything you wrote to me. There are lots of things that could be causing you to feel this way, and there are many different solutions you can try, depending on what’s causing your intense anxiety. But you need to go see the doctor right away, and please don’t take no for an answer.

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Place free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, see thousands of classified ads not printed here.

- **KENMORE, Whirlpool WASHER/DRYER, STOVE, REFRIGERATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER, 645-8545.**

- **MACGREGOR, new KD Basics bedroom furniture. Factory direct prices. In stock. 760-881-8888.**

- **INTERIOR DESIGNER, full-service interior design, 619-245-9897.**

- **SEWING MACHINE, vintage, 1940s, $250. Collectibles. 858-470-9600.**

- **SHOP, vintage metal, repurposed into furniture. 531 Ely. 619-232-7777.**

- **MOOCH CLAIREMONT, 7980 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. • 858-244-1062**

- **NORMAN ROCKWELL, porcelain dinner bell. “Looking out to sea” based on gift. Beautifully made. 619-441-3270.**


**MISSION HILLS.**

- **vania and Brookes).**

- **2111 Cowley Way. 619-275-0094.**

- **Miscellaneous and more.**

- **CLAIREMONT, SEWING MACHINE, large. 858-506-6300.**

- **Interior doors, black. Steve’s home Improvement. 858-698-8784.**

- **CLARIVATION, 911 Lindley Way. 619-276-5034.**

- **MISSION HILLS.**

- **Diego CA 92103.**

- **Items. 2111 Cowley Way. 619-275-0094.**

- **Clothes, stained glass windows, more!**

- **Maghoney french doors, home decor and appliances. 4020 Front Street, San Diego. 619-249-6698.**

- **Saturday May 13, 8am-noon. Antique furniture, art, books, knacks, books, bedding, fountains and more. Thursday-Sunday, 8am-3pm. Riviera Verde. 2717 Reynard Way. 619-299-5921.**

- **Moving sale, $12,000 Oak/brass sliding door, $3000 red doors, all. Thursday-Sunday, 8am-3pm. Riviera Verde. 2717 Reynard Way. 619-299-5921.**

- **Large faucet, Koller $65, range, electric hot water heater, $100/firm, used only 4 months, 619-723-4145.**

- **2004 Toyota Camry, 60K, 60K SERVICE $195, 90K SERVICE $250. FREE Castrol synthetic oil change with any other service. See our large showroom. We have over 90,000 vehicles serviced since 1976!**

- **SUBWOOFERS**

- **BAZOOKA BASS TUBE, 858-395-6555.**

- **Drop-in stereo TV, 22 inch $10. 619-749-4753.**

- **DINING ROOM SET, 6 chairs and left. Walnut wood great condition 42” diameter with extra leaf in box. Walnut wood. Never used, in original packaging. Must sell. 800-464-6420.**

- **BED FRAME, 3 drawer, 6 at $35 each. 760-604-8888.**

- **DINING TABLE, 6 chair, 124” x 30”. Like new. 619-296-1860.**

- **COFFEE TABLE, 6331. 619-298-3646.**

- **COFFEE MACHINES, all kinds, used. 619-426-2552.**

- **COOKTOP, Gas, 30” with oven, $475. Protex Equipment. 619-234-9211.**

- **COOKTOP, Gas, 30” with oven, $475. Protex Equipment. 619-234-9211.**

- **DENTIST, Pacific Beach. 858-229-0680.**

- **DINING TABLE, 858-212-4599.**

- **EXTRA CABINETS, 30” x 30”, $140, 858-395-6555.**

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On a dreary Saturday with rain in the forecast and nowhere to go, Rhiana and I decided to practice dancing for our wedding. I queued up the music files in the computer, spun the volume control up, and guided my mouse to the “play” button.

“I think we should use this one,” I told Rhiana. “Let’s dance!”

I can’t imagine what our dogs must have thought of us. It must be alarming for them to see their masters with bodies flailing about, going back and forth toward each other, and interlocking arms. It was obvious that both dogs were in a tizzy over the situation. They did not approve.

Letting us know what he thought, Buca scurried off the couch, approached cautiously, and let out a scappy growl. Enraged, he spun around, tucked his tail down, and bolted to us. The shiny black coat along his neck and back was standing on end. He retrieved toys out of the plushastic tote that is his toy box. He flung fuzz-less tennis balls and decaying “indestructible” toys about in an attempt to draw our attention.

Rhiana reached out her hand to let him know everything was okay.

It was too late. He had spun around and was headed for another lap around the basement.

At first Kayla thought we were playing. A dog’s natural reaction to a playing situation is to get in “puppy play stance.” (That’s when the dog crouches down with their front legs, but their hind legs remain standing. It’s how puppies tell other puppies that it is time to play.) Kayla tried the “stance” three or four times to let us know she wanted to be involved. When her attempts to play went unrequited, she became nervous as Buca had. She turned sideways and attempted to separate us by squeezing in between. She burrowed between us with her nose and threw all 65 pounds of her body into me. Realizing that we were unfazed, she started “plan B” for getting our attention — jumping.

“Kayla!” I barked, commanding her audience. “No jumping!”

Her front paws stuck to the floor before she ran over to Buca, barking objectionably.

“Should we stop?” I asked Rhiana.

Laughing, she replied, “No, they’ll get over it.”

Having enough of the situation, Buca scampered through another lap around the basement and then lurched into Kayla. Poor Kayla had been reprimanded for jumping and now was the target of a run-by-jumping. Confused and uncertain, she went back to backing up at us and started growling at Buca.

“They’re going to sleep well tonight, huh?” Rhiana pointed out to me.

“It would be hard for them not to. Maybe we should practice a few more songs?”

“This song goes on forever,” Rhiana said after the fourth or fifth chorus. “How long is it?”

I danced over to the glowing flat screen that was displaying a list of media files. “It says here about two and a half minutes.”

With her cheeks turning red, Rhiana said, “Two and a half minutes? It feels like we’ve been doing this for ever. The dogs are losing their freaking minds!”

Clicking “pause,” I concluded the dance. “Yes, let’s stop!”

The dogs were unsettled, though the music had stopped. Buca pranced back toward the couch to pick up a rubber ring. He continued moaning and whining. With her tail spinning in circles, Kayla stopped barking, raised her head up, and moved toward Rhiana.

“Ohhhhh, it’s okay, Kayla,” Rhiana said sitting down in one of our reading chairs. Kayla leaned in and continued wagging her tail as if she were cracking a whip.

“Buca, get over here!” I said coralling him into my lap while sitting in the creepy desk chair. He put his head down on my knee and let out a short grunt, as if to voice his final moment of disapproval.

I looked at Rhiana, who was consoling Kayla. Rhiana looked in my direction and smiled, “I guess they don’t like the chicken dance.”

I guess not.

misusesdelusivew.blogspot.com
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LABOR ONLY, PARTS ADDITIONAL (LABOR VALUE $45)

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KENWOOD/SONY/ALPINE/CLARION/AUDIOVOX/Pioneer
7˝ FLIP-UP MOTORIZED IN-DASH DVD

- 7˝ motorized monitor & DVD • High power 45x4
- 2 aux inputs • Navigation input

Not an authorized Alpine, Sony, Kenwood or Clarion dealer. Installation charges not included.

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TWO 6˝ HEADREST SCREENS OR 8˝ FLIP-DOWN & DVD

- Two 6˝ headrest monitors • DVD/CD/MP3 player • Two wireless headphones

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13˝ FLIP-DOWN MONITOR & DVD

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SONY BASS SYSTEM

Compatible with any existing stereo.
Sony power amplifier with built-in crossover. Two 6.5˝ speakers. Sony 10˝ speaker box.
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SONY CDX-454RF
10-DISC CD CHANGER
Works with any existing radio
- Random & scan • 1 bit DA converter
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- 100ft. range • Remote control panic
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Cars must be equipped with factory electric door locks.
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BICRON 6000N
- 2-way LCD pager • 1-mile radius
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SONY 12˝ SUBWOOFER
- 500 watts • Deep bass • 4 ohms
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Not responsible for misprints. Prices shown include cash discounts. Ad pricing available May 11-17, 2006 only.
*Must present a written estimate.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Location: 1200 Persimmon Avenue, unincorporated El Cajon
Time/Date: 6:30 a.m. on 5/1/06

Incident: Sheriff's Department received reports of someone shouting, “He’s stabbing me!”

Deputies contacted and detained a cab driver who’d driven a woman to the residence.

While speaking with the driver, a woman exited the residence and told deputies she had been the victim of domestic violence...[She] showed signs of bruising and redness on her arms. She informed deputies that the individual that had harmed her, C.W. (DOB 7-21-65), is ex-military with extensive weapons with experience. She also informed them that there were many handguns and rifles inside the residence.

Efforts to contact the subject via the telephone were unsuccessful. As communication continued with a bullhorn, an El Cajon police officer [who] knew the subject from his youth arrived on scene. The officer was able to quickly convince the man to surrender.

FELONY EVASION

Location: [9901] Via Darca, Rancho Peñasquitos
Time/Date: 9:32 a.m. on 5/1/06

Incident: Poway Deputy David Dorroh attempted a traffic stop on a BMW X-5 sport utility vehicle. Dorroh initially observed the vehicle to be obstructing traffic. As Dorroh approached, the driver fled the area in a reckless manner.

A vehicle pursuit was initiated westbound on Scripps Poway Parkway. The BMW was displaying a Virginia license plate.

The pursuit traversed several areas of Scripps Ranch and Rancho Peñasquitos. San Diego Sheriff's Department ASTREA and San Diego Police Department ABLE helicopters as well as San Diego Police Department ground units aided in the pursuit.

At times the pursuit included Interstate 15 and State Route 56. The driver of the BMW, L.S. [DOB] 1-1-70, is ex-military with extensive weapons with experience. He was found to have an outstanding felony drug warrant. The vehicle was determined to have been stolen from the driveway of a Scripps Ranch resident approximately two weeks earlier.

The BMW had a false Virginia license plate attached. K. was currently on parole at the time of this incident.

Investigation: Officers responded to a robbery alarm at the Bank of America...a suspect demanded money while threatening a teller with a mace. The suspect fled on foot, but he left behind a bankcard in the name of Jonathan R.

A records check determined R. had been arrested recently in the South Bay area for an attempted robbery with a knife. R. also listed an address in the 200 block of Second Avenue in Chula Vista.

Officer located R. as he tried to flee from...the home about twenty-five minutes after the robbery. A search of the home revealed cash...and a machete.

BURGLARY

Location: 10445 Chubb Lane, Santee
Time/Date: 7:45 p.m. on 4/29/06

Report: An unknown suspect broke into Homestead Continuation School [and] stole about $600 worth of electronic equipment from a classroom. The suspect ran from the school carrying a large black bag and had blue spray paint on him.

On April 30, 2006, at about 1:55 p.m., Deputy King was patrolling Shadow Hills Park in Santee. A male was acting strangely and causing a disturbance in the park. Deputy King noticed the suspect was carrying a large black bag and had blue spray paint on his hands and face. The suspect, who identified himself only as "Flip," showed Deputy King the contents of his black bag. Deputy King found all of the stolen property from the school in the bag. The stolen items still had the property stickers attached with the school’s name on them.


MOVING SALE. Aquarium stand, refrigerator atop; washer/dryer; frizzer; dishwasher; microwave; 85x40x40; desk; tools; brand new carpeting. Call 858-243-7351.

11 store at 290 I Street. The suspect robbed the clerk with a handgun and fled eastbound on I Street in a Black Chevrolet Blazer.

— Michael Hemmingson
Free Classifieds

New Mexico, Exquisite 140 acres. Rare, high desert natural landscape, mid-Hi, access, power, water bank. $399,000 for sale by owner. 505-945-1033, awesomedudes@yahoo.com

Oxygen Machine. Lung problems? Paralympic Local Line: $45, 210-600-2101. Post free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. Also, we print thousands of classified ads not printed here! Our ads have over 6,000 hits per day. We dont print emails. Post your ad here. Call 619-755-4600.

Wissors available. 6'x4' mirror $100. Ceiling light with fan striped, foliage orange flowers, bromeliads, iris, amaryllis, cannas $30, light bar $20, sheepskin bucket guarantee 1000+ worms. $40. Hilti drywall screwgun, not cordless $250. 858-277-0878.

Auto Repair

Brakes

Hose and Brakes $20, 847-691-1286. Most cars and trucks. In stock. Free shuttle service • FREE Leak Check

Fuel: 12 months-12,000 miles warranty. All work guaranteed. Honda of Escondido, 1-800-316-4569.


Kawasaki ZZR 400, 2000, only 62 miles on it, never dropped, not a scratch, absolutely mint condition. All papers, $5400. 619-571-4954.


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SMOG CHECK $19.85

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Window Tinting

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We serve all of San Diego County

window tinting
When you wake up in the morning, the alarm is worse than a nightmare. The sound of it sends waves of nausea through your body. That’s how it works, on the principle that you’re sickened into waking up.

In the shower, your skin reddens under the scalding water, and your arm props you up against the slick cold tile of the wall. A couple coughs to get the lungs working again and you’re out.

It isn’t until you’re sitting on the bed with your grubbly jeans on and you look down to put your socks on your feet that you really feel dread. Dread for a day spent making someone else rich while your body gets slowly bashed and battered into a rounded, bruised stump of a thing. Your feet are halfway there. Dread feels like pinched shoulders and a sore back and the red lines that your boots cut into you.

When the boots go on, you know the next time you take them off is going to be 13 and something hours later. They’re going to be filled with little pebbles and your socks are going to be crusted with dust and hard with the pasty sweat, and when you get them on it’s going to feel like God himself removed them.

But, that’s 13 hours from now. The next 12 hours are going to be spent pulling strands of wire or helping the guys unload those sacks of concrete. If you want that money, if you want to drink beer with your friends all weekend and take a gift to dinner Saturday night, then you better hump that load of pipe up those stairs.

When you’re on 12-hour days, you better have a good girlfriend. One that’ll come over and cook you something and maybe even start a load of laundry for you. Because when you’re on twelve, the only thing you want to do when you get home is eat some lasagna and crack the top of a couple cans and sit and watch TV until you’re tired enough, until you’re neck is loose enough to let your head slip down and doze off with the news on the tube.

And the next morning you’ll get back in the truck and drive down the alley past the Chinese ladies in the donut shop and the tranny hooker in front of the Laundromat, and you’ll get a greasy egg sandwich and coffee from the fast-food drive thru, and you’ll get to the job-site and do it until you go back home to watch TV and get up in the morning to shower.

**What I will and won’t watch this week**

**THURSDAY, MAY 11**

**SURVIVOR: PANAMA — EXILE ISLAND**

CBS 8:00 P.M.

If I were on this season of Survivor, I’d try to get put out on the Exile Island every once in a while so just I could poop in private.

**TWISTER CHASERS**

NOC 8:00 P.M.

This is probably just idiots and storms, but it sounds dirty, doesn’t it? Twisters and chasers sounds like there are leopard print undies, sounds dirty, doesn’t it? Twisters and chasers

**FRIDAY, MAY 12**

**LEGALLY BLONDE 2: RED, WHITE & BLONDE (2003)**

FOX 8:00 P.M.

I once ate a donut that I’d found on the side of the road. That night I had a fever, headache, and a terrible case of the scoots. I think I’d rather relive my roadside donut experience than watch Legally Blonde 2.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13**

**FAR AND AWAY (1992)**

USA 11:00 A.M.

Mass production of the toothbrush didn’t start until 1855, and the act of brushing one’s teeth everyday wasn’t common until World War II. Now that you know this, you’ll never be able to watch a kissing scene in a period movie again.

**SUNDAY, MAY 14**

**PRIDE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

FOX SPORTS 9:00 P.M.

**VS.**

**TAN TOWELS**

9:00 P.M.

Hmmm...Pride Fighting on FOX Sports or Tan Towels on the Home Shopping Network. PRIDE Fighting or Tan Towels. I can’t decide. I’ll have to tape one and watch it later.

**MONDAY, MAY 15**

**OPRAH WINFREY’S LEGENDS BALL**

ABC 8:00 P.M.

Too...many...jokes. Can’t think...clearly.

**TUESDAY, MAY 16**

**WILD THINGS**

PBS 9:00 P.M.

Just so you know, this is not New Campbell and Denise Richards make-out wet and narked in a pool. Wild Things. This is kittens and hawks and ground squirrels Wild Things. I don’t want you to experience the same disappointment that I did.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17**

**LOST**

ABC 9:00 P.M.

There are people stuck on this island. There was a paramilitary presence because they built a bachelor pad under the ground with an alarm system thing. There are “other” people on the island. There are baloons crash-landing, and polar bears have been introduced into the environment as a scientific experiment. This island is busier than Oahu. There are more comings and goings and people and things all over this crappy little rock, but somehow a rescue operation hasn’t been attempted. Some nights I stand in front of my TV with the blood of rage hot in my neck and my fingers curled up and the only thing I can do is yell, “GAAH! GAAH! GYAH!” at this stupid show.

**THURSDAY, MAY 18**

**CONJUNION TWINS: ERIN AND JADE**

DHC 9:00 P.M.

All right, whoever made those creepy-ass billboards with the girl who has no eyes and two ears in the front of her face, you get your ass up on that ladder and take those down. You owe us all an apology for having to look at those damn things, and whatever it is you’re selling you can just keep it because blech! Blech!
Advertisers' printed offers.

Overseas Automotive Repairs
Factory-scheduled service from $45.95

Pacific Rim Auto Service
Complete sales/half shafts $68.95 + labor

Precision Tune Auto Care
$11.95 oil change

Quick Smog
$12 50 off Any Test Only

SAMCO
Extra $10 off 10K/60K/90K service

San Diego Smog & Auto Repair
$10 off any service

San Diego Smog Test Only
$10 off smog check

San Diego Smog Test Only
Test Only $21.95

San Diego Trux

Free T-shirt

Sea Side Classic Tinting
Window Tint 35%

Shens Autocare
Computerized alignment $29.95

Smog Clinic
$26.75 Test Only smog special

Sound Check
$59 window tinting

Speedy Auto Centers
Auto service $19 plus freight

Streetrays Auto Sound & Security
10% off window tint

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 exchange with transmission service

USA Autosound
Free alarm

Victory Auto Service
Free vehicle check

Weltech Auto Service
Smog check $15.75

Wentworth Automotive
$24.95 AC service

Auto Sport

Tint 3 rear windows $50

Auto Excel, Inc.

VW/Audi: “check engine” light $19.95

Brake Co. Automotive Center
Brake special $99

California Motor Works & Tires

Chris’s Auto Repair
Free oil change

Cliff Brown Automotive
$10 off any service over $50

Convo Auto Repair
Tune-up $29.95

DBL Automotive Center
Braakes $79.99

Dent Time

4% Dent discount

Discount Transmission & Axles
Free diagnostic road test

Eagle Motors
Smog check $19.75

Econo Lube N’ Tune & Brakes – Pacific Beach
Tune-up special $39.98

Euro Car Service
Free “check engine” light diagnostic

Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales
$20 off major tune-up

Farmout Smog Test Only
Smog check $29.99

International Auto Service
Brake service $48 plus parts

Japanese Auto Tech
Free bumper-to-bumper vehicle inspection

Kenny Mesa Smog Check
$7 off smog check

Motor Machine & Supply
$50 off any engine work

Oasis Trade Window Tint
10% off window tinting

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...Continued...

Auto Sport

Tint 3 rear windows $50

Auto Excel, Inc.

VW/Audi: “check engine” light $19.95

Brake Co. Automotive Center
Brake special $99

California Motor Works & Tires

Chris’s Auto Repair
Free oil change

Cliff Brown Automotive
$10 off any service over $50

Convo Auto Repair
Tune-up $29.95

DBL Automotive Center
Braakes $79.99

Dent Time

4% Dent discount

Discount Transmission & Axles
Free diagnostic road test

Eagle Motors
Smog check $19.75

Econo Lube N’ Tune & Brakes – Pacific Beach
Tune-up special $39.98

Euro Car Service
Free “check engine” light diagnostic

Factory Tire Automotive Service & Sales
$20 off major tune-up

Farmout Smog Test Only
Smog check $29.99

International Auto Service
Brake service $48 plus parts

Japanese Auto Tech
Free bumper-to-bumper vehicle inspection

Kenny Mesa Smog Check
$7 off smog check

Motor Machine & Supply
$50 off any engine work

Oasis Trade Window Tint
10% off window tinting

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**T.G.I.F.**

By John Brizzolara

“Well, what did you think your Friday nights would be like?” one might well ask of oneself if one were in the habit of that sort of thing. Friday nights in San Diego cannot be characterized any differently than Friday nights in any other good-sized city with a few large colleges, quite a bit of rent-seeking, and military money (though most of the latter is not, theoretically, going for kicks and giggles, that is, leisure), and throw in a lot of water and beaches and boats, and then the more than usual amount of sun. Other than that...well, you certainly can’t say we’re just Cleveland with palm trees, but neither are we Venice emerged, if you know what I mean.

Occasionally I feel surprised, dis-appointed, or unexpectedly pleased at how I am enjoying myself on, say, a Friday night and if I were to ask myself that opening question. If I sort of mentally squint and travel back in time to Brooklyn, New York, May of 1980, I might imagine my Friday nights in my new life in California 25 years down the road something like this:

I’d be at the BBQ grill around 6:30 p.m., waiting to put the half dozen steaks on. (I would always grill the steaks myself when it was my turn to entertain that month, and not, say, one of the others in my small, but tight circle of friends.) Sometimes the grill would be set up in the cock-pit of the ketch and sometimes on the dock. I can picture my 30-year-old self squatting through cinematically falling calendar leaves, trying to imagine what I would look like at, holy shit, 55!

A picture was summoned (oh, and I did think about it, don’t you?) of a thinning, gray-haired, Ben Franklin–looking paunchy guy; doddering (what-fainthearted liar and thief of something more precious than dream. The man must be almost 60.

Surely you would keep the door open for Mike Jagger, a pretty famous rock and roll singer, arriving, walking up the dock, his arm around an unlikely drinking buddy (the tabloids would never believe this, but here they are); Mike in at least sensible ballet shoes for that opening question. If I sort of men-tioned that he would keep the door open for Mike starring in the movie adaptation of my best-selling novel of the same name: a kind of wacky, offbeat bedroom farce about AIDS and the Brazilian rain forest (though from which went to pretty much saving the whole rain forest thing and the now famous Creamsicle cure for HIV.

Surfacing from below decks is Diana Rigg, now more famous for her suc-cesful 25-year cryo-suspension than her once lively acting career. She is lan-ding with military money (though most of any other good-sized city with a few large colleges, quite a bit of rent-seeking, and military money (though most of the latter is not, theoretically, going for kicks and giggles, that is, leisure), and throw in a lot of water and beaches and boats, and then the more than usual amount of sun. Other than that...well, you certainly can’t say we’re just Cleveland with palm trees, but neither are we Venice emerged, if you know what I mean.

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The truth would involve me in my spacious home library next to my pri-vate home movie theater. I already have something sort of like that, but the term spacious would not apply. Then as now, I would prefer, if socializing came into it at all, a small group of friends, say, no more than five. And I still enjoy a good steak but only find the idea appealing once every few weeks rather than nightly — if I had once had my way there.

But whom would that sixth steak be for? A lot of entries come to mind that might provide a chuckle or two for the reader; but the one I am most comfortable with is a man who would have been eighty years old at the time and now an adult: whole, happy and every bit as much of a friend as anyone else there. Today, at present, we’re working on getting there, though we’re not, by any means, not today. Some days it seems merely around the corner and sighs and prayers of relief are at the ready. It would be grand if one of those days were this one, this Cinco de Mayo as I write it. It is not.

But then, there’s always (am I saying this right?) Seis de Mayo, isn’t there?

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San Diego Reader
April 11, 2006

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