

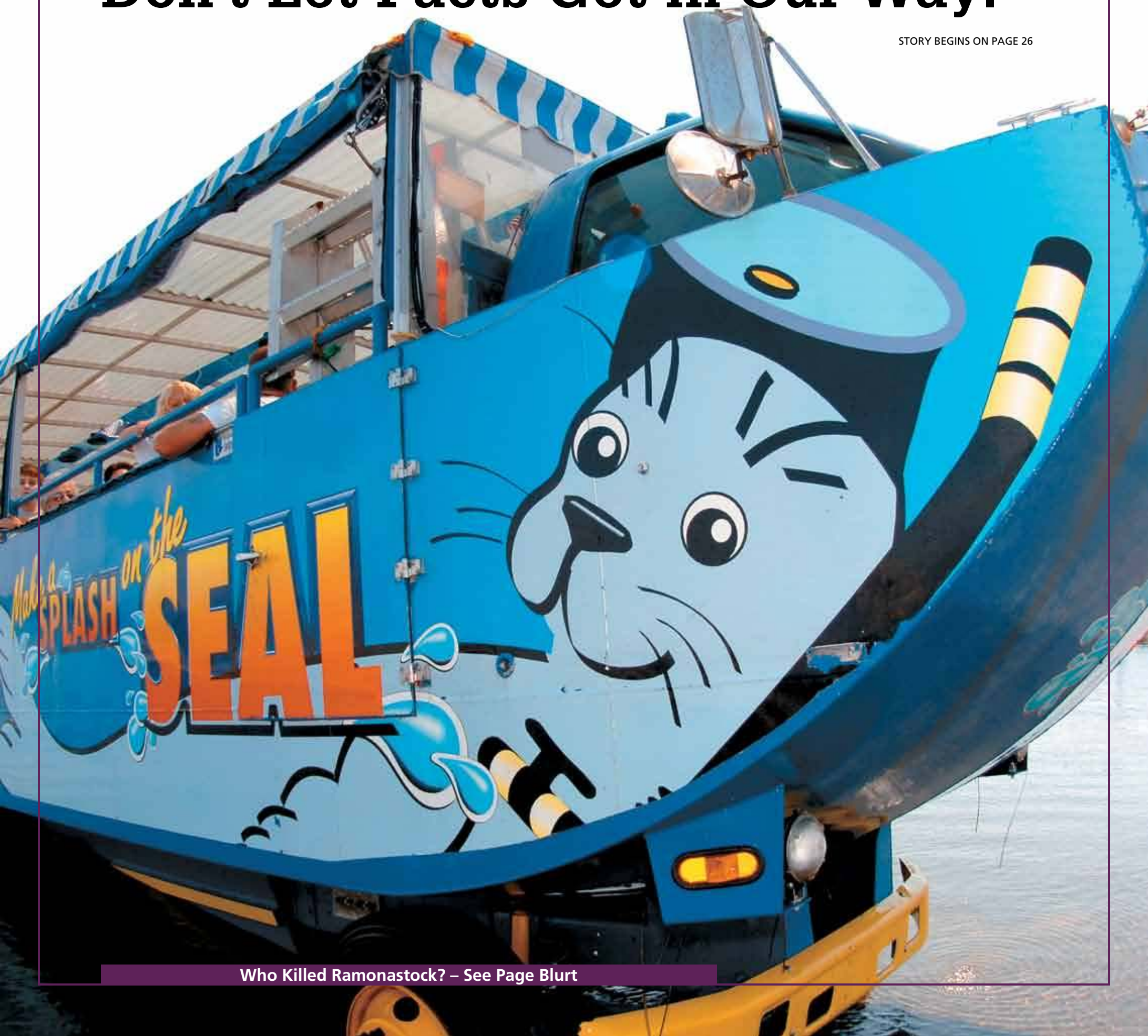
SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 35 / NUMBER 43
OCTOBER 26, 2006

Reader

**We're on Vacation, Here to Play.
Don't Let Facts Get in Our Way.**

STORY BEGINS ON PAGE 26



Who Killed Ramonastock? – See Page Blurt

NEWS & FEATURES

We're on Vacation

Jeannette De Wyze plays tourist in San Diego26

City Lights

Politics: The root of all dilapidation;
and City Lights shorts6
A cop confronts the system7

Letters12

Straight From the Hip

Air and water — for free!14

The Sporting Box

Call girls talk ball.....16

Sheep and Goats

There is no pure man18

Best Buys

1300 watts of fog20

Crasher

A chance to meet Mary Kate and Ashley22

Diary of a Diva

Lies and babysitting: Family at a company party24

Where the Kissing Never Stops

For richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health.
By Laura McNeal56

La Semana en Español

A week's worth of stories in Spanish152

Picture Story178

Off the Cuff181

Name This Place183

Puzzle185

News of the Weird.....195

Back When

Paris falls for dudespeak.....197

Ask Saffron

Respect the dead to spare the living.....199

Blog World

People who've never heard of soccer.....201

It's a Crime

Hand over those handbags.....203

Remote Control King

Chuck Norris to get busy205

T.G.I.F.

Halloween musings207

CALENDAR

Local Events77

Roam-O-Rama

Eucalyptus for better or worse82

Reading

Brian K. Vaughan: *Pride of Baghdad*.....87

Art Review and Museum & Gallery Guide

Don Bartletti makes the shadows move.
By W.S. Di Piero91

Classical Music Guide93

Theater Guide94

Pop Music

Blurt.....98
The best of 4th & B, also the worst, weirdest,
scariest, dumbest...102

Restaurant Reviews and Guide

You won't believe what they've done to salt130
Sublime lardfest at Carnitas Uruapan132
A Valley Center girl learns from the ground up133

Movie Review and Guide

Duncan Shepherd salutes *Flags of Our Fathers*144



"Dutch" Doug Shultz

4th & B's honcho recounts
tales of leather and gore.
See page 102

ADVERTISING

Classified Ads

Antiques & Collectibles	202
Appliances	202
Automotive: Cars.....	206
Automotive: Trucks/Vans/SUVs	206
Automotive: Classic/Custom Cars.....	207
Automotive: RVs	207
Automotive: Parts.....	207
Automotive: Services.....	207
Bicycles	200
Business Opportunities	174
Career Training.....	172
Classes/Lessons	174
Computers	200
Counseling/Support	177
Electronics.....	202
Employment Agencies.....	172
Employment Services	172
Furniture	203
Garage Sales	202
Health & Fitness.....	176
Help Wanted.....	154
Massage	175
Matches	178
Miscellaneous For Sale	204
Motorcycles.....	206
Music, Equipment/Instruments	179
Music, Musicians Avail/Wanted.....	179
Music, Services.....	180
Notices.....	177
Parent Resources.....	176
Personals	178
Pet Central	185
Photo	200
Real Estate, Condos	198
Real Estate, Houses.....	197
Real Estate, Miscellaneous.....	200
Rentals, Commercial	182
Rentals, Apartments/Condos	185
Rentals, Houses.....	183
Roommates	180
Roommate Services	182
Services Directory	180
Sports.....	200
Stage Notes.....	177
Tickets	200
Travel & Getaways	178
Wanted/Trade.....	202
Wedding/Party Guide	177

Display Ads

Apartment Rentals.....	186
Automotive.....	192
Career Training.....	166
Getaways	77
Great Escapes	78
Health and Beauty	50
Help Wanted.....	154
Home and Garden	40
Instruction	174
Music.....	179
Research Studies	41
Services.....	176
Wedding Guide.....	82

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Trick or treat The partisan infighting that has marked this year's school board race between nominal Democrat **Katherine Nakamura** and the GOP's



Katherine Nakamura

Michael McSweeney was ratcheted up considerably last week when the AFL-CIO's San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council dispatched a round of so-called robo-calls to Democratic voters. The script, read by someone using a child's voice, warns against electing McSweeney. "Something scary is coming to San Diego, and it's not Halloween," the call begins. "The vice chair of San Diego's Republican Party is running for San Diego Unified school board. Republican Mike McSweeney has disguised himself as a moderate, but he is really a right-wing extremist who will destroy the balance of the school board. I hope you will vote to protect my school and all the kids in San Diego's public schools. On November 7, please vote for Democrat Katherine Nakamura. This has been paid for by thousands of teachers, nurses, and firefighters of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council. Thank you." A spokeswoman for the San Diego Education Association, the union that represents teachers at San Diego Unified, says that the group has not endorsed anyone in the race. ... Former San Diego City Council candidate **Lorena Gonzalez**, who lost out in January to Republican **Kevin Faulconer** in the race to replace **Michael Zuchet** in the second district, despite heavy infusions of cash from labor unions, is now political director for the labor council, run by **Jerry Butkiewicz**. ... San Diego's Semptra Energy, the utility giant that relies on the state's power of condemnation to create rights-of-way for its oft-controversial transmission projects, has given \$100,000 to defeat Prop 90, the measure that would heavily restrict government's power of eminent domain over private property. San Diego's Affirmed Housing Group, which develops senior housing using various governmental programs, kicked in \$1000.



Michael McSweeney

In the lobby Big-name Washington lobbyists have been chipping in to **Brian Bilbray**'s congressional campaign. Fellow-GOPer **Susan Molinari**, the former New York congresswoman, now a lobbyist and TV commentator, gave \$500. Another donor was **Jean Denton**, who at the time of her \$1000 contribution on July 14 was listed as an attorney with Copeland Lowery Jacquez and Denton, the controversial D.C. lobbying outfit being investigated for its relationship with San Bernardino congressman **Jerry Lewis**. In late June it was announced that the firm's three Republican partners — Denton,



Bill Lowery

ex-San Diego city councilman and former congressman **Bill Lowery**, and **Letitia White** — were leaving to form a separate company after federal investigators began looking into White and her close ties to Lewis, for whom she worked for 20 years before signing on at Copeland Lowery in 2003. Lowery and Lewis are also said to be close friends. In May a federal grand jury issued subpoenas to many of the firm's clients, including the cities of Redlands and San Bernardino and some big defense contractors, seeking details regarding federal funds that Lewis had secured through Congress's so-called earmarking process, by which members make last-minute changes in spending bills to benefit special interests, many of which are campaign contributors.

The Lowery scandal has touched the San Diego State University Research Foundation, a nonprofit offshoot of the school. Back on January 10, **Frea Sladek**, then the foundation's director, felt compelled to dispatch an e-mail to boardmembers, reassuring them about a project for which Copeland Lowery had helped secure funding. "From time to time I've mentioned the Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology, one of the large SDSURF-administered partnership programs that has been funded through appropriations obtained by our Washington representative, former Congressman Bill Lowery," Sladek wrote. "You may have seen his and Congressman Jerry Lewis' names in the *U-T* recently, noting the close relationship between them and drawing attention to the many appropriations (mainly those in Congressman Lewis' San Bernardino area) that have been obtained. The articles state there is nothing illegal but do draw attention to the relationships and large amounts of funding. The appropriations we've received for CCAT are doing many good things."

Meanwhile, the campaign of Bilbray's Democratic rival, **Francine Busby**, has picked up a total of \$1700 from **Lowell Blankfort**, the retired publisher from Chula Vista. **Barbara Bry**, the former *L.A. Times* writer and founding editor of a local news website, gave \$2000, and Del Mar literary agent **Sandra Dijkstra** contributed \$1150.



Francine Busby

Pension fund correction Two weeks ago it was incorrectly reported here that county retirement fund chief **Brian White** received gifts from financial-services firms doing business with the fund. The actual recipient of those gifts, according to a financial disclosure form on file with the county clerk, was **Brian Johnson**, one of the fund's investment officers.

— Matt Potter

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

Cracked Streets, Crooked Pols

By Don Bauder

Financially, the City of San Diego is going down a rat hole. Make that a pothole. That's because years of infrastructure neglect —

both the shirking of maintenance duties and the shelving of critical construction projects — have created a

potholes, repairing of police and fire vehicles, painting, reflooring, and the like. A second deficiency is postpone-



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WOO

City Heights

monster that could be larger than the pension mess. It certainly causes more citizen distress.

There are two kinds of neglect. Deferred maintenance is the backlog of necessary repairs — replacement of roofs and cooling systems, filling of

ment of capital improvement programs — big sewer and water projects, new buildings and parks that are usually financed through bonds or tax and fee increases. Since the City is currently shut out of the bond market, most such projects are on hold, as the

city decays alarmingly.

The City's pension and health-care deficit is now \$3.1 billion. That figure is likely to rise. But deferred maintenance is probably \$2 billion and delayed capital improvement programs another \$2 billion, according to David A. Bainbridge, associate professor of sustainable management in Alliant International University's business school. Councilmember Donna Frye believes Bainbridge's figures could be close to correct, as do others. But the entire proposed 2007 city budget is for \$3 billion, and only \$1.3 billion of that is for general fund operations.

"Deferred maintenance leads to more and more expensive repairs the longer it is put off — pay me now or pay me later," says Bainbridge. The City must replace miles of storm-water pipe. "Roads and parking lot maintenance are even worse." According to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, 60 percent of the city's 2735 miles of streets are in need of repair. A recent story in *USA Today* concluded that San Diego has the sixth-worst roads of U.S. cities, adding \$618 a year to every vehicle's cost.

Ancient cast-iron water

continued on page 8

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

Neal Obermeyer



An Issue of Public Safety

By Joe Deegan

The San Diego Police Department is either resuscitating affirmative action or its promotion practices are meant to reward “team players.” So thinks Sergeant Mark Sullivan, whose highest possible promotional rating of “exceptionally qualified” the department has overlooked several times in selecting lieutenants. Sullivan defines a team player as one whose loyalty is to particular leaders in the department. A “good team member,” he tells me, is loyal to the department.

In early February, the sergeant vented his frustrations in a letter to Mayor Jerry Sanders. A 24-year San Diego police veteran, Sullivan has served in numerous capacities, from SWAT-team and vice-squad member to administrative and teaching roles. He has been a sergeant for 12 years and represents police officers on the city’s pension board. Sullivan was not asking the mayor to promote him outright, he wrote, but to assist in arranging an appeal hearing that “will decide whether I was denied a promotion on factors other than merit.” He

made the request in reference to the police chief’s July 6, 2004 promotions. On that day, William Lansdowne, who became police chief in August 2003, promoted five sergeants and five lieutenants. In each case, the breakdown was three



Mark Sullivan

white males, one Hispanic male, and one black female. For the fourth time, Sullivan was overlooked, and at least one of those promoted, he maintains, was less qualified.

Sullivan opened his letter

by appealing to concerns Mayor Sanders had voiced in his January 12 “State of the City” address. “You said,” wrote Sullivan, “that too often ‘important problems were swept under the rug by city leaders. As best as I can tell the operating philosophy around City Hall involved one of these three words: delay, deny or deceive.’” Sullivan argued that the problems at the police department went far beyond his own case. “It is an issue of public safety,” he wrote, if the police department makes a habit of advancing less-qualified personnel over the more qualified.

Sullivan went on to elaborate his situation to the mayor. In November 2002, he said, the San Diego Police Officers Association (the police union) had chosen him and several other officers with similar histories to participate in a lawsuit to make the promotional process fairer. At the time of filing, charged the lawsuit, “The promotion decisions are routinely based on a myriad of improper considerations, including personal whims, animus, relationships to candidates, group affiliations, and worse, the candidates’ race, sex, color, ethnicity, age, and national origin.” In May 2004, the association and police department settled the lawsuit by establishing a new

merit-based promotional process.

Chief Lansdowne announced his selections for promotion two months later. Wrote Sullivan, “I truly believed that I was passed over...in retaliation for participating in the lawsuit. On July 20, 2004, I made a formal request through the Chief’s office for an administrative appeal for denial of promotion on factors other than merit.”

California’s Police Officers Bill of Rights grants officers in Sullivan’s situation the right to such an appeal. So does Article 41 of San Diego’s memorandum of understanding with its police personnel. Nevertheless, wrote Sullivan, “the chief’s office fought my request for administrative hearing for ten months.” Finally, through the work of the Police Officers Association’s attorney, the department granted a hearing “on condition that the chief would not have to answer any questions related to the qualifications or the subsequent conduct of the other candidates.”

Meanwhile, during August 2004, Channel 7/39 correspondent Tony Shin did a series of reports on the Central Division’s investigative team. The team’s leader had failed to complete investigating 900-plus criminal cases assigned to her division. It



Jerry Sanders

turned out, reported Shin, that the department had recently promoted the officer in question to lieutenant. On a day shortly after her promotion, she came back to Central Division to reclassify 160 of the late cases as “No Contact Required.” That action precluded any subsequent investigation into the cases, a number of which were serious felony cases.

Shin later won a News Emmy for his reports. By phone, he tells me that his investigation relied largely on anonymous conversations with several officers who witnessed the former team leader reclassifying the cases after her

promotion. “The officers were appalled at what they perceived as a clear cover-up,” says Shin. On the video of his reports, I watch Shin stand first with Chief Lansdowne, then with executive assistant chief William Maheu, and ask them what the department planned to do about the incident. Maheu attempts to downplay its significance, arguing that most of the cases had already been finished and needed only official sign-offs. But Lansdowne acknowledges that improprieties may have occurred and promises to conduct an investigation whose results he will announce at a later news conference. “The news conference never happened,” Shin tells me.

On May 26, 2005, Mark Sullivan went to the police chief’s office for the start of his administrative hearing. The hearing officer was deputy city manager Bruce Herring. (Herring was later named in the Kroll report as having breached fiduciary responsibilities in the city’s recent pension crisis.) “None of the discovery information requested by my counsel was produced, including my own promotional file,” Sullivan wrote Sanders. “Chief William Lansdowne was the first witness to be interviewed.”

The sergeant and his attorney learned the following. First, a committee of the police department’s assistant chiefs, not the police chief’s promotions board, made the choices during the July 6, 2004 selection process. Second, all the assistant chiefs that day had pic-



Crooked pols

continued from page 6

pipes are in desperate need of replacement, says Bainbridge. "The sewer treatment facility is still using primitive technology. Recreation facilities are often barely kept functional. Maintenance of city trees and landscaping is woefully underfunded. Many city buildings are patched together instead of properly repaired," he says.

The San Diego Association of Governments notes that regional planners want to channel growth into the metro areas such as the city of San Diego, but an inordinate amount of infrastructural spending is being done in the unincorporated areas.

Despite the desperate infrastructure needs in the city, the mayor's budget to tackle deferred maintenance is a mere \$20 million for 2007, and that figure is dependent on issuance of pension obligation bonds, which are a long shot. Thus, the actual expenditure will be more like \$8 million — about enough to fix the hole in Harry Belafonte's bucket. The City is now compiling an inventory of the deferred maintenance backlog.

The root cause of the dilapidation is politics. As the council spent money willy-nilly on glitzy corporate welfare projects such as the ballpark, the budget was perpetually out of balance for a decade. So San Diego plundered its pension fund, diverted money

from sewer and water operations, and delayed maintenance and construction projects. "Politicians love ribbon-cutting ceremonies — opening new fire stations, libraries, ballparks — but they don't like to provide money for maintenance," says Carl DeMaio, president of the Performance Institute think tank. He, too, believes that the City's deferred maintenance and delayed capital improvement programs "are in the multi-billions of dollars."

Alan Gin, associate professor of economics at the University of San Diego, teaches a course in urban economics. "One of the things that helps economic growth is infrastructure; it's good for business," says Gin. With adequate infrastructure, "it's easier to produce goods and services, easier to transport things." That's one reason he believes that streets and roads are San Diego's "most pressing needs" now.

But Steve Erie, professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego, says, "You have to fix the water and sewer systems first. When those go, everything goes. Next are roads." Such things as parks and libraries will have to wait, he says.

"The most critical needs are downtown," says Jim Mills, former president pro tem of the California Senate. Sewer and water mains are far too old. "Unacceptable levels of pollution are being delivered to the bays and ocean. Yet part of the City's plan for expen-

ditures is for that goddamned new library."

Mills notes, "Along with Philadelphia, we are the most expensive city in the U.S. for transit. It costs \$2.25 for a bus ride here. A lot of poor people can't afford it, and those are the people you want to take transit, so they can apply for jobs and go to and from jobs. Los Angeles has a full one-cent sales tax to support transit, and we have one-third of one-half a cent." He is concerned that the track is breaking up on the trolley to the border because heavy freight is going over it. Yet the San Diego Association of Governments still advocates more highway construction. "The planning is terrible, the priorities all wrong. Jerry Sanders was elected by developers who didn't want an environmentalist to interfere with urban sprawl."

Says Frye, the environmentalist who lost to Sanders, "The first thing we should look at is what we are required to do by law." The City must comply with the State's drinking water laws and the Americans with Disabilities Act, for example. There has to be adequate sewage monitoring to remain in compliance with the law. The potential liabilities are huge.

In assessing the needs, the City must try being honest for once. Bainbridge says that not long ago the City was estimating that galvanized storm-water pipe in one project would cost 85 percent less than it had cost in two other projects

at roughly the same time.

"We buy inferior materials. This is a town that does everything on the cheap," says Erie. "The City always overstates the benefits and understates the costs."

And that brings us to how San Diego will pay for upgraded infrastructure. More taxes and fees? Spending cuts in other areas of the budget? "I don't see how it's possible to deal with the pension and medical deficit and infrastructure backlog at the current revenue levels," says Gin. "There has to be a tax increase combined with cutbacks in expenditures."

Bainbridge says it will take a tax or fees increase. Says Mills: "There are two options: one is to raise taxes and the other is to go bankrupt, and if we go bankrupt we will still have to raise taxes." Frye says that a tax increase is one option on the table.

Says Erie, "It's flabbergasting that people in this town think that we can get out of this without raising taxes. In Los Angeles when San Diego is mentioned, there is always a chuckle in the room. Tax is a four-letter word in San Diego. We don't know how to do infrastructure and never have."

DeMaio demurs. "The cost of government is far in excess of what it should be," he says. "Until you can reform it, why put more money in? If you say you are going to raise taxes, you are saying we don't need to reform the system. It would be throwing good money after bad." ■

Public safety

continued from page 7

tures of each candidate for promotion (there were 63). Third, the selection began with each assistant chief choosing his top five candidates, winnowing the group down from there. Fourth, the assistant chiefs made their selections on minimal merit-based information about the candidates.

In both the promotions to sergeant and to lieutenant, three white males, one Hispanic male, and one black female were selected. Lansdowne denied that any formal or informal "promotional formula" was used. "The fact that two dissimilar candidate pools could yield the same promotional results regarding race and gender," says Sullivan, "was just coincidental, according to the chief of police."

Sullivan tells me he found Lansdowne to be quite forthcoming in testimony. "We were getting all kinds of good info, especially about the use of the pictures," he says.

In his letter to Mayor Sanders, Sullivan wrote that later in the hearing, "shortly after these revelations, the deputy city attorney representing the chief of police advised my counsel that the chief had an important luncheon engagement and would need a break. As a courtesy to the chief, my counsel agreed to reschedule the remaining portions of the chief's interview at a later date. That date has never occurred. The chief's

office advised my counsel we would have to take the chief of police to court to finish the interview."

Sullivan says he didn't know ahead of the hearing that Lansdowne would need the so-called break. I ask him if shortly before the deputy city attorney announced the break, the chief's lawyers were whispering in his ear. "They were," he tells me, "but we had no idea what it was all about. We did notice that the attorneys were grimacing a lot at what he was telling us."

Mayor Sanders did not respond to Sullivan's letter. Eventually, the sergeant did go to court seeking a continuation of the hearing. In January of this year, Judge Judith Hayes ordered the police chief to finish the hearing and to release Sullivan's promotional file. But "in an apparent act of defiance to the judge's order," Sullivan claims, "only half of my promotional file has been delivered."

On June 15, Sullivan completed his administrative appeal hearing in the police chief's office. This time, assistant chief Howard Kendall, who was not an assistant chief at the time the promotions were made, was the hearing officer. Less than a month later, on July 10, Kendall responded with a denial of the appeal. In explaining his decision, he told Sullivan that "the identity of the person or group making promotional decisions has nothing to do with whether you were denied promotion on

continued on page 10



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Public safety

continued from page 8

grounds other than merit." But Kendall did not address how little merit-based information the chiefs used when they made promotional choices.

Sullivan argues that the role of the assistant chiefs and their selection method violated the settlement terms of the Police Officers Association lawsuit. On July 23, he wrote back to Kendall. In a point-by-point recitation, he painted a picture of the assistant chiefs committee usurping the primary role of the police promotions board. The way the process ought to work, according to the city's appointing authority manual, is that the promotions board is to recommend officers for promotion. The board is to decide on the basis of merit deter-

mined by written tests, oral interviews, and work history and evaluations. It can take community and department needs into consideration too.

According to San Diego Police Officers Association president Bill Nemec, "Nothing forbids the chief from accepting the advice of others in making his determination." Nevertheless, argued Sullivan in the letter to Kendall, "the addition of the chiefs executive committee [between promotions board and chief] seriously compromised the integrity of the promotional process." He later tells me that their role in the 2004 selections was not to advise the chief. "They made the selections for the chief," he says.

Sullivan contended in his response to Kendall that as a result of leaving out the promotions board, which takes promotional ratings into consideration, "no merit-based

promotional information was ever used by the [chiefs executive committee] during the selection process." Prior to his second hearing, Sullivan thought that the assistant chiefs had at least used candidates' promotional ratings in making their choices. I listen to a recording of the June 15 appeal hearing. Sullivan is questioning Patrick Drummy, the police department's director of administrative services and human resources. Drummy tells a different story. The day the chiefs executive committee decided the promotions, Drummy states, "The [committee] doesn't know what the ratings are."

This made it more likely that the committee would use "pictures of candidates in a discriminatory manner," argued Sullivan in his letter to Kendall. The appointing authority manual, he said, does not authorize such use of pictures. "One candidate's picture showed him with the long hair and scruffy beard he wore as an undercover cop," Sullivan tells

me. The picture he shows me does have the appearance of a scraggly hippie.

In the letter to assistant chief Kendall, Sullivan speculates that "the chiefs executive committee selections matched a promotional formula." The successful 1996 California ballot proposition 209 forbids discriminating against persons in public employment on the basis of race. I call Scott Fulkerson, executive director of the police Citizens' Review Board. Fulkerson says he does not recognize the term "promotional formula" but assures me that currently "affirmative action is being practiced in no city department."

"Why then," asks Sullivan, "did the chiefs use the pictures, which have no legitimate role in the promotion-selection process? The way it was explained to me was that Chief Lansdowne, a newcomer to the department, needed the pictures to get acquainted with the officers. But why did every assistant chief and the lawyer need to have the pictures too?"

In the end, wrote Sullivan, "the chiefs executive com-

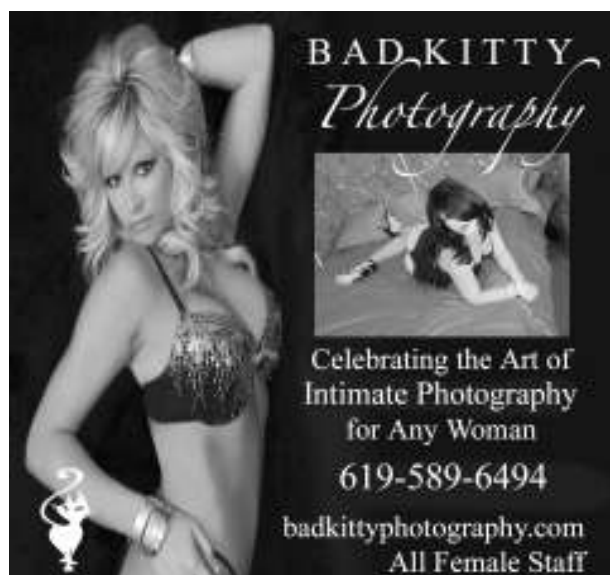
mittee selected a less qualified candidate than myself." That candidate, according to Sullivan, is the officer responsible for what has become well known on the police-department grapevine as "Late-Case-Gate." Sullivan does not know her departmental rating, but he claims she was less qualified by virtue of experience, not to mention her performance in the late-case scandal. Assistant chief Kendall, however, wrote in his appeal-denial letter that "there is no evidence that the Chief of Police knew the information [about the late-case debacle] at the time he made the promotional decisions."

Sullivan's letter to Kendall brings up additional points relating to retaliation. Given his participation in the San Diego Police Officers Association lawsuit, Sullivan wrote, the chiefs were negligent in failing "to report and investigate [my] allegations of discrimination and retaliation." He added that "the department has a history of retaliating against officers who file discrimination complaints."

The reference is to at least

four personnel retaliation lawsuits against the department in the last several years. In one case that stands out, a Latino undercover narcotics detective was awarded a \$1.3 million court judgment for police discrimination and retaliatory practices. The retaliation took place, according to attorney Joel Golden, after his client complained to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the department discriminated against him when he sought promotion to sergeant. The officer had been on special assignment in Del Mar with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration when his superiors transferred him to an area near his home in central San Diego. Given the sensitivity of his work, that decision put him at great risk, the attorney argued.

Golden tells me that the original promotion request had been denied for racial reasons. The department, he says, was overworking the officer because he was one of the few Latino detectives it had to do effective drug-enforcement work. His superiors did not



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The City appealed the jury's verdict and managed to have the discrimination conviction overturned. But the appeals court upheld a \$750,000 retaliation judgment. The City was then charged court fees and interest on the amount. On June 27 of this year, it issued a \$1,013,057 check to the officer and attorney Golden. But the City's liability may still not be over. This summer Golden and his client won a California Supreme Court reversal of appeal that says they're entitled to a retrial of the original promotional discrimination case. A preliminary court hearing in the matter was held two weeks ago.

I speak with Sergeant Carlos Medina about the racial problems the police department gets into when it promotes within the ranks. Medina is president of San Diego's chapter of the National Latino Peace Officers Association. "Chief Lansdowne's heart is in the right place," he tells me, "but his hands are tied. On the one hand, the department's mission and goals statement gives lip service to diversity. Mayor Sanders responded positively when I wrote him recently promoting diversity. But when I wrote similar concerns to the assistant chiefs, they said, 'We can't talk about diversity.'"

Like Mark Sullivan, Medina thinks that the police

department does promote according to a rigid racial formula. But he thinks the formula works to reduce the number of minority officers needed. When I recite "three white males, one Hispanic male, and one black female," he replies, "Yes, that sounds like one of the familiar ones." Medina believes that "promotions need to be made according to the requirements of community policing. We're getting dangerously close to the kind of paramilitary department people associate with Los Angeles," he says, "rather than the community policing we used to excel at." The promotions should serve "cultural competencies." Policing needs of Latino neighbor-

hoods are not identical to those of Asian, black, or Anglo neighborhoods. So when it comes time to promote, the department should be thinking of what the communities need. "There are some assignments that are definitely handled better by female officers," says Medina. "And just because an officer has a Latino name is no guarantee that he is culturally competent in a Latino community. A black or Anglo officer might be more suited."

In the meantime, on September 25, Sergeant Sullivan received a letter from Jill Olen, the city's deputy chief operating officer for public safety/homeland security. In the letter, Olen promises that Sullivan soon will receive a

final Article 41 review, not by the mayor, but by Ted Martinez Jr., head of the mayor's Neighborhood and Customer Services office. Olen alerts Sullivan, however, that in the new hearing "there will not be any testimony or review of new evidence."

Not one to go quietly, Sullivan is pursuing a concurrent case with the San Diego Civil Service Commission. And he has written a complaint to Olen about her restrictions on testimony and new evidence when his next hearing comes. On June 15, hearing officer Kendall did not allow "any testimony or evidence related to the Central Division late case investigation," says Sullivan. On top of

that, Kendall did not reveal a conflict of interest he had in his role. Sullivan says he recently discovered that Kendall had been the late-case officer's supervising captain during a significant portion of the time she failed to manage her caseload. "The commanding officer bears responsibility for the failure of his subordinates to properly manage their caseloads. In addition, during this same period, the [late case] lieutenant I intended to question was at one time a direct report to Captain Kendall.... As a consequence, Captain Kendall would have submitted a recommendation for her promotion. I assume that recommendation was positive." ■



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We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at SanDiegoReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Well Remembered

As I reach for my Reader faithfully every week, I had to take a double look. Oh my God! It's Mr. Thompson ("Dig a Little Deeper," Cover Story, October 12). What memories started shooting through me. You see, I worked with Mr. Thompson. He had an office on Market Street and 47th that he shared with Great American Bank, known also as Neighborhood Home Loan Counseling Center, a center for low-income homes, financing, etc. So I knew Mr. Thompson very well. Charles Davis and I went to school together. When Mr. Thompson was out of the office, I would handle his calls, any visitors, etc.

What I want to say is, I am so glad he wasn't forgotten. He indeed had his flaws, like we all do. He certainly didn't deserve to go the way he did. And he is still thought of today, with a smile.

Ms. D.
San Diego

Best In 30 Years

Having been out of town for the past couple of weeks, I got a copy of the October 12 issue when I returned. Your cover story, "Dig a Little Deeper: Cold Murder Case Heats Up," was fantastic. I have been reading the

Reader for over 30 years, and this is what I remember it for. My congratulations to the author.

Keep up the good work.
Herb Holmes
via e-mail

Second Chance

Spectacular essay on Rilke by Corinne Mackey ("Rilke and Me," Feature Story, October 19). I missed it in 1991; I know, 'cause if I'd read it, I'd've remembered it. Looked up my date book and discovered why. Anyway, I want to congratulate her on the brilliant and moving essay.

John Mood
via e-mail

Photo Bias

The demonstrations at the Escondido City Council meeting where it passed an ordinance prohibiting renting to illegal aliens were lively, and Bruce Kauffman's report ("The Heart Meets the Law," "City Lights," October 19) on them quite fair. At least in the eyes of this observer, who was both there and quoted in the article.

The photos selected to accompany the print version of the article injected strong bias, however. Of the dozens of signs on display at the demonstration, the two featured in the Reader's photos are those implying that courageous Escondido Councilwoman Marie Waldron and her supporters are racists and Nazis.

Such personal attacks were abundant in the signage used by pro-illegal immigrant advocates at the event. In contrast, the signage of Minutemen and other Waldron supporters was focused on policy and law enforcement, not name calling.

My sensitivity to such bias has been sharpened recently. According to the Union-Tribune, I have been

accused by SDSU administrators of the heinous crime of using university resources (i.e., computer and e-mail system) to communicate with Minutemen — and threatened with punishment.

The same administrators have no problem with the SDSU website being used by the faculty union (CFA) to bash Schwarzenegger or being used by MEChA to present racist, separatist propaganda and organize anti-Minutemen rallies. But let a professor send personal e-mail messages to Minutemen, and the hammer comes swiftly down.

Stuart H. Hurlbert
via e-mail

We All Feed At The Same Bloated Trough

Bruce Kauffman's article ("The Heart Meets the Law," "City Lights," October 19) about the perverse desire of Escondido City Council members Sam Abed, Ed Gallo, and Marie Waldron to poke their noses into the private business of property owners who rent to immigrants reveals much about homegrown U.S. hypocrisy on the "illegal alien" issue.

The first bit of hypocrisy — and humor — was supplied by a retired biology professor from San Diego State University named Stuart H. Hurlbert. With a straight face, he informed us that the environment is not able to withstand the rapid growth in population wrought by rampant illegal immigration. First of all, population growth is caused by procreation, not immigration. One expects better from a professor — especially a biologist. Consequently, I suspect SDSU students aren't getting their money's worth. But if the birds-and-bees-challenged professor is trying to say that ill-conceived government social policies promote population growth, perhaps he and the other immigration opponents should look at their own U.S. government as the source of the problem — not at immigrants who did not create these policies. But this would expose the hypocrisy of those who oppose open borders and free enterprise. You see, as an employee of SDSU, Profes-

sor Hurlbert lives entirely off of California taxpayers in the same fashion as all welfare recipients and government employees. Is it possible that Professor Hurlbert resents the fact that some immigrants are cutting in on his action by slurping from the same tax-funded pork barrel that he feeds on so richly? And if he really is concerned about population growth, why not oppose tax policies that make it easier for parents to breed children at taxpayer expense — such as "free" public schools that taxpayers are forced to subsidize whether they have children or not, including SDSU and other tax-subsidized state universities? Surely parents would spare us that second or third chip-off-the-old-block if they had to be financially responsible for their progeny. So why doesn't the professor go to the source of the problem — bad government policies — instead of picking on the result of bad policies?

Even more laughs and hypocrisy were provided by former U.S. Marine Jeff Schwilk. He has mutilated the proud historical tradition of the real Minutemen by founding an absurd group of San Diego minutemen. These sycophants of the overgrown welfare-warfare state have completely reversed the meaning of minuteman. Let's take a look:

— The original Minutemen responded to the call of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and opposed the overgrown British Empire. They supported the rebellion of the colonists against the high taxes and loss of liberty imposed by the government of King George III. They sought freedom, not a false sense of security.

— Today's ersatz minutemen are the opposite. They oppose the individual right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness — which includes the right to peacefully engage in free trade and work to support a family. These fake minutemen defend the bloated, criminal U.S. government and its marauding army of tax-rapists, warmongers, and bureaucrats — and their counterparts in Sacramento. They have Big Government dependency and obedience

continued on page 74

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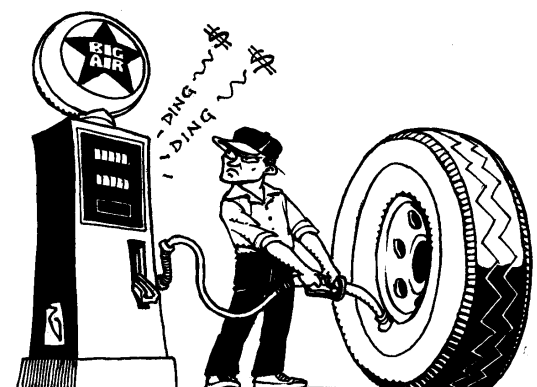
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



Hey, Matt!

Why is it that most service stations around here don't offer free air and water? Isn't it California law that gasoline retailers must offer free air and water? Pissed I have to pay 50 cents to fill up my leaking tire!

— Steve Covault, San Diego

The elves went into our Room of Laws and scrambled through file cabinets and wastebaskets for the relevant piece of paper for your case. They found it under somebody's old cup of latte. Best we can see through the coffee rings, Section 13651 of the California Business and Professions Code backs you up. Most gas stations have had to offer air and water by law since 1984, but the law didn't say anything about it being free, so mostly we had to pay. Station owners argued it helped them cover the costs associated with the new machinery.

The air-water-giveaway legislation went into effect in 2000. It says if you buy fuel for a passenger car or a commercial vehicle with an unladen weight of less than 6000 pounds, tire and radiator refills are to be available at no charge. (If you wheel in for air or water only, you'll have to pay.)

In contrast to their mood in 1984, station owners and makers of air and water dispensers were bummed. They challenged the law, arguing that it deprived them of their property without just compensation. The court snickered and ruled against them, reasoning that air and water are matters of safety for the motoring public. Underinflated tires and overheated engines are dangerous.

Let's pause here to savor the rare moment of clear thinking by Sacramento. It's not only commonsensical, it favors the consumer, a double miracle.

Somewhere on or near the air-water dispenser there must be a sign indicating that they're free with a fuel purchase. The sign also needs to display the 800 number you can call to report a station that is out of compliance. Because Sacramento loves paperwork more than almost anything, there is a form available for downloading to make your official notification (www.cdffa.ca.gov/dms/awform). Of course, at the moment, Sacramento has plenty of other fires to douse. No telling where a consumer's air-water outrage might rank on their to-do list.

Heymatt:

This week our local paper had in its sports headline something about the Mets and a New York minute. What is a New York minute? Are there only 58 or 59 seconds in their minutes? I know it's supposed to represent something faster, but was it invented by a New Yorker who wanted to get the hell out of that city, in a hurry?

— Ann of San Diego

We haven't visited the word-and-phrase-origin squad in a while. Glad to see nothing's changed much with them. You slide your question under the door then listen to all the haggling while they try to agree on one answer. First we tossed out the “nobody knows where it came from” answer. They always try that, and we don't fall for it. Next we get “nobody knows exactly, but it didn't originate in New York.” Very popular with the experts. The phrase is slightly disparaging, suggesting that things in New York City move so fast and New Yorkers are so impatient (ever ridden in a New York taxi?) that they can't even tolerate a 60-second minute. Regional insults, even mild ones, usually don't come from the region in question (e.g., Southern California's Zonie jokes). Their third answer is cagey but a little more helpful. The *Dictionary of American Regional English* dates the phrase to the mid-1970s (at the latest), where it crops up in print references from Texas. Originator? Not a New Yorker. And that's all we could squeeze out of the cranky loafers on the word-origin committee.

Hey, Matt:

I was paying bills and realized that because I had a bad cold, maybe I'd be giving my germs to people on the receiving end. Can my bad germs affect them after a few days in the post office machines?

— Letter Licker in La Mesa

Oook. Well, I'd guess no, but you never can tell. Science guys have measured virus and bacteria life span on lots of hard, dry surfaces, and they vary all over the lot — a few seconds to a few days. Viruses don't fare very well, since they need the cell of a living organism in order to replicate. Bacteria handle that function by themselves, so all they need is a comfortable environment. And no matter which organism you have, the potential infectee would need to touch the germ spot, then stick fingers in mouth, nose, or eyes to get the bugs inside. Once your mail gets to your credit card company, again it's handled mostly by machine. But even if someone handles the mail, to risk illness they'd have to open an envelope, poke themselves in the eye, open an envelope, pick their nose, open an envelope, suck their thumb. You'll have to come up with another plan to wipe out your creditors.

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

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

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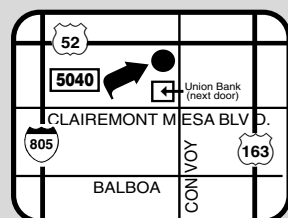
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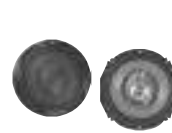
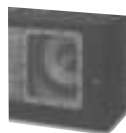
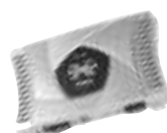
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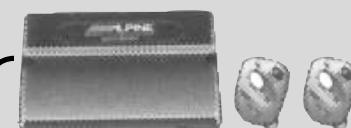


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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

World Series Special

Often, when national sporting events take place (Super Bowl, NCAA Final Four, NBA Finals, World Series), the Box goes to the people for analysis and commentary. And if there was ever a time to have someone explain how the St. Louis Cardinals, a team that finished the regular season with 83 wins and 78 losses, a team that lost 9 of their last 12 games, a team that finally clinched the NL Central because Houston lost to Atlanta on the last day of the season, how that train wreck of a team came to be playing in the World Series, that time is now.

Therefore, I am placing a telephone call to Goddess Helena, “Dominatrix. Warm, honest & discreet. Mon...Friday Appt only — no same day. 40 & up.” I got the goddesship’s phone number from the classified section of the *Riverfront Times*, an alternative newspaper serving the citizens of St. Louis and surrounding tax-revenue-sucking municipalities.

Before we begin, I should warn you that this looks to be a hard slog. The ladies I’m calling are professionals, and being pros they expect a scam from everyone they encounter. Like the rest, I want something for nothing; in this instance, a free interview that I will use in a paid-for column. Add their natural reticence to being ripped off to the fact that what they’re doing is technically illegal, and I foresee communication difficulties. I say “technically illegal” because every big city permits sex-for-hire ads in their newspapers and phone books, and, as far as I can tell, no one is ever arrested.

Whoa. Someone has picked up the receiver. I gush, very fast, wanting to get everything said as quickly as possible, “Goddess, look at your receiver and you’ll see this call is coming from California. I’m a sports columnist, want to get your thoughts on the World Series. That’s it, that’s everything; nothing personal, we’ll just talk baseball.” I project manly, but sensitive, sports enthusiasm.

Click

I am not successful with “N Sexy Denise. Awesome model. C-cup round butt. In/Outcalls 24/7 Near downtown,” or, “It has been my distinct pleasure to provide Erotic Nude Modeling, Massage & Relaxation services and I absolutely adore the thrill and excitement of sharing my time with discerning gentlemen (& women),” or, “Outcalls only. We are 2 sweet tasting sexy black

women and we enjoy doing 2 girl sessions together. The things we can do to each other you wouldn’t believe, and we really know how to please a well deserving man.”

I drift into the kitchen, make a new pot of coffee, slap a slice of ham between two pieces of bread, tear off a sandwich corner for the dog, and return to my desk. Big sigh. I look down at my list and pick a telephone number.

“Hello.”

I quickly rescan the list to see who I’m talking to. Here it is, “Sexy Latina With Big T&A.” I begin and finish my spiel. She listens and calmly says, “Well, I’m not a sports fanatic.”

The woman has a neutral, nonsexual, masters-degree-in-psychology tone of voice. I make her as second generation Mexican-American, 30 to 35 years old and smart.

I decide to hold the Wisdom of the People opening and go for a straightforward, “Have you watched any of the World Series?”

“I saw the first three innings.”

“Game one?”

“Yeah.”

“What did you think?”

“I was surprised they scored so many runs.”

You’d have to know something about the Cardinals in order to be surprised that they scored, in this case, 4 runs. “You follow the team a little bit, don’t you?”

“A little. My brother is the fan.”

One doesn’t think of Big T&As To Go as having brothers.

BT&A adds, “And some clients are into it.”

Well, she opened the door. “Do they talk to you about the team? I don’t mean to get sexy, but where do they...”

“No,” she laughs. “Sometimes, they’ll want to get a score.”

“Do they turn on the TV? Check their Blackberries?”

Silence. Silence. Silence. Got it, back to sports. “Tell me something about the team.”

The woman thinks for a minute, “Well, I know the manager likes animals.”

True, Tony La Russa runs an animal-rescue foundation. “How about a prediction? Who’s going to win?”

I can almost see BT&A make a little girl’s face. She says, mimicking a 1940s bookie, “St. Louis in seven.”

The Vegas Line

The Vegas Line NFL Week 8 (Home Team in CAPS)

<u>Favorite</u>	<u>Spread</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>	<u>Underdog</u>
	<u>Sunday</u>		
TENNESSEE	3	42	Houston
PHILADELPHIA	6	42 1/2	Jacksonville
CINCINNATI	4 1/2	44	Atlanta
N. Y. GIANTS	9	41	Tampa Bay
CHICAGO	16 1/2	42	San Francisco
GREEN BAY	3	44 1/2	Arizona
KANSAS CITY	6	38 1/2	Seattle
NEW ORLEANS	2 1/2	36 1/2	Baltimore
SAN DIEGO	8 1/2	44 1/2	St. Louis
Pittsburgh	9 1/2	38 1/2	OAKLAND
CLEVELAND	1 1/2	38	N. Y. Jets
DENVER	2 1/2	37 1/2	Indianapolis
	<u>Monday</u>		
New England	2 1/2	38 1/2	MINNESOTA
Bye week: Baltimore, Chicago, New Orleans, San Francisco, St. Louis, Tennessee			

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



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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Chaldean Catholic

Address: 1627 Jamacha Way, El Cajon, 619-579-7913

Founded locally: 1973

Senior pastor: Father Michael J. Bazzi (Cathedral is also seat of Bishop Sarhad Yawisp)

Congregation size: Together with St. Michael's, St. Peter's serves the 25,000 Chaldeans in San Diego County

Staff size: 3

Sunday school enrollment: various levels of school, but 600 children on Saturdays

Annual budget: n/a

Weekly giving: n/a

Singles program: no

Dress: semi-dressy — some jeans, but many dresses and button-down shirts

Diversity: almost entirely Chaldean

Sunday worship: English and Chaldean, 9:30 a.m.; sung Mass in Chaldean, 11:15 a.m.

Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 20 minutes

Website: www.kaldu.org

At the Mass's opening, Father Felix Shabi's voice sounded from behind the red curtain concealing the Sanctuary. "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." The curtain hung from a frame, painted — like the rest of the church — with a sweet, homespun piety. A Paschal lamb at the center, surrounded by angels in the Fra Angelico mode.

After the introductory prayer, the congregation broke into song — a chant, in Chaldean and full of minor intervals — and the curtain opened to reveal Shabi, dressed in red robes, standing before the altar with his back to the people. He faced a stained-glass cross, upon which hung a Corpus, and around which painted angels hovered, surrounded by clouds and sky. Streams flowed from the foot of the cross, giving life to the surrounding earth,

and bringing forth grapes and wheat. A chalice and host stood amid the fruit of the earth.

The readings, taken from Genesis and Corinthians, were presented by a young man and a young woman. Later in the Mass, they offered prayers. (The man: "On the day of your second coming, we will arise before you and welcome you..." The woman: "Let us seek mercy and forgiveness from God, the Lord of all, and let us grant pardon to our neighbor...") Youth spoke up again from the choir, singing modern songs ("My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like you...") that sounded a little less modern accompanied by classical guitar.

Shabi intoned much of the Mass (in both English and Chaldean). But the Gospel, in which Jesus exhorted the disciples to be like little children, warned against leading little ones astray, and compared lost "little ones" to strayed sheep — was spoken. In his homily, Shabi said the child "follows the head of the family.... We are all God's children.... If we are looking to be somebody higher than our brothers...we have to cut out this idea." He cautioned parents

about the example they set for children. And he encouraged us to seek out lost sheep: "Why does Jesus speak about sheep? The sheep live in a society — there are no separate sheep. When the shepherd takes them out, they stay together.... I feel happy when I see somebody from our church looking for people, bringing them to confession or for Mass. We have to imitate Jesus."

At the sign of peace, Shabi first turned to the people and made the sign of the cross. Then he gently clapped his open hands around the hand of a Servant — wishing him Christ's peace as he did so. The Servant descended to the four acolytes and clapped his hands around theirs. Then the acolytes rushed along the center aisle, clapping their hands around the hands of the congregants at the ends of the pews, who then turned and passed the sign along to their neighbors.

"Whoever has not received baptism let him leave," intoned the Servant as the priest prepared to consecrate the bread and wine. Reverence and silence were requested. Many prayers surrounded the consecration — prayers of praise and thanksgiving, prayers for forgiveness, prayers for worthy reception. After the consecration, Shabi moved around the altar and faced the people. Bending — hunched — over the altar, his motions deliberate, Shabi broke the bread and dipped the corner of one piece into the cup, staining it purple, "Let the venerable body be marked with the life-giving body of our Lord Jesus Christ.... Let the holy body be signed with the expiating blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...." The Servant spoke: "The Cherubim and Seraphim...are standing by the altar with respect and worship. They watch the priest consecrating and breaking the body of Christ for the remission of offenses."

Later, once again with his back to the people, he presented the stained host by elevating it slightly and then stepping aside and bowing — the host never moving as he did so. The final blessing quoted the Gospel "Amen, amen, I say to you, any one who eats my body and drinks my blood dwells in me and I in him, and I shall raise him up on the last day."

What happens when we die?

"When we die," says Father Shabi, "we will go immediately to the last judgment. But, in fact, today is not the last judgment...we are living in our time, not God's time.... If you are a good man, you will go to heaven; if you are a bad man, you will go to hell.... But there is no pure man. The Bible says that even the righteous man makes seven sins a day. So we have to go to Purgatory to purify our sins. Then, at the last judgment, Jesus will lead us to heaven. If we are bad people, we will never see heaven, even though we are Christians."

— Matthew Lickona



FELIX SHABI

St. Peter Chaldean
Catholic Cathedral
El Cajon

★★½

Sermon

content.....★★½
delivery.....★★

Liturgy

Music

congregational.....★★★
band.....★★

Snacks

.....no snacks

Architecture

.....★★★

Friendliness

.....★★½

Poor to satisfactory.....(none)
Good.....★
Very good.....★★
Excellent.....★★★
Extraordinary.....★★★★

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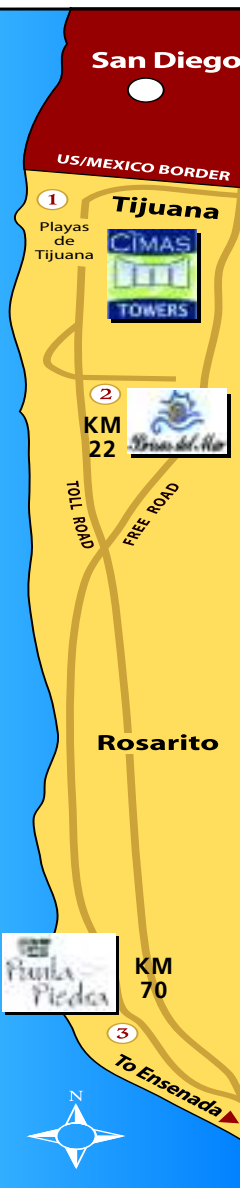
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BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

Last year's Halloween festivities involved policemen of the wrong sort: instead of water guns and plastic badges, we got the real thing. My dear friend Bernice was summoned down to the station to pick up her 17-year-old son. A brawl had broken out at the party he attended, and alcohol had been involved. He was clean, but Bernice decided to keep the party closer to home this year.

I was assigned special-effects detail, and it didn't take long for my thoughts to grow foggy. I needed a fog machine that would cover the ground like at a KISS concert. I called Rob Torstrom, who does installation and repairs at Miramar's California Sound and Lighting (www.calsound.com; 1-800-4NEWSOUND). "To work a fog machine," he began, "you pour in the fluid, which is basically water with a chemical added to thicken it up. The fluid is pumped into a heating chamber, where it is superheated until it forms a fog. Then the machine shoots the fog out through a tiny nozzle. If there's nothing to cool the fog, it'll start to lift into the air as soon as it shoots out. So, some fog machines have a big ice chamber in the front. That cools the superheated gas as it comes out, but not to the point of re-liquefying it. The fog then actually hugs the ground, kind of like dry ice."

California Sound also offers a haze generator. "It's more like a mister — it delivers a much lighter gas — it's not as thick a fog. It gives the room sort of a smoky atmosphere. If light shines through it, you can pick up the beams. A hazer can be good for an indoor party." He did note that "if you use a fogger outside, you'll get the hazer effect. And even with inside use, the gas from a fogger will start to warm up and spread apart."

Fogger weights range anywhere from 10 to 50 pounds. (The heavy one has the ice chamber that gives the low-fog effect.) "Our rental foggers will put out a lot of fog; you press a button on the controller, and they release a stream of fog. The small one rents for \$15 a day, and the larger one, which has a fan so you can direct the fog, rents for \$20 a day. We also sell foggers. People who like to throw parties year-round buy them, and clubs buy them because they have light effects that don't work without fog. The 400-watt mini-fogger is \$39.99, the 1000-watt is \$99.99, and the 1300-watt, which allows you to change the direction of the fog stream, is \$199.99. They last a long time. People bring them in to be cleaned more than they bring them in for repairs. Fog machines tend to drip a little bit, because not all the liquid gets superheated. But if the machine shoots out a stream of liquid, you've got something clogged up in there. I take the heating chamber out and rinse it with a little bit of soapy water. And I take a hookah brush, similar to a gun-barrel cleaner, and clean out the hose."

Torstrom told me that "dry ice is also a good way to go if you're having a party indoors. If

"It gives the room sort of a smoky atmosphere."

you use the fog machine indoors, it does tend to leave a sticky residue on everything. Once or twice a year isn't bad, but if you use it over and over again, it can build up a layer of sticky gunk that can damage stuff, especially sound equipment." I decided to put in a call to Airgas Dry Ice in Mira Mesa (858-535-0460). Employee Steve told me, "dry ice is CO₂. We get it as a liquid and change it into a solid by injecting it into a big press and compressing it. You don't want to touch it with your bare hands. If it touches your skin, it'll freeze it." Prices are \$1 per pound with a 25-pound minimum and a \$7.50 hazardous materials charge.

To figure out how much I would need, I checked www.dryiceinfo.com and found that for 15 minutes of fog, I would need to put five to ten pounds of dry ice into four to eight gallons of hot water. The hotter the water and the smaller the chunks of dry ice, the more fog (and the faster the ice would dissipate). The website suggested keeping the water hot with a hotplate and warned to be ready for some bubbling over.

Other places to find foggers:

Party City, multiple locations around San Diego. The sales clerk at the Sports Arena store (619-523-9200) said, "We have a fogger with a strobe light attached for \$29.99 and a 400-watt fogger for \$17.99. Fog juice runs \$9.99 for

a half quart and \$14.99 for a full quart. We also carry timers for \$19.99. They help make the juice last. It controls how much fog comes out and when."

Spirit Halloween Superstore, multiple locations around San Diego. The clerk at the Escondido store (760-480-9600) said, "We have a hanging fogger for \$39.99. It's more like a smogger, and you can get a remote timer for \$14.99. Our ground fogger runs \$59.99. It says to use the manufacturer's fog juice, but if you use our juice (\$7.99 for a small jug, \$20 for a large) and add ice, it works perfect."

Other places to find dry ice:

Baskin-Robbins, 5501 Balboa Avenue (858-292-5600). Up to 20 pounds, \$1.79 per pound; over 20 pounds, \$1.35 per pound. "We always have 500 to 600 pounds of dry ice," said the sales clerk, "but on Halloween, we'll have something like 1000 pounds. You don't want to put it loosely in a drink," she warned. "Put a smaller bowl of it outside the punch bowl so that it billows up outside of the punch. If it disintegrates into smaller pieces and somebody swallows one, it'll burn a hole in them!"

Jolly Jug Liquor Store, Santee (619-448-3773). \$1.19 per pound, with eight-pound minimum.

San Diego Ice Company, Sports Arena (619-688-1999). \$.90 per pound (available in ten-pound blocks). Delivery available with 100-pound order at \$1.50 per pound.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

1. Jack-o'-lantern
2. Dry ice
3. Fog machine

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RUSSIANS

by Josh Board

I had to interview a bartender in PB for an article that I was working on, and as I walked back to my car around 9:00 p.m., I overheard a group of people talking about a party they were going to. I followed them around the corner where I introduced myself to Charles, the birthday boy. He said, "I don't mind you crashing the party. But at 10:00, we're all going over to the Typhoon Saloon. The band Metal Shop is playing there, and we have a VIP section." I told him that I had seen Metal Shop's heavy-metal parody before. Charles said, "When I'm there, they let me on stage to do Ray Charles songs." I asked if he had the sunglasses to complete the look. "No. I just go up there and yell."

The first people I met at Charles's birthday party were sisters who looked nothing alike. One was six feet tall with blond hair. The other was about 5'5" with black hair and a Middle-Eastern look. She said, "Well, we are sisters. But we have different dads. Our mom got around." I asked the blonde if she played basketball. She said she did, "...for a private school in Point Loma. I quit to be a cheerleader. All the scholarships went out the window." She told me that she dated one



of Bill Walton's sons. I overheard her later in the evening talking about Halloween costumes. "Last year I was a sexy race-car driver. I wanted to write 'Want to go for a test drive?' on the back. This year, all the women at Tio Leo's, we're going to be Disney princesses." I have a stepbrother who's short and complains that tall women won't go out with short guys, so I asked her about this. "All my boyfriends have been 5'8".

"My name's Desiree. That's 'desire' with an extra 'e'."

Although, this teacher I'm in love with, he's 6'5".

I discovered Charles worked at Trader Joe's when I heard someone asking him about their products. It was funny, because I heard a guy who worked at 24



Bottom left: Two sisters (left and middle); Bottom right: Charles (right) in kitchen before vodka shots

Hour Fitness answering questions about their membership fees. No matter where you work, people at parties will pepper you with questions.

There were five people at the party from out of state.

Charles told me he was from South Central L.A., and we talked about L.A.'s basketball teams. He said his dad loved the Lakers but that he was a Clippers fan. When I heard him talking about the movie *Love and*

Basketball, he mentioned that he had a part in it. I forgot to ask him if he caught the mistake in the movie, where the kids were supposed to be at an L.A. Clippers game, but it was the early '80s, when the team was still in San Diego.

Charles brought me a screwdriver that was strong. A few minutes later he offered me a shot of vodka. I said, "Do people drink vodka straight up?" He said, "Yeah, man, the Russians. We're gonna do it like the Russians." Me and a group of five downed our shots in the small, crowded kitchen. Charles shook his bald head and said, "My

alcohol tolerance has gotten way too high."

When I started snapping photos, the blonde said something about her breasts in one of the shots. She called them "Mary Kate and Ashley." When I wrote that down, she said, "Oh, no. I'm going to have to keep my mouth shut." She laughed when I said, "They probably weigh more than the Olsen twins do."

I get a kick out of eavesdropping on people who are trying to pick up on each other and the awkward introductions. One woman had it down, though. She said to one guy, "My name's Desiree. That's 'desire' with an extra 'e'."

When people started to head over to the Typhoon, someone said, "That guy is our designated driver? He's got a flask!" A few girls left and said they'd meet everyone over there. I went to the patio to talk with the smokers.

I met a woman from Point Loma who told me she was Portuguese, and we talked about the large Portuguese population in that area. She has a computer job, and we talked about technology creeping into current movies. I said, "I saw *The Departed* the other day, and they used computers in crucial



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scenes a few times, and cell phones were a bigger star than Nicholson." She said, "Yeah, and sometimes you can find things out..." She told me about a boyfriend she had for a long time and that she discovered on MySpace that he had a wife and kid. "Then I checked a baby registry and saw that his wife was pregnant at some point when we were still seeing each other."

A guy came out on the patio and handed his friend a drink called a Scooby Snack. I asked what was in it, and they spent ten minutes debating it. I said, "Are you guys bartenders?" And they said, "No, we're alcoholics." One guy complained that the people inside were too loud, so he shut the patio door and said, "Let's get rid of the white noise by shutting the door. It's all physics, baby."

I was talking to two guys who thought it was weird we all had the initials

"J.B." When a big woman standing nearby chimed in, someone asked her what she did. "I play professional football." I said, "For the Scorpions?" Her eyes lit up and she said, "Give me a high five, motherfucker! Nobody ever knows our team." I asked her what

position she played, and she said she was a DL and tackle. She had a shirt that said "Sharing is caring." When someone mentioned it, she laughed and asked that person to share the joint he had. I heard her later talking about a big hit she put on someone in a

game.

I met a guy who sells rental cars for Enterprise. I said I thought buying a rental car was a bad idea because people tend to drive them hard. As he was convincing me of how they are better maintained, I was distracted by a guy peeing over the balcony. Someone

asked him why he didn't just go inside. He laughed and mumbled something about the trees needing to be watered.

There was one girl who confessed that she was underage. As she sipped her beer, she'd ask whoever was nearby to hit her on the back so she could burp. A

guy said, "She is cute as hell, but that burping is just grossing me out." ■

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Three-Hour Tour

*This wasn't just plain terrible, this was fancy terrible.
This was terrible with raisins in it.*

— Dorothy Parker

It's not fair to say I was dragged here. The embarrassing truth is that I came willingly. I gave this day away with an optimistic smile; apparently I'd forgotten that events like this never live up to their potential for fun. "Fun." Now that's a laugh. I must have left that word in my sister's minivan back on the mainland, along with the book she told me I "wouldn't have a chance to read."

"That's when I caught sight of them — boat employees, dressed as ninjas, flipping and somersaulting toward the kitchen."

Where is she now? Nowhere to be seen, as I sit, alone, at one of several dozen round banquet tables, staring at a young bartender whose vapid gaze makes me wonder if he just snuck a green puff. He flips an empty wine bottle into the air — not very far — and catches it. *Flip, catch. Flip, catch. Flip — OH! Okay, catch.* I want him to miss next time. I want to hear the crashing of glass, see the jerking of heads and

the reddening of his face. I want him to drop it. Because that would mean something interesting has happened.

Oh, no, what's this? Not these two. They're walking toward me with that look of determination and there's nowhere I can —

"Hi! Are you a spouse?"

Such a strange question requires a cautious response: "No," I say.

"Oh. Do you work here?"

"Nope." Those faces, staring at me, so expectant. *Okay, fine!* "I'm here with my sister, Jane. She works with the company. I just came along for the ride. You know, free food and wine and all that."

They nod in unison. "I'm a sister-in-law," volunteers the pudgy one. The

other one, tenuous of figure and disposition, lifts her head in agreement — a practiced, gentle motion; her slender neck, I suppose, cannot support any sudden moves.

"Well, it's been great talking to you both, but I need to go...uh...over there." I rise to my feet and make my way, with no small amount of effort, past the dynamic duo — the thought of stepping aside clearly does not occur to them; they watch in silence as I squeeze between their immobile bodies and the table.

I stand at the bar and count seconds as Mr. Flair demonstrates his bartending prowess. When I reach 23, he catches the neck of the bottle and says, "Oh. Sorry. I guess I'm in my own world."

"Aren't we all," I say. Then, handing off my empty glass, I mutter, "Red. Please." I throw a buck in the fishbowl of dollar bills and, wine in hand, I turn to face the room.

The upside to being a family member at a gig like this is that I am allowed to lack enthusiasm. Coworkers greet one another, their smiles too wide, their laughter too loud, their voices heavy with strain. Employees present their families for display — the children, mimicking their parents' behavior, take measuring glances, noting differences to which they automatically assign either pride or shame. Mostly it is pride. As with school reunions, people attend these things to parade their accomplishments, be they children or designer

handbags, gauging their general happiness via comparison to the rest. The women are especially good at this.

In keeping with the Southern California manifesto, blonde seems to be all the rage on this three-hour tour of the Newport Beach harbor: a short bob of dark vertical stripes between ashy straw; there, a flattened helmet the yellow of urine; a veil of bleach-damaged beige down to the waist; ooh, a 300-dollar do, you can tell by the golden shimmer of it! If only she'd spent a fraction of that on her lipstick — grocery-store pink pills on collagen-deflated lips like the fuzz on my childhood blanket.

"Are you having fun?" Jane asks, out of breath. "Bella's up there with the pirates, she was running in circles and ran right into a pole. Smacked her face. She's okay now. Did you want to eat?" Jane gestures at the spread — chicken, fish, rice with almonds and raisins, two types of salad, and a basket of buns, all packed onto a white tablecloth. "You can eat first."

"What? You're not going to eat with me?"

"I *can't*. Just...if you start, if you eat now, then maybe you can keep an eye on Bella while I eat. I'll only need 30 seconds." As quickly as she appeared, my sister vanishes in the direction of the platform at the front of the boat. I don't see, but can hear the squeals of at least two-dozen children, including my niece, delighting in the antics of pirates, those costumed professionals



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I look to the banquet table just in time to see a girl drop a ball of bread from her plate, chase the bun across the carpeted floor, and finally retrieve it from under a table. She rejoins her mother at the buffet and I am terrified she might plop the bun back into the basket. *Don't do it*, I silently will her. My eyes do not leave her plate, her hands that are all over that bun — I'll have to intervene if she makes a move. There's no way I'll be able to tell which is the tainted bun. And even if I

could, how will I know how many others it's touched? I sigh with relief when the girl reaches the end of the table, the bun still in her sticky grasp. To avoid another near miss, I grab a plate and get in line.

Back at my table, I am joined by Ed; for the first time today I am happy we were all made to wear nametags. Ed's wife, Regina, is keeping an eye on their son up on the platform.

"She wants me to 'switch off' when I'm done eating. I told her I wasn't coming along to baby-sit," I say, aware of the shrill defensiveness in my voice.

"I mean, I love my niece, but I don't want to be, you know, *responsible* right now. I just want to chill. Drink some wine, eat some of this..." I look at my plate, "chicken." Ed nods, smiling. Like me, he's family. He knows we shouldn't have to do anything but eat and drink and smile when we're introduced to company folk.

In a conspiratorial tone, I say, "Let's go get more, Ed. Do it with me, let's get more food and keep eating — that way we'll never have to switch off." Ed smiles in agreement. I decide I like Ed.

I'm on my first bite of

plate two when Jane returns, exhausted, carrying Bella in her arms. My niece's face is painted — she is a glittery, pink and purple kitty with a mane of corn-silk spirals. I'm appreciating her cuteness when I hear, "Where are our plates?"

Regina is staring at the table, her brows furrowed in either anger or annoyance. Ed looks to me for help — we had been charged with the duty of watching Jane and Regina's plates while they were away, but we had abandoned our post for selfish gains, leaving our loved ones to suffer the casualty

of lost food. *I talked him into it; this was my fault. How to make things right?*

"We did our best to protect it," I blurt. "There were, like, four people who tried to take it away and we fought them off as best we could." Ed nods and beseeches his wife with innocent eyes. Encouraged, I continue: "We turned our heads for two seconds — *two* — and when we looked back, the plates were gone. That's when I caught sight of them — boat employees, dressed as ninjas, flipping and somersaulting toward the kitchen, and they never once dropped their goods.

It was pretty amazing to watch, actually."

Ed is no longer smiling, just looking at me with his head cocked to one side, as if to say, *Where the fuck are you going with this?* "Anyway, you should just get more," I suggest to Regina. "I mean, the buffet's only a few feet away." When she rises to replace her meal, she does so backwards, as if to keep a wary eye on me.

"Come on, Bella," I say, setting my empty glass on the table and lifting my niece into my arms. "Let's play 'Which Server Has the Best Desserts on Their Tray.'" ■

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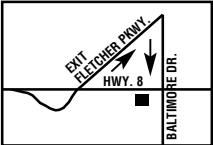
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- Ticked Off in Tampa

Dear Ticked:

Stop cooking your food outside. What is this?

The dawn of man? Here in civilization, we cook our food indoors. In a kitchen. Now, I've never actually seen this happen, but my personal chef assures me this is how it's done.

Dear Bankers Pen:

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at wamu.com. What do you think?

- Swamped in San Diego

Dear Swamped:

I think you're out to brunch. If you keep raving about banking without paperwork and mythical "online" accounts, people will think you're one olive short of a martini. Listen, if you want to open a checking account, just walk into the bank and talk to the men with suits. I've never heard of this "wamu.com" bank though. Is it near the expressway?

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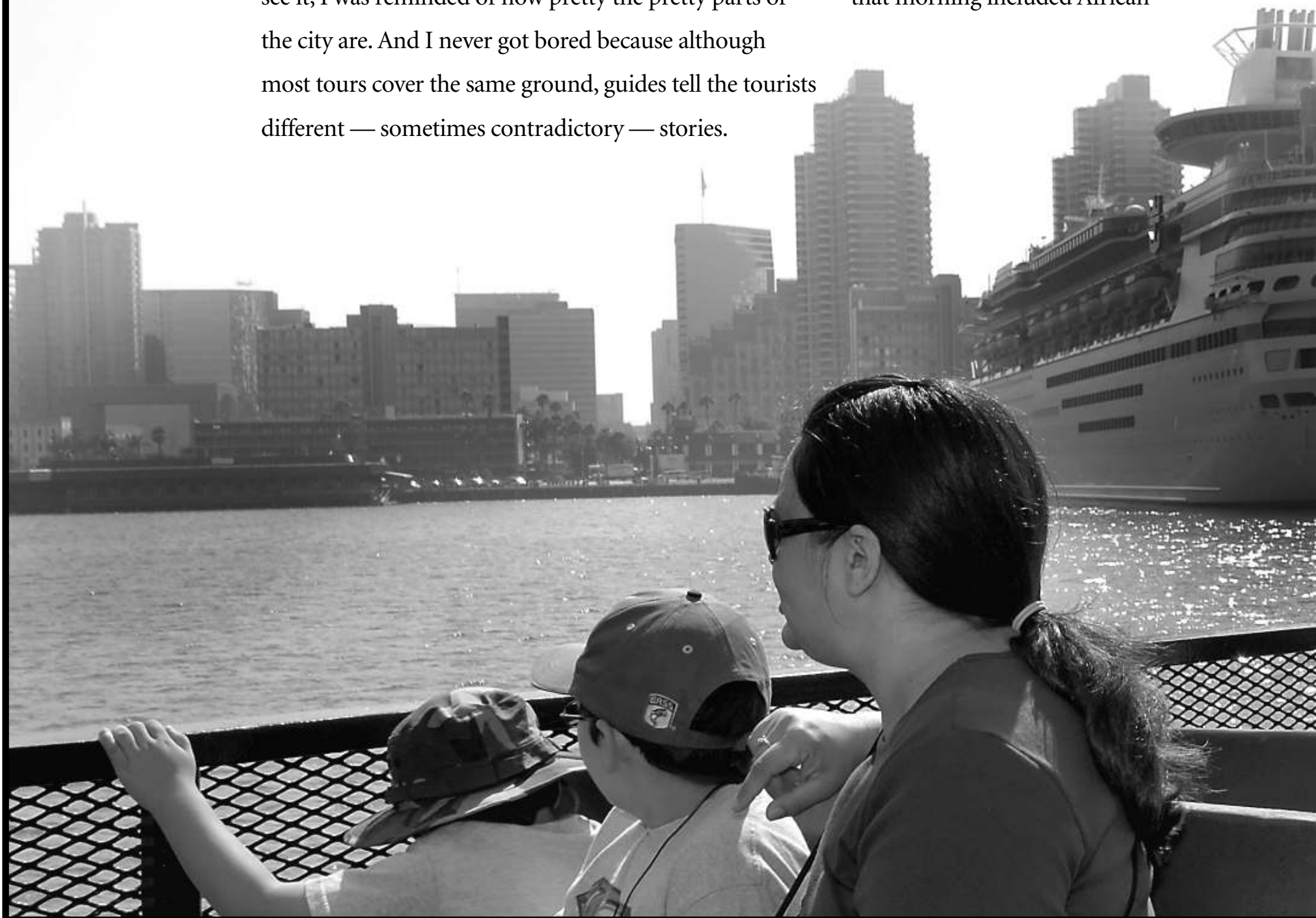
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I HAD TAKEN EIGHT OR NINE GUIDED TOURS OF
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if I was tired of sightseeing. I had to say no. Being out on buses and boats and trolleys with tourists, I felt like a tourist too. On my mission to see San Diego as tourists see it, I was reminded of how pretty the pretty parts of the city are. And I never got bored because although most tours cover the same ground, guides tell the tourists different — sometimes contradictory — stories.

Big Buses

No one was more hilarious than George (not his real name), the driver/guide on the \$29 Contactours city tour. George's audience that morning included African



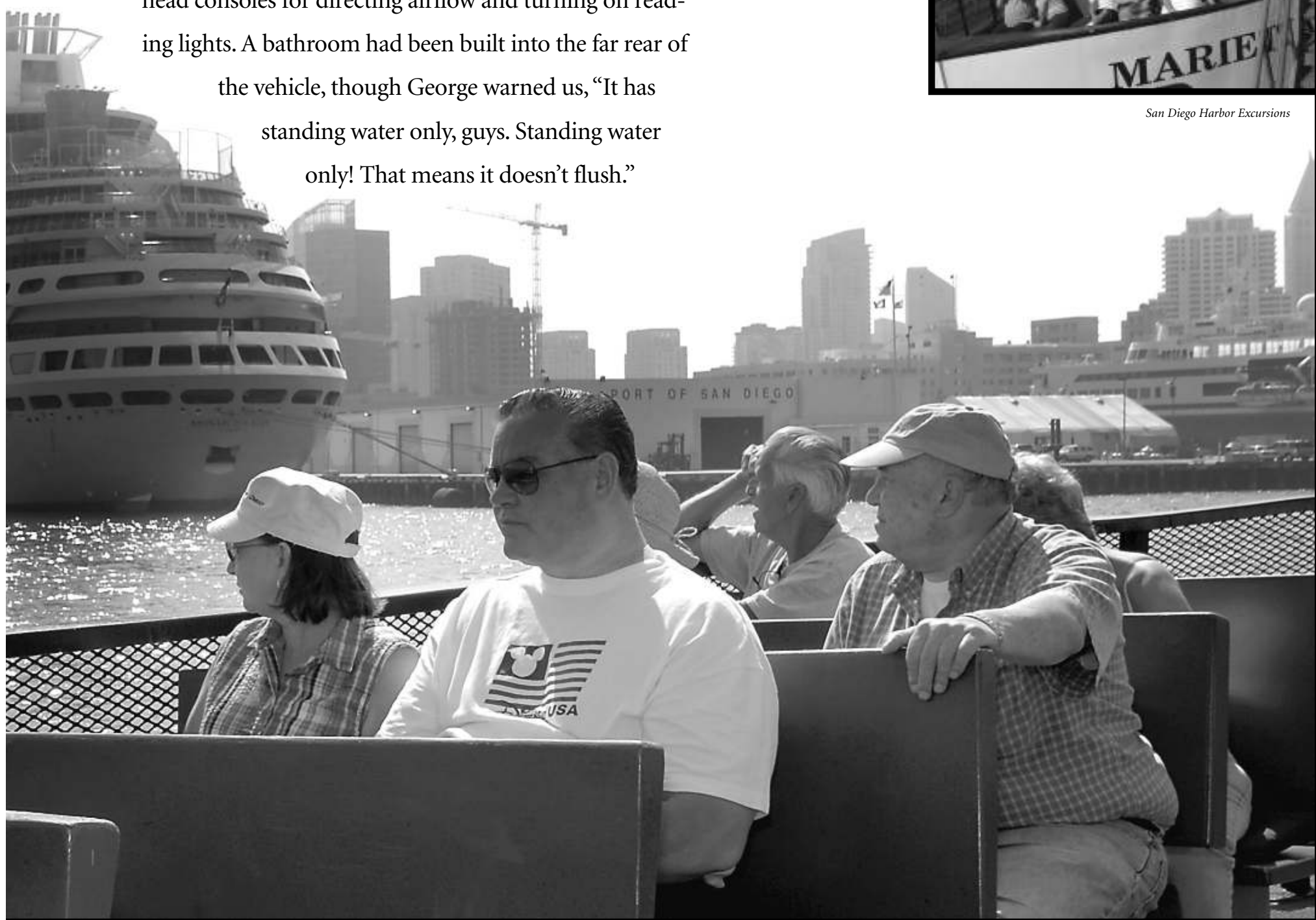
e to Play. Get in Our Way.

Americans, white Americans, Hispanics, a Chinese couple from Australia, and a sprinkling of Europeans. We filled about three-quarters of the 47-seat bus. It had huge tinted windows but lacked seatbelts or buttons for reclining. There were upper baggage compartments and overhead consoles for directing airflow and turning on reading lights. A bathroom had been built into the far rear of

the vehicle, though George warned us, “It has standing water only, guys. Standing water only! That means it doesn’t flush.”



San Diego Harbor Excursions



As George drove the bus south on Harbor Drive downtown, approaching the convention center, he pointed out condominiums across the street whose value “from the 13th floor up” was \$15 million (or so he claimed, but a property agent said that was “ridiculous”; they average \$1 to \$1.5 million). “That’s where the movers and shakers live,” he said. The convention center, he continued, “was built with a nautical theme in mind.” When he challenged us to guess what its curving glass windows might represent, one passenger ventured, “Waves,” prompting George to cry out, “You’re absolutely right. Tidal waves, guys. It represents tidal waves.”

Soon we were passing through “what they call the barrio. The Barrio Logan. This is where a large concentration of the Hispanic culture resides. Now, inciden-



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK

tally, the Hispanic culture in San Diego accounts for about 32 percent of our total population of 1.2 million people,” George informed us (he was close: 27 percent and 1.3 million, per SANDAG). He praised

the beauty of Chicano Park’s murals, “painted by amateur artists that live right here in this neighborhood.” (Some murals were, though others were painted by professional artists from outside San Diego.) But we didn’t tarry. We were

heading for Coronado.

Coronado, George announced, is “the crown city,” a term he deemed appropriate “because the prices here are fit for royals. Oh yeah! They’re fit for royals, you guys. See, this is a sought-after area to live... If you want to

live here, you must first submit your name to the homeowners’ association [there’s no such thing]. Then you can put a number in, and anytime a property becomes available, they hold a lottery. If you’re lucky enough, they’ll pull your

name, and you can bid on the property. The property always starts at \$1.5 million [another exaggeration]. One point five mil! And then when you buy your house, you don’t get to live in it. You tear it down! Then you build something else!” All around me, people shook their heads and looked flabbergasted.

Out the left-hand side of the bus he directed our attention to the cottage at 1116 Third Street. The previous month it had sold for a bargain price, \$1.2 million, according to George (\$645,000, according to a realtor). But it “was the former summer cottage for a woman who made a movie here called *Some Like It Hot*. Her name was Marilyn Monroe. Yes!” (“No, it’s absolutely not true,” said the deputy director of the Coronado Historical Association.)

Despite the stratospheric prices, Coronadians had “a real laid-

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back attitude,” George said. “You’ll notice nobody’s in a hurry.” We passed a café on Orange Avenue. “You’ll also notice that they sit outside to have their breakfast and lattes and read the paper. But with that comes a very strange mindset. It really does.” George told us to notice the towering Norfolk Island pine tree surrounded by a little circle of grass just south of Tenth Street between Isabella and Orange. He announced that it was “the smallest state park in all of California.” People guffawed at this, but George again gave no hint that he was making it up (he was). As further testimony to the attitudes of Coronado’s residents, he mentioned a requirement that all building plans be submitted to the homeowners’ association. “They will look your plans over and make sure your home



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK PLANK

does not resemble anybody else’s. They have everybody else’s plans on file, and if anything looks the same, they make you change it.

“This is hard to believe, isn’t it?” he sympathized. But he offered more proof of the

Coronadans’ eccentricity. “All these plants are here because of something known as the plant police. They have a plant police!” he insisted. “You see, there are volunteers that are issued police cars by the Coronado Police Department. One of

their functions is to drive the city of Coronado and look for structures that don’t have plants outside. Yeah! If you don’t have plants outside, you’re gonna get a knock on your door, and there will be someone there to write you a ticket. It’s a

\$50 fine, all right? *It’s a \$50 fine to not have plants outside!*” You could contest this in court, he added, but “they’ll give you community service. And anybody want to guess what the community service is gonna be? Planting flowers! That’s

right. That’s right.” George let the group disembark for a 15-minute bathroom and picture-taking break at the Hotel Del (“one of the last large all-wood structures that’s still in operation”). Then he hustled us back onto the bus; we had a lot of ground to cover. On the way to the Gaslamp Quarter, he peppered us with more spicy tidbits, including the “fact” that “the serum for polio” was discovered here in San Diego. “Sure enough. In La Jolla!” (Although Jonas Salk established the Salk Institute here in the early ’60s, he developed his polio vaccine in Pittsburgh in the ’50s.) Entering lower Fifth Avenue, George assured us of the Gaslamp Quarter’s extreme safety, then added that it “was actually started back in 1900 by a gentleman named Alonzo Horton.” (Horton purchased his 800 acres downtown in

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30 San Diego Reader October 26, 2006

1867.)

George's sketch of Wyatt Earp's history in the Gaslamp was a classic example of tall-tale storytelling, including such highlights as the fact that Earp's common-law wife was known as "Big Nose Kate" for her propensity to meddle in other people's business (Big Nose Kate was not Earp's wife and was never in San Diego); that she was a prostitute who became the madam for a bordello Earp ran above a saloon, gambling hall, and oyster bar ("Do you people realize that oysters were the poor man's Viagra? Oh yeah! Oh yeah!"); that Earp himself had assumed the job of having sex with all his prostitutes to check their "quality"; and that Kate and another woman one day had a jealousy-inspired "knock-down, drag-out, rolling-around catfight" out in the middle of Fifth Avenue but then turned and together "whupped the living tar out of Wyatt Earp, right in front of everybody."

From downtown, we drove to Balboa Park, where George stopped the bus for a moment in front of the San Diego Museum of Art. He explained that the park's Spanish-style structures, built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, were all "supposed to be torn down by 1917. But San Diegans loved these buildings so much that we demanded they remain standing." However, the buildings had been assembled using "baling wire and chewing gum, so in the '60s, they were falling apart." But then an earthquake had saved all the buildings. "Yeah, you heard me right!" George declared. "An earthquake!" That 7.1-magnitude temblor had struck at 5:04 p.m. on October 17, 1989, he said, and though "it only lasted 15 seconds, guys, it almost leveled San Francisco! Well, when that

happened, our governor and mayor mandated that all of our public buildings had to be able to withstand an earthquake of 7.1. So all these buildings had to be photographed. Taken down to the ground and rebuilt

with steel I-beams." "Really!" someone on the bus exclaimed, impressed. (In fact, most of the 1915 Exposition buildings were temporary, and most were torn down after the exposition; of those left stand-

ing, some have been rebuilt in recent decades but not in response to the 1989 earthquake. The Museum of Art was built in 1927.)

Passing the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages, George

claimed, preposterously, that they had been used in the filming of the old television show *Zorro*. "Remember when Zorro was being chased by the soldiers and Sergeant Garcia? He'd be jumping from rooftop to rooftop.

This was where it was done, gang. Right here! Now you can see how he was able to jump from rooftop to rooftop!"

Not all of George's outlandish statements were historical or cultural. When we headed

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- 62 CHILD SUPPORT - HOW MUCH?
- 63 CHOOSING A PARALEGAL
- 64 MILITARY FAMILY ISSUES
- 65 PREPARING FOR DIVORCE
- 66 MEDIATION AND THERAPY
- 67 WILLS AND TRUSTS

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- 41 DUTIES OF INSURANCE CO.
- 42 FIRST PARTY CLAIMS/HEALTH/UM/UIM/AUTO/PROPERTY
- 43 TIME LIMITS
- 44 DISPUTES WITH INSURANCE CO.
- 45 DEPT. OF INSURANCE HELP LINE
- 46 DO I NEED AN ATTORNEY?

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- 23 EMPLOYMENT VISAS
- 24 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
- 25 CHANGING & EXTENDING VISAS
- 26 VISA DENIALS & DEPORTATION

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- 55 UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS
- 56 WRONGFUL DISCHARGE
- 57 HARBOR & LONGSHOREMAN'S ACT

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- 72 WRONGFUL TERMINATION
- 73 EXECUTIVE TERMINATION
- 74 WHISTLEBLOWER-RETALIATION
- 75 FRAUD AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT (FALSE CLAIMS ACT)
- 76 LEGAL FEES

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for the freeway again, he directed our attention to some unkempt Washington palms and told us there was a reason for their shaggy appearance. "They're more affectionately known as Samson palms," he said; like the biblical Samson, they suffered from any attempt to shear them. "If you cut those dead limbs away from the trunk of the tree, you know what happens? The tree weakens and dies, 'cause it loses all of its insulation." He mangled facts about geography

("Do you know that Interstate 5 is the longest freeway in the United

was La Jolla, "the living and playing area for sports figures, movie

"Wherever you decide you want to eat, it will be a fine, fine meal, **because mediocrity has no place on Prospect Street."**

States?") as well as local industry. When our bus passed a car carrier loaded with new Volkswagens, he announced, "All these cars are assembled in Tijuana. They put 'em on trucks like this and bring them back over...and some of them go into the yard, where they're put on big ships and shipped out to the rest of the country." (Actually, VWs are built in Puebla, southeast of Mexico City, and shipped from the Port of Veracruz to the Port of Brunswick, Georgia.)

Our next-to-last stop

stars, playwrights, and entrepreneurs," according to George. Although we might think those structures up on Mt. Soledad were small hotels and motels, they were "actually single-family residences!" A small one-bedroom cottage built during the 1940s might run us about \$995,000, he warned. "But count yourself lucky, because you could pay as much as \$46 million for a home here." People were sucking in their breaths at that news, but George dropped a bigger bomb-

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shell when we motored past La Jolla Cove. "If you would like to get yourself a little bit of investment property while you're here quick, let me show you a couple of fixer-uppers right here on our left." He was indicating the historic Red Roost and Red Rest cottages, long deteriorated because of disagreements over their renovation. But in George's version, they were "on the market right now. They're running for 1.8 mil each." The petite Chinese Australian woman behind

me blurted out, "No way!"
Dining in La Jolla

mediocrity *has no place* on Prospect Street." Old Town, too, offered gas-

"I love history, and I probably already know more about San Diego than a lot of natives."

made more sense than investing in its property, George advised. Especially on Prospect Street, we couldn't go wrong. "Wherever you decide you want to eat, it will be a fine, fine meal, because

tronomic wonders about which George rhapsodized as he steered the bus onto Interstate 5 and headed for the historic state park. The steak burrito at Fred's was "a man's dish," he told us — two and a half pounds of steak strips, guacamole, sour cream, beans, and other tasty ingredients. "It'll hurt you!" he said, in admiration. The chicken chingaderas, he continued, looked like a hockey puck, "and like they say on television, it's a mouthful of joy. Oh yes, it is." But we should be mindful that restaurants in Old Town all closed at 9:00 p.m.,

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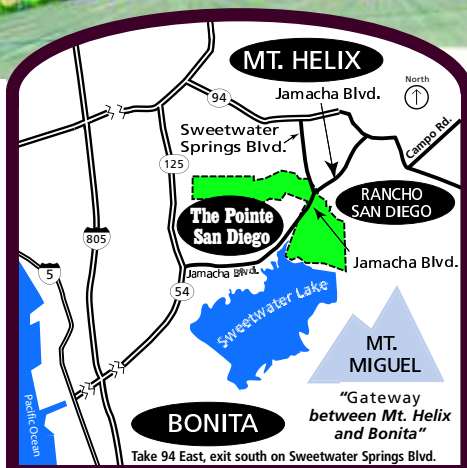
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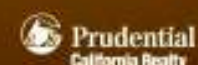


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George advised.

The guides on two other bus tours, City Sightseeing San Diego and San Diego Scenic Tours, did not provide the flights of fancy proffered by George. The outstanding feature of the \$23 City Sightseeing San Diego tour was its bright red double-decker bus. This company is a newcomer to the San Diego sightseeing scene, having begun operations in April. Its bus covers a circuit that runs roughly from downtown through the Gaslamp Quarter, up

to Balboa Park, down to Old Town, then back downtown. Passengers can get on and off at any of the stops, hearing narration along the way from a guide who’s not also driving the bus.

Patrick was the name of our cicerone when I climbed aboard the City Sightseeing bus outside the gates of the cruise-ship terminal. I took a seat up on the open-air level, right behind him. He wore a bright red baseball cap, a necklace of seashells, tan shorts, and a red and

white Hawaiian shirt. “Tuesdays are Hilo Hattie days,” he said, explaining the Islands-inspired attire. The fledgling tour company had struck a deal to transport passengers from the *Monarch of the Seas* cruise ship, which visits San Diego every Tuesday, to the Gaslamp purveyor of Hawaiiana. (Hilo Hattie pays for this service.) On our way to the Gaslamp, Patrick chattered about Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo’s 1542 discovery of San Diego Bay, the *Midway* aircraft carrier museum, and the use of the Kansas City Barbeque for a scene in the movie *Top Gun*. (“It’s hard to believe it came out 20 years ago,” he said.)

Everyone on the bus disembarked at Hilo Hattie, but about ten guests from a nearby youth hostel climbed on and rode the bus to the zoo. Then they all got off, leaving only the driver,

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Patrick, and me aboard. "We haven't been packed a lot," Patrick acknowledged. "But usually we have more than this." I didn't mind. I asked Patrick about his background.

Now 40, Patrick had gotten a "hospitality degree" in tourism and destination development, he told me. "But I used to work for TWA as

a flight attendant. That was the best job I ever had." A baseball fan, he'd been able to visit ballparks all over the country. But when American Airlines bought TWA, he'd dropped to the bottom of the seniority list. "That's when I got involved with stand-up comedy." He'd lived in Denver and aspired to work his way up to pro-

fessional comedic status while supporting himself with other jobs. "I was supposed to go to Africa in December working for a geological survey company. Then, like, two days before I was supposed to leave, they laid everybody off!" He had already quit his previous job, sublet his apartment, even had a going-away party. In his scramble to

find an alternate plan, he moved to San Diego, where a friend had offered him the use of a spare bedroom. He found an online ad mentioning City Sightseeing San Diego's need for tour guides, and he loved the thought of being able to work on his tan while getting paid. A week of training helped to compensate for his lack of familiarity with the city. Although the company had a script, "It's like an

outline," he told me. "You have to add to it, but I love history, and I probably already know more about San Diego than a lot of natives." He revealed in the performance aspects of the job, he added. "The more people I have laughing — that's where I get my energy from. And I have a need for attention. I'm a Sagittarius."

Even though I was the only person on the bus, Patrick described

the sights we passed. I caught some discrepancies between what he told me and fact, but for the most part they were small ones. He claimed, for example, that San Diego City College was the first community college in the state (the college's website says it was third). He claimed that the lighted gaslamps in the Gaslamp Quarter are the originals (the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation says they're not). But he seemed to try at least to approximate the truth.

So did Mike, my driver/guide for Scenic San Diego's morning city tour. Mike picked me up at the bus stop in front of the Kings Inn in Hotel Circle in a bus that was less plush than Contactours' bus. A scuffed rubber mat ran up the aisle, and there was no toilet. We made

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our way to a half dozen other hotels, collecting Mike's passengers. Some would spend the next ten hours with him, not only touring the city but also taking a harbor cruise and then proceeding to an afternoon visit to Tijuana. Mike asked the retired couple from Sydney, Australia, to show him their passports, and he did the same for the three high-spirited couples from Turkey who clambered aboard in Old Town. Although the Turks had their documents, Mike warned the men that when they later reentered the United States, one of them might be pulled over to the secondary inspection station. If that happened, the interruption might be brief, but it also might consume several hours. Mike would be able to wait for about 15 minutes, but beyond that, any Turk who was delayed would have to make his way back downtown by trolley. "Every now and then, it's been a little more touchy," the driver said, apologetic. But the Turks shrugged their shoulders and said they'd take the risk.

As we came down the Front Street exit off Interstate 5, heading south into downtown, we passed an old man holding a sign announcing his lack of shelter. "Are there a lot of homeless people in San Diego?" the Australian matron inquired.

"Plenty!" Mike replied. But that had a lot to do with San Diego's climate, he said. "After all, would you rather be homeless in New York or Chicago or in San Diego?" he asked the woman.

"It's sad," she commented. Mike didn't seem to be losing sleep over it. Many of the derelicts more or less chose to be on the street, he told the woman, adding that plenty of work was available for those who

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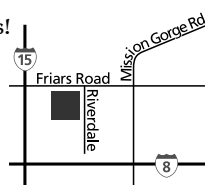


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wanted it.

I later learned that Mike had been born in San Diego, and though he'd lived in several other places, he'd spent a dozen or so years here as an adult. He seemed happy to brag about the

city's accomplishments ("only the second in the nation to set aside a large parcel of land for a city park," "largest outdoor organ in the world") but also at ease deflating its pretensions. When our bus moved north of

Broadway downtown, for example, he offered, "If I were to tell you we had a financial district, this would be it. Nothing but a bunch of banks and attorneys' offices. A far cry from Wall Street, right?" Later he informed the group, "We do have a Little Italy. But let me emphasize how little it is. There's basically just a couple city blocks dedicated to some fine Italian restaurants." The Maritime Museum he characterized as "kind of

heard before (but later substantially confirmed with a 1988 article in the *Journal of San Diego History*). San Diego de Alcalá (a.k.a. St. Didacus) "worked at a Franciscan friary back in the mid-1400s, and evidently when he was there, several miraculous events took place due to his efforts," the guide explained. One of the most significant wonders occurred 100 years after he died. King Philip's son Carlos had suffered a

He stated that the **Navy dolphins** "actually get their **teeth brushed every night.**"

small but quaint."

He did boast, "We've got the nicest climate in the world" but won points from me for the accuracy of his rainfall figure ("like, 11 inches a year, if we're lucky!") and for pointing out that the natural disaster San Diegans most fear isn't earthquakes but wild-fires. (No other guide mentioned that, and statements about the average annual rainfall ranged from 5 inches to a foot.)

Mike shared a story about San Diego's name-sake that I had never

serious injury, and desperate to save him, the king had ordered the Franciscan's corpse dug up and "put it in bed with his son.... The next day Carlos was healed. That's a true story," Mike informed the group, adding, "I know I'd be healed, too, if I had a 100-year-old corpse in bed with me, wouldn't you?" The Franciscan was canonized 22 years later, and in 1602 the Spanish explorer Sebastián Vizcaíno arrived here in a ship that bore the new saint's name. Vizcaíno changed the name of the bay from San Miguel (as Cabrillo had called it) to San Diego.

By 11:30, Mike had dropped off most of his passengers at the waterfront for their harbor cruise. He took a few others to Seaport Village, where they ambled off to browse. I asked Mike about the Tijuana portion of the package. His passengers would have only about 90 minutes on their own to explore Tijuana, he said. The trip down and back would consume the rest of the afternoon. Some people felt disappointed. "They kind of expect it to be so much more. But depending on your perspective,

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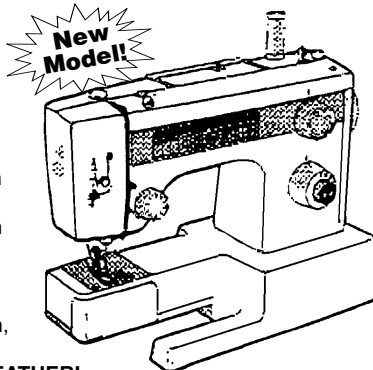
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it's changed so much! Hugely!" Other visitors delighted in Tijuana's anarchic hurly-burly, he said. "I made almost \$120 in tips alone yesterday, just because my Tijuana group had so much fun." He added that when the tips were combined with his base pay of \$12 an hour, "It makes this job fairly lucrative." As a four-year veteran, he was at the top of his company's pay scale. Other drivers might earn a base of just \$9 or \$10 an hour. "But a lot of these guys are basically losers," he said. "I hate to say that. But they're really lazy. They don't want to hustle it or work it."

Boat People

Both the Hornblower and San Diego Harbor Excursion cruises follow the same format: the boats motor from their berths next to Broadway Pier up through the north part of the bay to the mouth of the harbor; then they return to their bases. After discharging some passengers and taking on others, they head south, passing under the Coronado Bay Bridge and down to Naval Station San Diego at 32nd Street. Both charged \$17 for half the bay and only \$5 more for the second hour of touring. On both I observed that it was easier for passengers to tune out the guide's spiel than it was for passengers on the tour buses.

The boats are so big that many people can't even see the guide; as a result, the commentary can sound like a voice on the radio — easy to ignore without appearing rude. So people chat or line up at the snack bars or use the restrooms or direct their attention to the panoramas.

On the Hornblower cruise, I tried to concentrate on what the guides were saying, but I had to work at it. Two young men handled the narrative duties (one on the north bay and the other on the south), and while they were professional, their dispassionate delivery made me feel they wouldn't take it personally if no one was listening. At one point, the guy who delivered the north-bay spiel appeared not to be paying attention to his own words. He mentioned that the Shelter Island public boat-launching ramp was "fairly close to the only entrance to the bay," then minutes later said the same thing about the public fishing pier. "I'm



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sorry," he interrupted himself. "I'm getting all mixed up. That made no sense." The same young man announced that "if you have your home on the very top" of Point Loma, "you not only get a great view of the bay, but if you walk to the other side of the house, you actually get a great view of the ocean directly on the other side." He stated that the Navy dolphins, whose enclosures are visible from the tour boats, "actually get their teeth brushed every night, and they live three times longer than dolphins do in the wild." (According to a Navy spokesperson, the dolphins get their teeth brushed a couple of times a week, and Navy dolphins live "sev-

eral years longer" than the 27 to 30 years they're believed to live in the wild; one Navy dolphin is 45.)

On the San Diego Harbor Excursion cruise, our guide, Richard Coates, was far more commanding. A jowly man with white hair and matching mustache, Coates had a couple of careers before he turned to tour guiding. Now 70, he spent 25 years in the Navy, then taught algebra and trigonometry to adults. In the 1990s, he went to travel-agent school and worked at that for a couple of years. He seems a natural at his present work. He has a stentorian voice that he amplifies with a hand-held microphone and the

oratorical style of a circus ringmaster. "See that ship over there?" he boomed, as we passed the *Star of India*. "That's the oldest active commercial sailing ship in the world! Built on the Isle of Man in 1863, that ship has circumnavigated the globe 21 times!! That lady's...been...around!!"

With four separate decks, the Harbor Excursion boat was more commodious than the square-rigger. It was homier, adorned with pots of plastic bamboo, toy surfboards, glass beach floats, and tiny life preservers inscribed with the words "Aloha" and "Sleep-Eat-Surf." Cartoonish tropical fish, lobsters, and sea stars hung from suspended fish net-

ting. A group of noisy fourth graders from the South Bay was among the passengers, and by 10:10 a.m. many were crowding in around the snack bar to buy potato chips, M&M's, and sodas. But some sat on the upper deck, where Coates held court from a portable padded seat on a ledge.

His coppery legs dangled from his perch. "See over there, to the right of Tom Ham's Lighthouse," he commanded. "There's an inlet carved back in the 1930s by the Navy! They wanted to have access to the Naval Training Center and the Marine Corps Recruit Depot. Now, the Marine barracks in San Diego opened in 1921

and converted to training in 1925. They've been training Marines there ever since. They have a graduation every Friday. You want to go? Go to graduation! Starts at ten o'clock. Go early!"

A moment later Coates pointed out a grayish blue house near Shelter Island where he claimed the *Real World* television series was filmed about three years ago. When we moved beyond Shelter Island, he posed a rhetorical question. "You want to learn more about the history of San Diego? Down below that hill is La Playa. Some of the first residents of that area were Chinese. They were out here digging for the black abalone. You could

just walk out in the water and pick 'em up. Then they would make trips down to the shores of Mexico to pick up the larger red abalone. And what would they do with them? Well, the abalone itself is very tasty. But the shells are what they wanted. They made jewelry out of those."

The day after I took the boat tour with Coates, I called him at his home and asked how he knows all the stuff he includes in his narrations. "I get on the computer, and I go off in all directions finding things," he explained. The result is a rundown that includes unusual tidbits. Coates pointed out, for example, that the big pink mansion sur-

RESEARCH STUDIES



Schizophrenia ?

eStudySite is currently conducting a research study for an investigational medication for the treatment of schizophrenia.

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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:

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



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Depression

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

Are you between the ages of 18 and 64 and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty?

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- You receive up to \$450 for your participation.
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Weight Gain

is often part of taking medications for

Schizophrenia

People taking medications for schizophrenia often worry about gaining weight. If you are taking an antipsychotic, you may qualify to participate in a clinical trial of an investigational drug that might not lead to weight gain.

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

- You will receive up to \$780 for time and travel.
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I sleep, I wake up, I sleep, I wake up...

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

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

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

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:

- You may receive up to \$1900 for your participation.
- Receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



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rounded by palm trees near the top of Point Loma was once the home of Reuben H. Fleet (“the one who set up the first airmail system in the United States in 1917!”). Ballast Point, he tells his listeners, “got its name because the Yankee traders and sailors used to come out here, and they would have cobblestones in the keel of their boats. They needed those as ballast to make the trip around the Horn. Then when they got here, they would dump ’em out and load up with things like whale oil. We had a whaling station right here at Ballast Point. At the peak of the whaling industry, they harvested 55,000 gallons of whale oil right here in

the bay.”

When the boat had turned around and was passing North Island, Coates announced that the world’s first amphibious flight took place not far from here. An aviator named Glenn Curtiss did that in 1911, he added. When I later followed Coates’s example and checked this factoid on the Internet, I found numerous sites that confirmed it. I also found that a 90-pound woman named Tiny Broadwick made the first *freefall* parachute jump from North Island in 1914, not the “first parachute jump ever,” as Coates announced.

If one theme of the harbor tours predominates, it’s American mili-

tarism. There’s *so much* military hardware visible — the nuclear submarines tied up next to Point Loma, the *Nimitz* and *Reagan* aircraft carriers, the *Midway*. Jayhawk Coast

“Those are loaded with bombs, missiles, rockets,” he said. He grew more enthusiastic off the 32nd Street naval station (“second-largest naval station in the United States!”), where the FSF-1 Sea

battleships.” On my Hornblower cruise, the South Bay guide sounded most awed by the USS *Princeton*, a Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser. “Those are considered to be the most lethal and powerful class of warships on the face of the planet,” he said. “Just one of them could take out a third-world country all by itself. Onboard they have 122 vertical-launch tubes that fire the Tomahawk cruise missile and the harpoon missile — the ones that hug the surface of the water and at the very last minute hop up and hit their target. They also have the anti-ship, anti-air, anti-submarine warfare missiles onboard. And if

that’s not enough weapons, they have 54-caliber deck cannons on the bow and stern that fire about 10 to 12 miles out.”

SEALs and Trolleys

The SEAL tour boats, operated by the local branch of Historic Tours of America (the same company that owns the Old Town Trolleys), are bright blue contraptions topped with blue-and-white-striped canopies and decorated with images of seals wearing masks and snorkels. These vehicles perform the amusing trick of driving down Harbor Drive to the Shelter Island boat ramp and then rolling into the bay.

“Rosie the Riveter and her fellow women were able to make 11 B-24 bombers in a 24-hour period.”

Guard helicopters hover, S-3 Vikings take off and land at North Island, and SEAL insertion boats slice through the water. Coates sounded proud when he pointed out the Navy ammunition bunkers at North Island.

Fighter, an experimental Navy catamaran, got his vote for “the most impressive ship” in the harbor. “That ship will do 50 knots!” he exclaimed. “That’s 57½ miles an hour. And it has more firepower than 100

RESEARCH STUDIES

Is HEARTBURN Making Your Life Bland?

Heartburn is an uncomfortable sensation in the chest or throat that may be accompanied by a burning feeling. Today, local doctors are looking for people to participate in a medical research study evaluating an investigational medication for the treatment of frequent heartburn. To pre-qualify for this study, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older AND
- Experiencing heartburn at least two days per week over the past month

Qualified participants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and the investigational medication at no cost. Reimbursement for travel and time will be provided.

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Or log onto: www.ihavehb.com

Are you currently diagnosed with Schizophrenia?

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You may qualify to participate in a research study involving medication. Qualified candidates will be compensated for time and transportation as follows: \$50 for your screening visit and \$100 for each additional outpatient scheduled visit (day 1, day 7, day 14, day 21, day 28, day 35, day 42, day 49, day 56/early discontinuation visit, follow-up/titration visit). TOTAL COMPENSATION WILL NOT EXCEED \$1050.

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

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

Clinical
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Hospital

When the vehicle pulls out of its base at the Seaport Village parking lot, the crew plays the theme from *Gilligan's Island*. The Pirates of the Caribbean music accompanies every launch, and other musical selections carry the cornball theme further.

"First Mate Kimmy" was our guide the morning a young family of four and I climbed aboard. Kimmy explained that unlike the converted World War II landing craft used for tourism on the East Coast, our conveyance had been built in upstate New York four and a half years ago and cost about \$250,000. "So you break it, you buy it!" she chirped.

Kimmy made a number of statements I'm pretty sure were true (that *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes* was filmed in the parking lot of the old police station next to Seaport Village, for example, or that San Diego's once-large tuna industry had relocated to Mexico and other countries such as Samoa to escape excessive American regulation). But she mixed these in with gems that seemed to go over the heads of the touring family but boggled me. Kimmy told us that Little Italy was a "mostly residential" neighborhood located "on the hillside" adjoining Lindbergh Field and formed when "hundreds of thousands" of Italian Americans had migrated there to work in the tuna industry. She said the reason Charles Lindbergh had had to use a periscope on his famous transatlantic crossing was that "even the windshield [of the *Spirit of St. Louis*] was used to hold fuel." She identified Point Loma as "a 500-foot-long hill jutting into the Pacific" and pointed to concrete patches on its face that she claimed sealed up the mouths of pollutant-leaking abandoned coal

mines. She declared that Scripps Institution of Oceanography conducted its research on the institute's pier on San Diego Bay. When we passed the helicopter hangars on North Island,

she said, "During World War II, 40 percent of our workforce was women, and just beyond those hangars there were a couple of factories. That's actually where Rosie the Riveter

worked," she exclaimed, as if Rosie had been a real person. "As some of you may know, her and her fellow women were able to make 11 B-24 bombers in a 24-hour period."

The tourist family looked as though they were loving the SEAL tour. The weather was halcyon, and we spent a long interval off Point Loma circling the bait dock where sea lions

lollled. The Navy dolphin trainers were working that morning, and that provided more grist for Kimmy's mill. Although we caught no clear sight of the dolphins, the guide held up a picture

RESEARCH STUDIES

There is hope...

Pacific Sleep Medicine Research Centers offer hope, and help, for patients who suffer from a wide range of medical conditions. Transportation may be provided to qualified participants, and qualified participants may receive compensation for their time and travel.



Do you have trouble falling asleep?

A research study is being conducted to evaluate two approved medications 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 may 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 \$2,750 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.



Do you experience constipation caused by your pain medication?

Constipation is one of the most common effects of pain medication, and it can be very uncomfortable—even debilitating.

We are currently involved in a clinical research trial of an investigational drug to relieve constipation caused by pain medicine.

You may be eligible if you:

- Are 18 years or older
- Have had non-cancer pain for at least 2 months
- Experience constipation caused by prescription opioid pain medication

All study-related care is provided at no charge, including study-related physical exams, lab services, and study medication or placebo.

Participants may be reimbursed up to \$650 for time and travel.

Are You Still Experiencing Pain Even Though Your Shingles Have Healed?

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of pain following shingles (post herpetic neuralgia).

Qualified participants receive:

- Study medication and examinations
- Reimbursement for time and travel

Insomnia Sleepless Nights Exhausted Days

A clinical research study for insomnia is now underway. Doctors are enrolling patients in a study of an investigational drug for insomnia.



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

877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services

Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

of one with a camera affixed to his fin. "That's one of the ways the Navy's utilizing these guys in Iraq right now," she said. "They can patrol the harbor. If they see something that's not supposed to be there, they can go up and tell the sailors. The sailor will then give them a buoy to put on the obstruction, and then we can send one of our frogmen down there to destroy it. But dolphins and sea lions use sonar, and they're able to detect what our computers cannot detect. So they're

happy to be working with the U.S. Navy."

I talked to Lorin Stewart, the director of operations for Historic Tours of America's San Diego arm. Poised and gracious, Stewart grew up in suburban San Jose and studied theater in college, then worked in London as an actor for several years (including three with the Royal Shakespeare Company). When he returned to the United States in 1989, he took a job as a guide and trolley driver for the tour company's newly opened San Diego branch. It

seemed like a move that would allow him to use his skills. That proved true, but his enthusiasm soon caught the eye of the company's higher-ups, and he began a quick climb through the management ranks. (This year Stewart is serving as chairman of the board of directors for the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau, a volunteer position.)

He says planning for the San Diego SEAL tours began in 1999, and the initial cruise took place in August 2001. "It was one month before

9/11," he points out. The aftermath of the New York terrorist strike rocked leisure-travel operations across America, and for the San Diego amphibious operation, "It was a very challenging time." Stewart says at times the company let passengers ride for free to keep the vehicles out in the public eye. Besides needing to attract customers, the operation required fine-tuning. For about two years, it covered both Mission Bay and San Diego Bay, an itinerary that took at least two

hours, sometimes more. "The on-and-off trolley tour is unique in that if you have to go to the bathroom, you can get off," Stewart says. "But asking a group of people to stay anywhere for two hours was a problem." Stewart solved it by eliminating the Mission Bay leg and extending the time on San Diego Bay. At 90 minutes rather than two hours-plus, the tours have gotten a "phenomenal" response, Stewart told me. Over the Fourth of July weekend, the amphibious vehicles each day had

carried some 500 people, the majority of whom had filled out comment cards testifying to their satisfaction, he claimed.

The company's Old Town Trolley tours transport almost twice that many customers on the busiest days. When the trolley tours were introduced in Key West, Florida, in the early 1970s, they were an innovation, according to Stewart. Up to then, the Gray Line bus model—four-hour (or so) city surveys in which the tourists got off the bus only for a break at some

RESEARCH STUDIES

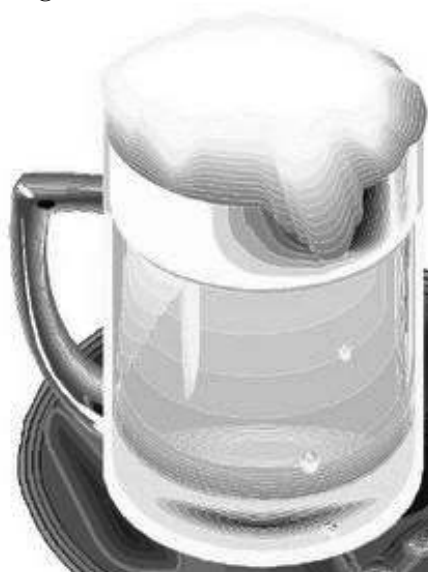
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- At least 18 years old • Have a history of depression
- Currently depressed for at least 2 months
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DEPRESSION STUDY

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Eligible participants will receive study medication or placebo, study-related care and diagnostic exams at no cost.

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It could be restless legs.

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If so, you may qualify for the Rise and Shine clinical study researching a new investigational treatment for Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS). There is no cost to you for participating and you will be compensated for your time and travel. Please call today. Instead of restless nights, you've got a chance to rise and shine.



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- Be overweight
- Not have diabetes
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For more info call toll-free:

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E-mail: studies@profil-research.com



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Is your Pap smear abnormal? ... Told to wait ... A research study is available now!

A research study is underway to evaluate an investigational gel placed vaginally for women with mildly abnormal Pap smears.

The study is 26 months long and will include (at no cost) all study-related examinations by a board-certified gynecologist, colposcopy, laboratory testing, study medication, and compensation for time and travel.

To possibly qualify you must:

- Be a female 18-40 years of age
- Have untreated low-grade Pap smear (ASCUS or LSIL)
- Have regular periods and using acceptable birth control

For more information call:

MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
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Mature gentlemen needed

Profil Institute for Clinical Research

is looking for older gentlemen to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational medication and its effect on bone density and muscle mass.



Participants must:

- Be between ages 50-75
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programmed destination — had dominated the guided-tour business. “You stayed together as a group,” Stewart says. But in the do-your-own-thing, have-it-your-way climate of that era, people seemed thrilled by the option of getting off their tour vehicle when they came to an attraction they wanted to explore, then rejoining a later one. This was the fundamental twist the Historic Tours of America founders offered. The biggest challenge of running such a business is

having enough vehicles on the street so that people don’t have to wait long once they’re ready to reboard. (About two dozen Old Town Trolleys are moving through San Diego’s streets during the busiest times of the year.) But the trolleys have never been merely a transportation service. As long as they’re on the trolley, riders are treated to patter from their driver about Cabrillo’s discovery of the bay, Kate Sessions’s role in developing San Diego’s horticultural landscape, Alonzo Horton’s devel-

opment schemes downtown — the usual subjects. (Another fixture is the prerecorded voice of impressionist Rich Little giving safety injunctions in the famous cadences of John Wayne, Richard Nixon, Humphrey Bogart, Kermit the Frog, and other onetime celebrities.)

Unlike my experience on the SEAL tour, I didn’t hear any gross exaggerations the day I took the Old Town Trolley. But I confessed to Stewart I wasn’t sure what difference it made if someone goes back to

Missouri thinking coal was once mined on Point Loma or Horton founded downtown in 1900 rather than 1867. Does it matter? I asked him. “The darnedest things can come out of our cast members’ mouths,” he acknowledged. “But personally, I think it matters,” he continued. “The content has to be accurate.” At the same time, “We don’t want people who are historians. We want people who can tell a good story. Have a great time. Tell a joke or two.... It’s a balancing act.”

the Whaley House that over time have become associated with supernatural phenomena. “A bunch of people liked that,” he said. “But an equal number of people thought it was absolutely boring. They expected ghosts to come down and fly at them.” The latter tended to be nonbelievers celebrating a special occasion with their ghost-believing spouses or children or friends.

Stewart says the nonbelievers pelted him with negative feedback, and he eventually added elements to the tours “to engage their brains.” He and his team created costumes, scripts, lights, stagecraft, and magic. “It grew to this huge thing,” he says. “And all of a sudden, the comment cards soared. The nonbelievers started *loving* the tour.” But the believers for the first time started writing “not cards but letters!” They contained angry accusations: “You were

making fun of this most important subject. I was having a spiritual experience, and your *clown* came and scared the spirits away. I want my money back!” they demanded.

“It was a nightmare,” Stewart says. Another realization also was troubling. Stewart says in all the market research Con-Vis has done over the years into what draws visitors to San Diego, “No one in *any* survey *anywhere* associated death and fright and ghosts with San Diego.” That might be the case for a city like London or Boston or Savannah (where Stewart claims 18 different ghost tours operate). But he came to believe that ghost tours in San Diego were “a square peg in a round hole,” and on October 31, 2005, he decided to close that part of his operation.

Thirty-six-year-old Charles Spratley was on

RESEARCH STUDIES

Do You Suffer from Excessive Shyness?

Have you experienced intense fear of being embarrassed or evaluated negatively by others in a variety of social and performance situations such as:

- Meeting new people?
- Talking in front of a group?
- Going to parties?
- Interacting with those you are attracted to?
- Dealing with authority figures?
- Eating or writing in front of others?

You may be eligible for a research study at UCSD Dept. of Psychiatry.

If you are 18 years of age or older and are interested in this research program, please call:

1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)
or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

Ghostly Tours

Stewart’s Ghosts and Gravestones tour was another balancing act, but one upon which he brought down the curtain last year. “We started the ghost tour right around the same time as the SEAL tour,” he told me. It began as a straightforward narrative of the history of sites like

Decreased sexual desire...is there a solution for women?

If you have noticed that your lack of desire for sexual intimacy is bothering you...it may be time to get some help. Perhaps a consultation with a board-certified expert and questionnaires, or you may want to consider medication for this worrisome problem. All services are rendered at no cost to you.

The Medical Center for Clinical Research is conducting studies for women over the age of 18 through menopause for:

- Decreased sexual desire questionnaires (no medication) to help diagnose the cause of your problem
- Investigational medication for the treatment of decreased sexual desire

If you are interested in either of these opportunities to help you change your sex life and are not taking medication for depression please call us at:

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**MEDICAL CENTER
FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH**

Drinking Too Much AND Depressed?

Scientists at The Scripps Research Institute are developing new treatments to help people with both problems to achieve recovery.

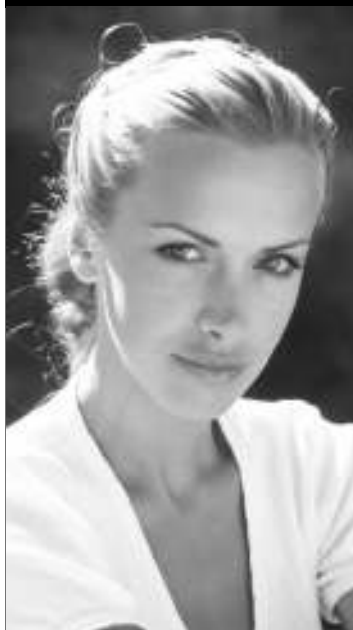
Qualified volunteers will receive complimentary study medication, study-related medical exams and individual counseling.



For more information and to find out if you qualify for this study, please call:

858-784-7867

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:

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(1-866-827-7423)

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Accelovance 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:
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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

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his honeymoon in Las Vegas when a friend text-messaged him about Stewart's decision. Spratley and this friend had both worked for Stewart's ghostly operation, and they'd been yearning to launch a ver-

sion of their own. "We'd wanted to put a darker spin on it than Historic Tours of America did," Spratley recalls. "Theirs wasn't bad, but it was Disneyish, and I've always found that history is rarely Disneyish. I

always say I like to tell the good, the bad, and the heinous."

At the end of March, Spratley, Andrea Rustad, and a third friend named Sean Shiraishi (a former curator for the San Diego Historical Society) started Ghostly Tours in History. Every Thursday through Saturday evening they conduct an excursion that's been likened to "what would happen if Edgar Allan Poe ever did the Jungle Cruise at Disneyland." Customers ride in a rented "limo bus" that itself hints of macabre decadence. The interior is plush and black, and the mirrored ceiling reflects passengers' fractured images. Banquette seats line the perimeter, except for an area where a full bar has been arranged. On the night I joined them, mournful organ music played in

the background; I thought of Disney's Haunted Mansion.

Spratley was the lead guide that evening, though Shiraishi accompanied us. The three principals take turns shouldering the group-leading tasks. Spratley had donned a broad-

pewter handle. Everything we would visit that evening dated from between 1850 and 1900 — "the age of the reign of Victoria," he announced. "It's a very interesting time in history." While prizing gentility and invention, the Victorians had also

Whaley House) and an "active" haunt. "A residual haunt by classical definition is not a ghost," he lectured. "This is more like a psychic imprint left on time. A record that keeps repeating the same thing over and over." Active haunts, in contrast, "are self-aware. They are able to do things...move objects, touch people." He hinted we might encounter an active haunt at our first stop, the *Star of India*.

Our driver double-parked, and Spratley swept us off the limousine and onto the old sailing ship. Then he led us below deck, the setting for several of the ship's ghost stories. One concerned the captain. He had caught scarlet fever on the *Star's* first voyage and died while en route to the East Indies. Poltergeist activity had been attributed to him, and while Spratley dismissed such activity as harmless, "Something much darker is going on across the way," he intoned, pointing to the first mate's cabin. One of the men who had occupied it had slit his throat one night while drunk and depressed, and though the ship's surgeon had patched him up, he had pulled out his stitches

"An abdominal wound is quite a leaker, and his assassin managed to follow the bloody trail up the street to his room."

brimmed black hat, a black rifle coat over striped brown pants, and a yellow silk waistcoat. A red coral fob in the shape of a Buddha's head dangled from the waistcoat, and Spratley grasped a walking stick with a

spread venereal disease, according to the guide. "Drug abuse was rampant. Domestic violence skyrocketed. And, of course, probably one of my favorite inventions of the Victorian Age was the serial killer. The first reported one was Jack the Ripper in 1888. The first American serial killer was Henry Holmes in 1893. He was a physician who killed women at the Chicago World's Fair."

Spratley said he wanted us to be aware of the difference between a "residual haunt" (like Mrs. Whaley, who's reputed to lurk around the top of the stairs at the

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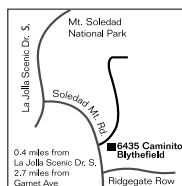
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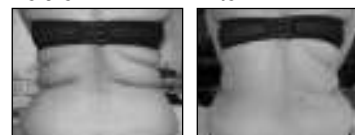
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and bled to death. In recent years when teachers chaperoning students' overnight stays on board had slept in the cabin, some had reported feeling "a presence in the room with them," Spratley claimed. "One even left in the middle of the night because the bed-sheet got violently ripped off her bed twice. She left the ship *never* to return."

"Whoa," someone in our group murmured.

Spratley recounted two more tales — one about a Chinese fellow who'd been "literally ripped to pieces by the anchor chain" and another about a Scottish stowaway who'd fallen off the main mast, shat-

tered both legs, and died a protracted death. When alive, this boy had loved playing a Scottish variation of tag in which the tagger draws an S ("for Scotland") on his target's back, Spratley said. "And many people who have worked here have felt an S on their back. Or a slight shove away from the main mast, perhaps to serve as a warning."

"I study the paranormal," Spratley said to me as we strode back to the limo. "I don't like the term 'ghost hunter.' Because when you use the word 'hunter,' it implies aggression, and I don't like that. It is what it is. Why look for it? Anyway, the watched pot

never boils. Sometimes you find the most interesting things without looking for them."

We didn't find ghostly activity down in the Gaslamp Quarter, but Spratley told more stories there. After our group had assembled at the intersection of Third and Island avenues, the guide instructed us to look up at the corner room on the third story of the Horton Grand Hotel — the most haunted room in the place, by his account. "The story goes that there was a gambler by the name of Roger Whittaker who was caught cheating at cards one night." Shot in the gut

after a fight broke out in a saloon, he escaped in the melee. "Unfortunately an abdominal wound is quite a leaker, as you know, and his assassin managed to follow the bloody trail up the street to his room." The pursuer kicked down the door, found Whittaker cowering in the armoire, and shot him dead. Since then there'd been reports of people being kept awake all night by the sounds of a phantom poker game and other mysterious phenomena, Spratley said. Today it was possible to stay in Room 309, he asserted, "but you're looking at about a year-long wait. It seems like

there's a long list of people that revel in hauntings and paranormal phenomena. Let's hope we don't run into any of those sick bastards tonight, okay?"

At Tesoro, the Mexican restaurant at 548 Fifth Avenue, Spratley talked about how the basement, now a nightclub, had served as one of San Diego's first mortuaries. The furniture store on the building's first floor had helped supply the coffins, and a furniture-store employee had once used a Smith and Wesson .38 to "turn his head into a canoe" in the small room he occupied at the back of the store. Since then tenants

had described feelings of being watched and reported strange problems with the elevator, according to Spratley.

We went to a couple of other places during the course of the evening, but to my surprise, our itinerary didn't include the Whaley House. "A lot of the stories about the Whaley House are simply not true," Spratley sniffed. "They're not historically possible." The house's owners over the years had promoted it as a haunted structure, and that had generated revenue that had gone toward preserving it. Spratley thought this was a good thing. He'd

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worked as a docent in the house, and he appreciated its historic importance, he indicated.

At the news that Spratley had worked in the house, one of our group, a young blonde from Yorba Linda, perked up. "What did *you* experience working there?" she pressed. "Did you see any paranormal activity?" He answered, "I will say in all honesty there is *something* about the house.... I'm a firm believer that energy resides, and it stays, and all energy is emotion." Having worked inside the house, Spratley said he had sensed "a lot of anger... a lot of oppression.... There is something weird about the house. But what it is has

to be investigated first from a historical perspective."

Walking Tourists

Another enterprise competes with Spratley and his partners. It's run by Michael Brown, a native San Diegan who, unlike Spratley, has no qualms about calling himself a ghost hunter. Brown leads tourists on foot through Old Town twice a night every Thursday through Sunday during the summer months, charging \$19 a head for these outings. "I've been ghost-hunting in Old Town for over six and a half years now," Brown told the group of 30 or so on the night I took the tour. "I had my first two

experiences at the Whaley House. Anyone not familiar with the Whaley House?" No one spoke up. "That home is listed as one of America's top-ten most haunted houses."

A tanned, athletic-looking man who wore shorts and a sport shirt, Brown has a rapid-fire, no-nonsense delivery style. "If you believe in ghosts or if you don't, that's okay with me," he stated. "I'm not here to change your mind or your opinion. I'm just here to share some of my experiences." In front of the Racine and Laramie Building, he told us about the ghostly footsteps he'd heard one night. "Another night I made several loops

around Washington Square and the plaza." He pointed to the bench he had sat on while panning the scene with his camera. "It was early in the morning. There was no one here. One pan I started from the left and worked my way around very slowly to the Colorado House and the Wells Fargo Building. To the left of the double doors, there was a small child standing. It was not a shadow. It was a solid-block form, standing away from the wall. I could see the arms, the legs, the head, the torso. As I focused in, it disappeared."

Brown never joked, and he doled out only snippets of history; instead, the subject of

this tour was all the weird stuff Brown supposedly has seen and heard during the last half-dozen years. Throughout the evening, he maintained the same take-it-or-leave-it tone. But after an hour, he shepherded our group into the Jolly Boy restaurant and had us take seats set up in rows in one of the dining rooms. He passed around photographs where most of the evidence of the ghostly presences took the form of a white blob on the print. Then he opened a laptop computer and played examples of "electronic voice phenomena" ("EVPs") that he claimed to have recorded. Lots of people on the tour seemed

impressed by this documentation.

I felt more entertained by the walking tour of Banker's Hill I took a few weeks later. It was led by an amiable fellow named Marc Menkin. Born and raised on the East Coast, Menkin and his wife Darlynnne moved to San Diego in 1990 when she got a job as the producer of a consumer-news unit at Channel 8. Marc found work as a sales rep, but in his spare time he explored San Diego. He made notes as he did so, and before long, "I knew about a lot of hidden stuff," he says. He'd show friends these sights when they came to town. He says friends began telling him he should start a

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business.

He took the plunge in July 2003, and by November 2005, Darlynnne had decided to give up broadcast journalism to help Marc with his enterprise, Where You Want to Be Tours. On their website, you'll see an elaborate schedule showing walking and biking tours at least twice every day to locales including the "neighborhoods of Balboa Park," downtown, Pacific Beach, and La Jolla. I called to make reservations, but Darlynnne told me she and her husband had recently been preoc-

cupied with private groups. A couple of weeks passed before the Menkins had a tour open to the public.

That was the Banker's Hill excursion. Our group included three middle-aged Hispanic couples from Bakersfield who'd heard about the tour from friends, as well as a San Diego couple who were friends of the Menkins. Marc introduced the neighborhood. "It's called Banker's Hill because in the early 1900s, a lot of people who built up downtown San Diego built their

mansions and big homes up here," he said. Even at the busiest times of the year, it remained tranquil. We'd experience that tranquility this morning, he promised, as well as see another important feature of the city. "A lot of people think of San Diego as the beach and the bay and the swaying palm trees," Marc said. "It is all that, but it also has almost 70 canyons."

Over the course of our meander, the Menkins led us across the suspension footbridge that crosses the canyon interrupting Spruce Street between Front and Brant. On the wooden structure that unites Quince Street over Maple Canyon, the couple had everyone toss pebbles at a target below.

But most of the sights that Marc brought to our attention were smaller in scale. He had us pause to admire the elaborate wooden gate in front of the house at 3340 Second Avenue. "It's got the Asian influence going," he noted. "Very feng shui." In the next block, he told us that the garage of one residence had formerly been a carriage house. He pointed out impressive stands of bottlebrush and giant bird-of-paradise and bamboo. "It just amazes me how something can grow and look so polished," he marveled about the latter.

Twice that morning, we got an unexpected bonus. When someone in our group admired a house we were passing, the owner, who hap-

pened to be puttering in his front yard, told us he and his wife had just completed a major remodel. He wound up inviting us into his courtyard to see the new construction, disclosing as we lingered that the late *San Diego Union* sportswriter Jack Murphy had resided there. At another point, Darlynnne stopped to chat with a fellow she'd met on previous rambles. He was the property manager at the Asian-influenced home inhabited by Golden Door-owner Deborah Szekely, and he invited us in for a peek at the grounds. One of the couples from Bakersfield snapped photos.

A few streets farther along, we stopped in front of a Palladian dwelling on the corner of Curlew and West Thorn. A Prudential Realty sign stood in front, and Marc

told us he'd heard that the asking price was \$2.7 million (it's \$2.8 million). We admired the ivy crisscrossing the garden walls, and Marc drew our attention to a brass plaque. It looked like a historical marker. But it read, "On this site in 1897, nothing happened." Everyone chuckled.

It occurred to me later that the plaque might be inaccurate. Perhaps the house hadn't been built back then. Or maybe it had been, and that year someone had had a heart attack in it or birthed a baby or come up with an idea that changed people's lives. Who would know? On the other hand, there was no disputing that it amused the passing sightseer. And who could argue with that? ■

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Where the Kissing Never Stops



PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HUFFAKER, JR.

José Arce Alvarado and Maria Luisa Madrigal

THE FIRST LESSON I LEARNED IN CHURCH was that a finger thins itself to hold a wedding ring, making a bed for the metal that slips back and forth all day, smooth and familiar and half-forgotten. Most Sundays from the age of five, I removed or desired to remove my mother's heavy ring and examine the square diamonds set in silver metal she called white gold. Underneath the ring was the under-ring, the bare line below the lightly freckled knuckle of my mother's third finger.

Primarily I was interested in jewelry. I wanted the diamonds to flash rainbow sparks all over the chapel, for the ring to be yellow gold, and, in pursuit of such daily pleasures, to get married right away.

But the ring was a solemn object, as sacred as the sacrament tray. I was permitted to wear it for 30 seconds, then it went back to its pale, waist-like hollow on my mother's finger.

"I USED TO RUN HIM AROUND AND FIGHT HIM, BEAT HIM UP," MARY SAYS. "I DONE ALL KINDS OF THINGS. BUT I LIKED HIM A LOT, AND I FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM."

When I went away to graduate school and lived among feminists, I learned that the ring signifies a girl is chattel, bound first to her father, then the groom. Wedding. "Why do you think they use that term, give her away?" my linguistics professor asked, unaware that in my Mormon family women were not given away but sealed to their husbands for time and all eternity in temple ceremonies I couldn't attend until I'd knelt and been sealed myself.

Many women in my family have been sealed. We were a family of long marriages even before we became Mormons and that phrase,

"time and all eternity," was uttered above our heads. My mother's genealogy chart shows Joshua Adams living with his Elizabeth from their wedding day in 1803 until the Civil War, Weeden Vander Hakes sticking with Eliza from 1822 to 1884, and so on. In my lifetime, both sets of sealed grandparents lived to the 50th wedding anniversary, though my mother's father passed that fluorescent afternoon in a hospital bed, his left side paralyzed.

The ring he gave Geneva Crosby in middle age was yellow gold with three diamonds like salt flakes in the band. Though my grandfather raised cattle most of

his life, for a few years he ran a gas station in Red Hill, New Mexico, where the story goes that a man traded the ring for a tank of gas. The ring is gone now, like all the participants, but as a child I imagined the broke man's wife sitting in a dusty car, a white line on her finger where the ring used to be. Now I envision her elsewhere, tanning the line by another man's pool.

I'm two and a half years into my beloved, unsealed, Scottish Presbyterian marriage. I have my mother's hands, and my ring finger thins under garnets, which meant constancy to the Victorians. It was a late mar-

riage, so it's doubtful we'll mark the 50th passing of that grassy, rain-scented day by the River Doon. And yet I feel I'm in search of my future when I talk to couples who've made it past the paper, linen, and tin anniversaries to gold, which lies under the numeral 50 like a rainbow's pot. Better it should be iron, which marks number six. Iron is a better symbol of love that 50 years ago promised, "With this ring," and 50 years later is still saying, "I thee wed."

Mary and Arlister Tillory, Logan Heights

Mary Emma Jackson was born in Washington-on-

the-Brazos, Texas, to a family of eight children. Her father raised cattle on his own land, and everyone in the family picked cotton for cash — 25 cents per hundred pounds. When Mary Jackson was 16, she could pick five or six hundred pounds of cotton in a day and still leave the sun in the sky.

She met Arlister Tillory at a school function in Brenham in the fall of 1937, on the day he came back from a cotton pick. In a graduation photograph, Pickard High School is a clean, white, clapboard frame for graduates in black gowns. Tillory, the class vice president, grandson of a Methodist

minister, stands solemnly in the front row, identified by his last name and his office. Mary Jackson isn't there. She says the photographer took so long that she and her girlfriend went off to do something else.

Tillory liked Mary right away. "She was always such a beautiful person," he says, "had such beautiful skin."

Though no high school picture is available to prove this, no proof besides Mary is necessary. At 76 she holds herself erect to a height of 5'10", and her skin is ageless. If you saw her, you'd think her too young to have passed the gold and emerald anniversaries — she

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looks as if she could pick five or six hundred pounds of anything and still leave the sun in the sky.

At Pickard High School, this energy was directed at Tillory. "I used to run him around and fight him, beat him up," Mary says. "I done all kinds of things. But I liked him a lot, and I fell in love with him."

After high school, Mary left home to get a house-keeping job in Navasota, and Tillory worked in his father's shoe shop in Brenham, a 25-cent bus fare away. When he came to town, they would talk all the time about getting married and things they were going to do, how far they wanted to go in life. He said he was going to buy her a car, and she looked up at the moon and thought, "This guy is crazy!"

Mary's mother didn't think so much of him. She thought the wedding was a bad idea even though Mary was living on her own, rooming in the big house of a Methodist woman in Navasota. "You couldn't do that," Mary says, "and be a

respectable person. My mother was always telling me I should come back home, because something was going to happen to me."

They decided to marry in the fall of 1939. Shoe business was always bad in the summer, because people went barefoot, so Tillory picked cotton to get extra money. He ordered a set of wedding and engagement rings from Walter Fields for \$9. His family put up fresh wallpaper for the newlyweds, who were expected not only to say their vows in Tillory's parents' house but to live there afterwards. The day before the wedding, Tillory received a letter saying Walter Fields didn't have the rings in stock.

On Sunday morning, October 15, Mary put on a new purple dress and reconsidered. "When my husband came from Brenham to pick me up," she says, "I almost didn't go. I said, 'Well, I've changed my mind.'"

But Tillory was prepared. People in Brenham had told him he wasn't going to get married, and he just



Mary and Arlister Tillory

said, "Oh, yeah, I'm going to get married all right. 'Cause I'm going over there and get her."

"So I got married," Mary says, "and we got along pretty well. All the years that we've been married, I haven't

regretted it at all."

That first year, Mary had no intention of living in Brenham with her in-

laws, wallpaper notwithstanding. She and Tillory went to live in Mary's furnished room in Navasota. Her employer owned a line of dry goods stores, and he gave Tillory a job in the Navasota store, a job that led to other jobs in town, Mary says, because people met him and liked him. The two of them cleaned the white Baptist church on weekends for \$40 a month, and they had money in the bank when Tillory was drafted and sent to cooks and bakers school in Point Loma.

"I was a cook," Tillory says. "That was another one of my hobbies. They look in your records to see what skills you possess, and they saw in there that I had gone to cooking school."

"With the girls," Mary points out, "'cause he was a womanizer."

"I went to school for 16 weeks," Tillory says, "and in the meantime, I wrote back and told my wife that I wanted her to come out here and bring everything that she wanted, because I'd

PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HUFFAKER, JR.

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found paradise.”
By then, Mary was working for a Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, who owned the boarding house where everyone in town ate on Sundays. After she received Tillory’s letter, she went to the bank and asked Mr. Yeager, the bank president, if she could withdraw her savings.
But Mr. Yeager told

woman who worked for Mrs. Greenwood, an older woman named Pearl, and she told Mary to wait a minute. She would tell Mary how to strike while the iron was hot.
They waited until Mrs. Greenwood’s daughter married a high-ranking Navy officer and left Navasota to be with her husband. “Now,

that much money?” and I said, ‘Yes, sir, I don’t know where I’m going to live or anything. Maybe I need all of it.’ ” Mary laughs and says, “I got it all!” Then she took the train to San Diego.
In 1944, Tillory says, you could drive across the prairie where Logan Heights now stands. Pointing to a view of stucco houses, wooden fences, and yards, he says, “This was all rattlesnakes and jackrabbits.” The Tillorys set up house at 3034 K Street and used their blue-and-red ration chips to buy meat and vegetables at the Navy commissary on E Street.
Tillory had 18 months of shore duty, which meant he cooked for seven days on the base in Oceanside and then came home for seven days. Mary took the streetcar from 30th and Imperial Avenue down to Fifth and Market, where she would get off the streetcar, walk on up to the nickel snatcher, and cross the bay to North Island. She was a storekeeper in an aeronautics supply house, checking the shelves

“You have to talk,” Mary says.
“You can’t be quiet and keep a marriage together 56 years.”

Mary, no, he wasn’t going to let her have the money because what was Mrs. Greenwood going to do for help? “He said, ‘All you niggers are leaving and going out to California, and I’m not going to let you.’ ”
“I was from the country,” Mary says. “I didn’t know how to do things.” But there was an older

you come next week,” Pearl said, “and you ask Mrs. Greenwood, you tell her you want to go and spend some time with your husband. You’re a young woman.” Mr. Yeager came to dinner, and Mrs. Greenwood did as Mary asked.
“I got everything I had out of the bank,” Mary says. “He asked me, ‘Do you need

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Tillory spent the end of the war in the Pacific. He wrote to Mary every day, and she wrote to him every day. He wrote about Okinawa and the battle for Eniwetok, but when his letters entered the mail room, censors clipped out details, slowing down the mail so that Mary received 30 or 40 letters at once, all cut up like paper snowflakes.

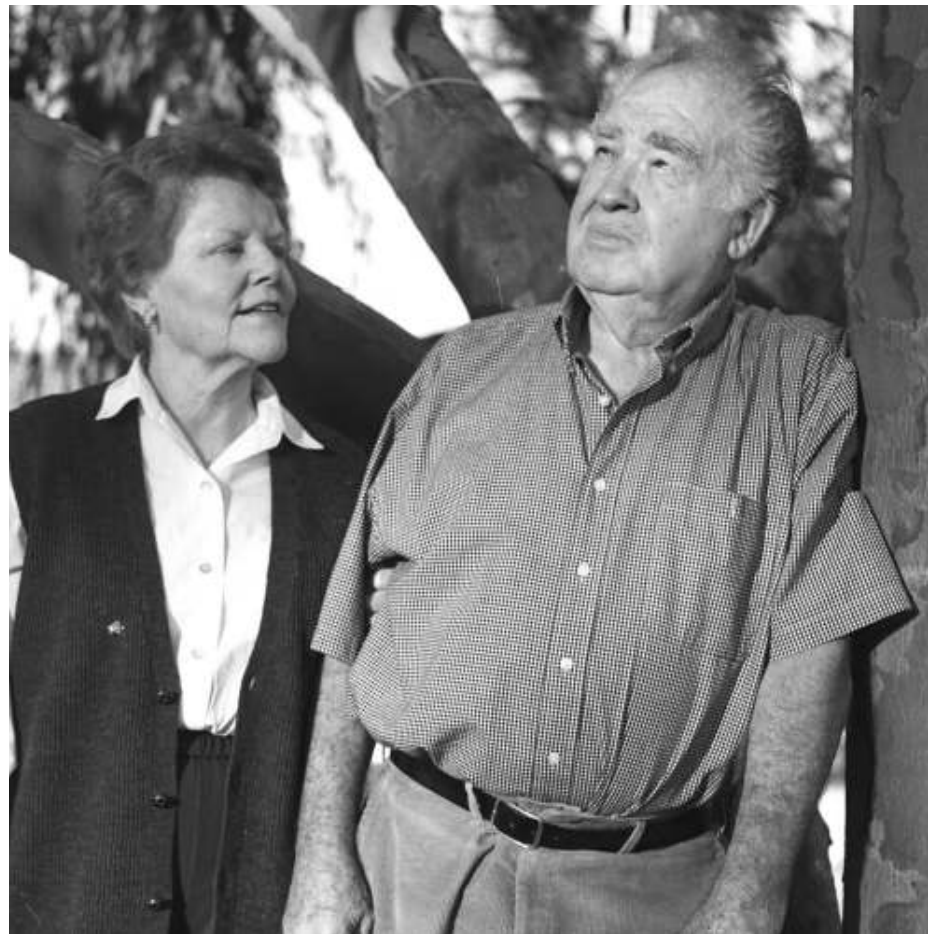
Those letters are gone now. Gone also is the photograph in which Mary wears a yellow suit and Tillory, ship's cook, third class, wears his midi, the two of them posing in a studio whose address they still remember as Fifth and Market Street. One of their children slipped this photo from the album and kept it in the way I would have kept the ring that was exchanged for gas, in the way I slipped my parents' youthful faces into my college suitcase and studied them from far away.

The Tillory house is full of photographs, color pic-

tures in frames that layer dressers and line walls. Six children were raised in this house, which the Tillorys bought in 1950: three sons and a daughter in graduation caps, two granddaughters in debutante dresses, who are now in college and whose names are engraved on secondary school plaques and awards of achievement.

The Tillory house is an expression of Mary's passion for red, and it makes me feel that I have entered a genie's bottle. The carpet is red, the Queen Anne sofa is red, the drapes are red, her dress is red, and the table is set with Christmas Spode china. A red napkin has been rolled inside a napkin ring and placed in the center of every plate. Through the living room sheers, it is possible to see Mary's red Cadillac, evidence that Tillory, walking Mary home in the moonlight and telling her he'd buy her a car someday, is a man who keeps his promises.

"In 1978," Mary says, "my husband took me out and bought me my own



Rosanne and Warren Dawson

Cadillac car. The guy did it! I couldn't see what in the world he could be talking about, back there when he

was telling me what he was gonna do for me and what he was gonna buy me. It was just absolutely like a fairy

tale."

Sitting on the Queen Anne sofa, the Tillorys have two pieces of advice for mar-

ried people like me. "You have to talk," Mary says. "You can't be quiet and keep a marriage together 56 years."

"I think reminiscing is the most important thing," Tillory says. "You go back and think of all those important dates and how you managed to get along."

In the china cupboard are the nesting stacks of china he bought her while he was in Germany during the Korean War. Mary brings over a gravy boat and says, "He knows I like dishes."

Through the doorway, I can see the yellow kitchen.

"I never forget," Tillory says, "the time my wife fixed dinner for my family. I thought that was the most wonderful thing, and every once in a while I go back to it and tell her what a beautiful meal it was that she fixed up there, even though we didn't have much money."

"On the first Valentine's when we were married," Mary says, "he brought me this big sucker and asked me to accept this sucker until he could buy me a box of candy. I remember that. I

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thought that was marvelous."

And with the afternoon light coming through the sheers, Mary heads for the bedroom and returns with the diamond and emerald rings that replaced, on various milestone anniversaries, the \$9 set that was out of stock at Walter Fields on October 15, 1939.

Rosanne and Warren Dawson, Bonsall

Although Rosanne was born in Salt Lake City, she grew up on the island of Oahu. Her father was a bookkeeper on the sugar plantation at Laie, and in 1941, when Warren Dawson sat behind her in Sunday school, Rosanne Musser was 20 years old.

Warren had come to Hawaii from another Mormon town, Boise, Idaho, where his father ran the Dawson Candy Company. Warren was a 23-year-old carpenter for the Pacific Naval Air Bases, and weekdays in Pearl Harbor he built decontamination and telephone communication buildings that could take a direct hit from a 10,000-pound bomb.

They met just before the blitz. They went for drives up Tantalus in his sky-blue Plymouth convertible, and every Sunday morning, Warren came to church holding a lei for Rosanne to wear.

On December 7, 1941, Rosanne did not have the radio on. "I was lying in bed thinking what I'd wear to church," she says. "I could hear the bombing, but I thought it was maneuvers." Her father was not at home that day. His Naval Reserve unit had been called to active duty, and on that Sunday morning he was in a tugboat in the middle of Pearl Harbor, transporting supplies from Ford Island.

It was a neighbor who told the Mussers to turn on the radio. Then they heard what Warren was watching from a distance: the planes descending, their sides marked with rising suns.

By evening, an uncle with military clout managed to determine that Mr. Musser was alive.

After that, Warren worked seven days a week instead of five. The Mussers, like everyone else in Honolulu, covered their windows with wrapping paper and old newspapers, then went outside to see if any light

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leaked through the sides. Headlights were painted black, except for a pupil the size of a silver dollar, which was painted blue. Only military personnel could travel after 8:00 p.m., so Warren and Rosanne began to conduct what was called a blackout romance.

First, Warren had to live within sneaking distance. He moved from the servant's quarters of a doctor's house to a friend's apartment near the Musser house; and every night, while the headlights of the Army trucks cast slim neon beams, Warren dashed between hedges and houses and plumeria trees.

The Mussers' lanai smelled like night-blooming jasmine, a cold, delicious smell after the stopped-up air of houses. Warren and Rosanne would sit out there in the dark by the jasmine vines and the rainbow shower trees.

"I might add," Warren says, "that Rosanne had a mother who watched her like a hawk, and I was watched very closely." The men who were recruited to

work as defense carpenters had a reputation for roughness. They were not esteemed like the officers and servicemen Rosanne had dated before Warren — officers and servicemen who were now, in 1942, out to sea.

By April 28, Rosanne's 21st birthday, Warren had proposed twice. His first proposal, which Rosanne turned down, had been followed by a period of mutual loneliness that convinced him to stay in Hawaii and ask her again. She accepted, and he arranged for a forward-thinking birthday present, a negligee procured by a friend's wife who worked at a fancy boutique in Waikiki.

"It was beautiful," Rosanne says; but when her mother saw it, she said a bachelor couldn't give any sort of clothes to a girl without making her look like a kept woman.

This wasn't, Warren says, the sort of etiquette lesson you learned much about when you grew up in Idaho with three brothers. But he had to take the neg-

ligee back. He carried it to his apartment and hid it under the bed so his housemates wouldn't know.

Mrs. Musser, or Sister Musser, as the other Mormons would have called her, still didn't approve of the match. She wrote to her brother in Idaho and had him check out the Dawson family, a safeguard that made Rosanne furious. "At least wait three months," Mrs. Musser said, thinking they were only in love because the blackout threw them together during a time when Warren didn't have any competition from officers.

Three months later, on August 1, 1942, Warren and Rosanne rode to the Laie Temple in the back seat of the Mussers' sedan. "We held hands very tightly the whole way," Warren says.

It is Warren who describes the drive to the north side of the island, Warren who remembers the precipice of Pali, where the wind blew very hard, and the valley floor, where the jacaranda, African tulip, and plumeria made a flowered

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tunnel for the road, which then broke out into a view of the Pacific. The Laie Temple, he says, is cream colored, and its length is reflected in pools like those that stretch before the Taj Mahal.

I try to remember pictures of the Hawaii Temple. Surely it was among the Mormon temples that were held up for me to see at age 8 and 13 and 21, but I can't remember it, and there is no wedding portrait by the reflecting pool.

Instead, there are two studio pictures of Rosanne, in manila folders and theatrically signed "de Gaston." In the first portrait, Rosanne sits in one curve of a couch shaped like an S. In the second, she stands in her white organza dress beside a vase of orchids. She holds a bouquet of maidenhair fern and tiny white blooms she says are ginger buds, a transitory flower. They brown quickly, as did the organza dress her mother made, darkening, I imagine, to the shade in de Gaston's photograph.

The rings of this marriage were bought at Eggholm Jewelry in Honolulu and lost three or four years later when their oldest daughter, born nine months and seven days after the wedding, took the rings from her mother's nightstand to the beach and lost them in the sand.

The Dawsons sailed to the mainland in 1957 and lived in Alhambra for 30 years. The hardest time in their marriage was the beginning of the Alhambra years, when Warren was working swing shift as a cabinet-maker and taking design classes at Woodbury College, when their six children were growing up and Rosanne was working in the accounting department of Woodruff's Men's Store. "For peanuts," she says. Later she would finish school, get a credential, teach for 18 years in the Los Angeles Unified School District, but in the meantime she saw her husband at one time of day: midnight. This seems like a good moment to ask, "So how did you stay together?"

"We didn't expect to divorce," Rosanne says. "It didn't seem an option. We had a lot of rough times, but..."

"In the days we got married, it was a serious thing to get married."

"We're not particularly pious now — churchwise — but in a Mormon marriage it's to last forever; it's not 'Till death do you part.' So if you're looking ahead that far..."

"This was an attitude that was taught to us."

The mantel is still decorated with Christmas paper, and there's a popping, almost heatless fire in the cast-iron stove. Behind me on the kitchen wall is a sign that says DAWSON CANDY COMPANY, a reminder of his father, the confectioner, who lived with them for eight years before he died. In the bedroom are dozens of framed photographs, some color, some black and white, all family members except for the monkey, which Rosanne threw in as a joke.

Perhaps for all these years, they were simply doing

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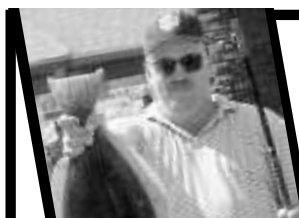
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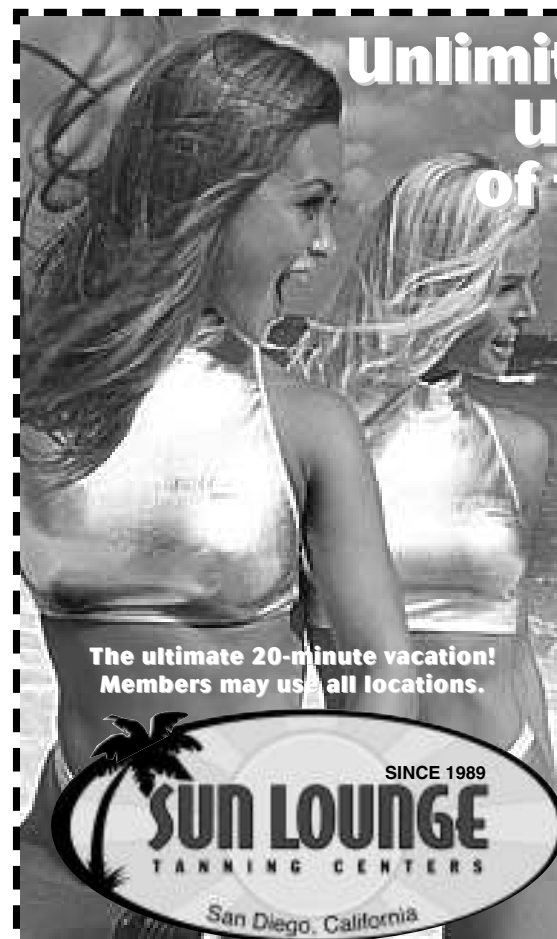
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as they'd been taught — a feat in itself — but I'm glad just the same when Warren tells the story of a fight he and Rosanne had a long time ago in Hawaii.

"I was working all the time," he says. "I had quit Pearl Harbor, and I was working in my own business, and I was trying to be very successful and have things work out, and, I don't know," he says, looking across the end table at Rosanne, "we'd had a little spat or something?"

"Probably," Rosanne says, laughing.

"Anyway, I went home, and she wasn't there. She'd gone over to her mother's."

It turns out that Rosanne didn't intend to worry him like that, but all day Warren thought and thought about it, and finally the guy working for him asked if something was wrong. "I think Rosanne has left me," he said and burst into tears.

There's something about the look on Warren's face when he says, "I was just devastated," that tells

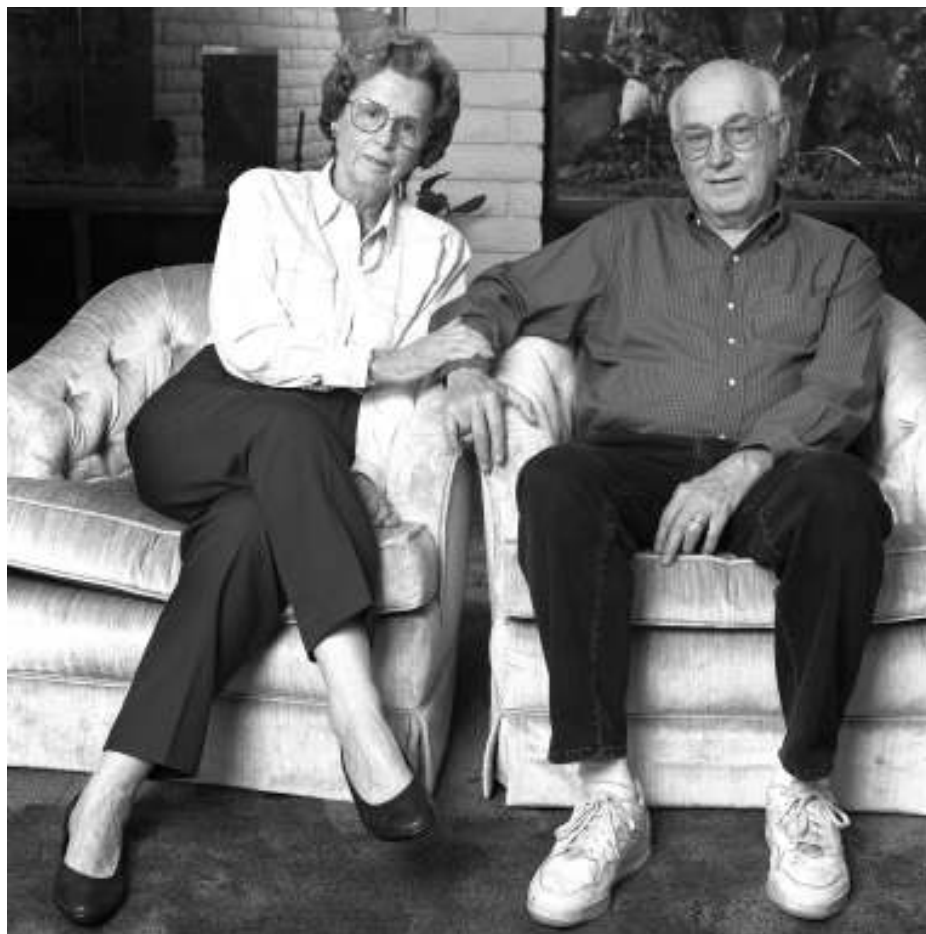
me I can chalk this one up to love. Fifty-three years and counting.

Mary and Roy Klein, Fallbrook

She was born Mary Louise Nelson to the wife of a dentist in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Roy was born in Shattuck, Oklahoma, to a Baptist family, and he grew up among the wheat farms and cottonwood trees of Ellis County.

They met in an elevator in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was training to be a WAC at Fort Oglethorpe, and he was a Navy recruit selected to take courses at the University of the South in Sewanee. The sailors and the WACs used to spend weekends in Chattanooga, rooming with their friends in hotels, and that's how Mary and Roy came to be in the same elevator in 1942.

"He had his pea jacket on," Mary says, "with the collar up, and his face tucked down in there, and his little blue sailor cap, and I thought, 'oh, how cute.'" There's a picture in the hall



PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HUFAKER, JR.

Mary and Roy Klein

that confirms her impression. The two of them lean together and smile — she in a dotted dress, he in a blue

sailor uniform with white piping. He looks shy and is not wearing his cap. They are both dark-haired and hand-

some and young.

"So we got to talking," Mary says, "and we met again the next day and talked and

talked and talked." After that, they had to write letters. After his first year at Sewanee, Roy went to study meteorology at MIT. Mary didn't like the job she was offered after training at Fort Oglethorpe ("radio transmitting and that kind of stuff," she explains), and she needed a reason to get out. "I had a reason at that point," she says.

Roy Klein, the man in the elevator, wanted Mary to move to Massachusetts and become his wife. Her parents thought it was the worst thing that could happen to her — a man they hadn't even met! — but she went to live in a little apartment across the Charles River. They intended to get married right away, but somebody in Roy's suite got scarlet fever, and the whole floor was quarantined. Six weeks later, in a gray wool suit, Mary Nelson became Mary Klein before a justice of the peace in Quincy, Massachusetts. Mary's landlady asked to see the marriage license before she would let Roy enter Mary's room.

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Their hands and faces were cold from crossing the bridge over the Charles River. It was March 25, 1944.

At first they couldn't live together. Roy's arrangement with the Navy, a category called V-12, didn't include a living allowance for wives, so he didn't tell them he was married. Mary moved to Waltham and worked at the watch factory, which made detonating devices for bombs during the war. On weekends Roy hitchhiked to Waltham.

"His roommates," Mary says, "all wanted to know who was this girl he'd go visit and spend the weekend."

Roy graduated in 1946, and the Navy wanted to send him to the Aleutians. "I'm a warm-weather boy," Roy says. "I could see where I could be up there for quite some time." He had enough points to get out of the Navy, so he took his discharge, and the Kleins moved to Muncie, Indiana, a region known for glass, auto parts, hogs, and soft winter wheat.

After his first job with

the Ball Brothers glass company, Roy went on to design refineries for the Fluor company. He helped design the first refinery in Kuwait. Their two children were very young in Houston, a little older in La Mirada, graduated in Chino and the Netherlands, in college when the Kleins lived in London. The Kleins moved to Antwerp and then

get them to change." In South Africa, the Kleins lived in what Mary calls a small town built out of nothing, out where the coal was. "It was nice," Mary says. "We enjoyed it. It was a real cultural shock when I came home. I mean, everything was done for you — you just had fun and socialized."

A friend in South Africa

They did not go dancing. They did not, in fact, go anywhere. They spoke at a distance of six meters.

South Africa, where there is no oil, but plenty of coal, and coal, Roy explains, can be oxidized into ash, vaporized with steam, run over an iron catalyst, and turned into oil.

"At that time, you see," Mary says, "South Africa was really being persecuted by the rest of the world..."

"Apartheid," Roy says.

"They were trying to

had an avocado grove in Fallbrook, and he said they would love it here. They began to divide their time between Newport Beach and a condo on the Fallbrook golf course. In 1983, two years before Roy retired, an accident occurred. Their daughter Beth, who was an equestrian once, a barrel rider in rodeos, the mother of an eight-year-old boy,

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was driving in the right-hand lane of the San Diego Freeway.

"She had a tendency," Mary says, "to drive in the slowest lane."

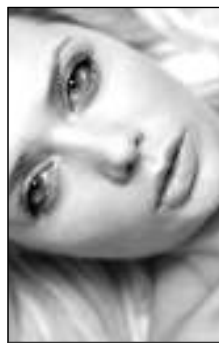
"This truck comes past her on the other side," Roy says, "just clean over, big semi-trailer, and before you know it, the truck turns off to his exit, which was crossing her lane. Either she didn't notice it, or — we

don't know what happened — but her car went underneath the trailer. And the back wheels came over and stopped on top of her. She was in there a couple of hours before they could get her out."

Beth died by nightfall.

The Klein house sits on a ridge overlooking the golf course. The windows of the living room are filled with the green of that grass,

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the dark pond, the silent motion of white carts. On the walls are oil paintings of South Africa, where the roofs, Mary tells me, are built in the Dutch style.

In a moment, we'll go into the hall and see black-and-white pictures of Beth when she was a child in

Richardson, Texas. An aerial photo of the refinery in South Africa, two miles wide by three miles long, where coal is turned first into ashes and then to oil. Beth and her husband before a fireplace, giddy and blurred with happiness.

I remember my last

question. "What about the wedding ring?"

"We went together and picked it out," Roy says.

"I don't even remember where," Mary says. "It wore out; it wore through. It's amazing how rings wear." Mary tells me that the one she's wearing is

getting thin; and we study the full-color portraits of grandchildren, the black-and-white faces of Mary and Roy when they were children in tiny clothes, standing on lawns in the American Midwest.

Maria Luisa Madrigal and José Arce Alvarado, Escondido

It's a sunny afternoon between two holy days: the day when the Virgin of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego on the hill of Tepeyac, and the day when the Virgin Mary gave birth in Bethlehem. José and Maria have been in California for eight months now, traveling to see the children who left Mexico for

Escondido, Los Angeles, and cities farther north. They will spend Christmas here in Escondido with their daughter Rosa and her family, which includes

and say, "Mucho gusto" to Maria and José. After these words, my American questions are polished into *español* by Eddie.

Thus I learn that Maria

"My father never dances," Rosa says, "but he danced on that day."

their grandson Eddie, my interpreter.

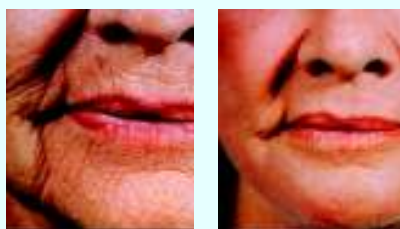
My Spanish is rudimentary, a classroom Spanish that allows me to identify the past subjunctive tense of "to be" only on multiple-choice tests. I manage to shake hands

Luisa Madrigal was born in the town of Las Tlaxalca, Michoacán, on June 19, "Mil novecientos veintiseis," Maria says, giving the year the grave length of Roman numerals on an MGM movie reel: one thousand nine hundred

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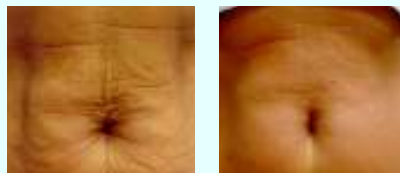
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twenty-six. She had two older brothers named David and Luis, a younger sister named Guadalupe, and a younger brother named Miguel. Their father was *un comerciante*, a merchant.

José Arce Alvarado was born ten years earlier, on August 14, 1916, to a family of nine. He first saw Maria in the street outside her house when he was 22. She was, he says, *muy encerrada*, a girl shut away from the world. It wasn't good for her to leave the house. But on this occasion, when he passed by in his work as *un comerciante*, he saw her, and she saw him. She was 12 years old, a year younger

than Shakespeare's Juliet. She knew that she wanted to marry him.

In the next four years, Maria says, she saw José just four times. He was her *novio*, her boyfriend, but she remained a girl *muy encerrada*. On each of those rare occasions, she was protected by her cousins, and he was attended by his friends. They did not go dancing. They did not, in fact, go anywhere. They spoke at a distance of six meters.

"No kiss, no nothing," their son-in-law Roberto says, and everyone laughs.

"*Unos tiempos muy delicados*," José explains, and Eddie translates, "Delicate

times."

When Maria was 16, José and his brother went to see her father, who refused to give his consent. "I left my parents and my house," Maria says, "to marry him."

They were married on the Day of the Holy Kings, January 6, the day the Wise Men finally saw Jesus. It was a cold day, Maria remembers, and I picture sunlight so clear it hurts the eyes. The words of a judge were followed by the blessing of a priest, his hand drawing a cross in the air before them *en el nombre del Padre, del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo*. They wore no special clothes,

posed for no photograph. They knelt, and then they stood up together. They held a *fiestacita* to celebrate, at which a woman sang and two men played guitars; but her family was angry and they didn't attend. They forgave her three months later.

For 40 years, José carried milk to the towns around Las Tlaxalca, first by horse and then by truck. Maria gave birth to Etelvina, Maria Refugio, Elisia, José, George, Fernando, one after the other until there were 12. Nine children were born at home and three in the hospital of a larger town. A young girl would come to tend each

new baby, while Maria went back to cooking and cleaning for the older ones.

"It was like a restaurant," she says, "like a wedding." Enormous pots of food cooking day and night. Clothes to wash, not in a *lavadora*, but in the stream near her house: scrubbed by hand, rinsed by hand, wrung by hand. After the clothes dried, she ironed.

But when I ask what was difficult in those years, José says that he always worked, so his children never lacked food or clothing. What could be difficult?

The answer to the question of how they stayed together comes from Maria, who says simply, "*Com-*

prender. Sufrir." To understand and to suffer. "*Yo nunca pensaba separar con el, nunca, nunca.*" I never thought of separation from him, never, never.

So they stayed together in the town where they were born. One by one their children moved to the United States. Once, when Eddie was nine, he returned with his parents to the town of Las Tlaxalca, where in the plaza on Sunday afternoons a band plays, people eat peanuts, hear *serenatas*, watch fireworks. And once, on the 50th anniversary of the day when Maria Luisa Madrigal knelt down in the church with José Arce Alvarado, the Day

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72 San Diego Reader October 26, 2006

of Kings, nearly all the family came home for Mass and a fiesta.

"My father never dances," Rosa says, "but he danced on that day."

In the corner of the living room is a small shrine to the Virgin of Guadalupe. The painted plaster hands press together in prayer. Her corona of holiness, represented by yellow spikes, radiates like the rays of a medieval astronomer's sun. "Tiempos muy delicados," José says, staring gravely into the camera with his wife, the Virgin of Guadalupe bowing her head behind them. They do not think of separation. Not in the past, present,

or future.

Outside, the sun is still warm on the streets of Escondido, where a boy and girl younger than 16, older than 12, are walking home together. He wears the long white T-shirt and baggy jeans of his times, and suspended from her shoulders is a small, girl-ish pendant of a backpack, the mark of her times. They could hold hands if they wanted. Her skirt, which is pink and short, flips a little as she walks. They may forget this day as soon as it's gone, or remember it. The winter sun on the grass beside them is delicate, and brief. ■

— Laura McNeal

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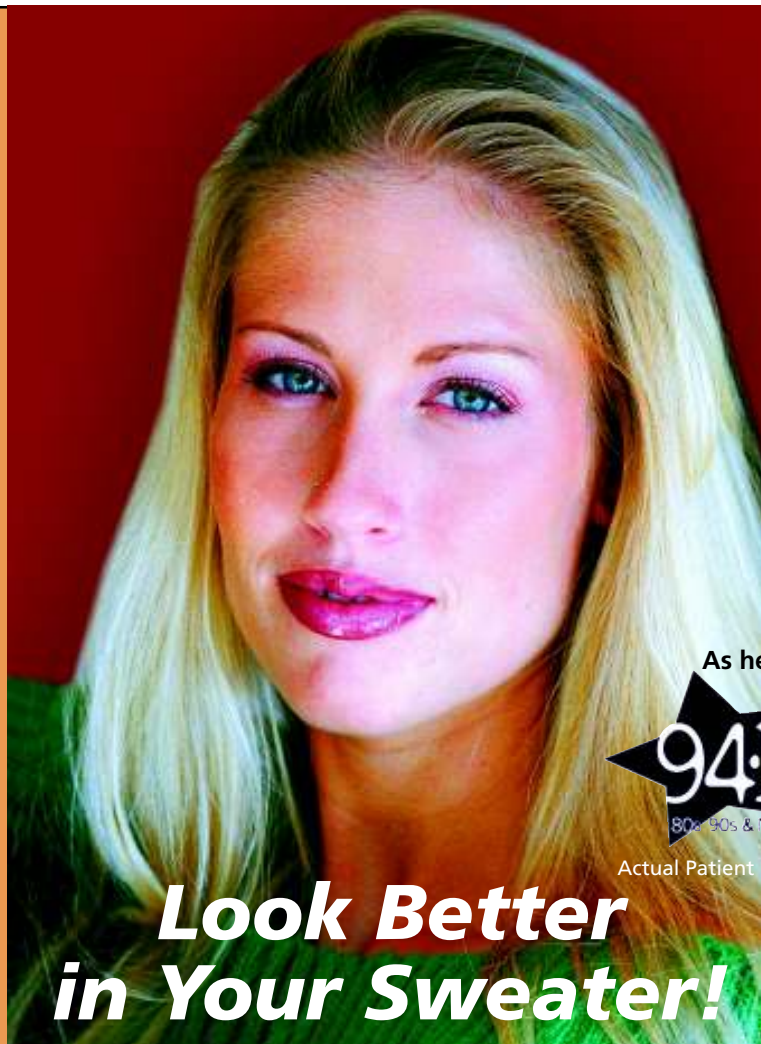
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San Diego

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LETTERS

continued from page 12

tattooed across their psyches, and they wish to preserve the welfare-warfare state because it satisfies their inherent laziness and the cruel streak that leaves them weak-kneed at the thought of watching the bullies in the U.S. Army kick the life out of third-world victims. Because they depend on social welfare programs — such as public schools, social security, and tax subsidies to families with children — they assume that all immigrants are as useless as themselves. It's called psychological projection. Never mind that anyone who lives off the labor of another — whether born here or not — is a leech. These minutemen don't care. All they see is someone crossing a border to cut in on their share of the tax loot.

While the Escondido City Council members may be correct in assuming the bad intentions of some immigrants, they should try to be more like the Minutemen of the 18th Century.

They should call for an end to the overgrown welfare-warfare state and its hundreds of criminal programs. It is these policies that attract and create loafers and criminals of all stripes — both homegrown and from afar. It is these policies that artificially stimulate excess population growth. Above all, however, they should not seek to preserve and feed the monstrous entity of government and those who worship it and feed off of it like Mr. Schwilk and his ilk.

Lawrence M. Ludlow
via e-mail

It Disappeared Into The Crowd

One of my favorite Lewis Black routines is about a conversation he once overheard. He hears a woman say something like, "If it hadn't been for the pony, I never would have graduated college." It is such a major non sequitur that it stuns his mental processes. No matter what else he tries to think of later in the day, his mind wanders back to ponder what "if it weren't for the pony, I never would have graduated college"

means. He can't not think about it.

I felt the same way when I read an article in the *Reader* this week.

There's a section in the back of the paper called "It's a Crime: Verbatim Police Reports." Obviously, these are excerpts of official reports as written by the officer at the scene.

The first crime listed in the October 19 issue begins:

"Incident: A male suspect under the influence [was] yelling at another male and a possum.... The officer tased the suspect. The suspect removed the barbs and walked away....

"They went into a yard where a Rottweiler came at the officer. The officer shot and injured the dog. The suspect was driven away by the owner of the dog."

This story is fascinating, nearly surreal. The suspect pulled out the Taser barbs and walked away. What was the cop doing, standing there being amazed? The dude walked away. And the cop was following him? Trying to reason with him, perhaps?

And the dog attack. This is becoming truly dramatic.

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I even noticed that the officer who wrote this introduced a very confusing sentence. "The suspect was driven away by the owner of the dog." You mean, like, he chased him away with a broom? "Get out of my yard, you damned warrant suspect, you. Look. You got my dog wounded." Oh, you meant driven in a vehicle. Well, why didn't you say so?

So I'm reading the snippet and trying to think about the zaniness and weirdness

of this cop's situation, and my mind keeps going back to ponder, "A male suspect...[was] yelling at another male and a possum." And then, not another word about the possum.

If any news story deserved a follow-up, it's this one. What happened to the possum? What in the world did the possum do to deserve being yelled at? Were the other guy and the pos-

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sum together? Was the suspect yelling at them because he disapproves of interspecies relationships? Is the possum a metaphor?

For the next two weeks, anytime I see a man yelling, I'll be looking around for the possum.

J. Eber Carlson
via e-mail

A Big Boo-Yah For Bus Drivers

Thanks for including bus information in your review of Marie's Café ("Tin Fork," October 19). As my contribution to the environment and to insure a little exercise, I sold my Prius last year and have been experimenting with San Diego's good public transportation. If you can include such information for other than cheap restaurants it might encourage people to

leave their car home. Bus drivers perform a great public service and are usually courteous, punctual, and helpful. Try it!

Faye Girsh
via e-mail


Star Stuck

Re "Sheep and Goats," the Rock Church (October 12). It seems very ironic that the sermon reviewed was in regards to the Book of Numbers, because Matthew Lickona has no concept of basic statistics. He had seven categories rated (the eighth, "Snacks," was not rated because there were no snacks to rate) that tallied a total of 15 stars. Dividing 15 by 7 gives an average rating of just over 2 stars. However, his overall rating for the Rock Church is a staggering 3.5 stars. The only category

he rated this high was the delivery, with 3.5, and the next highest was a 2.5 for the band music. Mr. Lickona, can you please explain the mathematical equation you used to rate the Rock? Or am I supposed to look to a higher source for the interpretation of your numbers?

Mark Rafferty
via e-mail

Matthew Lickona responds: No need to look for a higher source; God and the devil are both in the details. Somewhere between the electronic copy I turned in and the ink hitting the page, the overall rating went from two stars to three and a half. Whether this was by divine or demonic intervention, or simply because somebody goofed, I have no idea. But thanks for asking.




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Log Home Demonstration in Julian

Log homes aren't just built in the woods or in the country — I've talked to people in Southeast San Diego who wanted to put one down in Logan Heights," says Pam Churness. "You either like log or you don't like log."

On Saturday, October 28, Churness is inviting the public to witness the construction of her new log home in Julian. "Our house is going to be a D log — flat on the inside, round on the outside." The logs will be shipped from Chesterton, New York, where they are farmed and milled. "Our D log is going to be Eastern white pine; it's a

denser, straighter pine than what we have on the West Coast," explains Churness.

Churness's home will be built using the "double tongue-and-groove" system, in which two raised sections that run the length of the bottom of a log fit into two grooves that run the length of the top. "There's less chance of something twisting. If you go with a different kind of log system, like the Swedish cope home, then those logs are going to come from the Idaho area. They're a different type of species. Those are cedar and may be lodgepole pine or Douglas fir."

"Swedish cope" refers to the cut of the logs. This log is round but for a groove that runs the length of its base, cut to fit the arc of the log beneath it. Caulking, known as "chinking," is not required for this style of cut.

"If you look at old-style log homes, there's usually white chinking between the logs. The purpose of that caulking material

is to keep weather out. By using the tongue-and-groove system, you're putting the chinking on the inside of the log. It's less upkeep — that chinking is going to wear on the outside of the house, and it would have to be redone periodically."

All log homes require maintenance to keep the wood from deteriorating. According to yourloghomecenter.com, moisture is the primary concern, as it can lead to "wood-destroying rot fungus, mildew, sap stain," and certain levels of moisture contribute to insect infestations.

"Some people have woodpecker problems, but that would be because they have a bug problem and did not carefully care for their home," says Churness. "Logs get cracks, or 'checks,' in them. If you don't care for those, you're going to get stuff in them. You need to fill them with a caulking material that's made for that."

The Log Homes Council (a national organization comprising log home manufacturers) suggests regular visual inspections. Protective varnishes are not entirely effective at preventing checks, and such cracks should be tended to immediately. Also important to look for is discoloration of the wood, which can indicate water damage or fungus.

Churness refers to conventionally built homes as "stick built." She says such homes have a much higher chance of burning than those built of logs. "Think about how you build a fire, with small sticks that burn easily to start with. To make a fire last a long time, you put a log on top of it. There's a four-hour fire wall already built into logs, and there are stories out there about firemen in the woods who hang out in a log



cabin until a fire rushes through. In the Cedar Fire we had recently, the brush burned, small trees burned, but when you drove through afterwards, the branches had burned off [of the trees], but the trunks were still there."

Churness's home will include a concrete basement, garage, and workshop space, totaling 2000 square feet. The living space of the house is an additional 3077 square feet, plus a 254-square-foot solarium. To save money, Churness is serving as her own general contractor. Including the grading that has been done on the land (a four-and-a-half-acre parcel), she estimates her home will cost \$700,000 when construction is complete. "If you take this floor plan and build it with two-by-fours, it will come out very similar in price. Some people think that a log home is way too expensive or way less, but it's right in the same neighborhood as a custom-built, conventionally built house."

The basement has been built, and con-

tractors are in the process of placing the subfloor, "the part of the house that goes between the basement and the first floor." On Saturday, the first logs will be laid, and workers will be on hand to answer spectators' questions. The gates of Julian Estates, the gated community in which the log home is going up, will be open for the day.

Churness expects the log stacking to take up to three weeks. "If there are no huge delays, and everyone shows up when they're supposed to, we're looking at five to eight months from the time they broke ground to the time we're moving our furniture in."

— Barbarella

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after November 2.

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

BAJA

Events that are underlined occur after November 1.

“Los Cuervos,” César Silva Márquez reads from and signs new book, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Classical Music promised when Orchestra of Baja California performs Thursday, October 26, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Admission to “Embrujo Gitano” is \$15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Ladytron in Concert, Thursday, October 26, 8 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). \$20 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

A Beer Festival boasting “beers from all over the world” takes place October 27–29. Fest takes place on Friday, 5–11 p.m., at Caliente Race Track (on Boulevard Agua Caliente). Find fun on Avenida Revolución from noon–midnight on Saturday and Sunday. 011-52-664-684-0481. (TIJUANA)

Political Cartoon Expo, Mexican artists “and their best projects” showcased through November at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Show opens with reception on Friday, October 27, 6 p.m. Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“Concierto Mexicanísimo,” Orquesta Clásica de México performs with soprano Marisol Fuentes, tenor José Medina, Friday, October 27, 7 p.m., at Salón Teotihuacán. Dinner included in \$43 fee. 011-52-686-638-3641. (MEXICALI)

Nata plans rock concert, Friday, October 27, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). \$12 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

Meet Up with World Class Wines! Wine-tasting tour hosted by Baja Vino Tours, Saturday, October 28, 8:45 a.m.–6:30 p.m. \$85 fee includes bus transportation to Guadalupe Valley, visits to three wineries, lunch. Reservations: 858-539-9050. (GUADALUPE VALLEY)

“Pasión Flamenca,” wine, cheese, guitar music by Jorge

OUT & ABOUT

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López Ramos, Saturday, October 28, 8:30 p.m., at La Escala (Gigante Universidad shopping center). \$10 U.S. Reservations: 011-52-664-607-5163. (TIJUANA)

Sand Drag Races with many categories of dragsters taking part in 100-yard races on Sunday, October 29, 9 a.m.–7 p.m., at El Taste de los Potrillos (at km 4 on road to La Bufadora in Punta Banda 11 miles south of Ensenada). General admission: \$5. 011-52-646-173-5956. (ENSENADA)

Bullfighting on Sunday, October 29, 4 p.m., in Monumental Bullring by the Sea. 011-52-664-686-1510. (PLAYAS DE TIJUANA)

Romantic Songs from Chile promised, Wednesday, November 1, at 7 and 9:45 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Tickets to “Pimpinela” are

\$60 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Vilma Palma in Concert, Wednesday, November 1, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

Day of the Dead in Ensenada, participate in Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations during outing hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum, Thursday, November 2, 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Participants see diverse altar sites dedicated to family members and important Mexican figures, taste a Day of the Dead meal, shop in Ensenada. \$92 fee includes transportation, meals. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (ENSENADA)

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 artistic exhibits. Entrance fee is approximately \$2 (two-for-one entrance on Tuesdays).

Screening in the CECUT Omnimax: *Viaje a la Luna, Bugs, Lions, Fuerzas de la Naturaleza, Oasis Marino.*

The center is located at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. Showtimes and information: 011-52-664-687-9600 x50. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Autumn Color in San Diego County’s Mountains reaches its greatest intensity in late October and early November. The forested heights of Palomar Mountain are especially colorful right now. Black

oaks on Palomar’s rolling uplands will be exhibiting bright yellow and brown hues for the next few weeks. The Cuyamaca Reservoir area, although hard hit by the 2003 Cedar Fire, remains a worthwhile leaf-peeping destination. The shimmering leaves of the Lombardy poplar, an Italian import that has taken root at the south end of the lake, delight the eye with their golden radiance.

Ghost Tours led by “ghost hunter” Michael Brown around Old Town, Thursday–Sunday each week, 9–10:30 p.m. Stories “based on research and photos”; sites include Schillers Bookstore, Jolly Boy Saloon, Casa Machado, Whaley House, Seeley Stables, more. \$19. 619-297-3100 x20. (OLD TOWN STATE PARK)

Trail Repair Work in Paso Picacho at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park planned, Saturday, October 28, 8 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 619-669-1697. For those 16 and older with a parent. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Basic Birding program by Tom Troy, Saturday, October 28, 8:30 a.m., at Buena Vista lagoon landing. Emphasis on using binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, local resources. Free. Directions: 760-439-2473. (OCEANSIDE)

Find Gold — leaves and flowers, that is, during guided walk on Saturday, October 28, 8:30 a.m., in Kumeyaay Lake campground entry station (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

An Expert Birder from San Diego Audubon Society leads bird walk in Tecolote Canyon on Sat-

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Grand Opening Celebration!

October 27, 28 and 29th

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Sunday, October 29th – Town Center Dog Park

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Contest

- Kids, come out and make your favorite pet a food dish to commemorate the day!
- Registration and "Yappy Hour" 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.
- Entrance fee of \$10 (benefiting Chula Vista Animal Care Facility). Contest limited to first 200 to register.
- Hosted by MAGIC 92.5's Lenny B.
- Each participant will receive a treat packed doggie bag courtesy of Costco.
- Bobbing for Halloweenies.
- Fabulous prizes to the top dogs from GGP, REI, and Build-A-Bear Workshop,* including a REI Dog Camping Package.
- Best costume, most photogenic, pint sized pooch, cutest couple.
- Pet adoption fair from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.
- Kids come out and make your favorite pet a food dish to commemorate the day! 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm (while supplies last).



OTAY RANCH
TOWN CENTER

Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

urday, October 28, 9 a.m., at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

Clear Brush and help re-open San Diego Audubon Society's Silverwood Sanctuary during work party on Saturday, October 28, 9 a.m.–noon. Bring gloves, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, old clothes. Free. Required reservations: 619-682-7200. The sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

Visit Historic Oaks and Kumeyaay Grinding Rocks during guided walks on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, October 28, 29, and November 1, 9:30–11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Rediscover Escondido during walking tour led by Escondido Citizens Ecology Committee, Saturday, October 28, 11 a.m., starting at southeast corner of Broadway and Grand Avenue. Free. 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

Desert Skies Lecture Series commences when astronomer/photographer Dennis Mammana takes a look at our "Flying Blue Marble" on Saturday, October 28, 7:30 p.m., at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park visitors' center. If you'd like, bring binoculars, flashlight covered with red cellophane to preserve night vision. \$15 for those younger than

12. Reservations: 760-767-0446. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday morning, October 29, at 2 a.m. With the resumption of standard time, midday (the time when the sun reaches its maximum altitude in the south part of the sky) will again be close to 12 noon on our clocks, rather than 1 p.m., as before.

Fire Recovery, biologist/naturalist Carol Stanford leads moderate to strenuous walk in Daley Ranch to see gains plant communities have made since 2003 wildfires. Hike starts at 9 a.m. on Sunday, October 29, in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

Explore Boden Canyon Ecological Reserve during moderately strenuous guided hike hosted by San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy on Sunday, October 29, noon. Bring water, sun protection. Free. Directions, requested reservations: 858-755-6956. (ESCONDIDO)

Halloween Evening Sensory Walk planned by Will Bowen in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Sunday, October 29. Outing starts at 4 p.m. at west end staging area on south side of Sorrento Valley Boulevard (one-half mile east of intersection of Vista Sorrento Parkway). Free. 858-484-3219. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Halloween Evening (Tuesday, the 31st) will be bathed in the soft glow of a waxing gibbous moon some ten days old (ten days after new phase). That moon will ride high overhead in the southern sky during the typical trick-or-treat early-evening hours. The moon on

OUT & ABOUT

AN EVENING OF POETRY with Patricia Jabbeh Wesley, Thursday, November 2, Point Loma Nazarene University.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Halloween will cast only about half the illumination of a true full moon.

The Taurid Meteor Shower, featuring about 10–15 visible events per hour when seen under clear, dark skies, peaks this year around Thursday and Friday, November 2 and 3. This year's nearly full moon will interfere significantly with observations. The optimum period for viewing is approximately 10 p.m.–3 a.m. All Taurids seem to radiate from a fixed point in the direction of the constellation of Taurus, hence their name.

DANCE

"Garden Trilogy" presented by British choreographer Yolande Snaith and her newly formed dance company Imago Moves, Oc-

tober 26–29, in Molli and Arthur Wagner Dance Building (studio 3) at UCSD. Performances begin at 8 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, 2 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. \$18 general. Suggested reservations: 619-867-8749. (LA JOLLA)

"The Haunted Harem: A Wicked Dance Show" offered Friday, October 27, 7 p.m., and Sunday, October 29, 6 p.m., at Scottish Rite Center (1895 Camino del Rio South). General admission: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. 619-444-4197. No one under 16 admitted. (MISSION VALLEY)

Contradance to music by Old Twine String Band, calling by C. Page and Graham Hempel, Saturday, October 28, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

Latin and Ballroom Dancing on Saturday, October 28, 7:30 p.m., at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. Basic L.A. hustle dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$7; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

Sunday Swing Dance with Doctor Swing playing "best digital dance music from the '40s, '50s, and '60s," Sundays, 5–9 p.m., at Cask n' Cleaver (3757 South Mission Road). No cover. 760-728-2818. (FALLBROOK)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Ellen Riley, Chris Page, Karin Norlin are callers on October 29. \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Rueda de Casino, Cuban-style salsa dance class, Sunday, October 29, 6 p.m., at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). \$10. 760-436-7070. (ENCINITAS)

The Slovene Theater-Dance Company Betontanc presents *Wrestling Dostoevsky* for Sushi Takeout series in Wagner Dance Building at UCSD, Thursday–Saturday, November 2–4, 8 p.m. Group's work focuses on physicality of human body. \$20 general. 619-235-8466. (LA JOLLA)

Riverdance, celebrating Irish music, song, and dance, hits stage November 14–19 at San Diego Civic Theatre (at Third Avenue and B Street). Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, 7 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, with 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, 1 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$26–\$85, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

FILM

Cutting-Edge Climbing! Josh Lowell's *Dosage Volume IV* and Peter Mortimer's *First Ascent* screen for Reel Rock Film Tour, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. \$12. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Explore Italian Filmmaking during series offering "five of the best films from both the old and the new" continuing with Lina Wertmüller's *Seven Beauties* (1974) on Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., in building next to House of Italy (opposite the Spreckels Organ Pavilion). Free. 858-831-1717. (BALBOA PARK)

Creepy and Startling! See Roman Polanski's first English-language film, *Repulsion*, when it's shown for fall film series, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

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"I Soliti Ignoti" (1958) screens Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). \$2. 619-237-0601. (LITTLE ITALY)

Wait! I Was Going to Make Espresso! Enjoy Mel Brooks's classic *Young Frankenstein* — starring Gene Wilder, Madeleine Kahn, Teri Garr, Marty Feldman, Cloris Leachman, Peter Boyle — when it's shown for Cinema Under the Stars series, Thursday–Saturday, October 26–28, 8:30 p.m., at Tops (4040 Goldfinch Street). \$12. 619-295-4221. (HILLCREST)

The German Film *Go for Zucker* (2004) screens for International Film Series at MiraCosta College on Friday, October 27. See film at 1 p.m. in room 204 at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Film also screens at 7 p.m. in room 3601 on campus at One Barnard Drive. 760-795-6612. Free. In German with English subtitles. (CARDIFF, OCEANSIDE)

Not-So-Scary Family Films featured every Friday during October at Prescott Promenade (on East Main Street). Series concludes with *Casper* on October 27, 5 p.m. Bring a blanket, chair. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

"Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" on Saturday, October 28, 7 p.m., in El Monte County Park (15805 El Monte Road). Bring lawn chairs, blankets, refreshments for viewing of this 1948 classic. Admission is free, parking is \$2. 619-443-1474. (LAKESIDE)

Saps at Sea Tent, local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans meet to watch *The Live Ghost*, *The Laurel & Hardy Murder Case*, *Habeas Corpus*, Saturday, October 28, 7 p.m., at Trinity Presbyterian Church (3902 Kenwood Drive). \$6. 619-417-9032. (SPRING VALLEY)

Spike & Mike Return! Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation continues through November 25 in Sherwood Auditorium at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego. Program boasts two new Weird Al music videos by Seth Green and Bill Plympton, over 21 new short animated films including *Happy Tree Friends*, *Pirate Baby's Cabana* *Battle Street Fight 2006*, *How to*

OUT & ABOUT

MASTER OF SATIRE

David Sedaris, Friday, October 27, Copley Symphony Hall.

(SEE IN PERSON)



PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT BANKS

Cope with Death.

Screenings this week are on Saturday, October 28, 7 and 9:30 p.m. \$10. For those 18 and over. Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

"Nat Turner: A Troublesome Property," Charles Burnett's "innovative exploration of race and social memory" may be seen during Sunday Matinee on October 29, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

"Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom" — film filled with archival footage, photos, and excerpts from speeches, diaries, letters, and newspapers documenting Lincoln's life and "reasons for his final decision to sign the Emancipation Proclamation" screens for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Monday, October 30, 6:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

The 1925 Silent Horror Classic *Phantom of the Opera* starring Lon Chaney screens with live music by Teeny Tiny Pit Orchestra for Silent Films with mezzo-soprano Kristin Behrmann, Tuesday, October 31, 7 p.m., in Seuss Room of UCSD's Geisel Library. Audience helps with sound effects (think coconut shells). 858-534-8074. Admission is free, parking is not. (LA JOLLA)

"The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms" screens for family fun on Halloween, Tuesday, October 31,

7 p.m., on giant screen at San Diego Natural History Museum. \$8. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Roving Mars* and *Deep Sea*. "Fridays at the Fleet" features *Wolves* (6 p.m.) and *Island of the Sharks* (7 p.m.) on October 27. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

"The Italian Baroque of Guercino" is presented by theologian, art historian, classicist Otto Mower for "Art in the Afternoon" series lecture at Timken Museum of Art, Thursday, October 26. Getty Center assistant curator Julian Brooks offers look at "Guercino's Creative Process: From Paper to Paint" for series on Thursday, November 2. Talks in conjunction with "Guercino: Stylistic Evolution in Focus" exhibition begin at 12:30 p.m. Free. 619-239-5548 x15. (BALBOA PARK)

"An Exploration of the Caves of Unrivalled Height of Dunhuang" offered when Judy Chungwa speaks for Asian Arts Council on Thursday, October 26, 1 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$10 general. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

"Global Governance for Public Health: How Can This Work in the 21st Century?" Thomas Novotny, from UCSF School of Medicine, addresses question on

Thursday, October 26, 4 p.m., at Weaver Center, Institute of the Americas at UCSD (10111 North Torrey Pines Road). Novotny is professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, was assistant surgeon general in U.S., worked with World Bank. Free. 858-822-5297. (LA JOLLA)

"Winemaking 101: From Winery to Wine," two-part event begins with look at wine-making techniques and "how to taste them in your glass," Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m., at Wine Bank (363 Fifth Avenue, suite 100). \$40.

Part two is a trip to Belle Marie Winery for wine, tour, education, on Sunday, November 5, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. \$43 fee includes transportation. Pay \$75 for both sections. Registration: 619-955-8884. (GASLAMP QUARTER, ESCONDIDO)

Avocado Expert Julie Frink discusses variety selection and growing avocados in Southern California when California Rare Fruit Growers meet on Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m. Fruit tasting follows, "rare pomegranate" tree from India raffled. Group gathers in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Free. 619-846-3337. (ENCINITAS)

"Tasting Chocolate in a Cultural Context," chocolatier John Scharffenberger traces "importance of the cultural history of chocolate through its pre-Columbian origins" during lecture, booksigning on Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Mu-

seum. Expect to "taste and savor chocolate" — this guy knows what he's talking about! \$8. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

"The United States and the Middle East: A View from the Arab World" offered by Rami Khouri, executive editor of Beirut-based *Daily Star* newspaper, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., in room 201 of Arts and Letters Building at San Diego State University. Free. 619-594-7137. (SDSU)

Consider the "New Planet" Eris and "its possible astrological effects" when Astrological Society of North County meets on Thursday, October 26, 7:30 p.m., at 2091 East Valley Parkway suite D. General discussion follows. Donation: \$5. 760-644-5461. (ESCONDIDO)

Architecture, Urbanism, Landscape, the Body, sonic and acoustic space explored in installations by Teri Rueb. Artist discusses "Trace" during lecture on Friday, October 27, 9 a.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

"Matta/Matta-Clark" examined when Betti-Sue Hertz presents do-cent guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, October 27, 10 a.m. \$10. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Blue-Footed Boobies and 400-Pound Tortoises! World traveler and birder Roy Poucher presents program on Galapagos Islands for Audubon Society on Friday, October 27, 7 p.m. at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. 619-682-7200. (CLAIREMONT)

"Secrets of the Chaparral: A New Way to Look at Nature in Southern California" — get the scoop when naturalist Richard W. Halsey addresses Sierra Club on Friday, October 27, 7:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). 619-585-3773. Donations accepted. (HILLCREST)

California Oak Tress examined during slide-illustrated presentation by Rick Landavazo when Friends of Hellhole Canyon Open-Space Preserve gather on Saturday, October 28, 9 a.m., at Valley Center Community Hall (28246 Lilac Road). Free. 760-749-5320. (VALLEY CENTER)

"Genetics and Genealogy: Deep Ancestry" is subject when UCSD pathology professor Stephen Baird speaks for British Isles Genealogical Research Association on Saturday, October 28, 9 a.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). Free. 619-583-8352. (HILLCREST)

"Landscapes Minus Lawn?" Landscape designer Pamela Homfelt offers mini-workshop on Saturday, October 28, 9:30–11 a.m., at City of San Diego Ridgehaven Building (9601 Ridgehaven Court). Tour of demonstration garden, learn creative possibilities for eliminating lawns. Free. 619-741-1090. (KEARNY MESA)

Xeriscape Doesn't Mean Zeroscape! Landscape designer Jan Tubiolo presents "Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget." Saturday, October 28, 9:30 a.m., in Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). \$13. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Feather Destructive Behavior is subject for 1 p.m. seminar on Saturday, October 28, hosted by Parrot Education and Adoption Center, along with "Parrot Body Language" at 3 p.m. Understand "Avian Basic Care" on Sunday, October 29, 1 p.m., and "Lifestyles for Successful Parrot Caregivers" at 3 p.m.

Classes offered in room D-6 at Marina Village Conference Center (1936 Quivira Way). \$15 per day. Reservations: 619-287-8200. (PACIFIC BEACH)

"Introduction to Dream Interpretation," Keith Burke speaks for California Institute for Open Studies, Saturday, October 28, 1 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). Free. 619-299-2897. (HILLCREST)

"Mars from Above," scientist Ken Edgett of Malin Space Science Systems presents detailed images of red planet for MarsFest, Saturday, October 28, 1 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Beautify Your Yard and Garden after home composting workshop, Saturday, October 28, 1:30–

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

3:30 p.m., at Solana Center for Environmental Innovation (137 North El Camino Real). Learn to recycle food and yard waste into valuable soil amendments. Free. Required reservations: 760-436-7986 x216. (LA COSTA)

Civil War Images presented by David Tooley, president of the San Diego Civil War Round Table, Saturday, October 28, 3 p.m., in third-floor auditorium at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Program is in conjunction with “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation,” on view through November 24. Free. 619-236-5821. (DOWNTOWN)

“Discovery, Continuity, and Innovation in the History of Indian Painting” is topic when Professor Pramod Chandra presents second annual Distinguished Lecture in Indian Art on Sunday, October 29, 3:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. How did “norms set in classical Indian paintings of the 5th Century continue to be relevant in manuscript paintings... during 16th through 18th Centuries?” Free. Space availability, reservations: 619-696-1969. (BALBOA PARK)

“Hopes for Israel’s Future” examined by Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman of Jerusalem on Sunday, October 29, 5 p.m., at Temple Emanuel (6299 Capri Drive). Donation: \$18. 619-286-2555. (DEL CERRO)

Significance of Altars and Ceremonies of Dia de los Muertos celebrations in Oaxaca, Mexico, illuminated when historian Tom Pirazzini speaks for 12 O’Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man on Monday, October 30. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

“How to Develop Our Sixth Sense” offered by Walter Hotschi on Tuesday, October 31, 6 p.m., at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 107). Improve your intuition for free. 760-505-0004. (CARLSBAD)

ROAM-ORAMA

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

For better or worse, eucalyptus trees from Australia have become a major component of San Diego’s contemporary “urban forest.” More than a century ago, in locales such as the UCSD campus, Rancho Santa Fe, Scripps Ranch, and coastal North County, tall varieties of eucalyptus were planted in a misguided effort to produce wood for railroad ties. These trees largely escaped the ax after it was discovered that eucalyptus wood cracks and splits too easily for use as lumber. Eucalyptus trees young and old still drape some hillsides just east of Interstate 5, and above Buena Vista Lagoon in Carlsbad, at a place called Hosp Grove.



Hosp Grove

The city of Carlsbad maintains a small nature park and trail system within Hosp Grove. Sunny days in fall and early winter are perfect for enjoying this little patch of serenity in an otherwise busy corner of North County. To get there, exit Interstate 5 at Las Flores Drive in Carlsbad. Go west on

Las Flores a short distance, then turn right on Jefferson Street. Proceed 0.6 mile to Hosp Grove Park on the right, opposite Buena Vista Lagoon.

The Hosp Grove Trail rises on the slope behind the park. If you turn right, heading west toward a dead-end, you’ll quickly get an eagle-eye view of Buena Vista Lagoon, which is especially effective because you peer over the tall obscuring vegetation on the shoreline. Bring along binoculars — or better yet a spotting telescope — to scope out the bird life below.

The main Hosp Grove Trail goes left, contouring southeast, quite high along a steep slope, right through the eucalyptus forest. Not much grows here other than eucalyptus, since the leaf litter from these trees poisons nearly every other type of plant. Eucalyptus branches, though, are attractive to monarch butterflies, which arrive at Hosp Grove and about two dozen other sites around San Diego County around November to spend the winter season in relative warmth.

The butterflies migrate from their summer homes in the Sierra Nevada and the Rocky Mountains, navigating to

left, and returns to Hosp Grove Park alongside city streets: first Monroe Street, then Marron Road. Just east of here, across

HOSP GROVE

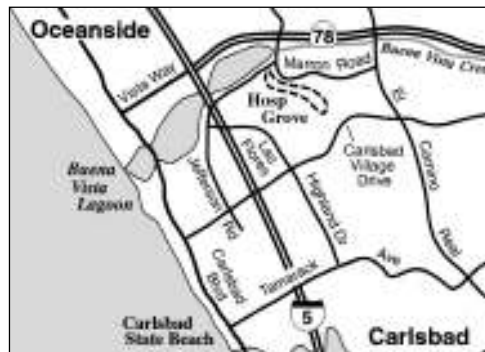
Hosp Grove in Carlsbad features easy hiking and a chance to spot migrating monarch butterflies.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 38 miles
Hiking length: 1 mile
Difficulty: Easy

coastal California and Mexico by unknown means.

After less than half a mile, the main Hosp Grove Trail descends, turns sharply

Monroe Street, additional trails meander amid the eucalyptus trees overlooking the Westfield Plaza Camino Real shopping center.



Reminiscences on “Life as an Atheist in a Foxhole” offered by Philip Paulson for Atheist Coalition, Tuesday, October 31, 7 p.m., at North Park Recreation Center (4044 Idaho Street). Free. 619-342-7388. (NORTH PARK)

“Estamos Buscando A — We’re Looking For,” photographic installation chronicling migrant experience along U.S.-Mexico border by Paul Turounet commences with artist lecture, reception on Wednesday, November 1, in University of San Diego Fine Art Galleries of Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice

(5998 Alcalá Park). 619-260-4261. (LINDA VISTA)

Grey Matters Lecture Series continues when Larry Squire of UCSD’s School of Medicine discusses “Conscious and Unconscious Memory Systems of the Mammalian Brain” on Wednesday, November 1, 6 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Free. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Tour the Night Sky during “The Sky Tonight” planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, November 1. View real sky through telescopes

(weather permitting) after show. \$8.50 general. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Disease, Aging, Housing, and Abuse — Sharon Cordice discusses trends affecting San Diego when Daughters of the American Revolution meet on Thursday, November 2, 10:30 a.m., at Admiral Baker Golf Club (2400 Admiral Baker Road). \$15 includes lunch. Reservations: 858-279-2677. (GRANTVILLE)

“Personal Views: Regarding Private Collections in San Diego” — tour exhibit with docent manager Cornelia Feye during Insight Gallery talk on Thursday, Novem-

ber 2, 6 p.m. and with executive director Derrick Cartwright on Sunday, November 5, 3 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

National Hospice Month commemorated by Elizabeth Hospice with discussion on practices of end-of-life care by Dr. Ira Byock on Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Byock’s newest book is *The Four Things That Matter the Most*. \$20. Tickets: 800-988-4253. Information: 760-737-2050. (ESCONDIDO)

In Celebration of Dia de los Muertos, Begonya Perez presents Insight Gallery tour of “Paper Traces: Latin American Prints and Drawings from the Collection at SDMA” on Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. In Spanish. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

El Cajon Novelist Keith A. Jones discusses his debut mystery, *Mayan Equinox*, when Sisters in Crime meet at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street) on Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m. \$3. 760-735-9313. (HILLCREST)

“The Magic Realism of Jan van Eyck” explored by Linda Blair in series hosted by Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Blair will touch upon two secondary themes: history of portraiture from Medieval period to Rembrandt, and David Hockney’s thesis that artists like van Eyck “cheated” by using optical devices. Lectures presented Thursdays, November 2, 9, and 16. Fee: \$45 for series, or \$17 per talk. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

“Taking Back Our Country from the Religious Right: The Politics and Theology of Spiritual Progressives” presented by Rabbi Michael Lerner of *Tikkun* magazine, Thursday, November 9, 8 p.m., in Price Center Ballroom at UCSD. Lerner will discuss “timeless theological and social issues that remain highly relevant in contemporary America.” Free. 858-453-4618. (LA JOLLA)

IN PERSON

Work and Poverty, theme explored in American folksongs, highlighting work by Woody Guthrie, by Joel Rafael for Concert Hour series, Thursday, October 26, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Fantasy Author R.A. Salvatore signs, discusses new Sell Sword novel *Road of the Patriarch*, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-268-4747). Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Literary Reading by poet and fiction writer Linh Dinh, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., in room 113 of Clarke Field House at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Dinh is author of *Blood and Soap*, among other books. Free. 760-750-8077. (SAN MARCOS)

“On the Razzle,” Tom Stoppard’s adaptation of a Thornton Wilder story presented in Roundabout Theatre at San Diegoito Academy (room 95, 800 Santa Fe Drive), October 26–November 4. Mistaken identities, romantic escapades, dazzling wordplay. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday. Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, children. 760-753-1121 x 5156. (ENCINITAS)

“My Strange Nation” — the wonderful Susan Werner performs for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Thursday, October 26 (\$20). April Verch’s “fiddle-based band” takes stage on Sunday, October 29 (\$20). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Wedding Guide

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Bridal Attire	5102
Bridal Shows	5120
Caterers	5104
Ceremony Sites	5106
Clergy	5112
Consultants	5118
Dance Lessons	5117
Decorations	5113
Disc Jockeys	5110
Florists	5101
Formal Wear	5103
Gift Registries	5116
Health & Beauty	5119
Honeymoon	5115
Invitations	5114
Jewelers	5100
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A 38" Earth Gong is played by self-described "sound pioneer" Richard Rudis on Friday, October 27, 7 p.m., at Well Within (555 2nd Street). Bring mat to lie on for "transformative sound healing with the many tones, harmonics, and voices of a planetary Earth gong." \$20. 760-944-3441. (ENCINITAS)

Gift Day 2006 is Friday, October 27, at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street). Monetary gifts — no gift too small or too large! — accepted for library starting at 9:30 a.m. Proceeds and donations matched "dollar for dollar by City of San Diego."

Benefit concert by Code Blue begins at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. Reservations: 619-527-3405. (SOUTH SAN DIEGO)

Ocean Beach Comedy — Steven Kendrick, Travis Taylor, Andrew Deans, Bob Hansen, Erik Knowles, Jessica Cook, Joey Klecker perform Friday, October 27, 7 p.m., at Winstons Beach Club (1921 Bacon Street). Free. 619-222-6822. (OCEAN BEACH)

"The Stalwart Survivor, or the Man Who Sank the Cuyamaca Float," time for the Julian Triangle Club's annual old-time melodrama and olio, presented through October 29 at Julian Town Hall (2129 Main Street). Play was first performed 49 years ago for Julian's second melodrama. Story is loosely based on history of Julian and of course includes a villain to boo, hero to cheer. Live entertainment between acts, community sing-alongs preceding play.

Performances begin at 7:15 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 1:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. \$8 for adults, \$2 for children under 12. 760-765-3177. (JULIAN)

"Cantate," Point Loma Singers and Vocal Jazz Ensemble present classical, jazz, Broadway music in concert, Friday, October 27, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Free. 619-849-2325. (POINT LOMA)

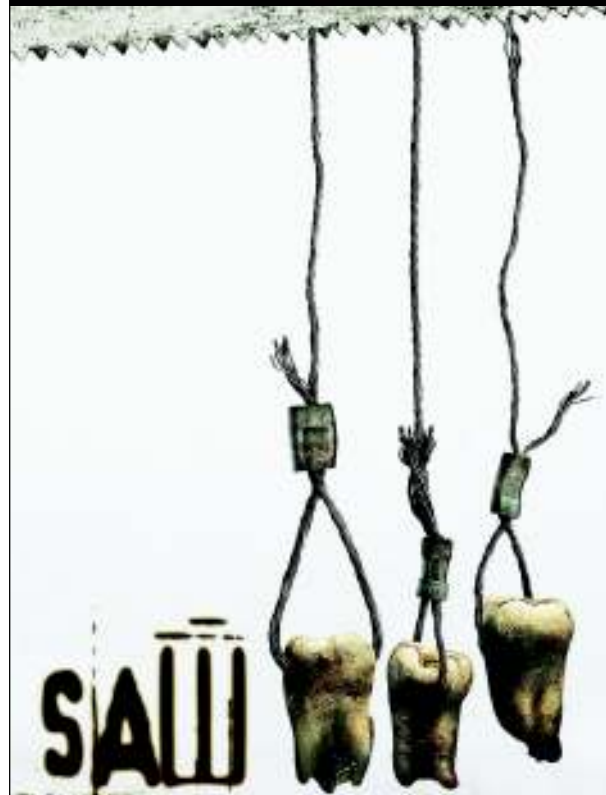
"Bad Dad" performed by headliner Mark Whitney, Friday and Saturday, October 27 and 28, 8 p.m., at Comedy Co-Op Warehouse Theatre (11211 Sorrento Valley Road, suite M). Tickets: \$10 general, \$5 students. Open-mike nights with 10–20 local comics, Thursdays, 7 p.m. (free). All shows for those over 18. 888-567-4464. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Best-Selling Author (and Rock 'n' Roller) Amy Tan discusses her work and signs *Saving Fish from Drowning* for KPBS on Friday, October 27, 8 p.m., in Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Tan is also author of *Joy Luck Club*. \$50 general. 619-594-3830. (LA JOLLA)

Downtown with David Sedaris, the master of satire returns for UCSD's ArtPower series on Friday, October 27. Among his bestsellers are *Barrel Fever*, *Holidays on Ice*, *Naked*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*. Performance starts at 8 p.m. at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$28, \$34, \$40, available at 858-534-TIXS. (DOWNTOWN)

Author Linda Pynaker leads "fun exercise so you may communicate with one of your spirit guides or angels," Saturday, October 28, 1 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (5500 Grossmont Center

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Drive). Booksigning follows. 619-667-2970. (LA MESA)

Annual Concert of Philippine Dances and Music presented by Samahan Filipino-American Performing Arts and Education Center on October 28 and 29 at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6845 University Avenue). Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$15 general, \$12 for students, seniors. 619-444-7528. (ROLANDO)

"Circle of Harmony," third annual Native American benefit concert is Saturday, October 28, 7 p.m., at Poway Center for Performing Arts (15498 Espola Road). Performers include Stan Rodriguez and the San Pasqual Bird Singers, flutist Mac Lopez, Tracy Lee Nelson, Marston Smith, many others. Tickets: \$25–\$100. 858-748-0505. (POWAY)

The Bluegrass Band High Hills performs for San Diego Folk Heritage on Saturday, October 28, 7 p.m., in Templar's Hall in Old Poway Park (14134 Midland Road). \$15. 858-566-4040. (POWAY)

The Psalmist Hour showcases poetry and live music by Jessica Vasquez, Brandy Williams, Ruse-lan, LeTendre Moore on Saturday, October 28, 7 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Tickets at door: \$10. 866-815-6550. (NORTH PARK)

Strange and Haunting Tales Promised! Storytellers of San Diego convene for spirited stories, Saturday, October 28, 7:30 p.m., in Manchester Conference Center, University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Suitable for adults, children over 12. \$10. 619-298-6363. (LINDA VISTA)

Best Trumpet Player in the World? You make the call when Wynton Marsalis visits California Center for the Arts, Escondido in concert on Saturday, October 28, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$50–\$65. Find center at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO)

The Heretic's Halloween Ball presents "Radio Free Heresy with Commander Ray, the Sweet Jee-Beezus," more — satire, music, performance art, improv, Saturday, October 28, 8 p.m., at Rebecca's Coffeehouse (3015 Juniper Street). Donation. 619-691-9661. (SOUTH PARK)

Shaolin Kung Fu Spectacular! San Diego State University's Montezuma Hall hosts the 25 Shaolin warriors demonstrating various styles of kung fu, acrobatics, and weapons fighting on Sunday, October 29, at 1 and 7 p.m. Tickets: \$15, \$25, \$40. 760-481-4374. (SDSU)

"P.I.E. Improvisational," pianist Peter Gach "expands sonic horizons" with PalomarInterPerformance Ensemble, Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m., in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Guests: Madelyn Byrne, William Bradbury, Billy Hawkins, Michael Mufson. \$12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Authors John Billheimer (*Stonewall Jackson's Elbow*), Mark Coggins (*Candy from Strangers*), and John Gobbell (*A Call to Colors*) visit Mysterious Galaxy Books to sign and discuss their books on Sunday, October 29, 3 p.m. Find galaxy at 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-268-4747. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Sunset Poets gather for reading by featured poets Sandy Carpenter and Clifton King, Sunday, October 29, 3 p.m., at Flying Bridge Restaurant (1105 North Coast Highway). Open-mike readings follow. Free. 760-758-2410. (OCEANSIDE)

Fall 2006 Student Concert presented by Encinitas School of Music on Sunday, October 29, 6 p.m., at Star Theatre (402 North Coast Highway). Beginning and advanced students present 12 instrumental and vocal acts. \$10 general, \$5 for those 8–12, free for kids 7 and younger. 760-943-9480. (OCEANSIDE)

Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández plans Winter Pops concert on Sunday, October 29, 7:30 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Tickets: \$20–\$65. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

"Boy Gets Girl" by Rebecca Gilman is next production for staged reading by Carlsbad Playreaders, Monday, October 30, 7:30 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). \$5. 760-494-4699. (LA COSTA)

Fifth Monday Feature, artist Catherine Fritz reads from her works, October 30, 8 p.m., at Twiggs Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Poetry Unlimited showcases poet Beverly J. Hudson, along with

OUT & ABOUT

PERSONAL VIEWS

Regarding Private Collections in San Diego, through January 7, San Diego Museum of Art.

(SEE ART MUSEUMS)



WOMEN OF TEHUANTEPEC, RUFINO TAMAYO, 1939

harpist Mariea Antoinette, Wednesday, November 1, 5 p.m., at Florence Riford Library (7555 Draper Avenue). Open readings follow. Free. 858-552-1657. (LA JOLLA)

Jazz in the Park, the Banda Brothers perform for series, Wednesday, November 1, 5:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$20. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Mystery Author Donna Andrews signs, discusses *No Nest for the Wicket*, Wednesday, November 1, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

"Son of a Bush" presented by Washington D.C. comedy troupe Gross National Product, November 1–12, at Theatre in Old Town (4040 Twiggs Street). Shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. \$30. 619-688-2494. (OLD TOWN)

Liza Minnelli in Concert, Wednesday and Thursday, November 1 and 2, 8 p.m., at Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort (777 Harrah's Rincon Way). Tickets start at \$40. 800-427-7247. (VALLEY CENTER)

Twelfth Annual San Diego Jewish Book Fair runs November 2–8 and November 20 at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Events get underway when Joseph Kanon, author of *Los Alamos*, speaks about his works including *Alibi: A Novel* and *The Good German*, Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p.m. \$16.50.

Participants include Senator Barbara Boxer, Harold S. Kushner, Alan Dershowitz, 30 more writers. Family day is Sunday, November 5. For complete schedule, in-

cluding times and prices, call 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Artist and Author Hailey Lind discusses *Shooting Gallery*, Thursday, October 2, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-268-4747). Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Hip-Hop Mogul Jerry Heller signs *Ruthless: A Memoir*, Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). Free. 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)

Bayou Brothers play their brand of Cajun dance music for First Thursday Concert in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street) on November 2, at 7 p.m. Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

"Starting Here, Starting Now," this "impeccably crafted story driven by songs" is current production for tyros at Coronado School of the Arts. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on November 2, 3, 4, 8, and 11 in Black Box Theatre on campus, 650 D Street. \$12 general. 619-522-8969. (CORONADO)

"An Evening of Poetry with Patricia Jabbeh Wesley," this native of Monrovia, Liberia, immigrated to the U.S. in 1991, has published two poetry collections, and now teaches at Penn State University. Wesley reads from her work, Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p.m., in Brown Chapel at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Free. 619-849-2297. (POINT LOMA)

"Home Ground: Language for an American Landscape" signed by author Barry Lopez, Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

"The First 80 Years Are the Hardest," according to Broadway legend Carol Channing, who presents her one-woman show on Sunday, November 12, 2 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Concert is benefit for Center ARTES and San Diego County arts education. Tickets: \$20–\$55, available by calling 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS

Greater San Diego Hunter Jumper Horse Show continues through October 29 at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Show opens at 8 a.m. each day, closes at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. on Sunday. Free admission. 760-533-5278. (DEL MAR)

SAW Pro Wrestling, Friday, October 27, 7 p.m., at Perkins Elementary School (1770 Main Street). Watch for Colorado Kid, SoCal Crazy Jebediah Hicks, Petty Officer David E. Jones, others. \$7. 760-271-9579. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk 2006 starts at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 28, at Park Boulevard and Presidents Way. Registration at 6:30 a.m. Donation. 858-492-4400 x139. (BALBOA PARK)

America's Walk for Diabetes, Sunday, October 29, 9 a.m., at Cannon Park (at Carlsbad Boulevard and Cannon Boulevard). Registration starts at 8 a.m. Donation. 619-234-9897 x7433. (CARLSBAD)

Day of the Dead Ride, put on a costume (prizes awarded for most original, scariest) and join Knickerbikers bicyclists for ride, Sunday, October 29. Easy 25-mile adven-

ture starts at 10 a.m. at Harbor Drive and Hawthorne Street, includes old cemeteries, altar tour in Sherman Heights. Bring money for lunch. 619-262-3969. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Chargers host St. Louis Rams on Sunday, October 29, 1:05 p.m., in Qualcomm Stadium. Game broadcast on Fox; listen on radio station KIOZ, Rock 105.3. Tickets start at \$54, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (MISSION VALLEY)

SPECIAL

"Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation" continues through Friday, November 24, at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Exhibition includes reproductions of rare historical documents, period photographs, and illustrative materials such as engravings, lithographs, cartoons, and political ephemera focusing on Lincoln's America, many aspects of Civil War. Free. 619-236-5821. (DOWNTOWN)

"Amor Eterno" is theme for Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations commemorating "the dearly departed" hosted by SoLo (309 South Cedros Avenue). *Ofrenda* (altar) on view through Wednesday, November 1, features a skeleton wedding installed by Ruby Lang. Free. 858-794-9016. (SOLANA BEACH)

Time to Scream? Del Mar "Scaregrounds" host annual Scream Zone through Tuesday, October 31. This year: haunted hayride, house of horror, chamber of chills. Ticket prices, hours: 858-755-1161.

The Haunted Hotel at 424 Market Street serves up screams through Tuesday, October 31. \$13.99. Hours: 619-696-7227.

The Haunted Trail, an "all-outdoor haunted attraction," is open 7–11 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday; 7 p.m.–midnight Friday and Saturday through October. Find trail at Marston Point (just east of Sixth Avenue and Juniper Street). \$13.99. Not for those under 10. 619-696-7227. (DEL MAR, GASLAMP QUARTER, BALBOA PARK)

"Artists and Pathologies — How Would Beethoven Compose on Prozac, and How Would Van Gogh Paint on Lithium?" Ponder the question and discuss, Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

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OUT & ABOUT

LIZA MINNELLI

in concert Wednesday and Thursday, November 1 and 2, at Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Sculpture Garden (2955 Elmwood Street). Exhibit inspired by a piece by Italo Scanga features work by seven area sculptors. Viewing hours: 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Mondays–Fridays. 760-434-2904. Free. (CARLSBAD)

Eighth Annual Julian Open Studios Tours offered Friday–Sunday, October 27–29, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Self-guided tour of 12 private studios, showing work by 17 artists. Studios are located within seven-mile radius of Julian. Free. Locations: 760-765-2569. (JULIAN)

Harvest Festival returns to Del Mar Fairgrounds with more than 300 exhibitors offering art and

craft items, October 27–29. Entertainment, food, demonstrations. Show opens at 10 a.m. each day, closes at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets good for entire weekend: \$8 general, \$7 seniors, \$4 for those 13–17, free for kids 12 and younger. 415-447-3205. (DEL MAR)

One of the “Most Actively Haunted Mansions” in the world is said to be the Whaley House, located at 2476 San Diego Avenue. Celebrate Halloween with tours of the house — lit by oil lamps for an extra-erie atmosphere — October 27–30. Tours begin at 5 p.m., conclude at mid-

night on Friday and Saturday, 10 p.m. on Sunday and Monday. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 kids 3–12, free for kids under 2. Reservations: 619-297-7511. (OLD TOWN)

Halloween Doggie Café and Costume Contest hosted by San Diego Humane Society, Friday, October 27, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Bring friendly, on-leash dogs to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. Arrive in costume — prizes for scariest, cutest, and most original dog costumes. Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. (LINDA VISTA)

Conversations Across the Veil, mediums of Rainy's Mystic Books “invite you, your spirit guides, and loved ones who have crossed over” to take part in events on October 27 and 28. Messages from spirits, physical spirit phenomena, more. Events begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, 6 p.m. on Saturday. \$30. Find Rainy's at 801 Grand Avenue #3. Registration: 760-744-9818. (SAN MARCOS)

“Celebrating 30 Years in Vista” is theme for fall harvest fair, antique engine, and tractor show at Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, Saturday and Sunday, October 28 and 29. Harvest fair includes blacksmith and wheelwright demonstrations, vintage skills, food, music, displays of antique cars and steam engines.

Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. Hours: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Admission: \$8

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

general, \$7 seniors, \$5 for those 6-12, kids under 6 free. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Lake Hodges Artists' Show and Sale, Saturday and Sunday, October 28 and 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Appleby International Arts (9814 Carson Place, at Cortez and DeSoto, Del Dios). Local artists display all manner of recent work. Free. 760-740-9700. (ESCONDIDO)

Queen Elizabeth I and Her Royal Court — accompanied by entertainers, food vendors, merchants, and Renaissance re-enactors — converge upon Felicita Park for seventh annual "Renaissance Faire and Shakespeare in the Park," Saturdays and Sundays, October 28 and 29, November 4 and 5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Enjoy period music, battle pageants, Shakespearean theater, continuous entertainment, vendors, children's activities. Tickets: \$14 general, \$12 seniors, \$7 for those under 12, free for kids under 4. Find park at 742 Clarence Lane. 805-496-6036. (ESCONDIDO)

Second Annual Art Festival and Sale hosted by Southwestern Artists' Association is Saturday and Sunday, October 28 and 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., in Gallery 23 at Spanish Village (1770 Village Place). Art in variety of media; live musical entertainment. Free admission. 619-232-3522. (BALBOA PARK)

Vista Gem and Mineral Society Show runs October 28-29 in Breeze Terrace Recreation Center (1200

OUT & ABOUT

MY STRANGE NATION

Susan Werner for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, October 26.

(SEE IN PERSON)



PHOTOGRAPH BY HAYLEY MURPHY

Vale Terrace Drive). Displays dealers, demonstrations, gem identification. Show opens at 10 a.m., closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. Free. 760-758-4599. (VISTA)

"Autumn Fantasy," 25th anniversary ikebana exhibition and bazaar hosted by Ichiyo School, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, October 28 and 29, in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Demonstrations at 1 and 2 p.m. Free admission. 619-239-0512. (619) 239-0512. (BALBOA PARK)

"Paths to Middle East Peace" explored by author Barbara Taft when Women's International League for Peace and Freedom meets on Saturday, October 28, 11 a.m., in community room at La Jolla Village Square (8657 Villa La

Jolla Drive). Free. 619-574-7674 or 858-259-5690. (LA JOLLA)

Halloween Around the World, spirited party in main plaza of Old Town State Historic Park, Saturday, October 28, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. includes entertainment, games, crafts, contests, fortune telling, ghost stories. *Samhain*, Halloween, Día de los Muertos parade; Celtic dancing, more. Free admission. 619-220-5422. Find fun at 4002 Wallace Street. (OLD TOWN STATE PARK)

Knitting Circle — hook up with other knitters to "share ideas, make new friends, help each other," Saturdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (616 Stevens Avenue, suite B). Free. 858-509-9276. (SOLANA BEACH)

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Reading

Pride of Baghdad



By Brian K. Vaughan; art by Niko Henrichon
Vertigo, 2006, \$19.99, 136 pages

WHAT THE PUBLISHER SAYS:

From one of America's most acclaimed comics writers — a startlingly original look at life on the streets of Baghdad during the Iraq War inspired by true events.

In his award-winning work on *Y: The Last Man* and *Ex Machina* (one of *Entertainment Weekly's* 2005 ten best fiction titles), writer Brian K.

Vaughan has displayed an understanding of both the cost of survival and the political nuances of the modern world. Now, in this provocative graphic novel, Vaughan examines life on the streets of war-torn Iraq. The experience is made all the more evocative by the lush, spectacular artwork of Niko Henrichon.

In the spring of 2003, a pride of lions escaped from the Baghdad Zoo during an American bombing raid. Lost and confused, hungry but free, the four lions roamed the decimated streets of Baghdad in a desperate struggle for their lives. In documenting the plight of the lions, *Pride of Baghdad* raises questions about the true meaning of liberation — can

it be given, or is it earned only through self-determination and sacrifice? And in the end, is it truly better to die free than to live life in captivity?

Based on a true story, Vaughan and Henrichon have created a unique and heartbreaking window into the nature of life during wartime, illuminating this struggle as only the graphic novel can.

WHAT THE REVIEWERS SAY:

The Daily Yomiuri (Tokyo): "...ultimately, *Pride of Baghdad* is not a story meant to provide answers, but to stir thoughts. And in successfully doing that, it shows just how powerful the graphic novel format can be."

The York Dispatch (Pennsylvania): "Sure, the lions talk with one another and other animals, but there aren't any 'Hakuna

Matata' moments in *Pride of Baghdad*. Instead, this is a story about illusions and bitter truths. It's a battle of raw nature against human violence and insensitivity. In that sense, *Pride of Baghdad* seems to channel works such as *Watership Down* and *The Plague Dogs*."

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

Brian K. Vaughan took a half hour on a Saturday afternoon recently to speak with me from his home in West Hollywood about his latest graphic novel. I asked if he was a native Californian. "I'm originally from Cleveland, Ohio. Then I lived in New York for about ten years. I was an NYU Film School nerd. My wife went to grad school at UCSD, so we lived in San Diego up until just a couple of months ago. We had planned to move

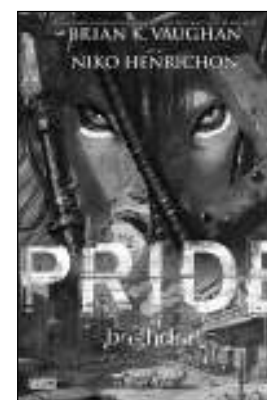
back to New York, but Hollywood stuff sort of popped up, so we sold out and are now doing our time in Los Angeles."

"What was your experience, as a kid, with comics?"

"It started, I imagine, like most kids, with my parents bringing me home a couple of issues of *Spider-Man* when I was home sick one day. I think at first I didn't really understand them. I thought they were an activity book, where the panels were meant to be cut out and put in a certain order. I still have photos of me as a kid cutting out valuable early issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* and pasting them next to panels from *Bat-tester Galactica* comics."

"Does that hurt to see?"

"A little bit, I guess. But it's also fun to see the formative years of a comic-book creator. I guess



from the beginning I was trying to make my own."

"When did you first encounter a graphic novel?"

"Everyone's definition of a graphic novel is different, but if you count the collection of indi-

(continued on page 88)

"I found out as much about lions as possible — about their behavior — to try and accurately reflect what their personality might be like if they could communicate in a human fashion."

Help Build a Log Home when Pam and Mark Churness host log-raising for their new home, Saturday, October 28, 1–4 p.m., at 1068 West Incline Cedar Road. Free. 760-765-1117. (JULIAN)

"Inner Space/Outer Space" — San Diego State University's College of Sciences annual exploratorium and open house on Saturday, October 28, 4–8 p.m. Scientists and students display and demonstrate powerful microscopes, telescopes, computers, other lab equipment; planetarium show. Free. 619-594-4523. ASL and Spanish interpreters present. (SDSU)

Partner Hatha Yoga class offered by Sylvia Castelluzzo on beach just north of Scripps Pier on Saturday, October 28, 4 p.m. \$20 per couple. 858-380-7507. (LA JOLLA)

Bass Monster Bash, Saturday, October 28, 6 p.m.–midnight, on Island Street (between Sixth and Eighth Avenues) and Seventh Avenue (between J and Market Streets). Costume contests, entertainment, food and beverages, live music. \$20. Guests must be 21. 619-233-5008. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Third Annual African Days of the Drum hosted by WorldBeat Center (2100 Park Boulevard) on Saturday, October 28, 7:30 p.m. Francis Awe teaches Obatala healing workshop. \$10. 619-230-1190. (BALBOA PARK)

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Street Festival, Sunday, October 29, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Pier View Way and Coast Highway. *Ofrendas* (altars), food, music, dancing, arts and crafts. Free. 760-967-2005. (OCEANSIDE)

Hallo-Wiener Dachshund Picnic — 18th annual gathering on Sunday, October 29, noon–3 p.m., at Park Boulevard and Presidents Way. Bring dachshunds on short leash (costumes encouraged), picnic, lawn chairs, snacks and water for canines. No fees, no competition. 858-755-9270. (BALBOA PARK)

House of Scotland presents lawn program with dancing and costumes at International Cottages on Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m. Admission is free; food for sale. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Stamp Club meets on first Wednesday of each month, including November 1, 10 a.m., at Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). Mounting and protecting collections, soaking stamps and topicals, history, appraisals, more. Free. 760-943-2250. (ENCINITAS)

"Muerte de todos ofrenda de participación (Death Comes to Everyone: A Participatory Offer-

ing)" — Eloy Tarcisio's 11th annual site-specific installation at California Center for the Arts, Escondido opens with artist talk by Tarcisio and community reception on Wednesday, November 1, 6–8 p.m. Participate in installation by bringing objects in memory of loved ones such as photographs, mementos, flowers. Hands-on activities offered in Studio 2. Free. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. Installation continues through November. (ESCONDIDO)

A "Walk-About Tour" of El Cajon's "restored downtown gallery, theater, and restaurant neighborhood" hosted by Lemon Grove

Historical Society on Thursday, November 2, 1:30 p.m. Carpools begin in Parsonage Museum parking lot (3185 Olive) at 1 p.m.; walking tour starts at Sophie's Gallery, 109 Rea Avenue. 619-460-4353. (EL CAJON)

"Immigration Today — Are the WASP's Days Numbered?" Dis-

cuss topic on Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

"The History and Mystery of the Salton Sea" explored during symposium hosted by Anza-Borrego Institute, Friday–Sunday, November 10–12. Symposium

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Reading

(continued from page 87)

vidual comics, that was probably when I was 12. We were on a family road trip, and I bought *Watchman* at a comic-book store and read it in one sitting in the back of the family van on the ride home to Ohio. That was the first time that I recognized there was a creative hand behind these characters. I was immediately obsessed and knew I wanted to write comic books for a living."

"What's it like to get to do, as an adult, what you dreamt of doing as a child?"

"It is pretty surreal. There's nothing quite like that moment when your first check with *Spider-Man* on it arrives. I think that will always be the benchmark for me. There are still times when I walk into a comic-book store and, when I see my name, I sometimes wonder if I'm in a coma and this is sort of a *Matrix* world that my brain has created to keep myself going. It's hard to believe."

"*Pride of Baghdad* is based on real events. When did you first hear about the escaped lions?"



"In 2003, I had two different ideas for two subjects I wanted to do comic books about. I wanted to do an anthropomorphized animal comic. It sounds strange, but comic books have a pretty great

tradition of doing talking-animal books — whether it's Scrooge McDuff or *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, all the way up to *Maus*. It's something comics have always done particularly well, and I thought

it would be a good genre in which to push myself to do something unlike anything I'd done before.

"On the other hand, I also wanted to do a book about the then-impending Iraq war and my con-

"We didn't want something that would be too Disney or too much of a caricature. We wanted to be more grounded in the real world."

flicted feelings about it.

"I'd never thought of combining the two, but then there was a brief news story from an overseas news outlet talking about a pride of four lions who had escaped a Baghdad zoo after it had been shelled open. They were released into the wild streets of Baghdad during the initial invasion of 2003. As soon as I read about it, the two ideas melded in my mind and *Pride of Baghdad* was born."

"What further research did you have to do?"

"I'm a research junkie, so I took a two-pronged attack. One, I found out as much about lions

as possible — about their behavior — to try and accurately reflect what their personality might be like if they could communicate in a human fashion. More importantly, I tried to learn as much about Iraq as possible. Not just what Baghdad is like currently, but the history of the region. I wanted to talk about that area throughout history through the eyes of different characters.

"I spoke with a rescue veterinarian named Mariette Hopley, who I thank in the back of the book. She rushed to Baghdad immediately after the invasion to do what she could with the ani-

surveys cultural and geographical story of the sea, its natural resources, and complex changes. Program boasts field programs, lectures on wide variety of topics in Indio, field tours, more. Fees, details: 760-767-4063. (ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK)

FOR KIDS

Meet *The Polka Dot Ghost* when Big Joe Productions takes stage at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater through Sunday, October 29. Old-Fashioned Kite Flying Puppeteers present *Pacific Tales* November 1-5.

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

Halloween Tots and Tales interactive story time for preschoolers, Thursday, October 26, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$2. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

The Musical *Oliver!* is presented by J*Company through October 29 at David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126

Executive Drive). Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, 8 p.m. on Saturday, 1 and 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$12.50 children, \$16.50 adults. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

"My Fair Lady" presented by singers, dancers, and actors of Christian Youth Theater through Sunday, October 29, at East County Performing Arts Center (210 East Main Street). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, with 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets: 619-588-0206. (LA MESA)

Spookatcular Fun! Haunted Halloween at Birch Aquarium at Scripps, Friday-Sunday, October 27-29, 6-9 p.m. Costume contests, crafts, spooky science exhibits, carnival games. \$15. Find the Birch at 2300 Expedition Way. Reservations: 858-534-7336 (LA JOLLA)

A Magical Lamp and Three Wishes — actors and crew of San Diego Junior Theatre present *Disney's Aladdin Jr.*, October 27-November 12, in Casa del Prado Theater. Music and lyrics by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice. For ages six and up.

Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Fridays; 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Performance on November 11 is ASL interpreted. Tickets:

\$8-\$13. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (BALBOA PARK)

Meet Pancake Pig when this character shares her adventures and stories, Friday, October 27, 7:30 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Free. 858-684-3166. (MIRA MESA)

Windmill Farms Boulevard BOO Parade and carnival, Saturday, October 28. Vintage cars, prancing horses, marching bands, dancing corpses promised during parade at noon (on El Cajon Boulevard from 59th Street to College Avenue). Boo carnival with rides, food booths, live entertainment, costume contest, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., at Seminole and Art Street. Free. 619-582-1093. (SAN DIEGO)

Mad Hatter's Ball for families, Saturday, October 28, 4-8 p.m., at East Valley Community Center (2245 East Valley Parkway). Carnival games, Mad Hatter's Tea Party cake walk, "royal judgment" costume contest. Admission: \$1 per person, free for kids 2 and younger; tickets for games are 25 cents per ticket. 760-839-4382. (ESCONDIDO)

Pumpkin Carving in Hellhole Canyon Open-Space Preserve, Saturday, October 28, 5-8 p.m. First 25 pumpkins provided; bring your own to carve if you'd like. The movie *Casper* starts at 6:15 p.m. Bring carving tools, lawn chairs,

flashlights. Candy, beverages provided. Fee: \$2 adults, \$1 for children under 13, free for those under 3. Find park at 19324 Santee Lane, 619-956-4707. (VALLEY CENTER)

Oh Boy! Origami! Class for kids 5-12 years old, Sunday, October 29, 10 a.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. Participants make dove, bunny, and a surprise item. \$3. Registration: 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

Fallback Festival, wear your cowboy hats and boots and head back in time when Gaslamp Quarter hosts events on Sunday, October 29, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., in front of William Heath Davis House (at Fourth Avenue and Island Street). Blacksmithing, pie- and ice-cream-eating contests, Wild West "shootouts," gold panning, more. Tickets: \$5, kids under 2 free. 619-233-4692 or 619-233-5008. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Spooky Music Promised when civic organist Carol Williams presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m. Children invited to wear costume for "fancy dress parade." Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Cellist Clancy Newman performs for Discovery Series hosted by La Jolla Music Society, Sunday, October 29, 3 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Newman and pi-

anist Noreen Cassidy-Polera will play pieces by Beethoven, Martinu, Rachmaninoff, and Newman. \$5 for students, \$30 general. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (LA JOLLA)

Halloween Festivals offered on Tuesday, October 31, by County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation, with games, prizes, costume contests, crafts, face painting, live music, more. Festivals planned at Fallbrook Community Center (341 Heald Lane, 760-728-1671, 5-7 p.m.), Lakeside Community Center (9841 Vine Street, 619-443-9176, 5-7 p.m.), Spring Valley Community Center (8735 Jamacha Boulevard, 619-479-1832; 5:30-8:30 p.m.). Free. (FALLBROOK, LAKESIDE, SPRING VALLEY)

Never Mess with Mutant Slime! Children's author Judy Sierra reads from and signs *The Secret Science Project That Almost Ate the School*, Thursday, November 2, 1 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

MUSEUMS

California Surf Museum, "The Surfer-Shapers," on exhibit through 2006, showcases several surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has

always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

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

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

Barona Cultural Center and Museum is located at 1095 Barona Road; 619-443-7003 x2. (LAKESIDE)

Coronado Museum of History and Art, ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. Find the museum at 1100 Orange Avenue. Call

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imals. I tried to independently corroborate as much of the information as I could from the small news story, and to get as many inside details as possible.”

“How did you come upon Niko Henrichon, from Quebec, to illustrate the story?”

“My editor, Will Dennis, suggested him. When I pitched the idea, we originally didn’t have a particular artist in mind. If you ask artists what they hate to draw, the two things you’ll hear most often are cars and animals. It’s hard to get the perspective just right, it’s something they’re not asked to draw often, so usually it’s a struggle for most of them.

“Niko had done another graphic novel called *Barnum*, with a writer named Howard Chaykin. It happened to have a few panels with circus animals in it, and the animals were good. We thought, based on that, that we’d have him draw a few samples. We knew as soon as we saw the new, more lavish, painterly style he was using, and more importantly the way he captured the characters, that he was the one.

“We didn’t want something that would be too Disney or too



much of a caricature. We wanted to be more grounded in the real world. At the same time, we wanted the animals to be able to express emotions, in sort of the way your dog might express emotions so that you can tell if it’s sad or happy. He walked that tightrope perfectly.”

“Given the fact that you are kitty-corner on the continent from one another, how did you collaborate?”

“It’s really the norm in comics these days. Most of my collaborators are Canadian, but I’ve also worked with Croatian artists and

Spanish artists. The Internet has changed everything. It facilitates collaboration.

“Niko and I talked a few times over the phone in the beginning, but over the course of the three years it took to make this, it was just daily e-mails. It was nice to have the

“It’s not a coincidence that when we drop propaganda pamphlets on other countries they are often in the form of comics.”

benefit of working on a graphic novel as opposed to a mini-series or an ongoing comic where the deadlines are really punishing. If you release a comic 22 pages at a time and you come up with a great idea in the fourth issue, but you needed to have planted something in the first issue, you’re doomed. We had the luxury of always being able to go back and do exactly what we wanted. We wanted to take as much time as possible to make it perfect.”

“What are some of the challenges you face as a writer in putting together a multilayered story like this while only using dialogue and text bubbles?”

“My scripts resemble a screenplay. Much more descrip-

tion goes into the visual layout than into just the dialogue. It’s a process of editing and of trying to say as much as possible with as few words as possible.

“The pictures, especially when you are working with someone as talented as Niko, convey so much more than the dialogue. I would get Niko’s pages, and he would have said something with images much better than I had with the words, so I could just pare away at it.”

“What do you make of the growing popularity and mass acceptance of graphic novels?”

“It’s long overdue, I guess. Right now there’s maybe not the benchmark work that there was

(continued on page 90)

619-435-7242 for further information. (CORONADO)

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

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego’s colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp’s San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and “New Town,” early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). 619-237-1492. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300–2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368–1644) are included in “The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China.” From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as

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

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

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

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include origi-

nal telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

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

Museum of Making Music, “Brother Musician, Listen to a Miracle,” exhibit celebrating 75th birthday of electric guitar is collaboration between museum, organology expert Matthew Hill, and Rickenbacker International Corporation. Exhibit charts development of electric guitar by exploring innovations, includes prototypes and custom instruments. Through December.

“Howe-Orme: Forgotten Voices Remembered” is exhibit of rare and historic mandolins, mandolas, and guitars manufactured by Elias Howe Company of Boston over 100 years ago. Howe-Orme were awarded a series of patents

for “the uniqueness of their functional design features and style.” Through April.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Find the

museum at 5790 Armada Drive; 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique

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Reading

(continued from page 89)

in the 1980s. There's not a *Maus* or a *Dark Knight Returns* or a *Watchman*, but, at the same time, if you loved one of those books in the '80s, you didn't have that many to choose from. Now there's such an unbelievable variety of graphic novels. It's an embarrassment of riches.

"I've found that, for the most part, we comic book fans and creators tend to be a pretty self-loathing bunch. I think we're always convinced that people frown on our work. But, really, it seems like very few people under the age of 50 aren't completely wowed and impressed by people that create comics. I think for the most part that we don't give the public enough credit. They like anything that's a good story."

"Do you think there's a chance that as graphic novels become more accepted by mainstream audiences they'll lose their edge?"

"No. I can't imagine. Like I say, it's a medium. I don't think you can ever destroy a medium.

"I think comics have always been particularly good at talking about political issues — whether it's been political cartoons or whatever. It's not a coincidence that when we drop propaganda pamphlets on other countries they are often in the form of comics. There's just something inherently powerful about that combination of words and images that engages readers."

I comment to Mr. Vaughan that every review I have seen of *Pride of Baghdad* is unreservedly positive. "Were you expecting that?"

"I guess I'm one of those guys that doesn't think that high concepts should mean low-brow. I usually do come up with ideas that, on the surface, sound pretty disastrous. I do *Y: The Last Man*, which is ostensibly about a boy with a monkey being chased by women on motorcycles or a mayor in a jet pack. And this is talking animals addressing a currently ongoing war. It does sound sort of ludicrous.

"I write the stories that I want to read, and I'm always shocked that anyone else has interest in them. This time around, having the benefit of Niko's art,

I sort of knew that people would respond to it."

Many of the reviews I have read draw positive parallels between *Pride of Baghdad* and *Animal Farm*. "What's it like being compared to Orwell?"

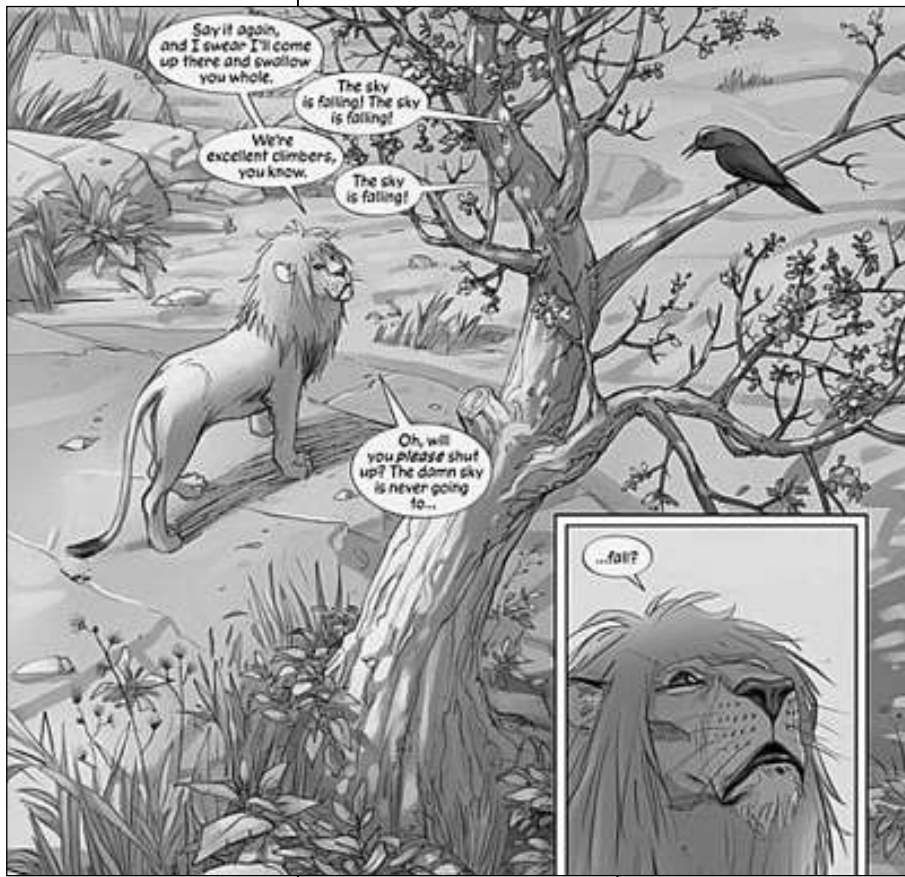
"Oh, that would be preposterous! He's my favorite author and a huge influence. It's obviously very gratifying if anyone thinks that.

"I didn't write this wanting to shove my own political beliefs down readers' throats. The beautiful thing about an allegory is that your interpretation is infinitely more important than my intent. I did want to leave readers enough room to inject themselves into the story."

"At the end of the book you thank your wife for letting you use her San Diego Zoo membership card. Was that part of your research?"

"Yes, it was. We lived in Hillcrest for the three years while my wife went to UCSD. I'm always the recluse shut-in writer who stays inside and pounds away at the keyboard all day, but I did take a few days to go over and watch how lions behave in captivity.

— Jerry Miller



exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex.

Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

San Diego Aerospace Museum, the technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100

Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the *Spitfire* and P-51 *Mustang* fighters; and a rare German Junkers *Jumo 004*, one of the world's first operational jet engines.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 *Mustang*" celebrates the legendary Air Force fighter used

during both World War II and Korea. The museum's *Mustang* is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of Spirit of St. Louis, a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS *Yorktown*, and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

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

San Diego Model Railroad Museum, the museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train ex-

hibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

San Dieguito Heritage Museum, the museum offers informative displays on the North County coastal history including Native Americans, early homesteaders, and recent times, as well as photographic collections and archives. Find the museum 561 South Vulcan Avenue; 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Serra Museum, "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement, 2727 Presidio Drive. 619-297-3258.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, an aquarium and museum under one roof, the facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. Look for 33 tanks containing marine life of the Pacific Northwest, the California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and the South Pacific. One highlight is the La Jolla Kelp Tank, a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Sea of Genes" offers visit "to the genomic frontier"; "Earthquake! Life on a Restless Planet" explores earthquakes and their impacts on life. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a

13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, nurse, and wobbegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2300 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

The San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum onboard the decommissioned USS *Midway* is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

Wells Fargo History Museum, the museum features a working agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House, at 2733 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

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

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" ex-

hibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and enjoy the xerophytic gardens.

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

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Dinosaurs: Reel and Robotic," on view through December, demonstrates how dinosaurs first came to life in movies, follows their transformation over the years through artistic portrayal and advances in scientific information and technology. Exhibit includes original movie memorabilia, posters, models, dino dig box, giant robotic dinosaurs.

"Fossil Mysteries," a new permanent exhibit, showcases last 75 million years in Southern California and Baja California region, a time known for its rich fossil record. Highlights include life-size models of *Albertosaurus*, *Lambeosaurus*, a sea cow, megalodon shark, more.

"Visions of the Natural World through the Lens of the Masters," continuing through Sunday, March 11, is collaborative effort between museum and Ordovery Gallery, with variety of nature-based photography. "Galen Rowell: A Retrospective" continues through Sunday, November 12, with work by Rowell, Abe Ordovery, Philipp Scholz Rittermann, Dick Ditore, Jeffery Laudenslager. Also on view and for sale: sculpture and glass.

"Earth, Wind, and Wildfire!" continues through April, exploring powerful forces (such as fire, nature, people) shaping the landscape of Southern California. The exhibit is "designed to raise awareness of the history and inevitability of fire in Southern California's arid and diverse wildlands."

Current "giant-screen films" are *Too Hot Not to Handle* (through November), *Vikings: Journey to the New Worlds* (through October), and *Ocean Oasis*. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

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Born to Run

Road photographers are as anonymously footloose as Mexican crop-pickers.

A border is many things: the demarcation of land masses, cities, nations; an invisible extremity to be crossed; a margin drawn with a ruler; a place in the mind we transgress at risk; an edge hard or soft, impermeable or porous.

But *the* border, in the dyspeptic media jabberwocky of our time, means one thing: the 1951 miles of terrain that, though marked in most places by wall, levee, or barbed wire, is one of the more volatile spaces in our political imagination. In San Diego, which has 800 Border Patrol agents, its presence and socioeconomic consequences are particularly acute. Tijuana is growing faster than any other city along the border and is the most heavily used border crossing in the world.

Road photographers are as anonymously footloose as Mexican crop-pickers. What would our national archive look like without photographers behind the wheel? Artists like Walker Evans, Robert Frank, and Lee Friedlander have been succeeded by contemporary wanderers like Edward Burtnsky, James Fee, and James Nachtwey. The Museum of Photographic Arts last year mounted a blistering show of Burtnsky's big images of globalized postindustrial waste; it's currently exhibiting several elegiac landscapes Fee made just before his death last month; and Nachtwey, the greatest war photographer of our time whose work MOPA showed in 2003, was recently wounded in Iraq riding with troops in a Humvee that was attacked.

REVIEW

W.S. DI PIERO

The San Diego-based Don Bartletti is a member of that tribe, and MOPA has put up a broad-shouldered exhibition of his work about borders as local as Tijuana/San Diego and as far away as Afghanistan/Pakistan. The images split

open a world of distressed intimacies, fateful risk-taking, harried flight, and humane devotion. The first chapter of the show (the only one, I'm sorry to report, that has an accompanying catalog) treats *our* border crossings. Bartletti pretty much lets political feelings about immigration fall where they will. His photos fasten instead on the suffering and endurance of the people involved, and the first picture in the show will stop your breath: in darkness, a smear of young guys is making "*la brinca*," the hop over the high steel wall at San Ysidro, a couple of them just letting go, a few others already on their way down, all of them crushed shadows in some zone of free fall into illegality and the hope of an improved life.

It's not the only heart stopper. "I want to show the shadows moving," Bartletti says, and in picture after picture we see smudged, dimly lit, fugitive figures in a landscape, nearly always on the run (in one shocker a flustered flock of men, women, and children make a nightfall sprint across the interstate, headlights bearing down on them) or at momentary rest, perfectly still nocturnal silhouettes who have nothing else to do except wait for the right moment. Some pictures



Riding "the Beast," Tonalá, Chiapas, Mexico, August 4, 2000

The Roads Most Traveled: Photographs of Migration by Don Bartletti
Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park
Through Sunday, January 14, 2007. For additional information, call 619-238 7559.

dramatize the tense brinksmanship of the divide. Consider the cutaway view of the steel fence bordering San Diego: on one side is a *migra* cruiser and agent; on the other, crouching immigrants wait for the cruiser to move on so they can jump the fence. In another, an overhead shot of a freight train shows a Border Patrol agent on one side of the train while, on the other, four Hondurans, risking the excruciating freight-hopping journey

through Mexico to *el norte*, cling like lizards to boxcar ladders.

Bartletti doesn't candy or sentimentalize his subjects. He honors the photojournalist's code: show the facts, because the facts suffice to horrify. We see the smoky squatter camps of itinerant workers who can't afford conventional housing, plastic containers everywhere, laundry hanging, improvised tents or shanties, blankets spread on

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Borderline Citizen, San Diego, California, March 28, 2006



Highway camp, Encinitas, California, July 25, 1989

the bare ground where they sleep, often in view of the well-heeled commuter communities they service. We see different sorts of industry practiced both sides of the border: enterprising Tijuana urchins peddle cigarettes, gum, and tequila shots to men waiting to cross over or to meet a *coyote* who for a steep price provides (always dicey) passage to the U.S.A. In one picture, Guatemalan teenagers hoping for a day's work cluster like street beggars around a Cadillac outside the gated community of San Diego's Fairbanks Ranch.

Be warned. It's a jolt to move from Bartletti's sooty-textured, high-energy black-and-white images to his color-saturated pictures. The shift in part is aesthetic: color pays out an instant beauty bounty, because it more naturally and immediately pleases the senses. It also tends to theatricalize visual information. Bartletti's work in color mostly overrides this kink. He succeeds because his angle of view breaks the hermetic seal wrapped around color shots of even messy events. He cracks the invisible glassy pane on which photographic events unfold and tumbles us into a scene helter-skelter. He brings us closer to raw, lived reality; he doesn't "cool" the visual information or distance us. In one image, for instance, he makes us feel as if we've stumbled into

the mess of a car wreck. The backstory: a *coyote*, with three illegals in his trunk, leads CHP on a 20-mile high-speed chase that ends with the car's nose caved in by a streetlight pole. A badly injured young man sprawls on the pavement in the foreground — you feel you have to walk around him to see what else is in the picture — while two others, dazed, heads and shirts bloodied, lean against the totaled vehicle, waiting, after all that, to be sent back to Mexico. Bartletti's restless inquiring visual intelligence is *in* the scene, as if living their lives with them.

In some cases, he obviously is living it: during a night-crossing of the Rio Grande, with immigrants holding above their heads sacks stuffed with clothing, their feet wrapped in plastic bags for protection against the toxic water, there's only one place Bartletti could be. The water is marbled with oily colors, but nothing is prettified. Here, as in other pictures, the beauty color releases provokes and destabilizes. *Oz and Smuggler's Gulch* depicts, from the Tijuana side, the lights, so distantly near, of San Diego. The Mexican side of the picture is all groggy brown and gray shadows with a few sparse, explosive streetlights. Beyond lies Oz, with its long strands of tantalizing bling-bling strung across the cityscape.

One series treats a migration pattern I wasn't aware of. Honduran and Guatemalan boys as young as 12, with the barest provisions, jump freights and stowaway the 1500 miles between them and *el norte*, sometimes in search of their mothers. One ambiguous picture titled *Sad Farewell* shows a 74-year-old woman in a chair, a cat asleep on a chair beside her, ambiguous because of the flashy tropical lushness of the azure and sea-green stucco wall behind her — it's a picture of gorgeous impoverishment. The narrative complicates things even more: this Honduran woman had begged her 16-year-old grandson not to ride freights to look for his *mami* with only seven dollars in his pockets. Close by, another picture reveals the world that young boy was fleeing: a child slogs knee-deep in the town dump, scavenging food, clothes, anything useful, while vultures flap close overhead and stand at his elbow, ready to take whatever he turns down. Freight train stowaways call Chiapas State, which they must pass through, "The Beast," because they are preyed upon by murderous bandits, *la migrá*, and corrupt police who, Bartletti says, "hunt them like animals." The photographs feature all those characters and then some. The most upsetting picture in the exhibition is also

scarily beautiful: two street boys sprawl in the foreground inside a culvert — one holds his head, having just been beaten by local drunks — while deeper in the culvert a hellish ring of flame from a fire drum warms their legs.

Roughly half the exhibition dramatizes migrations in other parts of the world, and the images disclose raw intimacies. A Kenyan woman working as a nanny in Milan tends to her charge (who sits in a red-canopied industrial-strength stroller) on the Via Sacra near the Coliseum, while passersby throw scolding looks her way. (Her earnings go home to pay tuition at the private school her own child attends, a school named "Pinocchio.") Filipina women migrate to Japan to dance in clubs and "entertain" customers. One photo-narrative illustrates the story of a 49-year-old Haitian man, Dieuseul Lundi, who works in a Miami fish warehouse by day and by night sells overstock in neighborhoods from ice chests in his car. He barely sleeps and sends most of his earnings home. When his uncle dies, he's obligated by custom to pick up the funeral expenses, including casket, plot, funeral band, handouts, and treats for friends, all of which cost him \$8000. To honor and sustain cultural tradition, he has to estrange himself from it, probably for

the rest of his life, and peddle fish at night.

I expect viewers who spend much time at this exhibition — it's so ample that it requires more than one visit — will be exhausted by the bruising visual information and aggrieved by all that irremediable desperation. Outraged, too, perhaps, by what we're so infrequently exposed to but which most people on the planet cope with every day: poverty, want, and enfeebled hope. ■

ART LISTINGS

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GALLERIES

"Fleeting Moments," Jeffrey Clark has painted "delicate organic shapes onto layers of acrylic

sheets" in this exhibit, opening with reception on Thursday, October 26, 4:30 p.m., in San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery (D-104). Reception followed with lecture by artist at 7 p.m. in LRC-435. Find campus at 7250 Mesa College Drive. 619-388-2829. (KEARNY MESA)

"30 Under Thirty," Scott Keller curated show featuring work in variety of media by "30 young artists" opening with reception on Saturday, October 28, 8 p.m., at D Gallery (222 Wisconsin Avenue). Closes Saturday, November 18. 760-805-0423. (OCEANSIDE)

"Miragenous Zones," pieces opening "emotional and intellectual doors of their viewers" gathered in exhibit continuing through Sunday, November 12, at La Jolla Art Association Village Gallery (7932 Ivanhoe Avenue). Reception for artists is Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m. 858-459-1196. Closing reception at 1 p.m. November 12. (LA JOLLA)

"Estamos Buscando A — We're Looking For," photographic installation chronicling migrant experience along U.S.-Mexico border by Paul Turounet opens with reception and artist lecture on Wednesday, November 1, in University of San Diego Fine Art Galleries of Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (5998 Alcalá Park). Exhibit closes Friday, December 15. 619-260-4261. (LINDA VISTA)

Contemporary Surrealist Art by New York artist Michael Fenton is on view through Tuesday, December 12, at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Opening reception for artist is Thursday, November 2, 6 p.m. 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

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ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, time for Eloy Tarcisio's 11th annual site-specific installation *Muerte de todos ofrenda de participación* (*Death Comes to Everyone: A Participatory Offering*). Artist plans brief talk during opening reception on Wednesday, November 1, 6 p.m.; participate in installation by bringing objects in memory of loved ones such as photographs, mementos, flowers. Installation includes wooden crosses, clay bowls filled with grains, beans, and other organic materials symbolic of Mexico's pre-Hispanic past. Through November.

"The Migrant Project: Contemporary California Farm Workers," with photographs and text by Rick Nahmias, offers "in-depth journey detailing the lives and struggles of today's California migrant farm workers." Work focuses on all aspects of migrant stories, including personal lives, family members, women's issues, creation of community.

Basic human emotions explored in paintings and mixed-media creations by Anna Zappoli Jenkins in "Where Do You Store These Dreams." Hugo Heredia's "Broken Chandeliers" boasts large-scale sculptures combining glass and metal in "impossibly intimate and beautiful configurations."

"Memoria del Hombre: A Muerto de Todos Retrospective" is a site-specific installation of "objects left behind over the 12-year span of the installation."

Except where noted, the exhibitions open on Saturday, October 28, and close on Sunday, January 28. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, "Grass and Gold — Nomads of Kazakhstan" focuses on important archaeological discoveries, including those in 1998-1999 at frozen burial site of Berel. Exhibit includes gold, silver, and bronze artifacts fashioned into small animal forms along with their stories of recovery, overview of the history and culture of Kazakhstan, and mythology of the Steppes. The art objects are be-

ing shown in the U.S. for the first time. Through Sunday, April 15. The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County, "Folk Art of Mexico — Selections from the Collection of Mingei International" presents contemporary objects of daily use from throughout Mexico fashioned from tin, clay, wood, paper, and fiber. Exhibit "demonstrates the importance of family, community, religion, and fun."

"Pre-Columbian Art of Mexico — Selections from the Collection of Mingei International" highlights clay and stone objects. These objects "abound with material from myth and legend." Both exhibits close on Monday, January 15. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, "TRANSactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art" — closing on Sunday, May 13 — features approximately 50 works by 48 artists from museum's permanent collection. Showcased pieces demonstrate "diversity and hybridity of contemporary Latin American art," with artists working across media and between disciplines.

Concurrently, see site-specific installation by Milwaukee-based Argentinean artist Santiago Cucullu. His art juxtaposes images of progressive, historical figures and events with his personal experiences. This piece engages the architecture and oceanfront site of museum.

"From the Vaults: Recent Acquisitions" focuses primarily on works on paper, demonstrating a range of contemporary drawing and photography practices in recent additions to permanent collection. Closes Sunday, December 10.

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

Museum of Photographic Arts, "The Roads Most Traveled: Photographs of Migration by Don Bartlett" examines lives of migratory workers in search of economic

survival. Exhibit including 90 photographs by Pulitzer Prize-winner Bartlett continues through Sunday, January 14.

"Close-Ups: San Diego Neighborhoods" showcases creativity and artistic expression of San Diego's youth. Students from San Diego City and County public schools, grades K-12, explored their neighborhoods using photography and film over course of 2005-2006 school year. Closes Sunday, November 5.

"James Fee: Recent Photographs" captures Fee's most recent road trip to Big Sur and San Francisco, capturing landscape "distinctly West Coast and American." Through Sunday, October 29.

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

San Diego Museum of Art, "Transmission: The Art of Matta and Gordon Matta-Clark" is described as the "first comprehensive examination of the relationship between the work" of this father and son artist pair. Exhibit includes approximately 80 works including paintings, sculpture, drawings, and photographs. Both artists were trained as architects who "strongly relied upon concepts of architectural space in their mature artwork." Through Sunday, November 12.

"Personal Views: Regarding Private Collections in San Diego" features 25 "of the finest private collections to be found in the San Diego area." The collections highlight historical artworks from the 19th and 20th Centuries, including works in variety of media by Rembrandt, Cassatt, Monet, O'Keeffe, de Kooning, Kahlo, Goldin. Closes Sunday, January 7.

"Paper Traces: Latin American Prints and Drawings from the Collection at SDMA" continues through December, highlighting approximately 60 Latin American and U.S.-Latino works on paper. The prints, drawings, posters, portfolios in exhibit "confirm the vitality of paper as a medium with a particular historic outline of its own."

"Backs," on exhibit through Sunday, February 18, focuses on backs of five paintings where im-

portant information such as age and ownership is revealed. Works are drawn from museum's European collection. Labels, inscriptions, and markings divulge details of painting's history of attribution, exhibition, ownership, sale.

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

Timken Museum of Art, "Guercino: Stylistic Evolution in Focus" explores dramatic shift in artistic style of Il Guercino, considered one of the most prolific and successful artists of 17th Century. At heart of exhibit is Timken's *Return of the Prodigal Son*, a theme Guercino painted a number of times over his life, shown with versions on loan from Borghese Gallery in Rome, and Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. This is the first time these three works have been shown together. Closes Sunday, January 7.

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

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after November 2.

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

"11th Annual Celebration of Music Education" concert hosted by San Diego Youth Symphony is Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Special guest is Ken Ritchie. Tickets: \$20 and \$25 general; discounts for students, se-

niors, military. 619-233-3232. (DOWNTOWN)

"Cantate," Point Loma Singers and Vocal Jazz Ensemble present classical, jazz, Broadway music in concert, Friday, October 27, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Free. 619-849-2325. (POINT LOMA)

New Zealand String Quartet performs works by Mendelssohn and Beethoven in concert on Friday, October 27, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$37. 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO)

Who Was "The Last Lutenist in Vienna"? Galanterie explores this musical question in concert sponsored by San Diego Early Music Society, Friday, October 27. Listen for trios and concerti of Vivaldi, Kohaut, Haydn. Concert begins at 8 p.m. at St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church (743 Prospect Street). \$20. Reservations: 619-291-8246. (LA JOLLA)

Opera Nights...After Dusk, head to Piazza Jacaranda (at India and Cedar Streets) for live singing and music, Saturday, October 28, 7-9 p.m. Free. 619-233-3898. (LITTLE ITALY)

"With a Russian Flair," season commences for La Jolla Symphony and Chorus with concerts boasting "Festive Overture" by Shostakovich, Takemitsu's "Requiem for Strings," and "Symphony No. 5 in E Minor" by Tchaikovsky on October 28 and 29. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. \$26 general. 858-534-4637. (LA JOLLA)

Spooky Music Promised when civic organist Carol Williams presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m. Children invited to wear costume for "fancy dress parade." Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Cellist Clancy Newman performs for Discovery Series hosted by La Jolla Music Society, Sunday, October 29, 3 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Newman and pianist Noreen Cassidy-Polera will play pieces by Beethoven, Martinu, Rachmaninoff, and Newman. \$5

for students, \$30 general. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (LA JOLLA)

Beethoven and Mozart Piano Quintets performed by San Diego Chamber Music Society, Sunday, October 29, 7 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church (320 Date Street). Offering. 619-232-7513. (DOWNTOWN)

Clairemont Brass plays classical and popular music on Sunday, October 29, 7 p.m., at Clairemont Lutheran Church (4271 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Organist Steven Gray joins ensemble in pieces for brass and organ. Offering. 858-273-7423. (CLAIREMONT)

Tango Master Piazzolla has pieces performed by Burt Turetzsky and guests at noon on Monday, October 30, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza. Bring lunch! Free. 858-454-5872. (DOWNTOWN)

"A Celebration of Music" offered in concerts on October 31 and November 1 at Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). Tuesday's concert begins at 3 p.m., features pianist Luciane Cardassi; on Wednesday, pianist Richard Carrick and violinist Chris Otto take stage at 7:30 p.m. Both concerts boast "important iconic played" of today that are "rarely played." Free. 760-943-2250. (ENCINITAS)

Chamber Music Ensembles at Point Loma Nazarene University play "in small ensembles of varied instrumentation" in Crill Performance Hall on Tuesday, October 31, 7:30 p.m. Find campus at 3900 Lomaland Drive. 619-849-2325. Free. (POINT LOMA)

Palomar Chamber Singers and Palomar Women's Chorus perform for Concert Hour series, Thursday, November 2, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Chamber Music Concert by pianist Aleck Karis, cellist Charles Curtis, violist Che-Yen Chen, violinists Jeff Thayer and Alex Palamidis on Thursday, November 2, 8 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). \$15 general. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

Jazz in the Park

The Banda Brothers



November 1, 5:30 p.m.

The Banda Brothers Latin Jazz Ensemble perform with a deep understanding of Afro-Latin music and American jazz in the tradition of Dizzy Gillespie and Mario Bauza.

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SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

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TRANSMISSION

THE ART OF MATTA AND GORDON MATTA-CLARK

August 19–November 12, 2006

Featuring more than 80 works in a variety of media by the renowned Chilean-born Surrealist Matta and the pioneering urban conceptualist Gordon Matta-Clark, this groundbreaking exhibition is the first to fully explore the father and son artists side-by-side to reveal the lasting impact each had on the development of 20th-century art.

This exhibition is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art and is made possible by the generous support of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, and the LEF Foundation.

IMAGE: Roberto Matta, *Assage* (detail), oil on canvas, 1943. Collection of Thomas R. Morahan, Chicago.

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

1450 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK • WWW.SDMART.ORG

Calendar

THEATER

THEATER LISTINGS

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

Agamemnon: A Tribute to Kurt Reichert

As part of a tribute to the late Kurt Reichert, Chronos Theatre Group presents a staged reading of Aeschylus's *Agamemnon*. NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-295-5047.

Attorney for the Damned: Clarence Darrow

As Joe Nesnow portrays the life of the famous lawyer, you begin to wonder who the "defender of the underdog" *didn't* represent. Darrow's cases constitute a who's who of American legal history: socialists Eugene V. Debs and "Big Bill" Haywood, the McNamara brothers' bombing of the L.A. Times, the Scopes "Monkey" Trial, Leopold and Loeb. In each he fought injustice — and paid an emotional price for every battle (including his marriage). It doesn't take Nesnow long to become Darrow: a gentle, engaging rapport with his audience, a rage at stupidity and intolerance, and, most of all, a fearless conviction. Nothing stood in his way. Would

this were true of David W. Rintels's wordy, overlong, badly paced script. The play moves chronologically through Darrow's life and feels compelled to cover all of it. The result is a two-hour, episodic ramble that begs for a major edit (Rintels often takes longer to set up a scene than present it). After a while, the script works against Nesnow's finely etched performance. The playwright's words upstage him. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH NOVEMBER 4 (THE SHOW WILL BE DARK DURING OCTOBER); SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Beyond Therapy

POWpac presents Christopher Durang's comedy about unpredictable Bruce, nervous Prudence, and their attempt at a relationship. Marjorie Mae Treger directed. POWAY PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY, 13250 POWAY ROAD (UPSTAIRS AT THE LIVELY CENTER), POWAY, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-679-8085.

Bug

Aphids aren't bloodsuckers. Or are they? A secret government (or the Bilderbergers) didn't stage JFK and 9/11 to escalate Vietnam and invade Afghanistan and Iraq. Or did they? Tracy Letts's sleazy thriller tromps right down the middle of these questions. It's set in an unlikely local: a motel in Oklahoma where rock cocaine-toking Agnes "hermetized herself" from her abusive ex-con husband. She meets kindly, distant Peter Evans. Her potential savior brings about even greater paranoia: he was a government subject at Groom Lake (i.e. Area 51) and may be carrying a bug virus of burrowing carnivore aphids. Agnes gets it (or is she just scratching sympathy sores?). Heli-

copters swarm overhead. Men in black? Or delusional ravings? Cygnet Theatre's crack design team does it again with a detail-rich motel room (Sean Murray), costumes ranging from frump to top shelf (Veronica Murphy), and lighting (Eric Lotze even has a strobe effect) and sound (George Ye, brilliant) designs that tell the story by themselves. The production, directed by Murray, is full of taut suspense, including many an eloquent silence. And the performances are quite good, especially Robin Christ's chain-smoking Angie and John DeCarlo's flip-flopping Peter. Where the production sometimes flags: as if it fears being labeled a "conspiracy theorist" (possibly this country's most dominant stereotype), it stresses *Bug's* comic moments. Letts created down-and-nearly-out characters rarely seen onstage. Emphasizing the humor of *Bug* marginalizes them even more, making their reactions, to real or imagined causes, often just silly. This choice gives the audience too easy an out. Sure Angie and Peter could be "hitting the pipe a little too heavy." But then again...

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525 X3.

The Crucible

University of San Diego's undergraduate theater arts program stages Arthur Miller's drama about the Salem Witch Trials. STUDIO THEATRE, SACRED HEART HALL, UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, 5998 ALCALA PARK, LINDA VISTA, THROUGH OCTOBER 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-260-2727.

Doubt

Broadway*San Diego presents John Patrick Shanley's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama in a touring production starring Cherry Jones and Adriane Lenox, each of whom won a Tony Award for her performance. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, THIRD AND B STREETS, DOWNTOWN, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, THROUGH NOVEMBER 5; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 6:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 1:00 P.M. 619-570-1100.

Flight of the Lawnchair Man

SDSU presents the new musical comedy that wants to "remind the world that the air is free and dreams can come true." DON POWELL THEATRE, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH OCTOBER 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-594-6884.

The Glass Menagerie

As part of its NATION Project (which includes a production of Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* and a staged reading of Odet's *Awake and Sing*), Ion Theatre offers Tennessee Williams's "memory play." Glenn Paris directed. NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, THROUGH SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-374-6894.

The Golem: Man of Earth

6th@Penn Theatre presents Howard Rubenstein's world-premiere adaptation of the medieval Jewish legend about the man-god created to protect the community from evil. But will the community

need protection from the Golem? Zoe Paulin directed. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH NOVEMBER 8; SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Hedda Gabler

Poor Players stage Henrik Ibsen's drama "of the original desperate housewife." Tom Haine directed. WESTMINSTER THEATRE, 3598 TALBOT STREET, POINT LOMA, THROUGH OCTOBER 29; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-255-1401.

Hemingway's Rose

The Plutonium Theatre Company presents Matt Thompson's dark comedy about Max and George, opposites forced to spend time together and discover a surprise. Angela Miller directed. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH OCTOBER 28; FRIDAY AT 10:30 P.M. SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. (SPECIAL 10:30 P.M. SATURDAY PERFORMANCE OCTOBER 28.) 619-688-9210.

I Hate Hamlet

Premiere stages Paul Rudnick's comedy about a TV actor cast in THE role against his wishes. Terri Miller Schmidt directed. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905.

Life X 3

A dinner party pretty much from hell: guests arrive a day early; six-year-old (stuck in the terrible twos) screams in the next room; job promotion on the line; worries range from galaxies to a run in a stocking. Yasmina Reza's 90-minute comedy-drama shows the same evening three

different ways: in the first, everyone goes berserk; in the second, there's ire and some calm; in the third, decorum reigns. The obvious reading sees each scene separately, as a parallel universe. But this makes the play just shallow variations on a theme. Much more interesting (and, I suspect, accurate) is to look at *Life X 3* from above, like three-dimensional tic-tac-toe. Each scene becomes a layer of the same event. In the first, the subtexts surface. The last stands on the other two; we see through its formality to a possible affair, shifts of status, burning resentment, even the threat of violence — all now embedded in polite banter, stable reactions, and the illusion of harmony. We read, in other words, between the lines. Each scene thickens the previous one. They grow from childhood to adulthood, from sitcom to drama (one could even give them Freudian labels: id, ego, superego). The Lamb's Players production ranks among its best in years. Surrounded by myriad stars, and a gigantic earth rolling across the rear wall, Mike Buckley's set also includes a living room on a turntable and the Milky Way spinning on the floor. The cast, smartly directed by Deborah Gilmour Smyth, shines throughout: Lance Arthur Smith as volatile (everything from a "doomed" infant to a poet) Henry; Robert Smyth's smug, contentious Hubert, Henry's boss; Glynn Bedington's Inez, as deep as she is daffy; and Colleen Kollar's manic/tender, always amazingly focused Sonia. The quartet does a kind of reverse ensemble acting. They turn 12 characters into 4 increasingly complex beings. **Critic's pick.**

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SAT-

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A Match Made in Heaven

As a fundraiser for the company, Community Actors Theatre stages Liva Krancberg's play about love and romance. Jennie Hamilton directed.

COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET, OAK PARK, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-264-3391.

Middle-Aged White Guys

6th@Penn presents Jane Martin's comedy that "bares all" about Elvis, God, and certain high-up officials. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Miss Witherspoon

"Skylab is falling!" Chunks of warped metal clonk on the San Diego Rep. stage as if the crumbling space station drew a bead on the nay-saying Miss Witherspoon. In Christopher Durang's pseudo-metaphysical comedy, space junk bombing from the sky becomes a metaphor for her many reincarnations, which have been such messes her karma's got a "brown tweed hue." She's so down she makes nihilism sound like a healing balm. In Bardo, the Buddhist netherworld, she debates with serene Maryamma about never returning to another life. And when she does, slammed back into time by a lounge chair locked in reverse, it's to a carnivorous dog, or smack-shooting parents — though none seems as evil as having been one of Rex Harrison's wives. Durang's script has many a comic highlight,

and lows as well. It's real talky (as if he had to stretch a concept to reach a 90-minute evening) and often feels contrived. Smartly, director Delicia Turner Sonnenberg and the Rep cast plow through the long speeches and over-extended dialogue and stress the play's zany spirituality. Melinda Gilb gives Witherspoon the right dour notes, especially when born again, and again. On Nick Fouch's way split-level set (maybe five feet of difference), and wearing Jennifer Brawn Gittings's always apt and often hilarious costumes, the ensemble cast shines. Steve Gunderson, DeAnna Driscoll (especially as THE controlling mother from Hell), JoAnne Glover's ethereal spirit helper Maryamma, and Sylvia M'Lafi Thompson (in a cameo as an African-American Jesus) spike scenes at just the right moment.



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Monsieur Chopin

For a special, week-long engagement, the Old Globe Theatre presents Hershey Felder's portrayal of the great composer (Felder recently performed as George Gershwin at the Globe). OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, THROUGH OCTOBER 31; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY THROUGH TUESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra

The Welk Resort Theatre presents a musical revue of "Old Blue Eyes" oeuvre. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

North Park 4th Annual Playwrights Festival

North Park Vaudeville & Candy Shoppe presents 26 new works by local and international playwrights. NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE & CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, THROUGH NOVEMBER 4; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

Pig Farm

Tom's in deep doo-doo figuratively and, in Greg Kotis's absurdist satire, literally. A storm's on the horizon, the government's about to take its annual pig census (one too many and Tom could lose all), and his wife Tina decides she wants to make their baby on the kitchen table NOW. *Pig Farm* unfolds like a heroic "save the farm" movie gone haywire. Kotis deconstructs movie clichés the way his Tony Award-winning *Urinetown* does musicals'. The only letdown in an otherwise funny, often hilarious show: the musical ends with a powerful summation (America's "way of life is unsustainable"). *Pig Farm* concludes with slapstick and silliness and no major punchline. It stays what it has been all along. Director Matt August and fight director Steve Rankin turn the Cassius Carter into a manic steeplechase of pratfalls and physical comedy, all performed by a terrific ensemble: Ted Koch's Tom (a bulb dimmed by repeated rolling pin clubbings); Colleen Quinlan's Tina (a comic gem, more than holding her own in a testosterone-rampant environ-

ment); Ian White's antsy Tim (on work-release from juvenile hall with enough energy to ignite Balboa Park); Ken Land, as EPA snoop Teddy (repressing, irrepressible reactionary thug). "Comic intensity" should be an oxymoron, since the rule with comedies is usually the lighter the better. But the ensemble performs with such comic intensity they make minutely choreographed steps appear spontaneous. **Worth a try.**

CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH OCTOBER 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: Ma Rainey's Black Bottom

The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre could do for the late August Wilson what "Grass-roots Greeks" did for ancient Greek drama in San Diego. The companies present a series of staged readings of one of the American theater's rarely performed but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for *Fences* in 1987 and *The Piano Lesson* in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each

decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007. Next offering: Calvin Manson directs *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. **Worth a try.**

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8; SEVEN GUITARS: HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 4345 54TH STREET, CITY HEIGHTS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Ridiculous Fraud

South Coast Repertory Theatre stages Beth Henley's "affectionately absurd comedy" about three brothers "bonded by love and jealousy." Sharon Ott directed. SEGERSTROM STAGE, SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AND TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

The Rocky Horror Show

Southwestern College performs the now-33-year-old "kitschy, rock 'n' roll sci-fi gothic" audience-participation cult classic. Susan Stratton directed. MAYAN HALL THEATRE, 900 OTAY LAKES ROAD, CHULA VISTA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, THROUGH NOVEMBER 5;

THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY (AND TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31) AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 AT 2:00 P.M. 619-482-6367.

Since Africa

"I tell him my whole life story," Ater Dhal recalls a psychotherapy session, "he says that I have had more, he calls them 'traumatic experiences,' than anyone he has ever met." Ater is a "lost boy" Dinka refugee from southern Sudan who lived through two civil wars. He comes to America and, in Mia McCullough's drama, not only encounters culture shock but creates it in those trying to help him: Reggie Hudson, an African-American deacon; Diane MacIntyre, widow of a brilliant CEO; and her daughter, Eve. *Since Africa* is about identity, how diverse diversity actually is and, most of all, about knowing when to let go and when to preserve the past. The play has a scene or two too many, but the Seema Sueko-directed Mo'olelo Performing Arts production's a thoughtful charmer made special by Alephon-sion Awer Deng's performance as Ater. A Sudanese "lost boy," Deng co-wrote *They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky* about his experiences (government troops attacked his village when he was seven). Deng's such an authentic presence that even his less-than-polished acting enhances. Rosina Reynolds's Diane's a crisp, funny portrait of well-meaning urges taken over the top; Mark Christopher Lawrence's deacon does a nice long turn into

doubt; Erika Beth Phillips does one of the year's best monologues when Eve visits her mother's shrink. Nick Fouch's set combines three locales in the small Diversionary space (are those elephant tusks silhouetted on the rear wall?). And as a statue come to life, young Nyeda Lane becomes Ater's animating spirit. Her graceful, urgent dances bring ritual, myth, and mystery to a world threatening them with extinction. **Worth a try.**

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH OCTOBER 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-342-7395.

Son of a Bush

Miracle Theatre Productions hosts the Washington D.C. comedy troupe Gross National Product and its latest revue, which takes potshots at Hillary Clinton, Kim Jong Il, "and, of course, big oil." THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

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Win, Place, or Die...My Jockeys Are Killing Me!
Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith's interactive "race-track romp." It's opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club'll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

The Wiz
For this "reimagined" musical, Robert Brill has transformed the Mandell Weiss Theatre from a proscenium stage to an environmental space. Gleaming black and lit with lemon beams, the Yellow Brick Road winds through the theater. Objects and people drop from the sky or rise from a central circle. Oz spangles with Vegas glitterballs; the poppies are giant, flaming red-orange petals. The production dazzles. But the story and several songs have been reduced to sound-bites. The technical always upstages the human. The entire cast, wearing

Paul Tazewell's amazing, rainbow-hued costumes, obviously has the chops. Albert Blaise Cattafi's con-torting Toto and Michael Benjamin Washington's Tinman come closest to realizing their roles. Others could amplify their characters' traits (Rashad Naylor's Scarecrow, David Alan Grier's Wiz, Tituss Burgess's Lion). Others, like E. Faye Butler's one-note, un-scarey Evillene and Heather Lee's stereotypically goofy witch Adapterle, need rethinking. In Nikki M. James, the playhouse has a splendid Dorothy. But except for her stirring "Soon As I Get Home," most of her numbers feel abridged, or half-finished. You keep wonder-ing when the show will let her cut loose, since it's obvious she can. *The Wiz* could use loosening as well. It's a hip-hop remaking of Charlie Smalls's musical, but where are the rap numbers, where's the sustained funk? Opening night felt like a white "cover album" of the 1975 version. Even with a top-notch band, the show rarely sug-gests that it's "been down from day one."

Worth a try.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, MANDELL WEISS

THEATRE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, THROUGH NOVEMBER 26; TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

Zorro in Hell

Alice went through a looking-glass and saw Mad Hatters and Tweedles Dum and Dee. Clasher, a broke L.A. freelancer, goes on a sodium pentothal-induced odyssey to Old California. Along with a break-dancing gay grizzly bear/psy-chotherapist, and the world's old-est Chicano, Clasher has a Carlos Castaneda-like initiation and finds his inner Zorro. Culture Clash is back in town! Richard Montoya, Herbert Siguenza, and Ric Salinas still refuse, even when performing in La Jolla, to defang their satiric barbs. In a thin-skinned era that la-bels all dissent as unpatriotic, Cul-ture Clash's ornery, rabid agitprop theater comes as a breath of neo-con-free air. One could wish that *Zorro in Hell* name-dropped less compulsively (as if the writers needed to establish literary creden-tials) and could shore up the few weak scenes with more than just

funny local references. Along with being sharp and up-to-the-second topical, CC is really funny. Part is verbal, of course, but a lot comes from their rambunctious physical style. The trio intuitu each other's moves so well, you'd think it'd be tough to share a stage with them. Not so. Joseph Kamal fits right in as the fictional Zorro. And as the randy, possibly 200-year-old La Doña, owner of the mystical El Camino Real Inn, Sharon Lock-wood, legendary SF Mime Troupe artist, is outstanding. One of the show's themes is the rejection of single perspectives on anything. Christopher Acebo's set enhances the theme: the downstage space (where most of the "now" scenes happen) looks like a footlit western dance hall; behind a movie screen a proscenium frames the inn's adobe faades. The more the stage resem-bles traditional "realistic" theater, the more it moves into the fantasy world.

Worth a try.

SHEILA AND HUGHES POTIKER THE-ATRE, LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, THROUGH OCTO-BER 29; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in *Blurt*. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

Who Killed Ramonastock? “This is party central,” says 20-year-old Jim Portinga of Ramona. “Everyone you talk to says,

“I grew up in this town, and kids don’t have healthy places to hang out. There’s a tiny theater with two screens. There’s no bowling alley, no arcades.... There used to be an annual event called Ramonapalooza. The last one in 2001 had, like, 13 bands. It was at the middle-school auditorium, but it got shut

it at a larger venue.

“The Ramona Rodeo grounds are perfect, but they don’t want live bands; that land is owned by the Ramona Water District,” says Ruff. “They are afraid kids will cause problems. They told us we could do karaoke. The reason I was given that we could not have bands is they had gang problems at the Ramona Fair. But you have gangs everywhere. That’s why you have security.”

The Drapes, Buckley’s Ghost, Coldfire, Fuzz Huzzi, and Dueling Dragons play from 4 to 10 p.m. at Blue Horse Music (1045 Main Street, in Ramona); \$5 admission.

— Ken Leighton

Crabs John Monteagudo spent four years and \$10,000 on ...*at the street level*, a documentary of San Diego’s music scene between 1996 and 2000. The interviews and performances feature P.O.D., Sprung Monkey, the Dragons, Buck-O-Nine, Ghoulspoon, Greyboy Allstars, Deadbolt, and a few other bands.

“I sent a copy to [organizers of Austin’s South By Southwest music festival] hoping they would show it,” says Monteagudo. “They didn’t send me back a rejection letter; they sent me back everything — the tape, the press kit, and the floppy disc shredded into pieces.... I heard [such a harsh rejection] might have been because I interviewed [FM

94.9 DJ] Mike Halloran. I heard that he was controversial. Or it might have been a San Diego-versus-Austin thing.”

Monteagudo says most of the bands in the 90-minute video are not together anymore and that he knew the project was doomed



MONTEAGUDO TAKES A SHREDDING

when none of the bands would play for a local premiere.

“I wanted to show it at the Ken theater and have the bands play next door at the Ken Club. None of them would do it. Some wouldn’t even return my phone calls. Some didn’t want to do it because P.O.D. was in it and they preached too much....

“There is a good quote in [the film] from someone in Cindy Lee Berryhill’s band; he said that the San Diego music scene is like the story of San Diego crabs. He said if you go fishing for crabs you don’t have to cover the bucket because if one of

them tries to get out, the others will pull him back down....

“I made none of my money back, but it was my calling card into making movies. I went to Colón, Cuba, to research my father’s history after he died. I have ten hours of footage I shot in people’s homes. I’m now talking to some people in L.A. to see if I can get distribution for the documentary showing the day-to-day life of Cuba.” Monteagudo says he’ll sell video copies of ...*at the street level* for \$7.99 via www.prozacproductions.com.

— Ken Leighton

Thanks, Bums “We had the practice place for about a year,” says drummer Josh Arend of Morning Riot, a four-man punk-rock band based in Encinitas. “We couldn’t afford the single room for \$500, so we split it with another band and we each paid \$250.”

Morning Riot shared the rehearsal space with a death-metal band on a month-to-month basis because it was convenient and the price was right. But...

“The death-metal guys we split the room with were cool guys, but they were a bunch of slob. They had a lack of respect for the room and for us. They would party and leave their empty beer bottles and bottle caps everywhere.

The place started stinking like musky beer and cigarettes.... One night we went in, and it looked like someone had taken a beer bottle, shook it up, and sprayed it all over the room; there were little drops of beer on my drum set....

“One day I’m sitting in my local bar in Encinitas, and my buddy who owns the barbershop next door comes in and said that he had extra space he wanted to rent out. I jokingly said, ‘Hey, why don’t you give it to us?’ But then he actually said he would. So we made it soundproof, and we now pay him \$350 a month. The extra \$100 a month is worth it; we all live in Encinitas. We practice three nights a



MORNING RIOT MOVES INTO BARBERSHOP

week. So, now after we practice we have a bar right next door. And we can walk home if we drink too much....

blurt

the inside track

‘Where’s the party?’ There is a big drug epidemic up here. I would say 70 to 80 percent of the kids do drugs.”

Portinga is in two bands,

goes to Palomar College, and has a job. He sings and plays guitar in Dueling Dragons, one of five bands playing this Saturday in a rare all-age show in Ramona. It’s the first of a series of outdoor concerts to be held in the roped-off parking lot of Blue Horse Music, Ramona’s only music store. Portinga maintains that authorities in this unincorporated rural town of 15,000 do what they can to prevent bands from playing in public. Jon Hasz, manager of Blue Horse Music, agrees.

“It’s terrible,” says Hasz.



HASZ COUNTS OFF THE MUSIC CASUALTIES

Ramonastock at the Ramona Rodeo grounds. They got all these permits, then found out at the last minute they needed one more permit that takes six months to get. That killed Ramonastock.”

Elaine Ruff, who owns Blue Horse Music, acquired a special-event permit for the Saturday show from the County of San Diego. She would have preferred to hold

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MUSIC SCENEblurt
continued

"The barbershop is in front and we got the back. We built a wall in the middle of the shop. We filled the wall with many layers of carpet, drywall, and soundboard. It's an old-fashioned barbershop with three chairs. We can't use it until after the barbershop closes at 6 p.m.... There are two solid concrete walls separating us and the other two businesses on either side. The only people who can hear us are bums in the back alley, and they all rock out with Morning Riot. They help us load in our gear."

Morning Riot appears Saturday at 710 Beach Club (formerly Blind Melons).

— Ken Leighton

Appalled, I'm Sure

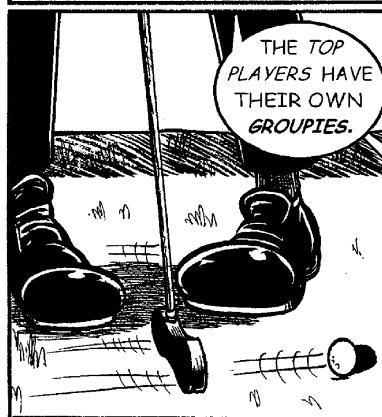
More local performers with content on their MySpace sites some might find objectionable:

Bands with misogynistic names include "Dig a Ditch and Bury the Bitch" and "Snuff That White Bitch" (the latter band featuring photos of serial killers Jeffrey Dahmer and Richard Ramirez on their main page). Robot Nigga's "Fry Till I Die" includes the line "Just trying to make that paper, your daughter might be hot when I'm not trying to rape her."

No Remorse of El Cajon posted a song called "Psychotic Cremation" (224 plays) with lyrics such as, "I'm going to smash your head with a rock, listen to the great big crunch...I'm gonna tie your body to my truck, leave it in a trail of blood and guts, bones will start to rip out your skin, roadkill will never be the same."

Songs posted by Homosexual Corpse include "Edible Jockstrap" (over 800 plays) and "Addicted to

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: LA COSTA



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WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLENSANFORD

Foreskin" (around 1000 plays). "American Poo" by Justin Pixler has been played around 60 times and takes an apparently anti-German stance, though he explains in his blog, "I'm part German so, like, I can make fun of them for some reason." Sample lyric: "So when they want you to eat bratwurst or Jews or whatever, at least

once, say fuck that."

Standup Is Dead have video footage of a midget stripper on their main page, while the band Something Just Happened has posted a song called "Midget Love" ("Little fingers running down my back..."), played over 150 times. "I would be a little wary of performing the song live," e-mailed singer Ian Swanson in response to queries about the tune. "Although, at five foot four, I almost qualify as a midget myself."

— Jay Allen Sanford

More Tuba Steven Kendrick, tuba player, local comedian, and host of Winstons Friday-night Ocean Beach comedy shows, was stoked to hear that Banyan would be performing at the club on October 14. Kendrick had filmed the jazz/funk/rock/experimental band (led by Jane's Addiction drummer Stephen Perkins) in Austin five years ago. The day of the Winstons show, Kendrick got the opportunity to chat with Perkins and horn player Willie Waldman outside the bar.

One of Winstons bartenders ranked the show in her top five out of all she'd seen in the 16 years she's been there. The highlight for Kendrick was when Waldman invited him up onstage along with a guest saxophonist. The six musicians jammed for about ten minutes, with Kendrick playing a solo on his WWII Army-issue tuba. After the performance, the members of Banyan signed Kendrick's tuba, each of them noting with a chuckle that it was the first time they'd ever signed a tuba.

Banyan returns to Winston's on December 1.

— Kristin Condon

Pints for the Pirates Jimmy Buffett, who appears



KENDRICK RECRUITED BY BANYAN

at Coors Amphitheatre tonight, requires in his dressing room a case of

Coronitas beer and four Balance Bars. He wants another half case of Corona at



BUFFETT...NOT QUITE WASTING AWAY

stage left, and the band bus gets a six-pack each of Budweiser and Bud Light, two six-packs of Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, a four-pack of Guinness Pub Draught, and a six-pack of "local microbrewed beer." An additional "two cold Coronas" are required for "Jimmy's car." If Buffett doesn't get a 90-minute sound check, "Artist shall be paid full compensation without the necessity of performing." (From *thesmokinggun.com.*)

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford

as i hear it

by CONOR LASTOWKA

Interviewed: Colin Galgon, Pacific Beach
Artist: Nathan Fox
Song: "Lovers Creed" (from the CD Chasing Heaven)



COLIN GALGON

He has a familiar sound. I have in my head who they remind me of; it's on the tip of my tongue. I was trying to go through the list of songs on your iPod to try to jog my memory. I want to say the Cure, but I know that's not it. It's not my type of music, but it would be good for chilling, great for sitting around a hookah.

Interviewed: Lauren Duffy, Pacific Beach
Artist: Clay Colton Band
Song: "Roses Don't Mean a Thing" (from the CD Looking Back Ahead)



LAUREN DUFFY

This reminds me of the band O.A.R., both musically and vocally. It's catchy, and I'd probably like it if I stumbled across them live, because it's got an upbeat tempo. But it could also be a song that gets stuck in your head and irritates you all day long, because the chorus has some memorable nonsense lyrics, such as when "Ring, Ring, Ring" is rhymed with "Ding-a-ling-a-ling."

Interviewed: Franz, visiting from Germany
Artist: Ghost Town Deputies
Song: "Backslide" (from the CD Rattletrap)



FRANZ

I think this would be best played live, but it is a little mainstream. It is good pop music; I can tell they are a good four-person band, but I don't listen to much country-type music. It has nice pieces, but I don't know if they work together as a whole, and the lyrics are forgettable. I would not go to a concert, but having some beers and hearing it I would not mind. I wish I had a beer instead of coffee right now.

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The Bouncer Saw It All

“[An] SDPD detective told me, ‘One more overdose and this event is done.’”

4th & B opened for business in 1995. Since then, approximately 1900 shows have taken place, and almost two million people have walked through its doors. Through it all there was “Dutch,” Doug Schultz, who started as a security guard and then worked his way up to director of operations. He is the only employee who worked at the club from its first concert (Crosby, Stills & Nash) until it was acquired by House of Blues in August. Here Dutch provides a rundown of the best and worst of the people, bands, and events that have rolled through 4th & B.

INTERVIEW EDWIN DECKER

Coolest Artists: Ringo Starr, B.B. King, Eddie Money, Berlin, Cheech Marin, the Cult, Tommy Lee

“Tommy Lee showed up a few hours prior to his DJ club night. He was very polite in asking me for a drink, and we had a great conversation. Throughout the evening he was very accommodating to meeting people and signing autographs to those who requested, with no attitude whatsoever. He even joked about the fact that he was not the best DJ.”

Biggest Disappointments: Quiet Riot, Vince Neil, the Amazing Kreskin

“Kreskin’s mind-reading was way off, and his show became embarrassing. He did one skit where someone wrote a number on a piece of paper, and he predicted the wrong number. There were no *oohhs* and *aahhs* that you would expect, just silence and some laughs when his predictions and answers were not correct. Most of the audience left before the end of the show.”

Biggest Egos: Don Dokken, Vanilla Ice, Dio, Bon Jovi, Dwight Yokum, Ratt

“During sound checks Ratt tried to bully the opening act, a local band called Cage. For instance, as the two bands crossed paths at the back door, Ratt expected the guys in Cage to stand aside and let them walk out. They ended up bumping into one another, which almost caused a fight in the parking lot. Ratt demanded that the open-

ing band be scratched, after both bands had already sound checked.”

Biggest Jerk: Zakk Wylde (Ozzy Osbourne’s former guitarist)

“Zakk came into the office, along with his band and some of his crew, with open beer bottles, yelling at Billy Bob about the venue being 21 and up. He kept threatening Billy that he wanted his younger fans to come to the show. He didn’t ask or anything, he just came in and shouted, ‘Hey, motherfucker, don’t you know my fans are under 21?’ and ‘What do you think Ozzy is gonna say about this? You wouldn’t tell Ozzy he couldn’t have his younger fans in here!’

“I was at my desk at the far end of the office. I finally stood up and approached Zakk and yelled, ‘Who the fuck do you think you’re shouting at? This is a 21-and-up venue, and there is nothing we can do about it. You’re just pissed because of low ticket sales!’ He continued to be difficult to work with throughout the night.”

Biggest Entourage: Too Short

“He must have had about 50 or 60 people with him. They all just pulled up in an entourage of SUVs. Everyone expected to get in the back door, and when they couldn’t, they forced their way in.”

Most Lascivious Rave: Gay Pride

“Every year during Gay Pride weekend we catch about half a dozen patrons having illegal sexual contact, usually oral, in the upper part of the mezzanine or in the restroom stalls. We generally just kick them out. When the event is over we find dozens and dozens of used condoms on the floor.”

Most Hunted Performer: Greg Allman

“From the first time he played there, he acted paranoid. He said that someone was trying to kill him. We tried to find out what he was talking about, but he wasn’t making any sense. The second time he came, he told me there was a woman in the crowd who was stalking him. ‘She’s been



Doug “Dutch” Schultz

following me all over the country,’ he said. He had a good description of her, though, so I went into the crowd and found her. I went up to her and asked who she was, and she said she was his daughter. I asked to see her driver’s license, and sure enough her last name was Allman.”

Weirdest Acts: The Cramps, Boy George, Gwar

“Boy George was a gay cross-dresser who came on to our male staff. Gwar had skits involving famous people being beheaded, testicles being cut off, hearts being pulled out, and fake blood squirting into the crowd. Their show consisted of four 50-gallon drums of fake blood and guts that squirted out from the bodies of different characters during the show. The cleanup was enormous. It involved six janitors and took three hours with large wet-vacs and mops. At least they covered the walls with plastic and moved the couches out of range.”

Most Weed Smokers in Audience: George Clinton

“Everyone who comes thinks it’s part of the show to light up a bomber. It’s a ritual when you see George. He plays for three or four hours, so the smoke builds up so much you can’t even see the stage.”

Most Drug Overdoses: Club Rubber

“About eight years ago the after-hours exotic club scene was peaking in San Diego. The king of all

clubs back then was Club Rubber...this was a time when designer club drugs were new [on the scene], and information regarding them and their interaction with alcohol and other drugs was not well known. At our first of several Club Rubbers [we had] four overdoses. [The girls] were found either passed out or lying on the floor, their bodies twitching...each time it happened, an ambulance, fire truck, and police car would arrive and treat the victim...after the fourth call, an SDPD detective told me, ‘One more overdose, and this event is done.’ At the next Club Rubber, the SDPD vice conducted a sting operation. They had a command post set up down the street with an operative wearing a wire who would solicit patrons for drugs. When a buy would go down, several of the officers would run in through the back door and arrest the person selling the drugs.”

Most Surreal Undercover Operation: Whiplash Bash

“We rented the venue to someone who put on a fetish event called ‘Whiplash Bash.’ About 350 people from all over the world paid \$50 each. They all came dressed in leather and fetish attire. There was a fashion show and booths with photographers and people selling fetish items. An undercover sting was taking place with the SDPD. They had two undercover officers present. One was a female officer with high heels and a leather leash attached to a collar around the neck of a

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male officer, who was dressed with an all-leather-and-spiked outfit. Toward the end of the show, the event was raided by several plain-clothed police officers who issued citations to two female patrons — one for having her breasts exposed and the other for engaging in sexual contact with another patron. 4th & B ended up closing for a two-week period as a result.”

Scariest Moment: Super Bowl Party, Tony Yayo

“The Super Bowl party was in January 2003, when the Raiders played the Buccaneers in San Diego. 50 Cent was the biggest name playing. People rushed the back entrance. Some people who appeared to be in his entourage pulled automatic weapons to try to get into the club and VIP area. When they couldn’t get in they started throwing bottles at those who were inside. Fights erupted. SDPD surrounded the venue with 75 officers with riot sticks. They closed down the street and had helicopters flying overhead.

“Another scary moment was during gangster rapper Tony Yayo’s show. Yayo was a member of the Crips. SDPD told me [after the fact] that San Diego is more of a Blood city. 50 Cent came onstage flashing his signs and wearing his colors. We had an all-out riot, and some patrons were hurt. The bar staff were scared, some to the point of crying. Some hid behind their bars. It was an ugly scene that cost Wayne Reynolds [in-house urban promoter] his job.”

Shortest Performance: Big Pun

“Twenty minutes.”

Highest Paid: Crosby, Stills & Nash, Kenny Loggins, Ringo Starr, the Doobie Brothers

Stupidest/Weirdest Customer Complaint:

“The person who wanted their money back after the show because it was too loud...or the one who wanted me to stop the show to find the person who pushed them....

“Another good one was when a woman and her friend stole somebody’s seats. When [the original occupants] returned, they asked the woman and her friend to move. The woman called for management, and I came over and told her to relinquish the seats.

“Then I want my money back,” she said.

“Let me see your tickets,” I replied. She showed me the tickets, and I saw they were comped. So I told her, “Okay, no problem, just return these tickets to your point of purchase.”

“That seemed to satisfy her.” ■

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Calendar CONCERTS

Reverend Horton Heat: 'Canes, Thursday, January 18, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

The Chieftains: California Center for the Arts, Friday, January 26, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

MARCH

Christina Aguilera: ipayOne Center, Friday, March 2, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Calendar CLUBS

DANCE

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Brick by Brick: Fridays, *Therapy*, industrial, gothic, and fetish with DJs Bryan Pollard and guest. 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; 21 and up. 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-5483.

Buster Daly's: Second Thursday of the month, *4mat*, jazz-funk, soul, and hip-hop with DJ Xavier. 3112 University Avenue, North Park. 619-284-2747.

'Canes: Thursdays, Top 40, hip-hop, and old skool with DJs Power Girth, and Rick Nasty. 9 p.m. 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

The C Lounge: Sundays, *Liquid*, liquid funk and drum 'n' bass. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2838.

Crudo: Thursdays, deep, soulful, sexy house grooves with weekly DJs. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 1953 India Street (at Grape), Little Italy. 619-398-2974.

Dino's: Fridays, *Gimmie Gimmie*, punk, goth, and rock with DJs Bryan Pollard, Morgan Young, and guest. 3929 30th Street, North Park. 619-291-3466.

The Flame: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, *Sabbat*, gothic, industrial, and dark '80s with DJs Robin Roth, Adam Atom, and Diskdroid. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and

up. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

Honey Bee Hive: Wednesdays, *Mixtape Sessions*, underground hip-hop, downtempo, and breakbeat with DJ Ricky Wrecks and Mada; 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays, *Deep*, drum 'n' bass with DJs Wallkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-702-6010.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins hip-hop, house, and reggaeton. 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m., high school sophomore and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Jack's Lounge: Fridays, sexy dance music with DJ Misha and weekly guests. Saturdays, vocal house with DJ Sean Wilson. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: Wednesdays, *Darkwave Garden*, punk, gothic, and ethereal with DJs Bryan Pollard, Stern, and Grimderella. First Saturday of the month, *BrokenBeat Night*, live electronic, machine funk, and breaks. Second and third Saturday of the month, *Underground Playground*, breaks, house, and progressive with Jack Tripper and guest DJs. Tuesdays, *Distortion*, mashups, bastard pop, and cybertrash. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kava Lounge: Second Friday of the month, *Ascension*, Robin Roth and Tom King spin the best in dark underground dance music. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

The Kensington Club: Wednesdays, *Sub-Par*, hip-hop, rock 'n' soul, funk. 9:30 p.m. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848.

Michael's Lounge (Hyatt Regency): Thursdays, DJs Neko, Sky, and Chris Mullins spin hip-hop, dance, and '70s/'80s. 9 p.m. 3777 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla. 858-552-1234.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Saturdays, hip-hop and R&B with DJs Enigma and Cisco. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

Moose's Gaslamp: Sundays, *Nocturnal*, house and trance with DJ Neko. 9 p.m. 535 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-702-5595.

Riley's Sports Bar: First Friday of the month, *Sin Factory*, fetish, gothic, and industrial with DJs Darkman and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635.

San Diego Sports Club: Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electro pop, and '80s

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

The Sextons (Charlie and Martin, not related) have perfected nearly every musical mood, inflection, and emotion known to man. Martin has a brilliant career as an alt-folk artist, and Charlie is best known for his years with Bob Dylan. Between the two, there isn't much left for an emerging male singer/songwriter who is hoping against heavy odds to find a safe haven in contemporary music. But **Shawn Mullins**, by courting many styles himself, has managed to find his niche, and he is grateful. I know he thinks about this stuff because he told an interviewer, "I like working [playing music] for a living. It's a lot better than digging a ditch, which I've done also."

Imagine a dark James Taylor who writes Richard Ford—like about themes like being

killed or carted off to jail and you have a feel for Mullins's mind-set of late. In the late '90s he was a pop star with a platinum album and a top-ten folk-rap hit called "Lullaby," but nothing after that seemed to click commercially. He eventually switched to a smaller label and downsized his alt-country leanings to a more roots-and-folk platform. The result is *9th Ward Pickin' Parlor*, a follow-up CD that comes six years after *Beneath the Velvet Sun*. The Pickin' Parlor, by the way, was the name of an ill-fated studio located in New Orleans' Ninth Ward in which Mullins recorded this collection of songs. Shortly after, the Parlor was erased from the map by Hurricane Katrina.

This time around, Mullins brings a blend of folk simplicity and rock politics laced with sometimes-flaming guitars. The midtempo rockers don't always fit with the coffeehouse vibe, but taken individually,



SHAWN MULLINS

each and every song is a gem sung in baritone. Like the Sextons, Mullins has enough talent to perform in many different styles, and so he does. Some may view this a gift, some a problem.

SHAWN MULLINS, Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, October 29, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$30.

Second and fourth Saturday of the month, *Club Fashion Whore*, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Saul Q, Barry Weaver, and more. Third Saturday of the month, *Club de Sade*, gothic, industrial, and fetish with DJs Darkman and Creep. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

710 Beach Club: Sundays, Husky Boy Allstars, hip-hop, funk, and old skool. 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844.

Shooterz: Thursdays, *Club '80s*, new wave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. Saturdays, *Underworld*, industrial, gothic, and dark electro with DJs Bryan Pollard, Cybian, and Harlot. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Static Lounge: Saturdays, house music to dark dance beats. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 18 and up. 634 Broadway (between Sixth and Seventh Avenue), downtown. 619-544-1609.

Whiskey Girl: DJs Marc Thrasher, Danimal, and Famous Dave host DJ events throughout the week. 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616.

The Whistle Stop: Second Thursday of the month, *Programme:Zero*, indie, Brit pop, and soul. First and third Saturday of the month, *Transport*, Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. Second and fifth Saturday

of the month, *One Nation*, new wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. Tuesdays, *Friends Chill*, downtempo, electronic, and ambient with DJs Wank Chops, Lstr, and guests. 9 p.m.; 21 and up. 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park. 619-284-6784.

CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

Beaches

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-488-0551. Tangier Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/Latin/international and pop standards.

Bar Leucadian, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Friday and Saturday, live rock/blues.

Beaumont's, 5662 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla. 858-459-0474. Saturday, live blues/classic rock.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Uplift*, reggae. Friday and Saturday, *Triple Shot*, blues. Sunday, *the Rick Ross Trio*, jazz. Monday, *John Scott & the Magnificents*, jazz. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk. Wednesday, *Blue Largo*, blues/jazz.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Def in One Eye*, *Terra Incognita*, and *Atlas of Id*. Saturday, *the Stalker Dan Band*. Sunday, 7 p.m., *Diego Roots*, *Scott & Aimee*, *Red Gun Radar*, and *Carabine*. Tuesday, *Dead Man's Party* and *Manganista*. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *James Hunter*, acoustic.

Ché Café, UCSD Campus, 9500 Gilman Drive, Student Center B-0323C, La Jolla. 858-534-2311. Saturday, *Die Via Plane Crash*, *Space Horse*, *the Laterns*, and *the Affair*, rock/punk.

Clay's, atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Latin jazz. Saturday and Wednesday, live jazz/funk.

Cody's La Jolla, 8030 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-459-0040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Roy Resnikoff*, light classical piano/show

tunes. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Joe Cardillo*, acoustic jazz-rock. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Dick Koenig*, jazz guitar.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Thursday, 4 p.m., *the Odd Couple*, *Dirty Town*, and *Lauren*, hip-hop. Friday, 4 p.m., *High Tide* and *Ballyhoo*. Saturday, 4 p.m., *Motley Crued*, *American Hitmen*, *Effusive Folk*, *the Barroom Shakers*, and *Thorn*, rock. Tuesday, *J.D. Romance*, *Gone to Oblivion*, *Shadows Prophecy*, *II Die IV*, and *Corporate Circus*, hard rock/metal.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Tyler Grant*. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Shannon Harrington*, 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Donnis Trio*. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Bluegrass Social*.

Estancia Resort Hotel, 9700 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 858-550-1000. Mustang & Burros Bar and Grill: Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Los Reyes Del Ritmo*, Gipsy Kings tribute band.

Excelsior, 1025 Prospect Street #201 (second floor), La Jolla. 858-454-8092. Thursday, call club for information. Friday, hip-hop/house.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, *Just Added*, rock.

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Saturday, October 28
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3rd - \$50
Small Town Heroes

Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Jack's La Jolla, 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111. Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., *Soul Seduction*, jazz.

Ki's Coffee on Top, 2591 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-2158. Friday, *Patrick Berrogain*, jazz.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Friday, 9 p.m., *Custard Pie*, classic rock. Saturday, *West of 5*, classic rock. Sunday, blues jam with *the Blues Brokers*.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Rick Ross*, jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. The Grill: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Dan Papaila*, solo jazz guitar. Also, Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday, *Gil Barron*, *Mark Fulton*, *James East*, and *PTrak Armenta*, acoustic pop/rock/Latin/soul. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jazz 101 Band* featuring *Nick Fiore*, *John Guilino*, *Dave Scott*,

and *the Cynthia Hammond*. Saturday, Latin jazz.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/pop/Latin.

St. Tropez Bistro & Bakery, 947 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-633-0084. Friday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

710 Beach Club (formerly Blind Melons), 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Antiques*, *When I Rise!*, indie rock, *Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra*, hip-hop/jazz fusion. Saturday, *the Morning Riot* and *the Essentials*, rock. Sunday, hip-hop. Monday, *the Mitch Budd Band*, rock. Wednesday, live rock.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Saturday, 7:30 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, soul/reggae/rock. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Willowalot*, smooth jazz.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, *the Nards*, rock. Saturday, *the Stony Dudes*, rock. Sunday, open mike. Tuesday, *Christopher Dale & Friends*, acoustic. Wednesday, live rock.

Tower Two Beach Cafe, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-223-4059. Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., live acoustic/folk music.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, RAQ. Friday, *Elijah Emanuel & the Revelations*, reggae, with *the Adopted Prophets*. Saturday, *Cape May*, *Gadfly*, and *the Roman Spring*. Monday, *the Electric Waste*



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

MASTERPIECE

6:15-10:45 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

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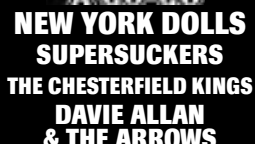
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UPCOMING SHOWS:

11/18 **Boogie Nights presents Metal Snake**
11/19 **The Lemonheads w/Vietnam & Reeve Oliver**
11/22 **Elijah Emanuel & The Revelations w/Shaka Buku**
11/24 **The Album Leaf, Grand Ole Party & Dirty On Purpose**
11/25 **Joe Bonamassa w/Oliver Pigott**

11/27 **Wall of Voodoo w/Stam Ridgway**

11/28 **BT & Thomas Dolby**

11/30 **Dynamite Walls, This Holiday Life & Delta Spirit**

12/1 **Hi-Tek**

12/4 **Amos Lee**

12/5 **Fourgoodmen**

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guests. Hosted by Paul F. Tompkins

12/10 **Shooter Jennings**

12/14 **Venice**

12/17 **Devotchka**

12/22 **Buck-O-Nine & Skanec**

12/23 **The Greyboy All Stars**

12/28 **Particle**

1/12 **Long Beach Shortbus**

1/13 **Dead Man's Party**

1/31 **Jake Shimabukuro**

3/8 **Leo Kottke**

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11/4: **HIGHER MINDS**

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Saturday • October 28

DJ

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Thursday • November 2

TUMBLIN'

DICE

Saturday • November 4

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OF 5

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Sat. 10/28 College Football All Day
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TONIGHT **Halloween Party**
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Sun. 10/29 **FOOTBALL ALL DAY**

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UPCOMING:

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11/4: Tribute Bands
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With special guest
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Sat. 10/28 College Football All Day
Home of the Longhorns

TONIGHT Halloween Party



CAPE MAY

CAPE MAY
THE ROMAN SPRING

Sun. 10/29 Football All Day
Redskins and Chargers Headquarters

TONIGHT Free Cover
SCARY-OKE
with special guest
JOSÉ SINATRA

Mon. 10/30 6-8 PM:
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Tues. 10/31 6-8 PM:
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TONIGHT Halloween Punk Rock Party

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THE MENSTRUAL CHUNKS
THE WHISKEY DICKS
IN PERFECT AGONY

Wed. 11/1 Reggae
Brim Stone Sounds Tour
CD Release Party for 2 Bands
RAS ATTITUDE
JAH SUN
ISHI DUBE & THE MASSAGANNA BAND

UPCOMING:

11/2: **HONKYTONK HOMESLICE**

11/3: **WEST INDIAN GIRL**

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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Band, classic rock. Tuesday, *Menstrual Chunks* and *In Perfect Agony*. Wednesday, live rock.

Downtown

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 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. Friday, 8 p.m., *Lee Coulter*, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Tefflon*, acoustic.

Busalacchi's Ristorante, 3683 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-298-0119. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the New Standard Jazz Trio*, straight-ahead jazz.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Alias*, *Tarsier*, *Electric President*, and *Astronautilus*. Friday, *Deadbolt*, *the Creepy Creeps*, and *The Corsairs*. Saturday, *No Means No*, *Hostile Combover*, and *Space Horse*. Monday, *Honky* and guests. Tuesday, *Dirty Sweet*, *Goblin Cock*, and *the Jade Shader*.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the David Patrone Quartet*. Friday, *Yavez*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *Fuzzy & the Bluesmen*.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5554. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jimmy Lavello*, pop piano.



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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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Prizes & Giveaways!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

7X presents Halloween Party with

DEAD MAN'S PARTY
(Oingo Boingo Tribute)

MANGANISTA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

DIRTY HEADS
SCAR'D SANITY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

2 SHOWS IN 1 NIGHT
FEATURING THE COMEDIANS
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MEET THE RETARDS PART 2
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JIM FLORENTINE,
SAL THE STOCKBROKER
& YUCKO THE CLOWN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

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DEEP ROOTED • DJ FINGAZ

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

THE JUKE KARTEL
WITH
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Tainted Love
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

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HUMAN CH. SLEEPER

SAT. OCT 28
HEAVENS

SUN. OCT 29
TRIVIAM
THE SWORD
Protect The Hero

FRI. NOV 3
NORMA JEAN
BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME
FEAR BEFORE THE MISERY SIGNALS
BLESS THE FALL
815 - 8pm - Lunatics

SAT. NOV 4
SILVERSTEIN
Aiden IT DIES TODAY
SCABY KIDS SCABY KIDS

SUN. NOV 5
Story of the Year
anberlin
Greely Estates • MONTY ADEL

THURS. NOV 6
showbread
sullivan - tyler read

SAT. NOV 11
LOVEDRUG
Brandston • The Myriad

SUN. NOV 12
DEFTONES
TICKETMASTER • SOMA BOX OFFICE

WED. NOV 15
THE HUSH SOUND
Murder By Death
This Providence
This is Me Smiling

FRI. NOV 17
THE WARRIORS
FULL BLOWN CHAOS
REMEMBERING NEVER
WAB OF AGES • GARNITEX

SUN. NOV 19
MAXEEN
THE OUTLINE
NEW YEARS DAY

TUES. NOV 21
straylight run

WED. NOV 22
DANZIG
LACONIA • THE HALLOWED
BEPHEGOR • ASESINO

FRI. NOV 24
3C SECONDSTOMARS

SAT. NOV 25
COPELAND

SUN. NOV 26
HAPPY EARLY SHOW!
ADRIAN The Classic Crime
So They Say F. Hon. Grant

SAT. DEC 2
MY AMERICAN HEART
PISTOLITA

FRI. DEC 8
Children Of Bodom

MON. DEC 11
(+44)
THE MATCHES
ALL TICKETS PURCHASED FOR OCT. 13TH
WILL BE VALID DAY OF EVENT

Calendar CLUBS

DOWNTOWN

(continued)

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, *Private Domain*. Saturday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Sunday, *the Disco Pimps*. Tuesday, *Private Domain*. Wednesday, *the Ghost of Sada*.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *Joe Marillo*, *Jacques Lesure*, and *the B-3 Four* featuring *David Mosby*, jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Michele Rosewoman & Her Quintet*, jazz. Sunday, 7 p.m., *Karen Blixt*, jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Traditional Irish music and live bands almost every night.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, *the Brat Pack*. Friday, *Good Times*. Saturday, call club for information. Tuesday, *the Stiletto*, rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, *KMFDM*. Friday, *Cursive*, *the Thermals*, and *Eastern Youth*.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday, 9:45 p.m., *Pop Rocks*, '80s dance. Saturday, 9:45 p.m., *Pop Rocks*, 80s dance. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Insight*, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, jazz/dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Shaker Room: Thursday, 9 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, soul/rock/reggae.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band*. Friday, *Shelle Blue*. Saturday, *Buick Wilson*. Sunday, *Blue Largo*. Monday, *Chet Cannon & the Committee*. Tuesday, *the Bayou Brothers*. Wednesday, *Len Rainey & the Midnight Players*.

Princess Pub & Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, *J.D. Bouchard*, piano.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Friday and Saturday, live pop/rock/disco/dance.

Samba Grill, 514 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp. 619-236-1000. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Edo Brazil*, Brazilian jazz.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, *Primo*, Latin jazz/salsa. Tuesday, *Salsa Caliente*.

The Shout House, 655 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: All music is piano. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *the Karin Carson Trio*. Friday, and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Fran Loskota* and *Karen Giorgio*, jazz/blues/pop. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Julio de la Huerta*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Faith Page*.

Westin Horton Plaza, 910 Broadway Circle, downtown. 619-232-4355. Schroeders Club: Friday, 8 p.m., *Todd Schroeder*, pop/blues/jazz.

Whiskey Girl, 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday, *DaGroove*, rock hits, and *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Friday, *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Saturday, *DJ Marc Thrasher* and *DJ Danimal*. Sunday, *DJ Danimal*. Monday, *Manic Mondays* with *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Tuesday, *the Crosswinds*, Southern rock/country/blues, and *DJ Famous*.

2-Day Halloween Party
Oct. 28 & 31
Prizes & drink specials!

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When In My Painting
Ransact • Revenge Club
Shame And Skandal

Fri., October 27 • \$7/\$8
Castledoor • Lostocean
Fairchild • Avner • Paul Wright

Sat., October 28 • \$7/\$8
Dig Deep Ent. • Young Jawz
Slick Life • TruthLive
Razz Tip • The Go Project
Eyezoo

Sat., November 4 • \$10/\$12
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present
The Strangers Six
A Dead Giveaway
A Midday Atlantic
and more!

Sat., November 25 • \$15
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114 San Diego Reader October 26, 2006

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Calendar

CLUBS

DOWNTOWN

(continued)

Dave. Wednesday, *the Stepping Feet*, a Dave Matthews Band tribute band, and *DJ Famous Dave*.

San Diego

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Music is acoustic/folk/pop. Thursday, *Susan Werner*. Sunday, *the April Verch Band*.

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211.

Albie's Beef Inn, 1201 Hotel Circle South, San Diego. 619-291-1103. Piano bar, call club for information.

The Alibi, 1403 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-295-0881. Live music.

The Beauty Bar, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-516-4746. Friday, 9 p.m., *Van She and the Softlightes*, electric dance pop.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *Harold & Chris*, Irish folk. Monday, *Pat & Joe* and *Allison Gill*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, call club for information.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Mike McGill*, folk.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is rock/metal/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Zepparella*, *the Love Handles*, and *Huge Rooster*. Friday, *Scott & Aimee*, *Split Finger*, and *dJ Rost*. Saturday, *Whitestarr*, *Kemistry*, *Arm the Angels*,

and *Inberst*. Sunday, *Estradasphere*, *Vokee*, and *This Fiend Kills*. Tuesday, *Alice & the Cooper Gang* and *Canobliss*.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Music is rock/metal/punk. Thursday, *Local Motion*, *When in My Painting*, *Ransact*, *the Revenge Club*, and *Shame & Scandal*. Friday, *Castledoor*, *Lostoccan*, *Fairchild*, *Avner*, and *Paul Wright*. Saturday, *Razz Tip* and *the Go Project*.

Etta's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730. Live rock/swing.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock.

Harney Sushi, 3964 Harney Street, San Diego. 619-395-3272. Thursday, *Tribe of Kings*, reggae. Friday and Saturday, hip-hop/disco/funk/old skool. Tuesday, *Bento Beatbox*.

Harry's Bar and American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo*.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-469-4113. Thursday, *J.J. Lim*, *Josh*, & *Bob*, jazz. Friday and Saturday, live bands. Sunday, salsa. Monday, tango.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Criminal Funk*. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *4-Way Street*, classic rock; 9:30 p.m., *John Lee Hooker Jr.*, blues. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Jerome Dawson*, jazz; 9:30 p.m., *the Detroit Underground*, Motown/soul. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., *Stellita's Groove*, smooth jazz; 8 p.m. to midnight, *Burt Brion*, smooth jazz. Monday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Island Breeze*, Jimmy Buffet tribute band. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *the Taylor Harvey Band*, rock.

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Years ago I visited a random-band-name-generator website, and it came up with "Hobbit Cock." I didn't think much about that until last year when San Diego's prolific **Rob Crow** announced the formation of yet another new band, this one named **Goblin Cock**. According to Mark Sutfin's NC-17-rated cover art for the band's *Bagged and Boarded*, goblins are, um, much bigger than hobbits.

Anyway, Goblin Cock is Crow's metal band. That means that the players all wear black cloaks and play pointy guitars and churn out sludgy, Sabbath-style riffs. Otherwise it sounds pretty much like Pinback or Thingy or Heavy Vegetable or one of Crow's

other projects. I mean that in a good way. Seriously, I am not complaining about Goblin Cock's lack of double-bass-drum fills, noodly guitar solos, or Cookie Monster vocals. But I do wonder if Goblin Cock really needs the heaping portions of irony it serves. After all, there is no shortage of parody and self-parody (intentional as well as unintentional) in metal circles. Many metal acts are not as dumb as they pretend to be, and lately, bands like Sunn O))) have been winning admirers for their intelligence and musical ambition. (They also have been known to wear cloaks.)

If anyone else shares my reservations, it's not hurting Goblin Cock's business. The band is touring constantly, and I'm told that *Bagged and Boarded* is selling better than any Crow product save Pinback. More impor-



GOBLIN C***

tantly, I'm told the band and the audiences are having a lot of fun. And hell, it's Halloween. Time to dress up.

Dirty Sweet also performs.

GOBLIN COCK, The Casbah, Tuesday, October 31, 8 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$15.

JP's Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, live blues/rock.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is alternative rock/rock/punk. Friday, *Manganista*, *Unsteady*, and *Riboflavin*.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Mark Jackson Band*, *Peter Bolland*, and *Rusty Jones*. Friday, *Gregory Page*. Saturday, *Robin Henkel*. Sunday, *J. Turtle*, *Isaac Cheong*, and *Will Edwards*. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, *Guggenheim Grotto* and *Nathan Welden*.

Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Vintage Vegas*, jazz.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Race Against Space*, *the Mortars*, and *Blue Spring*, rock/punk. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Sweet Tooth*, *New Day Mile*, and *Compass Rose*, rock. Sunday, 9 p.m., *the Bigfellas*, rock. Monday, 7:30 p.m., *Mystery Train*, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *CDM*, *the Experiments*, and *the Noise Gods*, rock/punk. Wednesday, *Brian Holwerda*, indie rock.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Gene Warren*. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Night Shift*, classic rock.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Eddie Rossi* and *Joe Soprano*, piano. Monday and Tuesday, *the David Shaw Duo*.

The Rhythm Lounge, 3048 Midway Drive, San Diego. 619-224-4835. Tuesday, open blues jam.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Stone Wolf*, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Friday and Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/R&B/rap.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA.

Performances start at 7 p.m. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Thursday, *If*

Hope Dies, *Versus the Mirror*, *the Human Abstract*, and *Oh, Sleeper*. Friday, *Hawthorne Heights*, *Reliant K*,

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Dussini Mediterranean Bistro	Master Tiki Nui Tai Lounge
The Field	Moose McGillycuddy's
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The Grape	Onyx Room
Gaslamp Strip Club	Rod 'C' Lounge
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TUE OCT 31

Halloween



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Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)
Emery, Plain White T's, and the Sleeping. Saturday, Heavens and Darker My Love.

South Park Bar and Grill, 1946 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-696-0096. Thursday, 7 p.m., *John Kopecky*, solo Latin jazz guitar. Friday, 7 p.m., *Amelia Browning*, jazz/Latin standards. Saturday, 8 p.m., jazz jam session.

Terra, on Vermont, one block north of University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-293-7088. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Robin Henkel*, solo blues/jazz.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Live rock/swing/blues.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday and Saturday, live rock/swing/blues. Monday, tango. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *the High Society Jazz Band*.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Music is hard rock. Friday, *the Homeless Sexuals*, *the Grannies*, and *Everything Must Go*. Sunday, *Bartender's Bible*, *the Deere Johns*, and *Diablo Dimes*. Monday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Music is hard rock. Friday, *the Homeless Sexuals*, *the Grannies*, and *Everything Must Go*. Sunday, *Bartender's Bible*, *the Deere Johns*, and *Diablo Dimes*. Monday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Dave Boodakian*, *Steven Ybarra*, *Aaron Bowen*, and *Tiffany*. Friday, *Leviticus*, *Dawn*, *John Hull*, and *Nikhul Korula*.

Saturday, *the Northstar Session*, *the Steve Carson Band*, *the Pawnshop Kings*, *Skyler Stonestreet*, and *Ezra's Eyes*, pop. Sunday, 4 p.m., *the Celtic Ensemble*, 8 p.m., *Bushwalla*. Wednesday, open mike with *Tim Mudd*.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* featuring vocalist *David Mosby*, jazz.

Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-284-6784. Friday, *Swandive* and *the New Room*, indie pop.

The Zombie Lounge, 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-284-DEAD. Music is rock/punk/metal/alternative. Friday, *Civet*, *the Hollowpoints*, and *the Whiskey Rebels*. Saturday, *Dying Wish* and *Worth Every Scar*. Sunday, *the Roman Spring*, *the Tigersharks*, *the Wagon*, and *the Coma Recovery*.

North County

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, Top 40/pop.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Bob Schneider & His Band*, and *Ari Hest*. Friday, 9 p.m., *the English Beat* and *the Big Provider*, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Atomic Punks* and *Phenomenon*, rock. Sunday, *the Gin Blossoms*, *Shawn Mullins*, and *Pat McGee*, pop. Tuesday, '80s music. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Shelby Lynne*, acoustic.

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 8 p.m., '80s dance/hip-hop. Tuesday, country.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, hip-hop. Friday, and Saturday, live classic rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735.

Friday, 8 p.m., *Peggy Watson* and *David Beldock*, jazz.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Jennifer Jayden*, folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *B'Dale*, acoustic. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Jim Earp*, acoustic.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock/blues.

The Cow Shed, 502 East Mission Road, San Marcos. 760-471-4579. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Raven White*, new romantic/gothic/electronica.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the New Breed Band*, jazz/pop. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Roots to Rockets*, reggae/rock. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., *Blue Largo*, jazz/blues, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors*, blues. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jerome Dawson*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*.

Cuvee Restaurant, 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar. 858-259-5878. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Sambajazz*, Brazilian and American jazz.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday, *Lizard Fish*, rock. Saturday, *the Bill Magee Blues Band*.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

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Friday, October 27
Shelle Blue
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Saturday, October 28
Buick Wilson Band
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Sunday, Oct. 29 Blue Largo	Monday, Oct. 30 Chet Cannon & The Committee	Tuesday, Oct. 31 Halloween Bayou Brothers Costume Party & Prizes	Wednesday, Nov. 1 Len Rainey & The Midnight Players
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Calendar

BANDS

ROCK

(continued)

Compass Rose: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Crosswinds: Whiskey Girl

Custard Pie: The Kraken

Dead Man's Party: 'Canes

The Detroit Underground: Humphrey's

Dirty Sweet: The Casbah

D-Tox: Fannie's Nightclub

Effusive Folk: Dreamstreet

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

The English Beat: Belly Up Tavern

The Essentials: 710 Beach Club

Everything Must Go: Tower Bar

Faceles: The Jumping Turtle

Five Alarm: Surf N'Saddle

4-Way Street: Humphrey's

Full Xposure: Game Time Tavern

Mike Gardner: North Bar Sports & Spirits, Mas Fina Cantina

The Ghost of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

The Gods of Mechanical Breakdown: Fannie's Nightclub

The Grannies: Tower Bar

The Taylor Harvey Band: Don's Cocktail Lounge, Humphrey's

The Homeless Sexuals: Tower Bar

Honky: The Casbah

The Mark Jackson Band: Lestat's Coffee House

Just Added: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the Marina

Living Relic: Molly Malone's

Lizard Fish: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)

Local Motion: Epicentre

The Love Handles: Brick By Brick, Fannie's Nightclub

Meliesa & Monkey Bites: Surf N'Saddle

Metal Brigade: Molly Malone's

The Monsters of Rock: The Driftwood Lounge

The Morning Riot: 710 Beach Club

Motley Crued: Dreamstreet

The Nards: Tiki House

New Day Mile: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Night Shift: Pal Joey's, Dick's Last Resort

No Means No: The Casbah

The Noise Gods: Fannie's Nightclub, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Pawnshop Kings: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Pop Rocks: Jimmy Love's

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort

Ron's Garage: Hotel del Coronado, Island Sports & Spirits, Dick's Last Resort

Roots to Rockets: Coyote Bar and Grill

Sanu: The Jumping Turtle

Bob Schneider & His Band: Belly Up Tavern

Scott & Aimee: Brick By Brick

Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee)

Gone9: Woody's Sports Bar

Solis: Fannie's Nightclub

Split Finger: Brick By Brick

The Stalker Dan Band: 'Canes

The Stiletos: Henry's Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Stone Wolf: Second Wind (San Carlos)

The Stoney Dudes: Tiki House

Sweet Tooth: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Ten Mile Drive: The Jumping Turtle

1220: The Jumping Turtle

Uptown Groove: Dirk's Niteclub

West of 5: The Kraken

The Whiskey Rebels: The Zombie Lounge

Paul Wright: Epicentre

Zepparella: Brick By Brick

POP / TOP 40

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect

Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect

James East: Pasquale on Prospect

Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect

The Good Times: Henry's Pub

Island Breeze: Humphrey's

Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and Spirits

Leviticus: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

The Love Rangers: The Alley

Pat McGee: Belly Up Tavern

The New Breed Band: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Northstar Session: McP's Irish Pub and Grill, Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

The Stepping Feet: Whiskey Girl

Van She: The Beauty Bar

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, Dizzy's

David Beldock: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

Patrick Berrogain: Ki's Coffee On Top

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Karen Blixt: Dizzy's

Blue Largo: Coyote Bar and Grill, Patrick's II, The Calypso Cafe

Burn Brion: Humphrey's

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

Saturday, October 28th from 9PM-Midnight

Costume Viewing & Contest at Midnight
Cover Charge - Prizes Awarded

Costume Categories	Prize
Sexiest	Rock Bottom Gift Pack
Scariest	Rock Bottom Gift Pack
Most Original	\$50 Rock Bottom gift card
Best Over All	\$150 Cash Prize

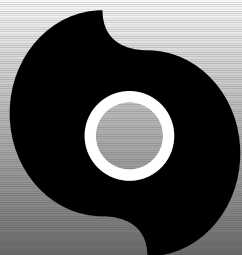
This is a Rock Bottom Foundation event. Proceeds will benefit the third annual Miracle Gathering in the Gaslamp.



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Thursday, Oct. 26

8 pm • '80s Dance

Criminal Funk

Friday, Oct. 27

6 pm • Classic Rock

Four Way Street

9:30 pm • Blues

John Lee Hooker Jr.



Saturday, Oct. 28

6 pm • Jazz Saxophonist

Jerome Dawson

9:30 pm • Motown & Disco

Detroit Underground



Sunday, Oct. 29 • 8 pm

The only place to be on Sunday night!
98.1 Smooth Jazz with Kelly Cole

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with **DJ John Phillips**



Monday, Oct. 30

8 pm

Jimmy Buffett Tribute

Island Breeze

Tuesday, Oct. 31

8 pm • Original Rock

Taylor Harvey Band

Wednesday, Nov. 1

Chicago Blues

Bill Magee

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Thursday, Nov. 9

R&B
Booker T. Jones



Friday, Nov. 10

Jimmy Thackery



Saturday, Nov. 11

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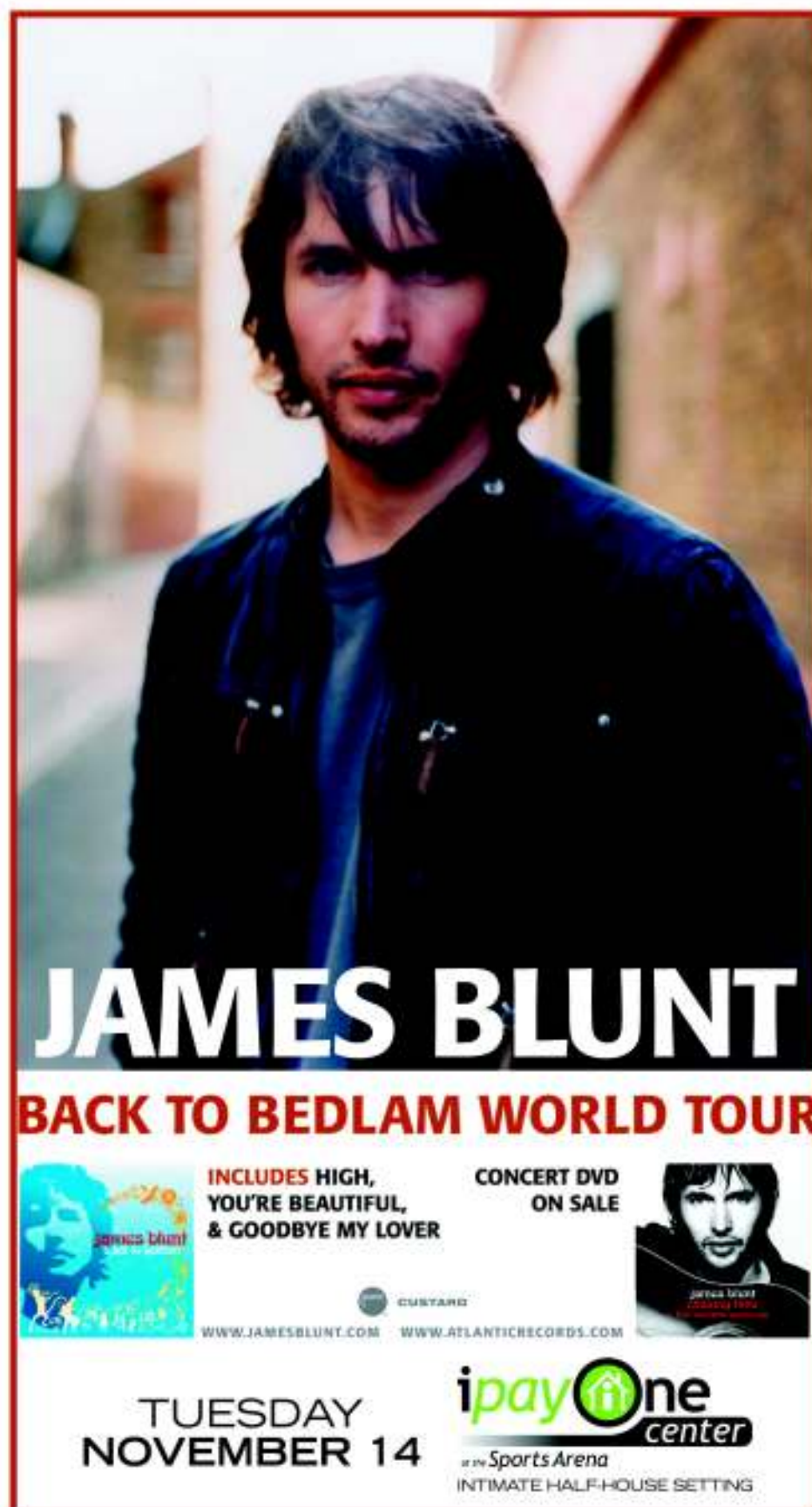
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Calendar

BANDS

JAZZ / BIG BAND

(continued)

Amelia Browning: South Park Bar and Grill

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze

The Karin Carson Trio: The Westgate Hotel

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

The CREDIT Union: Ocean House

Jerome Dawson: Humphrey's, Coyote Bar and Grill

Edo Brazil: Samba Grill

Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel

Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect

Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on Prospect

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge

Insight: Jimmy Love's

Keith Jacobsen: St. Tropez Bistro & Bakery

Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado

The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect

Dick Koenig: Cody's La Jolla

John Kopecky: South Park Bar and Grill

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Jacques Lesure: Dizzy's

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

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Stellita & Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

Joe Marillo: Dizzy's

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, Dizzy's

Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

The New Standard Jazz Trio: Busalacchi's Ristorante

Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel

Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

The David Patrone Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar

Primo: Sevilla, Croce's Jazz Bar

Michele Rosewoman & Her Quintet: Dizzy's

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

The Rick Ross Trio: The Calypso Cafe

Sambajazz: Cuvee Restaurant

Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce's Jazz Bar

John Scott & the Magnificents: The Calypso Cafe

Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

Soul Seduction: Jack's La Jolla

Stellita's Groove: Humphrey's

Jaime Valle: Tutto Mare

The Jaime Valle Bossa-Jazz Quartet: Coronado Island Marriott

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar and American Grill

Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and Grill

Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze

Peggy Watson: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe

Willlovealot: Thrusters

The Wize Guyz: Tommy's Italian Restaurant

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

REGGAE / SKA

Diego Roots: 'Canes

Elijah Emanuel & the Revelations: Winstons

Gadfly: Winstons

High Tide: Dreamstreet

Unsteady: The Kensington Club

Uplift: The Calypso Cafe

COUNTRY

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Calendar BANDS

ACOUSTIC / FOLK (continued) Peter Bolland: Lestat’s Coffee House Dave Boodakian: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub & Grille

Aaron Bowen: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub Bushwalla: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Greg Campbell: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon) Joe Cardillo: Cody’s La Jolla The Celtic Ensemble: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Isaac Cheong: Lestat’s Coffee House Lee Coulter: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp) Christopher Dale: Tiki House

Dannicus: Thornton’s Irish Pub & Grill Dawn: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company The Donnis Trio: E Street Cafe Jim Earp: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain) Will Edwards: Lestat’s Coffee House Ezra’s Eyes: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub Tyler Grant: E Street Cafe Guggenheim Grotto: Lestat’s Coffee House Harmony Road: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill Harold & Chris: Blarney Stone Pub Shannon Harrington: E Street Cafe

David Hauser: Galley at the Marina Ari Hest: Belly Up Tavern David Houser: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill John Hull: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company James Hunter: ‘Canes Jackson & Jesus: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill Jennifer Jayden: Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad) Rusty Jones: Lestat’s Coffee House Nikhil Korula: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Mike McGill: Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley) Tim Mudd: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Shawn Mullins: Belly Up Tavern Pat & Joe: Blarney Stone Pub Lee Tyler Post: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon) Tommy Price: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill Gary Seiler: Galley at the Marina Shelby Lynne: Belly Up Tavern Skyler Stonestreet: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company Tefflon: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp) Jack Tempchin: The Calypso Cafe Tiffany: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company J. Turtle: Lestat’s Coffee House The April Verch Band: AcousticMusicSanDiego

The Bill Magee Blues Band: Hennessey’s Tavern (Carlsbad) Modern Day Moonshine: Martini Ranch (Gaslamp), Thrusters Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors: Coyote Bar and Grill Mystery Train: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band: Patrick’s II Len Rainey & the Midnight Players: Patrick’s II The San Diego Blues Trio: The Aero Club Shelle Blues: Patrick’s II Triple Shot: The Calypso Cafe Buick Wilson: Patrick’s II

EVERYTHING ELSE

John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel, Hotel del Coronado Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop Dirty Town: Dreamstreet Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra: 710 Beach Club Lauren: Dreamstreet Los Reyes Del Ritmo: Estancia Resort Hotel The Odd Couple: Dreamstreet RAQ: Winstons Roy Resnikoff: Cody’s La Jolla Eddie Rossi: Red Fox Steakhouse Salsa Caliente: Sevilla Todd Schroeder: Westin Horton Plaza Ballroom The David Shaw Duo: Red Fox Steakhouse Joe Soprano: Red Fox Steakhouse Joey West: Hotel del Coronado

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Saturday, October 28

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Sunday, October 29

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ALICE & THE COOPER GANG
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Thursday, November 2

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Friday, November 3

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Saturday, November 4

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Friday, November 10

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Gift of Salt

It's not even Halloween and we're already being bombarded with Christmas mania. Well, I hate driving and malls and "The Little Drummer Boy," so I'm going to do my holiday shopping mainly on the Internet, before Thanksgiving. And the presents I'm looking to give to people I care about are transitory gifts of flavor, not silly hunks of junk.

For example, last year's last-minute discovery was a website I consider "bacon heaven," called the Grateful Palate (www.gratefulpalate.com), which carries a tremendous variety of artisan smoked meats. The step-kids/grandkids in Albuquerque are getting an assortment of smoked bacon this year — good grub is something the whole family can enjoy without squabbling over.

My foodie friends are getting stocking-stuffers of salt. Yes, salt. Our best local chefs have started serving specialty salts as finishing touches, and after a few tastes, I've grown greedy for them — and mean to spread the greed for the holidays. These salts aren't just about "saltiness." They're more like herbs, each carrying a distinctive, complex flavor. It turns out, salt isn't purely sodium chloride, no matter what your chemistry teacher said. Edible salts also contain traces of magnesium, potassium, calcium, and sometimes much more. (For instance, pink Himalayan salt, mined high in the mountains, comes from prehistoric deposits that are said to contain at least 82 trace elements.) The less sodium in the ratio, the healthier for the body — and the more interesting the taste.

Before the Industrial Age, salt was rare and costly, and extracting it from salt mines was the work of slaves or prisoners whose lifespans were often shortened by cave-ins. Soldiers in ancient Greece and Rome were paid partly in salt, so a good soldier was "worth his salt." In Rome, a rich man showed off his wealth by conspicuously serving salt on the table rather than carefully rationing it in the kitchen. The favored guests who sat near him were "above the salt," and less-favored visitors were "below the salt." Today, in landlocked Nepal, if you trek in the Himalayas, your food at local guest houses might be heavily salted (even if you plead with the cook to lay off), because the gen-



Western Salt Works, South Bay

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

erous use of the substance shows respect for a guest. The high-country Sherpas once upon a time used that mineral-rich Himalayan rock salt (which we can buy on the Internet for some pretty high prices), but today it's generally commercial table salt imported from nearby India to the capital, Katmandu — and it gets more costly, and hence more valued, the higher the altitude, because it's schlepped up the mountains on the backs of human porters. (Yak-backs are pretty much reserved for heavier, liquid cargo that innkeepers can sell for cash — like beer and Coca-Cola.)

Here, we take salt for granted — until we taste a great specialty salt. My first exposure to a "gourmet" salt occurred some 20 years ago, when friends returned from a long stay in France bearing gifts of *fleur de sel*, a sea salt

from France's Atlantic coast (particularly Brittany). Normally, French sea salt (*sel gris*) is gray-colored (from minerals in the clay bottom of the coastal salt pond), but when the winds are calm and days are warm, the gray salt "flowers" into lacy white or pale lavender crystals that artisan harvesters skim from the surface. It has a complex mineral flavor and a slight crunchiness. Now available in gourmet shops and all manner of cooking catalogs and websites, it's never used in cooking, where the taste would be lost (and for what it costs, you might as well set your wallet afire). Instead, it's sprinkled on food at serving, by pinches or with a tiny spoon. It's superb on roasted or pan-fried potatoes, simple unsauced steaks, *salade niçoise* (especially the green beans and the hard-cooked egg), ad infinitum.

REVIEW NAOMI WISE

After this momentous discovery, I realized how "off" table salt tasted in comparison. The reason that so many serious cookbooks advise against table salt, even in cooking, is that it's processed to form dense mini-cubes that don't dissolve well. Hence, it tastes harsh and very salty and clings to the palate. Worse, it contains additives — some, like calcium chloride, to prevent caking in humid weather ("When It Rains It Pours"), and others (mainly iodine) to stave off an old inlanders' disease, an enlargement of the thyroid gland called goiter caused by lack of iodine in the diet. Problem is, the additives have flavors of their own, especially the iodine. Kosher salt (granular salt compressed into flakes) is preferred because it has no additives, and sea salt is a natural product from shallow beds along coastlines. Both dissolve well and are considered preferable as cooking and brining salts. I use whatever sea salt I find at Trader Joe's or the supermarket, but the favorite of classy chefs is Maldon sea salt from England. This soft, crushable salt is too costly (about \$12 a pound) to routinely toss in the potato-boiling water, but its delicate flavor makes an excellent finishing touch when you "season to taste." It's available at most of the websites mentioned in this article.

A more recent discovery is red Alae Hawaiian sea salt, which I tasted as a coarse salt accompanying the bread and organic butter at the Hotel Del's new 1500 Ocean. The red color comes from iron in the soil under the salt bed. (There's also a black Hawaiian salt, which gets its color and faintly sulfurous aroma from lava. That one I can live without.) Red Alae's flavor is lively and sharp, wonderful as the finishing touch atop strong-flavored seafood dishes or mixed with sea salt and rubbed on Kalua pig before roasting. Like most specialty salts, it's on the pricey side. I did find a much less expensive version at Trader Joe's and performed a taste test, side by side with red Alae salt from SaltTraders (www.salttraders.com). The Salt-Traders salt was paler in color and subtler in flavor, while the Trader Joe version was a bit harsh, with overstated iron and mineral flavors. The ingredients list told the tale: TJ's version is a mixture of Pacific sea salt with

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some genuine red Alae salt, plus added minerals, so it's not exactly the real thing. It's not bad, though, for the price.

Stingaree's gifted chef, Antonio Friscia, turned me on to the SaltTraders website as one source of the Italian truffled sea salt he uses so brilliantly on French fries. The black truffle note is gentle but insinuating. Not only does it complement potatoes (fried or mashed), creamy pasta, and popcorn, but it's a natural with eggs, whether scrambled, poached, or over easy. This is one of the most expensive specialty salts (\$20-\$22.50 for 3.5 ounces), but if you or your friends love black truffles and wish they were a more frequent part of your life, well, the price is tiny in comparison to whole truffles. (Other sources include the equally comprehensive www.saltworks.us.com and, for \$2 less, www.cookshophere.com.)

While I was browsing and spending my patrimony at the online salt mines, I also picked up an assortment of less-famous salts, many in pretty little sampler-size bottles with cork tops — attractive as stocking-stuffers, and also at-

tractive to the giver who wants to try (and likely keep) an array of salts before deciding who on the list gets which one. Sicilian sea salt is a variety my friend Provvi (from Sicily) told me about as we soldiered through the pasta at a local Italian restaurant. "In Italy, the salt doesn't taste as salty," she said. "That's why Italian chefs often oversalt when they come to America and use American salt." The Sicilian salt is cleanly salty up front, like a sea breeze, but fades on the palate to a pleasant, lingering aftertaste that's more complexly mineral than sodium. It seems a natural for polenta, pasta, and seafood, and the price isn't so steep that you'd shy from cooking with it sparingly. I also tried Peruvian salt from the Andes, which was clear and pleasant but not especially complex, and Australian river salt — lucid, zingy, salty up front but with fresh after-notes (a Nicole Kidman of salt?). Himalayan coarse pink salt proved quite different from the sea salts, with an earthy but neutral pure-salt flavor — you can't really taste those 82 trace minerals. If not for the cost (\$12 for 17.5 ounces at

Amazon.com), it would be a wonderful cooking salt — it dissolved easily in the mouth in seconds. I'm sure it would be great sprinkled between the layers of a potato gratin, or for brining a chicken breast before roasting.

I found another new favorite in the more exotic Cypress Black Sea salt — thin, dark-gray flakes with good mineral undertones, a delicate, crumbly texture, and a faint smokiness. The dark color makes this salt a curiosity, and a good gift for curious cooks. It's lovely as a final touch on salads and melon slices.

Another new "necessity" for me is smoked sea salt, which I love as the final touch on some pork dishes, salmon, chowders, and seafood pastas. (And it's a given for grilled or barbecued dishes.) The best known is Wales's delicate Halen Mon smoked sea salt, gently smoked over Welsh oak. Their regular sea salt is also highly reputed, considered at least the equal if not the superior of Maldon sea salt. In addition, this tiny artisan company offers a re-creation of a blend of salt and strong spices that was used for preserving meats in the late

medieval period. (The smoked version is available from Saltworks, Chefscatalog.com, www.surfasonline.com, www.zingermans.com, and others.)

Once I began working on this article, I encountered numerous other smoked salts, in flavors including hickory, mesquite, applewood, and alderwood — even a tropical Balinese salt, smoked over coconut shells and kaffir lime leaves. Balinese salt is among the most prized in the world, and both the smoked and unsmoked versions are available packaged in a coconut shell, which shouts "gift" to me. I found the widest selection of smoked salts on the Saltworks site. There's also a Danish smoked "Viking" salt from SaltTraders, cooked until black over a mixture of woods, which I bought because one of the cooking magazines raved that it tasted like a bonfire. I found it more like a lick off a dirty barbecue grill — after the saltiness came a metallic, burned flavor that lingered for hours and refused to be washed away by water or wine. Give that one to Hagar the Horrible.

Sources for Gourmet Salts and Related Goodies:

Amazon.com, groceries section: A relatively reasonable price for Himalayan pink salt.

The Baker's Catalogue, www.bakerscatalogue.com: The makers of King Arthur Flour also carry gray Celtic sea salt, Maldon crystal sea salt, bread salt, pretzel salt, flavored salt blends, plus various salt crocks and servers, and a full array of baking ingredients (including Saigon cinnamon), mixes, and cookwares. Ingredient prices (e.g., for salts) are an iota higher than at some other sources, but if you're shopping for a baker, this is a great one-stop shop.

Cooking Enthusiast, www.cookingenthusiast.com: Halen Mon sea salt (unsmoked), butcher's salt blend, additional seasoned salt blends, spices (e.g., Spanish paprikas), fine foodstuffs, and cookwares.

Cooks Shop Here, www.cooksshophere.com: International ingredients from many cuisines, including artisan salts, with the best price for truffled salt.

Salt Traders, [\[traders.com\]\(http://traders.com\): Wide range of specialty salts, plus salt cellars, recipes.](http://www.salt-</p>
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Saltworks, www.saltworks.us: Even wider array of specialty salts.

Surfa's, www.surfasonline.com: A restaurant food-product store that sells to the general public online and ships from the Los Angeles area, it carries a great variety of international foodstuffs, including gourmet salts, often at a lower price than retail sources.

P.S. I'd be remiss to talk this much about salt without a postscript for pepper. The website you need to know about for dried herbs and spices, including many versions of pepper — including two grades of prized and fragrant black Tellicherry — is Penzey.com. Many top chefs use Penzeys exclusively, because their products are fresher, more varied, and usually of higher grade than normal supermarket brands. They typically import their individual herb and spice varieties from whichever areas of the world where they're naturally most flavorful. This catalog also offers various seasoned salt blends and spice blends. ■

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Eating Dangerously

"But if it's so bad for you, how come every single Mexican hasn't died of a heart attack?"

Oh, God." Story of my life. First chip, first dip, first splot of salsa on my brand-spankin'-new white shirt. Gifted by Ms. Carla. Now I have a simple choice: Go home — or live.

"I'm a dead man walking," I mumble to Hank.

"So it won't matter if your last meal is cholesterol-city, deep-fried pork." Well, that's what this place is about. Carnitas Uruapan. But is Hank approving of a lardfest? "Pork," he says. "Used to be my fave." Oh, I get it now. Guy's still hangin' in there with his diet. Wants to live vicariously. I'm happy to oblige.

We're sitting in a sunny booth at a place just outta town from Lemon Grove. It's a reddish ranch house. Sloping rafters and plain inside, except for some hanging copper pans and the piggy ornaments scattered about. Come to think of it, there's pigs everywhere: stuffed pigs, piñata pigs, ceramic pigs, piggy banks, pigs dressed in champagne bubbles...

"Man, how many pigs they got here?" "Six hundred and twenty-eight, my friend," says the guy behind the counter. Héctor. "Customers send them to us from all over the world."

"You don't have to hem and haw over this menu," Hank says. "Do the carnitas."

"You know," I say, "I've never quite nailed down what da heck carnitas is."

"Come on, man," says Hank. "Carnitas is pork, but, like, they slow-cook it in lard. Its own juices give it flavor, so you don't need to add anything except maybe cilantro and a bit of onion."

Leti — Leticia, the dark-eyed waitress — comes up. "I'll show you," she says. She leads me to the kitchen. Oh, man. Two great iron stove-top pots bubbling away with meats in liquids. "Three hours," she says. "Each batch. We make carnitas all day."

Back at the table, I see the menu puts carnitas right at the top. As dinner for one ("delicious deep-fried pork, \$5.95, served with beans, tortillas, cilantro, onions, tomatoes, and lemons"), for two (\$11.90), three (\$17.95), and four (\$23.80).

Guess I'll try it. 'Specially since the rest looks like standard Mexican fare: chiles rellenos (\$7.95), milanesa (\$8.95), two beef or chicken tacos, with rice and beans, \$5.95. The only other thing that makes me sit up is the Number Two: Barbacoa, beef cooked in special sauce, served with beans and tortillas, \$6.95. But no. Porky Pig's who I came for. I order the dinner for one and an iced tea (\$1.75).

"Good choice." Hank looks wistful. He's talking like I'd inherited his old girlfriend. For himself, he orders *camarones al mojo de ajo*. Garlic shrimp. Wow, \$9.95 (with tortillas, rice, and beans). He's payin', so I'll just enjoy the smell of all that minced garlic they promise, sizzling in butter.

He gets a plate loaded with eight plump ca-

marones, rice, frijoles, and corn tortillas. Mine looks almost Vietnamese when it arrives, with a big green pile of fresh cilantro and sliced onions and tomato on one side, a pile of pork chunks on the other. Leti brings a round box of hot corn tortillas, a plate of frijoles, and, yes, I like wrapping it all up in a tortilla and making little tacos. But even better is forking the meat straight into my mouth, plus some frijoles to go with it. And not just any frijoles.

"What's with these?" I ask Héctor. "They're wicked."

"They're fried in the pork lard," Héctor says. "That's what gives them flavor."

"It's all dee-licious," I say. "A baby in gums could chew this pork. And the frijoles — flavor city! But deep-fried for three hours...that can't be good for, like, the arteries."

Héctor's mom Margaret pricks her ears up. She's sitting at a table nearby with some friends. "But if it's so bad for you, how come every single Mexican hasn't died of a heart attack?" she says. "No. People get sick from all the *synthetic* things they put in food on this side of the border. In Mexico, it's all natural."

"Well, Mama, people shouldn't eat too much carnitas," says Héctor. "It is rich. Way rich. I really worry about some people. They get hooked on it."

I can understand that. I'm hooked. "We cook 900, maybe 1000 pounds of pork ev-

ery week," Margaret says. "We're the only ones in San Diego who do it properly. My husband learned with his uncle at Carnitas Uruapan in Tijuana. We never change it."

Her husband Rogelio died two years ago. Now Héctor has come to replace his stepfather, team up with his mom. Except, right now he's — wow — fitting a silver necklace around a customer's neck. "I make jewelry," he says. "I was making it in Beverly Hills. I've sold it on the Home Shopping Network, I've sold it to Bette Midler, Betty White, Queen Latifah, Leeza Gibbons...now they have to come here to buy."

Hank and I sit for a moment, transfixed. Bette Midler and Queen Latifah in Lemon Grove?

I get up to leave. "Uh, dude," says Hank. "Aren't you forgetting something?"

I look down. Oh Lord. The "blood" on my new shirt has spread.

"You are a sorry pig in a poke," says Hank. Guy's loving this. "What's Carla gonna say?"

"Front me some mint leaves," I says. "I'll get her a necklace. Distract her. Tell her I had to fight Queen Latifah for it."

"Cabbage? No can do," says Hank. "I'm tapped out. Get her some carnitas, dude. She's gonna be howling for blood anyway. Just give it to her and run." ■

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Type of Food: Mexican

Prices: Carnitas (deep-fried pork) and eggs breakfast (Sundays only), \$5.95; lunch carnitas burrito, \$4.75; carnitas dinner for one, \$5.95; two (\$11.90), three (\$17.95), four (\$23.80); chiles rellenos, \$7.95; milanesa, \$8.95; two beef or chicken tacos, \$5.95; barbacoa (beef in sauce), \$6.95; garlic shrimp, \$9.95

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Well, now — local girl makes good, indeed. Starting with the '06 harvest, Rosemary Cakebread has stepped, if not exactly down, then at least aside from her position as winemaker at Napa's Spottswoode Estate and handed the reins to one Jennifer Williams, late of Valley Center. Cakebread will stay on as consulting winemaker, and Williams will retain her old job as vineyard manager.

Williams came into the business through the vineyard, and into the vineyard through the garden. She was born in Chula Vista and spent time in North County, but, she says, “My parents wanted to live in a more rural area. That’s why they moved out to Valley Center. My experience there is really what prompted me to go into agriculture. It’s where I really got into flavor. We had just over an acre, and we had about every fruit you could grow in San Diego County. Tangelos, all the different citrus, almonds, persimmons, and pomegranates next door. As kids, we were able to just go out and graze, taste what things taste like when they’re growing.”

They also had apples — and here is where the winemaker can perhaps look back and spot the first stirrings: “We had different varieties. The baking apples — I think they called them ‘banana’ apples — seemed higher in acidity, and the texture was a lot different from fresh apples that

you would eat from a grocery store.” Just sub in “wine grapes” and “grapes that you would eat from a grocery store.”

But besides the produce, there were also critters — “chickens and ducks and geese” — and animals were what captured Williams’s teenage interest. “I applied only to agricultural schools,” eventually ending up at Cal Poly SLO. “I originally thought I would be a large-animal vet. When I got to Cal Poly, I started focusing on dairy, those sorts of things.” A botany course began her shift toward the vegetative; a job at a winery finished it. “A friend of mine was from Napa Valley, and his family had connections with the wine industry, so I was able to get an internship. They gave me a truck and a refractometer and a map, and I went around and took grape samples. I tested the sugars and brought them to the lab for the acidity.” After that, she found work in nearby Paso Robles. “I started in the vineyards, checking blocks and being a liaison between the growers and the winery. Then I moved into the lab and spent some time learning the winemaking process.”

Williams is 30, which puts her among my peers. And among my peers who have tried to break into the wine business, there has been a similar experience: hearing from a potential employer, "Of course you don't have to go to UC Davis" — home of California's most famous enology department.

ment — “to get a job here. But everyone here went to UC Davis.” Williams is an exception to that rule, and she says there are others.”

There's definitely an extremely large UC Davis presence, but there are also a lot of people who come from philosophy or poetry or whatever — they catch the wine bug. It's very much an art — or a trade — so it can be learned by doing. It can be taught."

Of course, you still need someone to teach you — you still need someone willing to take you on. A year at Trefethen gave way to a harvest in Spain. Upon her return, Williams started looking for “a job that I could kind of grow into. It’s a very small community, and I’ve been very fortunate. I had met Rosemary Cakebread’s husband Bruce — he has Cakebread Cellars — on a trip to Nicaragua with a local group that was building a baseball field down there for a small community.” Through Bruce, Williams met Rosemary. “After I came back, Rosemary said that they had an opening at Spottswoode.” Not for a full-time intern, but for one who would split time between Spottswoode and Araujo — Rosemary was friends with the owner there.

It was still intern work — “getting up in the morning, going and leafing the bins while the pickers were picking, doing pumppovers” — but it was intern work at two prestigious wineries, and with a veteran vineyard man: Jose Luis Lopez. She began to learn the vineyard. “We monitor the growth and weather and adjust our strategies accordingly. This year, we had a very cold, wet spring that delayed the growth of the vines out of dormancy. Traditionally, we till our cover crops into the soil in every row during the spring. This year, we decided to till every other row. The remaining cover crop was able to use up the water in the soil, which allowed the soil to dry out faster.”

Most importantly for Williams, working in



Jennifer Williams

such an environment had the feel of a possible career. “I wanted to work for a family winery that was organically farmed, and they were one of the first wineries in Napa to become certified organic” in the vineyard. “We really work on making sure that the soil is active and healthy and living, so that the vine can draw on whatever it needs, whenever it needs. I do think it makes a difference to the flavor. And it allows us to farm for nuances, rather than farming in a uniform way.”

After harvest, Spottswode offered to hire her full-time. That was four harvests ago. After a year, “We stopped using a vineyard management company and started managing our vineyard ourselves. We wanted to have more control. We purchased equipment — tractors, cultivators, weeders,



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RESTAURANTS

sprayers.” It seemed like the next step — Spottswode had moved into a winery of its own (after years of making wine in a custom crush facility) in ’99. “There’s always progression,” says Williams.

Ah, progression — progress. Change. Williams is one of the new guard and says she admires “the modern style of wine-making for two reasons — the educational value gained from exploring outside of traditional winemaking boundaries and for making wine more accessible to customers.” (One sign of the shift: the ’98 Cab offered 13.5 percent alcohol; the ’03, 14.1 percent.) But she grants that “the fluctuation in the market and winemaking style is tricky for established wine brands...I’d like to respect the tradition of finesse and ageability that characterizes Spottswode” — no mean feat when you’re striving for accessibility, which often translates to soft, approachable tannins and ripe, up-front flavors.

And that’s just what’s in the

bottle. Williams’s ascent occurs just as Spottswode is revamping one of the more august labels in the wine world, one fashioned by the celebrated Chuck House. The pen-and-ink drawing of the estate’s Victorian home remains (albeit in reduced circumstances), and the “Spottswode” typeface is not changed overmuch (a bit shinier, perhaps). But the linen texture around the drawing is gone, and the whole effect is bolder, cleaner. The press release praises “a greater sense of elegance and grace,” a shift from the Victorian fussiness of the linen.

Whatever the timing, Williams says, “You can’t blame it on the young folks. The family was looking to update the label. They want to be very present in the wine community well into the future. They thought an update on the label would be advantageous. It’s the freshening of a classic.” ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue

*contains only a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$24; **very expensive:** more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.*

NORTH COASTAL

Americana 1454 Camino Del Mar (southwest corner at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Housed in a historic building, this casual breakfast/lunch joint turns into a serious dinner house at nightfall. The cooking represents the American melting pot, featuring world-wide flavors. Mornings, along with flawless eggs Benedict and utopian waffles, you can get a “Roman breakfast” of prosciutto, mozzarella, and fried egg on English muffin. At dinner, don’t miss the lamb chop and eggplant appetizer or the duck breast with fig sauce. During summer, some of the veggies come from chef-owner Randy Gruber’s home garden; the French fries (which don’t come from his garden) are world class. To finish, a banana *tarte tatin* shouldn’t be resisted. Thoughtful, reasonable wine list. Breakfast (until 3 p.m.) and lunch daily, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Kids’ menu available. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive to moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — A.M. (1/05)

Big Jim’s Old South Barbecue 190 North Coast Highway 101 (two blocks north of Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-635-1166. At this outstanding barbecue, you can “Put Some South in Yo’ Mouth!” The smoking-wood is mellow hickory, and each type of meat (sublime “pulled pork,” smoky skewered shrimp, huge pork ribs, chicken, beef ribs, steak) gets individualized treatment, including a tangy Alabama-style mustard sauce for pork and chicken. (Beef gets the more familiar tomatoey Texas-style sauce.) You don’t eat meat? The ever-expanding menu now includes a delicious, spicy blackened grilled salmon steak. Side dishes are superb: Don’t miss the thick, smoky-sweet Brunswick stew (you’ll not find its like anywhere on this coast), exemplary hush puppies, corn muffins with honey butter, well-balanced slaw...oh, just taste everything you can fit under your belt. Lunch and dinner daily. Low moderate. — N.W. (6/05)

The Bird House Grill 250 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. A great place to check out real Turkish cuisine. The inside has a fine collection of blue-and-white wall plates and blue glass eyes to ward off evil spirits. Try the house specialty, Iskender Kebab (ground meat kebab, rice, tomato sauce, and house-grown yogurt) — “Iskender” means “Alexander.” Or the Kofte plate (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and *tzatziki* sauce). The shepherd’s salad is a traditional dish brimming with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, oil, and lemon. Good healthy Mediterranean diet. Even the baklavas are less gloopy. Open Monday to Saturday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Calyпсо Cafe 576 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-632-8252.

This “Calyпсо” has nothing to do with Caribbean music (or food), despite its tropical tiki-hut decor. The cuisine is French, ranging from old warhorses like onion soup and *coq au vin* to newfangled Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphenates. The traditional dishes are generally the most successful. Mussels are the house specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Although there’s nothing revolutionary coming from this kitchen, the cooking is generally agreeable. Dinner nightly, reservations advised. Upper moderate. — N.W. (9/01)

Cuvee 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-5878. Seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine, bolder and more complex than at the original, now-closed La Jolla branch. Cuisine is designed to accompany an interesting, affordable wine list. A reserve list includes fancier choices, still at minimal markups. Corkage fee for BYO is \$10, but waived on Tuesdays. Reservations urged. Lunch weekdays, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (12/04)

Jamroc 101 101 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3162. At this former site of D.B. Hacker’s, you can still get great fish’n’chips — but the Brit batter now gets its lift from Jamaica’s Red Stripe beer, mon. The shack by the tracks now sports bright tropical designs on its back-patio walls, and the fare is casual Jamaican (plus a couple of Cajun dishes). Check out the bargain-priced samplers which include luscious soft-fried plantains and splendid patties (empanadas to you and me) with a choice of beef, curry chicken, or veggies. The spicing of the jerks and curry entrées are down-tuned to suit tourist tastes, but the table bottle of Walkerswood Scotch Bonnet Hot Sauce can kick that right up. Don’t miss

the fresh coconut water, served out of a young Thai coconut. Soca, ska, and (clean) reggae set the mood, and there’s live steel pan weekend evenings. Beer, wine, Bigga soft drinks. Open Sunday through Wednesday until 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday until 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — N.W. (4/05)

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It’s New York pizza only here. They make the pies with traditional thin, crisp crusts and toppings like pepperoni, meatball, garlic, and “whitestone” (mozzarella, Parmesan, ricotta, garlic, and spinach). Maybe their best is the “Bronx Special,” an assortment of pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper and garlic. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Paul’s Place 3671 Mission Avenue (at El Camino Real), Oceanside, 760-721-0124. This restaurant looks like a McDonald’s or Wendy’s (the building used to be a franchise) and the food comes fast, but it’s no chain. The menu strikes a balance between American and Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced up on a salad with pita bread, and the gyros (all at earthy prices) mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials with home fries. Lunch offers include meaty hamburgers, gyros with fries, or a surprisingly tasty turkeyburger. Open seven days for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/01)

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. This geranium-splashed blue-and-white Bavarian chalet is more than a butcher’s shop. It’s a combination butcher-deli-diner. Enter through the bulging deli and listen for the shouts and clatter of serving ladies. Look for the “*Es ist Wunderbar!*” sign over the counter. Try German and American



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dishes like Big John’s all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish with German potato salad and traditional stuffed cabbage. Owner Big John is a heavyweight Olympic boxer from the former East Germany with an M.A. in meat sciences. Generous portions abound. Friday through Sunday after 4 p.m., he roasts his famous prime rib dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Vigilucci’s 505 South Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-942-7332. In the Land of 10,000 Trattorias, this is one of the most popular — and for good reason. The restaurant’s motto, “a little piece of Italy,” is actually accurate. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that’s Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni with an unusual stewed meat stuffing) and the flavorful entrées come with honest fresh vegetables. The staff is bouncy and jokey, the wines are mainly affordable, and spirits run high. Of course it’s crowded, so reserve to avoid a long, hungry wait. Other locations include Vigilucci Cucina in Carlsbad, Vigilucci’s Pizzeria in Leucadia, and Vigilucci’s Seafood and Steakhouse in Carlsbad. — *N.W. (10/01)*

NORTH INLAND

A Delight of France 126 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-746-2644. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luscious almond croissant studded with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all-organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, frittatas, French toast, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tarts, a French deli plate, crêpes, salads, and sandwiches. And ooh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch/lunch and pre-dinner snacks

Tuesday through Saturday; lunch/brunch only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (5/05)*

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Boulevard #118 (behind Wendy’s), 858-693-3663. “The name ‘Bolsa’ isn’t Vietnamese,” says Kim Trang. “It’s Spanish for ‘bag.’” She’s playing on words here: Trang once owned *Pho Bolsa* on University Avenue, and every Vietnamese knows *pho bo* is Vietnam’s most popular quick meal, a beef rice noodle soup. At this location, Trang still makes excellent *pho bo*, but she has 122 other items as well, including fried catfish with ginger fish sauce, healthy (non-fried) Vietnamese spring rolls, or egg rolls with lettuce and mint in which to wrap them (sprinkled with *nuoc mam*, Vietnamese fish sauce). We’re talking family-style cooking. Come once and Trang will remember you and everything you ate — even if it was just *pho bo*. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue (at Escondido Boulevard), Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is *the* place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. No reservations, so expect a wait on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDGE driveway; do not pass McDonald’s. Good handicap access; sturdy high-chairs; low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (9/03)*

Hunan 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This casual family restaurant serves the cuisines of two spicy Chinese provinces, Szechuan and Hunan — each with its own dedicated chef — but

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both chefs tone the spice way down to a suburban American comfort level. If you don’t already know the difference between these neighboring cuisines, you’re unlikely to learn them here. But you can have an enjoyable meal: Tea-smoked duck, eggplant Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes. If you’re planning on a multicourse feast, order your meal a few dishes at a time or everything will be served at once; the staff is accommodating but limited-English. Over 20 vegan entrées. Full bar, Chinese beers, generic wines. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (8/04)*

Madras Cafe 9484 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. In the same strip mall as Ashoka the Great, this family-friendly café features the savory vegetarian cuisine of South India. It’s distinctly different from the standard North Indian menus, centering on numerous varieties of stuffed pancakes — from thin, crisp (and irresistible) crêpe-like *dosais* stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour *aapams* drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like *uttapams*. (Try the latter with the delicious, not-too-spicy chile-onion stuffing.) Puffy *poori* bread and tamarind rice are spectacular. Order your dishes in the sequence you hope to eat them — that’s usually how they come out of the kitchen. And don’t expect hovering “Raj”-style service — it’s just not the Tamil way. Sea-

soning is generally mild, to accommodate kiddies; spicy sauces are on the table. No alcohol. Open Tuesday through Sunday with buffet lunches and à la carte dinners. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (1/03)*

Pearl Chinese Cuisine 11666 Avena Place (at Webb Park), Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant’s younger, prettier suburban sister, you’ll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Day-times are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy “gold cup” dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in salad (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. — *N.W. (8/04)*

LA JOLLA

Brockton Villa 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is “Coast Toast,” invented for breakfast but now served all day — it’s the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy with a lovely orange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Trattoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex restroom. Open three



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

meals Tuesday through Sunday; breakfast/lunch Monday. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

The Cheese Shop 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Free peanuts while you wait. Inexpensive. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. — *E.B. (10/01)*

French Pastry Shop 5550 La Jolla Boulevard (at Forward Street), La Jolla, 858-454-9094. A longstanding fixture of the Bird Rock area, this bakery/restaurant includes both a simple, spacious dining room and a shaded patio (reputedly San Diego's first dining patio). Breakfast — a highlight of the menu — is served until closing time. The whisper-thin crêpes with luscious stuffings speak in a Gallic accent. Other possibilities include omelets, eggs Benedict variations, and fine-quality brioches and croissants. Pastries are moist, fairly light, and very sweet. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. — *N.W. (5/02)*

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph

II opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was simple: to create a down-home eatery and soda fountain where all La Jolla — rich, poor, Brahmins, and gardeners) — could mix and meet with plenty of good eats. Everyone from Joan Kroc to Junior Seau to Brooke Shields has been spotted here, along with regular folks who've been coming in for three decades. Now Harry III reigns quietly among a dozen whirling dervish waitresses at lunch, while his dad still works the breakfast shift. The big ham steak and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as is the simple, rich "Hot Creamy Oatmeal" with strawberries. Pecan pancakes and thin, crisp waffles ring true to many Easterners (though Harry offers thick Belgian-style waffles, too), and for lunch, turkey burgers and the bacon-loaded British Burger are popular. At the counter, the banter between here-forever waitresses and customers sounds like family life. Nice sidewalk patio, too. Breakfast and lunch daily. Long lines on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Marrakesh 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At our sole Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, lowbanquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cin-

namon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called "avant-garde Italian," a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with assorted international influences. The food can be divine — or dismaying. Given Acqua's "destination restaurant" status, there's a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua's stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. — *N.W. (11/04)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Adam's Steak N' Eggs 1201 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-291-1103. Morning munchers take heart! Adam's has served nothing but breakfasts since 1966. The menu runs from healthy — hot oatmeal with raisins, dates, sunflower seeds, almonds, pineapple, and coconut — to corn fritters to a Southern brunch of spicy sausage patties, biscuits, gravy, grits, and eggs, to spiced apple crêpes with whipped cream and pecans. But the signature dish is steak and eggs. The

steak's a high-walled chunk of meat almost as thick as it is round. Comes with two eggs, potatoes or grits, and toast or tortillas. You won't need lunch. This bricky, dark wood, clubby, business-convention-tourist kind of place has ver-ry faithful customers. But if you want to walk there, be ready for lack of sidewalks, one-way bus access, and wild morning traffic. Open for breakfast daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

Aladdin's Cafe 5420 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-573-0000; Uptown Shopping Center, 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, *shawerma*, etc.), plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. The Hillcrest location offers beer and wine. Hillcrest's new owners also offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Boo Cho Korean Barbecue 7905 Engineer Road (a block east of Convoy), Kearny Mesa, 858-573-2585. What sets Boo Cho apart from other Korean barbecues is that wood charcoal rather than gas fuels the tabletop grills — proving easier to control as well as lending more flavor. The *galbi* (short ribs) here are outstanding, with tender meat and a subtly sweet marinade, and the *hae mui pa jun* (mixed seafood pancake) is moist and light. As at all Korean restaurants, with any dinner you'll receive numerous small plates of relishes and vegetables (called *pan chan*), lending a multitude of flavors to the meal. But since Korean dinners are traditionally served all at once, if you want a first-course soup or appetizer, order it separately, and when it arrives, order your main course. (Table room can get skimpy once the grill gets going.) The menu includes three "family combination dinners" but they're written in Korean; if interested, ask the owner or manager to translate for you.

Open Monday through Friday for lunch; daily for dinner. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/03)*

China Max 4698 Convoy Street (at Engineer), Kearny Mesa, 858-650-3333. The decor is plain and bright, the sound level loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking — creative and multi-regional, filtered through the refined wizardry of the genuine Cantonese style. The seafood aswim in the live tanks includes such delicacies as black cod (bony but wonderfully sweet), Dungeness crab, and (if you've got the money) abalone — but even inexpensive, homey dishes (e.g., wonton soup, crabmeat cakes) sing with flavor. The exemplary crispy squab and Peking duck must be ordered at least a day in advance, but you'd better call ahead anyway for reservations to avoid a wait at the door. A Pan-Asian community throngs here, for good reason. Lunch weekdays, dinner seven days, with lunch menu returning nightly from 9 p.m. to midnight. Inexpensive to exorbitant, but mainly moderate. — *N.W. (1/04)*

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convoy Street #F, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Hole-in-the-wall? Yes. But what a hole-in-the-wall. For those who love the Far East and its food, finding the Dumpling Inn is a little revelation. It's located in the busy Jasmine/Korean Market Center among Oriental herbalists, man-size-vase shops, even feng shui experts. The Inn itself is tiny but charming. Long hanging lanterns, decorative strings of scarlet and gold firecrackers, Chinese flutes, and even the odd conical straw hat. The food is serious but not expensive. Dishes like ten fish and green chive dumplings, spicy stir-fried three-ingredient *lo mein* (thick noodles, jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken plus hot red peppers) are challenging and exciting, as is the Dumpling Dinner (including hot-and-sour soup, cold cuts, shredded pork bun, pot-stickers, shrimp and pork

dumplings). Don't miss their divine jellyfish salad — crunchy-tender, bright and spicy (but not too) — you'd be hard-pressed to find its like outside of Hong Kong. Open 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

East Buffet 8998 Miramar Road, Miramar, 858-566-1888. Curly-haired stone lions greet you outside one of the grander dining halls in the county. "The biggest buffet of San Diego" claims the menu, with "over 200 items daily." Start at the Mongolian grill. Pick your raw prawns, chicken, pork, beef, *satays*, and hand the plate-load to the Iron Chef. He'll stir-cook them on the hotplate for you. You'll need hiking boots to cover the endless rows of steaming chafing dishes. Must-eat: the fresh sashimi, like salmon and tuna — mouth-wateringly scrumptious. And try the chicken feet (they taste a bit like cow tongue, or brains). Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

IKEA Restaurant & Cafe 2149 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley, 619-283-6166, ext.1200. Central shrine for San Diego's 10,000 Swedes, so they say. They come to taste open-faced sandwiches, salmon, shrimp, and meatballs again. This restaurant inside Sweden's wildly successful "home interiors" chain is a great intro to Swedish tastes. The food's more sensible than exciting, of course. But healthy — beef and pork for the meatballs are guaranteed hormone-free. You eat the meatballs with Swedish lingonberry (not cranberry) sauce. Seafood is big: the shrimp open-faced sandwich, the salmon plate with potatoes and broccoli, and the Gravad Lox Plate (cured salmon) are always on. And if you want to be disgustingly healthy, chew on their fresh vegetable plate (raw carrot sticks, cauliflower, garbanzo beans, and mushrooms). All for a song. The only health hazard: hordes of babies and kids romping in the restaurant's

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mother-friendly play area. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Lightnin' Jacks BBQ Clairemont Town Square, 4705-H Clairemont Drive (near movieplex), Clairemont, 858-270-8227. Clean, cute, and a little self-conscious, this barbecue has black-and-white Western pictures on the walls and some seating on barstools with metal "saddles" (more comfortable than they look). The barbecue mechanism is a Texas-style pit smoker burning sweet hickory. The meats that emerge from it aren't the smokiest, but they're tasty enough. Pork ribs are tender and moist, and beef brisket carries enough smoke flavor to pass muster in Texas; other meat choices are less successful. The tomatoey sauce is pleasant but ordinary. A fried catfish plate makes a flavorful alternative (but beware the cat sandwich, awash in hot sauce). Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the most savory sides. Check your take-out bag to make sure you're getting what you ordered, as youthful staff is easily flustered. Kiddie plates available. Draft beer and wine available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (1/05)

Seoul B.B.Q. 4344 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Korean restaurant means sitting before a sizzling cast-iron grill, sipping hot sake, the smell of grilled beef, grilled onions, and fresh garlic in the air. Try the "Korean B.B.Q." marinated short ribs (*tong galbi*) or thick marbled slices of sirloin (beef *gui*). You'll enjoy all the accompanying dishes that make the meal, like crunchy seaweed salads, radishes in garlicky tomato sauce, slow-cooked potatoes with soy sauce and jalapeño pepper. Feeling adventurous? Go for the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak tartare (*yukhwoe*). This is sensual, ele-

mental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner daily. — M.N. (12/99)

Sunrise Buffet 3860 Convoy #121, Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1608. "Oysters are here!" It's what everyone here waits for. Apart from the usual array of meats, fish, shellfish, and novelties like stuffed mushrooms, stuffed clams, dragon rolls (cucumber, avocado, asparagus), and *mochi* (sticky rice cake), these plates of raw oysters in their big shells are one of the big draws. This buffet restaurant is smaller than many, but it still looks like a mega-McDonald's eating barn inside, except for a sky-blue-lit ceiling recess "heaven." Like McDonald's, it attracts lots of families, maybe because it's not just all-you-can-eat, but all-you-can-drink, too — included in the price. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (4/05)

Tropical Star 6163 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont, 858-874-7827. A modest café and grocery offers Puerto Rican and Latin American food and groceries. Very modest surroundings; good authentic inexpensive food. Same menu all day Monday through Saturday; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.W. (8/99)

THE BEACHES

The Australian Pub 1014 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9921. 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 Road Kill (grilled chicken breast with pico de gallo sauce and cheese "run over" between 2 pieces of sourdough) or the Aussie Burger (1/2-pound patty,

with a fried egg, cheese, bacon, grilled onions, beets, pineapple, and a side of steak fries). And for an "outback experience," order up Vegemite (a beefy kinda paste) and four slices of bread — it's the Aussie national food, mate. Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Friday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.; weekends 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

Bare Back Grill 4640 Mission Boulevard (at Emerald), Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that's not what keeps the customers coming in. It's BBG's claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from New Zealand. So, what to eat? Burgers, burgers, burgers — all kinds — from prime NZ Angus to "Bare Li'l Lamb" burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Décor inside is strictly Kiwi-land, from the all-black rugby shirt on the wall to the declaration of food principles. People who had given up on hormone-treated meat are coming here for their first burger in years. Open



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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

seven days, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Broken Yolk Cafe 1851 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-YOLK (9655). Breakfasting PBers love this place for three reasons: its sundeck, its 26 different four-egg omelets (which you can split with your partner, no extra charge), and the challenge of omelet #27. The dozen-egg “Broken Yolk Café Special” comes stuffed with a mountain of mushrooms, onion, cheese, chili, plus home fries and biscuits. If you can down it in an hour, pay just \$1.98 — you’ve got huevos. If you can’t, the yolk’s on you — pay around \$17. My advice: split a 4-egger. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/04)*

Fairouz Cafe And Gallery 3166 Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-225-0308. Seek out this family-owned-and-operated restaurant for wonderful Lebanese and Greek food. The owner, a noted artist, displays his paintings on the dining room walls. The extensive menu offers excellent lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and a wide selection of exotic vegetarian meals. Copious all-you-can-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast at low cost. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.W.*

The French Gourmet 960 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-1725. In the mood for pâté, ratatouille, or calf’s liver in a homey atmosphere? Make a reservation at The French Gourmet *tout de suite*. Start off with traditionally prepared escargots or mussels. The onion soup is good, but hope that the soup du jour is gingered cream of carrot. Entrées include

rack of lamb, veal tenderloin, bouilli abaisse, and fish, with several preparation choices for chicken or filet mignon. The pan-roasted halibut is gently enhanced with a champagne *beurre blanc* sauce and topped with crispy braised leeks. Desserts abound, with an imported French cheese plate topping the list — along with pastries, meringues, etc., all freshly prepared in-house. Bakery and breakfast daily; no lunch or dinner Sunday or Monday. Moderate to expensive. — *S.M. (9/04)*

Great Moon Buffet 1840 Garnet Avenue (Pacific Plaza 2 shopping center), Pacific Beach, 858-273-6868. This is one of the classier Chinese all-you-can-eat buffets in town. They boast a glittering chandelier hanging in the octagonal entrance, plus “over 150 items daily.” Certainly they have great surf-n-turf, like prime rib and jumbo shrimp or mayonnaise mussels. Or Japanese charcoal-grilled eel with sesame seeds on rice (*unagi-zushi*). It tastes salty yet caramel-y too. Eelicious. Or Chinese baked crab meat on crab shell. Add crab legs, and maybe some roast duck. Cramming? Feast today, fast tomorrow. Dessert fruits include loquats, pineapple, peach, longan. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Karinya Thai & Vegetarian Cuisine 4475 Mission Boulevard (Sea-Coast Square), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Think of the movie *The Beach*, with a bunch of Leo DiCaprio look-alikes getting off on the coconut curries like *gang ped*, *panang*, and *kang kari*. Or noodle dishes like the famous *pad thai*. But they’re in the right place: Karinya remains true to its Thai origins. The *tom yum kung* (hot and sour shrimp soup) is a meal in itself. Steaming away with its fierce little charcoal fire at your table, the hot pot holds plenty of shrimp, and you can taste the essential mushrooms, lemon grass, ginger, lime juice, cilantro, and of course *nam pla*, Thai fish sauce. A nice counterpart to the hots of the soup are the

Fresh Spring Rolls, filled with tofu and vegetables and mint. Another sizzler: *pad talay*, a sauté pan full of mussels, shrimp, squid, and other seafood in a great spicy sauce. The recipe’s from Koh Samed, an island like the one featured in *The Beach*. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Lamont Street Grill 4445 Lamont Street (between Grand and Garnet), Pacific Beach, 858-270-3060. PB’s most romantic restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold and sometimes strange Mexi/Asian/Cajun flavors, in a rambling converted residence with several rooms and levels. Dinners come with soup or salad, and many entrées are served over marvelous house-made fresh pasta. Salmon over fettuccine in a delicate dill cream sauce is especially fine. The huge array of desserts is house made, too, with something for every palate. The most desirable tables (available first come, first served) are on a lovely fireplace-heated patio. Wheelchair ramp and parking in small lot behind restaurant (call ahead and they’ll save you a spot). Homey atmosphere; can get loud. Affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily, dinner only. Moderate. — *N.W. (2/03)*

Ranchos Cocina 1830 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-226-7619. Also at 3910 30th Street (at University Avenue), North Park, 619-574-1288. At both locations of this delightful mini-chain you’ll find healthy, creative Mexican and vegetarian cuisine in cheerful, tropical-style settings burgeoning with plant life and craft objects. A big plus: zero attitude. You don’t have to be vegi-virtuous to enjoy full-flavored combinations that are as creative as they are wholesome. Try anything with lobster or calamari steak — in fact, all the seafood here is pristine. Try, even, an *antojito* stuffed with beef — it’s stewed, not ground. And sample something with the house-made mole sauce of a zillion ingredients. Actually, try...anything. (Well, the chicken breast is as dry here as ev-

erywhere else. Try anything else.) Open daily breakfast through dinner. No reservations, but call ahead for large parties. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (6/01)*

Rum Jungle Smoothies and Deli 4150 Mission Boulevard #153, Promenade Mall, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2227. Why do Brazilians have more fun? *Açaí* (ah-saa-ee). Why do Brazilians settle in PB? Maybe it’s because Rum Jungle Smoothies serves up *açaí*, the flesh of a Brazilian palm nut, for breakfast. The dark purple mush comes from the *açaí* palms that grow around the Amazon River delta. Rum Jungle adds granola, banana, strawberries, blueberries, mango pieces, and honey to make a surprisingly filling breakfast. Of course this bright little place has lots of other smoothies, too, along with sandwiches. But the *açaí* power fruit bowl is what keeps them coming back. Open until 7 p.m. weekdays, until 8 p.m. weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Sportsmen’s Seafoods 1617 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. Fifty years ago this restaurant-fish market was a tuna cannery, part of San Diego’s late-lamented fishing industry. The same Sicilian family still owns it, and still knows everything about fish and how to cook it. The menu is devoted to the “fruits of the sea” and includes a wonderful seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy-crunchy fish-and-chips platter. Eat outside on deck, contemplating the small ships on the bay. They buy seasonal catch from local fishboats and also sell it at their attached retail market. They’re famous for smoking fish for the fishermen. Open daily, lunch/early dinner. Retail market closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Umi Sushi 2806 Shelter Island Drive (at Shafter, off Scott), Point Loma, 619-226-1135. An instant neighborhood success, this large, cheerful sushi bar and dinner house also offers

Japanese and Korean entrées, including *teppanyaki* (cooked in the kitchen, not at the table), Korean ribs, and excellent beef teriyaki of gently grilled prime beef. Sushi highlights include lemony *ama ebi*, rich garlic tuna, and a “Crazy Boy” roll spicy enough to divert your palate from the presence of imitation crabmeat. Free parking lot (often full). Special kids’ menu available. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Sushi prices lower than most; entrées inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (4/03)*

World Famous 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on PB’s boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit at varnished inlaid wooden tables with lots of diagonal timbering and sexy blue lighting. It’s often crowded and laugh-loud noisy. Who’s gonna be food-picky here? You, when you’re paying twenty-some bucks for a steak or a piece of mako shark. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf-n-turf, and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. The view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — *E.B. (1/04)*

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Elaine’s Coffee Shoppe 1212 South 43rd Street, Southcrest, 619-264-6525. When Su Cha Yang took over Elaine’s a quarter century ago, this was one tough part of town. No problem. Su had survived the Korean war *and* Vietnam before she came here. Now, with Southcrest looking up, she is famous for her fun and her food. Most customers are regulars — judges, ministers, teachers among them — and they don’t want change. So Elaine’s re-

mains a bright, genuine 1970s-style breakfast-all-day coffee shop. Breakfast: try the ham, bacon, mushroom “Hunter” omelet. Lunch: the pork chop plate is a great filler. Su Cha Yang also cooks dishes for vegetarian, Muslim, and Korean customers. Breakfast and lunch six days; closed Tuesdays. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Huffman’s Bar-B-Que 5039 Imperial Avenue (at Euclid), Chollas View, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman’s fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Just Fabulous Kensington 4116 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-584-2929. At this usually-packed café, painted in cheerful Creamsickle colors, noted owner and executive pastry chef Beryl Ann Byrd and executive chef Marcello Alvarez offer a full menu of seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine. At dinner, appetizers are generally fun to eat but entrées can be inconsistent. Weekend brunch dishes are terrific. The primary emphasis is on desserts, of course: Byrd’s pastries are of the Euro-influenced American mode — very sweet, a little heavy, a touch more sophisticated than Mom’s apple pie. The pastry case doubles as a retail counter for sweets-to-go. Affordable international wine list and coffeehouse specialty beverages. Few tables, no reservations. Arrive early or late on weekends or expect to wait. No alcohol allowed at outdoor tables.

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Jyoti-Bihanga 3351 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-4116. Oh sure, you'll be watching Sri Chinmoy, the Bengali guru, on TV juggling, declaring Geneva International Airport a "Peace Blossom," or boarding his Italian "Treno della Pace." Plus, his books, his portraits, his paintings, and his chant-songs surround you. Apart from that, not only is this heavenly blue-domed restaurant run by his students peaceful, but the fresher-than-fresh Bengali-tinged health food is delicious. Their chutney-topped "Neatloaf" bursts with nutty, intriguing flavors. Even the accompanying mashed potato and gravy tastes different. Also delish: Brahma Burrito, "Infinite Blue" (interesting brown rice salad with bleu cheese dressing), and the Shiva Wrap (tofu and fresh veggies with a well-integrated curry flavor). On cold days, start with a steaming sweet pea soup. Monday through Saturday lunch and dinner (no dinner Wednesday); Sunday occasional brunch only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Kensington Grill 4055 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-281-4014. This

spiffy spot in an old, staid neighborhood proves change can be good, delivering intelligent, inventive cuisine. Preparations follow the convention of contrasts in sophisticated cuisine — sweet vs. salty, soft vs. crunchy, hot vs. cold. Kensington Grill proves a talented, hardworking kitchen. Open for dinner nightly. Moderate. — *M.N. (8/99)*

Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant 5296 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-582-0603. Original branch at 4170 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convoy Street restaurant? Go east, where you'll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese "people's food" emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary "Special Sauce" Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Reservations and credit cards accepted, both branches. Vietnamese beers including "33"; just two generic wines. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers

speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — *N.W. (3/04)*

Zensei 3396 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-546-6171. This much-welcomed neighborhood restaurant in a restaurant-starved neighborhood offers a changing menu of sushi, fusion appetizers, and Japanese entrées emphasizing noodle dishes. The sushi is the main draw. It's well made and based on seafood from the same fishmonger used by Ota and Nobu. The "party rolls" (such as "stuffed tomato" and "honey-mooners") may not be original, but they're delicious fun. Free parking behind restaurant (enter by alley on Upas east of Jack in the Box lot). Reservations advised for Friday/Saturday evenings, accepted for two or more at sushi bar, four or more at tables. Japanese and American beers, sakes, and wines. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (1/05)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Cafe Zia 6686 El Cajon Boulevard (at Montezuma), College Area, 619-337-3937. South Asia meets Mex-

ico! Khaled Zia had the brilliant idea of combining tacos (or wraps or bagels) with chicken and South Asia's great gift to the world: chutney — mango chutney, papaya chutney, peach, apple, even a serrano chili pepper chutney. The combo works with them all. As soon as you smell the chicken strips hissing away on the grills, you're hooked. Then when they come smothered in peach or mango chutney, or cooling yogurt, along with sweet-sauced potatoes, what can you do? Do as half of San Diego State does: just say yes. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Chef Taka 7520 El Cajon Boulevard (at Parks), Mesa Plaza, La Mesa, 619-463-0231. This is indeed the same chef Satate Taka who co-founded Taka in the Gaslamp, and then Octopus Garden. In July 2003 he moved his kitchen to La Mesa where he now cooks his inventive Japanese-based fusion cuisine with French, Mexican, and Chinese touches. Try the dreamy soft-shell crab with "salsa cream aioli," the tender tempura, or the traditional Teishoku dinner. Taka generally presides at the sushi bar. The staff is small so for the best cooking and service, dine on a weeknight and make an evening of it — weekends can be hectic. For a bubbly treat try chilled Nigori (unfiltered)

sake, served in the traditional manner in an overflowing square wooden cup. Open daily for dinner. Happy hour bargains nightly; regular prices moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Downtown Cafe 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687. Surprise! Not far from Magnolia and Main, a French-style sidewalk café. The successful "Por Favor" eateries' owner launched this as a kind of Mexican patio restaurant, but serving gringo food. And it works, maybe because of reasonable prices for baby-back pork ribs, giant burritos, or Louisiana Chicken strips. Or even the veggie burger. But it's partly where you dine: out on the patio. The place has lots of ancient doors and wrought iron-and-wood window frames, laced with creepers. Inside is a beautiful long bar with a counter on the street and chess sets so you can play and watch the world go by. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Tyler's Taste of Texas 576 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Unfussy home cooking. Some dishes outshine others. The slab of smoky ham steak that comes with the first-rate breakfast is in itself enough to rouse the sleepiest appetite. Expertly sautéed onions and mushrooms lend flavor to

fried potatoes and omelets, respectively, while pebbly-smooth hash and gingery sweet potato pancakes give the lineup character. For lunch and dinner, the Texas menu features Texas-style barbecue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage) that's sufficiently smoky, but a little uneven in texture. The barbecue beef is reliable and the sweetish sauce shows well on the chicken. Pleasant surprises: a substantial, peppery cornmeal crust on the tender catfish and the fried green tomatoes, and the rich stock in the vegetable soup. All-you-can-eat catfish Wednesdays and Fridays. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M. (2/02)*

FAR EAST

Alpine Inn 2225 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-5172. Beef lover's heaven. Also, try the house special, the Texas burger, ground in-house and served on a Kaiser roll with steak fries. Dark interior with large booths. Very crowded for dinner on Sunday. Inexpensive early-bird dinner Monday through Saturday. Dinner daily except major holidays; call ahead. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

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Tossed Garden Greens
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Baked Turkey with
Cornbread Dressing
& Gravy

Baked Chicken
Sautéed with Bell
Peppers, Tomatoes &
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Calendar RESTAURANTS

Pablito's of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Drive (in The Center, #8), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5753. Pablito's claims "Authentic Mexican Cuisine, patio dining, and great tequila margaritas." Well, the gorgeous patio is open only during busy times and the cuisine runs to gringo favorites in the Mexican mode (lots of combo platters), but the flavors are honest and pleasing. The most authentic dishes come from the "Specialties" section of the menu, including a good *chile verde* (pork in green chile sauce), numerous varieties of enchiladas, and several flavors of *chilaquiles*. Full bar, including sangria, margaritas, Mexican beers. Closed in the summer; other seasons, open for lunch and dinner (with a break between), Wednesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Ramon's Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Boulevard, Suite 110, Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquite wood burning under fresh-cut beef rib is beyond resistance. The secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, especially, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire, disappearing into the clouds of fragrant smoke to flip the racks of beef and pork ribs. In good weather you can eat out back next to an authentic chuck wagon. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*



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UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Bamboo Bistro 3882 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-299-9727. How many American chefs do you know who actually went to Asia and learned by working in traditional restaurant kitchens of Vietnam, Indonesia, India? Chef Alexandria did. The result is her Asian Fusion Cuisine. The Bistro is huddled in the corner of a strip mall, but you can still eat under exotic umbrella lampshades (inside) or tropical palapas (outside). The food is fresh, original, and often tasty. Dishes to try include Chinese Chopstick salad (shredded chicken, fried rice noodles, mandarin oranges, toasted almonds), Indo-Chinese burrito with steak (beef, rice noodles covered with a sesame and lime sauce), Drunken Noodles (chicken, steak, shrimp, salmon, or tofu), and Sea Salad (glass noodles, wild salmon, greens). Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sundays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/05)*

Brians' American Eatery 1451 Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-296-8268. Also at 7947 Balboa Avenue (off Convoy), Kearny Mesa, and 828 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe: Not one but two Brians have taken over what had been Topsy's, a venerable coffeehouse/eatery for 40 years. They've done a good job of cleaning it up without gutting the fifties roadhouse character. It's open all night on weekends, and late night is quite a scene. But for a lot of people, breakfast is the thing. The Brians' 8-ounce charbroiled top sirloin steak with eggs and country potatoes is a great Saturday morning treat. Or the "Hey Ricky!!," an omelet with chorizo, avocado, green chilies, onions, and cheeses. Or ask for their off-menu breakfast special — it's always cheaper. Another good thing: You get a pitcher of iced lemon-water, and coffee comes by the thermos-full. Three meals until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; open 24 hours from early Friday morning until Sunday evening. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Celadon Royalty Thai Restaurant 540 University Avenue (near Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The menu was originally devised by a chef who cooked for the Siamese royal fam-

ily. Some dishes taste luxurious, and all the dishes taste authentic — and carefully prepared. The regular entrées offer a choice of sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go straight to the Chef's Specialty items on the menu to find the best and rarest. Stuffed chicken wings are extraordinary, seafood soup *talay* is fabulous, and among the entrées, don't miss *choo chee duck* or the Queen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch Monday through Friday, dinner nightly. — *N.W. (5/05)*

City Delicatessen 535 University Avenue (at Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-295-2747. Some folk come for the Jewish food (chicken-in-the-pot, brisket of beef, chopped liver), others to soak in the art-deco colors — the cornucopia of fruit above the entrance, the mustard yellow walls, the black-and-white checker tile, or the flower bunches of red, blue, green, and yellow lamps. And then some come for both: the stuffed cabbage roll (with ground beef and rice inside) is a glowering red ball with maroon, oniony, sweet-and-sour raisin sauce to die for, set off by green parsley and bright orange slices. Scandalously delicious. Downside? Our pastrami sandwich tasted dry and chewy by comparison. But City Deli is less strictly Jewish (they have bacon on their breakfast menu) and more of an everyday New York-style eatery. Wait staff are good-humored, and the Seeburg Wall-o-Matic tableside jukeboxes actually work. Bring plenty of quarters. Breakfast all day; early-bird dinner specials; late-night dining. Open from 7 a.m. till midnight; until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

European Market & Deli 4135 Park Boulevard (north of El Cajon Boulevard), Hillcrest, 619-298-8661. Basically a Greek deli, but charming, especially if you're into patios. Inside has painted grapes, hanging copper pans, and framed pictures of Paris cafés. The most popular dish is the lemon-roasted chicken, but if you love lamb, Paul's Special, with potatoes, salad, and pita — Fridays and Saturdays only — is the way to go. (They do offer lamb sandwiches daily.) Other good dishes include the Veggie Diabolou pita sandwich (hot and spicy), the ground beef moussaka plate (eggplant, potatoes, and béchamel sauce), Greek chicken soup and, of course, gyros. But go just to play bon vivant on

the patio. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, till 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/05)*

Hong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One's statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian décor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherry wood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delish, especially spotted with fiery Chinese mustard. The Singapore Style Rice Noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tanged with curry, and excellent, as is the Kung Pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Avenue (off University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. Audacity is Chef Deborah Scott's culinary signature. In her cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest, with Japanese touches and towering heaps of garnishes. All the edible frou-frou decorating the appetizers can wear you out, but most entrées are more focused and friendly. Good choices include a starter of mussels in a seductive *chipotle* cream sauce, and entrées of spicy, sweet-sour layered "jerk" chicken or the signature "Skirts On Fire," a miraculously tender grilled skirt steak imbued with a *picante* marinade. Desserts by Sharon Bristol follow the house style — sky-high, ornate, complex. Casual atmosphere, very noisy. Heated patio. Dinner served daily. Reservations strongly advised. Prices moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

La Posta de Acapulco's Taco Shop 3980 Third Avenue (at Washington), Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. (Also in Lakeside and Spring Valley.) People have been coming to this orange-and-white drive-through-without-cars for 20 years. One of the main reasons is the *carne asada* burritos. Rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Folks sit around the outside benches right next to Washington Street, oblivious to the traffic. Also much loved here are the *chile verde* and the quesadilla with *carne asada*. For breakfast, think chorizo burrito. And

for value, just to fill you up, you can't beat the bean tostada. You can drink *horchata*, a rice drink, or *jamaica*, made from hibiscus flower, to complete the picture. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Sausage King 811 W. Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-297-4301. Not too many delicatessens in the county still make their own sausages, luncheon meats, and jerky. But the German couple who runs this place does. They make an unbelievable 34 different sausages and luncheon meats, plus 10 different smoked meats like turkey, beef, Westphalian ham, Black Forest ham, and even bacon. For lunch they will make you a really cheap sandwich filled with anything from home-made liverwurst to blood sausages to salami. Two would really fill you up. As with the nearby cheese shop (see Venissimo), the Starbucks at Falcon and Washington is a good place to chow down this unique sausage experience. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Friendly staff serves up standard Szechuan Mandarin fare at this archetypical Chinese restaurant. Szechuan Garlic Shrimp is number one on the list of twelve House Specialties for good reason. This tangy dish of crispy, deep-fried shrimp is one of their best. Not often seen on the menus of strip mall Chinese restaurants, the Szechuan Orange Fish is also recommended, but don't be misled by the "hot & spicy" star next to this item. As with any of their "spicy" offerings, the heat in this dish barely registers. Spice lovers should ask for an extra kick. The Toffee Banana and Toffee Apple desserts may tempt you, but unless you have a dentist on-call, it's best to pass on these super-sticky sweets. Inexpensive lunch specials. Open late until midnight Monday through Thursday, until 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and until 10 p.m. on Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *B.D. (6/05)*

Venissimo Cheese 754 W. Washington, Mission Hills, 619-491-0708. Just don't ask for Velveeta here. Everything else, they've got: sixty-plus varieties of cheese, most from Europe. But a meal? Yes. You can get a baguette-style sandwich stuffed with cow cheese, sheep cheese, goat cheese, fruity, moldy, runny, stinky, any cheese in the house, same price, around five bucks. Even *Boschetto* cheese, with truffles in it, which sells at around \$30 per pound, or Napoleon's favorite, stinky *Epouses Berthaut*, or the beautifully tangy *Schloss*. Plus you get grapes or a pear to go with the sandwich. Where to eat it? Starbucks, a few doors down, usually doesn't mind. Coffee, bread, interesting cheese, fruit — it's the perfect combo. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

DOWNTOWN

Bay Cafe 1050 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-595-1083. If you're hungry at the city ferry landing, you can eat in the bare-bones interior or take your tray upstairs to a handsome bayview terrace (with no wheelchair

access). After a chilly crossing, try the enjoyable New England-style clam chowder, which is milky, clean, and not over-thickened, with tender clams and tiny diced potatoes. The menu features breakfast dishes, burgers, sandwiches (all served with generic fries), variations on fish and chips including prawns, plus some entrée salads. The burgers are genuinely "have it your way" — for a few extra cents each, the kitchen will add extra ingredients (Jack or Cheddar, mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon, jalapeño). Breakfast, lunch and early dinner, daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or "the other white") meat cooked on a wood-fired grill, smeared with a precooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobbler, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950s pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (9/04)*

Darband Fifth Avenue Grill 1556 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-230-1001. Darband is named after an exotic mountain resort north of Tehran. Quite a contrast to this sloping office-and-car-park strip of Fifth. Lunchtimes, office workers fill the tables. Evenings feel more, well, Persian. It's mostly men, some playing backgammon, talking, arguing, laughing. With all the Farsi flying round, it feels like a local café back in Tehran. Food is good, fresh, regular Persian. "Khoresh Bademjan" is a tasty baby eggplant and beef stew. "Barg" is a safe bet, too — marinated beef tenderloin with rice. So is the vegetarian plate, though the veggie wrap's cheaper. Of course, kabobs star, as do yogurt-y, cucumber-y, minty flavors. Open breakfast through dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/06)*

DeMedici 815 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-7228. This lovely, cream-and-sepia dining room evokes an Italian Renaissance villa, while its sidewalk patio offers a prime pageant of Gaslamp follies. Either way, you'll enjoy exceptional service — attentive but utterly unobtrusive — and a menu centered on succulent pastas and refined seafood dishes. The nightly specials and the waiter's recommendations for the freshest catch will lead you to the evening's best entrées. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering; Atlantic shellfish, though, tend to be a tad overcooked. Reserve, and dress on the spiffier side — some Hollywood celebs hang their Borsalinos here, up-

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Dublin Square 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-5818. The entire pub was hand-crafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. The exterior indeed resembles a real (but very new) Dublin pub; the interior has authentically dim lighting and spirited Irish music, including live bands (acoustic but loud) during happy hours and some evenings. If you're looking for food, too, there's a fine corned beef and cabbage, resembling the corned beef of Katz's Deli on the Lower East Side — it's that wee touch o' the garlic that does the trick. Other choices include Guinness beef stew, shepherd's pie (made with ground beef), steaks, lamb medallion, fish and chips, and grilled fish, plus standard pub grub. Lunch and dinner (including Irish breakfast any time) daily. Moderate. — N.W. (3/02)

House Of Blues Restaurant 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-299-2583. Best thing HOB did was *not* tear down Woolworth's old sidewalk canopy. Now it shelters their streetside café, where you can just do coffee and people watch, or get into their Southern-inspired cuisine. This is a classy joint, with heavy flatware, big white cloth napkins, and solid china plates and cups. Can a fellow on a tight budget afford to eat here? Yes and no. Meaning, for a song you will find great chicken gumbo mixing it up with andouille (Cajun) sausage and okra in traditional brown roux with French bread, or skillet-baked rosemary cornbread with maple butter, or their delicious sweet potato fries. But you'll need bigger notes to finance the all-beef Blues Burger with cheese and fries or the luscious baby back ribs with mashed sweet potatoes. Value dessert? The white

chocolate-banana bread pudding with Jack Daniel's crème anglaise, whipped cream, and a "caramel halo" will have you singing with the angels — not the blues. Open daily, 10 a.m. to midnight. Moderate to expensive. — E.B. (11/05)

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their "sleazy bar scene" in *Top Gun*. And it *is* kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers ("Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man"). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They're cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long happy hour (3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (3/01)

Max New York Steakhouse and Seafood 827 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-235-8500. As steakhouses go, Max is a good value, offering huge portions of fine, gently raised near-organic meat, cooked to order and offered at relatively gentle prices. You don't even have to pay extra for your veggies. For beef, there's full-flavored naturally raised Angus or butter-tender Kobe-style Wagyu beef from New Zealand. Or you can choose a giant rack of lamb, so tender it should be called "Certified Angus." Sauces tend to be pedestrian; request them on the side. The classic steakhouse appetizers are done with some smart twists. Superb international wine list at below-average markups, including plenty by the glass. Full bar. Valet parking, or inexpensive lot via alley two doors north. Open nightly, until midnight on weekends. Upper moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (3/04)

Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge 1352 Fifth Avenue (between A and Ash), downtown, 619-515-2233 or 619-325-1900. Don't come early. You'll be all alone. Turn up around midnight, and you'll see just how social the Lebanese can be. Meals are spread over a couple of hours with lots of conversation, probably finishing with a baklava, Turkish coffee, and a *sheesha* — water pipe (much cheaper by the hour here than down in the Gaslamp; best flavor: rose). They have the whole panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food, but the best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (2/06)

Morton's of Chicago 285 J Street (between Second and Third), Gaslamp, 619-696-3369. This famous Chicago steakhouse is swanky, in a manly way: dark, clubby, luxurious, and louche. You go to Morton's for great steak. Their Nebraska beef is aged and meticulously grilled to your specifications. You can get a one-and-a-half or three-pound porterhouse, which will be juicy, marbled with flavorful fat. You can also get good fish at Morton's. The big, golden salmon fillet flakes to the fork and is moist, sweet, buttery. The pricey à la carte sides are either bad or mediocre. The Morton's Hot Chocolate Cake is exceptional. But go for the steak. Expensive. — M.N. (9/99)

Puerto la Boca 2060 India Street (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Argentines love their beef and they love it lean and wholesome — free-range and grass fed. That's what you'll find at this uncompromisingly authentic outpost of Buenos Aires cuisine. The great national entrée is the mixed grill (*parillada*) for two or more — a massive meatarama featuring numerous grilled cuts of marinated beef, chicken, and sausages. Start with luscious beef or corn empanadas or, if you're feeling hungry and adventurous, *matambre*

(rolled beef galantine). Not a steak lover? Try the shrimp "la boca." Don't eat meat? There are vegetarian pastas and pizzas. Gnocchi (*ñoquis*) are served only on the 29th of each month. International, affordable choice of wines, plus Latin and U.S. beers. Full bar. Patio dining. Lunch and dinner daily. — N.W. (8/05)

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard (at B Street), Little Italy, 619-233-5757. You *could* order the fish, the chicken, or even the lamb, but odds are you're here because you want steak, prepared by people who respect your enthusiasm and offer prime beef in multiple cuts. And you're here because Rainwater's is venerable and local. You can dine old-style and enjoy it — warm cornbread fingers, a fine loose-packed crab cake, a crisp, watery wedge of iceberg lettuce under a blue cheese blanket. As for the beef, New York strip takes the day. You actually have to chew it — it ain't filet — but every chomp gives up scads of flavor. Order a side of greaseless, firm-bodied onion rings and wash it down with something from the exhaustive (and expensive) wine list. Lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m.; dinner daily. Very expensive. — A.M. (6/03)

Sally's on the Water Manchester Grand Hyatt, 1 Market Place (Market and Harbor Drive, adjacent to Seaport Village), downtown, 619-358-6740. On an isolated "island" between the Hyatt and Seaport Village, in fair weather you'll catch great marina views from the terrace. Under inventive young French chef Fabrice Tissier, the fare is California-French with a summery Provençal accent and an accent on seafood. Don't miss the exquisite crab cakes or the classic bouillabaisse. If you'd like to know what the chef can do when he isn't limited by the tastes of hotel diners, with 72 hours to a week's notice you can book "The Chef's Table" inside the kitchen for six to twelve people and collaborate with him on a custom menu. Sally's interior is

hard-edged modern and can be noisy. Full bar, good mainly California wine list. Validated parking in hotel garage. Call for wheelchair-access directions. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — N.W. (10/04)

Sidebar Deli California Western School of Law, corner of Second and Cedar, downtown, 619-525-1444. The motto of this place is "Every day's a good day, but some days are better than others." It certainly applies to the Sidebar, just because the daily specials can be gone in a flash. Students have fought class actions to secure lunch specials like spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread. Of course there are always breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches like bacon or sausage and cheese, French Dip sandwiches, or California wraps. Open to the public, breakfast and lunch, weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)

Strip Club 340 Fifth Avenue (at J Street), Gaslamp, 619-231-3140. This grill-your-own steak joint is a homage to Golden Hill's Turf Supper Club — but if Turf is a low-budget indie cult film, Strip Club is the Gaslamp's big, brassy, high-budget Hollywood remake (even though prices, like those of movie tickets, are roughly the same). It's loud and handsome, and if the USDA Choice steaks (available in numerous cuts) are not quite as flavorful as Turf's, they're still good enough for the price — and you can take them up a notch with numerous spice blends and sauces on hand at each gas grill. Other choices include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna steak, and meat or seafood kabobs (the shrimp is particularly good, with peppers, onions, and meaty hunks of portobello mushroom). Entrées come with salad and puffy, cook-it-yourself garlic bread, resembling hamburger buns with gigantiasis. Six veg and starch side dishes (including two types of gluey mashed potatoes) are available at extra cost; desserts are commercial ice cream novelties. Casual, no reservations, street-patio din-

ing available. Over 21 only, no minors even with adult accompaniment. Diners nightly, open late Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (11/02)

Tesoro 548 Fifth Avenue (between Island and Market), Gaslamp, 619-234-5670. Sharp modern decor meets contemporary Mexican resort-style cuisine. Highlights include appetizers of *panuchos de cochinita* (souful Yucatan-style pork and black bean mini-tostadas) and *tarta de rajás*, puff-pastry layers covered with strips of poblano chile and melted Oaxaca cheese in cream. Chicken in black Oaxacan mole sauce is an interesting, authentic entrée, and filet mignon in a sauce of *jamaica* (hibiscus flowers) is luscious. Unfortunately, few entrées include any veggies or starches, and since flavors are intense, the mouth yearns for relief. Side dishes (costing extra) are largely limited to rice, good beans, house-made tortillas, chiles. Full bar, including specialty tequila and beer drinks, Baja wines. Elevator available to mezzanine dining room and basement nightclub levels. Smart-casual dress, spiffy on weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. High moderate to expensive. — N.W. (4/05)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Asian Noodles Bay Plaza Shopping Center, 1430 E. Plaza Boulevard, Suite E-12, National City, 619-477-5390. You've got to be a noodle fan to be into this. It's an outpost of the venerable Ma Mon Luk family's Filipino restaurant empire. Mr. Ma went to Manila from China nearly a century ago and introduced the idea of egg noodles in a chicken soup (instead of rice noodles). His now-famous soup (with beef or chicken these days) came to be called MaMi, (Mr. Ma's "Mi" — noodles). Yes, MaMi's a little bland, but it's fill-

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San Diego Reader October 26, 2006 141

Calendar RESTAURANTS

ing, and their *siopao* (stuffed steam buns) make a good accompaniment. Most interesting is another invention Ma Mon Luk claims: sweet spaghetti. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (3/06)

Bistro D'Asia 1301 Orange Avenue (at B Avenue), Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian

"monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a wait-ress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar. Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W.* (11/04)

Canyon Club Cafe 421 Telegraph Canyon Road, Chula Vista, (no phone). You don't get deals like this every day — think 1940s roadhouses. Read the breakfast menu: "All items above include hash browns, toast, coffee, juice and (1) beer." Bikers (especially the U.M.F. of America, and yes, you've probably worked the letters out) appreciate this menu regularly. The food is strictly Americana, from the half plate of biscuits and gravy, to steak and eggs, to omelets with Ortega chili. Biggest threat isn't the bikers (they're "good people" according to the owners), it's gentrification. Good-tasting sandwiches: salmon burger or COBALT (Cheese, Onion, Bacon, Avocado, Lettuce, and Tomato). Open seven days, lunch and dinner, until midnight; breakfast on weekends from 9 a.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/05)

China Super Buffet 3007 Highland Avenue #9, National City, 619-336-9989. This buffet promises "over 100 items daily." Yellow-gloved girls constantly rove the rows check-

ing, stirring, wiping. A lot of the stuff is very good, like the marinated baby octopuses that look like large blushing spiders, or the mussels in their shells, bubbling golden on top with melted cheese, and of course, roast beef au jus. If you must be healthy, they have groaning salad bars and adequate sushi. It's an incredible value. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Giant Pizza King 600 Palm Avenue (at Rainbow), Imperial Beach, 619-423-7601. If pizza size matters to you, try on these nine-inch-wide, foot-long, loaded pizza slices. They can flop, but they can't fail. For alternatives, the fish and chips dish is pretty generous, they make a large lasagna with garlic bread and salad, and the half-pound shrimp combo, fries, and salad is good value. You're near enough here to the beach to get supplies for sunset "green flash" parties — this is a full-on Italian take-out eatery with ham or turkey subs, spaghetti with meatballs, half-pound burgers, and more. Seven days, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/05)

Lizard Lounge 1301 Orange Avenue (at B), Coronado, 619-437-6677. This venerable saloon, a Navy old-timers' favorite since the era when lounge lizards in leisure suits stalked the earth, now houses a good little sushi bar at one end of its spirits bar. The rice is well-seasoned, the seafood tastes sparkling-fresh, and each *nigiri* is given its own individual garnish (e.g., lemon

with the *hamachi* roll). Most of the inside-out party rolls are variations of the California roll formula, with the same center of sweet crab and avocado, but there's also a lively mango-albacore roll, featuring tempura shrimp, avocado, and *ponzu*. For best seats and peaceful eating, come early; the bar fills fast and the room can get downright rowdy as the night rolls on. Street parking. Lunch/dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.* (11/04)

Lydia's Cafe and Nightclub 1628 Palm Avenue, San Diego, 619-429-3603. This easygoing dancing/eatery has a faithful following that goes back to 1957. But before you dance, eat! Check out the *birria en su jugo* (goat in its juices) with beans, rice, and tortillas, or enjoy filling snacks like *taquitos*, *cucaracha* (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream), or the snack Lydia says she invented: *botanas* (beans, pork, and melted cheese over corn chips). Open daily, three meals. (Call ahead for availability of the *birria*.) Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

McP's Irish Pub & Grill 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. With a crowd ranging from Navy retirees to chic singles barely of drinking age, the perpetual party on McP's' patio is nurtured by above-average Irish-Mexican-American pub grub (burgers, potato skins, nachos, etc.). The Irish fare includes a pleasing Mulligan stew served in a hollowed

bread-loaf and an absolutely fabulous corned beef and cabbage plate with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Good soups, too. Open daily, standard pub hours. (Breakfast Sunday during football season.) Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/01)

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Yes, it's mostly poker players, but anybody can come in and order a meal. And here's the thing: first-time visitors get their meal free. Really. Players or nonplayers. Of course, the idea is to keep players' bellies full so they can return to the game, so even second-timers get a deal with down-home comfort-dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs and garlic bread, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (1/04)

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Big Boy Restaurant Agua Caliente Boulevard #9892 (across the street from the old bullring), Tijuana, 686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food, this Big Boy knock-off draws some of the most interesting people in Tijuana — journalists,

lawyers, cattle ranchers, politicians, Baja's heavy hitters. Day or night, Big Boy is always busy. Gringo food's no problem. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chorizo or ham, plus hash browns or frijoles, toast, juice, and endless coffee. Nobody will object if you sit sipping the free refills till the moon comes up. But you won't — you'll crack and order more when you smell the popular, macho "royal" hamburger, with two beef patties, smoked ham, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, fries, and salad. Or the chicken breast marinated in tequila with cilantro, guacamole, and beans. Open 24/7. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Cafe la Especial Avenida Revolución #718 (down the market steps), Tijuana, 685-6654. Café la Especial was once a great favorite of American aficionados of Tijuana's bullfights at the old downtown Plaza de Toros. Summer Sundays, fans would crowd into the café to chow down before the fights or rush back afterwards for a few drinks and a hearty meal. Inside, little has changed, not even the 50-50 locals-to-gringos ratio. Food is standard Mexican/American border fare, from tacos and tamales to *carne asada* and *bistek ranchero*, from cactus and eggs to steak and eggs. But the atmosphere is the real draw: the low ceiling, varnished wood, black furniture with flowers painted up and down the legs and portraits on the backs, and lots of murals of Mexico on the walls. Owner Humberto Brambila's aunt Justina started it all, he says, in 1948, with the steamed taco stand upstairs. That's still going too. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (5/02)

El Rodeo Boulevard Salinas #1647, Tijuana, 686-5640. This 30-year-old

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steak haven sits on traffic-drowned Salinas, but climb onto its porch and you're at some Sonoran desert rancho, saguaro cacti and all. Inside it's dark wood and brick, wagon wheels, lariats, rifles, longhorns, and generous amounts of cattle-ranch food. Entrée price includes a delicious soup of roast beef juices, beans cooked in their own juices, a quesadilla, a salad, two *botana* (snack) plates, of, say, vinegary veggies and potatoes, and a beef liver medley, flour tortillas, chips, and hot sauce. You can get any cut of steak you want. A *parrillada* — BBQ dish — gives you marinated beef rib, *carne asada*, and barbecued chicken, all sizzling on a rancho-style metal tabletop grill that glows with hot coals. Best part: the roasted spring onions splayed across the meat. Dessert and coffee also included. Good place for a party. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — *E.B. (5/05)*

La Baguette Boulevard Lázaro Cárdenas #1030 (a.k.a. Boulevard Costero, opposite Sanborn's between Castillo and Blancarte), Ensenada, 646-178-2814. For those who take their java straight and strong, this is a good stop for a quick continental breakfast or dessert, with quite possibly the best French Roast coffee in town. Open daily during the day. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (4/03)*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1 (in Fraccionamiento Las Palmas), Tijuana, 681-4458. This hidden ("*escondida*") mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the

regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (*cacerola de mariscos*), the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork), or the roasted baby Monterrey goat ("*cabrito tatemado*"). Desserts include the house *especial*, mango and ice cream with *rompope* (Mexican egg nog), and *crepas de cajeta con nieve*, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — *E.B. (1/05)*

La Vuelta Avenida Revolución #8210 (above 11th), Tijuana, 685-7309. Bring your lover here and hide away in one of the cuddly *carretitas* — nooks. Even if traffic is ghastly at "the turn" ("*la vuelta*") where Revolución hooks left, you forget all that inside this vestige of Olde Tijuana, with balcony seating, resident mariachis, and food and drink all day and night. Dive into a *combinación mexicana* (chile relleno, taco, and enchilada) or *carne asada* served in an *olla de barro*, an earthenware pot from Guadalajara. Even the gringo-sounding *filet mignon* with mushroom sauce somehow comes out Mexican. Most Mexicans actually turn up about 1 a.m., after their own parties, to be serenaded by the excellent 10-piece mariachi band. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/03)*

Restaurante Don Quijote Hotel El Conquistador (ground floor), 10750 Boulevard Agua Caliente, Tijuana, 681-7955. This tribute to the great windmill tilter himself serves as breakfast, lunch, and dinner anchor for the town's truest colonial Mexican *posada* (inn). It's a world of glowing stained-glass windows, heavy doors, and black wrought iron. You expect Zorro himself to come clattering out from the shadows on his horse. The food is standard middle-class Mexican fare, but between quail dishes and enchiladas, creations like cheese-stuffed shrimp wrapped in bacon pop out. Nicest surprise? *Sopa Azteca*, with tortilla strips, grated cheese, chopped dark red chiles, and avocado. Inexpensive to moderate. Open three meals, seven days. — *E.B. (2/06)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Buca di Beppo 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822; 1921 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-479-2533. People come here to celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of "themed" Italian. Bucca di Beppo ("Joe's Cellar") is a mighty national chain — but it works. Downtown's rabbit-warren of low-ceilinged dining rooms is plastered with Italian photos (check out Sophia Loren, transfixed by Jane Mansfield's breasts) and crowded with customers chowing down from

portions large enough to feed two or more. Try the *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the popular chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff, but what the heck — you're having fun. Don't leave without conquering the mountainous, wicked Bella Festa, two huge balls of ice cream on double chocolate cakes running with sambuca sauce, caramel, and nuts on an 18-inch plate. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (12/05)*

California Pizza Kitchen 3363 Nobel Drive, La Jolla Village Square, La Jolla, 858-457-4222. Also at Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Coast Highway 101, Suite 601, Solana Beach, 858-793-0999; Carmel Mountain Plaza, 11602 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain, 858-675-4424; and Fashion Valley Mall (second level), Suite 901, 7007 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-298-4078. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order "Hawaiian" pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. At night, the Nobel Drive branch features a view of the shining Mormon cathedral. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Joe's Crab Shack 7610 Hazard Center Drive, Mission Valley, 619-574-8617; 4325 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474; 525 E. Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-233-7391; 314 Harbor Drive, South Oceanside, 760-722-1345. A seafood chain with a good Cajun corporate name (Landry's) based in southern Louisiana wouldn't survive without some pluses besides a Bourbon Street party atmosphere. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambiance (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Starve yourself for eight hours, then come in here and order up an Apple Pancake — a foot-wide, batter-filled, five-egg paradise pelted with slices from two Granny Smith apples and baked till it puffs up like a golden mini-superdome. Cinnamon cinches it. The German Pancake, or its kid brother, the Dutch Baby, are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the really, really filling mushroom omelet, which comes with three pancakes. Oh, and the Eggs Michael: sausage patties and poached eggs lost somewhere under a mushroom-sherry sauce. The whole atmosphere — striped gold-and-cream wallpaper, dainty cups, shelves of ceramic dogs — feels like it's the Fifties and your

granny took you here when you were five. OK, it's a nationwide franchise, but it's a comfy franchise, from Oregon. All-day breakfast only, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. Other locations at 14905 Pomerado Road, Poway, 858-679-0186; 160 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-943-1939; 435 South Melrose Drive, Vista, 760-758-3441. — *E.B. (4/02)*

Ruth's Chris Steak House 11582 El Camino Real (at Arroyo Sorrento), Sorrento Hills, 858-755-1454. Flash-cooked steaks from the finest wet-aged, corn-fed USDA Prime, seasoned with salt, pepper, butter, and parsley, are the hallmark of this 95-location chain. If you aren't a salt offender, ask the kitchen to use a lighter touch. All side dishes are à la carte but come in portions large enough to feed two. The broiled tomatoes, caramelized with a touch of sugar, are a delight, and potatoes are offered in eight guises. A pecan-topped sweet potato casserole, although delicious, would be better as dessert. Non-beef-eaters can choose from numerous luxurious seafood dishes, a cheese-stuffed chicken breast, grilled portobello mushrooms, and six salads. Award-winning wine list is steep but serious, with an average bottle price of \$70 but reasonable markups and wines over \$100 offered at retail price. The main room harbors a fabulous view of the ocean if you arrive before sunset, but it's noisy — tables upstairs are quieter. Dinner nightly; lunch Friday only. Also downtown, with equally stunning views, at 1355 North Harbor Drive, 619-233-1422. Very expensive. — *B.D. (5/05)*

Restaurant Coupons and Menus SanDiegoReader.com

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

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Gringo's **\$2 off Sunday Brunch**
Lahaina Beach House **Free breakfast**
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill **2 for 1 entrée**
Pacific Rotisserie **Free entrée**
Sam's by the Sea
Saska's **Free sushi or 25% off bill**
TJ Oyster Bar **2 for 1 tacos/tostadas**
Tower Two Beach Cafe **\$3 breakfast**

East County & State College

Alpine Inn **Sunday prime rib \$18.95**
Cereal Port Cafe **Free energy drink**
Fix Me A Plate Cafe **15% off any entrée**
Greek Town Buffet **50% off dinner buffet**
Habana Cuban **Free entrée**
Lucky Star Buffet **50% off dinner**

North County

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Mightier Than the Sword

The more you know about an event, the more tainted it will get.

All right. Okay. So Clint Eastwood's *Flags of Our Fathers* is not as good as his last couple of films, *Million Dollar Baby*, going backwards in time, and *Mystic River*. Little birdies have told me so, and I don't disagree. The new film, to put a finer point on it, is not as good as either of the best American films of their respective years. Saying it like that is a way of saying that Eastwood has become one of those select filmmakers, so far above the pack, to be measured only against himself. And his not-as-good new film is nonetheless, with just two months to go, the best American film of its year thus far.

Admittedly, that's something of a collective judgment, a body-of-work judgment as distinct from an individual judgment. The director (and on this occasion nonactor), sorely trying the patience of anyone still hoping for a sixth installment of Dirty Harry, is not yet done paying penance for the casual, callous, and prolific violence of his earlier years. And *Flags of Our Fathers* rises in value as an essential,

an unmissable, piece of the entire cycle, an extraordinary course of self-examination and self-reform, beginning in earnest with the aptly titled *Unforgiven*, continuing through *A Perfect World* and, yes, *The Bridges of Madison County* — the modern-day saddle tramp riding a pickup instead of a pony and shooting with a camera instead of a Colt — and, after slacking off for a few lesser efforts, carrying on with revived urgency through the three most recent.

This latest one shows, to begin with, that he has not taken the course too far, that he has not run the thing into the ground, not run out of new angles. An elegiac war film, it tells the story of the famous Joe Rosenthal flag-raising photograph from the Battle of Iwo Jima, the full story, how this flag was in actuality a larger replacement flag for one raised already, how the battle raged on for five more weeks afterwards (contrary to the 1949 *Sands of Iwo Jima* with John Wayne), how the three survivors among the six faceless flag-raisers (played with great



Flags of Our Fathers

restraint by Ryan Phillippe, Adam Beach, Jesse Bradford) were brought back home to be paraded around on a bond drive, how they squirmed under the banner of "the heroes of Iwo Jima" (the best-known of them, the American Indian Ira Hayes, later celebrated in song by Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan, drank himself into an irreversible skid), how they lived out

their remaining days. It is distinctly a film of, and for, its own time, gripped with the conviction that the more you know about an event, the more tainted it will get. And let's remind ourselves, right about now, that Eastwood is still the only major filmmaker to have commemorated on screen the American conquest of Grenada. Surely some special penance was owed for that.

Mark it down as paid in full.

There are unmistakable and somewhat regrettable echoes here of Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* — the reminiscing WWII vet of the present day, the CGI invasionary fleet, the jaws-of-death beach landing, a bit of that concussed camerawork in the thick of the action — and one wonders whether Spielberg's involvement



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in the project as a co-producer didn't influence the decision to drain the color from the image, sometimes, on the battlefield, all the way to virtual black-and-white, in conscious imitation (or as you prefer, self-conscious imitation) of the photojournalism of the day. I frankly didn't care for the look of the film. But then, I didn't much care for the dustily monochromatic color work of *Unforgiven*, either, though that didn't spoil it for me.

On the other hand, there are countering echoes of *The Bridges of Madison County* — the posthumous discovery of a secret box in the attic, the child's belated probe of a parent's hidden inner life, the still camera as a weapon of choice, mightier than the sword. ("A single shot," reads the sly ad line, "can end the war.") And the overall drift of the film, steady and unrushed, coming in at Eastwood's regulation running time of two and a quarter hours, goes very much against the burbling rapids of Spielberg: no sensationalizing, no shouting, no strong-arming, no tipping of the hand, playing it instead close to the vest, staying open to ambiguity and ambivalence (the theme music, composed once again by the director himself, sounds like a kind of stillborn "America the Beautiful," more of an "America the Doubtful"), refraining from point-making and axe-grinding en route, working towards a cumulative effect, and bringing it all together at the end in the touching epiphany of the soldiers at play in the Iwo surf, fighting men, warriors, reduced to their skivvies, their flesh, their humanness. And please remain seated through the slide show of authentic war photos during the closing credits, after which you will be rewarded with a haunting final shot, circling around a clifftop war memorial, without really looking at it, to get a clear, elevated view of the deserted beach today, a place that preserves no footprints. Eastwood there shows his heart, his humility, his awe, his reverence for life. He shows, also, the courage of understatement, the courage of the small statement. And in the unavoidable violence of the film, he has come up with some viable solutions to the eternal danger of glamorization: keeping it quick, avoiding the cliché of lingering slow-motion (is Spielberg taking notes?), isolating the worst of the gore, in the story's scrambled timeline, into mere fragments, divorcing it from dramatic sequence, subverting it as spectacle, consigning it to inerascable memory, the mental photo album of the battle-worn veteran. An even worse bit of gore, the fate of the likable "Iggy," is pointedly neither shown nor described. We can only imagine.

The central theme of the manufacture and marketing of "heroes," while timeless in its application to the everyday work of Hollywood, has a particular topicality in the post-9/11 world where no one in public service seems to be able to do his job anymore without being branded a hero. The point — that men are only men, that "heroes" are their creations, a label pinned on them like ribbons — is quietly and forcefully made. Yet despite its best efforts, or rather *because* of them, the film inescapably demonstrates the existence of heroes in the real world. One such, obviously, would be Eastwood himself, a shining example of the human capacity for growth and renewal. He, too, shoots with a camera.

Three Times, the Hou Hsiao-hsien film I was so looking forward to in the San Diego Asian Film Festival, is not top-rung Hou, either. In fact it is bottom-rung Hou. In fact I did not know the rungs on his ladder went this low. The idea of pairing up the same actor and actress (Chang Chen and Shu Qi, both excellent) in three separate stories, set in three separate eras, seemed to me a good one, a likely way to explore concepts of chance and circumstance,

the accident of birth, the luck of the draw, the universality of whatever. I didn't get much of that, or anything else, from the juxtaposition. Perhaps I was wrong to anticipate.

The first story, set in 1966, is all right, a bit more conventional and optimistic than normal for Hou, but communicating a strong sense, for all its slowness, of the fleetingness of life. The second segment, set in 1911 and going over some of the same ground

as *Flowers of Shanghai*, affects the numbing, the dumbfounding device of silent-film intertitles for dialogue and no sound effects. (For some reason, we can nevertheless hear people sing in live performance, albeit dubbed.) The final segment, present day, brings an almost welcome cacophony of traffic, pop music, cellphones, etc., but it loses focus on our central pair. For me, the whole thing didn't add up. I'd have settled

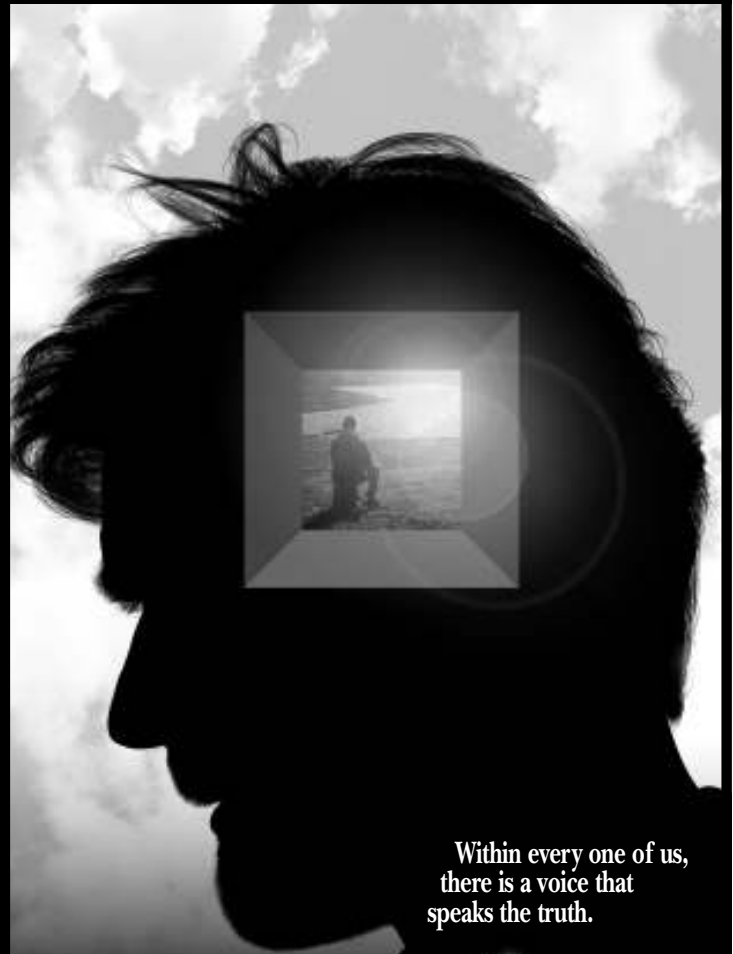
happily for just *One Time*. And the color throughout looked so lackluster that I was surprised to see in the closing credits that Hou's trusty cameraman, Mark Lee Ping-bin, was in his customary spot.

The overflow crowd in a matchbox auditorium at UltraStar Mission Valley 7 cheered me more than the film itself, although I would hate to think that this was anyone's first exposure to the Taiwanese master. ■

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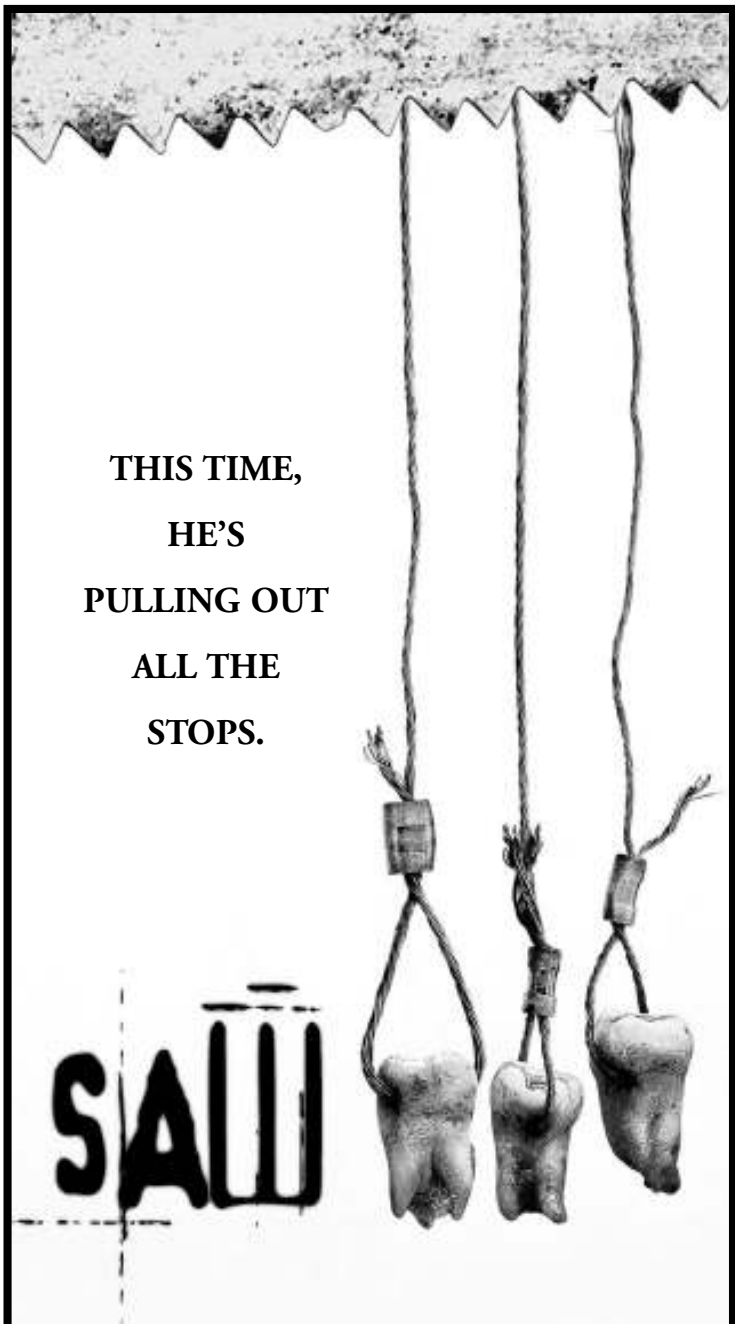
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American Hardcore — Musical documentary on the punk rockers of the early Eighties, directed by Paul Rachman. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 10/27)

The Black Dahlia — James Ellroy's theory of the case — the unsolved murder, disembowelment, and bisection of Hollywood wannabe Elizabeth Short in 1947 — as expounded in 325 dense pages of fiction, fitted on screen into the *film noir* boilerplate: the laconic first-person narration of a two-fisted cop (Josh Hartnett), the moody solo trumpet of Mark Isham in the background, and a blonde and brunette brace of *femmes fatales* (Scarlett Johansson, Hilary Swank). Brian De Palma, the director, has never had much grasp of narrative, and here the tangle so overwhelms him that he neglects even his baroque stylistics. A complicated piece of slo-mo action, akin to his *Potemkin* plagiarism in *The Untouchables*, is not only unpersuasive in its staging, but fails to conceal the identity of the killer despite going to great pains (short of cheating with a stand-in) to do so. The highlight, if there



Marie Antoinette

must be one, would probably be K.D. Lang's rendition of "Love for Sale" in a subterranean lesbian nightclub. A lower but steadier light comes from the nice waxy sheen of Vilmos Zsigmond's cinematography. With Aaron Eckhart, Mia Kirshner, Fiona Shaw. 2006.

● (GASLAMP 15)

Catch a Fire — Thriller set in Apartheid-era South Africa, with Tim Robbins and Derek Luke, directed by Phillip Noyce.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 10/27)

Conversations with God — Adaptation of the Neale Donald Walsch inspirational book, with Henry Czerny, directed by

Stephen Simon. (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA; FROM 10/27)

Deliver Us from Evil — Documentarist Amy Berg revisits the case of a pedophilic priest in Northern California in the Seventies. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 10/27)

The Departed — Martin Scorsese's career-changing turn to the overblown epic, a turn marked by *Casino*, would seem to be a course difficult to reverse. *Kundun* ... *Gangs of New York* ... *The Aviator*.... And now even a trashy light diversion, adapted from an average-length Hong Kong action film, will get dragged out to two and a half hours — this despite the delivery of dialogue at the machine-gun tempo of a hopped-up auctioneer (or of Scorsese's own casual conversation), and despite, too, the mere semblance of speed imparted by the free-associative cutting and the incongruous rockabilly beat of the background music, whenever the filmmaker isn't trotting out his collection of rock-and-roll oldies. The convoluted plot verges on farce: an upwardly mobile underworld spy in the Massachusetts State Police (Matt Damon, raising his eyebrows in an ostentatious show of innocence) and a downwardly mobile police spy inside the mob (Leonardo DiCaprio, giving himself away with his meat-cleaver worry line) both become involved, first as clients and then as suitors, with a *Harper's Bazaar* idea of a psychotherapist (Vera Farmiga, she of the prow-like cheekbones, life-raft lips, blue-lagoon eyes). Not even the take-no-prisoners crescendo of gore toward the end, jolting though some of it is, can pull the movie back from the farcical brink. And Jack Nicholson, as showy an actor as Scorsese is

a director (when he's only in it for the money, anyway), plays the mob boss at a pitch barely below his *Batman* Joker. With Mark Wahlberg, Martin Sheen, Alec Baldwin, Ray Winstone. 2006. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Devil Wears Prada — Working-girl comedy in the vein of, oh, say, *Working Girl*, the eager, gifted, underemployed, and underpaid secretary ("A million girls would kill for that job") and the imperious, capricious, queen-bee boss. An ice queen, more descriptively, with snow-white hair, just a bit of sludge showing through at the neck, and an anemic, cryonic complexion. Meryl Streep, in the latter part, is interesting as always, talking in a narcotized, uninflected voice that betrays no emotion deeper than a sigh. But Anne Hathaway, talking with a clothespin on her nose, doesn't quite fill the bill as "the smart fat girl." Or to put it more flatteringly, the offenses of her weight and her wardrobe are not overstated. Disappointingly, the possibilities of the fashion-industry setting, from Lauren Weisberger's fang-baring novel, largely go by in a blur of montages and a blizzard of name-dropping. With Stanley Tucci, Emily Blunt, Simon Baker, and Adrien Grenier; directed by David Frankel. 2006. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Driving Lessons — Jeremy Brooks's coming-of-age comedy with Rupert Grint, Julie Walters, and Laura Linney. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 10/27)

Flags of Our Fathers — Reviewed this issue. With Ryan Phillippe, Adam Beach, Jesse Bradford, Barry Pepper, Jamie Bell, and Paul Walker; directed by Clint Eastwood.

★★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Flicka — A girl and her horse, with Alison Lohman, Tim McGraw, and Maria Bello, directed by Michael Mayer. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Flyboys — Fulsome tribute to the boys, the men, of the Lafayette Escadrille, the corps of American volunteers who flew for France in the First World War. A throw-back, to some extent, to the aviation films of, for the prime example, William Wellman, except that Wellman had himself been a pilot in the Escadrille, and in consequence did not have so exaggerated, so exalted, a view of it. James Franco, a contemporary cutie-pie anachronistically aping a Fifties method actor (James Dean) in a setting of the Teens, is no heftier a star than Tab Hunter in Wellman's 1958 film named after the corps, but then again Hunter wasn't asked to be such a paragon. Martin Henderson, the new Bruce Boxleitner aspiring to be the new Bill Pullman, comes up even shorter, even lighter, as the hard-bitten, battle-scarred ace of the squad. A couple of colorful details — the 18th-century chateau for a barracks, the domesticated lion for a mascot — cannot go far to compensate for the cardboard characters, the hand-me-down dramatics, the taxing love interest (she speaks no English, he speaks no French), the squarish direction (Tony Bill), the tinny dialogue, the blustery music.

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There is nevertheless plenty of action, even if it mostly takes place inside a computer, programmed to hurl objects straight at your eyeballs till you yearn for the red-and-green goggles of 3-D. With Jennifer Decker, Jean Reno. 2006. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Grudge 2 — Horror sequel starring Amber Tamblyn, with a guest appearance by Sarah Michelle Gellar, directed by Takashi Shimizu. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Guardian — A salute to the elite rescue swimmers of the U.S. Coast Guard, a select fraternity of 280. Kevin Costner, senior member, is the closest living thing to the mythical “Fisher of Men” who represents the last hope of the drowning man; but he’s now tied down, in recuperation from a rescue gone fatally wrong, as a discontent instructor of gung-ho wannabes. Ashton Kutcher is the noisiest of these, a high-school swim champ (whose actual name is “Fischer” — a potential Fischer of Men — and whose mocking nickname is

“Goldfish”) bent on breaking every record in the book. In short, a sort of *Top Gun* of the seas, complete with hackneyed love story, obligatory bar fight, lessons in humility, lessons in humanity. The training is gone into in some depth and at even greater length, with spectacular computer-generated waves (*Perfect Storm* program, *Poseidon* program) placed at both ends. Director Andrew Davis, despite the ubiquity of water, favors drained, ashen, parched color and a gritty Dust Bowl atmosphere, triggering in the viewer’s eyes a thirst for two drops each of Visine. With Melissa Sagemiller, Sela Ward, Clancy Brown, and John Heard. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints — Dito Montiel’s brutish coming-of-age film, his first, set in Astoria, N.Y., in the Eighties, and partly in the present, so that dissimilar actors occupy the same roles (while the grown-ups in the Eighties stay in their same roles but get grayer). No doubt a “personal” film — the central character is called Dito Montiel — and yet unindividual, unoriginal, a profane and mundane bore. With Shia LaBeouf, Channing Tatum, Chazz Palminteri, Dianne Wiest, Robert

Downey, Jr., and Rosario Dawson. 2006. ● (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 10/26)

The Illusionist — Ponderous amplification of a Steven Millhauser short story about a thaumaturge in turn-of-the-century Vienna (a fiercely scowling if not terribly intimidating Edward Norton), arrested on stage in the film’s first scene and fast start. There follows a tedious childhood flashback to a forbidden friendship across class barriers and a clichéd shot of clutching fingertips poignantly pulled apart. The separated friends are destined to meet again in adulthood when Crown Prince Leopold (Rufus Sewell with a joke-shop mustache) volunteers his presumptive fiancée as a pigeon in the magic act, whereupon the magician immediately recognizes his long-lost sweetheart (Jessica Biel), while she fails to return the favor, perhaps because of his beard or perhaps because he has aged at twice the rate. The entire story, until at long last it makes its way back to its starting point, is ostensibly told to the Crown Prince by the Chief of Police (the unprepossessing Paul Giamatti), including information he couldn’t know or wouldn’t share. Questions of whether the magician’s powers are supernatural or just prestidigital cannot be answered without Plot Spoilers, or Bean Spillers, though it’s fair to say they are answered with trivial tricksiness. Production and photography, nevertheless, are sufficiently evocative of bygone times, even without the antiquated iris-out transitional

device. Directed by Neil Burger. 2006. ● (HORTON PLAZA 14; POWAY 10)

Infamous — Substantially the same story as *Capote* a year earlier, an uncomfortable proximity that brings to mind the competing Columbases of 1492: *Conquest of Paradise* and *Christopher Columbus* or the competing Earps of *Tombstone* and *Wyatt Earp*. A second account, written and directed by Douglas McGrath, of the birth pains of Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood* inevitably shifts our focus to the accuracy of the story and away from, so to speak, the truth of it, the resonance of it. But perhaps that’s partly because this second account is simply not as good a story, covering fewer aspects of it in shallower detail. (The artificial device of mock interviews with acquaintances of Capote’s — Harper Lee, Bennett Cerf, Babe Paley, Diana Vreeland, Gore Vidal, Alvin Dewey, et al., in actorish incarnations by Sandra Bullock, Peter Bogdanovich, Sigourney Weaver, Juliet Stevenson, Michael Panes, and Jeff Daniels, respectively — testifies to McGrath’s clumsiness in getting his information out.) The main contribution of the latecomer is just to corroborate the accuracy of its more truthful, more resonant predecessor: the writer’s love of scarves, his use of Hollywood gossip as entrée to Kansas society, etc. What it contributes of its own boils down to the Kansans’ repeated mistaking of the castrato-voiced Capote for a woman — the one point of originality which the pre-

vious version might envy — and the unsubtle kiss on the lips between him and the murderer Perry Smith (Daniel Craig) in the jail cell. The diminutive Toby Jones in the lead role is much more of a walking-talking caricature than was Philip Seymour Hoffman in the same role, but it’s a perfectly acceptable, perfectly recognizable caricature, possibly more suited to a supporting role than to a lead. 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 10/26)

Invincible — From the busy Disney sports department, an implausible but true story made more implausible and less true (and not made “better” in the process), the football equivalent of baseball’s *The Rookie*, wherein a thirtyish laid-off schoolteacher, part-time bartender, and abandoned husband in South Philly, name of Vince Papale, earns a spot on the Eagles roster at an open tryout under new coach Dick Vermeil in 1976. (Same year as that purely fictional Philly fairy tale, *Rocky*.) Glossy photography by Ericson Core, who also, à la Peter Hyams, directed; a luxuriance of Seventies hair and explosion of garish fashions; an occasional anachronism (“You disrespecting me?”); a nice, low-key, uncocky portrayal by Mark Wahlberg in the lead role and a complementary one by Kevin Conway as the pessimistic but proud papa; and a passable impersonation of Vermeil by the geeky Greg Kinnear. Vivid vignette: the rookie coach and rookie player throwing up in side-by-side stalls in the locker room

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(audio only, thank you) before the opening game against the fearsome Cowboys. With Elizabeth Banks, Michael Rispoli, Kirk Acevedo, Dov Davidoff, and Michael Kelly. 2006.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Last Kiss — Americanization, and if it doesn't go without saying, vulgarization, of the Italian film of the same name, a fear-of-adulthood seriocomic centered around a tight-knit group of pushing-thirties. The young cast has some glaring weak spots — Zach Braff looks as if he'd prefer to turn it into a lighter comedy, Rachel Bilson can barely deliver a line — and all of them are outshone by the oldsters, Tom Wilkinson and Blythe Danner. With Jacinda Barrett, Casey Affleck, Michael Weston, Eric Christian Olsen, and Marley Shelton; directed by

Tony Goldwyn. 2006.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Last King of Scotland — The self-conferred title of Ugandan strongman, and madman, Idi Amin Dada, a facile role for Forest Whitaker, who pitches into it with gusto. The true central character, however, is a fictitious young Scottish doctor (James McAvoy), the President's personal physician, "closest advisor," illicit lover of Wife Number Three, and all-around trivial distraction. With Kerry Washington, Gillian Anderson, Simon McBurney; directed by Kevin Macdonald. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12)

Little Miss Sunshine — The feature debut of music-video veterans Jonathan Dayton and his wife Valerie Faris was put together on the "quirky" assembly line, a product of the thriving "quirky" industry. Dad (Greg Kinnear) is a would-be self-help guru, "would-be," that is, if anyone were buying his Nine-Step Refuse-to-Lose System. Sample pearl, in casual conversation: "Sarcasm is the refuge of losers." Mom (Toni Collette) is not such an arrant embarrassment, is not really much of anything, except that she has taken responsibility for and custody of her homosexual brother (Steve Carell), a failed suicide and the self-professed, as opposed to acknowledged, "pre-eminent Proust scholar in the United States." Dad's dad (Alan Arkin), who resides in the same household, is a scurrilous cokehead. And the kids are a Nietzsche-reading teenage boy (Paul Dano) who has held fast to a vow of silence for nine months, though he is not averse to communication via notepad ("I hate everyone"), and an owlishly bespectacled younger sister (Abigail Breslin) in competition for the crown of Little Miss Sunshine in Redondo Beach. Since the family lives in Albuquerque, a road movie ensues, with all members of the family packed into a yellow-and-white VW bus. You wait with dread for the moment that will cause the boy to break his silence, and even greater dread for the first public performance of the girl's "talent" as nurtured in secret by Granddad; and the dread in each case proves fully justified. Quirkiness does not preclude sappiness. There are ample compensations, however. Little Miss Breslin is a good crier, and her competitors in the beauty pageant are a frightening collection of JonBenét Ramsey plastic dolls, and the

bus itself emerges as the best character, requiring a collective push after the clutch goes out en route, and emitting a rude-sounding, unpredictable bleat after the horn gets stuck. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Man of the Year — A cable-channel comedian (Robin Williams, given plenty of scope for his penile obsession) runs for President on a dare, and thereafter needs to be continually nagged by his aides to be "edgier" and "funnier." These might also be the voices inside the head of writer and director Barry Levinson, who is prone to talk out his editorial points, and who allows the movie to slip back and forth willy-nilly between political satire and paranoia thriller. (Laura Linney, the whistle-blower who discovers a glitch in the voting-booth software, plays it straight.) That the movie mixes tones is only a part of the problem. The other parts of the problem are that both tones individually are flat and fuzzy. Christopher Walken, Jeff Goldblum, Lewis Black. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Marie Antoinette — Sofia Coppola, possibly drunk on power after the reception of *Lost in Translation*, has gained in ambition as an artist without really gaining in confidence as a technician. She has all the costumes her heart could desire, and all the access to Versailles, but her color palette is a bit bleached and her narrative manner rather starchy. (She spends an inordinate amount of time on the delayed consummation of the royal marriage, and then must bustle through the little business of the Revolution.) The foremost sign of her drunkenness, though, is her use of contemporary pop songs on the soundtrack, a lapse in judgment limited pretty much to a quarter-hour stretch, an hour and a quarter into the film. Kirsten Dunst, Jason Schwartzman, Steve Coogan, Judy Davis, Rip Torn, Asia Argento. 2006.

● (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASH-

ION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Prestige — Not the best film of its year to deal with the subject of magic and to feature both Scarlett Johansson and Hugh Jackman. That distinction would belong to Woody Allen's *Scoop*, which was unchallenged as well (except insofar as the air pressure in Jessica Biel's lips may have challenged Scarlett Johansson's) by that intervening magic film, *The Illusionist*. Between the two also-rans, it's pretty near a toss-up, two turn-of-the-century period pieces tangled up in their compulsive twists and turns. Christopher Nolan, the present director, is somewhat less adept at concealing his tricks, despite trying diligently to lose the viewer in a maze of flashbacks-within-flashbacks. Even had he succeeded, his reliance on the plot expedience of dead ringers is taken to lengths of absurdity surpassing even daytime soap operas. Lengths, to be more exact, of the flightiest science fiction. The plot premise of a professional and personal rivalry between a couple of London stage magicians (Christian Bale, Christopher Nolan's Batman, in addition to Jackman) is fractionally more involving than the hanky-panky of the separated lovers in *The Illusionist*, and Michael Caine adds a touch of class, David Bowie a touch of mustache. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royals-watching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative re-enactment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic efforts of the newly elected Tony Blair to compel the Royal Family ("a bunch of freeloading, emotionally retarded nutters," in the view of Mrs. Blair) to behave like human beings: "Will somebody please save

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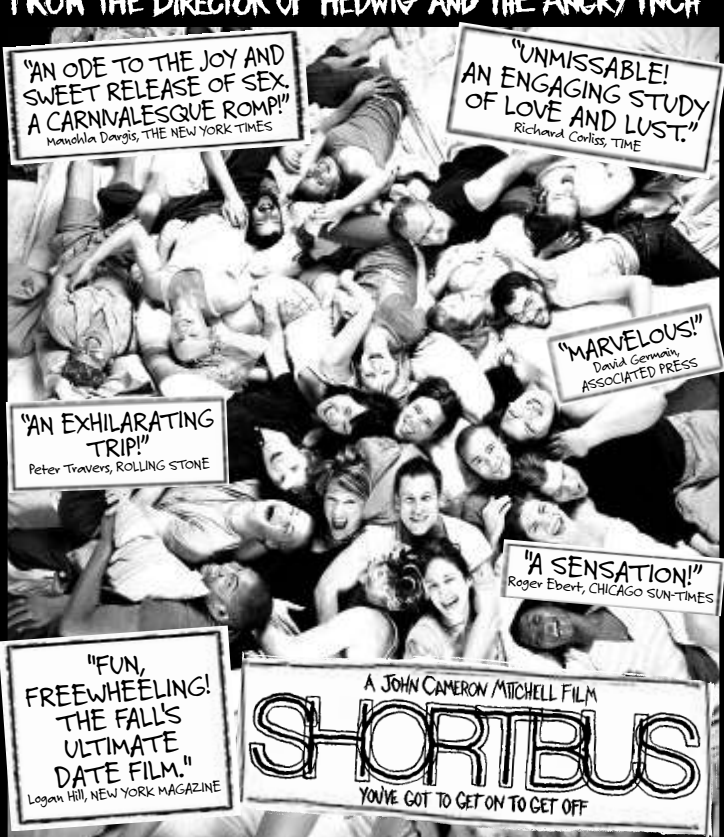
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these people from themselves?” Helen Mirren and Michael Sheen embody Her Majesty and the Prime Minister to two T’s. In support of them, James Cromwell at least looks the part of Philip, but plays only one note, and Alex Jennings is a bit short in the snout (in complete contrast to Cromwell) but is otherwise credibly dyspeptic as Charles. The plentiful humor, out of deference to history and living persons, is very mild. 2006.

★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Running with Scissors — Dysfunctional-family comedy with Annette Bening, Alec Baldwin, Brian Cox, Evan Rachel Wood, and Joseph Cross, directed by Ryan Murphy.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 10/27)

Saw III — Another horror sequel, with Shawnee Smith, Angus Macfadyen, and Tobin Bell, directed by Darren Lynn Bousman.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 10/27)

The Science of Sleep — Michel Gondry, the director of *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and less memorably *Human Nature*, sets out to demonstrate he can be just as wacky and braintwisty without Charlie Kaufman as his scriptwriter, with, instead, only himself as scriptwriter. The blur of dream and reality demonstrates *that*, all right, but at a cost of increased tedium and irritation. (An unsteady handheld camera no doubt factors into the cost.) The dream scenes, incorporating a variety of animation techniques, are inventive, intelligent, informed, yet also invariably overstuffed, and not just in the literal sense of the stop-motion straw pony or the plump pillow typewriter. The wispy plot thread has to do with the amorous hankering of a graphic artist and crackpot inventor (mind-reading helmets, time machine, and the like) for his next-door neighbor, a twosome seemingly made for each other: Stéphane and Stéphanie. Gael García Bernal and Charlotte Gainsbourg have little room to exert their charms. We know they have them. With Alain Chabat, Míou-Míou. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Shaun of the Dead — British takeoff, or send-up as you prefer, of George Romero’s imaginative, morbidly witty zombie film, *Dawn of the Dead*. All of the imagination in this one has gone into the humor and none into the horror. Put more simply, all of it has gone into Shaun (and his associates) and none into the Dead, who could pass for direct spillover from the outskirts of Romero’s Pittsburgh. Co-writer/director Edgar Wright and co-writer/star Simon Pegg make great sport, early on, playing on our expectations — raising false alarms — by zeroing in on the zombie-like demeanor of the ordinary man on the street. But while the real zombies await their cue in the wings, the first order of business is to scope out, at leisure, the social dynamics of the central ensemble: the title character (Pegg), a white-shirted clerk in an electronics store, who neglects his long-suffering girlfriend (Kate Ashfield) and uncomplaining mother (Penelope Wilton) in preference for the company of the slobby slacker (Nick Frost) with whom he has been best friends since boyhood; and a romantically linked couple (Lucy Davis, Dylan Moran) who take the side of the girlfriend, the male of the couple taking her side so ardently as to arouse the suspicions of his own girlfriend. Where the Romero film, and its vision of America, was centered around the shopping mall, this

one, and its vision of twenty-something Brits of arrested development, is centered around the pub. (Rhymes with hub.) The only place our Shaun can ever think to go — whether to make up to his girlfriend on a Special Night Out or to fortify himself against an army of zombies — is the place he goes every night of his life: “You got your pint. You got your pig snacks. What more do you want?” There would be no insult in saying that, nimble and diligent though this comedy is, it is not quite as funny, and not nearly as scary, as the Romero prototype. Or to say it another way: the joke in the Romero is not only more double-edged — the zombies and the humans both have their own reasons to gravitate to the mall — but at the same time it is less of a joke. The shopping mall as a refuge is a genuinely good idea. 2004.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 10/28 MIDNIGHT)

Shortbus — One-track-minded sex film, with exhibitionistic hardcore action and a no-name cast, a something-for-everyone smorgasbord (more for gays, however) anchored at an underground New York club for libertines. Intrepid but inept. And groundbreaking only if you’ve been hankering to see a limber young man get into an inverted yoga posture and ejaculate into his own mouth. Written, directed by John Cameron Mitchell. 2006.

● (KEN)

Tim Burton’s The Nightmare before Christmas — More accurately Henry Selick’s *Tim Burton’s The Nightmare before Christmas*, Burton having had the idea for it and then having turned it over to Selick, a specialist in three-dimensional stop-motion animation. As so often in that medium, the aesthetic plane, quite distinct from the financial plane, is not sufficiently higher than that of Mr. Potatohead. The hero, Jack Skellington, a/k/a The Pumpkin King, looks unfortunately like Whitley Strieber’s extraterrestrial in a pinstripe suit and on stilts. And his many, varied, and grotesque cohorts are first and foremost a manifestation of Hollywood’s besetting vices of overabundance and overindulgence: too many, too varied, too grotesque. Another, more basic, manifestation of these is the mere fact that the film is a feature and not a short. Because it is a Disney film, of course, and an animated film, there seems to be some immutable law that it must have songs, songs, and more songs — written (and some of them sung) by Danny Elfman, but sounding more like Andrew Lloyd Webber in search of a melody (“I don’t believe what’s happening to me./ My hopes, my dreams, my fantasy!”). These musical interludes are no doubt the greatest offenders in the torture-rack stretch to feature-length, but the gaudy displays of wealth and expenditure run them a close second. In its bare bones, the premise seems viable enough. Completely separate towns, according to Burton’s fantasyland geography, are responsible for planning and carrying-off the separate holidays on the calendar, until one year the Halloween mastermind gets it into his head to abduct Santa Claus and usurp Christmas. There is some dark-toned fun (not darker than TV’s *The Simpsons* or than Charles Addams’s *New Yorker* cartoons, and not more fun, either) when the revised Christmas plans begin to go awry. And by and by there’s a traditional and respectable fairy-tale message to do with accepting yourself as you are. The delivery of that message, however, and for that matter the setting-up of the basic

SEEN ON

DVD

BRAD HESSELBROCK
Manager, Landmark’s La Jolla Village Cinemas and Midnight Madness programmer

Bubba Ho-Tep holds a special place in my heart because I had the pleasure of hanging out with Bruce Campbell on opening night at the Ken Cinema. With the brilliance of Ossie Davis and the master directing of Don Coscarelli, it’s a real treat to see Joe R. Lansdale’s story brought to fantastic life. The DVD is loaded with goodies.

Big Trouble in Little China is a film I’ve wanted to show as a midnight film since we started Midnight Madness at the La Jolla Village back in 2003. Unfortunately, the last known 35mm print of this film was destroyed the same year. So, until another print is made, we must get by on this amazing DVD. This fantastic fantasy adventure stars Kurt Russell, Kim Cattrall, and James Hong and is directed by none other than John Carpenter. This DVD has great special features, including commentary with Carpenter and Russell.

BUBBA HO-TEP (USA) 2002, MGM
List price: \$19.98

BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA (USA) 1986
Twentieth Century Fox
List price: \$24.99 (two discs)

premise, are garbled in the extreme. One does not envy parents who must try to explain the thing to their young. 1993.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Young Frankenstein — Mel Brooks’s insular spoof on the old Universal Pictures horror series — it doesn’t reach very far in any direction, but it expends a good deal of comic energy within the narrow confines. Basically, it resembles the sort of affectionate parody of old movies common on the *Carol Burnett Show*, although it is larger,

ALEX MARTINEZ
Staff trainer, Landmark’s La Jolla Village Cinemas

Something old? What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? A broiled pet parakeet as lunch, great glimpses of golden-era Los Angeles, a truly hideous make-up job, and one of the most memorable endings around make this a classically messed up sibling rivalry flick. The DVD has a remastered original and a widescreen version along with some nice extras to take the edge off.

Something new?
Superman Ultimate Collector’s Edition contains every *Superman* movie to date, loads of documentaries, behind-the-scenes peeks, an episode of the George Reeves series, and the Max Fleischer cartoons. As if that weren’t enough, you also get the much sought-after Donner cut of *Superman II*.

Something borrowed? *The Crow* is a decent comic book adaptation but its greater accomplishment was making mime-paint cool. As a bonus, Goths were turned from Lydia Deetzish weirdos into a brooding, hip clique.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO BABY JANE? (USA) 1962, Warner
List price: \$26.98 (two discs)

SUPERMAN ULTIMATE COLLECTOR’S EDITION (USA) 2006, Warner
List price: \$99.98 (14 discs)

THE CROW: COLLECTOR’S SERIES (USA) 1994, Dimension
List price: \$19.99 (two discs)

fuller, and usually funnier. Brooks’s stature as a moviemaker is boosted considerably by his efforts to carry the parody even to the Hollywood studio techniques of the 1930s. On that score, he noses ahead of his closest competitor in screen comedy, Woody Allen, who has long gravitated toward old movies in search of subject matter, but whose comic copies achieve the proper cinematic style haphazardly at best. Same goes for his acting style. Whether he is impersonating a bank robber, a Latin American revolutionary, a robot, or a Bogart tough

SKYLAR EPPLER
Floor staff, Landmark’s La Jolla Village Cinemas

My first recommendation is the Coen brothers’ *The Big Lebowski*: *The Collector’s Edition* because it’s loaded with situation irony. I can relate to Jeff Bridges’s “The Dude” and his friends. I love how the Dude effortlessly gets himself in these strange situations. Brilliant!

I enjoy Guy Ritchie’s *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* for the same reason, the irony. The super-paranoid pot growers were hilarious. And one more thing...STING!

I love Terry Gilliam’s *Brazil* (Criterion Edition) because it depicts a future world of procedure, regulation, and overpowering law enforcement along with an all-seeing eye to top it off. This is definitely a film you must see multiple times.

THE BIG LEBOWSKI: THE COLLECTOR’S EDITION (USA) 1998, Universal
List price: \$14.98

LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BARRELS (England) 1998, Universal
List price: \$14.98

BRAZIL (USA) 1985, Criterion Collection
List price: \$59.95 (three discs)

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San Diego Reader October 26, 2006 149

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

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showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri. (2:25) 4:40, 7:45, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:40, 7:45, 10:00; **The Departed** (R) Fri. (1:45) 6:50, 9:55 Sat.,-Sun. (12:30, 3:40) 6:50, 9:55; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri. (1:55, 2:30) 4:50, 7:10, 8:00, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (12:25, 1:55, 3:35) 4:50, 7:10, 8:00, 9:50; **Flicka** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (2:15) 4:30, 7:00; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (2:05) 5:05, 7:25, 9:45; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:35) 4:20, 7:35; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri. (2:00) 4:55, 7:20 Sat.,-Sun. (12:15, 2:35) 4:55, 7:20; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri. (1:50) 4:25, 6:55 Sat.,-Sun. (12:05, 2:30) 4:25, 6:55; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:40) 4:45, 7:50; **Open Season** (PG) Fri. (2:20) 5:10, 7:40 Sat.,-Sun. (12:20, 2:20) 5:10, 7:40; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (1:30) 4:15, 7:15, 9:55; **Saw III** (R) Fri. (2:10, 2:35) 4:35, 5:00, 7:05, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. (12:10, 2:10, 2:40) 4:35, 5:00, 7:05, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)

The Black Dahlia (R) Fri. (3:40) 7:10, 9:50 Sat. (1:25) 4:20, 7:10, 9:50 Sun. (1:25) 4:20, 7:10, 9:45; **The Covenant** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (3:10) 8:10; **The Devil Wears Prada** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (2:35) 5:15, 7:55; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri. (2:20) 5:20, 8:20 Sat.,-Sun. (2:05) 5:20, 8:20; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:40) 5:05, 7:35, 10:05 Sun. (2:40) 5:05, 7:35, 10:00; **Invincible** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 5:00p.m.; **Jet Li's Fearless** (PG-13) Fri. (2:25) 4:45, 7:25, 9:55 Sat. (2:00) 4:45, 7:25, 9:55 Sun. (2:00) 4:45, 7:25, 9:50; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri. (2:25) 4:40, 7:20, 9:55 Sat. (1:50) 4:40, 7:20, 9:55 Sun. (1:50) 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri. (3:50) 7:15, 10:10 Sat. (1:40) 4:25, 7:15, 10:10 Sun. (1:40) 4:25, 7:15, 9:55; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (3:20) 5:40, 8:00; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri. (3:05) 7:00, 10:00 Sat. (1:30) 4:15, 7:05, 10:00 Sun. (1:30) 4:15, 7:05, 9:55; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri. (3:30) 7:05, 9:45 Sat. (1:25) 4:20, 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (1:25) 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; **Saw III** (R) Fri. (2:15, 3:00) 4:10, 4:50, 5:45, 6:45, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15 Sat. (1:35, 2:15, 3:00) 4:10, 4:50, 5:45, 6:45, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15 Sun. (1:35, 2:15, 3:00) 4:10, 4:50, 5:45, 6:45, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:00; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:05 Sun. (3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 3:05, 5:30) 7:55, 10:20 Sat. (12:35, 3:05) 5:30, 7:55, 10:20 Sun. (1:35, 4:05) 6:30, 8:55, 11:20; **Conversations with God** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:25) 6:40, 9:20 Sun. (1:40, 4:25) 7:40, 10:20; **The Departed** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:55, 12:20, 3:10, 3:40) 6:35, 7:00, 9:50, 10:15 Sun. (12:55, 1:20, 4:10, 4:40) 7:35, 8:00, 10:50, 11:15; **Employee of the Month** (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 5:15) 7:40, 10:15 Sat. (12:25) 5:15, 7:40, 10:15 Sun. (1:25) 6:15, 8:40, 11:15; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri. (12:30, 1:15, 3:30, 4:15) 6:45, 7:15, 9:40, 10:10 Sat. (12:30, 1:15, 3:30) 4:15, 6:45, 7:15, 9:40, 10:10 Sun. (1:30, 2:15, 4:30) 5:15, 7:45, 8:15, 10:40, 11:10; **Flicka** (PG) Fri. (12:35, 3:00, 5:25) 7:45, 10:10 Sat. (12:35, 3:00) 5:25, 7:45, 10:10 Sun. (1:35, 4:00) 6:25, 8:45, 11:10; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 3:20) 6:55, 10:00 Sun. (1:15, 4:20) 7:55, 11:00; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:35, 10:05 Sat. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:35, 10:05 Sun. (1:05, 3:35) 6:05, 8:35, 11:05; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (12:10, 2:25, 4:40) 6:55, 9:15 Sat. (12:10, 2:25) 4:40, 6:55, 9:15 Sun. (1:10, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55, 10:15; **Jesus Camp** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:50) 9:00 Sun. (3:50) 10:00; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 4:10) 7:10, 9:55 Sat. (1:10) 4:10, 7:10, 9:55 Sun. (2:10) 5:10, 8:10, 10:55; **Open Season** (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:20, 4:30) 6:50 Sat. (12:00, 2:20) 4:30, 6:50 Sun. (1:00, 3:20) 5:30, 7:50; **The Nightmare Before Christmas** (PG) Fri. (1:05, 3:15, 5:20) 7:30, 9:35 Sat. (1:05, 3:15) 5:20, 7:30, 9:35 Sun. (2:05, 4:15) 6:20, 8:30, 10:35

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri. (11:30) 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25 Sat. (11:25) 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25

Sun. (11:25) 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **The Departed** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:55) 3:15, 6:40, 10:00 Sun. (11:55) 3:15, 6:40, 10:10; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri. (10:35) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 Sat. (10:40) 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40 Sun. (10:25) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:25; **Flicka** (PG) Fri. (10:45) 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:25, 10:45 Sat. (10:20) 12:45, 3:30, 6:00, 8:25, 10:45 Sun. (10:55) 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri. (10:50) 1:15, 3:45, 6:15, 8:35, 11:00 Sat. (10:55) 1:10, 3:45, 6:15, 8:35, 11:00 Sun. 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:05; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri. 1:05, 6:50 Sat.,-Sun. 12:55, 6:50; **The Last King of Scotland** (R) Fri. (10:55) 1:45, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10 Sat. (10:30) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10 Sun. (10:35) 1:25, 4:20, 7:10, 10:15; **Little Miss Sunshine** (R) Fri. (10:40) 4:05, 9:50 Sat. (10:25) 4:05, 9:50 Sun. 4:05, 9:50; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45 Sat. (10:50) 1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 9:45 Sun. 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri. (11:20) 2:10, 5:00, 8:00, 10:50 Sat. (11:10) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:50 Sun. (11:10) 2:00, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri. (10:30) 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:15 Sat. (10:15) 1:05, 3:55, 7:00, 10:15 Sun. (10:15) 1:05, 3:55, 7:00, 10:00; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri. (11:10) 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:40 Sat. (10:45) 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (10:45) 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20; **Saw III** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:40) 2:45, 5:30, 8:15, 10:55 Sun. (11:40) 2:45, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35

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Mira Mesa 18

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Fashion Valley 18

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(R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:35) 12:20, 2:20, 3:10, 5:10, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 8:45, 9:45, 10:45, 11:30 Sun. (11:10) 12:25, 2:15, 3:20, 5:00, 6:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:05, 9:45, 10:30; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:40) 1:55, 4:15, 6:40, 9:00

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)

The Departed (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:45, 4:00) 7:15, 10:30 Sun. (12:45, 4:00) 7:15; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:30, 2:30, 5:15) 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:30, 5:15) 8:00; **Flicka** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:30; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:15, 2:15, 5:00) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 2:15, 5:00) 7:45; **Strawberry Shortcake: The Sweet Dreams Movie** (NR) Sat.,-Sun. (10:30); **The Nightmare Before Christmas** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45) 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45) 8:00

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:05) 2:05, 5:20, 8:05, 10:45 Sun. (11:05) 2:05, 5:20, 7:55, 10:35; **The Departed** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:15) 2:45, 6:20, 9:55 Fri.,-Sat. (11:15) 12:00, 2:45, 3:35, 6:20, 7:10, 9:55, 10:40 Sun. (11:15) 12:00, 2:45, 3:35, 6:20, 7:10, 9:55; **Employee of the Month** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00) 1:40, 4:30

Sat.,-Sun. 1:40, 4:30; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:50) 12:40, 3:25, 4:05, 6:40, 7:30, 9:50, 10:40 Sun. (11:50) 12:40, 3:25, 4:05, 6:40, 7:30, 9:50; **Flicka** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:35) 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:00; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:25) 2:10, 4:50, 7:50, 10:35 Sun. (11:25) 2:10, 4:50, 7:50, 10:30; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 12:30, 6:35; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:20) 1:45, 4:15, 7:05, 9:40 Sun. 1:45, 4:15, 7:05, 9:40; **Jet Li's Fearless** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 3:50, 9:45; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (10:45) 1:35, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (10:50) 1:50, 4:55, 7:55, 10:55 Sun. (10:50) 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:05, 9:35; **One Night with the King** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (10:30) 1:15, 4:10; **Open Season** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (11:45) 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:55) 12:55, 3:30, 4:25, 6:45, 7:40, 10:15, 11:00 Sun. (11:55) 12:55, 3:30, 4:25, 6:45, 7:40, 10:15; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (10:35) 1:25, 4:20, 7:25, 10:20 Sun. (10:35) 1:25, 4:20, 7:25, 10:25; **Saw III** (R) Fri. (11:30) 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:20, 10:05, 10:50, 11:30 Sat. (10:40) 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:20, 10:05, 10:50, 11:30 Sun. (11:30) 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:20, 10:05; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:40) 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20 Sun. 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990)

The Departed (R) Fri.,-Sun. (3:15) 7:00; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (3:10) 5:30, 7:50; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (3:40) 5:50, 8:00 Sun. (3:40) 5:50, 7:55; **Open Season** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (3:30) 5:35, 7:40, 9:45 Sun. (3:30) 5:35, 7:40; **Saw III** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (3:00) 5:40, 8:10 Sun. (3:00) 5:40, 8:05; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (3:20) 5:25, 7:30, 9:35 Sun. (3:20) 5:25, 7:30

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

Shortbus (Not Rated) Fri. 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat.,-Sun. 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

UPTOWN

Cinema Under the Stars

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)

Call theater for program information

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

American Hardcore (R); **The Last King of Scotland** (R); **Little Miss Sunshine** (R); **The Queen** (PG-13); **The Science of Sleep** (R)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

Deep Sea 3D (G) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Roving Mars** (G) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 Sun. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Wolves** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.

San Diego Natural History Museum

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

Call theater for program information

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

Call theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri. 2:15, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45 Sat. 12:05, 2:25, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45 Sun. 12:05, 2:25, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; **The Departed** (R) Fri. 2:50, 7:10, 10:20 Sat. 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:20 Sun. 12:20, 3:40, 7:05, 10:10; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri. 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05 Sat. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05 Sun. 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri. 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:00 Sat. 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:00 Sun. 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 9:50; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri. 2:25, 5:25, 8:20 Sat. 11:35, 2:30, 5:25, 8:20 Sun. 11:35, 2:30, 5:25, 8:15; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri. 2:40, 5:20, 8:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55; **Open Season** (PG) Fri. 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:30 Sat. 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:30 Sun. 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:05; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri. 2:55, 7:00, 9:55 Sat. 12:45, 3:55, 7:00, 9:55 Sun. 12:45, 3:55, 7:00, 9:45; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 Sat. 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 Sun. 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00; **Saw III** (R) Fri. 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25 Sat. 11:55, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25 Sun. 11:55, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

“GO SEE THIS MOVIE!”

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— KENNETH TURAN {LOS ANGELES TIMES}

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— PETER TRAVERS {ROLLING STONE}

KIRSTEN DUNST

MARIE ANTOINETTE

MARIE ANTOINETTE

MARIE ANTOINETTE

Written and Directed by SOFIA COPPOLA

COLUMBIA PICTURES Presents in association with PRICEL and TOHOKUSHINSHA An AMERICAN ZOETROPE Production KIRSTEN DUNST “MARIE ANTOINETTE” JASON SCHWARTZMAN JUDY DAVIS RIP TORN ROSE BYRNE ASIA ARGENTO MOLLY SHANNON SHIRLEY HENDERSON DANNY HUSTON and STEVE COOGAN

Music Producer BRIAN REITZELL Costume Designer MILENA CANONERO Production Designer KK BARRETT Film Editor SARAH FLACK Director of Photography LANCE AGORD, ASC

Co-Producer CALLUM GREENE Based on the book “Marie Antoinette: The Journey” by ANTONIA FRASER Executive Producers FRED ROOS FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRI

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road
The Departed (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:05, 11:40, 2:30, 3:00) 6:40, 7:20, 10:05, 10:35 Sun. (12:05, 12:40, 3:30, 4:00) 7:40, 8:20, 11:05, 11:35; **Employee of the Month** (PG-13) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:40) 7:40, 10:20 Sat. (11:35, 2:10) 4:40, 7:40, 10:20 Sun. (12:35, 3:10) 5:40, 8:40, 11:20; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 3:10) 7:00, 10:10 Sun. (1:00, 4:10) 8:00, 11:10; **Flicka** (PG) Fri. (11:10, 1:40, 4:20) 7:05, 9:40 Sat. (11:10, 1:40) 4:20, 7:05, 9:40 Sun. (12:10, 2:40) 5:20, 8:05, 10:40; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 2:05, 4:45) 7:50, 10:45 Sat. (11:15, 2:05) 4:45, 7:50, 10:45 Sun. (12:15, 3:05) 5:45, 8:50, 11:45; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri. (12:10, 4:10) 7:35, 10:40 Sat. (12:10) 4:10, 7:35, 10:40 Sun. (1:10) 5:10, 8:35, 11:40; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (11:55, 2:25, 4:50) 7:25, 9:50 Sat. (11:55, 2:25) 4:50, 7:25, 9:50 Sun. (12:55, 3:25) 5:50, 8:25, 10:50; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri. (11:05, 1:50, 4:35) 7:30, 10:25 Sat. (11:05, 1:50) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25 Sun. (12:05, 2:50) 5:35, 8:30, 11:25; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri. (11:20, 4:15) 7:10 Sat. (11:20) 4:15, 7:10 Sun. (12:20) 5:15, 8:10; **Open Season** (PG) Fri. (11:25, 1:35, 4:05) 6:35, 9:20 Sat. (11:25, 1:35) 4:05, 6:35, 9:20 Sun. (12:20, 2:35, 5:05) 7:35, 10:20; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 2:00, 5:00) 8:00, 10:55 Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:55 Sun. (12:00, 3:00) 6:00, 9:00, 11:55; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 3:15) 6:45, 9:45 Sun. (1:15, 4:15) 7:45, 10:45; **Saw III** (R) Fri. (11:00, 11:30, 1:45, 2:15, 4:30, 5:00) 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30 Sat. (11:00, 11:30, 1:45, 2:15) 4:30, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:00, 12:30, 2:45, 3:15) 5:30, 6:00, 8:15, 8:45, 11:00, 11:30; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:55) 10:15 Sun. (2:55) 11:15

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
The Grudge 2 (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun.; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun.

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
Call theater for program information

170 Denimory koutu (858-558-2262):
Catch a Fire (PG-13); The Departed (R);
Employee of the Month (PG-13); Fearless
(PG-13); Flags of Our Fathers (R); Flicka
(PG); The Grudge 2 (PG-13); The Guardian
(PG-13); Jackass Number Two (R); Man of
the Year (PG-13); Marie Antoinette
(PG-13); The Marine (PG-13); One Night
with the King (PG); Open Season (PG); The
Prestige (PG-13); Running with Scissors
(R); Saw III (R); Texas Chainsaw Massacre:
The Beginning (R)

Saw III (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:40, 5:20) 8:00, 10:40

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information

Carmel Mountain
 11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)
Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:00) 4:35,
 7:25, 9:40 Sun. (2:00) 4:35, 7:25; **The De-**
parted (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:35) 4:45, 8:00 Sun.
 (1:35) 4:40, 7:40; **Employee of the Month**
 (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:40) 4:05, 7:30, 9:45 Sun.
 (1:40) 4:05; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R)
 Fri.,-Sat. (1:35) 4:20, 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (1:35)
 4:20, 7:15; **Flicka** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (1:45) 4:05,
 7:10; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:10)
 4:30, 7:20, 9:45 Sun. (2:10) 4:30, 7:20; **The**
Guardian (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30) 4:15, 7:10,
 9:55 Sun. (1:30) 4:15, 7:10; **Man of the Year**
 (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:00) 4:40, 7:25, 9:55 Sun.
 (2:00) 4:40, 7:25; **Open Season** (PG)
 Fri.,-Sun. (2:05) 4:15, 7:00; **The Prestige**
 (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30) 4:15, 7:05, 9:50 Sun.
 (1:30) 4:15, 7:05; **Running with Scissors** (R)
 Fri.,-Sat. (1:45) 4:25, 7:05, 9:45 Sun. (1:45)
 4:25, 7:05; **Saw III** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:50) 4:10,
 7:35, 10:00 Sun. (1:50) 4:10, 7:35

Escondido 16
350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 2:35, 5:10) 7:45, 10:25 Sun. (1:00, 3:35, 6:10) 8:45, 11:25; **The Departed** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:45, 2:30, 3:10) 6:35, 7:05, 10:00 Sun. (12:45, 3:30,

4:10) 7:35, 8:05, 11:00; **Employee of the Month** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:15, 4:45) 6:55, 9:40 Sun. (2:15, 5:15) 7:55, 10:40; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (11:50, 12:30, 2:55, 3:35) 6:40, 7:20, 10:05, 10:35 Sun. (12:50, 1:30, 3:55, 4:35) 7:40, 8:20, 11:05, 11:35; **Flicka** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:40, 3:15) 6:30, 9:35 Sun. (1:40, 4:15) 7:30, 10:35; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:10, 3:50) 6:50, 10:10 Sun. (2:10, 4:50) 7:50, 11:10; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:35, 3:55) 7:10, 10:20 Sun. (1:35, 4:55) 8:10, 11:20; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:05, 4:20) 7:25, 10:15 Sun. (2:05, 5:20) 8:25, 11:15; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:55, 3:40) 6:45, 9:45 Sun. (1:55, 4:40) 7:45, 10:45; **Open Season** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (12:20, 2:45, 5:05) 7:35, 9:55 Sun. (1:20, 3:45, 6:05) 8:35, 10:55; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (12:10, 3:25) 7:30, 10:35 Sun. (1:10, 4:25) 8:30, 11:35; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:25, 3:20) 7:00, 10:15 Sun. (1:25, 4:20) 8:00, 11:15; **Saw III** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:15, 12:45 8:30, 4:00) 7:15 8:00, 10:00, 10:40 Sun. (1:15, 1:45, 4:30, 5:00) 8:15, 9:00, 11:00, 11:40; **Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:05) 10:30 Sun. (1:05) 11:30

Galaxy 6
 5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
The Departed (R) Fri., Sat. (12:30, 3:45) 7:15, 10:30 Sun. (12:30, 3:45) 7:15; **Flicka** (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:30, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (11:30, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45; **Open Season** (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:45, 2:15, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:45, 2:15, 4:30) 7:00; **The Pres-**

tige (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30; **Saw III** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:15

Poway 10
 13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
The Departed (R) Fri., Sat. (12:45, 4:00) 7:15, 10:30 Sun. (12:45, 4:00) 7:15; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R) Fri., Sat. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45; **Flicka** (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:30, 8:00; **The Guardian** (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (12:00) 5:30, 10:30 Sun. (12:00) 5:30; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri., Sun. (3:00) 8:30; **Open Season** (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30; **Save Ill** (R) Fri., Sat. (11:45, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (11:45, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45; **Strawberry Shortcake: The Sweet Dreams Movie** (NR) Sat., Sun. (10:30a.m.); **The Nightmare Before Christmas** (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old
California Walk (760-471-3711)
Call theater for program information

ROB NELSON, *The Village Voice*

ANNETTE BRIAN JOSEPH EVAN RACHEL ALEC JILL JOSEPH GWYNETH
BENING COX FIENNES WOOD BALDWIN CLAYBURGH CROSS WITH PALTROW

BASED ON THE PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF AUGUSTEN BURROUGHS
A FILM BY RYAN MURPHY

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The New York Observer

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PLUS "MR. BLUE" BY BREAKTHROUGH
RECORDING ARTIST
CATHERINE FEENY!**

TRISTAR PICTURES PRESENTS A PLAN B ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION
MUSIC BY **PJ BLOOM** MUSIC BY **JAMES S. LEVINE** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER **STEVEN SAMUELS**
SUPERVISION BY **PJ BLOOM** PRODUCED BY **DEDE GARDNER BRAD PITT BRAD GREY**

A FILM BY RYAN MURPHY "RUNNING WITH SCISSORS"
BASED ON THE PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF **AUGUSTEN BURROUGHS**
WRITTEN FOR THE SCREEN
PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY **RYAN MURPHY**

RESTRICTED
UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN
STRONG LANGUAGE AND ELEMENTS OF SEXUALITY,
VIOLENCE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

PLAN B
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<p>PACIFIC THEATRES CARMEL MOUNTAIN 12 1-15 at Freeway/ Carmel Mountain Road 648-764-9770 #085</p>	<p>★ ULTRASTAR FLOWERHILL 4 1-5 Freeway/ Via De Valle 648-946-9425</p>	<p>PACIFIC THEATRES GROSSMONT CENTER STADIUM TEN Grossmont Shopping Center 619/465-7100 #069</p>	<p>AMC LA JOLLA 12 1-5 at Nobel 858/558-24MC</p>	<p>AMC MISSION VALLEY 20 1-8 Exit Mission Center Road 858/558-24MC</p>	<p>AMC PALM PROMENADE 24 805 & Palm Ave. 818/345-24MC</p>	<p>KRITORIAN'S VILLA VILLAGE MIETREX 12 25 Main St./760/945-7469</p>
<p>REGAL CINEMAS ESCONDIDO STADIUM 16 350 W. Valley Parkway 800-FANDANGO #519</p>	<p>PACIFIC THEATRES GASLAMP THEATRE 15 51th Avenue at G Street 617-232-0400 #097</p>	<p>★ ULTRASTAR LA COSTA 6 Corner of El Camino Real & Avialra/610/760/599-8221</p>	<p>EDWARDS CINEMAS MIRRA MESA STADIUM 18 W. of I-15 on Mirra Mesa Blvd. 800-FANDANGO #160</p>	<p>★ ULTRASTAR MISSION VALLEY CINEMAS @ HAZARD CENTER Friars Road & Highway 163 619/685-2841</p>	<p>EDWARDS CINEMAS RANCHO SAN DIEGO STADIUM CINEMA 15 Hwy. 94 At Campo 800-FANDANGO #132</p>	<p>★ Signed in Digital Projection Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement. For Additional Information, Call Courtsier Check Directories.</p>

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive
 (760-945-7469)
Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (12:10, 2:40, 5:10) 7:40, 10:05; **The Departed** (R) Fri., -Sat (12:30, 3:50) 7:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:30, 3:50) 7:05; **Employee of the Month** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (2:45) 7:35; **Flags of Our Fathers** (R), Fri., -Sat. (12:10, 3:30) 7:10, 10:15 Sun. (12:10, 3:30) 7:10; **Flicka** (PG) Fri., -Sun. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:30, 9:45; **The Grudge 2** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (11:45, 2:10, 4:45) 7:25, 10:05; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (11:05, 1:40, 4:15) 7:10, 10:00; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:15, 2:05, 4:50) 7:45, 10:35 Sun. (11:15, 2:05, 4:50) 7:45; **The Marine** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (12:20, 5:15) 10:05; **Open Season** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (11:20, 1:45, 4:25) 6:50, 9:20; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:00, 1:00, 1:50, 4:00, 4:50) 7:00, 7:50, 10:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:00, 1:50, 4:00, 4:50) 7:00, 7:50, 10:00; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri., -Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:35) 7:20, 10:10; **Saw III** (R) Fri., -Sat. (11:35, 12:05, 1:15, 2:05, 2:40, 3:50, 4:40, 5:15) 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00, 10:40 Sun. (11:35, 12:05, 1:15, 2:05, 2:40, 3:50, 4:40, 5:15) 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Call theater for program information

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road
 (858-646-9420)

Catch a Fire (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30;
The Departed (R) Fri., -Sat. (12:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:15, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (12:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:15, 8:15; **Flicka** (PG) Fri., -Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri., -Sun. (3:15) 5:45; **Man of the Year** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 4:30) 7:00, 9:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:30) 7:00; **Marie Antoinette** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:30, 1:15, 2:00, 7:45, 10:45, 10:30 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45) **Open Season** (PG) Fri., -Sat. (12:00, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (12:00, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00; **Saw III** (R) Fri., -Sat. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **Strawberry Shortcake: The Sweet Dreams Movie** (NR) Sat., -Sun. (10:30a.m.)

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)

Flags of Our Fathers (R) Fri., -Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30; **The Prestige** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:15, 2:15) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 2:15) 5:15, 8:00; **The Queen** (PG-13) Fri., -Sat. (11:30, 2:30) 5:30, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:30) 5:30, 8:15; **Running with Scissors** (R) Fri., -Sat. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00, 10:15 Sun. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00

Encinitas 8
220 North El Camino Real (760-942-5544)
The Departed (R) Fri 12:10 3:35 7:00 10:30

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101
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Conversations with God (PG)

La Costa 6
 6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga)
 (760-599-8221)

The Departed (R) Fri., Sat. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00,
 10:00 Sun. (12:30, 3:45) 7:00; **Flicka** (PG)
 Fri., Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30
 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Man of the**
Year (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 7:45,
 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 7:45; **Open Season**
 (PG) Fri., Sat. (12:15, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00,
 9:30 Sun. (12:15, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00; **The Presti-**
ge (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30,
 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:30; **Running**
with Scissors (R) Fri., Sat. (11:30, 2:15) 5:15,
 8:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:15, 8:00;
Strawberry Shortcake: The Sweet Dreams
Movie (NR) Sat., Sun. (10:30a.m.)

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College Boulevard and Mission Avenue
 (760-806-1790)

The Departed (R); Flags of Our Fathers (R); Flicka (PG); The Grudge 2 (PG-13); Man of the Year (PG-13); The Marine (PG-13); Open Season (PG); The Prestige (PG-13); Saw III (R); Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning (R)

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LA SEMANA EN ESPAÑOL

reportaje



Nada los para

Omar Millán González

Diario San Diego

El flujo de drogas hacia Estados Unidos no ha disminuido pese a la captura de las cabezas principales de los cárteles, indican estadísticas del Departamento de Estado de Norteamérica.

Jorge Chavat, investigador del Centro de Investigaciones y Docencias Económicas y doctor en Asuntos Internacionales de la Universidad de Miami, señaló que la estrategia por parte del Gobierno

mexicano de atrapar a jefes de narcotraficantes no funcionó e incluso aumentó la violencia en las calles de las ciudades fronterizas como Tijuana.

"El gobierno de Vicente Fox no se preparó bien para la guerra contra las drogas, ¿de qué sirve la captura de capos si el tráfico y el consumo siguen igual? No se reformó el sistema judicial, como debiera, tampoco hubo reformas en las corporaciones de policía", asentó.

especial



Está de moda

Eleazar López

Diario San Diego

Tiene catorce años y ya es considerada toda una revelación del mundo de las pasarelas.

Aleksandra Vasic, una jovencita de Chula Vista que por vencer su timidez se inició en el mundo del modelaje, ha logrado llamar la atención de importantes diseñadores como la talentosa y brillante Zandra Rhodes, quien en cuanto la miró en la pasarela en

Londres le cautivó su porte y presencia.

Alexandra es apenas una niña que asiste al colegio y obtiene muy buenas notas, es disciplinada y dedicada a lo que le gusta, sin embargo, después de cumplir con sus obligaciones escolares, es cuando empieza su mundo de la moda.

Esa actitud que tiene, y su edad, la ha llevado a obtener el distintivo de la 'Modelo más joven de London's Fashion Week'.

deportes



Levantán la Copa

Todo un éxito resultó la III Copa de Fútbol que organizó Diario San Diego para celebrar su tercer aniversario.

Con un total de 48 equipos y con cerca de 500 jugadores infantiles y juveniles el evento deportivo reunió a familias, personalidades reconocidas de la región, futbolísticas y autoridades de San Diego en el evento deportivo.

La Copa contó con seis categorías desde 10 a 17 años, además dos cate-

gorías abiertas de mayores de 18 años masculina y una femenil, donde todos los jugadores dejaron su mejor esfuerzo en la cancha de juego.

En el evento se coronaron campeones de cada categoría los equipos: San Diego United (10-11 años), Chivas US (12-13 años), Aztecas (14-15 años), Boca Junior (16-17 años), y en la abierta masculina el equipo Totbutso de Tijuana, y en la rama femenil la agrupación San Diego Select 7.

¿Conoce la nueva ley del 2006?

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Grave conflicto

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

La nueva ley que prohíbe rentar a migrantes ilegales una vivienda en la ciudad de Escondido, desató una guerra entre residentes de esa comunidad del Norte del Condado.

La controversial ordenanza municipal ha dividido a los residentes de esa región debido a que la medida deberá implementarse a través de quejas de vecinos que acusen y señalen a indocumentados.

La pesadilla de quedar en la calle y sin hogar para cientos de hispanos puede convertirse en realidad en tres semanas, cuando la ley municipal entre en vigencia.

La ordenanza municipal fue ratificada por los regidores de Ed Gallo, Sam Abed y Marie Waldron, quienes implacablemente emitieron voto a favor.

Los tres concejales afirmaron que la migración ilegal se ha tornado en una amenaza para el bienestar de la comunidad ya que la sobrepoblación ha traído problemas que cuestan dinero y recursos de la ciudad.

Para los residentes de Escondido, la nueva ley ha creado una marcada división y enfrentamientos entre hispanos y anglosajones.

Por otro lado, la población hispana no se ha quedado callada y busca suprimir esta ley.



Fiel a TV Azteca

Pensando seriamente los conflictos y problemas legales por los que están pasando actores, cantantes y conductores de TV Azteca que han dejado a la televisora, Yahir piensa más de una vez que lo mismo le puede suceder a él si intenta abandonar a la cadena que lo llevó a la fama.

Afligido por los problemas por los que está pasando su amigo Alan Tacher por iniciar otro 'reality show' con la cadena Telemundo, el cantante reconoce que se le hace difícil entender cómo una persona que aprecia tanto se encuentre con esos problemas.

"La cuestión para llegar a esta bronca debió haber sido muy fuerte, o Azteca está buscando algo muy grande en todo esto. Alan Tacher le dio mucho a

Azteca, le dio cuatro academias, en donde Azteca le fue increíblemente bien, entonces creo que a Tacher lo tienen entre la espada y la pared, lo tienen encañonado y es muy fuerte", dijo el cantante de 'La locura'.

¿Tú has pensado que te pueda suceder lo mismo con TV Azteca?

"Sí, claro, claro que lo he pensado, por supuesto, porque uno puede decir ahorita: 'no, cómo crees, ello no me harían esto o algo así, pero Tacher estuvo en el mismo momento. A lo mejor Tacher nunca pensó que le pasaría, y mira como está'.

¿Piensas seguir con TV Azteca o Televisa se te ha acercado?

"Yo no me cambiaría de televisora", aseguró.



Sienten feo

Los elefantes demuestran un comportamiento hacia los enfermos y muertos de su especie que sugiere que son capaces de sentir algo parecido a la compasión.

Un grupo de científicos encabezado por Iain Douglas-Hamilton, de la Universidad de Oxford, llegó a esta conclusión tras analizar el comportamiento de varios ejemplares entre 900 elefantes de la reserva nacional de Samburu, en el Norte de Kenia.

Los expertos, que pudieron seguir la evolución de los animales gracias a unos sensores detectables por satélite, comprobaron que éstos se ayudan cuando están enfermos y se rinden homenaje cuando alguno fallece.

Los científicos observaron este proceso cuando una elefanta, a la que llamaron Eleanor, enfermó y posteriormente murió.

Cuando estaba agonizando, la elefanta recibió asistencia de una hembra de otra familia, llamada Grace, que intentó ayudarla a incorporarse varias veces con sus colmillos, al final ya sin éxito.

Eleonor murió en el lugar en que se desplomó por última vez, y allí mismo recibió la visita de elefantes de su familia y de otras cuatro. Los animales, incluso los que no estaban relacionados directamente con la elefanta muerta, mostraron interés por el cadáver.

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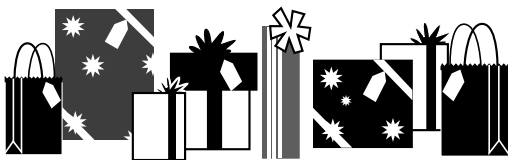
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CAREER EXPO: Women For Hire Career Expo, 10am-2pm Thursday, November 9, at Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. Meet top employers including: Best Buy, Enterprise, Goodrich Aerostructures, HSBC Auto Finance, LA Police & Fire Depts., Prudential Financial, SAIC, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, San Diego Police Dept., Talbots, Tianshi, Time Warner Cable, TSA, University of California, San Diego, ViaSat, Viejas Casino, Walgreens, Websense and more! Sign up for a special breakfast seminar with Women For Hire CEO Tory Johnson for expert advice on advancing your career. Free admission. Resumes and business attire required. For details on all participants, visit www.womenforhire.com. Join Women For Hire in Los Angeles on November 7 to meet other employers.

CAREGIVER. Provide assistance to adults with developmental disabilities. Apply: Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020, on-line:

www.guidinghands.org, call: 619-938-3057.

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CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: November 18, 2006, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal and personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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\$15/hour. Get-out-the-vote Door Knock-
ers, \$13/hour. Inside Sales, Mission Val-
ley/South Bay, \$28K Base, Game Testers,
Sorrento Valley, \$9/hour. Order Pro-
cess/Charge-back Clerk, South Bay, up
to \$14.50/hour. Accounts Payable, South
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Camino Del Rio South, Suite 125, San
Diego, CA 92108. 800-690-8367.
webber@abcow.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: JOB FAIR. Tues-
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vention Center, Halls F and G. Free
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Bonuses! SoCal Staffing, 4909 Murphy
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tentions/Courts. Hiring new Deputies
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ment. Hiring two positions; take one
exam, apply for either or both! Exam
dates: Saturday, November 1, 2006,
5:30pm arrival (you must register by e-
mail for this exam): Sheriff's Administra-
tion Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San
Diego CA 92123 or Saturday, November
4, 2006, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern
College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road,
Chula Vista CA 91910. Detentions and
Courts: \$37,901-\$58,675 annual salary,
plus yearly benefits package. Must be 18
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\$67,714 current annual salary, plus yearly
benefits package. U.S. citizen or applied
for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High
school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring
valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 parking
at Southwestern College. Valid California
Driver's License prior to appointment. Ef-
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2000.

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Applications/résumés are accepted
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Fax: 619-281-0453
E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org

All applications/résumés must
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Work with developmentally
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DRIVER. Class A Driver. Experience required. Immediate openings. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing. San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

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DRIVER/MERCHANDISER. Energetic, dependable, well groomed individual with outgoing personality and great people skills needed for making store deliveries in San Diego, Orange County and LA areas, merchandising and performing warehouse work. Must have clean DMV record and be willing to work early, flexible hours. Mira Mesa area. Prior experience with delivery and merchandising a must. Bilingual a plus. Salary based on experience. Call 858-453-9084, fax 858-453-7273 or e-mail sharon@benefit1bakery.com.

DRIVER: TRANSIT BUS DRIVER. Chula Vista Transit/Veolia Transportation! Bus Drivers needed. We provide paid training to obtain your class B license. Benefits include medical, dental, 401(k) and paid holidays. Apply with current DMV H-6 printout: 1800 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA. 619-656-2300. EOE.

DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or fax resume to 619-591-0300. Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

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DRIVERS. Career Fair for Bus Driver applicants. Make a smart move and begin a career with a company that is going places now! MTS, San Diego Transit Corporation, 100 16th Street (enter off Imperial Avenue), Saturday, October 28th, 9am-noon. \$10.87/hour with employer paid benefits 90 days from date of hire. No experience required, expert paid training program provided, next class 11/27/06. Must have high school diploma or GED and valid California driver's license with 2 years current driving experience. Interviews will be held at Career Fair for all qualified candidates who complete an application and bring their DMV H-6 report. 100 16th Street, San Diego, Downtown.

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DRIVERS. Trader Distribution is looking for part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You must have a truck, van or SUV and be currently insured. Call Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

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Retail

TEAM MEMBERS

- Deliver fast, fun and friendly service to Target guests.
- Help keep the Target brand experience consistent, positive and welcoming.
- Make a difference by responding quickly and responsively to guest and team member needs.
- Positions available in the following departments:
Overnight Logistics & Backroom (Stocking, Overnight and 4-11 am) and Sales Floor

TEAM LEADERS (HOURLY DEPARTMENT MANAGERS)

- Lead teams that provide fast, fun and friendly service to Target guests, both face-to-face and by supporting sales floor teams.
- Help to keep the Target brand experience consistent, positive and welcoming for guests.
- Hire, supervise and train team members to achieve target sales, service and presentation goals.
- Areas may include: Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service, Overnight Logistics (Stocking, Overnight and 4-11 am) and Sales Floor

See the rewards:

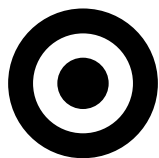
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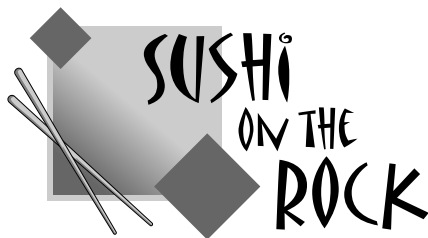
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HAIRSTYLIST. Booth rent or commission in upscale, educational based salon in North Park. Team oriented environment. Call Cristina at Salon Cabana, 619-543-0022.

HAIRSTYLIST. Busy Eastlake Goldwell salon. Experienced Hairstylist, \$450/week guarantee plus commission, insurance, paid vacation. Ultra, 619-980-8907.

HAIRSTYLIST. Full time. Largest hair replacement company on West Coast looking for licensed stylists. Existing clientele. Great pay plus commission and benefits. San Diego area. Call Randy, 619-246-9005.

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HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST. Experienced. Need manicurist who does acrylics. Rancho Bernardo salon. Commission. Call 619-250-5708.

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HEALTHCARE. Vista Community Clinic, a private, nonprofit outpatient community clinic serving North San Diego County for over 30 years, has immediate full/part time openings. Bilingual English/Spanish: Medical Receptionist, Tutorial Assistant, Recreation Assistant, Medical Records Tech, Medical Assistant. EOE/F/M/D/V. Resume: joinvcc@vistacommunityclinic.org. Fax: 760-414-3702. www.vistacommunityclinic.org.

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EXAM DATES:

NOV. 1, 2006
5:30 PM ARRIVAL
Sheriff's Department Office
9621 Ridgehaven Court
San Diego, CA 92123

NOV. 4, 2006
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Applications are handed out at the door – first come, first served.
Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 for parking at Southwestern College.

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EOE/M/F

HEALTHCARE/CAREGIVERS. North County needs light housekeeping, meal preparation, transportation assisting seniors in their homes. Requires: caring, compassionate, dependable, reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competitive/weekly pay. Apply weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm: Right at Home, 16486 Bernardo Center Drive, #124, San Diego 92128. E-mail: employment@rahencinitas.com; 858-451-7844.

HEALTHCARE/CAREGIVERS. North County needs light housekeeping, meal preparation, transportation assisting seniors in their homes. Requires: caring, compassionate, dependable, reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competitive/weekly pay. Apply weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm: Right at Home, 16486 Bernardo Center Drive, #124, San Diego 92128. E-mail: employment@rahencinitas.com; 858-451-7844.

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HOTEL FRONT DESK AGENT. Good customer service skills. Base pay plus commission. Friendly workplace. Apply 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Fax resume: 858-569-4957, email sb@casuiteshotel.com.

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HOTEL. Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines hiring! Apply/person: Monday-Tuesday, 9am-12pm, Wednesday-Thursday, 1pm-4pm. 10950 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037. 858-450-4543. EOE/AA.

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IT CAREER FAIR: 10am-3pm Saturday, October 28, Super Warehouse, 739 Design Court, Suite 500, Chula Vista, CA 91911. Join San Diego's 11th fastest growing privately-held company, rated per the San Diego Business Journal. Super Warehouse is a high-growth E-commerce retailer of IT products to consumers, businesses and governmental agencies throughout North America. We're seeking motivated individuals for the following positions: Account manager, Customer Service Rep, E-commerce Sales Manager, Graphic Designer, Inside Sales Rep, Marketing Research Analyst, Purchasing Clerk/Order Processor, Product Sourcing Specialist, Returns Merchandise Authorization Specialist, Vendor Relations Coordinator, Web Con-

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LAW OFFICE ASSISTANT. Mission Valley. Requires good office and communication skills. 30 hours/week at \$12/hour. Requires car. 619-613-2310. Fax resume: 619-615-2061 or info@srlawoffice.com.

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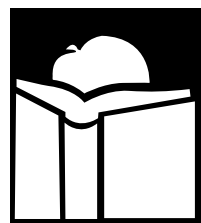
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LOAN OFFICERS. Leads, leads, leads! Commission splits can be as high as 90%. Can also sell Real Estate. We are a CFL Lender and a DRE Lender. No Real Estate License needed to do loans, but DRE License is needed to sell Real Estate. Our company has been in business 20+ years. Call Mark at Rapid Funding Realty: 619-692-0031.

LOAN OFFICERS. Lending Tree affiliate. No cold calling! Competitive splits. Multi-state broker provides pre-qualified leads. Mission Valley, casual/professional. Send resume: fax, 619-393-0551;

slloanoffice@gmail.com; or call Harris, 619-325-8283.

LOAN OFFICERS. Seeking top-producing Loan Officers to close a high number of leads for the fastest growing mortgage company in San Diego. Mortgage and sales experience required. High commission splits. Call Mark at First Financial & Real Estate Services, 858-312-6700 x29.

LOAN ORIGINATORS. No real estate license or experience required. Work from home or office, part/full-time. Orientations: Tuesday 7pm and Saturday 10am: 4617 Ruffner Street #200, 92111. 858-278-4993.

LOBBY AMBASSADOR/SECURITY. Join the #1 Security Team, where people make the difference. We offer free Guard Card training. Call Securitas, the largest, most respected security company in the world! Countywide positions available. Medical/dental/vision and 401(k), excellent working environment, monetary incentives, free uniforms. San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/drug free.

LOBBY AMBASSADORS & SECURITY Pros needed at the Airport, Downtown, Sorrento Valley, and Mira Mesa! Requires fantastic customer service skills. Great

pay and benefits. Free training. Apply: Universal Protection Services, Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #206, San Diego, CA 92111. www.universalpro.com. 858-874-4493.

LUTHIER. Experienced at all facets of guitar repair. Prior work experience or schooling. Apply at 5959 Mission Gorge Road, Suite 101. Email resume, blueguitarworkshop@yahoo.com. 619-283-2700.

MAID SERVICES. Relax. It's done. No nights, weekends, or holidays. Merry Maids offers flexible hours, weekly pay, paid mileage. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must be able to speak English. South Coast/all south areas only, 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

MAINTENANCE PERSON for shopping center portfolio in San Diego County. Strong maintenance, some construction experience. Tools required; must have transportation, Monday-Friday. Insurance, 401(k), paid vacation. Fax resume, attention Commercial Maintenance: 619-544-1257.

MAINTENANCE TECHS and/or HVAC for apartment community. Must be experienced. East County. Background/drug test required. Benefits. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmaplicants@aol.com. Call 888-252-7976.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE. Hippies with the flow. National art company. Several positions available. If you like music,

beer, working with opposite sex. \$500/week. 858-622-9575 x7.

MANAGEMENT: JOB FAIR. Tuesday, 10/31, 12noon-5pm, San Diego Convention Center, Halls F and G. Free admission, resume review, career workshops. Register online at www.jobing.com.

MANAGER/MANAGER TRAINEE. No experience required. 18-25 girls and guys needed for long-term positions. Call Sarah, 858-554-1158.

MANICURIST. Move-in incentives and benefits! Upscale Hillcrest salon seeking happy, relaxed Manicurist with own clientele. Natural nails, no acrylics. Can sell own retail. Reasonable rent. Ample parking. Antoine, Salon Antoine, 619-277-7747; 619-291-7747.

MANICURIST/PEDICURIST. Hip, young day spa in the heart of Little Italy seeks an energetic and motivated Manicurist/Pedicurist. Commission. Experience/clientele a plus. Urban Skin Care, 2326 India Street, Little Italy. Call Larissa or Erin, 619-233-0306. www.urbanskincare.com.

MANICURIST needed for busy Coronado salon. Must be licensed. Full time. Doman Salon of Beauty and Wellness. Call Janice at 619-977-1778.

MANICURISTS. No booth rental! No overhead! Pure profit! You make \$50 plus very generous tips for a manicure and pedicure. Mobile Technicians wanted for resort/corporate hotels. Make own schedule. Massage Therapists, Hair and Make-

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Seeking top-producing **Loan Officers** to close a high number of leads for the fastest-growing mortgage company in San Diego. Mortgage and sales experience required.

- Our top-producing Loan Officer made over \$200,000 in 2005
- High commission splits
- 3+ lead sources, including incoming calls
- Energetic and money-motivated atmosphere
- Licensed in all 50 states
- No real estate license required
- Office located in beautiful Rancho Bernardo

Does your broker/lender offer all of this? If not, call today to hear more and schedule an interview.



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We really do have it all!

Call Mark now: 858-312-6700 x29

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If you are the type of person who enjoys helping others and you'd like to be rewarded personally, professionally and monetarily, you could be the person we are looking for at

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We offer:

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- Train in a career with annual incomes of \$50K-\$100K.
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Call Alan at:

858-292-8577

All calls and interviews kept confidential.

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Please apply in person to Ron Polk:

POSTALANNEX⁺

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La Jolla, CA 92037

Or call between 10 am-2 pm: 858-456-3935

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MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. Immediate openings • Experience required Various shifts • Come in or call now!



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Jeff: 619-398-1680 x116



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Part-time or full-time. Must have own car and home phone. Work near home.

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WorkWithDanas@aol.com



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Immediate openings for:

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- Room Attendants
- Housekeeping Houseperson
- Banquet Houseperson
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Competitive salary.

Please apply at:

950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108
or fax résumé to:
619-298-3948

up Artists also wanted. hopperama@aol.com.

MANUFACTURING. Guitar Production Trainees (both shifts), start \$9/hour. Accounting Office Clerk, start \$9/hour. Information Systems desk representative, \$13/hour. Payroll and administrative assistant. Excellent benefits after 90 days. Job description details: Employment Hotline, 619-596-5299 x800. Fax resume to 619-258-4345. www.taylorguitars.com.

MARKET RESEARCH Telephone Interviewers. No selling. Friendly, outgoing people for San Diego's fastest-growing Market Research company. Bilingual Spanish a plus. Hourly plus bonuses. Medical benefits. Advancement opportunities. www.luthresearch.com. Apply in person: Luth Research, 1365 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. Job Hotline: 619-243-8045.

MARKETING PROFESSIONALS. Soleil Communications, Inc. is seeking Marketing professionals for exciting new positions! Benefits include: \$500 sign on bonus, full-time opportunities, medical/dental/vision/401(k), paid training, part-time evening shifts, hourly bonus and weekly paychecks, great Mission Valley location close to trolley. Top reps earn over \$30 an hour! Call 760-497-5291, e-mail rfonteneau@welkgroup.com, or apply in person 12pm-4pm Monday-Friday: Soleil Communications, Inc., A division of the Welk Resort Group, 6150 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120.

MASSAGE THERAPIST/Acupuncturist/Healing Professional: Large 525-square-foot adjusting room in 800-square-foot chiropractic wellness office. Ocean view. \$650/month. Cardiff. Call 760-207-7223.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT. Help for surgeon's office, Mission Hills area. Front/back office procedures. Basic computer skills. Prefer nonsmoking and bilingual. Send resume: Attn: Karen, PO Box 89213, San Diego, CA 92138.

MEMORY TESTING PLUS Compensation. As part of an approved research study, PrecisionMed is conducting memory tests on volunteers aged 60-75 years. Tests will include blood and urine sampling. Testing will take place every 6 months and you will receive written results each time so you'll be able to track any changes in your memory. You will receive \$50 cash compensation each time you are tested. In addition, there is an optional spinal tap. Subjects who select the spinal tap option will receive an additional \$100 per visit, i.e. a total of \$150 compensation per visit. You will be able to take part in this study for as long as you wish. For more information call Carole, ACE Registry, 1-800-519-8810 or email carolemarks@precisionmed.com.

MENTAL HEALTH WORKER. Immediate opening in school based program in East County. Must have BA in psychology or related field. Full time available. Fax resume to Jacqui: 619-588-3654.

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICER. Up to 90% commission. Mutual BanCorp, lending nationwide, has the perfect work situa-

tion! Work at home. Experienced. Leads available. Call Dean, 619-507-4874 or e-mail: dean@cashout.com.

MOVER. A Sorrento Valley based corporation is seeking an individual to assist with moving furniture within San Diego. Must have valid driver's license. Full-time position with benefits. Please contact Kyle McManus, 858-622-1881.

MOVERS. Moving company looking for reliable drivers and helpers. Experience required. Full and part-time employment. www.reliablemanmovers.com, call 619-276-1942.

MUSIC TEACHERS. Pleasant teaching environment with established clientele in Chula Vista. Piano, violin, voice, and guitar. Fax resume to: 619-760-0233.

MYSTERY SHOPPERS: Get paid to shop! Earn up to \$200/day. Experience not required. Call now: 800-486-7204.

NANNY. Mature and very stable nanny in Chula Vista area needed biweekly for single dad with 8-year old daughter. Approximately 50/hours per month, must have reliable car. Please call 619-702-7620.

NURSING. Psych RNs per diem hours up to \$36/hour. Must have experience with C&A and be able to work independently. 5150s, phone triage and psych assessment. DSM knowledge needed. Friendly work environment. Please call 619-615-0701 x14, or fax resume to Attn: Psych RN 619-615-0896.

OFFICE CLERK. Entry level position with commercial insurance company in Del Mar. Professional environment and opportunity for growth. Attention to detail, multi-tasking, ability to type 35 wpm and stable work history preferred. Start \$27K. 858-490-6470.

OFFICE. Managers, Recruiters, Receptionist. Immediate long-term, benefits, 401(k) after 1 year, up to \$23/hour. Go-Staff, 858-292-8562; fax 858-292-0230; e-mail help@gostaff.com. www.gostaff.com.

OFFICE/WORD PROCESSOR. Kearny Mesa geotechnical consultants. Proficient MS Word, Excel; MS Access a plus. Technical reports, proposals; data compilation; phone backup. Detail-oriented, organized. eautus@ninyoandmoore.com.

OPEN HOUSE. Neiman Marcus. Thursday, October 26, 11am-3pm and 6pm-8pm. Known the world over for its designer merchandise, excellent quality and workmanship paralleled with extraordinary customer service, Neiman Marcus seeks Sales and Sales Support professionals who appreciate the rewards of working in our unique environment. Temporary as well as regular positions available. EOE. M/F/D/V. Call in advance to RSVP and make arrangements to fill out an application. Interviews for full-time regular Sales positions will be conducted from 11am-3pm in Human Resources. Interviews for Seasonal positions will be conducted from 6pm-8pm in the Zodiac Restaurant. Level 3: 7027 Friars Road, San Diego 92108. RSVP: 619-542-4410.

PACKAGE HANDLERS. UPS is hiring for permanent, part-time positions in Chula

Vista, San Diego and San Marcos. Must be 17-1/2 years old, able to lift up to 70 lbs., and be available to work Monday-Friday. Shifts: 3am-9am and 5pm-10pm. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Apply online at www.upsjobs.com.

PAINTER for apartment community. Background/drug test required. Fax resume to 888-369-9229 or e-mail wmaplicants@aol.com. Call 888-252-7976.

PAINTING/MAINTENANCE, full-time, property management company, multiple jobsites. Some weekends/travel required. Must have experience. Competitive pay, benefits available. Call 858-481-9585, fax 858-481-1757, e-mail mikeatla@aol.com.

PARKING ATTENDANTS/Valets. Part-time. 7 days/week, all shifts. Drug-free environment. Platinum Parking Management. 619-778-6394.

PART TIME ADMIN/LEGAL. Mature Receptionist/Support. Will train. Noon-5pm Monday-Friday. UTC. \$9/hour. Fax resume to 858-622-0103.


PART TIME. Love Theatre? Have Sales experience? Then call La Jolla Playhouse today! Seeking individuals with telephone sales experience for 2007 subscription campaign. Call 858-550-1020 x500.

PART TIME. The Best part-time job in town for Second Incomers! Now hiring Sales/Customer Service Reps. Bilingual a plus! Immediate openings on all shifts! top pay \$14-\$22/hour! Average \$9-\$14/hour. Flexible shifts. Paid training. Weekly pay, base salary. Supervisory and management opportunities. DialAmerica Marketing, Inc. www.dialamerica.com/sandiego. 9332 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-292-8822.

PART-TIME TELESALLES. Sunterra. Best commissions in the area. 9am-1pm Monday-Saturday or 5pm-9pm Monday-Friday and Saturday, 9am-1pm. Hourly plus commission and bonuses. Call Dawn for interview, 760-966-4711. dralston@suntterra.com.

PAVROLL COORDINATOR. Terrific opportunity for a professional individual ready to move ahead in a great career in a well known company in UTC area. Responsible for processing payroll for over 200 employees. Must be a stable individual willing to learn and grow with their family oriented business. This position requires extensive training on the part of the applicant and a wonderful group of people. Email your resume to: chulavista-ca@appleone.com.

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Answer incoming calls to help customers place orders, resolve issues and field questions in a FUN 24/7 environment. Flexible schedules available.
Location: Mira Mesa/Sorrento Valley.
Pay: \$10/hour with opportunity for seasonal increases.
This is a seasonal position for the upcoming holidays.

Interested candidates, please send your resumé to:
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Law Enforcement
Ready for a Career Change?
San Diego Police Department Is Hiring!

POLICE OFFICERS

Upcoming test block dates are:
Friday & Saturday, November 17 & 18
Applicants must attend **both days** of testing.

Police Recruit	\$42,723/yr.
Police Officer I	\$43,596/yr.
Police Officer II	\$61,110/yr.

For more information call: **(619) 531-COPS**
or visit our website at:
www.sandiego.gov/police EOE

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Whole Foods Market, La Jolla, is looking for career-minded, enthusiastic, energetic

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Marketing Demo Specialist

All shifts: mornings, afternoons, evenings and overnight.
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Apply online at: **www.wholefoods.com**
or in person at:
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- Supportive through 24/7 availability of staff



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waldenfamily.org
Lic. #370602780





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yvette@socalstaffing.com
858-569-7555
4909 Murphy Canyon Road #110, San Diego, CA 92123



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- Next to Grantville trolley station

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- A/P & A/R Clerks
- Administrative Assistants
- Receptionists & Office Assistants

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PLUMBER/SERVICE TECH. Expanding local company seeking San Diego and North County applicants with experience. We provide: benefits, van plus equipment. Need good DMV. Drug test. Call 619-702-6067 or apply: 3485 Picwick San Diego, 92102.

PLUMBERS/SERVICE TECHNICIANS needed now! Experienced preferred. Rescue Rooter offers: Medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. To apply, please e-mail: lmyking@ars.com or call: 858-457-6506. AA/EOE. License # 858-457-6506.

PLUMBING APPRENTICE. Need a trade? No experience necessary. Work in plumbing, drain cleaning trade. We train. Earn up to \$900/week with opportunity for advancement. Must have small truck or van. 858-530-3265. 619-440-4336. 760-741-7503.

POLICE OFFICERS. San Diego Police Department is hiring! Ready for a career change? Upcoming test block dates are: Friday and Saturday, November 17 and

18. Applicants must attend both days of testing. Police Recruit earns \$42,723 per year. Police Officer I earns \$43,596 per year. Police Officer II earns \$61,110 per year. For more information, Call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police.

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: November 18, 2006, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal and personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$ 3 4 , 0 2 8 - \$ 4 3 , 4 3 0 / y e a r . www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

PRODUCTION WORKERS. 8-and 12-hour shifts. Carlsbad/Oceanside areas. Also hiring Electromechanical Assemblers, Calibration Technicians, Precision Assemblers and Electronic Technicians. www.jobs.volt.com. EOE. Volt Services Group, 1850 Marron Road, Suite 114, Carlsbad 92008. Fax: 760-720-7341. 760-729-8916.

PROMOTIONS. National field marketing company is looking for part-time reps (15-35 hours/week) in San Diego for bar/nightclub product sampling and events campaign. Must be 21+, outgoing personality, flexible schedule, ability to work nights/weekends, have reliable transportation, and comfortable working in the nightclub environment. \$14/hour. E-mail jmeiners@bfgcom.com to set up an interview or call Jessica at 858-270-0042.

PROPERTY MANAGER. On site, 29 units, Golden Hill. Some experience preferred. No pets. Fax resume to 858-483-9040.

QUALITY INSPECTOR. Immediate openings in North County. Various shifts. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing, San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS. Leads, leads, leads! Commission splits can be as high as 90%. Can also do loans. We are a CFL Lender and a DRE Lender. No Real Estate License needed to do loans, but DRE License is needed to sell Real Estate. Our company has been in business 20+ years. Call Mark at Rapid Funding Realty: 619-692-0031.

REAL ESTATE LICENSE. Obtain your Real Estate license with our 2-1/2 week, quick-pace program. \$100K potential with national brand. Call Susan: 858-245-7880 or 800-319-1031.

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REAL ESTATE. Prestigious, oceanfront La Jolla office seeking 3-5 Agents/Officers immediately! High commission splits, no franchise fee. Requires ability to work both loans/real estate. Daimon, 858-454-9100.

RECRUITER needed! No previous sales experience necessary, but numbers-oriented candidates are highly desirable. 80% phone work and sales (must be comfortable with cold calls and dropping by offices). Great 4-way commission and bonus structure. \$30K base salary. Contact Robin or Kelle at: 858-578-4437.

RESERVATION AGENTS. Full or part time. AM/PM shifts. Hourly pay plus bonuses. Paid weekly. Medical, dental. Near Grantville trolley station. Call today, start today! Mission Valley: 619-687-0070.

RESERVATION AGENTS. Hourly pay plus bonuses. Paid weekly. Full, part time. AM/PM shifts. Medical, dental. Near Grantville trolley. Call today, start today! Mission Valley: 619-687-0070.

RESIDENTIAL CARE Specialist. Seeking qualified single or dual-parents to provide

our children and teens a stable, supportive environment. Training and ongoing education. A committed and talented treatment team. 24/7 support from expert staff. Weekly home visits. Compensation for your time and commitment. License #370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

RESIDENTIAL MANAGERS. The Salvation Army Door of Hope. Make a difference for pregnant and parenting teens, be part of a great team! Full-time (2:30pm-11pm) and part-time, full benefits, paid holidays. Prefer experience in group home or at-risk youth, bilingual (English/Spanish). BA in Human Services. Requires maturity, ability to supervise young women and California driver's license. Resumes to: Grace D. Santos, fax 858-279-1755.

RESTAURANT ASSOCIATE. Robeks of Kearny Mesa looking for energetic, fun people with big smiles to greet customers and make smoothies. Daytime work, 7am-3pm. Competitive pay. Bruce: 858-442-2962. E-mail: robeksofkearnymesa@yahoo.com.

RESTAURANT. Cook and Deli Counter Clerks needed. See ad under 'Grocery/Natural Foods.' Jimbo's Naturally!

RESTAURANT. Great people needed--Drivers and Counterpersons. Full/part-time available. Reasonable pay, eat well. Apply Monday-Friday, 2pm-4pm: Joe's Pizza, 5583 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

RESTAURANT. Sushi on the Rock now hiring for North County location: Servers with a minimum 2-years fine dining experience preferred; Bussers and Hosts/Hostesses, minimum 1-year experience. Apply in person with resume weekdays, between 2pm-4pm at Carlsbad: 1923 Calle Barcelona; No phone calls.

RESTAURANT. Tired of the restaurant business? Get a real job! Must have good people skills, sharp appearance. \$2200/month start plus great bonuses. Advancement opportunity. 619-238-0870.

RESTAURANT/SERVERS. Le Peep is now hiring Servers for fast-paced breakfast/lunch shifts. Great pay. Apply in person: 13385 Poway Road, Poway or call: 858-679-2006.

RESTAURANT/BARTENDERS and Servers. Experienced. Apply: call, 619-239-2499, e-mail, dublinsquare@yahoo.com or in person, Gaslamp, Dublin Square, 554 4th Avenue, San Diego.

RESTAURANT/CAFE COUNTER/Barista. Upscale and popular cafe and bakery in the village of Rancho Santa Fe seeks Counter Person to assist with the taking of food and bakery orders and serving of sumptuous foods. Fast paced/professional environment. Perks include very good earning potential; holidays, Sundays and Mondays off; workday ends by 4pm. Call 858-759-0071, or apply in person between 2pm and 4pm Tuesday-Saturday: 16905 Avenida De Acacia.

RESTAURANT/DELI. Sandwich Maker/Prep. Fun atmosphere. Minimum 1-year experience. Full-time. Long term benefits.

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SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled in East County and Ramona. Part-and full-time positions. \$8-\$10/hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available. pfcareer@yahoo.com. Fax resume: 619-440-6864. Call 619-440-6802.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Work with developmentally disabled children and adults. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista or La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 27-32 hours/week. Start \$8.75/hour. EOE.

www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

SOCIAL SERVICES: HOUSE MANAGER Assistant. Group home for special kids needs mature, nurturing individual. Organizational skills, supervisory experience, knowledge of population and basic behavior modification principles, background clearance and clear DMV record a must. \$13.50 to start with medical benefits. hrgrouphome@yahoo.com or 619-733-7883.

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TEACHER/ASSISTANT TEACHERS needed for a small NAEYC accredited Infant/Toddler program. Must be nurturing, motivated and love to play. Teacher must have a Teacher's Permit or higher. Salary, \$11.50-\$14/hour. Teacher Assistants must have 6 or more ECE units. Call Barbara, 858-278-2457.

TEACHERS/VOCATIONAL/Instructors/Library Staff. CDCR Employment Workshop at Southwestern College, 8:30am-2:30pm Saturday, October 28. Presentations at 9am, 11am, 1pm. For details, call the Otay Mesa Adult School at the R.J. Donoway Correctional Facility, 619-661-6500 x7624.

TELE-AD SPECS. Friday, Saturday, Sunday off! Small Kearny Mesa office needs two part-time telemarketers from 9am-1pm, Monday-Thursday. No selling. \$8/hour plus bonus. \$12-\$15/hour realistic. 858-565-2826.

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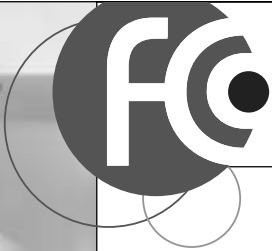
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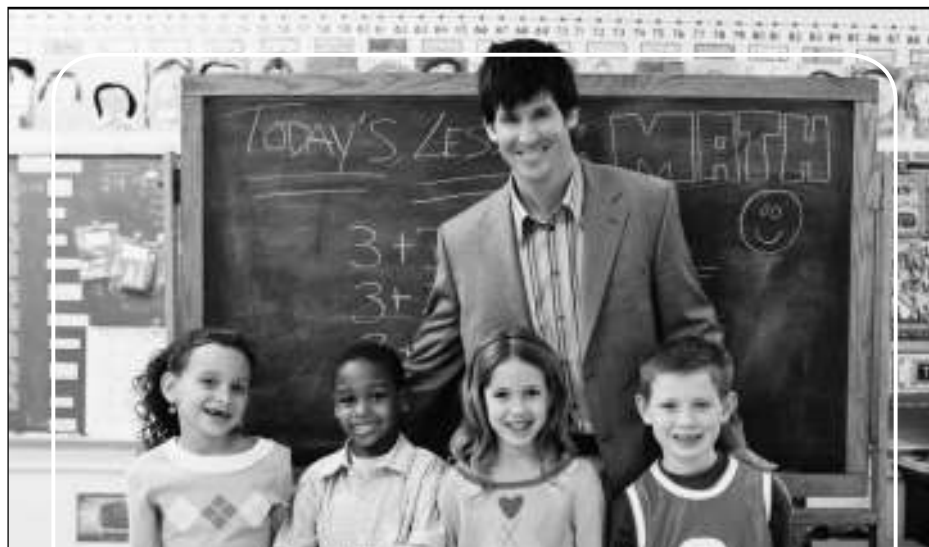


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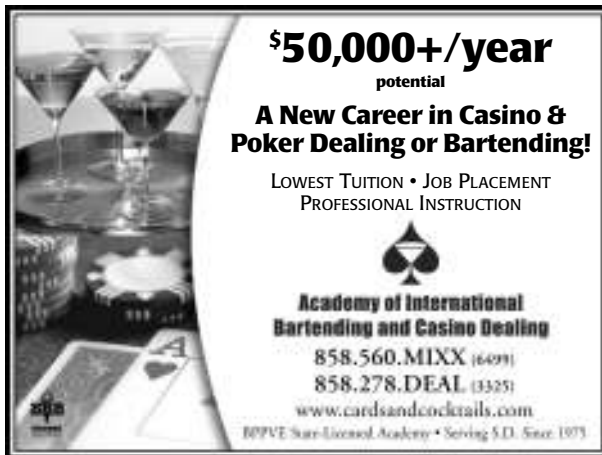
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1	2	3	4	5	6
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The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200.

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From this page, click on "Matches."

moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTING AND MODELING COACHES needed. Must work well with kids. Experience in TV, film and modeling required. Pay based on experience. Please e-mail resume: vitog@worldtalentinc.com.

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AUDITIONS, "Night Watch" November 13-14, 7pm, PowPAC's Theater, 13250 Poway Road. Performance January 19-February 11, 2007. Parts for 5 men and 4 women. Sherrie Colbourne 858-486-5013.

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THE KID-WHO? Kurt Vonnegut's 1-man performance, 10/28. Donation: Adults, \$15; Children (12+), \$10. Waldorf School of San Diego, 3547 Alta Dena Avenue. mysite.verizon.net/GlenWilliamson/dl.html.

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ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Get group support at San Diego Area meetings. Adults who grew up in alcoholic, other types of dysfunctional households. Feel better about yourself. 619-276-6232. www.adultchildren.org.

ADULT CHILDREN of Alcoholics. 20th annual ACA convention. November 3-5, 2006. San Marcos, CA. Keynote speaker, Robert Subby. Workshops, meetings, entertainment. www.acaconvention.org or e-mail info@acaconvention.org, 562-972-6282.

AL-ANON, Grupo paz mental. Sufre por el alcoholismo en su familia? Juntas sesionan Martes, 5:30pm-7pm, y Sabados, 1-2:30pm, 3450 Bonita Road, #207, Bonita, CA 91902.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Tiene problemas con la bebida? Llamenos 24 horas. Oficina Central Hispana, 3628 University Avenue, San Diego, 92105. 619-280-7224.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Problemas con el alcohol? Nosotros le ayudamos a vivir mejor. Sesiones diarias lunes a sabado. 7-8:30pm. Grupo Bonita Hispano 3450 Bonita Road #207. 619-520-4505.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings. 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 858-576-3811.

ANXIOUS, depressed? Recovery Inc. has been holding self help mental health meetings since 1937. Many suffer from nervous symptoms and fears. Free will offering. 619-275-0364.

ARE, you obsessed with food? Do you crave sugar? Do you feel out of control? There is hope. 619-284-2859 or www.foodaddictsanonymous.org.

ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER Support Group, Monday, 6:30-8pm, 12-week session, Clairemont area. Learn to stay focused on daily/weekly goals. 619-298-4818.

BENEFIT CRAFT SALE and lunch to benefit Mayan Village Chichihuistan. Saturday/Sunday, 10/28-10/29, 11am-5pm. 2128 Manchester Avenue, Cardiff (exit I-5 Birmingham, go west, left Manchester).

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeking patients in need of free assistance with personal cannabis garden, in accordance with Proposition 215. Local guidelines. 619-528-0907. edzepp@yahoo.com.

DIVORCE CARE, meets Sundays 9am. CVCF campus. 10791 Tierrasanta Boulevard DC, free support group for broken hearted in/out divorce, or live-in relationship. 619-461-4480. bfarley@calltoday-cashtomorrow.com.

DIVORCED AND PROBLEMS, With child visitation, support payments, non-custodial rights, lawyers, and family law court? Change the system, join Coalition of Parent Support. Call 619-465-2677.

DOG MAULING- seeking witnesses. Female victim in front of Longs Drugs, Encinitas. May 9th, 2006. Witness info confidential. Please help! Any info, call 760-840-0186.

DONATE that automobile, boat, RV, etc. to Ronald McDonald House Charities-San Diego, receive tax deduction and possibly a partial cash payment! Call toll-free, 866-244-8464.

EARN \$100 BEFORE YOU MOVE! If you are moving soon. Call us to schedule a home interview and environmental sampling. For just 2 hours you will earn \$100. SDSU Healthy Homes Study, 619-594-0501.

ENERGY FIELD TUNE-UP! Every Tuesday, 7pm-8:30pm, 2141 El Camino Real, Oceanside. Energy field cleansing and chakra balancing. Earth and Sky Church, 760-631-7900.

FIBROMYALGIA/CHRONIC FATIGUE Syndrome Support Group meets fourth Saturday of month 1:30-3:30pm. Grossmont Healthcare Auditorium, 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa. Free. www.sandiego.cd.org, 619-463-5299.

FREE BIBLE STUDY course by mail. Non-denominational. Increase your knowledge of God's word. Palomar Church of Christ, Minister Bill Sisco, Postage paid. PO Box 1473R, San Marcos 92078. 760-363-3730. San Diego. 619-299-6812.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING. Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 9/4, 10/2, 11/6, 12/4, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, Suite #107. 858-509-7582.

HELP FOR YOUR LIFE. Lonely? Dial hope, 858-277-8060. Scripture, new thought, prayer, request prayer. Recorded message changed daily. Helpful messages, 858-277-2389. Sunday service, 10am, Linda Vista Presbyterian Church, 2130 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. 858-277-0523.

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS. (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www.SanDiegoCity-HELP.org.

INTAKE SPECIALIST, volunteer needed for tax program to assess client eligibility and schedule appointments. Bilingual skills helpful. Call Zinnia 760-757-0118x316.

LIGHTEN UP with rebirthing breathwork. Let go of your burdens, anger, fear, depression. Find peace and love. Deepen your connection with God. On-going groups. www.kriscassidy.com. 619-957-7800.

MEDITATION, classes, free. Learn how to meditate or deepen your existing practice. Saturday 6:30-7:30pm, East West Yoga, 1356 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 619-687-7747. www.eastwestyoga.com.

MEMORY TESTING PLUS Compensation. As part of an approved research study, PrecisionMed is conducting memory tests on volunteers aged 60-75 years. Tests will include blood and urine sampling. Testing will take place every 6 months and you will receive written results each time so you'll be able to track any changes in your memory. You will receive \$50 cash compensation each time you are tested. In addition, there is an optional spinal tap. Subjects who select the spinal tap option will receive an additional \$100 per visit, i.e. a total of \$150 compensation per visit. You will be able to take part in this study for as long as you wish. For more information call Carole, ACE Registry, 1-800-519-

8810 or email carolemarks@precisionmed.com.

MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Ambassadors for Christ. Looking for a new church home? Come worship with us! Pastor Jimmy Fuller, 310 South 31st Street, 92113. 619-531-0141.

MOVIE BUFFS, Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards, like a book club? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS, Incorporated, non-profit, supports the repatriation of Mexican Indian immigrants. 4000+ dead. Derechas para los migrantes sin papeles! Amnesty, yes! Wall? No! sancho69ya@yahoo.com.

NC LIFELINE, in Oceanside needs volunteer tax preparers. Free online and in-class IRS training courses required for novice preparers. Call Zinnia 760-757-0118x316.

NEW ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meeting in Kearny Mesa at The Sharp Rehabilitation Center (Conference Room 3), 2999 Health Center Drive (92123), Monday evenings, 7-8pm, Richard, 858-939-3156.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Free, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. 619-757-6603.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS Community Walk, Sunday, 10/29, Balboa Park, 5K Walk to benefit American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Register or donate log-on to www.outofthedarkness.org.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Overweight? Anorexic? Bulimic? Can't stop eating? There is a 12-step solution. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PARENTS, FAMILIES. and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Find help, support, and understanding. Meetings Hillcrest, East County, North County. www.pflag.com. Call for details, 619-579-7640.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Grace Happens" November 16, 7-9pm. 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 92014. Meeting, no fee. 858-259-1880.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "The Fear of Loving," October 30, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. 619-629-9046.

PEOPLE'S RALLY to Stop Police Shooting the Unarmed, Saturday, October 28, 10am, Spreckel's Park in Coronado (Orange Avenue at Sixth Street). Sponsored by the Coalition for Justice.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

RECEPTIONIST, volunteer needed in Oceanside to prepare client folders for tax program, greet clients and assist with site set-p. Call Zinnia 760-757-0118x316.

SAN DIEGO HIGH, all class homecoming. SDH Educational Complex campus at 1405 Park Boulevard on October 28. 9am-12:30pm. Free continental breakfast. For more information 619-231-8982 or www.sandl.net.

TAI JI, Qi gong classes. Free to our community. Where: Shelter Island, near art show. When: Every Saturday, 9-10am. 619-226-6506.

TORCH RELAY FOR CHILDREN'S, Miracle Network, The Torch Relay for CMN will begin on 10/30/06 in Baltimore, MD and travel coast to coast for 5,800 miles ending in Hollywood, CA on 11/19/06. The San Diego leg of the relay will be a 5K walk on Saturday, November 18 at 8:30am. This event is open to the public and registration is \$25, additional fundraising is strongly encouraged. You can register on-line at <http://www.torch-relay.org>. All money raised in San Diego, will be for our Rady Children's Hospital. The walk will start at Cancer Survivor Park-Spanish Landing, follow along Harbor Drive and end at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina. All participants will receive a t-shirt, sponsor towel and a participant's medal. There are "volunteer" opportunities available. For questions or inquiries about volunteer opportunities you can email SDtorchrelay@marriott.com, or contact the San Diego Torch Relay Coordinator at 619-230-8380, x6207.

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On the set of *Men Without Women*, a submarine suspense movie that was likely filmed in San Diego, released in 1930. John Ford directed the talkie/silent film; it’s regarded as an

artifact because it was filmed during the transition. Some scenes include dialogue with one character speaking audibly and the other answering in silent intertitles. —by Robert Mizrachi

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NEED HELP, do you have a good heart? Have fiancée in Tijuana. Need co-sponsor for immigration visa. Want a better life for fiancée. 619-299-8684.

TO LIVE, WHY DIE? To die, why live? Why wait? The all-powerful God Creator, life-forces of myriad names, descriptions, languages, exists within everything, such that it overpowers death.

VICKIE, all I ever wanted was for you to be happy, even if it meant letting you go. God, I miss you. Love, Dwayne.

WHY CANT, I fall in love? Why cant I live my life? Pray for peace and take car brothers and sisters.

MATCHES

SHARED INTERESTS

FRIENDSHIP. Female, 54. Seeking sincere friendships, either sex, no phonies, nonjudgmental, for travel, walks, ocean fishing, boating, humor, is positive, who enjoys life, good conservationist! (11/8) ☎70493

MATCHES

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

BROWN EYED GIRL, Nice legs. Looking for someone to share cooking, dining, dancing. I also enjoy reading and watching our local sports teams. Let's talk. (11/1) ☎69971

AM EASY TO KNOW, Love to love and be loved. Active in all ways of life. Honest, reliable. Love to cook, garden, work part time. (11/1) ☎69967

CHRISTIAN MAN WANTED! Seeking the love of my life, honest, faithful. Friends first, then, who knows? Me: adventures, love music, teaching, reading, scuba, motorcycles, laughter. (11/8) ☎70002

DON'T GIVE UP. If you are 60+, tall with a carefree, loving disposition, then your very pretty lady with a nice figure awaits your call. (11/1) ☎69970

50 BUT YOUNG, Nice-looking, slim, educated. Looking for stable gentleman, 52-58 years old. (11/1) ☎69968

LIKE HEARING FROM YOU, If you are a tall, fit, 70-something gentleman, still interested in finding someone to enjoy and share time with. Thanks. (11/8) ☎69982

PEACENIK, 52, 5'9", son (18), natural, blues, dancing, opera, hiking, camping, Dog Beach. Seek leftist, 50ish, easy-going, renaissance man to complicate/complement life. (11/1) ☎69975

BLACK FEMALE, 49. Looking for serious, relationship-minded man, 32-55, willing to share all the joys a good relationship can offer. Let's talk about it. (11/8) ☎69993

SPONTANEOUS FUN GAL, 67. Looking for a kind, caring gentleman to enjoy mountains, outdoors, fishing, walks, movies, travel and barbecues, good old-fashioned fun together. (11/1) ☎69966

TOUCH OF CLASS, Active, outgoing, youthful lady, mid-50s. Seeking energetic, healthy, honest gentleman for dinner, movie, travel, walks and companionship. (11/1) ☎69974

ATTRACTIVE GREEN-EYED, Brunette, sexy, lady, wildly wicked sense of humor! Seeking, fit, fun, handsome, honest gentleman 48-55 who wants real deal, lots of affection. (11/1) ☎69960

ASIAN AMERICAN FEMALE, 54, youthful, attractive, educated, spiritual not religious, metaphysical, health-conscious. Seeks male 48-60 for friendship, quality conversations, shared activities, fun, and growth. (11/8) ☎69980

EUROPEAN EDUCATED, Gorgeous, petite. Seeking successful, truthful, generous, educated, anti-war, stylish, monogamous, (com)passionate, no baggage man, friendship, sportive, no previous kids, spiritual/nonreligious, 35-53, 5'9"+. (11/1) ☎69962

WHITE, APPEALING, 50s, unencumbered, healthy, stable, secure. Seeking white gentleman with same traits for relationship, in his late 50s-60s, I am 5'1", 125lbs. (11/1) ☎69964

ASIAN, EXOTIC, SEXY, Nice legs, curvaceous figure, 5'3", 115lbs, professional, childless, homeowner. Desires fun, fit, nonsmoker, upscale, successful, com-

patible, generous, 36+ Asian/Caucasian stable gentleman. (11/1) ☎69972

CHOCOLATE LADY not from New Orleans, Central America. You a senior gentleman, 60+-. Let's enjoy the holidays together dancing, movies, quiet times at home. (11/8) ☎69998

LOOKING FOR MY LAST LOVE. Pretty, romantic, sensual, trim, 5'1", warm, intelligent, loving lady. Seeks affectionate, fun-loving, 5'8"+, 60s, romantic. Travel, dancing, sunsets, weekend get-aways. (11/1) ☎69976

HISPANIC MAN, 38-48, Wanted by pretty white lady, 40. Sweet, romantic, happy, but lonely. No drugs! OK with mixing cultures, maybe fix my broken heart. (11/8) ☎69988

YOU TALLISH, 50ISH, slightly independent, patient, kind, loyal. Me, tall, 50ish, slightly handicapped big girl. Charger fan, love the Colorado River, great friend. Let's talk. (11/8) ☎69990

SENSUAL, FUN-LOVING, Mature Caucasian woman. Loves blues, jazz, good food. Looking for relaxed, kind, responsible man, 40-60, for dancing, good conversation, and laughing. (11/8) ☎69997

THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE. Me, 40s, Latina, exciting. Seeking Caucasian gentleman 45-53 for a serious relationship, must be energetic, lets share it all together. (11/8) ☎69989

ASIAN BEAUTY, Educated, wealthy, 42, 5'3", 110lbs, no children, enjoy nature, music, athletic. Seeking professional, educated gentleman, non-smoker, no children, to share quality time. (11/8) ☎69992

FUN, ATTRACTIVE, Brown-eyed lady, dancing, walks on the beach, movies, outdoors, and easy-going. Looking for someone with same interests, from 55-65. (11/8) ☎69996

YOUR SOUL MATE. Talented bilingual lady ready for a quality relationship would like to meet a healthy, sincere, attentive, successful, financially secure gentleman over 55. (11/8) ☎69983

SINGLE 37 FEMALE, Seeks fun-loving, romantic man who enjoys casinos, dinners and loves to travel and explore with a kind, caring, loving lady. (11/8) ☎69986

LATIN, FUN, FIT, Professional, 50s, petite, love the outdoors, boating, dancing, traveling. Seeking nice, fun, honest, educated guy for lasting relationship. (11/1) ☎69959

PETITE BLONDE POWERHOUSE Musician, 49. Looking for "all good men aren't taken." Looking for Afro-American/biracial, fit, 40s+, fabulous, fun, under 59. (11/1) ☎69968

CONTENT WIDOW, 59, blonde, Mormon, active, attractive and elegant lady. Like trips, theatre, dining. Christian lifestyle. Seeking gentleman for friendship, dating, possible relationship. Game-free. (11/8) ☎69991

WHITE, ATTRACTIVE, 33, very loving, caring and more. Seeks white male, 25-45, serious-minded, plays no games, enjoys romantic settings, kid at heart a must. (11/8) ☎69981

SLIM, CHEERFUL, HEALTHY, Tall, warm, affectionate, white female, 68. Seeking good-natured, fit, 6'+, gentleman, near age 68, for fun, companionship, TLC, friends first. Nonsmoker please. (11/1) ☎69965

LATIN LADY, 54, attractive, professional, 5'5", 135lbs, honest, dark-haired, light skin, nonsmoker, nondrinker, likes sports, traveling and more. Wishes man with good feelings. (11/8) ☎69987

SWEET COUNTRY ANGEL, Looking for a white knight, I am 30 years old. Looking for an open honest, outgoing guy, who loves dogs. (11/1) ☎69963

SENSUOUS, INTELLIGENT, Creative woman desires man with kind heart and generous soul to travel worlds together, laugh frequently, taste life, and love often and well. (11/8) ☎69984

ATTRACTIVE MEXICAN, Long hair, nice legs, easygoing. Wants to meet attractive guy, 42-55, healthy, generous, financially secure, nonsmoker, for friendship or possible relationship. (11/8) ☎69995

GREAT SMILE, 36, green eyes, 5'8", full figured, long brown hair, romantic, honest, loves to cuddle. Seeks 36-46 male, romantic, honest, loving, affectionate, likes kids. (11/1) ☎69973

ORIENTAL WOMAN from far East. Is considered tiny, pretty, cheerful. Wants to meet a man of intellect and fun. (11/1) ☎69977

LIKE JULIAN? Me, too! Those autumn leaves, that apple pie. Mature, Caucasian woman to meet tall, Caucasian, 70+-, active, nonsmoker man for friendship and companionship. (11/8) ☎69994

LOVELY, SPIRITUAL LADY, Looking for a special buddy. I enjoy laughter, nature, conversation, romantic dinners, and animals. Integrity and honesty very important to me. (11/1) ☎69961

RIDING AROUND in your convertible alone? Me too! Pretty, slender, fun-loving blonde will appreciate good looking male, 48-58, integrity, for recreation, dating, good times. (11/8) ☎70000

DOCTOR, BEAUTIFUL, AFFECTIONATE. Loves dancing, yoga, traveling. Looking for successful, passionate, intelligent, spontaneous, caring, loving, sincere man, 40s+, for long-term relationship. (11/1) ☎69978

FUN AND ADVENTURESOME, You 60-65. Me, youthful, fit, petite, blonde, 61 to share dancing, outdoors, more. Friendship good, smoking not, physical attraction a plus! (11/8) ☎69985

PASSION FOR EXPERIENCING life, tall, slim, blonde, 40s, high energy, financially/emotionally secure, fun and good conversation. Looking for active, positive person. Coastal North County. (11/8) ☎69999

HAPPY, SUCCESSFUL African-American lady. Delightful, devoted, down to earth. 63 years young. Are you 57-70, non-smoker, ready for serious relationship? Let's play, enjoy life. (11/8) ☎70001

MATCHES

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HISPANIC BUSINESS MAN, 52, fit. Enjoys barbecuing, hiking, thrills, yoga, travel, theater, concerts, movies, most sports. Clean, neat, homeowner, a gentleman, lives alone with doggie. (11/1) ☎70475

SEEKING FUN, CUTE ATHLETIC, Type A, 45-55 for adventure and romance. I'm 55, 6'2", 220lbs, handsome type B. Qualities and faults too numerous to mention. (11/1) ☎70471

MIDDLE AGED WHITE MALE, No children, wants to start family, likes outdoor things, also working on cars, going to racetracks, no fancy places, likes movies. (11/8) ☎70486

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP, Possibly more. I'm 57, 5'10", 175lbs, nonsmoker, I enjoy movies, dining, sports, working out, quiet times together with nonsmoker lady, 619, 858 area. (11/1) ☎70467

Are You

35 to 45, spontaneous, active, fun, considerate, outdoorsy, witty, balanced, employed, seeking a long term relationship? Me, too! Call now, see if we "click." (11/1) ☎70473

SHOWERS, SHAVES, converses, owns tuxedo, 51, 5'10", educated, employed homeowner with sense of humor. Seeking intelligent, attractive, down to earth professional. You won't be disappointed. (11/8) ☎70501

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, Blue eyes, 56, white male, fun, fit, romantic, financially stable. Seeking slender to average woman for quality time together, is that you. (11/1) ☎70466

HONEST, HUMBLE, Without anything to prove at 50. Seeking personable, articulate woman with a provocative sense of humor, finding adventure doing simple things in life. (11/8) ☎70483

IT'S ALL ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES, And this is ours. I know my interests, so tell me about yours. Young 55 seeks an intelligent and humorous partner. (11/1) ☎70459

NICE-APPEARING BACHELOR, Early 50s, trim, successful, childless, blue, brown, North County coastal homeowner without emburcances. You: 40-something, well groomed, not overweight, serious-minded. (11/8) ☎70491

50, POLICE OFFICER. Healthy Caucasian, gentleman's standards/morals, Fashion Valley. Seeking motivated lady, 42-50, to enjoy life's adventures and experiences. Possible commitment. (11/8) ☎70481

JEWISH MAN, 6'2", eyes of blue, into tennis, swimming. Seeking Jewish woman, 35-50, health-conscious, long walks, with similar interests. (11/1) ☎70458

TALL, HANDSOME, EDUCATED, Financially secure, black hair, blue eyed, brown skin, sexy, easy-going, pleasing personality, older man. Looking for 55-65 year old, same woman. (11/8) ☎70490.

REFRESHING, HONEST, SINCERE, Cute, 56-year-old gentleman (looks 45), romantic, creative, dynamic, humorous, non-smoking, Jewish, enjoys music. Seeks younger, petite, attractive, quality, unencumbered lady. (11/1) ☎70469

BEST FRIEND COMPANION wanted. Active, happy, educated, easygoing, considerate gentleman, world traveler, humorous, affectionate, good listener, young 69, many interests. I'm fun to be with. (11/1) ☎70480

LIFETIME CARING and sharing wanted? Me too! Active, fit, outdoorsman, 79, Lakeside homeowner, secure, wanting quiet homelife with compatible lady desiring loving contentment and security. (11/8) ☎70497

BABY! It's cold outside! Tall, outgoing, handsome, fun-loving, adventuresome, warm-hearted man. Seeking friendly, lovable, caring, touchy, sports-minded woman to let good times roll! (11/1) ☎70477

WIDOWER, YOUNG AT HEART, 6', 175lbs., financially secure, good health. Seeking attractive female to enjoy the good life and smell the roses. (11/8) ☎70496

HANDSOME WIDOWER, 6'1", 210lbs, successful, retired businessowner, homeowner, educated, healthy, well-groomed. Seeks attractive, sensual, curvy lady, 50-65. Little extra padding OK. Dates, fun, romance, happiness! (11/1) ☎70463

GOOD HEARTED BIKER, Seeking woman for serious relationship, love, hug and kisses, ready to give all my heart. No games, nonsmoker, call me. (11/1) ☎70464

POSITIVE MAN, Attractive, slim, 5'11", blue eyes, young 55. Into new thought, personal growth, healing. Seeks slim, positive energy woman for fun, salubrious sea walks. (11/8) ☎70487

WITTY, CARING, QUALITY man, 63. Looking for nonsmoking Asian or South American woman of warmth and depth, 40-60. Share friendship, fun, companionship, maybe much more. (11/8) ☎70500

SENIOR, SINCERE GENTLEMAN, Enjoys dancing, Bridge, trips, theatre. Seeks 70-plus lady who is tall, quite full-figured, up-to-date, cheerful, and sincere. (11/1) ☎70476

QUIET, NATURE, SOME Traveling, Country, blue grass, classic rock, dancing. Male 6', fun, easy going. Seeking woman 40s, passionate, tall, peaceful, optimistic, caring. Hike, bike. (11/1) ☎70468

MARRIAGE MINDED, Asia Filipina female 30s-50s wanted by sincere 5'7" black male who enjoys life, laughter, dancing, movies, traveling, outdoors, shopping, walks. (11/8) ☎70485

ATTENTION ASIAN WOMEN, 30-45. Me, 6'1", 250lbs, single, attractive, educated, nonsmoking, honest, kind, working, intelligent, fun-loving, spiritual black male.

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Looking for love partner/love match. (11/8) ☎70484

Travel, 61, Live Free

5'8", 148lbs, tennis, in shape, spiritual, no smoke, healthy lifestyle. You, in shape and attractive, inside and out, let's boogie. (11/8) ☎70492

SENIOR SALES CONSULTANT, college grad, nonsmoker seeks trim to average weight lady, 58-68, for romance, dining, travel, golfer a plus but not necessary. (11/8) ☎70498

TALL RETIRED MILITARY, Handsome, healthy black gentleman, fit. Looking for tall, savvy, attractive, athlete, or athletically inclined woman, sense of humor. Fun, happiness for two. (11/1) ☎70460

LATINO, 44, Financially stable, educated, homeowner. Looking to build a future with someone with similar interest. Race open, serious inquiry only. (11/1) ☎70465

858 WHITE GENTLEMAN, 57, 5'9", 175lbs, clean-shaven, handsome, well-groomed, great qualities, romantic, loving, supportive, intelligent, secure, wants attractive professional, single parents welcome, 45-60. (11/1) ☎70456

ACTIVE WHITE MALE, Young 60s, well groomed, homeowner, beach area, enjoys cooking, music, glass wine. Seeking affectionate, attractive lady under 65 for dating, will respond. (11/1) ☎70470

BRITISH GENTLEMAN, Independent financially, 40, athletic, compassionate and humorous. Looking for same in sincere 25-42 year young female to share fun in San Diego. (11/8) ☎70488

TALL, HANDSOME, CLASSY, Divorced father, white, 6'11", 185lbs, young 60. Seeks love, intimacy, sexy, generous lady; enjoys romantic evening, cocktails, kisses, candles, lovable, gentle me. (11/8) ☎70482

PHYSICALLY FIT, Active 70, retired, love to travel, movies, desert, cruises. Stable finance, East County, like to share life with like-minded lady. (11/8) ☎70489

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relationship. I'm 55, 5'3", 145lbs., good looking, good shape. I love music, exercise, fun at home! (11/8) ☎70499

HANDSOME CHRISTIAN Catholic, Hispanic male, 54, 5'9", 180lbs. Seeking long-term soul mate. Financial stable, outgoing, romantic, caring. Seeking same, fit, 45-58. Where are you? (11/8) ☎70495

PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, 6'1", 160lbs., 54, blue/red, shaved, swing dancer, road bi-

cycle racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking chemistry/connection! (11/1) ☎70457

SEEKING FRIENDLY FEMALE. I'm funny, good-looking, black, 6'0", stocky, 51. My friend, any race, height, weight, have muscular legs of a female body-builder. (11/1) ☎70461

TIGGER SEEKING TIGRESS. Attractive, frisky, sexy, white tiger, 34. Seeking adventurous, enchanting, insatiable, open-minded, uninhibited feline, 21-37. Friendship, candlelight delights, fantasy, fun, romance. Lakeside. (11/1) ☎70474

SENSUOUS YOUNG OCTAGENERIAN. You adventurous, unconventional. Let's find happiness and joy together. The happiest days of our lives have not happened yet. (11/1) ☎70462

HAS A DISABILITY changed your routine? Want someone in your life? Dinners, conversation, hugs, kisses, with romantic guy who can relate, please call. Race open. (11/8) ☎70494

YOUNG, 60-YEAR-OLD MAN. Looking for nice, sweet woman in North County, nonsmoker who has a good sense of humor, who likes her life. (11/1) ☎70478

LATIN WOMAN WANTED. Slim, nonsmoker, sense of humor, 40-50, by white male, financially secure, for movies, conversation, dining, for long-term relationship, possible marriage. (11/1) ☎70479

MUSIC EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

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CELO, fullsize, Englehardt E5544, maple top and back mahogany finish. Great tones. \$350 with bow. 858-272-9319.

DJ GEAR. Sales, installation, rentals and production services. Carvin Vega speakers-only \$300/each, Technics 1200-\$350/each. 619-216-4770. www.boogienightsinc.com. Check out our Ebay store-boogienightsinc.

DRUM SET, five piece with all stands, pedals and cymbals. Complete with throne, cases, stick bag and more. Excellent condition \$575 858-487-3398.

DRUM SET, five piece with all stands, pedals and cymbals. Complete with throne, cases, stick bag and more. Excellent condition \$575 858-487-3398.

DRUM SWAP MEET, October 28, starts at 9am. Sell or trade your old equipment. Buy from others. 627 Escondido Avenue, Vista. Website: SanDiegoDrum.com. Call: 760-945-3935.

DRUMMER NEEDED, Experienced in surf music with practice space preferred. Must be able to play in night clubs or special events. Ruben 619-405-3910.

DRUMSET, electronic Yamaha DTX 20. 11 piece dual trigger. 700 760-489-8066.

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ENTERTAINER, Soloist with gear. Seeks bar or restaurant for gig weekly. 150 Beat-

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M. Farmer
Record Store Employee
San Diego

I don't think they work. The last store I used to work at, there were two friends that hooked up. They were also coworkers. For a while, it was okay. They were lovey-dovey. She ended up cheating on him. And, it's too much to see someone at work all day and then when you get off work. After they broke up, it was weird because we all still worked together. I was friends with both of them. She started dating another friend of mine, and it was awkward. They would both ask about the other one, and I didn't want to be in the middle of it.



Torrey Merriel
Marketing
Pacific Beach

I hire great-looking girls to do bar promotions. I do that part-time. It does not work. Absolutely not! It never works. They all turn to shit. You can't work together. What happens if you have a fight? You can't just leave the office and tell someone to fuck off. Maybe if you're older and mature, but how long does it take to get to that level? If you really like her and she's that hot, how mature can you be? You'd see her every-where at work. It's a disaster.



Daniel Tyrell
Chef
Pacific Beach

I think that you can't decide or pin down where and when you'll meet someone you are interested in. So, it may happen where you work. You spend 40, sometimes 60 hours a week at that job, and you'll proba-bly have more in common than someone you meet in a bar that you said five words to. You have more opportunity to meet people at work, but it is a delicate line you walk on. I've experienced a lot of different situations in the course of my life, which I wish not to discuss at this time.



Natalie Sigmon
Bartender
Pacific Beach

No, I don't think they work. It's too close for comfort. I can't think of a time in the past where it's ever worked at any of the places I've been employed or with any of my friends. The only way I can see it working is if it was a customer. If you work in a profession that has lots of cus-tomers, that could work. You get first dibs. It's great!



Millie Deleon
Student
Ocean Beach

It depends. I don't know if any-one can date successfully, so the fact that it's at work doesn't change that. I've seen situations where it blows up. At one place, a linen closet ended up becoming a locked closet [laughs]. I've never seen people hook up at work and then get married. It always ends bad, but maybe sometimes it could work. I've just never seen it. If I was a boss, I wouldn't mind if the employees dated. I'd just lock the linen closets.



Mike Pearce
Hat Store Owner
Boston

Yes, it works. Why not? People should just be mature about it. I've never worked at a place where people dated. And I've never dated anyone I've worked with. But I have no doubts that it could work. Maybe if it was teenagers working some-where, you might get some drama. But when you have adults, I have to think they'd be able to handle different aspects of a romantic relationship.

CLAIREMONT. \$585, deposit/utilities. Remodeled 2 bath house. Furnished/un-furnished bedroom. Washer/dryer, dish-washer. Nice convenient neighborhood. Satellite available, fireplace, patio. No smoking/pets. 858-279-2869; 619-235-2415, x30649.

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CLAIREMONT, \$800 includes utilities, \$500/deposit for room/private bathroom in beautiful 2 bedroom duplex, washer/dryer/dishwasher, big kitchen,

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CLAIREMONT. \$640/month, utilities in-cluded. Room for rent in 3 bedroom

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BANKER'S HILL house. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled. Hardwood floors, central heat/air, claw-foot tub, off-street parking. Available. \$1450. 619-239-9654.

BAY PARK. Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage. View, fireplace, stainless appliances, hardwood, washer/dryer. Deposit payable in installments. \$2800. 858-344-0333.

BAY PARK. \$725. Quiet, small 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. Yard. Parking. Stove, refrigerator. Small pet negotiable. Available 10/28. 2047 Morena Boulevard/Milton. 858-232-9932.

BAY PARK. Move-in special! \$2400. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1350 square feet. Pets OK. Garage. Washer/dryer. New carpet/paint. Dishwasher. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

BONITA. \$2075. Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Large backyard. 3-car garage. Washer/dryer hookups. New carpet, paint. No pets. 739 Beyer Avenue. 619-435-2700, mckeecompany.com.

BONITA. 1/2 off first month! Beautiful 3 bedroom plus retreat, 2-1/2 bathrooms. Hardwood floors. New appliances. Half acre. Gardener/pool/jacuzzi maintenance included. \$2500. 619-757-9829.

CARLSBAD. \$2800. Stunning waterfront townhome with boat dock. 3 plus bedrooms, 2 baths, 2-car garage, carport, storage. Granite kitchen, wood/tile floors, 2-sided fireplace. 760-612-3887.

CARLSBAD. From \$1395. 1 bedroom bungalow. Carport. Close to beach. Fenced backyard. Washer/dryer hook-up. Cats accepted. \$99 security deposit. Available now. 760-729-5668.

CARLSBAD/La Costa La Paloma, \$2500. Very upgraded remodeled with stainless steel appliances, vaulted ceilings, wood floors, family room, fenced yard. Pet on approval. One story, 2 garages, gardener included. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN RANCH/Walden Greens. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, \$2295. Wood and carpet floors, gardener, 2-car garage, central A/C. Pet on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-story home plus den. 2-car garage. Fireplace, kitchen nook, living/dining room. Shoal Creek Elementary. \$2495. 858-922-2145.

CHULA VISTA. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-story, 2-car garage, washer/

dryer hook-ups, fireplace, large yard, no pets. 1444 Robles Drive. Available 11/8. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

CHULA VISTA. Southwestern College. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, attached cottage. Walk to shops/restaurants, private. No smoking, small pet ok. Utilities included, deposit. 619-933-7007.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home. 2-car garage. Hardwood floors throughout. Cul-de-sac. Very large backyard. No pets. Washer/dryer hookups. Near Eastlake community. 668 Rue le Blanc. 619-427-2700. www.mckeecompany.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, single story. Small fenced yard. 1-car garage. Apartment complex in rear. This house is completely brand new inside and out. No pets. 4466 Winona Avenue. Agent, 619-279-2183.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1525. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, quiet cul-de-sac. New paint, carpet, tile, counters, ceiling fans. Large fenced yard, decks, garage. Mature pet considered. 4010 Pepper Drive. 619-228-4543.

CLAIREMONT, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Large fenced yard, sprinkler system, large family room with fireplace. New paint, carpet, excellent condition. \$1850/month. 3628 Merrimac Avenue. 509-628-3316.

CLAIREMONT, \$2200. Spacious 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Open plan, large yard, new deck/built-in bench. Quiet neighborhood. Convenient to all. 3612 Atlas Street. 619-688-9191.

CLAIREMONT, \$1595. Nice 2 bedroom duplex with garage. Newly remodeled, great location. Minutes to beach/bay, near Clairemont Square. Washer/dryer, Internet, large yard. \$1595/deposit, can be paid over 2 months. Available 11/01/06. 858-395-9463.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1850. Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newer home, 2-car garage, Pergo floors, all appliances, private yard. Pets OK. 4767-A Jessie Avenue. 760-603-0057, 619-871-6909.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1595. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Off-street parking. New paint/carpet/granite/appliances. Large fenced yard. Washer/dryer. Nonsmoking. Quiet area. 619-929-1992.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1750. Spacious, quiet, lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus study. Fireplace. Double garage. All appliances. Washer/dryer. Fenced yard. Available 11/1. 619-287-3644.

COLLEGE AREA. \$620. Large, quiet studio cottage. Recently remodeled. Fenced yard. No dogs or cats. \$650 deposit. 858-292-6046.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1900. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New stucco/windows/wood blinds. Refinished hardwoods, Cable/Internet included. Nonsmoking. Pets OK. Huge yard. 3368 Meridian. 858-472-4367.

COLLEGE, \$1525. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, Spanish style. Hardwood floors, fireplace, washer/dryer, all appliances, garage, large yard. 4692 60th Street 92115. 619-698-6911.

EASTLAKE Greens. Big and clean, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2500 square feet, 2-fire-

NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: "Freak" freaks know: Hawaii's in the eyebrows) Tiki on wall of the Freaky Boutiki at the Freak Factory, 3742 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, recently completed after a post-fire renovation by artist Rob Tobin. He sculpted the tiki's eyebrows in the shape of the Hawaiian island chain. The pineapple skull honors Hawaii and the Grateful Dead, and the shaka around the 13-point lightning bolt transmits "Freak" owner Hank Adelson's philosophy: hang loose. (Last week's winners: Anna Paul, Jane Obara, James Bennett, Long Vo, Jeremy Shivick)

Q: Swimming under Midway?

Describe this location, name the nearest cross-streets, and win a *Reader* T-shirt. E-mail to NameThisPlace@SanDiegoReader.com; fax to 619-231-0489; or mail to *Reader*, Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego 92186 — include your name and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. In case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)



places. Gardener. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$1995/month. 619-297-6636.

EL CAJON. \$2200. Incredible 4 bedroom, 3 bath. Family room, new kitchen, stainless appliances, formal dining, oversized master, views. 3-car garage, fenced. Rent/rent-to-own. 619-742-8289.

ENCANTO. \$1595. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 1136 square feet. Yard. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 2-car garage. No pets. Available now. 738 Joanna Drive. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

ENCANTO. \$1650, security deposit \$1350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1015 Evelyn Street. Stove, refrigerator, large yard, double car garage. Available 10/6. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

ENCINITAS. Santa Fe Drive. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1-story, 2-car attached garage. Big backyard, washer/dryer. No

pets. \$2200, water/gardener included. 858-270-3372, 858-740-8595.

ENCINITAS. 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Spectacular panoramic ocean and city light view. If you have exquisite taste you'll fall in love. Gorgeous home. Better than a model under market. \$2995. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$1700 plus deposit. Newly remodeled! 2 bedroom, 1 bath house near beach. Granite, new carpet, fenced yard, laundry, carport, no pets. 863 Nardo. 760-271-9000.

ENCINITAS/near Leucadia Boulevard, \$2800. Cul-de-sac, 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths, 2394 estimated square feet, 3 car garage, built in 1990. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

ESCONDIDO. \$875-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Half off first month's rent, OAC. Beautiful manufactured homes offer

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ESCONDIDO/Felicitia, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, \$2200. One level, 2486 estimated square-feet, 2-car garage. Pet on approval. Family room. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

GOLDEN HILL. \$925. Small, cute 1 bedroom cottage. Lots of windows. Wood floors. New kitchen and bath. Washer, dryer. Garage. 3067 B Street. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$895. 1940s 1 bedroom cottage. Garage available. Hardwood floors. Large fenced patio. Lots of windows. Laundry onsite. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Completely renovated with new hardwood floors. New maple cabinetry, kitchen countertops. Built-in microwave. High-end appliances. No pets. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL/South Park. \$900. Lovely remodeled 1 bedroom house in quiet courtyard setting. Oak floors, fenced yard, new stove/refrigerator, off-street parking. No pets. 619-280-5177.

HILLCREST. \$800. 1 bedroom duplex. Nice decor. Well-maintained. Clean and bright. Air conditioning. Storage. Off-street parking. Cat on approval. 619-469-9763.

HILLCREST. \$1425. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath plus office. 2 story home with laundry hookups and small yard. Off-street parking. 619-298-0982.

HILLCREST. \$850. Small 1 bedroom, charming cottage. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. No parking. Nice shared lawn area. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 11/10. 3925-0 1/2 Centre. DSPM, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1800. Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Large backyard. New bathrooms/paint. Washer/dryer. Tankless water heater. Blocks to estuary and beach. 619-997-9215.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Brand new 4 bedroom 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage. 1145 Georgia Street, \$2000/month, 619-216-3426.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1750. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1 bath house 3 blocks from beach. Hardwood/tile floors. Fireplace in master bedroom. Sunroom/pool table. Nice front/back yard. 619-920-2571.

KENSINGTON. Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath canyon home. Garage. Fireplace, hardwood, washer/dryer, patio, yard, security,

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KENSINGTON. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bathroom historical Craftsman with covered front porch, gourmet kitchen with vintage porcelain stove, island breakfast bar, custom cabinetry, granite, new hardwood floors. Formal dining room with built-ins, French doors open to fenced bricked courtyard garden. Washer/dryer, one car garage with great storage. Gardener and water included. Walk to village, close to all. 4533 Edgeware Road. \$2195/month. 619-683-9274.

KENSINGTON. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautifully remodeled, 2-story Spanish. Hardwood floors, new kitchen with sunny breakfast room with built-ins. Formal dining room with French doors that lead to patio, pool, spa, and canyon views. Master suite and bath upstairs. Custom paint, stained glass, 2-car garage, washer/dryer, gardener. \$3295/month. 4625 East Talmadge Drive. 619-683-9274.

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LA MESA. \$1850. Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newer home, 2-car garage, Pergo floors, all appliances, private yard. Pets OK. 4767-A Jessie Avenue. 760-603-0057, 619-871-6909.

LA MESA. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. All appliances, single level, new carpet, cathedral ceilings, fireplace, 2 patios, garage. Community pool/jacuzzi. No pets. Water paid. 5168-D Lake Murray Boulevard. 619-435-0387, 619-206-3089.

LA MESA. \$2295. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house, view, deck, 2-car garage, hardwood floors, gardener paid. 4427 Beverly Drive. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$1825 move-in special, includes gardener. 3 bedroom, 2.75 bath, large yard, refinished hardwood floors, sunroom, family room/fireplace, private. 3894 American. Sal, 619-980-6076.

LA MESA. 1/2 off first month! \$2050/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1125 estimated square feet. Sunroom, fenced yard. Gardener included. 8805 Fabienne Way. Agent, 619-471-1755.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, \$1850/\$1500 deposit. 2-car garage, washer/dryer, large backyard. No pets. Available now. 3021 Monarch Street. 619-584-5900.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, 2-story, den, fireplaces, washer/dryer, 2 parking, hardwoods, skylights. Garden setting!

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MISSION BAY. \$2850. Large 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. Family room. 3200 feet, 2-car garage. No pets. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Fireplaces. Skylights. Large fence. Beautifully landscaped. 2211 Denver. Juno, 619-275-3455.

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MISSION HILLS. Cottage style 2 bedroom. Remodeled kitchen/bath. High ceilings. Carpeting. Yard. Laundry. Quiet garden setting. Open 12pm-7pm daily. 3521 Columbia. \$1375 includes gardener. badger92103@msn.com, 619-298-7659.

MISSION HILLS. \$1575. Craftsman style 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, built-ins, some hardwood floors. Yard, gardener. No pets. 3959 Falcon. 619-295-6005, agent.

MISSION HILLS. Private, charming 2 bedroom 1930s home. Stunning views. Large patio. Hardwood. Washer/dryer. Open house: Saturday, 10/28, 1pm-3pm. linwoodhouse@myway.com. \$1925 includes gardener. 619-692-3608.

MISSION VALLEY. Charming 8 years new, 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Pool, gym, tennis. Available 12/1/06. \$2295. 619-665-8269.

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NATIONAL CITY/BONITA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Completely updated, crown molding, designer paint. Cul-de-sac, large backyard. 3722 Lynda Place. \$1575. 619-954-3554.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bath cottages from \$775-\$820. Refrigerator, stove. Indoor cat OK. 3225 Adams Avenue, 858-598-1111. www.utoapiamanagement.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet, set in lushly landscaped complex. Available 11/01/06. 4060 Hamilton Street. #4060. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1250 rent, \$600 deposit. OAC. Huge 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Dining room, patio/deck, fireplace, laundry. No pets. 3818 Pershing Avenue. 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. \$925. Charming 1 bedroom cottage. Dining room. Near Morley Field. Hardwood floors. 1930s-style fenced courtyard. Cat OK. 3362 Grim Avenue. 619-692-0732, 619-857-1187.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, \$1350. Hardwood floors, granite counter tops, custom paint, single garage, must

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NORTH PARK. beautiful clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpeted, maple paneling/cabinets. Off-street parking. No pets/smokers. Credit check. \$1200/month. Deposit 1 1/2x rent. 760-745-2011.

NORTH PARK/Morley Field. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story. Treetop view, refrigerator, washer/dryer, new carpet/paint, off-street parking. No smoking/dogs. 619-296-4892.

NORTH PARK/Morley Field. \$650. Studio house, loft. Off-street parking, new paint, refrigerator, washer/dryer. No smoking. Small private patio. Close to tennis. 619-296-4892.

NORTH PARK. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house near Juniper Canyon. 1-car garage. New hardwood/paint. Yard, deck. Washer/dryer. Pets? Available 11/1/06. 619-518-2476.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. \$1560. Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1000 deposit. Washer/dryer. Garage and off-street parking. Private patio. No pets. 4264 Montalvo. 619-221-0358.

OCEANSIDE. \$1200. 1 bedroom duplex with great white water views, on Oceanfront Pacific Street. Large brick patio, front slider windows, all facing ocean. References. 760-529-6608.

PACIFIC BEACH. Cozy 3 bedroom house, hardwood floors, patio, backyard, 1-car garage plus 2 parking spaces. 2130 Balboa Avenue. 619-850-4408.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage. Fenced yard. All appliances. Washer/dryer. Nonsmoking. Available 11/1/06. \$2200 includes gardener. Lease. 858-454-0422.

PACIFIC BEACH/BAY AREA. \$1350. Newly remodeled! Unique 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with fenced yard and patio. Fireplace. Living room, dining room. Separate laundry room. Covered carport. No pets. 858-382-7676.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2595. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on east side of Soledad Mountain Road. Views, fireplace, carport, large artist studio, gardener. Patio, refrigerator, washer/dryer. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$3000. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Near beach. Newly remodeled. All appliances. Deck. Yard. Fireplace. No pets. 1160 Felspar. 858-459-5919.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath brand new carpet and paint! Dishwasher, washer/dryer, fenced yard! Gardener included! Water included! 1352 Reed. Agent, 619-283-2144.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1950. 2 bedroom house. Hardwood floors. All appliances, including washer/dryer. 1-car garage. 4774 Jewell. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$2995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry hookups, garage,

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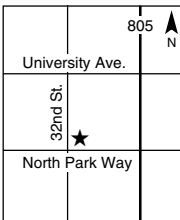
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Presentation provided by:
Sean Johnson, One Source Realty/GMAC
Quynh Dao, American Consumer
Mortgage, Inc.

- Refreshments Provided -

new carpet, hardwood floors. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Gardener paid. 1 block to ocean. Available 10/25. 679 Loring. DSPM, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PARADISE HILLS. \$1775. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house. All appliances, extra large family room, fireplace, washer/dryer hookups. Large sun deck, yard, 2-car garage. Pet negotiable. 1 year lease. 6441 Seascape Drive 92139. 619-698-6911.

POINT LOMA. \$2500. 3 bedroom house with garage, washer/dryer and spacious backyard. 3789 La Cresta Drive. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

POINT LOMA, SUNSET CLIFFS. Large, ocean view 3 bedroom. Spacious yard/deck. Washer/dryer. All appliances. \$2100 includes gardener. Cats ok. Great walking/jogging. 619-223-3718.

POWAY/Park Meadows Midland, \$1550, condo. Upgraded upper unit. 2 car garage, patio, all appliances. Walk to park. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RAMONA. \$1950. East end near town. 1400 estimated square feet, 4.5 acres. Horse and pets OK. Updated tile, carpet, 2-car garage. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RAMONA, near town, 8th and 1st. Lease \$1950 with option to buy. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool and gardener service, large dining, fireplace, solar, garage, RV parking, patios, yard, high beamed ceilings, tile, carpet, walk-in master closet. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$1400. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom. Incredible view. Backyard/garden terrace. Carport. Laundry hookups. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available 12/1. 760-781-4136.

RANCHO BERNARDO, \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, gated community. Upgraded! Balcony, fireplace, A/C, laundry hookups. Garage, pools, spa, fitness. No pets/smoking. Available 11/1. 619-520-8058.

RANCHO BERNARDO/Sabre Springs south. \$2900. 5 bedroom, 3 bath house. Large yard, gardener, island kitchen, 3-car garage. Pets on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS, near Los Penasquitos Elementary. \$2000/month. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, 1766 estimated square feet. New carpet, upgrades throughout, gardener, large patio, 2-car garage. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. 9633 Babauta Road, \$2495/month, security deposit, \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, den, living room, dining room, fireplace, 2200 square feet, garage, fenced yard. Community pool, tennis court. Available now. Ed, 858-597-6100, ext. 322 or 619-778-8444.

SAN DIEGO, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Laundry hooks, 2 story, fenced, no pets. \$1750. Good credit. Call mornings/evenings 619-697-1214 or 619-469-4279.

SAN MARCOS/Santa Fe Hills, \$2795. 3 years new, 2600 square feet. Granite counters, floors, lots of upgrades. 5 bedroom, 3 baths. Gardener. Cat OK. Beautiful upgrades. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

SANTEE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, remodeled kitchen/bathrooms, new carpet, tile floors, fenced yard, 2-car garage. Available 10/15. Year lease. \$1750. 619-203-5247; 858-259-5952.

SCRIPPS RANCH/SABRE SPRINGS. Spacious, upgraded 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. 2-car attached garage. Yard/patio with waterfall. Vaulted ceilings. Community pool. \$1995. 858-635-5156.

SERRA MESA. \$1795, security deposit \$1500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 9102 Huntington Avenue. New carpet, newer, vinyl, stove, refrigerator, blinds, garage, laundry hookups. 10-12 month lease. Gardener included. Available 9/25. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO. Private 3 bedroom, 1 bath house on 2 acres. Washer/dryer hookups, storage shed, new carpet, all appliances. Section 8 OK. \$1495/month. 740 Beacon Drive. 619-589-2778.

THE READER PUZZLE

Across

- X ____ xylophone
- “Give that ____ cigar!”
- ERA or RBI
- ____ facto
- Kind of rock or rain
- Portfolio component
- The “M” of WMD
- Pot-bellied pig, to some
- Breakfast cereal that features the Flintstones on its boxes
- “Liar Liar” actress Cheri
- Stick ____ in the water
- Accessory on a rack
- Univ. dorm supervisors
- “The Waste Land” monogram
- “See you later!”
- David Stern’s organization
- “It follows that ...”
- Tidy sum
- R.E.M.’s “The ____ Love”
- Minsk moolah
- Highly ornate
- Mother hog
- Everest, e.g.: Abbr.
- Top of the lingerie line
- Take ____ view of
- “Old MacDonald” refrain
- A-minus, approximately
- You, by correctly answering 17-, 19-, 36- and 55-Across
- Gaye’s “Let’s Get ____”
- Idaho’s capital
- Fraud
- Claudius’ successor
- Plum pudding ingredient
- “____ silly question ...”
- Shrank’s opposite

Down

- Set one’s sights on
- Ancient military hub
- Bones to pick
- Polite refusal
- A bunch of
- “Rent-____” (1988 flick)
- Jergens competitor
- Pay ____ to society
- Eye woe
- News leader
- It has no return
- Movie theater purchase: Abbr.
- “Great” pope of the 5th-cen.
- Wall St. deals
- Parishioner’s donation
- Gerund’s end
- It may need gratification
- “Quiet!” locale

- ____’acte
- Periscope part
- The Dixie Chicks, e.g.
- Top “stone-cold sober” school, in a 2004 survey
- NYPD alerts
- Traditional Southern dessert
- “Xanadu” band, for short
- More up-to-date
- Sphere
- Oslo’s land: Abbr.
- “Will you let us?”
- Polish border river
- Airport sign holder, e.g.
- Cassiterite, e.g.
- “I’m busy!”
- “____ far, far better thing ...”
- Some are urban
- Sugar coat?
- Superlative suffix
- Mountaintop
- Columnist Bombeck
- “Sex and the City” reruns aier
- Word said while pointing

RULES OF THE GAME

- The prize for solving the *Reader* Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.
- All entries in the *Reader* Puzzle contest must be received by the *Reader* by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We’ve only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we’ll have a lottery.
- All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- One entry per person.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 1-3/4 bath, garage/opener, fireplace, washer/dryer, fenced yard, covered patio, water, trash, basic cable included. 9152 La Mar. 619-757-7070.

SPRING VALLEY, \$1895. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. All appliances, washer/dryer, family room, 2 car garage, spectacular view, covered patio, pet negotiable. 10052 View Crest Court, 91977. 619-698-6911.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 3 bath house with views. Spa, fireplace.

New paint, crown molding in living room and vaulted ceilings. 858-598-1111, x192. www.utopiamgmt.com.

TALMADGE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, private backyard (gardener included), eat-in kitchen, dishwasher, washer/dryer, remote 2-car garage, hardwood floors. \$1600. Pet? 619-284-2106.

TIERRASANTA. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house, washer/dryer included, 3-car garage, air conditioning, fireplace, yard, patio and balcony. 619-296-2787.

KITTIES, rescued. Beautiful, all ages. All full of love! Give them the wonderful homes they deserve. Adoption fee includes medicals and spay/neuter. 760-591-1211x1.

MINI ENGLISH BULL TERRIER, Female, 9 months old, very beautiful/lovable dog, needs more space and a more attentive owner. All shots, neutered \$900 619-758-9168.

PET ITEMS, small pet carrier for cat/dog \$10. Cat scratching post, \$5. Gerbil/hamster playhouse with toys \$9. 760-739-7675.

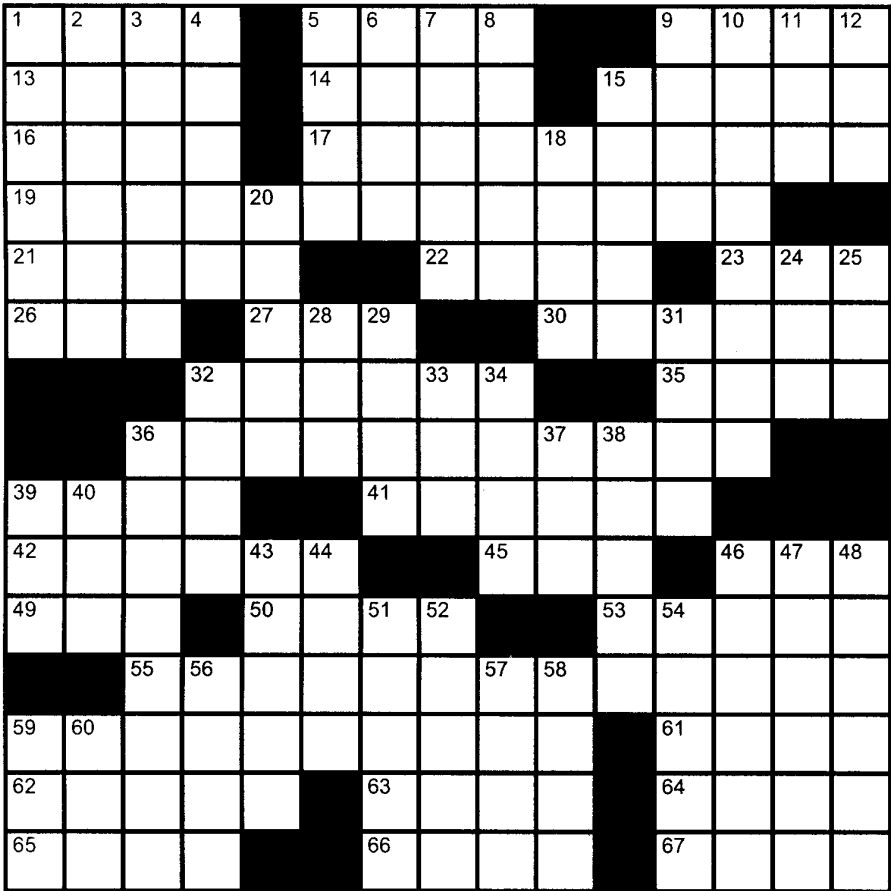
PIT BULLS, pure bred, blue nose, 9 weeks old, males and females. \$300-\$500. Tyler, 858-228-0006.

PLEASE HELP MAIA, Beautiful, friendly tabby cat find good home! Spayed, vaccinations up-to-date. If can provide her loving home, room to be outside, 858-869-3337.

POODLE MIX, neutered male, 2-3 years old, 9 pounds, adorable. Older gentle children ok, likes other dogs, loving. Shots, license, microchip \$100. 619-466-0426.

RAT TERRIER, Purebred puppies. 4 male, 3 female. Excellent home and vet care; complete health records. Ready for adoption. Both parents onsite, www.ellaandchip.com, \$350+, 760-798-2876.

ROTTWEILER PUPS, Big heads, no papers \$400. Also pups with papers and shots, \$800. Also adults for sale. 760-788-7160.



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HOLD ON ONE MINUTE
RIN EST
THE ELEVENTH HOUR
RAT ANY DNA
INDEPENDENCE DAY
DOG EON
FIRST OF THE MONTH
ONO LAS ERA
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
TUNES OUT REEDIT
STEALERS ELAYNE

Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 10/19/06.

There were 123 entrants.
The winners are:

- Dennis Hicks, *Del Mar*
- Jack Rohrer, *San Diego*
- Ron Akers, *San Diego*
- Robert B. Vollmar, *La Jolla*
- Christina Siffert, *San Diego*

RENTALS

APARTMENTS / CONDOS

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

POST FREE ONLINE ADS with photos at SanDiegoReader.com. See thousands of classified ads not printed here!

ALLIED GARDENS. \$775. Great studio. New condo conversion. All new appliances, Corrianne counters, tile floors, includes Murphy Bed, patio, pool, tennis. 7777 Marjoram. Agent, 858-485-9234.

ALPINE Townhouses. Come see our huge two and three bedroom townhomes with washers and dryers. 2 bedrooms, \$1150. 3 bedrooms, \$1350. No pets. 1950 Arnold Way. 619-445-8392.

PET CENTRAL

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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AQUARIUM SALE at Octopus’s Garden. 20H aquarium \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopus’s Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUM, 60 gallon, with stand. \$200/best. 760-752-1381.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. www.

aquaticwarehouse.com. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.

CATS/KITTENS, 10 weeks, need responsible, lifetime homes. Cute, friendly, virus tested, neutered, vaccinated. Tuesday/Thursday 6pm-8pm. Saturday/Sunday noon-4pm. Petsmart, La Jolla. www.sdcats.org.

CHIHUAHUAS PUPPIES, Purebred females, 7 months, short hair, family raised, very healthy, sweet temperament. Ready for loving home. \$350. Alicia, best call after 5pm. 619-520-3530.

DACHSHUND 18TH ANNUAL Halloween Picnic, Balboa Park, Sunday, 10/29, noon. Costumes optional for dogs but encouraged. Meet other Doxies and their friends. www.sddc.us or 858-755-9270.

DOGS. FOCAS is a trusted name in pet adoptions. Call for information on a variety of wonderful rescued pets. Always altered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536.

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ALPINE. \$900-\$950. 2 bedrooms. Move-in special! One month free! Air conditioning, dishwasher, Laundry, Pool, Parking. No pets. 1319 Marshall Road. Agent, 619-298-7724.

ALPINE. 1 bedroom condo. Monthly or vacation rental, furnished or unfurnished. Call for rates. 858-483-9683.

ALPINE. 2 bedrooms, \$1300. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort-size pool and spa. Cats welcome. Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

ALPINE. 55 and up. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedrooms, \$945; 2 bedrooms, \$1175. Up to one month free. Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way, 619-445-2480.

BALBOA PARK/HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom condo. Stainless fixtures, lots of closet space. Laundry, Pool. Secured underground parking. \$1410. Pet on approval. \$950 deposit. 619-227-5626.

BALBOA PARK. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated entry. Reserved parking. Laundry on site. Cat OK. 3524 Park Boulevard. #10A. SD Property Management, 619-718-6565.

BALBOA PARK, EAST. 1 bedroom. Lots of light and windows. Park view. Restored classic building. Wood floors. 2034 30th Street. \$799. 619-236-1186.

BANKER'S HILL, 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Underground parking. Laundry, pool on-site. Small quiet complex. 2244 2nd Avenue. \$1550/month, \$750/deposit, year lease. Pets OK. 858-922-4205.

BANKER'S HILL/Downtown. Studios starting at \$750. On-site laundry. Close to I-5. 236 Kalmia. No pets. Call 619-395-4611.

BANKER'S HILL. Furnished studios, starting at \$710; 1 bedrooms, \$775 and up. Close to park and downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facilities. No pets. 619-234-7572.

BANKER'S HILL. 1 bedroom, \$1395. Historic building, balcony with view of Balboa Park. Updated kitchen and bathroom. No pets. 536 Maple. www.palomarapts.com. Leo, 619-232-1665.

BANKER'S HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom. Lovely duplex cottage set amongst fruit trees; walk to Downtown or Balboa Park; freeway access; new floors/paint. Laun-

dry; pets on approval; street parking; 2055 2nd Avenue. Elizabeth at 619-239-4846.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors. Fans. Organizer. Decorative trim. Patio. Laundry. 347 Hawthorn Street. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

BANKER'S HILL. \$1195/month. Large 2 bedroom, unfurnished apartment. Formal dining room, fireplace, new carpet and paint. Close to Gaslamp. Available now. Call 619-234-7572.

BANKER'S HILL. Studio \$825/month. 1920s building, built-ins, hide-a-bed, hardwood floors, laundry onsite. Available now. 2230 Albatross Street. Call 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

BANKER'S HILL. \$875. 1 bedroom in 9-unit, quiet, older building. Hardwood and ceramic, high ceilings, laundry. Cat OK. Nonsmoking. Street parking. 2245 2nd Avenue. 619-239-4846.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Granite counters, marble tiles in bathroom, wood floors. Downtown and harbor views. Pets OK. \$1295. 614-1/2 West Laurel. 619-993-3971.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. \$2295. Deposit, \$1000. Large, unique 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 10' ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer, balcony, carpet/tile, 2 gated parking. 3450 3rd Avenue. 619-281-4698.

BANKER'S HILL. \$925. Open House 10/29, 1-4pm. Spanish bungalow in a quiet garden complex. 1 bedroom, spotless and charming. No pets. 313 Olive Street. 619-295-6909.

BANKER'S HILL. \$895 rent. \$600 deposit. Studio. Hardwood floors, ceiling fan, large kitchen, all appliances. On-site laundry. Pets negotiable. 2311 Fourth Avenue #1. 619-804-3325.

BAY PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925, and 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1095. Sunny, large, beautifully upgraded units. Great location near bay, must see. Laundry and parking. Available now! 2537 Chicago Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

BAY PARK/Fashion Valley. USD close. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Minutes to beaches. Fresh, clean, newly renovated. Off-street

parking. \$1050. No pets. 619-325-9108, 619-260-9062..

CARDIFF. \$1650. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath near beach. Fireplace, new washer/dryer, updated appliances, 2 patios, pool, Jacuzzi, BBQ. Flexible lease term. Jim, 760-753-4573.

CARDIFF. 2 bedroom, 1 bath beach apartments. Popular complex. Spacious, newly renovated, tranquil landscape, minutes away from beach. \$1750/up. 760-753-4101.

CARLSBAD Townhouse, \$1650. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage, patio. Completely refurbished. Close to beach, mall, freeways. No pets. Community pool, tennis. Call 760-207-1818.

CARLSBAD, VILLAGE. \$975. Luxury 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Near beach, Coaster. Gated community. Like new! Microwave, laundry on-site. 760-720-0849, 619-302-2156.

CARLSBAD. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$637/month! 4% down, 30 years at 8% APR! Buy now! For listings, call 1-800-690-3990 xS150.

CARLSBAD. \$1875. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. \$1875. 1 year lease. 2 story end unit with large patio. Stove, dish-washer and microwave. Located on Terrazo Portico. Pets OK with extra deposit. Call for appointment, Michael 858-597-6100 x321.

CARLSBAD. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse-style apartment. 3 blocks to beach. Secluded complex. Parking, laundry. No pets. 362 Chiquapin Avenue. TPFM, 760-729-6132.

CARLSBAD. Fantastic ocean and lagoon views! Fresh ocean air, just steps from the beach. Beautiful remodeled 1 and 2 bedroom apartment homes. 2303 Ocean Street. Judy, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. \$1095. Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint and carpet, refrigerator, gas stove, coin laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 858-361-3374.

CARLSBAD/Seapoint Tennis Club (La Costa area), \$1550/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fireplace, garage, pool, tennis, quiet. 1-year lease. 3149 Vista Mar. 760-634-5514.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. 1 bedroom. Gated community. Fireplace. Washer/dryer/refrigerator included. Pool/spa/tennis/fitness center! \$1150. www.twhmc.com. 858-675-0200.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1395. Large, luxury 2 bedroom 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa

golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna. 2391 Caringa Way. Alicante views. TPFM, 760-431-7575.

CARLSBAD/LA COSTA. \$1545. Large, luxury 3 bedroom 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa golf course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool, spa, sauna. 2391 Caringa Way. Alicante views. TPFM, 760-431-7575.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$2400. Furnished 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, air conditioning, garage, pool, spa, tennis, exercise. Available to 6/30/07. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$2195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath luxury townhome. Den. Storage. Patio. 2-car garage. Balcony. Washer/dryer. New refrigerator. 13330 Via Constanza #6. 858-668-6207.

CARMEL VALLEY. Looking for affordable luxury living? 2 1 bedrooms from \$1260! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths from \$1575! Near beaches, shopping, easy freeway access, great school district! Free tennis, swimming lessons! Washer/dryer. Parking. Fitness center. Pool. No pets. Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.sdreader.com/rent/2106.

CARMEL VALLEY. \$2400. Furnished 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, air conditioning, garage, pool, spa, tennis, exercise. Available to 6/30/07. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

CASA DE ORO. \$895. Real quiet nicer 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, on-site laundry, 4032 North Bonita. Available now. Chris, 619-504-4995.

CASA DE ORO Gardens Senior Apartments. The bus stops here! 1 bedroom, \$600. Lush courtyard apartments. Close to shops. Parking, laundry, air conditioning. 9550 Campo. 619-697-8435.

CHULA VISTA. 2 bedroom, \$1350. Washer, dryer, maple cabinets, granite. Walk-in closets. Pool, playground, dog park. Near shopping. 805 freeway. Se habla espanol. Jose, 858-228-5037.

CHULA VISTA/SAN YSIDRO. 3 bedroom 2 bath, 2-story condo, appliances, laundry. Community pool/Jacuzzi. 2-parking. Near Retail Outlets. Section 8 OK. \$1600/month. 619-540-2745, 619-478-9597.

CHULA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse in Otay Ranch. \$1650. Garage. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Balcony. 1892 Minor Creek Lane. Available 11/4. No pets. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Assigned parking, laundry facility, barbecue area. No air conditioning/heat. No pets. \$800/month, \$250 off first month's rent! 619-422-1733. www.melroyproperties.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo with parking. Bright unit with fenced in backyard! New carpet, paint and vinyl. No pets! 620 J Street #A. Call

619-222-4836 x14, www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

CHULA VISTA. \$1275. 3 bedroom, 2 full bath apartment home. Large downstairs unit with washer/dryer hookups, formal dining room, parking. Close to shopping. Move-in special! 1029 4th Avenue. Call 858-751-6336.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$750-795; 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. Great freeway access, on-site laundry and parking. 583 Park Way. 858-200-9408.

CHULA VISTA/EASTLAKE. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-story home. Tile floors, plush carpeting, wood blinds, central vacuum, lots of kitchen cabinets! Very modern, private rear yard. Garage. \$1900. 1205 Calle Tesoro. 619-574-8180.

CHULA VISTA. \$1425. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in small complex. Washer/dryer, 2-car garage. 256 Beech Avenue. TPFM, 619-585-1959.

CHULA VISTA. \$875. 1 bedroom in beautiful garden setting. Controlled access. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. 161 Fifth Avenue. TPFM, 619-420-8161.

CHULA VISTA. \$750 includes utilities. Newly remodeled studio. Mountain views, private entrance, patio, off-street parking. Quiet neighborhood. \$400 deposit. Near Southwestern College. Easy freeway access. Nonsmoking. 619-849-0327.

CHULA VISTA. \$750/month. \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Lots of trees. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). 619-420-5084.

CITY HEIGHTS. Move-in special: \$300 off first month's rent! Assigned parking. Small complex, central location. 4162 51st Street. Call Donya for more information. 619-231-2727.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs apartments. New paint, new carpet (#17), laundry onsite. Available now. Half off 1st month's rent, on approved credit. 4058 51st Street, #17, #1. 62. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1125 rent, \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom 2-1/2 bath townhouse style apartment. Parking, laundry, patio. No pets. 4245 47th Street #A or 4243 47th Street #A. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. Apartments for rent. \$750 plus deposit: Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, tile, laundry room on site, parking, near all, no pets, 4079 42nd Street or 4270 47th Street, \$1600 plus deposit: Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath with garage, good location, no pets, 4270 47th Street. 619-701-1221 or 858-518-8762.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony, washer/dryer hookups, dishwasher, off street parking, new carpet/paint. No Pets, section 8 OK. 619-838-5888.

CITY HEIGHTS. 55 and older for seniors/disabled. 1 bedroom. \$650/month, \$200 off first, \$300/deposit. Laundry, elevator, parking. Cat OK. 4262 Estrella, Manager #14. 619-299-6424.

CITY HEIGHTS. 55 and older for seniors/disabled. 2 bedroom. \$850/month, \$200 off first, \$300/deposit. Laundry, elevator, parking. Cat OK. 4262 Estrella, Manager #14. 619-299-6424.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs corner unit. Clean, quiet, gated. Parking and laundry on site. Available 11/10. No pets. 4082-88 48th Street. Agent, 619-279-2183.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom condos from \$995-\$1050. All new granite, dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer, air conditioning. Parking. Available now. 5310 Rex Avenue. 619-281-4698.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$975/\$700 deposit. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. New carpet/paint. Parking available, laundry hookups. 5450 University Avenue (across from Sears). 619-584-5900.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$695. 1 bedroom. Downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, carpet. Assigned parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4336 Estrella Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

CITY HEIGHTS. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. \$825. Hardwood floors throughout. Yard. 3816 Wightman Street. Call Donya, 619-231-2727.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750 rent. \$600 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, lower with new carpet and paint, stove, refrigerator. On-site laundry, close to shops. 1/2 off first month's rent! 619-384-9219.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1350. Move in special, 1/2 off a month's rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, security, underground parking, year lease, 4742 Seminole Drive. Call 619-469-0031.

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CROWN POINT. \$1550. 3755 Jewell Street. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fourplex. Well maintained, private setting. Blocks to Bay. No pets. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

DEL MAR. \$1650. Quaint 2 bedroom, 1 bath approximately 1000-square-foot apartment. 1 parking. Small complex, laundry, pool. Close to beach. 425 Stratford. 858-793-2634.

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DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. \$50 off per month with 12-month lease! \$500 deposits! 1 bedrooms from \$1250. 2 bedrooms from \$1480. 3 bedrooms from \$1885. Pets welcome. No pet rent! Ocean views! Patio, balcony. Pool. Tennis. Solana Highlands, 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands.com. Toll free: 1-888-543-1952. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

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DOWNTOWN, Luxury studio loft, 11 foot ceilings, hardwood, stainless GE appliances. Gym, party deck, Downtown views, 3 minutes to Gaslamp. \$1500/month, Greg, 858-731-6101, Stacy, 858-731-6102.

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DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE, Baseball fans! Studio, 1 bath condo. \$1195. 10th floor, right across from Petco Park. All new stainless and granite. View of city. No smoking. Diamond Terrace. 14th floor gym/community room with large screen TV/breath taking view/barbecue area. 858-688-0287, 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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DOWNTOWN, NORTH. \$850. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, no parking, convenient location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Downstairs unit available now. 101 West Fir. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

DOWNTOWN, GASLAMP. 1 bedroom condo, one block to Petco Park. Stainless appliances, granite countertops, secured

garage parking. Additional storage. Fitness center. Cat-5/Ethernet. Tony, 619-446-6482.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. October move-in special! Only \$675/month for 6 months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Clubhouse/library. Income qualify! Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Sleep small. Dream big. Monthly: \$604, utilities included, income qualified. Weekly: \$215-\$225. Internet access in room. Near bus/train. Flat screen TVs. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. European-style detached bathrooms. 500 West Hotel. 500 West Broadway. 619-234-5252. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/ up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets. 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$125! 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Newer 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Near Gaslamp. Petco, trolley, library, park, freeways. Security gate. Underground parking. New appliances. Fitness center. Section 8 OK. Available! \$2350 plus deposit. Tanya, 858-472-0861.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from \$160/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. \$520 and up plus deposit. Furnished room available in residential hotel with shared kitchen/bath. Includes microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. 1545 Second Avenue, between Beech and Cedar. 619-595-0078.

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DOWNTOWN. Air conditioned studios and 1 bedroom apartment with kitchenettes and full bathrooms. No smoking/pets. \$675-\$875, including utilities, cable. 728 Market at 7th. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

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DOWNTOWN/Marina District, \$2700. Renaissance. Luxurious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, bay view, 7th floor. All amenities, concierge, parking, washer/dryer, pool. Year lease. 619-813-0458.

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DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. From \$675-\$800. Beaumanor, unique urban mini lofts, located between Petco Park and Horton Plaza. Approximately 250 square feet, 12-foot ceilings, exposed brick, wood floors. Solid wood furniture when available. Paid: cable/electric/water. Includes refrigerator and microwave. Internet access available via Cox or PacBell. On-site laundry, barbecue deck. Impeccable renovation. 927 6th Avenue, at 6th and "E" Streets. No pets. To view: www.sdreader.com/rent/2127. Call Michael, 619-232-1517.

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DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Brand new community! Now pre-leasing. Studios from \$1095. 1 bedrooms from \$1290. 2 bedrooms from \$1950. Dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer. Pet-friendly. Large patio/balcony. Rooftop deck. Pool, jacuzzi, theater, fitness center, clubhouse, lounge. Underground parking. Market Street Village, 699 14th Street. 1-888-352-4584. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2154.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet, \$121/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Lofty living in the heart of the Gaslamp District! Live/work in gorgeous historical building. Open floor plan, pets OK, 900+ square feet, on-site parking available, on-site property manager, telephone entry key-less access system, laundry facility on floor, cable ready and high-speed internet capability, hardwood floors, generous closet space, dishwasher/electric range and stove/refrigerator, high-grade kitchen counters/cabinets, individual heating and air, exposed duct work, high ceilings, 5 floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Horton Plaza/Downtown. Smart, easy living on Broadway! Call today 619-231-1333. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2145.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of the Gaslamp from \$1,100! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. \$750. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Balcony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base, Downtown, Coronado, NASCO. Bay views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2300/month. Brand new, extra large, oversized 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment next to the bay. Washer/dryer, stainless steel appliances,

fireplace. Large balcony, resort style pool. Call Maria, 619-817-9677.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Elegant penthouse! Brand new 2 bedroom, 2 bath with breathtaking bay views on 29th floor. Resort style pool/spa. Starting at \$4050/month. Maria, 619-817-9677.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2500, furnished luxury loft with bay views, parking. Call 619-255-0526. www.sdurbanliving.com.

DULZURA. \$995. Country-style living! Newly remodeled. Large 2 bedroom. Washer, dryer. Lots of room for horses, pets. Beautiful mountain views. Available now! 619-807-0359.

EL CAJON, GRANITE HILLS. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 baths, view, dishwasher, air conditioning, pool. Cat welcome. Call 619-447-2552.

EL CAJON, \$1775. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New appliances, washer/dryer, A/C, patio, quiet, upgraded unit. No pets, no smoking. 1452 Swift Lane 92020. 619-698-6911.

EL CAJON. \$900/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds. Parking. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Near town, shops, bus. 619-579-0174.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, \$700. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$800. Great amenities, A/C, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, secure parking. Lushly landscaped. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-440-3044.

EL CAJON. \$780-\$950. Very large 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. 728-936 square feet. Quiet. New carpet/paint. Balcony. Air. Sparkling pool. Lush landscaping. Onsite laundry. Near freeways. 244 North Mollison Avenue. 619-447-6115.

EL CAJON. \$795. Very large 1 bedroom, 740 square feet. New carpet/paint. Air. Yard. Quiet. Sparkling pool, sauna, lagoon. Onsite laundry. 848 North Mollison. 619-442-9044.

EL CAJON. Half off first month! Newly remodeled apartment building. Immaculate grounds. Large 2 bedroom units. New carpet/paint. Pool. Quiet neighborhood. \$850. 961 South Sunshine. 619-444-4317.

EL CAJON. \$1200-\$1350. Condo style living. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath town-home. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. Military discount! 858-353-6112.

EL CAJON. \$1375. Newly refurbished 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Parking included. Pool. Available now. No pets. Easy freeway access. 619-447-0706.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$224 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24 hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. Rent-to-own condos. 1 bedrooms from \$850/month, 2 bedrooms from \$1050/month. Completely renovated. Air conditioning, barbecue area, parking. Great location. Gated, pool, fitness. 619-447-6534.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath at 653 Avocado Avenue. Close to public transportation. 1 parking space. Laundry on-site. No pets. Available now. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. \$1250. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with private garage, dishwasher, washer/dryer on site, storage, patio, across from park and more. Cats OK. No dogs. 1040 Bostonia Street. 619-244-9882.

EL CAJON. 536 East Lexington Avenue. Remodeled! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$950. Washer, dryer. 700 square feet. Pets OK. vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 619-220-4840.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom spacious apartments in quiet 11-plex. Dishwasher, air, gated parking, on-site laundry, picnic area. Section 8 OK. 222 Lincoln/Main. 619-957-7272.

EL CAJON. \$960, 2 bedroom, \$1280, 3 bedroom. Gated pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. Call 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1195. Large 2 story condo with patio, dishwasher, A/C, washer/dryer hookups, 1-car garage and extra parking space. Cat OK. 278 South Pierce Street. 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedrooms, air conditioning, pool. Gated community. Call 619-441-2752.

EL CAJON. \$775. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace, air conditioning, huge pantry closet, patio, pool. Call 619-200-8205.

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EL CAJON. \$820. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. Move-in special! TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info.

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EL CAJON. \$715, 1 bedroom. Well-maintained property with lush courtyard. Gated access and quiet location. 340 Orlando. TPPM, 619-818-9939. www.northwindapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$700. 1 bedroom. Move-in special. Air conditioning. Gated. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Available now. 452 Emerald Avenue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

EL CAJON. \$895. Nicer 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, balcony, dishwasher, central air/heat, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 241 East Bradley. Available now. Chris, 619-504-4995.

EL CAJON. Rent to own, \$5000 down, \$1450/month. Owner financing at end of option period. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, excellent condition in good area. Previous bad credit OK. Call 619-316-1241.

EL CAJON. \$975. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Lincoln-Washington Apartments. Very large units, pool, on-site laundry, covered parking, in great location, clean and quiet. 685 South Lincoln Avenue. Agent, 619-444-8191 or 858-560-1178.

ENCINITAS. \$500 off first month's rent with 12 month lease! 1 bedrooms from \$1225. 2 bedrooms from \$1425. Low \$500-\$600 deposits! Balcony/patio. Dishwasher. Fitness center. Laundry. Courtyard. Pool, spa. Lush landscaping. Parking. Pets welcome. Quail Pointe Apartments, 924 Encinitas Boulevard. Toll free: 888-626-6864. www.sdreader.com/rent/2149.

ENCINITAS. \$745 and up. Sick of roommates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Close to beach, coaster, restaurants and shops. 760-753-4101.

ESCONDIDO. Gated. 2 bedroom, \$1445. Garage. Granite, washer, dryer. Pool, spa, clubhouse, fitness center. Near shopping/freeways. View: Cameron, 858-692-5728. Se habla espanol: Jose, 858-228-5037.

ESCONDIDO. \$500 off first month! New 1 bedroom, \$1150. Designer carpet, tile, granite. Tennis court/pool/fitness center. Pets OK. 858-692-5728. Se habla espanol: 858-228-5037.

ESCONDIDO. \$500 off first month! Never lived in! 2 bedroom. Stainless steel, granite. Walk-in closets. Washer, dryer. Pool/tennis court/fitness center. \$1275. 858-692-5728. Se habla espanol: 858-228-5037.

ESCONDIDO. Guest house on estate property: 3-room studio. Separate entrance. Private kitchen/bath. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$850 includes all utilities/cable. Quiet neighborhood. 760-739-1200.

ESCONDIDO. One month free rent! OAC, 12 month lease. 1 bedrooms from \$925, 2 bedrooms from \$1075. Patio/balcony. Air conditioning/heat. Dishwasher. Vaulted ceilings. Walk-in closets. Pool, spa. Barbecues. Fitness center. Laundry. Assigned parking. Pets welcome. Felicita Creek, 301 West Vermont Avenue. Toll free: 888-626-6857. www.sdreader.com/rent/2147.

ESCONDIDO. One month free rent OAC, 12-month lease. 1 bedrooms from \$900. 2 bedrooms from \$1120. Low \$500 deposits! Open house Saturday 10/28, 9am-4pm. Cat friendly. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Patio/porch. Storage. 24-hour laundry. Pool/spa. Tennis. Clubhouse. Barbecues. River Village, 1845 North Broadway. Toll free: 866-653-9046. www.sdreader.com/rent/2151.

ESCONDIDO. Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$815. Deposit \$400. 2 bedrooms from \$975. Deposit \$500. Great roommate floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$595 Move you in! Open Saturday, 10/28, 12pm-2pm. 1 bedroom with private balcony/patio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fireplace. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. Se habla Espanol. 720 E. Mission, TPPM 760-815-6210.

ESCONDIDO/Hidden Meadows, \$1400. Custom 2 bedroom apartment at private

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home. Private entrance, wood floors, A/C, stainless appliances. Deck, view. No smoking/pets. 760-751-3430.

FASHION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, \$1575. New appliances, balcony, community pool, spa, small pet OK. Available now. Ask for Noel, 858-688-2661.

FASHION VALLEY. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo in The Bluffs. 650 square feet. Tennis, pool. Cable included. Underground parking. Laundry on-site. Cat OK. Available 11/10. 6314 Friars Road. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1500. Great 2 bedroom, 2 bath at The Bluffs. Complex has pool, jacuzzi, free Cable. New carpet, new paint. Westbourne Realtors 858-488-4800.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. Move-in special! \$1400. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Washer/dryer. Patio. Parking. Tile. New paint. 5601 Mildred Street. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1395. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in prestigious Presidio Place. Underground parking. Dishwasher, microwave, fireplace, pool, gym, more! 24-hour security. No pets. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. Fantastic city views! Studio, 1, 2 bedroom flats, two bedroom townhomes, \$975-\$1670! Charming, controlled access building with gated parking and easy access. Washer/dryer, central air/heat, microwave and more! Freeway access. Pet friendly! Golden Pacific, call today: 1-800-433-6156. E-mail: www.goldenpacific@pplinc.net. View: www.pacificliving.com or www.sdreader.com/rent/2028.

GOLDEN HILL. Studios starting at \$750. Charming 1920s style building featuring hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, fountain in garden setting. Close to Downtown, Balboa Park. 619-395-4611.

GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$775. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on site. Available 11/1. No dogs. 2427 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. Victorian-type mansion. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1700 square feet, hardwood floors, high on hill, 20' covered balcony overlooking city. Gorgeous! \$1500/month. 858-353-9191.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently remodeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hallway/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On site laundry. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL, \$1350. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs unit. Combined living/dining area, new kitchen, dishwasher, maple hardwood flooring, parking. Pets on approval. 619-805-6805.

GOLDEN HILL. \$995. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Berber carpet. Mirrored closet doors. Big windows, wood blinds. Ceiling fan. Off-street parking. 801 26th Street, #3. 619-559-5423.

GOLDEN HILL. \$775. Quiet, secure 1 bedroom, lower. Like-new appliances, carpeting, off-street parking, laundry. No pets. 1119 34th Street, corner of C Street. 619-877-6567.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1350. Pet friendly, 2 bedroom duplex. Private fenced yard, storage shed. 5 minutes to Downtown. Clean, white decor, near-new appliances. Recently remodeled, Berber carpeting, large closets, eat-in kitchen. Rent includes water/gardener. Available 11/3. 619-203-0363.

GOLDEN HILL. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent OAC and 6 month lease! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$725. Lower back unit. 2528 C Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$995, all utilities included. Large 1 bedroom apartment with office which could be 2nd bedroom. All tile floors, completely renovated, very attractive property. 1218A 31st Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Brand new paint/carpet/blinds. Corner unit. Very clean. 2804 Broadway. Manager, 619-929-8127.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Brand new paint and carpet. Balcony, dishwasher, 2 parking spots. No pets/smoking. 2608 Broadway. Agent, 619-283-2144.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs condo. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, stack washer/dryer, private balcony with extra storage room. 2 covered parking. gated community with recreation/exercise room. Easy freeway access. Ask about dog. 3078 Broadway. Available now. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

GOLDEN HILL. \$725. Upstairs studio, craftsman-style. Gated. Hardwood floors. Large closet. Tiled kitchen and bath. Laundry on site. No pets. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL. \$700. 1920s Craftsman studio in restored Victorian home. Downstairs. Hardwood floors. Lots of west windows. Wood beam ceilings. Full kitchen and bath. Cable included. No pets. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. \$895. Remodeled 1 bedroom with hardwood floors, decorator colors, on-site laundry. Near bus line. Cat OK with deposit. 619-231-8723.

HILLCREST, \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice units, in beautifully maintained gated complex. Walk to famous San Diego Zoo.

Available now. Onsite Manager: 11/05/06, Bill, 619-298-8934. 3634 Park Boulevard. #3634-1/2. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

HILLCREST, UPTOWN. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint. Walk-in closet. Parking and laundry onsite. Very quiet. 3620 Georgia. Agent, 619-283-2144.

HILLCREST, \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs unit. Pool, parking, laundry. No pets. Available 11/4. 1810 Cypress. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST, \$1295. Charming Spanish two bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Hardwood floors, gated entrance. No pets. Available 11/1. 3515 4th Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST. From \$1425, 2 bedroom apartments. 3511 6th Avenue. Near park. Spacious. Lots of storage. New carpet/paint. Secured building. No pets. 619-220-2360.

HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming Spanish-style complex. Hardwood floors. Arched doorways. No pets. 3835 3rd Avenue. Available 11/29. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$875, \$875 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, small complex, laundry, parking space. Cat OK. Garage parking available, additional \$50. 3827 Herbert Street. 619-997-4554.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Laundry on-site. 1 parking space. Cats OK with additional deposit. 1033 Robinson Avenue. Call resident manager at 619-295-1210. www.kandiproperties.com.

HILLCREST. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Bright end unit. High ceilings. Dishwasher. 2-car garage. On-site laundry. Garden setting. Available 11/1. 3672 Georgia. 619-301-9958.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 2 bath now available at \$1220. Come see our large floor plans and ask about our move-in special. Please call 619-299-8952.

HILLCREST. \$1395. Beautiful remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath with new appliances, cabinets, flooring and light fixtures. 1617 Brookes Avenue. 619-291-5555 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.

HILLCREST. \$1995. 2 bedroom, classic 1920s charm with a modern flair. It's the next best thing to owning your home. This newly remodeled upper level two bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment home has undergone a complete remodel in excess of \$50,000. Designed by one of San Diego premier interior decorators, this unit is sure to please. Incorporating the new with the original 1922 design has resulted in a classic rustic look but with all the modern comforts. All new cabinets with granite countertops. Stainless steel appliances including dishwasher and micro hood. Natural stone flooring in kitchen and baths. Slate shower enclosure. Hardwood floors in the living room, dining room and hall. Plush carpet in the bedrooms. All new fixtures and hardware. Ceiling fans. New blinds and windows. Washer/dryer hookups. Includes a one car garage. One year lease required. \$1995 deposit. Sorry, no pets. Please ask about our move-in special! 3610-3616 Park Boulevard at Brookes. Call 619-725-3648 or 619-846-6615.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 3807 Park Boulevard (behind Numbers). 2 bedroom, 1 bath lovely cottage. Carpet. Fenced. Front and back decks. Laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 1821 University Avenue behind The Crypt. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great cottage. Breakfast nook. Hardwood floors. Laundry room. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. 3652 Park Boulevard #7. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1195. Deposit \$900. Stove, refrigerator, laundry, 1st floor, 10-12 month lease. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

HILLCREST. Studios, \$800 and \$915. 1 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$925. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue. Harry, 619-298-1059.

HILLCREST. \$975 rent, \$800 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit. Upgraded appliances. Park like setting. Small complex. On-site laundry. Garage extra \$100. 3533 6th Avenue #2 and #J. 619-804-3325

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom, sunset view. New building. Hardwood floors, balcony, washer/dryer. Underground parking space. Small pet OK with deposit. Available 12/1. \$1650. 611-501-9144.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$795, rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, dining area, parking spot, laundry. No pets. At 1004 West Palm Street #C (off Columbia Street). 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$850. Great location. 1 bedroom loft. Above sushi restaurant. Hardwood floors, appliances. Walk to shops, bus. No pets. 230 West Washington. 619-274-1484.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. Charming, sunny, upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$795. Great location near shops and restaurants! Cat OK. 858-273-6429.

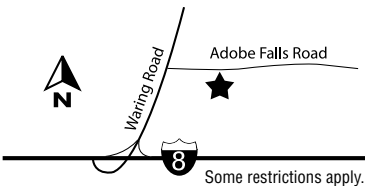
HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, \$1295. Parking, washer/dryer, balcony, dishwasher. Cat OK. 3782 First Avenue. 858-273-6429.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$1150. 2 bedroom. Cottage-style fourplex. Bright, open kitchen. Large gated patio. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 1-car garage. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

HILLCREST/NORTH PARK. \$1395. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs. Gated. Dining area. Air conditioner. 1-car garage. Tiled kitchen/bath. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Large yard, small storage unit, laundry facility, off-street parking. Central location. \$995/water paid. 1189 Ebony

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IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1400/month. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome. 2-car garage, washer/dryer, dishwasher, microwave. Pets OK. Close to parks, shopping, freeways, military bases. 619-806-0515.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$995. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit with balcony. Nice complex. Secure underground parking. Available now. 1070 Georgia Street, #1B. 619-429-3630.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Steps to the beach! 2 bedroom, 1-1/2+ bath condo, 1-car garage. All appliances, 2-story, fenced patio. \$1425/month. Lease. Agent, Bill, 619-575-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 to 2 bath condos. Across street from beach. Pool, views. All appliances. Pets negotiable. 1111 Seacoast. Agent Bill, 619-575-1674.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$795. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Courtyard. New carpet. Gated. Storage. \$600 deposit. Available 11/6. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

IMPERIAL BEACH. Beachfront apartments for ocean lovers! \$925-\$995. 1 bedrooms. Stove, refrigerator, Laundry room. Off-street parking. Pet? Available now. 1080 Seacoast Drive. Call 619-424-9233.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse-style apartment. Washer/dryer in unit. Off-street parking. 951 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-585-1959.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 2-story condo. Recently remodeled. Ceramic tile floors, off-street parking, onsite laundry, pool. Blocks to beach. 619-857-2475. Available immediately.

KEARNY MESA. 1 bedrooms and 2 bedrooms from \$885. Centrally located at I-805 and I-163. Pool, spa, laundry, microwave, parking. Vista Capri North Apartments. 3277 Berger Avenue. 858-560-6067, www.rasnyder.com.

KENSINGTON. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Very large, clean, quiet. Near park. No pets. \$500 deposit. 4598 39th Street. 619-283-3280.

KENSINGTON. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Charming Spanish style, upper unit, stove, refrigerator, cat OK, 1 year lease. 4160 Monroe Avenue 92116. 619-698-6911.

LA COSTA. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse style condo, fireplace, garage, 1 year lease. Deposit \$1750. Available 11/15/06. 6684 Corte Maria. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150. Cats OK with deposit, no dogs. Assigned parking. Quiet community. Available now. Move-in special! Gunney, 760-943-7590.

LA JOLLA COLONY. \$1750. Verano, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet/paint. Dual master suites. Close to all. Pets negotiable. Boone Property Management, 858-274-6866.

LA JOLLA condo. \$2200. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet, 2 car underground parking. Close to Pannikin, La Jolla Elementary School, walk to village. Unit on top floor of 2 story building with elevator. Lots of storage. Available now. Call agent, 619-203-2424.

LA JOLLA/UCSD. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near shops. Balcony. Garden window. Laundry. No pets. \$1450. 8849 Villa La Jolla Drive. 858-457-4509.

LA JOLLA. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhouse. Laundry, balcony, large deck, garage. New appliances, hardwood floors. Clubhouse/spa. UCSD close. Pets ok. \$500 deposit. 619-628-1810.

LA JOLLA. Studio. Amazing location. One block to Starbucks, beach and bus. Prospect Street. Kitchen with appliances. Walk-in closet, laundry. \$1195-\$1450, includes utilities. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. \$1025. studio. \$1150, 1 bedroom. In the village. Garden setting. New windows. Laundry room. 7555 Herschel Avenue. 858-459-1102.

LA JOLLA. \$2000. Cape La Jolla Gardens. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage. Walk-in closets, washer/dryer in unit, storage. Cat OK. 858-638-7399.

LA JOLLA. \$1300. Luxury 1 bedroom condo. Stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer, enclosed patio, pool, gym, parking. Near UCSD/VA. 3161 Via Alicante. 858-277-3410.

LA JOLLA. \$3300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Contemporary masterpiece. Underground parking. Brand new everything! Washer/dryer in unit. 7555 Eads. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

LA JOLLA. \$1400, 1 bedroom. Cottage style apartment in small complex. Steps to WindanSea. One parking space. Open Saturday, 10/28, 11:30am-12:30pm. 338 Rosemont. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

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LA JOLLA. \$895 rent. \$700 deposit. Studio. Cute studio with stove, new paint. Near all. On-street parking. 7529 Herschel Street #4 & #7. 619-804-3325.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$725. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpeting. Blinds. Laundry. Off-street parking for 1 car. No pets. 4377 39th Street. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.SeeTheUnit.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1050. 4774 33rd Street #1. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, air conditioning. Washer, dryer. Off-street parking. No pets. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$795. \$600 deposit. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Refrigerator, stove. Garage. Close to all. No pets. 4369 33rd Street. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. Nice, clean, quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs, new paint, carpet. Well maintained. Refrigerator. Laundry on premises. No pets. Conveniently located. 619-563-0779.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825 rent. Deposit \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Large unit with appliances, new paint/vinyl, dishwasher, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 1/2 off first month's rent. 4524 40th Street #1. 619-379-2896.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$925. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs, fireplace, microwave, breakfast bar, bright and airy. Shared garage. No pets. Available now. Close to 805. 4621 32nd Street #7. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Bright large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. New paint, microwave. Laundry on site. Close to all freeways. Near Kensington. No pets. Available now. Without garage, \$775; with garage, \$850. 4567 Hawley Boulevard #8. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, private patio, microwave, air conditioning, mirrored closet. Laundry onsite. Assigned parking. Close to all freeways. Near Kensington. Available now. No pets. 4561 Hawley #2. \$875. 858-483-5111 x10.

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NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. Beautifully landscaped 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Deluxe kitchen and bath, underground parking, balcony, storage. 3775 Georgia. \$995. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x2.

NORTH PARK. \$1090. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Small, quiet complex. Upstairs, gated entry, balconies, garage. No pets. 4045 Mississippi Street. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom unit, \$725/month. 2 bedroom unit, \$975/month. Laundry on site. No dogs. Available now. Call Ms. Butler, 619-339-4311.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs corner condo. Completely remodeled, new appliances, carpet, bathroom. Gated, onsite laundry, parking space. Quiet courtyard, close to all. \$1250. Available now. Call Steve 619-840-3948.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, cottage style. Hardwood floors, coin-operated laundry. Cat OK. 4024 Hamilton Street. Ready November. Trident Pacific, 619-435-9442. www.homes4rent.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, recently remodeled. Tiled living room, kitchen, bathroom. Elevator, on-site laundry, security building. 3949 33rd Street. 619-280-2658.

NORTH PARK. 2 story townhome. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Garage, washer/dryer, new paint, wood floors, new carpet. \$1400/month. 1 year lease. 402-934-2738.

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NORTH PARK. \$1250. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath with garage, new carpet and paint, remodeled kitchen and bath, gated, parking. Available now. 619-741-4378. 619-540-6526.

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NORTH PARK. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1000 square feet. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, attached garage. Newly remodeled. 4651 30th Street. Available for viewing. www.kandroperties.com. Call 858-490-1600.

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- Inspect lights and wiper blades
- Inspect emission control system
- Check heating and A/C operation
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- Inspect drive belts and coolant hoses
- Road test vehicle

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- Adjust idle to factory specs
- Check ignition system & timing
- Lubricate chassis
- Rotate 4 tires
- Check suspension
- Inspect air filter & fuel filter
- Tighten & inspect belts
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495 rent, \$1000 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit, appliances, on-site laundry. New carpet, paint/vinyl, loft, patio. 1/2 off first month's rent. 4406 Dawes Street. 619-804-3325.

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LEAD STORY

— Campaign Roundup: (1) In her joyful 2004 autobiography, Sandy Sullivan, 65, the Republican candidate for secretary of state in Wisconsin, recalls her friskier days as a 1960s Green Bay Packers fan, including interludes with Hall of Fame running back Paul Hornung. (2) Donovan Brown, the Democratic nominee for a Florida state House seat, resumed campaigning in October after a two-week involuntary stay at a mental health facility after his mother took him in for evaluation. (3) Palm Beach County, Fla., whose Democratic voters’ confusion over the “butterfly ballot” may have cost Al Gore the presidency in 2000, will now see if its Republicans will be confused by a state law that requires them to vote for their recently resigned congressman, Mark Foley, if they want to register votes for his Republican replacement.

Cultural Diversity

— Vying to become the national sport of Venezuela is *coleo*, less bloody than bullfighting and “truly Venezuelan,” a spokesman for the national *coleo* organization told the *New York Times* in September. Four men on horses chase a bull in a large pen, competing to see who can tip it over the most times by yanking on its tail. If the bull hasn’t broken any legs when it falls, the men must get it back on its feet quickly by further twisting (or biting) the tail or by electric prod, so that the game can continue.

— In a remote region of China, relatives shower graves with objects that supposedly make the deceased’s afterlife more pleasant, and some families of dead bachelors even buy corpses of unmarried females and bury them with their sons in posthumous “weddings.” According to a September *New York Times* dispatch from Chenjiayuan, since men outnumber women in the region (in part due to abortions of girl fetuses), families of these dead women are able to command high “dowries.”

— More Spirits: (1) The grave of Pol Pot (one of the 20th century’s most prodigious mass murderers) near Anlong Veng, Cambodia, is revered by local villagers who believe his ghost protects

them and also provides winning lottery numbers, according to an August *International Herald Tribune* report. In fact, the government is building a casino nearby to serve those who feel lucky. (2) Of the 25,000 children homeless in the streets of Kinshasa, Kenya, more than half are believed to be there because their parents have disowned them as suspected “witches,” according to an August *Los Angeles Times* dispatch. Said one ten-year-old: “They say I ate my father. But I didn’t.”

Fetishes on Parade

— In September, police in the Georgia towns of Perry and Americus were investigating incidents probably involving the same unnamed man, who provided an additional dimension to the typical foot-fetishist: religion. An 80-year-old Wal-Mart shopper in Perry reported that the man was sitting on the floor of an aisle and asked her for help with his “religious” ritual. The lady accommodated him by stepping on his hands and then spitting on him, but when he began to lick her feet, she called for help.

Least Competent People

— (1) Least Competent Anti-Abortion Activist: David Robert McMenemy, 45, was arrested in Dav- enport, Iowa, in September after he drove his car into a women’s clinic and then set it on fire to protest abortions. He was then informed that it is just a medical clinic, providing neither abortions nor abortion referrals. (2) Least Competent Drug Agents: Just after federal and local narcotics agents cut down and bundled for destruction massive quantities of marijuana plants at a site in California’s Marin County in September, officials reported that, despite security, 1200 of the plants had been stolen before they could be taken away.

Latest Religious Messages

— At least three Christian wrestling associations are active in the Southern United States, staging matches using traditional pro-wrestling gimmicks (angelic “babyfaces” vs. creepy “heels”; the “injured” star who gamely takes a mauling

but wins through sheer determination). In one pointed adaptation, the bad guys strap “Wrestling for Jesus” star Chase Cliett onto a large cross in the ring and beat him bloody, but he is resurrected after a good-guys “run-in” from the dressing room. Wrestling for Jesus and Ultimate Christian Wrestling (both based in Georgia), and Texas’ Christian Wrestling Federation, set aside some time each show for their muscular rough-necks to evangelize among their rowdy fans, according to an Associated Press report.

— New York filmmaker Andy Deemer, impressed by reports that 40 to 45 new religions emerge every year in America, offered a \$5000 fee earlier this year for a wannabe messiah to start one and let Deemer chronicle the formation step-by-step, from creation of the philosophy to the soliciting of disciples. Of 300 applicants, Deemer chose 35-year-old musician Joshua Boden, based on Boden’s God-optional, feel-good narrative that he called “the Church of Now,” based a bit on Buddhism and Taoism (according to an August *New York Times* profile). Among the prophets that Deemer passed on was Damian Phoenix, whose religion centers around an insectlike creature, “Arkon,” and a world of alien parasites that negatively influence people (that is, until Phoenix heals them).

Questionable Judgments

— Dutch transportation planner Hans Monderman has been pushing his innovative plans for improving traffic, and several towns in the Netherlands and Germany have already signed on, according to an August report by the German news organization Deutsche Welle. His proposals include eliminating traffic signs and street markings, which he believes will force drivers to slow as they hunt for their destinations, and building children’s playgrounds in median strips of roads, figuring that will force drivers to be careful.

— Injudicious: In August, Lowell, Mass., judge James McGuinness Jr. relieved Ms. Grimary DeJesus of all responsibility for failure to pay earlier court fees (which followed four arrests in eight years), provided that she recite the Pledge of Allegiance. She was only 12 words into it before

she faltered, but McGuinness said, “Congratulations, ma’am, never heard it said better,” and released her anyway.

— The latest version of China’s periodic Animal Olympic Games, with 300 hardly voluntary participants, was held at the Shanghai Wildlife Park in September, to the consternation of animal-rights activists around the world. London’s *Daily Mail* reported that chimpanzees played basketball and lifted weights, a bear in a tutu navigated an obstacle course, sea lions high-jumped, and an elephant took on spectators in tug-of-war. Photographs of a kangaroo boxing a garishly dressed man were posted on the websites of *China Daily* and CBS News.

Recurring Themes

— The Latest News From Places That Lack Sunshine: According to a September Reuters report, four gang-member inmates at the maximum-security Zacatecoluca lockup in El Salvador were caught with “cell phones, a phone charger, and spare chips” in their rectums, “far enough [in] to reach their intestines,” according to prison official Ramon Arevalo. ... In September, arrestee Melissa Roberge, 25, allegedly set fire to the mattress and blanket in her jail cell in Conway, N.H. She had earlier been frisked, but after the fire, a full-body search revealed a cigarette lighter in an unspecified “body cavity.”

Picking on the Victim

— LaToya Joplin was arrested in July in Ypsilanti Township, Mich., and charged with killing her daughter, Kayla, 3, despite her statements to a sheriff’s detective (read in court in an August hearing) that she, and not Kayla, was the real victim. The detective said Joplin told him “she was the one who was abused when she disciplined Kayla because she would strike her to the point that her hand was throbbing.” She was forced to keep hitting her, she said, because Kayla never said “ouch.”

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

RANCHO BERNARDO. \$1500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Brand new carpet and paint! Fenced patio. Pool, spa, tennis. The Falls. 11353 Avenida de los Lobos. Agent, 619-279-2183.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Condo. \$1300/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Appliances, garage. No pets. 858-342-5869, 858-695-8951.

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SAN CARLOS. \$875. Nice 1 bedroom condo. Quiet complex. Downstairs. Newer carpet. Pool, spa. Cat OK. 8661 Lake Murray Blvd. #3. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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SAN MARCOS. Santa Fe Hills. \$2150. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, one story. Built 2004. All appli-

ances. Pet on approval. Gardener included. 2-car garage. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

SANTEE. \$1200/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 896 estimated square feet townhome. Fenced backyard. 1-car garage with storage. 10331 Carefree. Agent, 619-471-1755.

SANTEE. \$820. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$870. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. On-site laundry, off-street

parking. No pets. 8527 Graves Avenue. 619-258-2584.

SANTEE. Coronado townhomes, \$1495. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath remodeled with granite, new carpet, tiled floors, new kitchen cabinets, carport plus parking, attached patio near parks, pool. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

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Buy 3 at the regular price and get the 4th Free.

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CALL FOR QUOTE!

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Service includes:

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Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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ONLY

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San Diego Reader October 26, 2006 195

Precision Tune AutoCare

**90 Days
Same As
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Factory-Scheduled Maintenance 30K/60K/90K

We offer a generic package that includes a tune-up verification, replacement of PCV valve, fuel filter, air filter, oil filter, oil change (up to 5 qts.), radiator flush (up to 2 gallons of 50/50 mix), brake inspection, and a complete maintenance inspection. Our service package price is **\$169.95** with the **\$50** discount applied.

Or we can build a vehicle-specific package as per your manufacturer's specifications and quote accordingly. Either way you save **\$50!**

**SAVE
\$50**

Oil Change \$13⁹⁵ Basic

Includes up to 5 qts. 10W-30 oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

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\$19⁹⁵ Premium

Includes up to 5 qts. 5W-30 or 5W-20 motor oil, top-off fluids (excludes brake fluid), and maintenance inspection.

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Most vehicles. Present coupon and DMV renewal slip. Plus \$8.25 cert. and \$2 transmission fee.

\$19⁹⁵

Free retest when we do the repairs.

Brake Service

Replace pads or shoes, resurface drums or rotors, inspect entire system.

\$30 Off

'Check Engine' Light \$29⁹⁵

Pull computer trouble codes and provide a written description.

Transmission Power Flush

\$89⁹⁵

Includes 12 quarts of dextron/mercon transmission fluid.

Headlight Restoration \$79⁹⁵

Restores headlight lens to near-new luster!

Our 3-step process can remove the yellow, rock-chipped surface and restore the clear sheen that will help the nighttime vision that you once had.

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2 wheels. Includes front toe adjustment. Not valid at Encinitas location.

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Point Loma/Sports Arena • 619-226-7822
3425 Midway Dr. (Behind Shell station)

Kearny Mesa • 858-569-1111
8027 Balboa Avenue

Miramar • 858-450-6677
6594 Miramar Rd.

★ Open Sunday 9 am-3 pm



- Rental cars available
- Free shuttle service

www.precisiontune.com

Coupons must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or discount or for prior service. See manager for details. All coupons expire 11/19/06.

SANTEE. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath from \$1005. Park-like setting. Storage. Spacious decks. Covered parking. Creekside Park Apartments, 9349-9360 Creekside Court. 619-258-9261. www.progressmanagement.net.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$1400/month plus deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet, fireplace, washer/dryer, 2-car garage. Pool, jacuzzi. Available now. No pets. Sean, 858-736-6289.

SDSU. 3 bedroom, 3 bath penthouse, \$2200, 5 yards to campus, laundry, garage parking, trolley. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1900. Flexible lease. Call 619-265-8559.

SDSU. Studio available 1 block from campus, \$620/month. Pool, laundry, month-to-month lease. Call 619-265-8559.

SERRA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. \$1600/month. Vaulted ceilings in living room. Open floorplan. Master bedroom has nook for office. Fireplace. Pool. 9149 Village Glen Drive. Available 11/16. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

SERRA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. \$2300/month. 2 car garage, laundry inside, in Stonecrest. Looks new. www.sandiegobestrentals.com, 619-696-7368.

SOLANA BEACH. Walk to beaches, shops, cafes, Cedros District! 2 bedroom condo, pool. \$1980/month-to-month, fully furnished, includes utilities, cable/Internet, maid-service. 480-510-5624.

SOLANA BEACH. Attached guest quarters-1 bedroom, 1 bath. Whisewater ocean view! Totally furnished. West of I-5. \$1,250. No pets or smoking. Available now. Louise Abbott Real Estate, 858-755-8046.

SOLANA BEACH. 55+ community. \$1025. 1 bedroom. Courtyard setting. Elevator. Laundry. Gated. Clubhouse. Close to shopping, bus, ocean. No pets. 805 Valley Avenue. 858-755-5995.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1350. 1 bedroom, cottage duplex. Skylights. Lavish garden setting. Wood flooring. Washer/dryer. Parking. No pets. Available 12/1. 212 North Cedros. 858-395-9942.

SOUTH PARK. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs unit, \$900/\$700 deposit. New carpet, new paint, appliances. No pets. Available now. 1644 Grove Street. 619-584-5900.

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SOUTH PARK/GOLDEN HILL. \$790 plus deposit. Sunny and nice remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Off-street parking. No pets/smoking. 1719 Fern Street. 619-276-2225.

SOUTH SAN DIEGO/SOUTH PARK. \$575. Senior 62+. \$100 off 1st month with 6-month lease. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, laundry. Frank, 858-694-0500; 858-717-1800.

SPRING VALLEY. \$100 off move-in OAC. Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$795. Garages available for rent in gated community. Casa Granada, 9121 Kenwood Drive. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. progressmanagement.net or call 619-698-1356.

SPRING VALLEY. \$925. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Secure, gated building. Dishwasher, new paint/floor covering. Pool, laundry facilities, parking on site. Call Victor, Agent, 619-962-8000.

SPRING VALLEY. I-125/Quarry, \$1195. Near Sweetwater Park. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Built in 1990. 1000 estimated square feet. Pet OK. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

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TALMADGE. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New flooring and paint throughout. Very nice unit in great area. Must see. Close to SDSU. Available now. 619-295-1230.

TALMADGE. \$1195. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Small building. On-site laundry room, off-street parking, new carpet. Move-in ready! Call today. 619-414-2344 for an appointment.

TALMADGE. \$1295. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. On-site laundry room. 1 off-street parking. Updated apartment. Tile in bathrooms and kitchen entry. Dishwasher and microwave. Call for an appointment, 619-414-2344.

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TALMADGE/South. \$695, 1 bedroom. \$795, 2 bedroom. New carpet and paint. All appliances, laundry, hot water free, gated. 9am-12pm, 858-414-6026.

TIERRASANTA/Kearny Mesa. \$2450. Charming 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse plus den. 1650 square-feet. 2-car garage. No pets/smoking. Close to all. Call 858-586-7716.

UNIVERSITY CITY. \$2500. "Avanti"-Renaissance. Lovely 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. 1720 square'. 2-car. All appliances. Family room. Available 11/1. Boone Property Management, 858-274-6856.

UNIVERSITY CITY/UTC townhouse. \$2250. Beautiful upgraded Avanti in Renaissance. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath tri-level with cherry hardwood floors, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, 2-car garage. All appliances. Steps to shopping. No pets. Call



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\$14⁷⁵
Plus \$8.25 certificate
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All car models and years. SUVs, pickups and light trucks \$10 extra. No hidden fees. No appointment necessary. Bring DMV papers if available.

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(New!) Top of the line.
Experience truly straight steering.
Printout before and after.

Starting at
\$39⁹⁵

3-Way Induction Service & Clean Injectors

\$69⁹⁵

NEW!



Transmission Power Flush

Includes 16 qts. oil and BG's clean and conditioner kit. Extended-life synthetic oil is extra depending on vehicle type.

\$119⁹⁵

Cooling System Power Flush

\$69⁹⁵

AXLE SPECIAL

Parts and labor. Most cars. Installed.

\$109

30K, 60K, 90K SERVICE

Done according to manufacturers specs, and we use only factory parts.

Castrol GTX Premium Oil Change Special

\$24⁹⁵
Most cars.

GTX Castrol/high-mileage oil change **\$31.95**.
BMW, Mercedes, Volvo **\$29.95**.
Includes reset service oil light.
Non-Castrol oil change **\$19.95**.
Castrol synthetic oil change **\$49.95**.

A/C SPECIAL

Includes Freon R134

- Evacuate system
- Replace compressor oil
- Check system pressure
- Check for major leaks
- Check A/C lines and belt
- Charge system with Freon
- Rear A/C \$20 extra
- A/C conversion \$50

\$99⁹⁵
Complete

COMPLETE FRONT BRAKE JOB

Includes resurfacing rotors. Parts and labor included. \$25 extra for ceramic pads.

\$99⁹⁵

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For Acura & Honda

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For F-150 & Chevy

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4-cyl. from **\$145***

Keep your car under warranty!

Call for special price list
on services for your car.

Head Gasket Replacement from \$175*

Parts & labor.

Catalytic Converter from \$89

Labor extra.

A/C Service \$19^{95*}

Check for leaks. Freon extra.

Brakes \$49^{95*}

Plus labor.
Free inspection with repairs.
PADS OR SHOES • Repack non-drive bearings
• Inspect rotors • Semi-metallic extra.

*Valid with most cars. With this ad. Expires 11/9/06.

Tune-Up 4-cyl. \$22^{95*}

- Replace plugs • Check compression
 - Adjust timing • Adjust idle • Top off fluids
- 6-cyl. **\$35⁹⁵** • 8-cyl. **\$45⁹⁵** Most cars.

Clutch from \$275* RWD

- Pressure plate • Disc • Throwout bearings
 - Free flywheel inspection
- Parts & labor. FWD from **\$325**.
Trucks, vans & 4x4s extra.

Alignments \$34^{95*}

Computerized Front Wheel Toe Set

\$44^{95*} Four Wheel Toe Set
Kits & drilling extra.

"Check Engine" Light \$44^{95*}

WE CAN HELP!

Failed-Smog Diagnostic \$44^{95*}

Smog Check \$19^{95*}

Plus cert. Vans, trucks & motor homes extra.
Chula Vista location only.

Timing Belt from \$89^{99*}

Plus parts. Recommended at 60,000 miles.
Avoid costly repair and service on time!

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR • FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

Contreras's headquarters is the Centro Medico del Mar in Playas de Tijuana.

After waiting an hour or so, I was ushered into a small office where Dr. Contreras greeted me. I learned that his huge supply of laetrile is obtained from two factories in Tijuana itself. Raw apricot kernels are imported from West Germany and Monte Carlo and processed into the highest grade of amygdalin before being used at the Centro Medico.

— **"CANCER CONNECTION,"** John D'Agostino,
November 4, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago

[I]t was Willie Morrow's head that drew our attention.... The loose coiled curls resemble a freshly wetted permanent on the head of a Caucasian. East Coast blacks call this hair style the "wet look." Around these parts, it is known as the California Curl, and at least for the moment, it's the crown that has made Willie Lee Morrow king.

— **"IT'S CURLY AT THE TOP,"** Jeannette De Wyze,
October 29, 1981

Twenty Years Ago

Later, in Memphis, after Priscilla Presley had decamped with her karate instructor, leaving

Elvis alone at Graceland, he would send his valet on a 3:00 a.m. run to a round-the-clock market to buy up Eskimo Pies, Dreamsicles, and Nutty Buddys. Elvis would, night after night, eat one pound of King Cotton bacon fried up crisp, a Pike's Peak of mashed potatoes sluiced with thickenin' gravy, sauerkraut, a dish of crowderpeas, and sliced tomatoes. Elvis's weight at the time of his death, Goldman noted, was 255 pounds.

— **"THE WHITE TRASH DIET,"** Judith Moore,
October 30, 1986

Fifteen Years Ago

France's assimilation of Southern Californian culture can be demonstrated most accurately by examining the degree to which "dudespeak" (the American dialect spoken by blond, tanned, middle- and upper-middle-class males living within the "coastal corridor" that extends from Santa Barbara to several miles south of Rosarito Beach) has penetrated the heart of the French spirit — the French language. The nation's contemporary lexicon, while remaining relatively impermeable to Arabic and African-language borrow-words, has, since the early '80s, adopted dozens of "dudespeak" terms, specifically those regarding the hobby of surfing (*le surf*).

— **"ESPRIIT DU SURF,"** Abe Opincar, October 31, 1991

Ten Years Ago

When it came to conning the suckers of La Jolla, his buddies said, Graham was the master. "He could talk those dumb La Jolla doctors and airline pilots into giving him their life savings," says one of Clifford Graham's compatriots.

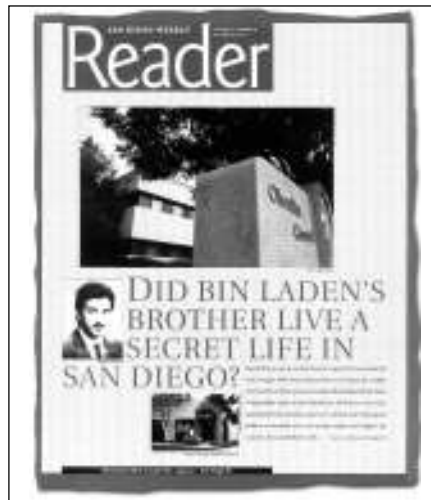
Another of Graham's friends and business associates was Jack Kemp, ex-San Diego Charger quarterback and Point Loma resident.

Graham gained entrée to Kemp's world of high-flying jocks and their well-heeled fans in corporate and political America, many of whom later invested — and apparently lost — millions of dollars in Graham-led business schemes. According to one bankruptcy court document, Graham's wife Kathy worked the crowd at the 1983 wedding of Kemp's quarterback son Jeff, soliciting Texan investors to put money into what turned out to be Graham's last big con.

— **"KEMP AND THE FUGITIVE,"** Matt Potter,
October 24, 1996

Five Years Ago

What was Bin Laden, now 35, heir to a multibillion-dollar Middle Eastern fortune based on construction and Saudi oil, doing in San Diego? And why would he be involved in a small-time tulip-importing business —



San Diego Reader, October 25, 2001

based out of a two-room office in a Sorrento Valley industrial park, which, according to its other owner, lost \$100,000 of Bin Laden's money before going under after just a few years?

Bin Laden himself isn't talking. Since the events of September 11, he has agreed to be interviewed by only one newspaper, the *Boston Globe*. In that story he is quoted as expressing remorse for the alleged deeds of his half-brother, now the target of a U.S. bombing campaign in Afghanistan.

— **"DID BIN LADEN'S BROTHER LIVE A SECRET LIFE IN SAN DIEGO?"** Matt Potter, October 25, 2001

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Bright, spacious 2 bedroom apartment, \$1025. Berber carpet, remodeled kitchen, lush landscaping. Only 4 units in building. 619-922-0755.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in small complex. Downstairs unit with patio, laundry on site, street parking, no pets. Available 11/08. 4512 Georgia Street. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Charming, Spanish-style 2 bedroom detached cottage. Near Adams Avenue. \$1395. Fireplace. Stainless steel appliances. Wood flooring living room/dining room. Washer, dryer. Patio. 619-990-8187.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Huge upstairs 2 bedroom, \$1025. Quiet, gated 8-unit building. Covered parking, laundry on site. Available mid-November. 4464-1/2 Oregon Street. Agent, 619-260-1368.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Large two bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$1150. Quiet, gated complex of 9 apartments with on-site laundry and parking. Walk-in closet, gas stove, newer carpet and paint. Cats OK, no Section 8. 4519 Campus Avenue. 858-200-9408.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath seniors' community or disabled apartments. \$695, move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent, with \$200 security deposit on approved credit. Upper units, on-site laundry, in gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$900. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry on site, parking. 4522 Utah Street #6. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$826 rent. \$700 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit with stove, refrigerator, new paint, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 4452 Louisiana #6. 619-384-9219.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Historic building. \$975/month. Charming large studio, 2nd floor, secluded, overlooking garden. Long balcony, built-ins, Murphy bed, clawfoot tub, tile, hardwood. Pet OK. 619-368-5270.

VALENCIA PARK. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs spacious apartment. Sunny. Parking and on-site laundry. 4854 Market Street. 619-683-7638. Xlarent.com.

VISTA. 1 month free rent with 12-14 month lease. Look and lease specials! \$99-\$199 deposits, OAC. 2 bedrooms from \$1215. 3 bedrooms from \$1495. Pool, spa. Parking, garages available. Laundry. Patio/balcony. Dishwasher. Woodburning fireplace. Ceiling fan. Storage. Pets welcome. Shadowridge Meadows. 1515 South Melrose Drive. 866-578-0583. www.sreader.com/rent/ 2050.

VISTA. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month! Renovated 2 bedrooms, \$1075. Appliances, air conditioning. Gated, landscaped complex. Laundry, parking, balcony, storage room. 760-672-6405. www.melroyproperties.com.

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ALPINE. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, ranch style, detached granny flat. 1-acre horse property. Central air/heat. Updated kitchen, bath. Pool. \$855,000. RE/MAX, Bill Howland. 619-980-2455.

BANK FORECLOSURES- Distress sales. Free list. www.sdforeclosurestore.com.

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, Menifee, \$380,000. Immaculate, modern 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 1867 square-feet, cul-de-sac, large lot. Upgraded kitchen, dual fireplace, A/C, plantation shutters. Agent, Kelly, 619-562-6999.

BELOW MARKET-SAN MARCOS! Santa Fe Hills. Very nice, highly upgraded 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath. 3-car garage. No

Hoa! \$539K. Call Agent Eric, 760-295-9760.

BOULEVARD, By owner, price reduced, new 1920 square feet, 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, with 24x24 2 car garage, on 3 flat acres, with panoramic view. Family room with fireplace, formal dining room, bonus room/office. Laundry room with washer/dryer. Refrigerator, built-in microwave, jacuzzi tub, tile floors, redwood deck and more. First time homebuyer financing available, \$365,000. Cell 619-980-6424, home 619-669-6424.

CHULA VISTA. Highly upgraded Southern-Plantation style home in Rolling Hills Ranch. 4 bedroom, optional bedroom, 4 full bathrooms. \$949,000. Victor Nunez, 619-823-9289; Sally, 619-823-6840.

CITY HEIGHTS FIXER. Modern 3 bedroom house. 2-car garage. Great price, way under market value. Attention: first-time buyers! Easy financing available. www.sdhomesjack.com. Agent Jack, 619-962-8963.

CITY HEIGHTS. 16 units. Condo conversion. 1 and 2 bedroom, starting mid-\$170s. Call Top Notch 619-807-0327.

CLAIREMONT, Cutest house in Clairemont. By owner, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2-car finished garage, lots of amenities, backyard to die for, 4525 Melisa Way. 858-270-9998.



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CALL FOR PRICES, BRANDS, & OTHER SIZES

	GT METRIC	ALIGNMENT
IMPORT RADIAL 40K	UNIROYAL	STARTS AT \$29⁹⁹
155SR13	BF GOODRICH	BRAKES STARTS AT \$49⁹⁹ <small>AT FRONT DISC PADS (ORGANIC), SEMI-METALLIC \$15 EXTRA. OTHER PARTS & LABOR, IF NEEDED, ADDITIONAL.</small>
175/70R13	MICHELIN	
185/70R13	DUNLOP	CV BOOT STARTS AT \$54⁹⁹ <small>OUTER</small>
185/60R14	PIRELLI	
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\$99⁹⁹*
from
Includes maintenance tune-up, oil change, install spark plugs (premium plugs extra), inspect brakes, check fluids and more. *Most cars. 6-cyl./8-cyl. extra.

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Includes free safety inspection (most cars). Installation of new pads or shoes. Repack non-drive wheel bearings. Inspect rotors or drums, master cylinder, wheel bearings, hardware, lines, hoses & seals. Front or rear. Semi-metallic pads \$20 extra. Valid with this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Large vehicles extra.

tune-up from **\$24⁹⁹** 4-cyl.
With this coupon.

axles • alternators starters much more
Call for details.

oil change
Includes up to 5 quarts oil & filter. EPA extra. from **\$24⁹⁵**

timing belt
Power steering & A/C extra. from **\$99**

Additional parts & labor may be required at substantial extra cost.

5812 Miramar Road • (858)546-1200
Near UTC, 1 block east of I-805, next to Enterprise
Mon.-Fri. 8-6, Sat. 9-4 • All offers expire 11/16/06.

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- Commercial
- Automotive

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WINDOW TINTING

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\$26⁷⁵ or **\$31⁷⁵ with a Free Retest**
plus \$8.25 certificate & \$1 transfer fee. Trucks, vans & SUVs \$10 extra.

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Most cars. Ask about our lifetime brakes. Guaranteed for 1 full year.

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- Inspect hydraulic system
- Inspect wheel bearings

Free Oil Change This Week Only!

(\$21.95 value) Hurry - valid until Thursday, November 2.

Keep yourself and your family safe while eliminating irritating brake noise. Call for brake service.

San Diego's Most Complete 30K/60K/90K Major Service

Looking for quality? There is a difference. Compare our service with other shops.

Includes:

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- Drain & refill radiator
- Replace air filter
- Install spark plugs (premium plugs extra)
- Inspect brakes
- Clean & adjust rear brakes
- Change engine oil
- Change oil filter
- Change master cylinder brake fluid
- Check suspension
- Top off fluids
- Clean battery terminals

\$249 4-cyl.

- Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
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EAST COUNTY, Affordable new home built 2005. Quiet family friendly community. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1432 square feet. Granite countertops, vaulted ceilings, more. www.campohouse.com. 619-478-1000.

EL CAJON, townhouse, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage. Fireplace, new floors/paint, patio, cul-de-sac. Reduced, \$359,000. For sale by owner. 619-306-7219.

EL CAJON, FLETCHER HILLS, 2 bedroom 1 bath. Brand new kitchen, granite countertops, bathroom, hardwood floors throughout. Open 10/07/06 and 10/08/06 12pm-4pm. \$399,000-\$429,000. Appointment 619-701-2522.

EL CAJON, Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2050' square home. 3-car garage. RV parking. Gated courtyard. Circular driveway. \$649,900. RE/MAX, Bill Howland, 619-980-2455.

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INCREDIBLE VIEWS! 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3166 square-foot home on 8 acres near Ramona. \$859,900. 20-acres available. Details, photos: www.rockyhi.com. Owner, Tim, 817-808-8000, email tim@rockyhi.com.

LA JOLLA, UTC, 4070 Porte La Paz #16 end unit with patio, 2 bedroom condo. Near shuttle to UCSD. Open Thursday-Sunday 10-4pm, \$429,000/owner, 805-340-2814.

LAKE WOHLFORD views are stunning. Country cutie, older 1 bedroom mobile home, large deck, private covered area/clear face toward lake. \$32,000. By owner, 619-563-8750.

LAKEVIEW, Newly updated throughout home, 3 bedroom 2 bath. New kitchen, windows, carpet, tile. Private location,

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LAS VEGAS, NORTHWEST, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-car garage. Approximately 1214 square feet. Private yard. Year warranty. \$259,500. Lynda, Remax Central, 800-572-1739. www.selllv.com.

MENIFEE, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, cul-de-sac. Granite countertops, with island. Huge RV access, 3 car tandem garage. Upgrading window coverings, carpet. Lowest price in neighborhood, \$470,000/agent Mitra, www.homesoldbymitra.com, 951-805-1867.

MIRA MESA beauty. Fabulous 3-bedroom home lovingly improved by original owners. Near schools/I-15/I-805. Family room, updated kitchen. Energy efficient windows. Upgrades. \$535,000. Agent, 619-843-4008.

MIRA MESA, 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath Townhouse with good size yard. Best buy. Call Top Notch 619-807-0327.

MOUNT HELIX, Panoramic view! Upgraded 4 bedroom, 4 bath. Hardwood floors. 2 AC/heating systems. Dual pane windows. 2-two car garages. \$1,095,000. Re/Max, Bill Howland, 619-980-2455.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, Price change! Considering offers of \$395,000-\$435,000. Open Saturday and Sunday, 1pm-4pm: 3834 Madison Avenue, 92116. Move-in ready! Completely renovated 2 bedroom house on huge lot. 1/2-block to new Normal Heights Elementary and city park. Beautiful neighborhood. Ample off-street parking. Large fenced yard. hdr1@cox.net. 619-281-8869; 619-823-8166.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS, Woodcrest Hill, 4 bedroom/2-1/2 baths house, cul-de-sac, view lot huge deck off master bedroom. Call. Top Notch Realty Inc. 619-807-0327.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS, reduced price to move out of country. 3 bedroom, 2 bath upgraded 1188 square feet, attached garage. \$5000, closing cost. \$435K. Owner. 858-484-3548.

SAN DIEGO, SOUTH, Handyman special, fixer. 5 bedroom 3 bath, 3 car. Built 2001. All you need is \$22,000/cash down, take over payments, \$625,000/owner, fci2006@cox.net.

SANTEE, 4 bedroom. Family room. Updated kitchen, new stove, dishwasher, microwave. Central air/heat, covered patio, 2-car garage. \$529,000. RE/MAX, Bill Howland, 619-980-2455.

SOMETHING SPECIAL! Mint 3 bedroom, 2 bath Santee house. California Room in-ground spa, fountain, gorgeous pool,

large lot. Granite counters, fireplace. \$465,000. No agents. Agent, Kelly, 619-562-6999.

STUNNING VIEWS, UPGRADES Galore, perfect family home! Beautiful, large, 2-story, 3-bedroom, 2-bath: Canterbury Hills, Rancho SD. Family room, dining, bay windows, fireplace. \$535,000. 760-944-0665, 760-274-5366.

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GOLDEN HILL, EAST, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated community, 2 parking spaces, private backyard. Newer cabinetry, fixtures,

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HILLCREST, Wonderfully appointed 2 bedroom, 2 full baths with views into beautiful Balboa Park with fireplace, washer/dryer in unit. Close to everything. \$395,000. Ascent, Mike Wolf, 858-722-6847.

LA JOLLA, Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

LA MESA, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Great Views! Central air conditioning and heating. Garage. \$370,000-\$385,000. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571. E-mail: quyen_dolan@hotmail.com.

LITTLE ITALY, La Vita. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, balcony, views of courtyard, fountain, more. Pool, spa, gym, recreation room. Washer/dryer with extra storage in unit. Approximately 706 square feet. Secured entry and underground parking. Short walk to bay, restaurants, and trolley. Comps available on request. No agents. \$418,999. Serious inquiries only. 619-316-2846.

MISSION HILLS, Highly desirable Ali-cante, 10th-floor, south-facing unit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with stunning patio views! Many upgrades throughout. \$449,000-\$469,000. 475 Redwood Street #1004. Ascent, Cheryl, 858-229-2843.

MISSION VALLEY, 2 bedroom, 1.75 bath. New paint, carpet, blinds. Quiet complex, 2 pools/jacuzzis. Will pay 1 year HOA, and second parking. \$308,000/owner, 619-437-1918.

MISSION VALLEY, Gorgeous studio. Beautifully improved! Near freeways, shopping, restaurants, trolley. Move-in ready! Murphy bed. Corner unit, 2nd story. Quiet. \$193,000. Call Sue, Agent, 619-843-4008.

MISSION VALLEY CLASSY CONDO, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. High end flooring, window covering, and appliances. Recently appraised at \$345,000. For sale, \$299,000. Owner/Agent, 619-962-8000.

OCEANSIDE, Ocean view condo. 2 bedroom, 2 decks, private entry from garage. Upgraded travertine, granite, stainless appliances. Gated community, pool/spa. Closing flexible. \$499,000-\$520,000/owner, 760-889-4795.

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SCRIPPS RANCH, Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, top floor, vaulted ceilings, large patio, 2-car garage, neutral paint/carpet. \$365,000. 11385 Affinity Court, #220. Owner, 858-547-9378.

SOLANA BEACH, Incredible ocean/bluff front condo! Totally remodeled, furnishings done by interior decorator. Ocean view from kitchen, living and bedroom! Amazing sunsets! Move in to this turn-key 1 bedroom, 1.75 bath unit. Stairs to ocean, tennis courts, pool and spas on site. Clubhouse. This is the best ocean-front you will find! Reduced \$175,000; owner will carry with right buyer! \$1,000,000-\$1,175,000. Tricia Clarke, Willis Allen Real Estate, 858-229-6889.

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VISA • MASTERCARD



Dear Saffron,

I volunteer in an elementary school classroom three days a week. I work individually with a child who is repeating second grade due to poor reading skills. She is making good progress, and I think she will catch up. English is not her first language, and she comes from a home where her parents don't speak any English at all. According to her teacher, who has done a home visit, there are no books in the home, and the environment is pretty impoverished. The little girl, who I'll call Inez, is grateful for the extra help and has started bringing me small presents. Nothing expensive. She'll bring me a mango or a card she made. One of the other volunteers noticed this and said I shouldn't accept these presents. Is it wrong of me to accept Inez's gifts? It seems like refusing them would hurt her feelings. My second question is this: I would like to buy Inez some books so she will have reading material at home, not just at school. I think

this would aid her reading progress. But she has lots of siblings who might get jealous, and I don't know how her parents would feel about me buying her things they cannot afford. What do you think?

ENCINITAS READING TUTOR

Dear Reading Tutor,

Let me first say that I commend you for the important work you're doing. If you check with the classroom teacher and/or the school principal and they don't see anything wrong with Inez giving you small tokens of appreciation, once in a while, then it's your call. I would advise you to let Inez know that you realize that she appreciates you, so she doesn't have to bring you presents — and if she does, that you like it best if she brings you something she made herself, like a drawing (so you can make sure she isn't giving you half her lunch and going hungry). You are right to be cautious about buying her books, which, while laudable, could cause family friction of the sort you mention. How about lending her books from your own collection, if you have a supply of age-appropriate reading material, or checking out library books for her every couple of weeks?

Dear Saffron,

A guy I work with overdosed. He was only 38. He was a wild dude, a big drinker and heavy into drugs.

Everyone knows he died of an overdose, because another man from our office was partying with him at the time. There was an obituary with glowing tributes by several coworkers in the company newsletter and a well-attended memorial service. In both the obituary and the eulogies, everyone pretended the deceased was a sober model citizen and had died of a sudden heart attack. It was surreal. No one acknowledged what really happened. When I tried to say something privately to a couple of coworkers about how weird this was, I was told, in effect, not to speak ill of the dead. Is this how it's supposed to work? Everyone lies after you die about what you were like? I see no reason to be dishonest about what really happened. I liked this guy. How do falsehoods honor his memory?

STRAIGHT TALKER IN SPRING VALLEY

Dear Straight Talker,

You have a point, but there may be complexities to this story that you're not aware of. It's possible that people are keeping mum about the overdose to spare the deceased's parents or close relatives knowledge of his drug problem, knowledge of which might cause the family additional grief on top of their bereavement. I am not condoning the practice of hiding the truth, but there can be a stigma around drug abuse-related deaths. Families and loved ones can feel shame and public humiliation when someone is lost under

these circumstances — others may feel it necessary to shield them. I wish this wasn't so. Sometimes the worry about a family's reputation in the community can cause a "conspiracy of silence." Some survivors of drug addiction believe that it does the deceased a disservice to publicly acknowledge that the death was as a result of drug abuse. I don't agree. One of the values of being honest in a situation like this is that the truth can serve as a wake-up call to others in danger of a similar fate.

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at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at
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SOUTH BAY. Townhome, end unit, \$15,000 in upgrades. Must see! Priced to sell. Sunny 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, garage/storage. 1326 square feet. \$389,000-\$409,000/owner. 760-213-2839.

SOUTH BAY. Great 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1250 square feet, attached garage, custom paint, laminate wood floors in kitchen, trilevel, private balcony, pool, \$395,000. 619-671-9896.

TERRASANTA. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, townhouse, 1400 square feet. New paint, berber carpet, pergo flooring. Tennis, pools, stores, restaurants, freeways. No seller agents. \$423,000/owner, 858-799-5402.

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BALL FOOT

"So what is this ball foot you are talking about then? Is it some kind of game? We don't have any games where we're from."

Was this man kidding? I looked over at my husband Andy who, by the looks of it, also wasn't sure if it was a joke.

We were dealing with Walter Friesen, the spiritual leader of a strict Mennonite community in Belize. It was possible that he was unaware of football (or soccer as it is called in the States). But for us it was strange to discover that there are actually people out there who've never even heard of the most popular ball game on earth.

Walter Friesen's Mennonite community is very *Little House on the Prairie*. They have no electricity there, no cars, no telephones, and they don't even have mirrors for everyday use (only small ones that can be used for "non-vain purposes" — say, when something gets stuck in your eye). The Mennonites are similar to the Amish. I believe they've branched off from the same original group and religion. But don't hold me to that; I'm no expert on the matter.

Anyway, why were we talking to Walter Friesen about football? Well, we had recently bought an Arab quarter horse from him for \$500.

As we strolled away from his farm, eating the homemade chocolate chip cookies that his wife had given us, he asked, "Do you want to take the horse now or shall we bring it in the coming days?"

Obviously, we couldn't take the horse. We'd come to Barton Creek by car (over an hour's drive) and had no trailer with us.

"Bring it please," I answered. "And just give us a call before you set off."

The moment those words flew out my mouth, I knew I'd said something stupid. "I'm sorry, you don't have a phone. Do you?"

Walter smiled. "We'll bring it on Thursday morning." And that was that, the arrangement was made.

It was only when we got back home that it dawned on me: Mennonites don't have trailers. Christ, they don't even have cars. "Oh shoot!" I cried "How on earth is he going to get this horse to us?"

The thought hadn't occurred to Andy either. "Hmm, maybe he'll ride it here? Or maybe he has some kind of ark and will be floating it downstream?"

"Ha ha, very funny, Andy."

I got worried for the old man. Surely he wasn't going to ride it all this way? Again, if Mennonites had phones, it would have been easy to find out what he had in mind. But as it stood, we just had to wait and see.

Late Thursday morning, we heard the sound of hoofs coming toward our house, and there he was, Walter Friesen walking next to our horse with a bewildered Mennonite teenager on the horse's back. Walter had walked for four hours in the Belizean heat to get to us! And he must be in his 50s or 60s, which made it more astounding. I felt bad. This poor man had walked all this way, because I (by being so thoughtless) had asked him to do so. Dumb, dumb, dumb, Simone!

I invited them in for a drink and some food, but Walter and his son wouldn't move; they just stared at our house.

"What is this place?" Walter sighed.

"A geodesic dome," I answered, "I don't know if you've ever heard of them."

Walter shook his head. His 16-year-old son was trying to keep his head low while secretly darting glances up at the Dome's enormous structure.

I have to admit, our house is unusual even by Western standards, and, apart from looking like a big wooden egg in the middle of the jungle, it's pretty big.

"Is this where you live?" Walter gasped.

"Yes, it is."

"And how many other people live here?"

"Er...just my husband. It's just the two of us here." I was embarrassed to admit this. The house could accommodate ten times as many people, which is why we ended up turning it into a resort.

"Hello, Mr. Friesen. How are you? I turned around and



saw Andy appearing from his vegetable garden. "Thanks for bringing the horse. You didn't walk all this way, though, did you?"

"Yes, I did, Mr. Hunt. And my boy here rode the horse, which has been a great experience for him, as he has never before left our community. But, tell me, Mr. Hunt, how have you been able to buy a house of this size? It must have been very expensive."

"Well, I used to be a professional football player back in the UK."

"What was that you said? Ball foot? You played ball foot?"

"Football. Soccer." Andy scanned Walter Friesen's face, but there wasn't a hint of recognition.

"No, never heard of this

ball foot. We don't have games in our community. But people used to pay you money for throwing a ball?"

"Well, for kicking it. Yes they did. They actually paid me a lot of money for it. Footballers earn more than doctors, teachers, or even politicians."

"Well, well, isn't that strange?" Walter murmured.

"Yes, Mr. Friesen. It sure is."

We later found out that the Barton Creek Mennonites not only are unfamiliar with games, but also with soft furnishing. Walter's son sat down on our sofa (once we got them inside) and acted like someone had thrown

him on to a flying carpet, hands levitating in front of him, swaying from left to right and looking surprised, if not shocked, by the experience. (We turned off our wide-screen television for fear it would have caused the poor boy's head to explode.)

We talked for hours and were once again mesmerized by the cultural diversity of Belize, that such a tiny country can have so many different social groups with such diverse ways of life. And, thinking about the money my husband and I used to earn as an entertainer and as a professional sportsman, it again made us wonder: which society is the strange one?

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• Inspect clutch pedal

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FREE TOWING & SHUTTLE

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STARTING AT **\$119^{95*}**

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STARTING AT **\$145^{95*}**

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STARTING AT **\$185^{95*}**

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*PER MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS. TIMING BELT EXTRA IF REQUIRED. Some services may not require all items listed.

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- Replace spark plugs
- Replace air filter
- Replace oil filter
- Replace engine oil with up to 5 quarts
- Replace fuel filter
- Check distributor points
- Drain & refill coolant
- Check condenser
- Compression test
- Adjust timing
- Valve adjustment (if adjustable)
- Adjust dwell angle
- Adjust carburetor
- Adjust fuel-to-air mixture

- Inspect clutch
- Adjust clutch
- Inspect brakes
- Adjust brakes
- Adjust emergency brake
- Inspect & replenish all fluids
- Inspect all exposed belts
- Check electrical fuses
- Lube front end
- Check & recharge battery (if necessary)
- Rotate tires (if needed)
- Check air pressure
- Lube door hinges
- Inspect cooling system & hoses
- Check exhaust system

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REFRIGERATOR, Kenmore Elite. White, top freezer, 21 cubic feet, ice maker, pull out shelves, five and a half years old. \$200. 858-259-2763.

REFRIGERATOR, compact Sanyo, stainless steel, front 2 feet, 10 inches high, 18 inches wide. Like new, used 1 year. \$50. 619-756-0930.

WASHER/DRYER, refrigerator. Washer/dryer gas, set \$150 refrigerator, frostfree, icemaker \$80. 858-569-2007.

WASHER/DRYER, Speed Queen, coin operated, works great. Almond, \$450. 619-465-4434.

WASHER/DRYER SETS: Both pieces from \$250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, \$145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

WASHERS AND DRYERS. Guaranteed. \$100-\$195 each. Over 200 to choose from. In-shop/in-home service and we sell parts. Stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, too. Can deliver. Calwest Appliance Exchange. 619-723-1545.

WASHING MACHINE, Maytag, coin operated, digital, newer take \$195. Also older machine. \$150. 619-501-8575.

ELECTRONICS

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FLAT PANEL TV, Viewsonic N3250w 32" LCD HDMI, perfect condition \$795. Also available is a USDigital HiSense digital high definition tuner for \$75. 760-758-1430.

PHILLIPS, 42" plasma HDTV with bracket. TV not working. Best offer. 619-405-7180.

SATELLITE TELEVISION, DirecTV, free equipment, free 4 room installation, free HD or DVR receiver upgrade. Packages from \$29.99/month. Call 800-380-8939. (AAN CAN)

BATTERY**Location:** 5775 Camiones Way, San Ysidro**Time/Date:** 3:00 a.m. on 10/08/06**Victim's Statement:** I went down to TJ on Saturday night and came back Sunday morning. I parked in the

parking lot off Camiones. I didn't remember exactly where I parked, so I walked through the lot. I stopped

off and used the restrooms there in the lot. I came out and saw three white guys. I guess they thought I was looking at them, but the next thing I know is that they rushed me. I was just standing there about ten feet away from my car, with my hands in my pockets. I put up my hands to defend and protect myself. They kept punching me and saying stuff. I can't remember what was said. I think they kicked me in the back, but there aren't any marks. I only had about five drinks in Mexico. The three of them all seemed to have been drunk. The people at the parking lot said they might have videorecorded the incident, but the police would have to get involved to get a copy of the tape.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY**Location:** [10000] Fuerte Drive, La Mesa**Time/Date:** 8:50 p.m. on 10/08/06**Incident:** Deputies Mike Rand and William Kerr...observed two men apparently casing the area. Rand and Kerr contacted and detained the men, Ronald B., a parolee, and Mike G. Neither lived in the area.

G. was found to have over \$25,000 worth of stolen property, jewelry, credit card receipts, and a large amount of methamphetamine on his person. The deputies checked the area nearby and located five computers, several audio components, and a television near the fence of a resi-

dence. The deputies found the rear door of the residence open and the interior ransacked.

B. and G. made incriminating statements and were arrested for criminal conspiracy and burglary. The victim was not home when the burglary occurred.

EXHIBIT FIREARM**Location:** [4200] 34th Street,

City Heights

Time/Date: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

on 10/08/06

**Officer's Report:** On October 9, 2006, at approximately 3:47 p.m., I was dispatched to an incident involving a male who had pointed a gun at the couple on 3300 Meade Avenue. While en route, I learned the incident occurred the day before and that the female victim had spotted the vehicle and male suspect. The victim was to be waiting at the ARCO gas station at 33rd Street and El Cajon Boulevard.

Upon arrival, I spoke to Stephanie T., who told me an unknown Hispanic male pointed a gun at her and her boyfriend. [She] described the suspect vehicle as 1995-1999 Nissan Altima, dark turquoise in color. The vehicle has Baja California license plates. The suspect was described...with a shaved head and

was a "gangster type." The male was said to have bright-colored eyes, possibly blue in color.

Statement of Stephanie T.:

My boyfriend, my daughter, and I were looking for a new place. We...were waiting at the stop sign at 34th Street and El Cajon Boulevard facing north. I noticed a vehicle just behind us and to the side. The driver was staring at us. Just as I was looking at them, they pulled up at the passenger side. The driver looked at my boyfriend Luis and said, "You talkin' to me, homie?"

Luis said, "What?" and the male repeated himself.

Luis said he was not talking to him and the male said, "You better not be talkin' to me."

Luis said, "I would not talk to you."

The male pulled out a small gun, like a .22, racked it, and said, "You better not be talkin' to me, I fucking shoot you!"

The guy pointed the gun at me too, so I just took off. I did not call the police because we did not really have too much information to give on the guys in the car.

Then today, I brought my mom to show her the new place. As we were driving around, I saw the same guy in the same car. He started to follow us around on 33rd Street and Meade Avenue. I got scared. I called 911 and came to the gas station, and they just drove away. I know what this guy looks like now and I know his car. I wanted him arrested. I was so scared for my life and my little girl.

SHOOTING**Location:** Highland and Orange, Teralta East**Time/Date:** 2:50 p.m. on 10/02/06**Report:** A San Diego Schools police detective saw a Hispanic male get out of a vehicle and shoot toward a van and other folks around a van. They ducked and ran and the van drove away. The shooter fled and dropped a .22 caliber gun.**SALE OF COUNTERFEIT HANDBAGS****Location:** [2900] Stonefield Drive,

Jamul

Time/Date: 5:40 p.m. on 10/13/06**Report:** Detectives from the Lemon Grove Sheriff's Station served a search warrant for counterfeit trademark handbags...representing Gucci, Chanel, Kate Spade, Christian Dior, Louis Vuitton, Coach, and Fendi [that] were being sold at what was advertised, via e-mail, as a "Purse Party."

About 50 separate items were impounded as evidence with a value of approximately \$58,165. Investigative consultants representing the designer handbag companies assisted the detectives. There were no arrests made at the scene.

— Michael Hemmingson

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stain. No chairs. \$600. Carlsbad. 760-729-0263.

DRESSER, black, 6 drawer with mirror. \$100/best. 760-752-1381.**DRESSERS**, solid wood, bookcases, buffet, dining table/chairs, kitchen island, canopy bed, desk, cedar chest, TV/microcrowave stands, coffee/end tables, can separate. \$1980. 619-670-8356.**END TABLES**, 2 pecan wood with drawer and storage. Matching set \$40/each. 619-466-8663.**AUTOMOTIVE****Window Tint**

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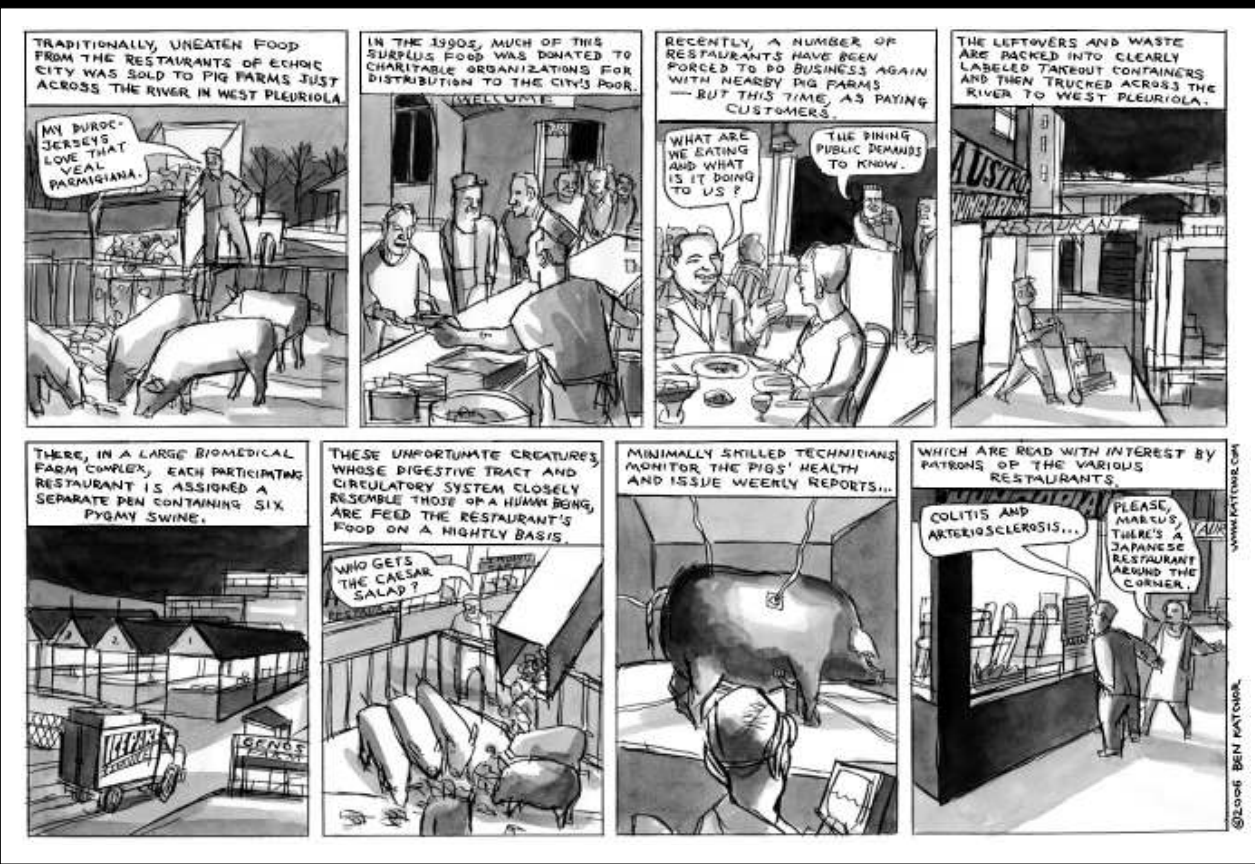
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FURNITURE, used. Full size sofas, loveseats, sofa sleepers, chairs, tables, beds, antique stereo, TV console, end tables, much more. \$15-\$500. 619-957-6223.

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MATTRESS A BABY-SOFT QUEEN \$145. Pillow top mattress set. Brand new, in plastic. Must move! Can deliver. 619-808-8205.

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OFFICE FURNITURE. Desk, 66"Wx77"L, \$150. 2-drawer file, 37"Wx20"D, \$50. Conference table, 72"Lx36"W, \$200. Shelf unit, \$25. 6 side chairs, \$35 each. Secretary desk, \$100. 858-349-4438.

PATIO TABLE with umbrella, 42" round glass, good condition, \$75. Fans, 20" box fan, 15" oscillating \$15/each. 858-274-6785.

RECLINER, La-Z-Boy, soft velvet, peach color, rocks and swivels, like new condition. \$150. 619-466-8663.

RECLINER/ROCKER, very comfortable, green, good upholstery, vibrates and rocks, compartments for remote and magazines, sit in to appreciate, \$500 new, asking \$100. 619-723-4812.

SECTIONAL, black leather, 3 piece. Good condition \$850. Side-by-side Hotpoint refrigerator like new \$600. Teak dining table with chairs. \$150. 858-273-3052.

SOFA BED, excellent condition, forest green/maroon tweed upholstery, \$50. 619-283-3124.

SOFA, beautiful brown velvet. Made by La-Z-boy with oaks in the front. Reclining both sides very good condition fraction of price \$150. 858-677-9932.

TABLE, with 2 comfortable, chairs, wood. Great for studio or small apartments \$75. 619-466-8663.

WOOD FURNITURE, all solid, teak hutch, adjustable padded swivel chairs, \$15-\$20. Desk, 2 drawers \$30, black metal sofa bed firm mattress. 619-988-5754 or 619-461-1731.

YOUTH BED, \$10, TV 24x18, golf clubs, wheelchair \$35, exercise bench, rowing exerciser, office chair, bookcase headboard twin, roll-top desk, office desk, oriental dolls, 858-270-0565.

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FOR SALE

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AB DICK 350, Box of plates, folder, plate burner, cabinet full of ink, small light table. \$1000/best. 619-444-8737.

BARBECUE, gas grill, Broil-Mate (Canada). Great condition. 4-1/2 feet long; 24x14 cooking surface. 2 shelves come with cover. \$69. Penasquitos. 619-857-4917.

BASKET COLLECTION, large sizes with hinged lids. Decorative \$10/each. Sewing machine. Kenmore. Metal parts, accessories. Heavy duty. Great condition. \$4. 760-753-6996.

BATHROOM FIXTURES, new and used shower pan, 3x3, white, new in box \$75, used stainless, cast iron sinks, starting \$25. Shower doors \$45. 619-957-6223.

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CABINET, utility, kitchen, patio \$35. Bowling ball, bag, shoes 8, \$25/all. TV stand, swivels \$35. File cabinet \$25. Recliner/rocker, \$25. 858-277-7197.

CARGO, mate power chair lift. Class II/III. Less than 6 months old. \$800. 619-449-8509.

CARPET, 1500 square feet, almost new plus padding, off-white \$500. North County. 760-726-7215.

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CHRISTMAS STUFF, large santa 4 feet tall, standing, sturdy, plastic, \$15. 5 wreaths for Christmas or other occasion \$5 each. 760-739-7675

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Includes new fluid, pan gasket, adjust band & linkage, road test, check & top-off differential, power steering & brake fluid. **Filter extra**. Some cars. With this ad.

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- Replace air filter
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- Replace spark plugs (platinum type)
- Change brake fluid
- Check front & rear brakes
- Check cooling system & hoses
- Check tire pressure & rotation
- Check lights
- Adjust hand brake
- Inspect exhaust pipe & muffler
- Inspect power steering system
- Inspect fuel lines • Inspect all belts
- Check clutch free-play & adjust
- Replace distributor cap & rotor
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Intermediate Service \$95⁹⁵
15K • 45K • 75K • 105K Call for details.

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Up to 5 qts. Exp. 11/30/06. Some cars higher.

CV Boot \$49⁹⁵ CV Axle from **\$145⁹⁵**
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\$10.99 Reg. \$14.99. Most cars. Plus \$2 oil disposal fee. 6-cyl. & more extra.	\$169 Most cars. Tune-up, transmission service, radiator service, safety inspection. Platinum plugs and timing belt extra.	\$95 Parts and labor. New or rebuilt.	\$95 Parts and labor included for most cars. Machine rotors.
Minor Service	Buy 3 Struts, Get 1 Free	Transmission Flush	Transmission Rebuild
\$79 Most cars. Oil change, flush coolant, clean air filter, inspect fluids and belts, adjust brakes, and rotate tires.	Lifetime warranty Includes free alignment.	\$55 6-cyl. and more extra. Special fluids extra if needed.	\$100 Off Most cars. Plus labor.
Bumper	Paint Special #1	Paint Special #2	Paint Special #3
\$25 Off One-day service.	\$189 Reg. \$199. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats. 100% 1-year warranty. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.	\$279 Reg. \$299. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats. 100% 2-year warranty. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.	\$429 Reg. \$499. Chemical wax removal, machine for adhesion sanding, precise masking, high solid paint, 2 coats. Integrated clear coats. 100% 6-year warranty. Trucks/vans higher. Limited colors.

3 locations • Offers expire November 30, 2006.

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30K • 60K • 90K SERVICE
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from **\$99⁹⁹**
• Install new spark plugs
• Change engine oil
• Change oil filter
• Adjust idle to factory specs
• Check ignition system and timing
• Lubricate chassis
• Inspect brakes
• Check all hoses, radiator and cap
• Drain and refill cooling system

• Rotate 4 tires
• Check suspension
• Inspect air and fuel filters
• Tighten and inspect belts (exposed only)
• Clean battery terminals
• Adjust emergency brake
• Inspect manual transmission fluid
• Inspect differential fluid

All services done same day. All services may not be applicable or necessary for your vehicle. Some trucks & 4x4 slightly higher. Timing belt replacement extra if required. Most cars. Please call for details.

TUNE-UP SPECIAL
Includes: new plugs, check timing, inspect hoses & belts. Most cars.
\$24.99 4-cyl. • **\$35.99** 6-cyl.
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“IT HAS TO BE FRESH, YOU KNOW,” the receptionist tells me over the phone. “You can drop it off anytime after 1 o’clock.”

At 12:59 I’m standing at the counter. Let’s get this over with. The glass partition slides to the right.

“Yeah,” I stumble. “I had a vasectomy. I need to, um, follow up.”

The woman in green hospital scrubs notices the wadded up brown paper bag in my hand and blurts, “Oh, okay. You need a sperm check.”

I wince and look over my shoulder. Everyone in the room is pretending to watch TV, but each has an ear bent in my direction. “Uh, yeah,” I stammer and hand her the bag.

A few months after a vasectomy is performed they need to check to make sure the tubes are tied, or cauterized, or — I don’t know — there’s a chip clip or some damn thing pinching them off. They have to make sure there are no bullets in the gun.

There I am, 30 people behind me, facing my direction, and I’m handing off the evidence. I’ve spent the last 17 years hiding anything directly related to the act: *Playboys* under the mattress, lights off, in a locked room, you know. And here, in a specimen cup, here’s the only proof one would ever need.

“Thanks,” she says and takes the bag. “You need to write down the time of ejaculation.”

Good lord, woman, can’t you lower your voice to *under* operatic range? I cringe and glance back over my shoulder to the waiting room of people. I take the form and write in the timeslot: 12:45 p.m.

I hand her back the clipboard, she holds it up and says, “Oh, that’s fresh. Guess we know what you were just doing.”

I almost pass out, right there at the counter.

Am I wrong? Am I repressed? Should I have handed the cup over and beamed proudly?

“You can wait over there,” she points to a bank of chairs opposite the television.

“Watch TV and we’ll call your name when we get the results.”

I take my seat and crane my neck. *Looney Tunes* is on, only it’s in Spanish. Wile E. Coyote plunges off a cliff and holds up a “Gulp!” sign.

“Mr. Olivieri,” she shouts into the room after I’ve watched 15 minutes of *Bugs Bunny y Sus Amigos*. She finds me and makes eye contact. “You’re sterile, Mr. Olivieri.”

Daffy Duck swings a rifle from behind his back; he pulls the trigger, a white flag with a big red “Bang!” written on it unfurls from the barrel.

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

WALKER, TEXAS RANGER

USA 10:00 A.M.

When Chuck Norris finds Kenny Rogers, pitcher for the Detroit Tigers, he’s going to give him a little lesson on cheating with a Texas round-house chop to the neck. When Chuck finds Kenny Rogers, country music superstar, he’s going to give him one of the same. Just on principle.

DEAL OR NO DEAL

NBC 9:00 P.M.

Shut up, knobhead. Here’s my deal for you. Stop sucking the art and soul out of America and we’ll let you become an Internet celebrity fad, and you’ll get a mention on *Hollywood Insider’s* “Where are they now? Remember that dillhole?” segment.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

A SALUTE TO TEACHERS

CA4SD 9:00 P.M.

Isn’t a salary of 40 grand for nine months of babysitting enough? I’ve got your salute, right here.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

ICE-T’S RAP SCHOOL

VH1 11:30 A.M.

Given the right circumstances you have approximately 75 years on earth. That’s 657,000 hours, or 1,314,000 half-hours. Why? Why, dear God, would you waste even one of them watching Ice-T teach white suburban kids to rap?

NOSTRADAMUS: 500 YEARS LATER

HIST 8:00 P.M.

I’d crack a joke about “Who in their right mind would heed the drunken ramblings of an idiot?” but I’d only be alienating my target audience. Maybe I should trade in my tablecloth cape and Lone Ranger mask for a long white beard and purple velvet hood to be recognized as the soothsayer I really am. Finally, some respect.



Ugly Betty

mustache is coming for me! It’s getting bigger and it’s — ew — throbbing. I’m so scared. EEEEEEE! You laugh now, but when they find my lifeless body covered in Grecian formula and carnauba wax, you’ll be cry-cry-crying. Boo-hoo. Geraldo’s mustache killed Ollie. Boo-hoo-hoo.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (1997)

XDTV 8:00 P.M.

I told you if you pushed in your bellybutton and made that face all the unicorns would die. Now, look out the window. See the birds, planes, and clouds? Is there one damn horse up there? NO! Woe upon your head. Woe.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

THE VILLAGE

FX 4:30 P.M.

It’s a fake. The creatures are fakes. The elders of a frontier American village keep residents under strict rule by donning costumes and spreading fear. Oh, I hope you’ve seen the movie. If not, I just gave away the big secret and ruined it for you. Bummer. Oh, and it’s not the 19th Century. The village is a hideout from modern times. Oh, no. You haven’t seen it. I’m sorry.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

GERALDO AT LARGE

KUSI 8:30 P.M.

OooooOOoo! Halloween. Oh, no! Geraldo’s

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

THE SANTA CLAUSE

DISNEY 9:00 P.M.

No. Send it back. It’s too early. I’m not ready for two months of schmaltz, saccharine sweet sentiment, and “the real meaning of Christmas.” Please. I’ll do anything. I’ll grow my high school mullet back and wear Hammer pants. DAMN YOU! Fine. Let’s do it. Let’s get it over with. If the jing-jing-jing-a-ling and the glitter and the forest of red and green craft paper get to be more than I can handle, I’ll just go back to cutting myself. Hand me the bourbon.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

UGLY BETTY

ABC 9:00 P.M.

I was about to trash this stupid show until I noticed Selma Hayek is in it. God, I love her. She seems like the type who’d stab you with a steak knife because you came home late and smelled like stripper perfume. I’d forgive you, Selma. When I got out of the hospital and you got out of county jail, we could start our new life together; just me, you, and those shirt-stretchers of yours. Oh, Selma.

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GARDEN/NURSERY. 13 small ornamental flower pots, ceramic, clay, \$17 all. Hose reel cart \$5, plant stand \$5. 10 tomato cages \$4/all. 760-739-7675.

GI JOE, collection. 3 3/4" style. 2 boxes of assorted opened & unopened figures and vehicles. 1 box of comics. \$250. 760-753-8726.

IRON GATES, 85" high x up to 110" wide \$75. Security screen door 32" x 80" \$45. 619-804-4419.

JEWELRY. 590+ pieces of jewelry, big assortment of earrings, necklaces, pins, etc., costume and vintage mix, pretty, all for only \$500/best. 858-220-1540.

LADIES BLOUSES, \$1, pants \$2. Sweetener \$3. Irons \$5. Metal head board twin size \$5. Scooter \$5. Garden pots \$4. Phone cord \$10. Belts \$3. 619-583-3751.

LAWN MOWER, 5hp, rear bag, 3 months old. \$75. Cactus 8' tall in pot \$45. Ficus 6'

tall \$25. CB radio \$5. Camping gear \$25. 858-581-1869.

LIFE MAGAZINE, covers only. 90. 1960s, \$25 takes all. 760-845-3024.

MACHINE HOIST, for lifting engines. 14' long bar 7'9" high. Bolts to floor \$100. 619-656-7840.

MINERAL COLLECTION, cabs, slabs, cutting rough. Also much quartz including Herkimer diamonds, Vera Cruz amethyst, prime jewelry points and spheres. Unusual tumbled, much more. 619-260-8482

MODEL TRAINS, HO Scale. Walthers Amtrak passenger cars phase IV five car set \$115 in original boxes. F45 PHI Amtrak California engines \$45 each. 619-295-2551.

MOVING SALE. Aquarium stand, refrigerator, washer/dryer, dishwasher, freezer, microwave, TVs/stands, stereo, beds, daybed, dressers, recliner, coffee/end, dining table/chairs, vacuum, bikes. 619-670-7821.

OVERHEAD projector \$75. Metal detector \$45, vacuum Kirby self propelled attach-

ments with shampooer \$200, Ryobi drill kit \$60. 619-449-8069.

PAINTINGS, large \$100-\$225, Organ bench end tables \$40. Womens casual office clothing most \$5-\$20. Ladies leather coat. Mens leather jacket. David Hunter wool blazer. 619-469-2332.

PICTURE/PAINTING, frames, wood, large, 6 for \$10, large wood frame with glass \$15. Escondido. 760-522-8199.

SEARS CRAFTSMAN 7-1/4 inch circular saw, double insulated. Rarely used. \$25/best. Call after 3pm. 619-269-9821.

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USED ESPRESSO MACHINE, 3 group as is \$1500, 619-522-0077.

VARIOUS ITEMS, small color TV/VCR combo \$40. Jupiter Alto Saxophone with case \$800. Mountain bike in excellent condition \$200. Call Jimmy 619-865-9230.

WASHER/DRYER, free. Multi purpose canopy as new in box. \$130. 2 living room, nice chairs both \$50. 1 bike "bianchi" nice \$45. 1 mirror 68"x24". 619-276-7873.

WATCH, Guess, Men's steel line. Dress, silver tone. \$95-\$115 in stores and on-line. New \$50. Steve 858-279-0492.

WHEELBARROW, medium size air tire \$15. Hose reel with 75 feet hose \$10. Childs bike with training wheels \$10. All good. 619-224-3170.

WOOL AREA RUG, never used. 5x8. Gorgeous quality rug. Heavy weight, thick nap. Black/tan background, floral accenting in subtle tones. \$225. 858-688-2604.

WORMS, redworm. Nature's fertilizer. 1 bucket \$40. Guarantee 1000+ worms. Lisa. 619-449-7875.

MOTORCYCLES

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HARLEY-DAVIDSON, 1999 Ultra Classic (FLHTCU), spotless, garaged, covered, like new, stereo with cassette, cruise, CB, intercom, excellent condition, supremely loaded (\$3000 in extras, \$14,900. 858-673-7038.

HONDA SCOOTER, 250 Elite, parts only. Crashed, but engine/transmission excellent. Wheels/tires instruments, headlight, seat, ignition, fuel tank, other parts all good. \$475. 858-300-6081.

KAWASAKI, KZ550, 1981. LTD, runs excellent, very clean and original, only 15K original miles beautiful bike. Hate to sell, but must. \$1200/best. 619-887-6712.

LAKESIDE, Gas powered mini choppers, 2, \$250/each. Each has electric starter, 43cc two-stroke engine. Oversized pneumatic tires. APC chopper very stable, more, \$250, 619-562-1096.

MOTORCYCLE, for sale. 2003 Volusia by Suzuki. Miles 2189. \$6500 negotiable. Call 619-587-6570.

SCOOTER, 2006, 70mph, new tank, 150cc Sporty Deluxe, Euro motorcycle/scooter, very fast, sport pack-

age, gets 80mpg, low profile tires, free-way legal, \$1350. 858-829-2316.

SPORTSTER XL1200, 2003 Anniversary edition, custom, lots of chrome, ear busting drag pipes, excellent condition, garage kept, 4375 miles, extra gear included, \$8500. 760-458-2943; 760-716-8939.

SUZUKI GS450, 1979, rare, has title, needs key and minor carburetor work, original fun bike, a great buy and investment, \$500/best. 858-220-1540.

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AUDI A4, 2003, beautiful car, power windows, locks, sunroof, great sound system with 6-disc changer. Kelley Blue Book \$19,600. Asking \$19,400/best. Motivated seller. Scott. 702-513-8267.

AUDI CS QUATTRO, 4000, 1986. 4 door sedan. Champagne, 85,000 miles, 5 speed manual. Everything works. Beige

cloth interior, moonroof, CD player. \$2200/best, ashleymooch@yahoo.com, 231-944-2981.

AUDI, 2002, A6, 3.0L. Sport-mode setting on Tiptronic transmission. Only 26,878 miles and clear title! Much more. \$9500. Happy to answer all questions, tlenk444@yahoo.com.

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AUTO PAWN LOANS. Secured by vehicle and title. All vehicles, cycles, boats, RVs and heavy equipment welcome. Fast and friendly service. deerhornautopawn.com. Call 619-464-2131.

BMW 2880, csi, 1971. Need work to restore, \$3500 or best offer, 619-250-9989.

BMW 330CI, 2002. Black, auto, 56K, M3 custom wheels. 100K warranty. 235HP. Everything except navigation. \$24,000. 858-472-0499. eldirectorJJ@netscape.net.

CADILLAC DEVILLE, 1984, full-size rear-wheel drive, white exterior, blue leather interior, many new parts, 118K original miles, locks and drives great, \$2300/best. 619-518-2269.

CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE, 2000, immaculate, well maintained, bronze mist, great gas mileage, takes regular gas, maintenance records available, non-

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smoker. 105K miles, \$8900/best. 858-945-4858.

CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE, 1990. Runs like new, loads of new parts, tires, brakes, hoses, belts, water pump, battery, alternator. Must drive to believe, \$2700, 858-270-0636.

CADILLAC STS, 3.6 sedan, 2005. Silver green, gray interior. Remote engine start, am/fm/cd Bose premium stereo, 25,940 miles. Only serious buyers! \$8000. 619-866-3711.

CHEVY BERETTA GT, 1992, V-6, low miles, fully loaded, premium wheels, runs and drives great, must see to appreciate, owner will help finance, \$2500. 619-896-0779.

CHEVY CAMARO, 2000. 75,000 miles. V8, 5.7 liter, 6 speed manual transmission. AC, Am/Fm abs, cassette. Power steering, dual front airbags, power windows/seats/door locks, more. \$8888/negotiable, 858-395-2188.

CHRYSLER PT CRUISER, 2001, limited, automatic, fully loaded, \$8995 or trade for stock Model A. 619-588-2280.

FORD CONTOUR, GL, 1997 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning, power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, premium wheel \$2975. 619-838-0779.

FORD MUSTANG, 2002, GT, convertible. 4.6L, V-8. Leather, all power, automatic, Mach 1000 audio system, cold air intake, cat back flowmaster exhaust. \$12500. 858-688-3773.

FORD MUSTANG, 1996, excellent condition, well maintained, 5 speed, 115K miles, stereo, all power, must sell, \$2800. 619-204-9785.

FORD RANGER XLT, Super cab, 2001. White, 4 doors (suicide back doors). 85,000 miles. Power locks/doors/windows. Alarm, AC, CD player, more \$8500, 619-804-3299.

HONDA CIVIC DX, 1997, green, 4 door, excellent condition, 163K miles, 5 speed, air conditioning, air bags, alarm, power locks, alloy rims, \$3300. 619-212-5208.

HONDA CIVIC, 4 door sedan. 104,000 miles. Charcoal grey. \$4500. 1993. Alpine stereo/speakers, original owner, all power, air, cruise, clean. Call Mike, 858-692-2098.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, call 800-495-0660 x2180.

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JAGUAR XJ6, 1989, leather interior and paint in excellent condition, runs great, 2nd owner, registration 2007, 93K miles, \$5600. 619-540-7613 or 619-933-6809.

LINCOLN TOWNCAR, 1989, Runs, looks good, Needs engine work. \$500. Call 619-573-7315.

MERCEDES E320, 1999, showroom conditions, low miles, 30 miles/gallon, fully loaded, premium sound, blue book value is \$17,200. Asking \$12,990/best. 619-200-2618.

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SCION XB, 2006. Midnight blue, 25,000 miles. 5 door, 84 month/75,000 mile extended warranty. Good stereo with satellite radio option. \$14,500. Excellent condition, 760-315-1468.

SUBARU FORESTER, XS 2004. 41k, all wheel drive, 4 door, great condition, 1 owner, roof rack, CD, cruise, air, all power, alloy wheels. \$16600. 619-280-6941.

TOYOTA CAMRY, 2003. LE. 2.4 L, automatic, air, CD/cassette, AM/FM, great sound. Clean, 52000 miles. Excellent condition. Power everything. Smooth ride! \$13495. 619-948-5370.

VOLVO TURBO SEDAN, 1998, only 82,400 miles, meticulously maintained and garaged, have all dealer records, silver with tan leather interior, \$8200. 401-662-9575.

VW BEETLE, 2005, convertible, good gas mileage, original owner, always garaged, under factory warranty, tags renewed, galactic blue exterior, cream leatherette interior, \$21,999. 760-473-0030.

VW BUG, 1974 registered January 2007. No smog need. 1600 CL motor, new windshield, shocks brakes. Clean interior. Runs great 30+mpg. Asking \$2500/best. 619-920-3362.

VW JETTA, 2004, 4 cylinder. 1.8L turbo, 5 speed, air, fully loaded, moonroof, abs wheels. Includes sports accessory package. \$15900/best. 619-517-1332.

VW SUPERBEETLE, 1972. Clean rebuilt engine. 4 speed. Runs great, good condition. \$1975. 619-315-8342.

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ACURA MDX, 2003. Fantastic condition for the mileage. Glossy gray paint, clean leather interior. Fully loaded, all options, voice command system, much more. \$12,500, bettercar4u2@gmail.com.

BMW X5, 3.0i, 2003. Clean carfax with buy back guarantee! Leather, tow package, traction control, power glass sunroof, transmission well maintained. Much more \$14,500, timothyrlssterster@gmail.com.

CHEVY BLAZER, 1999, S10, V-6, 4 door, navy blue. Automatic, air, all power, alarm, Alpine stereo, CD, alloy rims, lifted 30" new tires. \$5000. 619-328-9434.

CHEVY CONVERSION VAN, 1983. Runs & looks good. \$950. 858-220-1540.

CHRYSLER TOWN AND COUNTRY VAN, 1996. Must sell, make an offer. New transmission, new tires, power, AC. Seats 7, runs great, \$4,100, 951-303-9723, 951-551-5032.

DODGE DAKOTA, 2005, 2-wheel-drive quad cab, under 20K original miles, no accidents, dark red pearl, khaki interior, automatic, tow package, cruise, CD, stereo, \$17,800. 951-970-4361.

DODGE RAM CARGO VAN, 2500. Runs great, \$3200 or best offer. Call anytime, 619-250-9989.

DODGE RAM, 1500. 1999, 5 speed, 5.2 liter. Extended cab, new blue paint, battery, brakes, water pump. 87K. \$5400. 619-218-1751.

DODGE, 1980 1/2 ton longbed. 318 motor. Automatic. \$925 takes. 1992 Dodge Caravan V6 auto. Runs great and straight. \$1950. 619-660-8491.

FORD BRONCO, 1991. Front bumper. Chrome, no dents with brackets. Good condition \$50. Also fits F-150. After 5pm or weekends. 619-583-2270.

FORD EXPEDITION XLT, 2003. Only 45,000 miles. Upgraded brakes. Tinted windows, Am/Fm CD/cassette, more, \$16,000. Also selling 2000 Ford F-150 XL, \$7000, 619-449-3747.

FORD EXPLORER XLT, 2003, 21,300 miles, 4.6 liter engine, 8 cylinder, 5-speed automatic, third row seat, 3.73 axle, moonroof, remote entry, loaded, \$16,750. 619-482-2346; 619-948-5437.

FORD EXPLORER, 1998 Eddie Bauer, mint condition, white exterior, beige interior, automatic, every extra, leather interior, optional 4-wheel drive, sunroof, new tires, \$6000. 619-322-0150.

FORD EXPLORER, 1991 XLT white. \$3000/best. 110900. 4x4, never used. V-6, alarm, gray leather interior. Retractable sunroof, original owner. Garaged. 858-794-7970.

FORD F150 XLT SUPERCAB, Shortbed, 1999, 4.6 V8, automatic with overdrive transmission. Lo-Jack. Power windows/doors/locks. Registered/smogged until September 2007. \$8100, 760-420-5414.

FORD F150, 2005, 9700 miles, still under warranty. 5 speed manual transmission, 4x2, 4.2L, V6, CD, airconditioning, white. Private seller. \$10,900 or make offer. 858-736-7856.

FORD F150, 2005, 9700 miles, still under warranty. 5 speed manual transmission, 4x2, 4.2L, V6, CD, air conditioning, white. Private seller. \$12,900/make offer. 858-736-7856.

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T.G.I.F.

“Look, I’m saving your little teeth this year, maybe saving you from freaking diabetes.”

By John Brizzolara

Sitting at the child’s classroom desk I use at home, allowing my eyes to find focus where raindrops bash themselves against the screen to dissolve dirt into rivulets and make archipelagos of gritty islands against the inner glass, I think, *plummet*. “The rain plummets from the sky onto University Heights upon the living and the dead, the sheltered and the homeless alike.”

No, not alike. And the first half of the sentence is James Joyce. From “The Dead,” to be precise, only it was snow in Joyce’s piece. At least I know where to steal. Still, I play the backspace key over the line and send my disingenuous, hey-look-ma-I’m-writing genius into data heaven. What does it have to do with Halloween anyway? The idea is a Halloween column.

But it is the homeless that are on my mind tonight and the oft-avoided knowledge that I, not that long ago, was among them. Looking across Adams Avenue, the macadam riveted by raindrops like nails, over the railing on the Texas Street bridge, and into the blackness beyond, I wonder if there are not a few of them down that embankment, scurrying out of rat holes and shrubbery, roadside jetsam slipping in mud, trash bags — cauls of petroleum by-products: the people of the abyss.

Earlier that Friday afternoon I had stopped by Bargain Surplus on North Park Way, full of camo gear and boots and M.R.E. packs. I had priced rain slickers. Ponchos. I bought two for \$3.97 each. I selected baby blue rather than school-bus yellow because the higher visibility of the safety color would be undesirable as illegal lodgers scrambled from hiding places before the loud hailers and flashing lights, the forklifts that sometimes appear at three in the morning (on the day of a Padres game, for example) to clear shopping carts full of those random accretions of the mentally ill and generally disenfranchised. The image of those great unwashed fleeing from the centuries to the static and metallic barking of, “Disperse! You have five minutes to clear the area.” And a cry I heard was gleefully shouted from one squad car, “There will be no more homeless in San Diego!” As fine an idea as that is, why is it I associate it with foreboding, as if it echoed up the centuries from the fall of Rome?

I stare at the ponchos in their cellophane and wonder what on earth I will do with only two of them.

Forcing my thoughts back to things Halloween, I wonder if I’ll see any trick-or-treaters this year. I haven’t seen many kids in the neighborhood so far, except college kids. Maybe I’ll see some incorrigible scamps up to some prank action. Maybe I should lay in some Snickers, S’mores bars, something. And then I think of David Ross, a 71-year-old guy who hands out water, socks, blankets, and S’mores to homeless friends of his in skid row. How much candy might I need Halloween night? Say, three or four bags at most. At roughly two bucks a bag at, say, Sav-On or whatever, that’s about six or eight bucks. About what I spent on the ponchos.

Another ten minutes or so noodling at the keyboard, flicking the mouse around and I’ve got the ghost of Halloween past showing up at my door on All Hallow’s Eve. The ghost is this Barney Fife-type cop from Oak Park, Illinois, we used to torment. On Halloween we’d set fire to leaf piles in the suburb, and Barney would chase us through backyards. We’d say, “Hey, let’s ditch Barney again this year!” Great fun. In my paragraph Barney shows up at my door in University Heights or Normal Village or wherever I am in 2006, and he’s all blackened like Wile E. Coyote, and he’s got this warrant for me for arson. I save that little scene to Desktop and go back to thinking about any neighborhood kids. I imag-



ine telling them, “Look, I’m saving your little teeth this year, maybe saving you from freaking diabetes, and I’m giving S’mores to Dave Ross instead, who will in turn give them to homeless guys out there who really do have diabetes — probably from Halloween candy as kids — and you’re saving their life. Okay? Go home and sleep the sleep of the just.”

“You sour old bastard. You asked for it.”

And as they whip out their carton of raw eggs I’ll tell them I spent eight bucks I might have spent on more candy to buy a couple of ponchos. “So you might be keeping some mom and her baby a little drier one night, okay?”

And as they pelt my door with a few omelets, I’ll deliver the line I was born to croak, wishing for a rocking chair and a blanket over my lap — the territorial call of the grizzled old sod everywhere, “Get offa my property!”

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