

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

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Reader

There Is One God

Sikhs Make San Diego Their Home

“It was very difficult. We wanted to distinguish ourselves from Muslims and educate the public about who we are and what we believe. But at the same time we didn’t want to single out Muslims for discrimination or persecution. We were very worried about that. The equality of all people and all religions is central to our faith. We didn’t want to seem as though we were saying, ‘No! We’re not Muslims! Don’t attack us! Those guys over there are Muslims! Go attack them!’”

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We're not Arabs or Hindus or Muslims, we're Sikhs.

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Orchestration Critics of the *Union-Tribune* who say that the newspaper and some of its reporters are working too closely with San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders** to help advance his agenda may find



George Biagi

ammunition in an internal e-mail sent out last month to the mayor's staff by deputy press secretary **George Biagi III**. "The Mayor will be holding a press conference on Monday, Sept. 18th, at 11 am, in La Jolla at the former site of the former 'rat house' on Desert View Drive to announce to the press the progress we've made and the challenges that lie ahead for the city's READ [Real Estate Assets Department]," Biagi's e-mail begins, referring to a dilapidated house featured in a *U-T* exposé of the City's property management practices under ex-mayor **Dick Murphy**. "We're timing this to follow the anticipated **Brooke Williams** article in this weekend's *UT* that will be devoted to READ," Biagi continues. "Please note: The Mayor needs both **Jims** (**Waring** and **Barwick**) at this press conference, so please free up the space on their schedules so they can attend."

"If the article DOES NOT RUN in this weekend's *UT*, we will probably reschedule the press conference to coincide with the day that it runs. I'll also need some time on both Jims calendars on Thursday or early Friday so that we can finalize the fact sheet we'll be putting out on this as well as the mayor's remarks." As it turned out, the story appeared that Sunday just as predicted, under the banner headline "City cleaning up real estate mess; changes are being made, but a lot of work remains." The mayor received favorable mention: "Mayor Jerry Sanders made revamping the Real Estate Assets Department a campaign promise last fall and a priority when he took office in December."

Out of the mouths of babes According to an e-mail from **Lorena Gonzalez**, political director for the San Diego-Imperial Counties



Lorena Gonzalez

Labor Council, the council's robo-call attacking school board candidate **Michael McSweeney** as a right-wing extremist and touting the reelection of nominal Democrat incumbent **Katherine Nakamura**, a big backer of ex-superintendent **Alan Bersin**, "was done by an actual child in the our San Diego's Public School — not an Actor using a child's voice. As an AFTRA member, she is a little miffed that she is being misidentified." Gonzalez did not respond to a request for further details as to the identity and age of the child or whether as a member of the actors union she was paid union scale for voicing the call.... Developer Doug Manchester isn't the only one who's been giving big bucks to the GOP's Lincoln Club. On October 13, the day Manchester Resorts chipped in \$50,000, Mountain West Properties of Chula Vista gave \$10,000 and the Yokohl Ranch Co. contributed \$4000. Mountain West is run by Chula Vista developer Jim Pieri, and Yokohl is a subsidiary of the Central Valley's powerful JG Boswell Co., which also is the developer of the mammoth Eastlake project in Chula Vista. That

same day, the club gave \$70,000 to promote Props B and C, the so-called San Diego city hall reform measures sponsored by Mayor Jerry Sanders. But that hasn't been their only expenditure this campaign season. On October 17, they anted up \$10,000 for the Coalition to Preserve the Economy, the group favoring the airport move to Miramar. The same day the club also spent \$7245 on a poll in support of Cheryl Cox for Chula Vista mayor.

Inventors' rules Ex-Microsoft exec **Nathan Myhrvold** of Seattle isn't well known outside the rarefied confines of wealthy computer techies, though he's uttered plenty of quote-worthy statements. The creator of a Windows precursor that was snapped up by Microsoft back in the 1980s,



Nathan Myhrvold

Myhrvold went to work for the Redmond behemoth and became a millionaire many times over as the company's stock rose over the years. He also used *Slate*, the online magazine then owned by Microsoft, to sound off on controversial issues of the day: Myhrvold once called opposition to the cloning of human beings "just another form of racism," a kind of "discrimination against people based on a genetic trait — the fact that somebody has an identical DNA sequence.... What is so special about natural reproduction anyway?" He also made a name for himself by collaborating with Microsoft founder **Bill Gates** on a 1995 treatise about the future entitled *The Road Ahead*. Myhrvold took his leave of Microsoft in 2000 and founded a new company called Intellectual Ventures, which he claimed would "reinvent invention."

According to its website, the firm "has been actively inventing since August 2003. The company has filed hundreds of patent applications in more than 30 technology areas and has more than a thousand ideas under consideration. The first patents began issuing in November 2005, and Intellectual Ventures currently ranks in the top 50 among companies who file patents worldwide." And that leads to why Myhrvold gave the reelection campaign of North County GOP congressman **Darrell Issa** \$2100 on October 21. Issa himself became wealthy from his own inventions, 36 by one count, all having to do with car alarms. Issa-drafted legislation recently passed by Congress is also a big favorite of Myhrvold and the rest of the inventor lobby. Bill 5418 would create a pilot program to encourage federal judges to become more familiar with patent law. "This legislation will raise the level of expertise in patent litigation, improve the reliability of patents and allow businesses to spend more time inventing and less time litigating," according to a statement by the bill's cosponsor, Representative **Adam Schiff**, an L.A. Democrat. In addition to Issa, Myhrvold has contributed to a diverse array of candidates, including \$1000 to Friends of **Hillary Clinton** and \$2000 to Pennsylvania GOP senator **Rick Santorum**.

— 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.

Playing Hard to Get, Chargers Prefer L.A.

By Don Bauder

In France, a common mini-scandal is the *ménage à trois*, a person with two lovers, sometimes under the same roof.

The San Diego Chargers, secretly and lustfully eyeing the Los Angeles market, may outscandalize the French with a *ménage à cinq*, or one team pursued by four wooers.

out of negotiations with the league. But sports worshippers got enough signatures to put it on this month's ballot. If it wins, the Chargers might be able to choose among



In next week's election, citizens of Pasadena will vote whether their city should try to persuade the National Football League to put a team there and help renovate the Rose Bowl — a job that will cost half a billion dollars. Last year, the Pasadena City Council pulled

four L.A.-area bedmates, because the league is also considering rehabilitating the Coliseum, putting a new stadium in Orange County, or putting a new stadium somewhere else, possibly near downtown. This is an auctioneer's dream: one product, four

bidders.

Of course, the Chargers are playing hard to get, pretending they really aren't interested in L.A. Yeah, and most husbands tell their wives they would spurn advances from Paris Hilton. The Chargers can begin talking with other cities January 1 and can leave after the 2008 season. The L.A. metro area has 13 million people and is the nation's 2nd-largest television market. San Diego has 3 million and is the 26th-biggest television market. The TV-conscious National Football League will subsidize a stadium in the L.A. area but not in San Diego. 'Nuff said. The Chargers will go to L.A. if league owners agree. Recently, in the wake of talk that a new or rehabilitated stadium would cost \$1 billion, some owners are said to be getting cold feet. But a billion isn't what it used to be, and the prospect of big profits will warm those toes.

San Diego business leaders want to make this a real orgy. National City and Chula Vista are trying to seduce the Chargers, and the City and County of San Diego are together scouting out another location. If you're keeping score, this would be a *ménage à huit*, or one person with seven potential lovers — something that would shock even the French. The idea of squeeze-

continued on page 8

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

Neal Obermeyer



Chancellor Suarez and His Friends

By Joe Deegan

What were they thinking? Sometime in August, Omero Suarez, chancellor of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, and Deanna Weeks, the district's governing board president, signed a secretly altered version of the chancellor's contract. The change removed from the contract the "Maximum Cash Settlement" section, or buy-out clause, which had limited the maximum number of months the chancellor could be paid upon the contract's

termination to 12. Without the clause, Suarez could receive 18 months' pay. Chiropractor and district boardmember Tim Caruthers learned of the change on October 8. He held a press conference on October 19 at Grossmont College to disclose it.

The chancellor serves at the discretion of the board, and Weeks is running for her

first district election. She was appointed to fulfill a board vacancy two years ago. But according to a number of Grossmont faculty members, this story starts four years ago.

In 2002, according to campaign-contribution reports filed with the San Diego County Registrar of Voters, the political action committee Friends of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Community Colleges received monetary contributions of \$275,468 to help pass Proposition R, a bond measure to raise \$207 million for new construction and repairs on the two campuses. The proposition passed, and much of the work is now nearing completion. Omero Suarez has been highly praised for leading the proposition's

passage.

Among the contributors to the PAC, three contractors saw their donations pay off. In 2004, Architects Mosher Drew Watson and Ferguson won the contract to design Grossmont College's Digital Arts and Sculpture Complex. The company donated \$1000 to the PAC. Early in 2006, Koch-Armstrong General Engineering was awarded the right to complete the Grossmont College track renovation project. Koch-Armstrong donated \$100 to the PAC. Later this year, Johnson Barnes and Finch, Inc., who donated \$2000, provided the doors and frames for the Cuyamaca College Science and Technology Building.

For the current election



Omero Suarez



Tim Caruthers

cycle, the PAC, which has changed its name to Friends and Neighbors of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges, has turned its attention to electing three Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District governing boardmembers, including president Deanna Weeks. The other two are incumbents as well. As boardmembers, Weeks, Rick Alexander, and Bill Garrett, along with Suarez, helped manage the Proposition R work, including choosing contractors to carry it out. All three incumbents are also members of the East County Economic Development Council, a nonprofit organization devoted to furthering local business activity. Weeks is its president.

The PAC has drawn more contributions from contractors. Two of the donors to the Prop R campaign repeated their original gifts. In addition, Sundt Construction of Arizona, which has been working on the Digital Arts and Sculpture Complex, contributed \$1000. Gafcon Construction Consultants donated \$5000.

On its website, Gafcon describes its relationship with the district: "The passage of the local bond measure, Prop R, means more than \$200 million will be available for repairs, renovation and new construction at Grossmont College and Cuyamaca College over the next 10 years. The Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board selected Gafcon to manage the timing, cost and quality of Prop. R projects on the [two] campuses, as well as estimate procedures, budget accounting, design guidelines and reporting."

But the most surprising

entries on the PAC's campaign-contribution report are gifts from six East County nursing homes: Victoria Special Care Center, Somerset Intermediate Care, Parkside Special Care Center, Magnolia Special Care Center, Lo-Har Gardens, and California Special Care Center. During the July 1 to September 30 reporting period, the homes each donated \$300. All of the homes are owned by Kennon S. Shea and Associates. At the time of this writing, no one was answering the phone at the company's headquarters.

Los Angeles attorney Martha Torgow tells me by phone that in the wake of capital-spending bond measures it is common for contractors and architects to make substantial contributions to incumbent community college governors. For nursing homes to do it is suspicious, she says.

For the past several years, Cuyamaca College has offered noncredit "movement classes" at local nursing homes. Torgow speculates that "when the college provides the classes at taxpayers' expense, the homes don't have to pay for similar services themselves."

Torgow represented the Faculty Research Council, a group of Grossmont College faculty, in requesting the California Community College Chancellor's Office to investigate the practice. One complaint was that the homes were registering people in the movement classes without their knowledge. Later the council added to its complaints noncredit "exercise science classes" offered by Cuyamaca at the college gym. The state compensates the Grossmont-Cuyamaca district \$2000 for every non-

continued on page 8



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Grossmont College campus

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Chargers prefer L.A.

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ing an otiose football stadium into a thriving port area is ridiculous, particularly in depressed and overtaxed National City. Don't those football flacks claim (wrongly) that a stadium stimulates business, rather than eliminates it? This one would kill port jobs, and there would be nothing but a stadium that is empty all but 20 to 30 days a year to replace that economic loss. The stadium would cost \$450 million and infrastructure \$350 million. It isn't going to happen.

Chula Vista? What amuses me is that the Chargers would be negotiating for land there with HomeFed, the real estate company that is what's left of the savings and loan seized by the Resolution Trust Corporation in 1992. These are shrewd dudes. The company is a developer of San Elijo Hills and Otay Ranch in San Diego County. Five years ago, losses were steep and the stock sold for pennies a share. Now, profits have been rolling in for three years, and (adjusted for a 10 for 1 reverse split in 2003) the stock sells around \$68. HomeFed is controlled by New York's Leucadia National, which buys assets cheap and helps them flower, à la HomeFed. In 2002, Leucadia shareholders approved a relocation to tax-sheltered Bermuda, but the company hasn't made the move. Bottom line: the Chargers won't be able to denude Leucadia/HomeFed lawyers the way they took City of San Diego lawyers' pants down. Maybe the team can once again con the city and county, but why should it bother when a juicy market beckons immediately to the north? It appears some in the establishment now know the Chargers are leaving and will use this opportunity disingenuously to blame the departure on Mike Aguirre.

There are rumors that other teams covet the L.A. market. The Minnesota Vikings might like a more hospitable climate, but in this case, an entire state would put up a ruckus. There are rumors that aging Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis needs to dump part of the team for estate tax reasons. The Raiders might return to the L.A. market and share it with the Chargers, accord-

CITY LIGHTS

ing to longtime San Diego sports announcer Jerry Gross, who believes the Chargers are headed for Orange County. There is a rumor that Edward J. DeBartolo Jr. would return as part owner of the Los Angeles Raiders. But DeBartolo was banned from ownership of a team after he got caught bribing a former Louisiana governor with \$400,000 in cash to get a casino license. He was fined and got two years' probation, incurring the league's wrath. It's okay to consort with gamblers, but it's not okay to get caught. It's a long shot that the Raiders would return to L.A., with or without DeBartolo.

The New Orleans Saints would be a logical candidate for relocation, but emotion will trump logic on this one. Post-Katrina, the city's population is down 60 percent to 187,525. The metro area is down to a little over a million from 1.3 million pre-Katrina. It has sunk to the 54th-largest TV market. That's not enough to support a team. But in a stunning example of twisted priorities, \$185 million was spent to rebuild the Superdome, and most of that came from the federal government's bungling Federal Emergency Management Agency. Although it appears the Saints' owner would like to hike out of town, this team won't move soon. Of course, Louisiana is a football-crazed state, as well as thoroughly corrupt — two more reasons it has such an affinity with the National Football League.

The league doesn't want a franchise relocation to backfire. When the Cleveland Browns left that city in 1996, some in Congress threatened to reconsider the league's antitrust exemptions. Chastened, the league put an expansion team there. The owners don't want to suffer similar embarrassment with San Diego. But a financially ailing city is different from a hurricane-blown city. The Chargers have been trying to alienate San Diego for more than four years. The strategy may well work. The odds are good that the league will approve the move.

So expect San Diego's *ménage à cinq* or *ménage à huit* to begin making the headlines nationally sometime after the Super Bowl. The news will push some other pro sports scandals out of the papers.

CITY LIGHTS

The Sacramento Kings basketball team is owned by billionaire casino owners Joe and Gavin Maloof. They want a new arena. Voters next week would have to approve a quarter-cent sales-tax boost. The brothers want more, such as all the revenue from the 8000 parking places. And a guarantee that there would be no competing restaurant nearby. (What's that about an arena bringing economic development to the neighborhood?) What's more, the brothers are reluctant to give details of what the voters will be voting on. Mercifully, the polls show the deal losing by almost 60 percent.

The Orlando Magic basketball team would love to get out of the headlines. This team also wants a new government-subsidized arena. The Magic recently admitted that it paid \$200,000 to an antitax crusader, a local talk-show gabber, to keep his mouth shut.

The New York Yankees recently pulled off a heist. They will get \$400 million of government funds to build a new stadium. They will destroy two parks and hundreds of trees in the process. Neil deMause, writer for the *Village Voice* and keeper of the website Fieldofschemes.com, learned that the team billed city taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars for some work. What did that work entail? Lobbying the city. So New York City was paying to have itself lobbied.

What do you call that?
Ménage à un? ■

Suarez and his friends

continued from page 7

credit enrollment. According to Faculty Research Council member Beth Smith, district officials, under the active leadership of Chancellor Suarez, have been allocating those funds with a joint-financing formula that favors Cuyamaca College over Grossmont. Last winter she said that the nursing-home classes are inappropriate as college offerings because they amount to little more than grouping residents into sessions where they move and wave their arms. Smith is also president of the Grossmont College Academic Senate.

But Cuyamaca officials and the district say that the

CITY LIGHTS

funding formula being used was agreed to in 1998 as a way to help the younger and smaller college grow and attain a balance against certain financing advantages Grossmont College otherwise enjoys. Grossmont was founded in 1961, and its enrollment is more than 18,000. Cuyamaca has grown to nearly 8000 students from its founding in 1978.

In January, Marty Rubio, the state chancellor's fiscal services officer, e-mailed the Faculty Research Council confirming that the investigation it sought was under way. Rubio wrote, "We are trying to wrap up our work based on your past allegations. Some areas like minimum qualifications of [the noncredit] instructors have been confirmed, other topics are still unresolved."

After a Research Council inquiry in June into the investigation's status, the state chancellor's assistant general counsel Ralph Black on June 21 wrote, "We have not yet determined whether the College will be required to repay apportionment related to this review. However, we believe that the College is well on its way to correcting practices that led to your complaint. This e-mail constitutes our report to you as the complaining party, and we are closing our file on your complaint. However, we are continuing to work with the College to ensure its compliance with state requirements, and we will continue to closely monitor its related practices."

Chancellor Suarez told the district board at its July 18 meeting that the state investigation into Cuyamaca's non-credit classes was over. But on August 17, Marty Rubio again e-mailed the Faculty Research Council, specifically in regard to exercise science noncredit classes. Rubio wrote, "Since July 1 we (accountability staff) have been without a filled position. Effective September 1 that position will be filled and your concerns will be back on track. Our goal is to not only address your concern but ensure the district and college are accurately reporting their apportionment...."

In the meantime, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca district published a news release saying that on September 13, Jim Austin, vice chancellor of busi-

continued on page 10

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Suarez and his friends

continued from page 8

ness services, "will be splitting his time between San Diego County and Sacramento during a four-month stint overseeing fiscal policy for the chancellor's office of the California Community Colleges.

"An interjurisdictional agreement between GCCCD Chancellor Omero Suarez and state Chancellor Mark Drummond has cleared the way for Austin to serve as the interim vice chancellor for fiscal policy for the state community college system."

Austin is a temporary replacement in Sacramento for an employee who has taken another job. But critics are saying his new assignment includes overseeing the investigation into Cuyamaca College's noncredit classes, which as a local district employee he is also responsible for administering.

Omero Suarez has been facing other troubles in the past year, including ongoing faculty contract negotiations,

a San Diego County lawsuit to force the district to pay for roads to accommodate growing traffic next to Cuyamaca College, fallout from the firing last December of popular Grossmont College president Ted Martinez Jr., and a Grossmont faculty vote of no confidence. But in the view of Tim Caruthers, most threatening to Suarez's agenda is the potential loss in next week's elections of the three incumbent boardmembers. Caruthers is not up for election this time, but he says that those boardmembers who are — Deanna Weeks, Rick Alexander, and Bill Garrett — have been thoroughly compliant to Suarez's wishes. "I don't remember any one of them ever voting against something the chancellor wanted," Caruthers tells me.

Without naming which one, Caruthers calls one of next week's challengers a "very strong candidate," all the while expressing willingness to work with any of the winners. Running against Weeks for Seat One are Mary Kay Rosinski, Donald Sauter, and Emad Bakeer. Alexander is facing

Larry Octon, Rafah Alkhafaji, and Barbara Alexander for Seat Two. Seat Three is being contested by Garrett and educator Shannon Anne O'Dunn. One more position, Seat Five, became vacant when boardmember Wendell Cutting died this summer. That race features Arkan Somo, supported by the Friends and Neighbors of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges PAC, against former high school teacher Greg Barr and school administrator Scott Cioffi. Another PAC, Citizens for Educational Responsibility, is endorsing Rosinski, Octon, O'Dunn, and Barr.

I ask Caruthers whether the discovery of Omero Suarez's altered contract is likely to affect next week's elections. "The challengers sure ought to be focusing on it," he says. Seat Three challenger Shannon O'Dunn, who calls herself a moderate Republican, tells me by phone that the contract fiasco is not surprising given the lack of transparency shown by Suarez and the incumbents. "It comes from their business rather than educational orientations," she says. "They hold too many

secret [closed door] meetings with no minutes." When I ask whether she thinks the district has gotten state money from illegitimate classes, O'Dunn remarks, "Noncredits are not always naughty. But it would be shocking if there was a babysitting component to the nursing-home classes and people were signed into them without their knowledge. That would be abuse of our most vulnerable citizens."

When Suarez's contract change first came to light, Tim Caruthers says he filed a Public Records Act request for all documents and e-mails relating to it. He still has not received the e-mails, he says, but he did see that two days after his request, the contract had been changed back to its original wording and was signed again by both Suarez and Weeks. He then attempted to bring it up at the October 17 board meeting. But board president Weeks called the attempt out of order because it was not an agenda item. She had security escort Caruthers out of the meeting room after he pressed the issue.

"In the board meeting, when I asked, Deanna said she reads everything from the district that crosses her desk," Caruthers tells me. "So she can't now be saying she didn't know she was signing the contract change. Both she and Omero knew what they were signing. If you worked for the district and secretly changed your contract, you know you'd be fired."

And so Caruthers, at his

October 19 press conference, called for the resignations of both Suarez and Weeks and announced that he has been meeting with the FBI to bring about a criminal investigation into the altered contract. In his own defense, Suarez sent an e-mail to district faculty and staff explaining that he took responsibility only for a procedural error. He accompanied a second e-mail with two legal opinions from district counsel that exonerate him. "But those guys aren't criminal attorneys," says Caruthers.

A Cuyamaca professor, who asked not to be identified, criticizes Caruthers for ambushing Weeks at the board meeting and bringing in the FBI. "Couldn't he have gone to Deanna first," he asks, "and found out what was going on? But Caruthers was looking for maximum influence as the election approaches.

"What Chancellor Suarez did was extremely unwise," the professor tells me. "But the Research Council is determined to dig up dirt on him. Whenever the Grossmont faculty doesn't get its way, they jump on the chancellor. Suarez wasn't the first chancellor they gave a vote of no confidence. They did it to his predecessor too. They don't like the board incumbents for standing up to them. And what's going on now is simply a struggle for resources. Because of its size, the Grossmont faculty has always been the more dominant force in the district." (Grossmont's full-time fac-

ulty numbers 220 to Cuyamaca's 75.)

As for the election, one sign of its outcome may be the financial contributions raised by both sides. By September 30, the Friends and Neighbors of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges PAC had raised \$37,377. However, in an ironic twist, the PAC endorsing the challengers, Citizens for Educational Responsibility, has raised \$43,673, most of it from Grossmont College professors. And that does not include \$16,000 that United Faculty, the faculty union, has recently voted to give the challengers' PAC. Most Cuyamaca faculty resented their union dues going against their interests. "United Faculty," says my Cuyamaca source, "does not unite; it is dividing the two campuses."

On Monday, Deanna Weeks finally spoke up, e-mailing Grossmont's and Cuyamaca's faculty and staff. "I am appalled by the actions taken by Chancellor Suarez concerning his contract. I want a full and immediate investigation. The investigation needs to be by an independent entity with no involvement or participation by the chancellor. He can direct Vice Chancellor [Jim] Austin to see that it gets done.... I want the results of the investigation placed on the November [after the election] governing board agenda, closed session, as required by law, and the board will take appropriate action at that time." ■

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LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; 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.

A \$618 Front-End Alignment?

Re "Cracked Streets, Crooked Pols," by Don Bauder ("City Lights," October 26).

Don Bauder normally has his facts straight and his ducks all in a row. What happened in this column, with its allegation, referring to a story in *USA Today*, that our roads add "\$618 a year to every vehicle's cost"?

How does this happen? Does the dealer charge more, knowing that the car is going out on San Diego's streets? Does having been used on San Diego's streets subtract from a vehicle's value? Does a San Diego car owner have to spend an extra \$618 per year on front-end repairs?

The latter certainly is not true. I do not know anyone who has to spend that kind of money on street damages to his car every year, nor, I suspect, does Don Bauder.

Walt Fisher
Clairemont Mesa

Don Bauder responds: The study by a nonprofit group in Washington, D.C., found that bad roads and highways impose a hidden tax on motorists, consisting of many additional vehicle maintenance costs, not just front-end repairs. San Diego's \$618 a year compares with \$383 nationally. Highest is San Jose at \$705.

20 Years Of Quotes

Re "City Lights," October 26, "An Issue of Public Safety." I was a lieutenant on the SDPD from 1981 to 1999. During that time, I was responsible for preparing promotability packages for officers applying for sergeant and for sergeants applying for lieutenant. Every time the process came up, I was specifically told by my commanding officers, who were captains, that I had to include a number of minority and female candidates. Even though I argued and showed specific examples of white male candidates who were performing at a substantially higher level, I was ordered to disregard or pass over several to stay within the formula the captains were required to present to the chief's office. This also held true in selection of officers for detective. I was required to select officers based on color or gender even though there were white male officers performing at higher levels. These mandates came down through the tenures of chiefs throughout the time period of my experience of 1981 to 1999. The formula was usually that stated in the article: for every three white males, you must have a black or Hispanic and a female.

Another myth is "Honest communication without fear of retaliation." Anyone who believed that and spoke their mind honestly was relegated to insignificant assignments looked upon as dead end.

I had hoped things had changed. I guess not.

Bill Howell
via e-mail

The Nose Knows

Wow!

Abe Opincar is an absolute genius at sniffing out the right people to talk

with, as evidenced by his interviews with Alpiners in "Where the Mountain Meets the Sky" (Cover Story, October 19).

Rather than take the easy route and speak with the usual political mouthpieces, he found the gold in these hills: Carol Morrison, the president of the historical society, is an amazing, giving person of integrity, who would never steer anyone in the wrong direction. Opincar's thoughtful questions give such insight into developer Paul Gonya and the tenacious and forthright Tom Dyke. And good for him to uncover Floyd (too honest for his own good?) Poole and his family. Poole redid our septic system after the Cedar Fire and, being a true good neighbor, gave us a survivor discount. The closing sentence, the Dyke quote, is priceless. Opincar: what a pro.

Bonnie Bekken
Alpine

Frolicking Coyotes, Scurrying Bunnies

Regarding "Where the Mountain Meets the Sky: How Long Can Alpine Stay Rural?" (Cover Story, October 19). I grew up in Alpine from 1965 to 1986 (Joan MacQueen was one of my teachers) and lived across the street from Wright's Field, which we call "the Cow Pasture." I rode my horse and walked along the trail in the photo daily to town (before the freeway also!). The photograph brings back so many memories — coyotes following me while frolicking through the sagebrush, alligator lizards, crystal-clear sparkling air, quiet peace, bunnies scurrying along. I miss it, and it isn't the same anymore, but the photo is!

E. Clare Wallace
via e-mail

The Jerks Don't Know Their History

Once again Don Bauder has gone off the deep end in his "City Lights" commentary on the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club ("Fat Cats Bully Commoners," October 19).

You don't just take property that has been privately owned since before we were all born and suddenly make it public because a few radical left-wing elements of our society wish it to be. The Coastal Commission's efforts in this circumstance are far worse than those actions taken by New London in the Kelo taking. An action Bauder has equated with Nazism. Ironic, hypocritical, or worse? Take your pick!

The property rights asserted by the beach club are not claims as was stated. Bauder may be entitled to his opinion, but he is not entitled to his own facts. Neither the Sierra Club nor the Coastal Commission has provided any evidence to support Kruer's claim that the beach is public. There is none!

By the way, does Bauder or any of the jerks from the Sierra Club have a clue about the history of this property? I doubt it, but if they did, I suspect they would still grossly misrepresent the beach-access situation at La Jolla Shores.

Personally, I am grateful to the Scripps and Kellogg forebears for providing such a beautiful beach park at La Jolla Shores for use by the public. It's the only oceanfront park in the city suitable for my child. And the only one with a beachfront boat ramp within the city limits.

Though most of us realize what a buffoon Bauder has become in recent years, he must really be desperate to have sunk so low in the ranks of the journalistic

universe. My condolences on his joining the ranks of the ignorant il-literati.

Thomas Leeman
via e-mail

Bauder replies: The beach and tennis club owns the property out to the mean high tide line. But global warming and other factors are causing the sea level to rise. The mean high tide line now goes far up the beach. While the matter has not been adjudicated, the Coastal Commission is correct to say the beach will be part of the public trust, and therefore people can use it now.

The ACLU, Our Own Al-Qaeda

I read your article on Escondido passing a law to make it a crime to rent to illegal immigrants ("The Heart Meets the Law," "City Lights," October 19). It doesn't surprise me that the ACLU will sue the city to prevent the enforcement of the new law. There is no organization that I can think of that is less American than the ACLU. I have often compared them to the terrorists. They both have the same goal in mind, to destroy America.

Ronald M. Engelhart
Clairemont Mesa

Duly Noted

If anyone understands the heart of God (Genesis 9:6, Romans 13:9), it is Lawrence M. Ludlow (Letters, October 26). Don't start force, don't loot, don't enslave, don't start wars, don't murder. Our governments spit on God. Thank God that there are some like Mr. Ludlow who know this. I know you won't publish this. I write for the eternal record.

Der Führer

Drop That Water Bottle And Spread 'Em

I am well pleased after reading your article "He

Loves the People No One Wants" (Cover Story, October 5). But I am disgruntled at the reaction given by Sergeant Laura Santiago. Since when is it illegal to give water to the homeless? And remember, people, it was a very hot summer, with record high temperatures. When reading this article, I thought to myself, why would a police officer be concerned about someone giving homeless people water in the first place? Especially when the San Diego Police Department is lacking manpower. So while she is busy citing David Ross, someone might be of need of some assistance elsewhere. It truly disappoints me that our tax dollars are paying these people's salaries. The most shocking fact is that people like Santiago have a position of authority. Now, I don't know her enough to judge her entirely. But I can judge her actions. And her actions lead me to think that her decision-making skills are lacking. And who wants a police officer who lacks decision-making skills patrolling the streets?

S. Sargent
via e-mail

Recommendation Springs A Leak

Regarding the recent "Best Buys" article (October 5) about the Aerobed. With the possible exception of my first car, a 1971 Chevrolet Vega, I think the Aerobed is the worst product ever made! In the past I've owned two of them. Neither was worth a damn at holding air, and one developed a huge bulge, likely due to a failure of the baffles inside. Thankfully, I discovered an inflatable mattress by Swiss Gear, the makers of the famous army knife. While their airbed doesn't feature a bottle opener, nail clippers, screwdriver, or utility

continued on page 75

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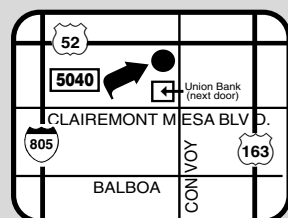
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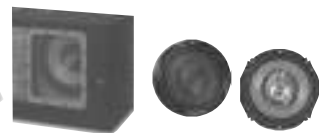
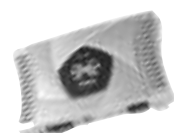
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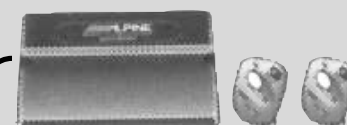
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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

Election Preview Special

On the phone with Charlie Sears. We met in the late '60s, at Leroy's, then a seedy sportsbook in downtown Las Vegas. We were among the few who liked to watch the early NFL line go up on Sunday night.

From that, and through the considerable changes in our lives — women, residences, jobs — we've kept in touch, sometimes frequently, sometimes occasionally, sometimes very occasionally, but normally during the week before a presidential or midterm election. We've come to the habit of going over the election together and picking which races to bet. This was harder and easier to do in the beginning: harder to find a place to lay election bets and easier to handicap the races. Sometimes we made good money, sometimes we broke even plus a buck or two, but, so far, we've never finished in the red.

We've been reviewing senate seats, specifically the race in Tennessee. Sears says, “I don't like this whole midterm election.”

“How come?”

“Don't trust the casino.”

He's referring to electronic voting machines. The *New York Times* reports that 40 percent of registered voters are expected to cast ballots on paperless touch-screen voting machines this year. At least 23 states don't require a paper trail on all electronic votes. Eighty percent of this year's election ballots will be counted by four for-profit companies using proprietary software.

There's enough reliable information out there now that the subject of electronic-vote fraud should be in the same category as Barry Bonds and *Game of Shadows*. You may remember that *Shadows*, written by two *San Francisco Chronicle* reporters, is so meticulously documented that once you've read the book, there's no way a reasonable person can believe Bonds never used steroids. The same is true for electronic voting: if you look into it, there is no way a reasonable person can believe there hasn't been election-altering electronic-vote fraud.

The problem has been that nobody has an interest in pursuing an electronic-vote-fraud story. Democrats don't want to talk about it because they think the topic will label them as sore losers and because, well, because they're Democrats. Republicans don't want to talk about it because it's been working for them. Corporate media is terrified of it. It's a story that would take real work to report; it's complicated and the public won't listen to complicated stories...plus, they'll anger half their viewers/readers and all their sponsors, no matter what they say.

So, despite the work of a world of nonprofits, of public-interest websites, books, scholarly

papers, all showing that large scale electronic-voting fraud is easy to do, has taken place, will take place, the topic has never been able to break water into public consciousness until this summer when Robert Kennedy Jr. wrote what became two articles that were published in *Rolling Stone*; they were, “Was the 2004 Election Stolen?” and “Will the Next Election Be Hacked?” Suddenly, electronic-voting fraud was visible, at least to the readers of *Rolling Stone*.

The unassailable proof that the story is now certified as mainstream arrived this week in a piece appearing in *Time*: “Can This Machine Be Trusted?” It's a breathtakingly shallow bit of hack writing, but it does serve to officially stamp the topic as safe enough to write about. Curious readers may wish to compare the *Time* story (<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1552054-1,00.html>) with Kennedy's piece (http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/story/11717105/robert_f_kennedy_jr_wil) in order to experience, firsthand, how bad mainstream journalism can be.

Here's the deal: electronic voting machine manufacturers have fought to keep from providing a paper trail that would allow third parties to verify their electronic results, refused to allow public regulators to go over their source code and check for back doors, bad code, a thousand things. To put this in gambling terms, would you play blackjack in a casino that won't allow regulators on their premises, won't allow public officials to check their slot machines and go over their books?

You would. You have.

Okay, maybe you trust electronic voting machines well enough to vote, but you certainly wouldn't trust them well enough to determine the outcome of your election bet, particularly a bet that requires real money from your real bank account.

Of course not.

Which brings me back to the six political websites currently lined up on my computer screen. I say, “Well, we could go through the list, cull out congressional districts using electronic voting.”

Sears laughs, “How about this? We have the latest polls. We'll retrieve the latest numbers from Intrade [an outfit that acts like a trading exchange in that one can buy and sell future contracts on candidates], and...”

Now I laugh, “If enough machines are hacked to change an election...and since we're talking about 40 seats, not that many need to be hacked, market predictors won't be any good either.”

Big silence. Busy minds. Finally, “I'm going to pass on this election.” Not sure who said it first.

The Vegas Line

The Vegas Line NFL Week 9 (Home Teams in CAPS)

Favorite	Spread	Over/Under	Underdog
		<u>Sunday</u>	
ST. LOUIS	3	48	Kansas City
BALTIMORE	3	41	Cincinnati
N. Y. GIANTS	13	42 1/2	Houston
JACKSONVILLE	9	37 1/2	Tennessee
Dallas	3	43	WASHINGTON
BUFFALO	3	40	Green Bay
New Orleans	1 1/2	38 1/2	TAMPA BAY
Atlanta	5 1/2	47	DETROIT
CHICAGO	14	38 1/2	Miami
Minnesota	5 1/2	41 1/2	SAN FRANCISCO
SAN DIEGO	14	41	Cleveland
PITTSBURG	1	37	DENVER
NEW ENGLAND	3	48	Indianapolis
		<u>Monday</u>	
SEATTLE	7 1/2	38 1/2	Oakland

Bye week: Arizona, Carolina, N.Y. Jets, Philadelphia

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

A photograph of three young men standing in a public restroom with green tiled walls. The man on the left, wearing a maroon shirt and blue jeans, looks surprised. The man in the center, wearing a green jacket and grey jeans, holds a small tin of Altoids. The man on the right, wearing a denim jacket and dark pants, looks on with a slight smile. A sink and mirror are visible in the background.

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: nondenominational

Address: 1771 East Palomar Street, Chula Vista, 619-421-1100

Founded locally: 1985

Senior pastor: Bryan Newberry

Congregation size: "we don't count"; Newberry estimates 2000–3000

Staff size: close to 150, counting school staff

Sunday school enrollment: no exact count; "hundreds"

Annual budget: n/a

Weekly giving: n/a

Singles program: no

Dress: from jacket and tie to T-shirt and shorts

Diversity: mix of Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian American, and African American

Sunday worship: 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (bilingual), 6:00 p.m. (Bible study and prayer service)

Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes

Website: www.calvarysandiego.com

From the second song on, the band at Calvary San Diego — drums and guitars and pop synthesizers — had the congregation's pulse. (They had the congregation's look as well: a mix of young and old, white, Asian, and Latino.) "You rule/ You reign/ You said you're coming back again!" boomed into the huge, green-tinged church over rhythmic clapping of many hands.

"Who forgot to set their clocks back?" asked Brother Anthony during the announcements. "You should have seen the faces of the people that showed up early this morning. They thought they'd missed the rapture or something. 'I got left behind!'" The joke drew plenty of laughter, which quieted as Anthony made his presentation on behalf of Proposition 83. The proposition, he said, is known as Jessica's Law because of Jessica Lunsford, a nine-year-old who was allegedly raped and murdered by a convicted sex offender. "We have an opportunity this election to strengthen the laws.... I think we should take this opportunity to vote.... We're doing good.... Let's stand up for righteousness! Amen?" "Amen!" shouted the congregation. Pastor Bryan Newberry took the podium and added, "Whichever way you vote this election, do vote. The Bible says, 'Give honor to whom honor is due.' It's within your power."

The rapture joke played well because Newberry was in the midst of unpacking Matthew 24, a chapter full of end-times talk. He reeled off a long list of signs, not least among them the reforming of Israel as a nation in 1948. Matthew 24:32: "Now from the fig tree learn this parable. When its branch has now become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near."

"Through the Bible, Israel is called the fig tree. Jesus is indirectly saying, 'When Israel begins to bloom again.' If you look at the signs of the times, you know the season of the rapture of the church is coming."

Drawing from all over Scripture — Prophets,

Gospels, Letters, Revelation — Newberry laid out end-times history, from the rapture through the tribulation to the second coming of Christ at Armageddon, when the armies of the world unite against Christ and he "slays them all with his wrath. The Bible says that blood will rise to the bridle of a horse in that valley at that time." There follows Christ's earthly 1000-year reign over the righteous, with Satan's final rebellion and defeat coming just before the last judgment, after which everything is melted away and "God makes a new heaven and a new earth."

During the tribulation, those caught up to heaven in the rapture share in the seven-year marriage feast of the Lamb. "It's a comforting thing to know that at any moment, as a believer, we can be snatched out of here and get our brand-new bodies and be with the Lord." He cited 1 Corinthians 15:52: "We shall all be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption."

On the one hand, the post-rapture details were something of an academic discussion: "I'll

be up eating with the Lord in heaven," said Newberry, "so it's not going to matter to me one way or the other." On the other hand, these things were worth thinking about because "an accurate understanding of the future is important to how we react now." The rapture aside, there was the matter of the last judgment. Newberry warned against becoming like the "evil servant" in Matthew 24, who got tired of waiting for his master and started carousing, only to be caught unawares. "Why did he go bad? Because the tension of the Lord's return was not a reality in his heart. He said in his heart, 'I've got time to get right with God later.'"

Newberry joined Christ in exhorting the faithful to "always pray and not lose heart.... Love people, bless people, serve people.... I think the greatest good work we can encourage one another toward is

prayer.... Every time the Lord talks about the end times, He talks about prayer."

Here, Newberry challenged the congregation: "Try to pray for an hour on Sunday night. You'll find very quickly: 'I can do a lot of things, but I can't pray.' It's because prayer is a whole separate Christian discipline. It's a whole other level of maturity to spend time...letting God speak to you and you speaking to him. You'll be discouraged by how your flesh won't let you pray. But you've got to. He says, 'Turn from your wicked ways... seek my face.' Turn from that which is hindering you from pressing into the very presence of God.... We are in the last days.... The Lord says, 'Watch and pray.'"

What happens when we die?

"The Bible says that Jesus Christ is the one way, the truth, and the life," says Newberry. "Those who receive him go to heaven to be with him. Those who don't receive him will go to hell. It's pretty simple."

— Matthew Lickona

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com



BRYAN NEWBERRY

**Calvary San Diego
Chula Vista**

★★½

Sermon

content.....★★★

delivery.....★★½

Liturgy.....★★½

Music

congregational.....★★★

band.....★★½

Snacks.....★★★½

Architecture.....★★

Friendliness.....★★½

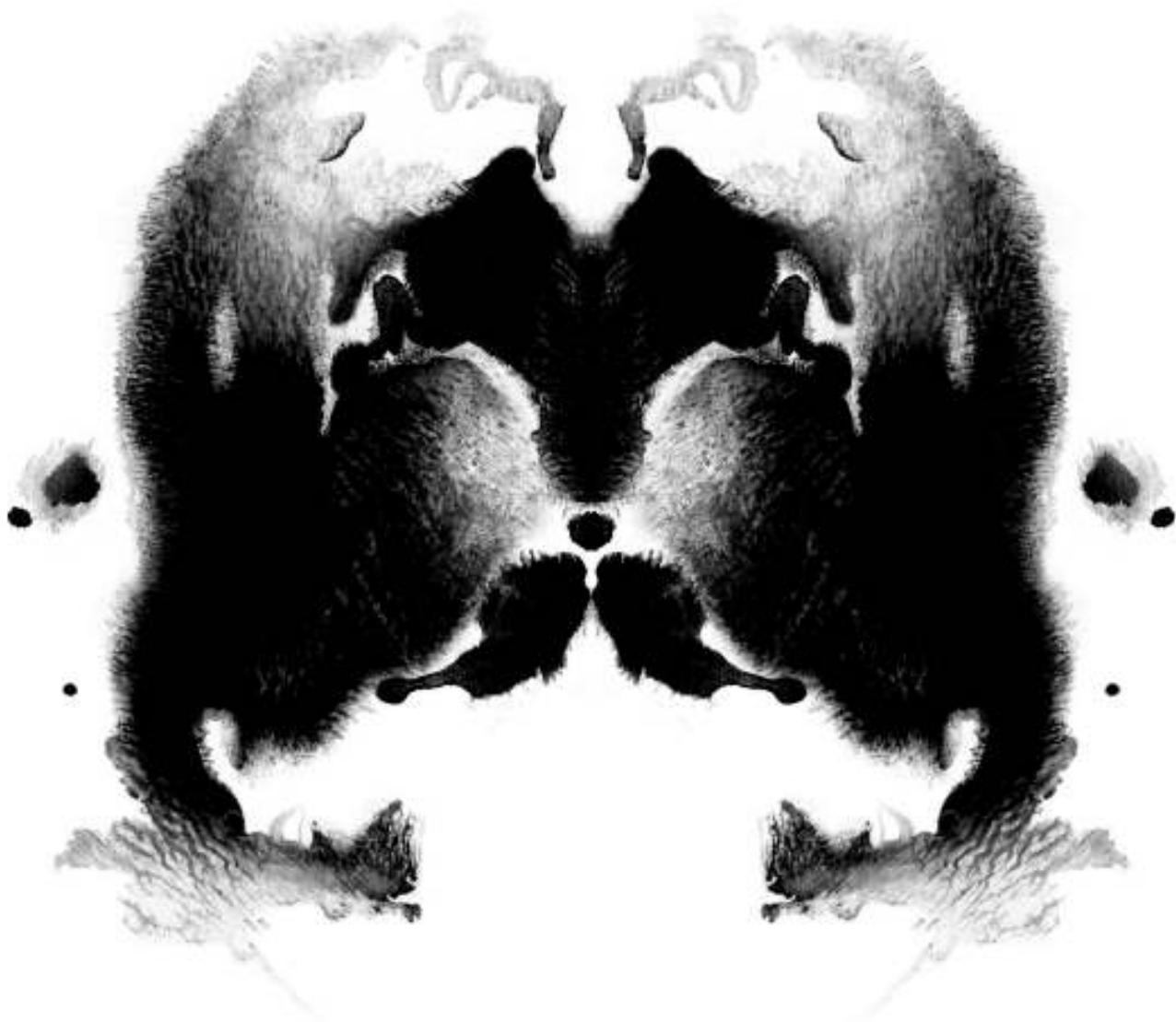
Poor to satisfactory.....(none)

Good.....★

Very good.....★★

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—EVE KELLY

It's been a while since anyone in my social circle had a visit from the stork, but friend Lisa is expecting at the end of November — her first. She's already had one baby shower, and her large, doting family has outfitted her with enough onesies and assorted paraphernalia to last baby through college. Bernice and I conspired to give her something a little more tailored to her Type A, high-control personality: a visit from a professional babyproof.

"I'm a trained physical therapist, and my husband Mike was a Naval officer and a school-teacher," said Kim Bost, who, with her husband, owns Baby Home Safety (www.babyhomesafety.net; 619-287-3765). "As a physical therapist, I have some background in home safety, but I also trained with another babyproof. I'm very glad I did, because it's really a matter of using the right products and making sure they're installed correctly. If not, it could be a safety hazard." Oh, the potential irony — installing safety products that end up hurting your child.

"Typically, we go into the house and do a consult with the parents," said Bost. "We walk through the home and point out potential dangers and then provide solutions. Some people, if it's their first child, don't know what to expect. They have this little baby, maybe not even crawling yet, and they have no idea what the baby is going to get into. I try to help them see. I encourage parents to crawl around on the floor — what they can find, the baby can find. They'll say to me, 'Well, he [or she] doesn't go over there.' Just because he's not doing it today doesn't mean he won't be doing it in two weeks. But at the same time, I try to steer people away from something that may be a solution today, but that they'll outgrow in a month."

An example of what Bost helps parents see: "People often don't know that toddlers can fall out of windows even when there's a window screen. If the screen fails when the child has his face pressed up against it.... There are several solutions. You can put in a window guard, which consists of bars that you attach by a bracket to the window frame. They're removable in case of fire, and you can open the window fully. You can also put in a window stop, which allows it to open about three to four inches for ventilation — but it's not enough to let a child fall out.

Or, you can just keep the window closed and locked. If it's a higher window, it's sometimes simply a matter of moving furniture away from the window, so the child doesn't have access."

Another potentially fatal hazard involves dressers and bookshelves. "If a child pulls open the drawers of a dresser and sends the center of gravity to the front, even a 20-pound child can pull the whole dresser over. Bookshelves and dressers should be bracketed to the wall." You can use an L bracket, or, if it's a shorter piece of furniture, you can use a cable bracket — a cable connecting brackets on the furniture and

"I encourage parents to crawl around on the floor."

in the wall.

And then there are those low-lying electrical outlets. Bost isn't a big fan of the plug covers. "Every time you vacuum, you need to pull a plug cover out. The baby is watching, so the baby is more inclined to pull the cover out. And people forget to put them back. What good is it to cover ten outlets if you have even one exposed? What I use is more convenient and safer. It's an outlet plate that replaces the standard faceplate. There's a spring-loaded slide cover; if a baby pulls out a plug, the cover snaps closed. That eliminates several hazards."

The plug covers aren't the only piece of safety equipment Bost avoids. She's no fan of pressure gates — stairway blockers held in place by pressure exerted against the walls. "If a pressure gate is at the top of the stairs and it fails, the baby and the gate can go flying down the steps." She much prefers those that are hardware-mounted. "You want a gate that you can open and close with one hand; there's usually a child in the other. And it should be a swinging gate with a door in it — never one you have to step over. My gates are highly rated, and I have drawer latches that are available

only to babyproofers. Almost everything I sell I've used with my own children."

It's that kind of expertise — the kind gained by experience and networking with other babyproofers — that makes Bost attractive to parents frustrated by the way this or that product simply doesn't suit their

home. She's happy to consult and let people know what they need (and sell it to them) or how to solve a specific safety hazard, but, she notes, "if we do the installation — which usually takes a day — everything is guaranteed." If something comes loose or breaks, she'll fix it.

The cost of babyproofing varies with the size of the home and the parents' preference. "Everybody has a different idea of how much babyproofing is appropriate for their home, their parenting style, and the activity level of the child." The basics — cabinet latches, outlet covers, stair gates, furniture brackets, baby-safe doorstops, secured blind cords, and toilet locks — run between \$600 and \$1200 for a typical two-story house. "That includes materials and installation."

Before we parted, Bost took a moment to describe her favorite new safety discovery. "For bathrooms, besides locks on toilets to keep lids down (babies have drowned in toilets), we recommend a spout cover for the tub, which protects children from bumps and bruises. At a trade show recently, I found a spout cover with a built-in thermometer and alarm. It's great, because baby skin is thinner than ours, more sensitive to burns. If the water coming out of the spout gets too hot, the alarm will beep and the spout cover will register the temperature." It's a more precise measure than "just trying to feel it with your fingers."

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1. Kim Bost
2. Outlet safety cover
3. Toilet seat latch

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FUZZY LITTLE HATS

by Josh Board

When I was a kid, I saw a Shriner wearing a fez in Kearny Mesa. It reminded me of Tom Bosley's character, "Mr. C.," on *Happy Days*, who would sometimes wear those fuzzy hats. (And "fez" was a great Scrabble word — 30 points if played on "double word score.")

My dad tried to explain the Shriners to me, but when I saw their big dome with its mysterious Arabic writing off the 163, I imagined they were some kind of cult.

I went to the 50th birthday party of a guy named Rhodes, a long-time Shriner, and noticed the dome was gone. A guy in the parking lot told me it hadn't been there since 1988. Rhodes, wearing a colorful hat with a propeller, explained that the cement of the old dome leaked due to poor design.

As the crowd gathered at the doors to go in, I snapped a few pictures. A guy asked, "Are you surveying the damage?" I laughed, and he said, "You're not from the insurance company?" I asked what he was talking about, and he pointed to the overhang that was directly above me. He said the catering vehicle hit it and knocked out a chunk of cement. There was a sign stating that the overhang's clearance was eight feet, six inches. I wondered how the person didn't know their



vehicle wouldn't make it, which recalled my days in radio and the time I drove the station van to a Keith Richards concert. The van wouldn't fit in the parking garage, pissing off the 20 cars stacked up behind me as I tried to turn around.

I heard one guy greet his friends by saying, "Hey, good lookin'. Who's that ugly guy you got with ya?" They all laughed and walked in. There were mostly

"Hey, good lookin'. Who's that ugly guy you got with ya?"

older folks at the party.

I met Rhodes's son, who showed me where the drinks were. Since he was one of the few not in dress clothes, I sarcastically said, "I see you dressed up for your dad's big event." He replied, "Hey, I have brand new white shoes. And the T-shirt is new." I grabbed a can of Coke,



Top left: Magician Wild Bill, conjuring up Carson; Top right: I don't know if Shriners have a secret handshake; Bottom left: Rhodes, who turned 50, on the left; Bottom right: The Al Bahr Shrine logo

which I was charged a buck for, but the food was free. I stocked up on fresh pineapple.

I discovered Rhodes was an auctioneer when someone pre-

sented him with a framed article that had been written about him in the paper. When Rhodes got up and pointed out that there was turkey in the corner of the hall and a potato bar on the other side, I was hoping he'd break into his speedy auctioneer voice.

There was a band called

Breez'n that played songs everyone knew and loved — "Margari-taville" and "Stray Cat Strut." It wasn't until they went into "Fever" that I noticed the singer, an attractive Asian woman who would go up to some of the older guys and caress their cheeks and hug them as she sang. One guy got up and started dancing with her, which threw her off.

When the band stopped, Rhodes took the microphone. He was saying something about a \$2,500 donation. "It would've been more if the Suburban they bought wasn't so expensive." I took the opportunity to ask a guy standing nearby about the Shriners, what they do. He took

me into his office, explained their organization, and handed me flyers. He told me they have more than 400,000 members. The Shriners started in 1872 in New York. Their hospitals treat children with orthopedic, burn, and spinal cord injuries, and there is no charge to the family for the treatments.

The band started up again. They wore cheesy white blazers, which reminded me of bands that play weddings and bar mitzvahs, but Breez'n — who played killer versions of "Gloria" and "Louie Louie" — did a good job of getting people onto the dance floor, and they didn't play so loud that you couldn't talk to others at your table.

When Rhodes got up to the mic again, he told a joke about Viagra and breast implants and that because of these products "...elderly people have perky boobs and [get aroused], but they have no recollection as to what to do with them!"

He said something about an old bottle of wine he was saving for a special occasion. I think he said it was a Fitzgerald, barreled in 1956 and bottled in 1968. He went into details about the vintage that were going over my head.

A magician named Wild Bill got up on stage. He was corny, but funny. He changed from his

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western outfit into one that was a parody of Johnny Carson's Carnac character. He took an envelope, put it to his head, and said, "The Betty Ford Center and Jenny Craig." He opened the envelope to reveal the question. "Where does Rhodes go to pick up chicks?"

He went up to a woman

in the crowd to show his psychic powers. He asked her name, and she said Andrea. He replied, "That is absolutely right! You see folks, I can read minds."

As the night went on, I noticed more Hawaiian shirts and less suits. And the flashing jewelry that was passed out at the door proved to be

entertaining to the crowd. I was given a pair of lips that lit up.

I heard a lady tell her husband, "That guy over there looks like Peter Boyle. And I saw a guy earlier that looked like Jackie Mason." The husband didn't care about her observations, saying, "I want to get a piece of

cake." When he walked away, I wanted to tell his wife that I like comparing people to famous actors too. But there were three huge cakes that looked delicious, so I followed the guy over.

As the cake was being handed out, I heard a lady raving about all the food.

She asked who made it. The few times I've raved about party food in the column, my voicemail filled with people seeking the names of the caterers, so when I heard a guy say "Ranch Catering," I jotted it down.

If you call them, though, make sure you don't

have a roof that's lower than eight and a half feet. ■

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by Barbaraella

Encountering Ex-Friends

My land is bare of chattering folk; the clouds are low along the ridges, and sweet's the air with curly smoke from all my burning bridges.

— Dorothy Parker

Friendships can end for any number of reasons. This is a natural progression — people grow apart; it happens all the time. But in some cases, ending a friendship is akin to filing for a divorce: a messy affair, leaving one or both parties slightly singed around the ego.

One of the most awkward social situations (second only to the public epiphany that one's partner is cheating) is encountering an ex-friend. It is especially awkward when you and the ex have exchanged colorful shit-talk behind each other's back, which has then been graciously delivered in flames to your doorstep by "well-intentioned" mutual friends.

I'm not so arrogant as to dismiss the notion that

others might find *me* to be intolerable — in fact, I expect this is the case. I do not blame these people for exercising their right to select their ideal companions. But, as I can only speak for myself, the awkwardness to which I refer is that of running into those ex-friends I cannot abide.

I tried to explain this concept to my friend Ron, after he asked why I wasn't going to another friend's party. The host is a friend, and I was considering my calendar when I noted the e-mail addresses of at least four "undesirables" on the Evite.

"The annoyance of talking to people I don't like trumps this party's potential for fun," I said to Ron. "It's not that I

mind, she can invite whomever she wants, it's her party. That doesn't mean I have to go, and I'm not going to knowingly walk into Awkward City. I'll hang out with her another time."

Ever the diplomat, Ron responded, "Well, Barb, sometimes you just have to deal."

I mulled over his words for a moment, and then it hit me: "No, I don't," I said. "I don't *have* to deal. So I'm not going." It was easy to say and easy to do. I'd rather watch reruns of *Hee Haw* than chat it up with people who bore, irritate, or outright offend me.

The thing I don't understand is why, when people claim to abhor someone, they continue to spend time with that person. Why rush to greet and embrace the object of our scorn? Because it's "easier"? Because it's less awkward than explaining why we'd rather skip the air kisses and insincere small talk?

I was enjoying myself at a soiree yesterday afternoon, laughing as friends made insightful, mean-spirited jokes about a guy I no longer hang out with (for many of the same reasons we were poking fun at). Then, to my shock and horror, the butt of our jokes appeared at the door.

Through osmosis, keen insight, and gossip, this ex-friend of mine and I are aware of our reciprocal disdain for each

other. We offered one another a cordial nod of the head, a passing glance, and quickly turned away to engage in more rewarding, comfortable conversations. But everyone else, who, moments before, had been verbally shredding this guy, rushed in with hugs and smiles. *You have no idea*, I thought, surprised at the pity I felt for him. *These people are pretending, their rapt attention a ruse — you think they care about what you say. But every word you speak here, every imitate-able gesture, will become a punch line the moment you leave.* Then something else occurred to me: *which of my words will be mocked upon my departure?*

I'd rather be an ex-friend than a fake friend. Sometimes the truth is upsetting, but it wouldn't be so hard to be honest if people accepted that it's natural to not delight in *everybody's* presence, that our time is ours alone, as is our decision to choose how and with whom we spend it.

Others seem to have a higher tolerance for certain behaviors than I do. Once, I was complaining to my friend Sarah about another friend's actions. After I'd listed the offenses — a series of examples that painted a picture of gross inconsideration — Sarah said, "Well, that's just Andrea."

I was stunned. *"That's just Andrea?" As if inconsideration and blatant rudeness are physical traits over which we have no*

Through osmosis, keen insight, and gossip, this ex-friend of mine and I are aware of our reciprocal disdain for each other.

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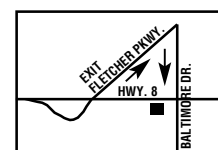
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responsibility or control? How far does this excuse go? Do we say, "Well, that guy's just an asshole," and continue to hang out with an asshole? When I regained my senses, I said, "Well, That's just Andrea is not invited to That's just Barb and Dave's house ever again, because I just don't have to put up with that kind of shit."

It seems as though many people cling to relationships the way you might hoard old clothes in your closet — you never wear them, they no longer serve a purpose, yet somehow their presence lends you comfort, and you're loath to get rid of them. But, just like having a closet full of clothes does not mean you have a working wardrobe, having a cell phone full of phone numbers does not mean your life is full of functional friendships.

I used to be one of those people, the quantity-over-quality type, the how-many-guests-show-up-at-my-party-is-directly-proportional-to-how-loved-and-admired-I-am kind. Now, I define my life by the quality of my relationships. More than half of the numbers in my cell phone are only there so that I know which calls not to answer.

Avoiding phone calls and missing parties, however, does not eliminate the existence of ex-friends, which is why it is important to learn the proper etiquette for interacting with them. In my opinion, there needs to be acknowledgment (because pretending the other doesn't exist is silly, if not enervating) and avoidance of small talk.

I learned this the hard way when I tried to make small talk with an ex at a recent event. It's awkward. It's pointless. Neither of us cared what the other had to say, and yet we still — out of habit or misconception of what was appropriate — exchanged pleasantries in tones and facial expres-

sions that were most unpleasant. Luckily, it didn't last long; we broke away after what I'm convinced was a simultaneous awareness of the time we were wasting with each other and the numerous people in attendance with

whom we'd much rather speak.

The passing of friendships needn't be mourned — such events are all part of the cycle of social life. As a Navy brat, I moved around a lot as a kid, every few years leav-

ing my school and friendships in one town and socially starting from scratch in another. From this I developed (as a sort of protective mechanism) the ability to part with ease — I don't feel the need to collect and hang

on to people like magazines to be piled in the garage.

I'd rather spend time lavishing care and attention upon those cherished friends whose value to me continues to grow with each passing year. Not

only is *my* life thus enriched, but I am also sparing my exes the discomfort of having to exchange fake pleasantries and force smiles, leaving everyone more time to seek out and nurture the next great friendship. ■

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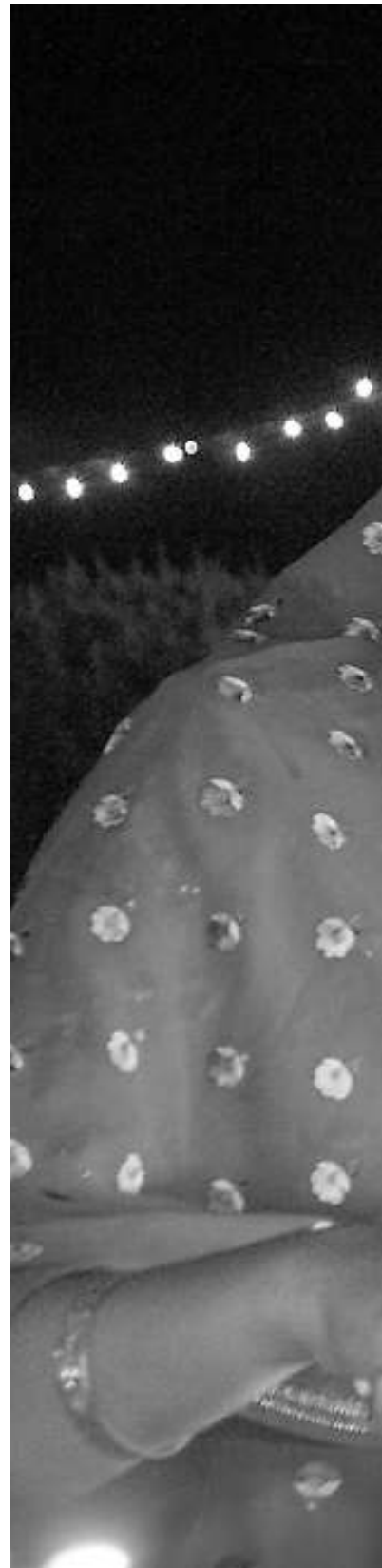


Gagandeep Kaur

Gagandeep Kaur was talking about the period following September 11, 2001, when many “foreign-looking” people were on edge. Kaur was referring to September 15, 2001, when Frank Silva Roque, a 42-year-old Boeing aircraft mechanic, went on a shooting spree in Phoenix, Arizona, and murdered

Balbir Singh Sodhi, a 49-year-old Indian immigrant. Kaur was referring to the more than 50 “foreign-looking” California residents who in the three weeks following September 11 were subject to verbal harassment, arson, vandalism, or physical assault. At 3:20 p.m. on Sunday, September 30, 2001, at an intersection on Miramar Road, two men on a motorcycle pulled up beside Swaran Kaur Bhullar, a San Diego businesswoman unrelated to Gagandeep Kaur. One of the men jumped from the motorcycle. He screamed at Kaur Bhullar, “This is what you get for what you’ve done to us! I’m going to slash your throat!” He yanked open the door to her car. She ducked away from his knife. Stabbed several times in the scalp, she survived the attack. The two young men were never identified.

Sikhs don’t engage in door-to-door pamphleteering and they don’t broadcast television or radio commercials promoting their faith.



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAN DECKER

Diwali celebration

At Frank Silva Roque's trial in October 2003, his defense attorney argued that Roque was insane, that at the time he shot and killed Balbir Singh Sodhi, Roque was "plagued by relentless voices" telling him to "kill the devils." The prosecution argued that Roque at the time of the crime was sane but "consumed by hatred toward Arabs or anyone who looked Arab." Prosecution witnesses testified that Singh Sodhi had immigrated to the United States because he and his family had faced religious persecution in India and that on the day he was murdered, Singh Sodhi had been shopping at Costco, where he donated \$75, "all the money he had with him," to the Red Cross relief fund for victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. After deliberating for six hours, the jury found Roque guilty and sentenced him to death.

Looking at Gagan-deep Kaur, it would be difficult to guess her ethnicity, much less her religion. She's a petite woman, well proportioned, with the rounded shoulders and tiny waist you see in daguerreotypes of 19th-century ballet dancers. She has long, thick, dark hair and large brown eyes and the sort of light brown skin that might place her as coming from Latin America, the Near East, the Middle East, or the Indian subcontinent. She could just as easily be a Roman Catholic from San Juan, Puerto Rico, as she could be a Shia Muslim from Tehran.

"I was born in New Delhi, India, moved to New York in 1973 at the age of three, and moved to San Diego seven years ago," Kaur told me on the afternoon I met her in a conference room at Prudential Financial's Mission Valley offices, where Kaur works as a financial

advisor. She wore a black blouse and dark slacks and was sipping coffee from a stainless-steel commuter coffee cup. Her American accent was so neutral that it was impossible to tell that she'd grown up in Queens, Long Island.

"My only experience of discrimination is that I

not a Hindu.' But in hindsight, it didn't matter if I was a Hindu or not. It was discrimination. And so, yes, there was discrimination, but it was because we didn't look the same as everybody else, not because I was a Sikh, necessarily."

The Sikh religion, the world's fifth largest, is

"My brother, when he was young, had what we call the joora, the topknot of hair that he covered with a kind of mini-turban, a traditional scarf that we call a patka."

was once walking home from school. I must have been in fourth or fifth grade. I was on my own at that point, walking by myself, and I remember a car driving by and a guy rolling down his window and saying, 'You smelly Hindu. Go home.' And I remember thinking, 'I'm

what Gagandeep Kaur shared with Balbir Singh Sodhi and what Gagan-deep Kaur continues to share with Swaran Kaur Bhullar and 24 million other people in India and throughout the world. Gagandeep Kaur feels a particular responsibility toward Sikhs. She

recently stepped down after three years at the helm as chairperson for SALDEF, the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, a ten-year-old Washington, DC-based organization that promotes public awareness of the Sikh religion and advocates on local and national levels on behalf of Sikh legal interests, such as protection against religious discrimination in the workplace.

"Sikh is actually pronounced like the English word 'sick,' not like 'seek,' " Kaur told me. "But we have a hard enough time explaining who we are without our going around and correcting how people pronounce the word. And, anyway, you can imagine the sort of jokes there'd be if people started pronouncing it correctly."

Part of the difficulty Sikhs confront is that, as a faith teaching the equality of all religions,

Sikhism doesn't proselytize. Sikhs don't engage in door-to-door pamphleteering, and they don't broadcast television or radio commercials promoting their faith. Another difficulty is that Sikhism originated in a part of the world, and among historical circumstances and controversies, unfamiliar to most Americans.

In the mid-15th Century, a time when Muslim kings ruled large parts of south Asia, a Hindu boy named Nanak who lived in northern India and was born a Brahmin, a member of Hinduism's highest and most prestigious caste, refused to participate in a sacred ceremony that marked his coming of age as a Brahmin. To complicate matters, this unusual boy set out on what became a lifelong mission of preaching to Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims that they look beyond their respective

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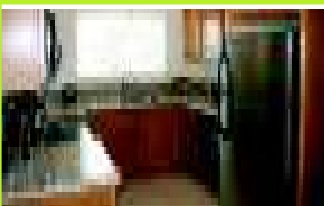


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rituals, practices, and dogmas, to seek God within themselves. While this was enough to surprise anyone who bothered to listen, Nanak also advocated equality between rich and poor, and, most radically, equality between castes and equality between men and women. At a time and place when religion, economic status, caste, and gender were absolute definitions of a person's value in the world, these teachings were particularly revolutionary.

When Nanak was in his 50s, he'd gathered around him a number of followers. They called themselves *sikhs*, a name that came from the word for "student" or "disciple" in Punjabi, the Sanskrit dialect spoken in that part of northern India. These Sikhs referred to Nanak as their *guru*, an honorific title meaning "teacher." They lived together as a community

and adhered to three central practices that Guru Nanak required of his followers: service to the poor, communal meals, and communal worship. The Sikh faith had elements that both Hindus and Muslims could recognize and understand: monotheism, the belief that God is a single, indivisible, eternal entity; and reincarnation, the belief that good or bad actions determine whether upon death a person's soul either returns to this world to improve itself or unites with God in peace and joy forever.

Nine other gurus followed Guru Nanak. Over the course of 239 years they elaborated and refined the Sikh faith's tenets and practices. Although Sikhism attracted many tens of thousands of converts, its popularity was less than universal. With great violence, Hindu and Muslim forces suppressed the upstart religion. Sikh his-



Swaran Kaur Bhullar

tory is in many ways a history of martyrdom and defensive battle. By the time the tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, died in 1708, Sikhs had chosen as their slogan *Ek Onkar*, meaning "There is one God," and as their symbol, the *khanda*, an emblem of three swords, which represent Sikh determination to resist all forms of tyranny and oppression.

It was the Sikhs' experience as an

oppressed religious minority that prompted their adoption of a number of outward signs of their faith. The thinking went something like this: if we as Sikhs truly believe in the equality of all people and religions and in the right of all people to worship God as they choose, then we should set ourselves apart as examples of what we believe. Sikh men and women would never cut their hair. Sikh men

would never cut their beards, and, in a demonstration of egalitarianism, all Sikh men would wear a turban, a symbol of religious and aristocratic privilege in Muslim society.

Three hundred years later, these outward signs of Sikh distinctiveness still attract attention.

"My father wears a turban, and my brother, when he was young, had what we call the *joora*, the topknot of hair that he covered with a kind of mini-turban, a traditional scarf that we call a *patka*," Gagandeep Kaur told me. "So I remember things that happened, and I never told my father and brother because I did not want them to be aware of it. I remember, for example, people walking by us and snickering. I felt very protective of my brother. He was a little younger than I was. So for me, recognition of being a Sikh meant that I was different, predominantly because of the hair. At that time, I was at such a young age that the only difference I could see was the hair, that we didn't cut our hair. My father

kept his beard long. He kept his hair long and wore a turban. My brother kept his hair, wore it on the top in a *joora*, and I had long braids. And I remember, even with my long braids, boys would tease me, especially with the hairstyles my mom did in the '70s. You know, I had this little hairstyle where she did two braids and rolled them. The boys would pull up my braids and say, 'You look like a dog.'

"And if you weren't being teased for being a Sikh and for your hair, then you were being teased for having darker skin. We have darker skin.

"We were living in Queens, New York. My brother was a fully recognizable Sikh boy, and in the public school, he was having quite a lot of problems. My mother decided that she wanted us to go to private school, so she enrolled us in a Roman Catholic school called St. Joan of Arc. You know, every class had 90 to 100 students. But it was like a family. The teachers were extraordinary. We participated in

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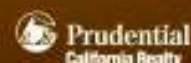


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everything, even religion class, and we attended church services, but we did not take Communion and we did not go to confession. Other than that, we did everything. And it was wonderful. However, we moved to Long Island and went to a public high school. My brother had a very tough transition. He was the first recognizable Sikh in the school, and because of his long hair, his *joora*, they couldn't tell if he was a boy or a girl. He had to prove his masculinity continuously. He had two fights for which he was suspended because some boy had touched his *joora*. When he got to high school and became a star athlete on the track field, he never had to prove himself after that."

I told Kaur that I, too, had noticed the different ways Sikh males covered their heads. I'd seen different colors and styles of *patka* and

turban.

"The color of a turban or a *patka* doesn't mean anything. It's just a kind of self-expression, a matter of personal style. Some guys like bright colors, other guys like pastels. But the shape of a turban can tell you something about where a Sikh is from. For example, Sikhs from Punjab, the Indian state where most Sikhs live, have flatter, more rounded turbans. But following England's colonization of India, Sikhs began migrating throughout the British Empire. So different Sikh communities started to develop turban styles of their own. A more narrow turban that comes to a pronounced point at the front is typical of Sikhs from Africa. Since my family is from India, my father and brother wear turbans that are more round. Because my brother is a body-builder and has huge arms and shoulders, he wears a



Jagjit Dhesi

particularly large and round turban that's in proportion to his body size.

"In the past decade or so, many Sikh women, especially in New York, Toronto, and Los Angeles, have started wearing turbans. There's nothing in the Sikh religion that requires women to wear a turban or that forbids

them from wearing one if they want to. It's a question of preference and style. And I think there's also an element of being secure in the religion and wanting to express this security and confidence in an outward way."

Being recognizable as a Sikh continually poses risks, Kaur said.

"In India we had a

long tradition of being especially close to Hindus. Hindus and Sikhs married each other. My husband's paternal grandmother, for example, was born a Hindu but, once married, converted of her own free will to Sikhism. There were even many Hindu families that had a custom of raising their first son as a Sikh. This all changed in June 1984, when Indira Gandhi ordered the Indian army to invade the Golden Temple, the most holy site for all Sikhs. At the time, there was a kind of revival of Sikhism going on, and the Indian government interpreted this as a separatist movement, as a Sikh demand for a purely Sikh state. It all ended disastrously for everyone. Many Sikhs were murdered. Many were imprisoned and tortured. There were Sikhs who saw the invasion of the Golden Temple as a direct provoca-

tion, an assault against them as a religious minority. In January 1986, Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two of her bodyguards who were Sikhs. There was more violence against Sikhs. Throughout India, Sikhs experienced persecution. People couldn't get jobs. They had no way of making a living. Although things have recently started to improve a little, at that time it was difficult for a Sikh to stay in India. It was a very tragic situation."

I asked Kaur what Sikhism meant to a Sikh like her, someone who'd lived at such a distance from these enormous events.

"I think the Sikh emphasis on the equality between men and women gave me a sense of self-esteem. Now, gender equality is of course the *ideal* in Sikhism. That doesn't mean that *culturally* men and women are

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always treated as equals. But at the very least, there is the religious belief that gender equality is a Sikh value. It's something that our religion teaches, and it's something that we believe in. And so I grew up with the idea that I, as a woman, could do anything. For a while I was a stockbroker on Wall Street. I was right there in the trading pit where there were few women. It was an interesting experience. And I think that it was my faith that gave me the self-confidence that I had every right to be there and that I could do the job as well as anyone else.

"You see, I grew up identifying myself not so much as an Indian, but as a Sikh. My mother and father were always working a great deal. But my grandparents lived with us. My grandparents would pick us up from school and bring us home. Most of our religious teaching, the foundation, was laid by our mother. But the continuation of the experience was my grandfather and my grandmother, so we were well versed in what Sikhism was.

"I remember being five, six, and seven, sitting on my grandfather's lap, asking him stories about the gurus, and his emotionally telling these stories to me. The whole of Sikhism, pride in being a Sikh, was instilled in us at a very early age. I don't remember identifying with being an Indian. I remember specifically being reminded that I was a Sikh, and, I think, again, that was because my father and brother looked very different and because I did not cut my hair. And because our parents and grandparents wanted us, from the time we were very young, to remember why we did these things.

"I remember when my faith became real to me as an adult. I was at Stony Brook University

and I had just taken an exam, a bio exam or some exam, and I was going to the library. It was raining, drizzling, a cold night. All of a sudden, these words came to me, words from a prayer that my mother had taught us. And I realized that what my mother had us say was, 'Oh, please God, don't let us see a bad time.' All of a sudden, it just made sense. I remember saying aloud, 'You know what? It makes sense.' All these years I just said the Sikh prayers. I just wanted to fit in. My parents did it. My parents told me to do it. My friends did it. But with that one realization, I understood what I'd been saying all those years and I understood that I belonged.

"There's something in Christianity called, I think, the 'Jesus Prayer,' where you just keep saying it. You just do it as a ritual. You keep doing it. Well, if you're doing something good, that good becomes a part of your heart and eventually becomes a part of your soul. And if you're doing something bad, it also becomes part of you. In this, the 'Jesus Prayer,' you keep saying Jesus' name again and again. You're doing it as repetition, but eventually it

seeps into your heart and becomes a part of your soul, and then all of a sudden you can't imagine being without it. And I think that's what it was when my mother had us do this Sikh prayer again and again. Eventually, the mere repetition of it, the

ritual of it, took on an essence of its own. I felt so enlightened that I knew that this was where I needed to be.

"After that experience, I changed in a profound way. I mean, obviously, I could have fallen in love with somebody

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non-Sikh and chosen them to have a dual lifestyle at home. But after that experience, I wanted to be a Sikh. I chose to be a Sikh. I wanted somebody to share my religion with. Not being able to share something that's so integral to you is a very lonely existence. Not that I think that there's anything less about being Jewish or Catholic. I think that's fine. This just became my personal goal in life. I wanted a husband that I could take with me to the *gurdwara*, the Sikh place of worship. I wanted someone that I could sing the Sikh hymns with. I envisioned my family with a turbaned husband and a boy and girl, doing the things my mother and father did with me and

my brother. And I envisioned my mother and father being able to talk to my husband, and I envisioned my brother being able to talk to my husband. Sikhism, it's a family thing, too."

Kaur's epiphany interested me. Although Sikhism is far removed from Protestantism, the Sikh faith seemed to have an emphasis on personal religious experience, on individual choice. I told Gagandeep Kaur that I'd read something about what Sikhs called *amrit*, a ceremony in which a Sikh drank water sweetened with sugar and made a solemn vow not only to agree with Sikh precepts but to follow them absolutely.

"Taking *amrit* is like being confirmed in Catholicism. There are

different levels of being a Sikh," Kaur explained. "To be a Sikh is, fundamentally, to believe in the ten gurus and to believe in the Sikh sacred text, the *Guru Granth Sahib*, and in the teachings of the gurus, simply spoken. To be a *Khalsa*, someone

commitment.

"Taking *amrit* is very much a matter of personal choice. It's not forced on anyone. I've chosen not to take *amrit* until I was married. For me the rationale was that a husband and wife need to travel collectively. If

An important part of the way they live is their weekly participation in a religious service at a gurdwara, a Sikh place of worship.

who has taken *amrit*, is to go to a very significant level above the basic Sikh way of life. To become a *Khalsa* is an even more aware state of mind. My mother has chosen it. She's at a spiritual level different from my father's. My father is a very proud Sikh, but he does not feel at this point that he is keeping a

one person takes *amrit* and makes that commitment, it's very difficult if the other partner doesn't. So, I've waited till I got married and we both were traveling the same way collectively. Otherwise, unless you're so, so sure, it can be a very empty ceremony. It's a very deep commitment, especially in America,

because of the daily life and the way we live."

For devoted Sikhs like Gagandeep Kaur, an important part of the way they live is their weekly participation in a religious service at a *gurdwara*, a Sikh place of worship. A very large book is central to the experience of that worship service. Before his death in 1708, Guru Gobind Singh, the Tenth Guru, made a decision that might sound familiar to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Guru Gobind Singh announced that upon his death, Sikhs would be led by a guru who would never tire or become ill or grow old or die. Guru Gobind Singh declared that the Sikh sacred text, the *Guru Granth Sahib*, a compilation of 5894 hymns drawn from Hindu and Muslim saints and poets and uniquely

Sikh sources, would serve as the Eternal Guru of the Sikhs.

A *gurdwara*, literally "door of the guru," is where the *Guru Granth Sahib* is read, or sung, during Sikh services. The *gurdwara* is also where everyone, Sikh and non-Sikh, who attends the service, eats the communal meal, or *langar*, prepared in the *gurdwara*'s communal kitchen. When I first visited the Sikh Foundation of San Diego, the name of the *gurdwara* in Poway where Gagandeep Kaur serves on the board of directors, I was struck by how familiar and strange the *gurdwara*, and what went on in it, seemed. And it was only by visiting the Poway *gurdwara* that I was able to understand in a real way the role that food plays in Sikh faith and practice.

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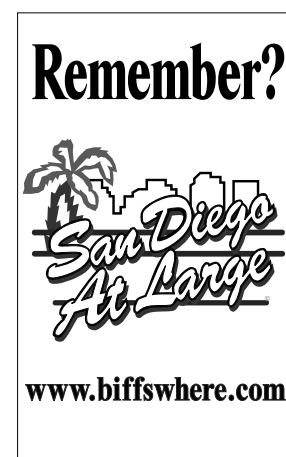
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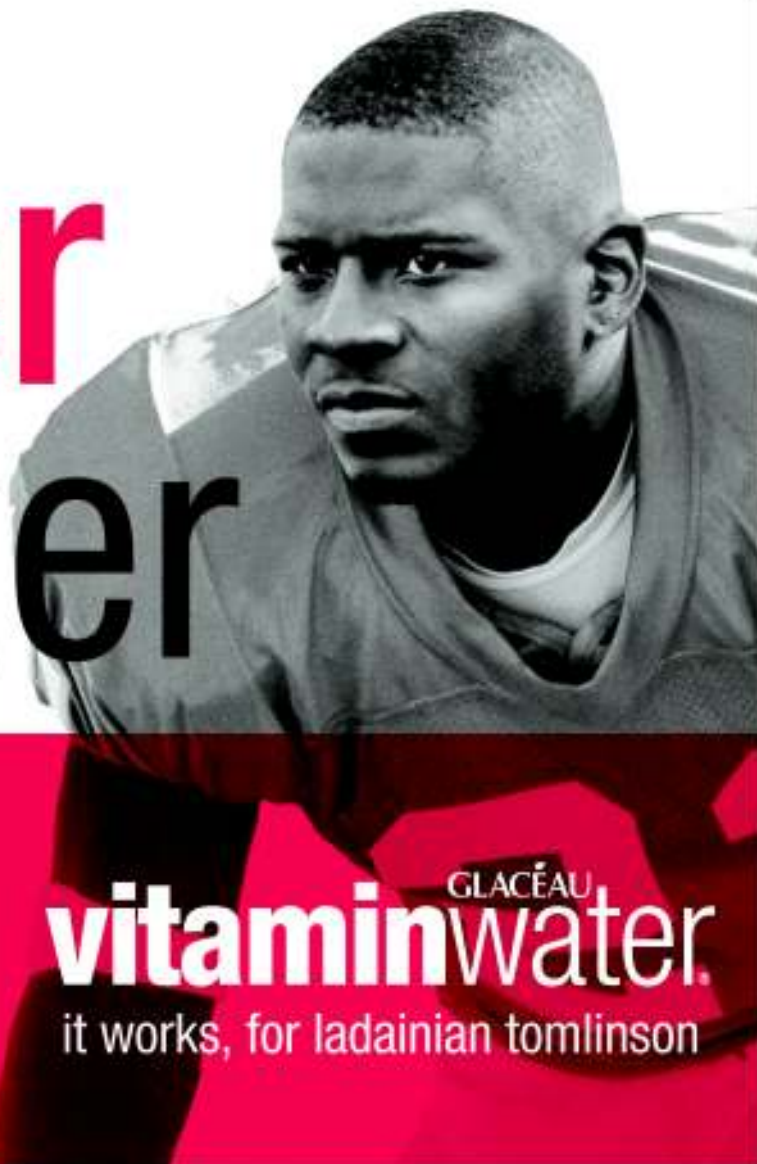
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wara knew who I was or what I was up to, but people made a point of greeting me and introducing themselves. Almost all the women wore traditional *punjabis*, the long, loose-fitting blouse worn over loose-fitting pants that taper at the ankle. The women's interaction with me was casual and direct. Most of the men wore turbans and slacks and dress shirts. When they shook my hand, they clasped it between their palms and held it a little longer than Westerners might. What was most attractive about these people wasn't just their warmth and directness. They anticipated my self-consciousness.

"Don't feel awkward," said an older man when he saw me, all thumbs and frustrated, struggling to tie a Sikh scarf around my head. In a gentle, matter-of-fact way, he sat me down and tied the scarf for me.

When I later men-

tioned this to Jagjit Dhesi, the *gurdwara's* president, he said that Sikhs know what it feels like to stand out in a crowd.

"Sikhs started immigrating to California at the turn of the last century," Dhesi told me, "but only in very small numbers. Part of my family settled in Yuba City in 1906. You can still meet these second- or third-generation Sikhs in places like El Centro. They've got names like 'Fred Singh.' They don't keep their beards and they cut their hair. They don't wear turbans. They don't speak Punjabi, and they have only a little familiarity with India. Although they're completely American in every way, they do remember that they are Sikhs.

"When the first Sikhs got here, Indians weren't allowed to own property, so they worked for other people, mostly in agriculture, growing things like

peaches and almonds. When I came to the United States in 1967, I remember that driving from San Francisco airport, I was amazed by how open and sparsely populated the country seemed. It was a big change from India, which is so densely populated.

"My dad was working as a farm contractor, and we lived in a town of 3000 people that's about 50 miles from Fresno. He had already cut his hair and beard in 1950, so he didn't stand out in that way. The way that I stood out was that, when I got here, I didn't speak English very well. The summer after I arrived, my father got me a job doing contract work. The idea was that working around American kids would force me to speak English. And by the end of the summer, I was speaking it pretty well.

"At Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, I studied electronics engineering,

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microwave communications, computer science, and applied mathematics. My background in mathematics was already very strong from my education in India, so I did well in my studies. After graduating, I came to work here in San Diego at NCR in 1974. At that time there were only about 20 Sikh families, or about 80 Sikhs, in all of San Diego. I would guess that there were maybe only 1500 Indians in the entire city.

"More Sikhs began arriving, very slowly. With the Sikhs I met at NCR, we started getting together for holidays and religious services. We started meeting at UCSD. More Sikhs started to come to the city. By 1986, there were about 100. In 1987, we sponsored our first event as a community. We had a concert of a group of Sikhs from Africa that sang religious songs. In the early 1990s, Sikhs began moving here

in larger numbers. It was the computer and biotech boom. To give you an idea of how we grew, by 2001 we had 100 families and we knew we had to establish a *gurdwara*. So a group of us got together and wrote our charter and started looking around for a place to buy. Within a few months we'd raised \$400,000, and we bought this place, which used to be a Pentecostal church. More than 300 families now belong to our *gurdwara*."

I asked Dhesi, who doesn't wear a turban or have a beard, why he'd decided to stay so involved with his faith.

"Some of the Sikh teachings are very close to my heart, and I agree with them dearly. Equality, our teaching that we are opposed to any discrimination based on class, race, religion, or gender. Our idea of charity, of sharing with others and giving to the poor.

And our respect for others, our belief that all humanity is equal. My father never forced the faith on me. That's not the way Sikhs do things. We believe that being a Sikh is something that's very much a personal choice, a personal decision.

"Even when raising my own children, when teaching them right from wrong, telling them what they could and couldn't do, my approach was very practical, not religious. Of course Sikhs aren't supposed to drink alcohol, take illegal drugs, or smoke tobacco. But my approach was always that there were good, practical reasons for living by the rules. It makes your life better and easier. And what was most helpful when raising my children was keeping them occupied, with their studies, with sports. Kids do challenge you, but once they know their limits, they stop."

Dhesi told me that he had three children: a 26-year-old daughter who has a Ph.D. in physical therapy, and two sons, 21 and 23 years old, who were both in medical school at USC and Penn State, respectively.

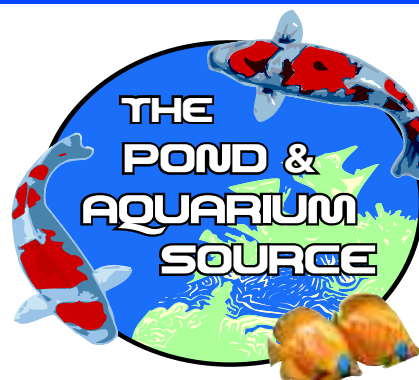
Dhesi sat beside me in the *gurdwara*, at the very back of the room where, as Dhesi pointed out, I could sit against the wall and be more comfortable. Much of what I saw that morning reminded me of what

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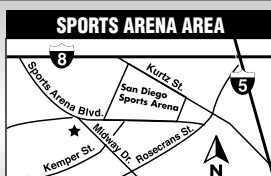
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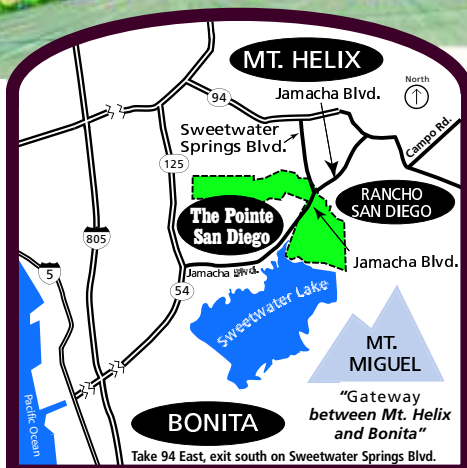
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I've seen at mosques, synagogues, churches, and Hindu temples. As is required in mosques and temples, you must remove your shoes before entering the *gurdwara*. As in mosques and synagogues, you must cover your head. (For men and boys without turban or *patka*, and for women who don't have scarves, a basket of kerchiefs sits on a table to the immediate right of the Poway *gurdwara*'s entrance.) As in mosques and temples, worshippers sit on the floor. As in mosques and synagogues, men and women sit separately. Before, after, or even dur-

ing the service, Sikhs do something that's similar to a practice I'd noticed in Eastern Orthodox churches. Immediately upon entering the room where the Guru Granth Sahib is read, at any time during the service, Sikhs line up before the *takhat*, the canopied platform on which the great book sits. They kneel and touch their foreheads to the floor and, upon rising, leave a money offering before the *takhat*. In Eastern Orthodox churches, when worshippers enter the nave at any time during the liturgy, they approach icons, light candles before

them, and leave flowers on the icons' ornate frames.

In the *gurdwara*, most of the 90-minute service is devoted to singing hymns, accompanied by harmonium and

Kaur had told me that men or women can sing the hymns, and on the Sunday morning I visited, she and her husband sang one together. ("It was a small way," Kaur told me, "of sharing our

humanity and humanity's love for God, "God is as close to you as your hands and your feet," "I have no friend like God, who gave me body and soul and infused me with understanding," "Merciful Lord, have mercy upon us so we may sing Your praises."

During the service, I could smell the onion, cilantro, turmeric, and ginger from the communal meal being prepared in the *gurdwara*'s kitchen. I became so hungry that my stomach growled, and I had difficulty paying attention to the service. My body's response

to the smell of cooking caught me off guard. I hadn't expected to think so much about food during a worship service. I knew that for thousands of years, the preparation and offering of food was an integral part of ritual practice at Hindu temples, where Brahmins, the priestly caste, cooked and distributed *prasad*, sacramental food, to the faithful. But I hadn't quite understood just how Sikhism had adopted and transformed this aspect of Hindu tradition.

Gagandeep Kaur had explained to me that as Sikhism evolved, the reli-

"My background in mathematics was already very strong from my education in India, so I did well in my studies."

tabla, from the Guru Granth Sahib. In Poway, a PowerPoint projector beams the hymns' lyrics, and their English translation, onto a wall to the *takhat*'s left. Gagandeep

recent marriage with the congregation.") The hymn that Kaur and her husband sang, like most of the other hymns sung that morning, talked about God's love for

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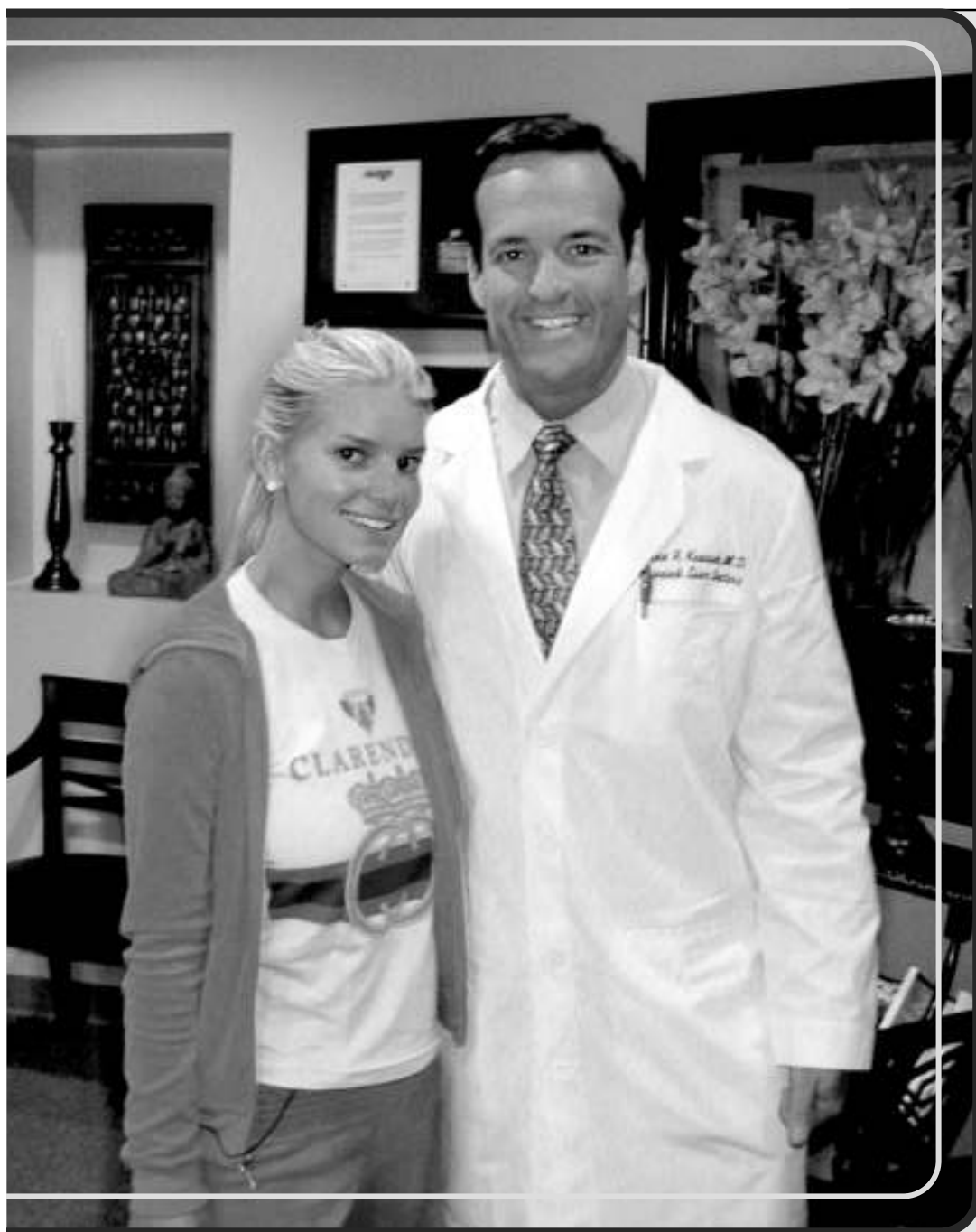
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gion became more determined to discourage caste prejudice among its followers. The ancient notion of caste, the belief that people by virtue of birth are of greater or lesser social value and of

greater or lesser spiritual purity, remained a stubborn reflex for those Sikhs who'd converted from Hinduism. This belief persisted even among those Sikhs who'd converted from Islam,

although many of them came from families that had initially converted from Hinduism to Islam precisely because Islam had forbidden caste prejudice.

Because family

names were one of the most reliable indicators of caste, Sikhism recommended that its followers abandon family names. Sikhism advocated that in place of surnames, Sikh men should use

"Singh," which meant "lion," and Sikh women should use "Kaur," which meant "princess." This recommendation hasn't been followed by all Sikhs. But their religion had another means of

attacking caste prejudice at its deepest level.

Many of the Hindu caste system's strictest rules concern who can and who can't eat another person's cooking. A Brahmin may eat food prepared only by another Brahmin. All castes beneath Brahmins may eat food prepared by Brahmins. But all castes beneath Brahmins are forbidden to eat food prepared by anyone from a caste beneath their own. These rules of ritual purity and spiritual quarantine are in some parts of India so unyielding that lower castes are forbidden, under threat of violent reprisal, to draw water from wells used by Brahmins.

Everywhere in the Sikh world, at every *gurdwara*, everyone takes turns cooking *langar*, the communal meal, and everyone eats the communal meal.

"I'm not going to pretend that caste consciousness has completely disappeared from the Sikh community," Gagandeep Kaur told me. "But that consciousness is disappearing more rapidly as more Sikhs live outside India and the community becomes more dispersed. In my own family, for example, on my father's side, there was a tradition of marrying only people who had one of eight surnames. But my father broke with that tradition. My mother didn't come from a family that had one of those eight family names. And I and my brother certainly didn't pay any attention to that tradition. It didn't mean anything to us. It *couldn't* mean anything to us. We grew up in the United States. When thinking of a spouse, the most important thing was choosing a Sikh, someone who shared our faith.

"And even if someone still holds some caste prejudice when it comes to marriage, that preju-

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

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dice can't go very deep. Sikhism requires that we must accept and sit beside *anyone* who enters the *gurdwara*. A king or a president and the smelliest, dirtiest homeless person are treated the same. We are *all* equal. We all eat from the *same* kitchen."

After the service that Sunday morning, we lined up at the *gurdwara's* outdoor kitchen. People from the congregation dipped into large pots and bowls to serve us hefty portions of black-eyed peas, spinach made with fresh soft cheese, chickpea fritters in yogurt sauce, basmati rice seasoned with cinnamon, milk fudge spiced with cardamom, freshly made *gajub jamun*, little

donuts bathed in sugar syrup, and a cilantro chutney made with lime juice and onion that Gagandeep Kaur had whipped up herself.

"You're probably noticing that the food is vegetarian," Kaur said as she ushered me to a seat at one of the *gurdwara's* picnic tables. "Some Sikhs *can* eat meat and some don't. It is a personal choice, but the reason we don't serve meat at *langar* is that we don't want to offend anyone. The idea is that anyone who comes to the doorway of the Guru, in the *gurdwara*, is supposed to be able to come and eat with us, and a vegetarian meal is the most common unoffensive denominator in any diet."



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Ronnie Singh

I ended up sitting across the table from a tall young man named

Ronnie Singh, who told me that he'd just graduated from UCSD.

"I'm the public relations director for the San Diego Siege," Singh later told me when I asked him about his life. "The San Diego Siege are a professional women's basketball team consisting of the finest. Some Olympic players, some WNBA players. We have Sheryl Swoopes and Lisa Leslie in the league. I was actually just recently promoted to co-general manager of the team, co-assistant general manager, I should say. So the opportunity there is great. I'd really like to get into the field of sports down the road. Right now I'm working in law, and I like that, but sports is where I'd really like to be. A sports agent, maybe, or be a general

manager, or something like that. This is the first step. I'm only 23 years old.

"I was born in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. I lived in Florida until I was four, and then I moved to London for a couple of years. And then I came to San Francisco, Marin County, when I was seven, and I lived there until I enrolled at UC San Diego, where I studied management science and minored in law and computer science. My dad and mom were both born in India. My dad was raised in London and lived there for most of his life, so I still have most of my dad's side in London. My mom and dad were arranged to be married a couple years

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before I was born. I'm the oldest of three boys.

"It was kind of hard, with the whole difficulty as far as trying to raise the first generation in America while at the same time trying to continue with the culture and religion. My family was generally religious. We all wore turbans and followed the Sikh religion. My dad still wears a turban. But I'm the only one in my family so far who took *amrit*. I did it when I was 12 years old."

Since Ronnie Singh wore no turban and had the tousled hair and casual-seeming stubble of a male model, I wondered what had happened.

"When I was 12 I was trying to find out

about myself, and religiousness was a big part of that. I was raised with that religious mindset, while my brothers were, you know, five or so years younger and didn't get that as much. I think that the whole acclimation to American society didn't start until I was 10. We spoke English at home, but there was still lots of Indian, you know, nuances. We ate Indian food every night, pretty much. We spoke Punjabi with our parents sometimes, but mostly I spoke it with my grandma. My grandma and I still speak it together. My grandma doesn't speak English very well, and she lives in the Bay Area, so I get to practice when I'm up there. The time I took

amrit was when I was at Sikh camp. It was in Fremont, California, during the summer.

"In my high school, I was the first Sikh. I was the first *patka*-wearing boy to go through my

"I'm not saying I'll never go back to wearing a turban, but I'm saying that I really think that the hair is a symbol and it's important, but at the same time, there are so many better ways to show your faith."

district. In the Bay Area, there are plenty of Sikh families. In Marin, however, there aren't that many. As far as having a *joora* is concerned, and

keeping it neat and covered in a *patka*, it takes some effort. That's what made me cut my hair eventually. It is quite a process. You don't want to humiliate the religion, so you want to do your

joora and *patka* right. You want to look good. My youngest brother plays varsity basketball in high school, and he just cut his hair a month ago.

Before that, he would come home every day, and his *joora* and *patka* were always falling off. And it's because he took a beating at basketball. The long hair is hard to manage, especially if you play sports. And you don't want to humiliate its significance, so it's like you've got to keep it clean, but that, in itself, can take hours, not just minutes of the day, but hours. And it takes time, especially when you start getting a beard. Like the way that a beard grows makes everything more difficult.

"And when you make the transition from *patka* to turban, which you usually make when you start growing your beard, you're talking

about even more time. It's not easy, because you want to do it right. You want it to look good, look neat. You don't want it to be a mockery. I wore a turban through my third year of college. It really takes an hour and a half, two hours, to properly wrap a turban. And you can't do that every day. So usually you do it in the night, and then you keep that same turban for a couple days. And every couple nights, you build a new one.

"The amount of fabric used in a turban is huge. I remember that when we used to fold it, one person would grab one end of the material on one side of the room and the other person would grab it from the

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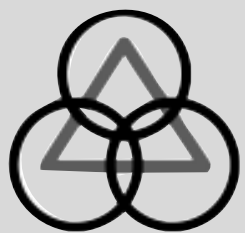
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other side of the room. And this was a big room. It was probably, I don't know, six yards of fabric. It was long. It was huge.

"When I decided to cut my hair and stop wearing a turban, I think I made a religious decision. I'm not saying I'll never go back to wearing a turban, but I really think that the hair is a symbol and it's important, but at the same time, there are so many better ways to show your faith. And that's the time you spend being with God, as opposed to just taking care of your hair and your turban. I mean, it is a gift. It's a gift from God. That's the significance. But time is also a gift. And you just have to make the decision, because my dad, for example, works crazy hours. And when he gets back from work, he looks not so tidy. I mean, he looks fine. Nothing against that, but it's even hard for him, and he's been wearing a turban for so long. And the turban, as opposed to the *patka*, is where it really becomes a challenge, because it presents so many new obstacles. That thing weighs a lot and it makes your head hot and it covers your ears. I decided that I would use all the time that I used to spend on the turban, on its maintenance, and use that time instead for prayer."

I asked Ronnie Singh if he felt that his faith had informed his decision to work for a women's basketball team. I said I thought that most sports-loving young American men would consider working for a male sports team more prestigious.

"About working for a women's team, I never gave it a second thought. So, yeah. That's the way our religion's rules are set up. Equality of castes, equality of gender. Everyone who comes to the *gurdwara* is treated the same. Women are equal.

A women's sports team is equal to a men's sports team. I had that idea of equality bred in me. I didn't even think about it."

How else, I asked, did his faith touch his day-to-day life?

"I think it makes for silent confidence. I can go about making decisions and doing certain actions knowing that God will take care of me and that all will be good as long as I remember God, as long as I believe. It's confidence that things will turn out all right and that the relationship between me and God will blossom into greater things. Not just right for me, you know. I do believe in the afterlife."

I pressed him on this point. What sort of hope did he have for the afterlife?

"The goal is to permanently get out of the cycle of death and

rebirth. But, see, this is the one thing I don't believe in so much. Maybe that's where I diverge from my religion. You know, I don't think it's so bad being in the cycle. Maybe that's just because I'm young right now. I enjoy life. Maybe I'll change my mind when I get older. I do believe that I'll come back and that I'll know stuff that I didn't know before. The knowledge we gain will always stay with us, and eventually we will know everything we need to know."

And then what happens?

"I don't really know. We'll see."

When I told Gagan-deep Kaur that I'd spoken with Ronnie Singh, she sounded frustrated with him in a big-sisterly way.

"Oh, Ronnie," she sighed. "Of course you saw that he doesn't wear

RESEARCH STUDIES

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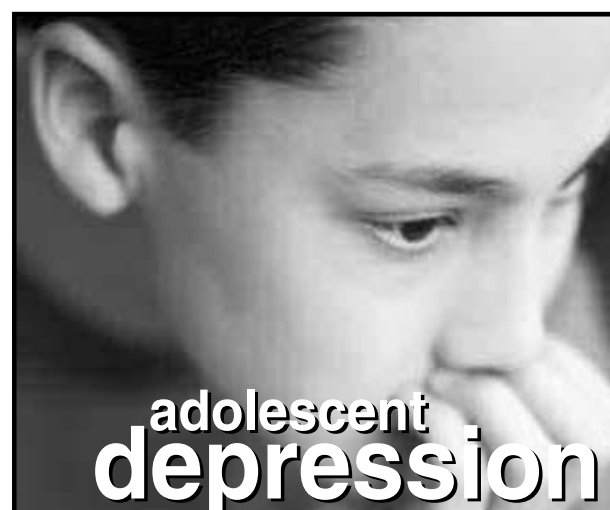
a turban. You know, there's really no good reason why he shouldn't. He even has a very pretty girlfriend, a non-Sikh girl, who thinks he looks *so handsome* in a turban. She doesn't have a problem with it. So maybe someday he'll start wearing one again. It's his choice. We Sikhs never force anyone to make any kind of religious decision. It's entirely up to him."

Kaur did suggest that I speak with 19-year-old Amartaaj Grewal, who attends UCSD. When I showed up for my meeting with Grewal at a coffee shop near the university, it was easy to spot him walking across the parking lot. Like Ronnie Singh, Grewal is well over six feet tall, and his turban adds several inches to his already imposing height. Dressed in T-shirt and jeans, a light blue backpack slung over his shoulder, Grewal was a sweet young man, very at

ease with himself. By looking at his turban, I could tell where his family came from.

"That's right! You got it!" he laughed when I said that his family was from Africa. "Both my mom and dad were born and raised in Kenya. In my family, we wear the African-style turban.

"I was born in Chicago and came to San Diego when I was ten years old. I went to Torrey Pines High School. My family is pretty religious. We went to the *gurdwara* every week for

adolescent depression

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the service on Sundays. It was a pretty traditional life. We spoke Punjabi at home, and when my mother had time, she'd teach us Punjabi. I always kept my hair long. I had a *joora* and *patka* when I was younger. That made things a little difficult when I first started going to kindergarten and elementary school. With kids teasing me and stuff. It was a rite of passage. But at the beginning of each year, my dad would visit my class to explain about Sikhism and 'This is why Amartaaj has a *joora*.' And what he did was that he always brought candy with him when he came to my classes so that the kids would always associate Sikhism with something



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Diwali celebration

good and sweet.

"Everyone in my family has taken *amrit*. I took it when I was very young, like when I was

ten years old. It seemed like no big deal to me, like I was just getting a kind of baptism, and I was already living a reli-

gious Sikh life anyways. It was just the normal thing to do.

"When I was in seventh grade, I started

wearing a turban. It's a symbol of becoming an adult. It's pretty simple. The way the turban works in terms of your

life is that it makes me think, 'I'm gonna get noticed if I do something wrong.' It's very easy to pick a Sikh out from a crowd. At the same time, it also works for you, because if you're doing something right, people are also gonna notice who you are. So you're sort of a representative of the Sikh people. You always have to be on your best behavior. You can't make any mistakes.

"When you're a Sikh, it's like wearing any team uniform — you want to represent the team as best you can, and that's what I was always reminded to do. Especially because of 9/11. That's probably the biggest thing that affected my adolescence. I mean, the reaction from

RESEARCH STUDIES



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DEPRESSION STUDY

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my community in Torrey Pines was nothing but support and stuff, but everywhere else it was pretty bad. It was like I couldn't go anywhere. I would go to Padre or Charger games, and you couldn't walk into the stadium without hearing some comment. People in the stands would yell things at me like, 'Osama!' Even when I was playing high school sports after 9/11, guys would say things like, 'Oh, I'm guarding Osama now.' Or when we'd shake hands after a game, they'd say, 'Good game, Osama.' It was just this childish stuff. But it was everywhere I went.

"Of all the suicide bombers from 9/11, for example, how many of them wore turbans. Zero, right? It was just the one face of the whole organization who happened to wear a turban. But it didn't even look like a

Sikh turban. It didn't look like any kind of turban that a Sikh man would wear. So I just started saying, 'I'm not a Muslim. I'm from India.' But then I thought about it. Even if I were an American Muslim, that wouldn't make it right to call me 'Osama.' I really don't believe that it's okay to make fun of American Muslims. It's just a select few Muslims that are being brain-washed over in the Middle East who are doing these things. So I try to educate people about who Sikhs are. You gotta fight ignorance with teaching."

I remembered what Ronnie Singh had told me about his younger brother's difficulty with looking tidy while playing sports. I asked Grewal if he'd had similar problems.

"I played four years of basketball and then

two years each of cross country and high jump. I couldn't wear a *patka* when I was doing sports. It's too hard. So, it was just me with my *joora* and a headband."

Knowing that young women are often drawn to tall, dark men with distinctive hairstyles and headwear, I wondered what Grewal's dating experiences had been like.

"I've never really had a girlfriend. I mean, it was just my choice. It's just something I don't want to do because I feel like I'm going to be marrying a Sikh girl, and I don't really want to call it wasting my time, but I don't want to get involved with anyone where it might jeopardize my marrying a Sikh. So that's why I have, like, friends that are girls and stuff like that. My dad wanted to be out of college and have a steady job

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RESEARCH STUDIES

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before he got married, and I kinda want to do the same thing. I want to know where I'm gonna live and who I'm gonna work for before I get married."

I asked Grewal which aspect of Sikhism was most important to him.

"Humility. And the belief that all our actions have consequences. When something bad happens to me, I'll wonder why it happened and what it was that I did to be in this spot. I can always trace it back to

something. I guess, for example, this past January, I got in a really bad car accident with my mother. We were dropping off my family at the airport. The night before, I and my sister had gotten into this argument about who's the better driver. And I was yelling at my sister, 'You shouldn't even be on the road!' I look back on that argument, and I know that one of the things that Sikhism always preaches against is pride. We're very against pride.

We're all about being humble. So, I was, I guess, too proud, and then I got into a pretty big accident because of that.

"The accident wasn't even my fault, but, still, the point was that it doesn't matter how good of a driver you are, someone can come out of nowhere and just clip you. Which is what happened to me. But I was still too proud to think that could ever happen to me, and I paid the price for it. When I play sports,

every time I've ever thought to myself, 'This is in the bag. This is going to happen,' it always went the other way. Every time. So I've just learned to keep my mouth shut and be humble, and then usually good things happen. Nothing good ever comes when you boast. I mean, anywhere in life you look. Nothing good ever comes when you boast."

After meeting with Grewal, I called Gagan-deep Kaur and said I was

interested in talking with a Sikh man who was established in his life and career. Kaur said, "I know someone. He's what we call a typically over-achieving Sikh. He's a very successful orthopedic surgeon with a couple of other degrees. And he's just gone to business school to get an MBA. His practice is out in El Centro, but his family lives here in San Diego. He commutes back and forth."

Fifty-three-year-old Bombay-born Dr.

Veerinder Anand is so busy that it was easiest for us to speak by phone. He chuckled when I told him that Kaur had mentioned his degrees.

"In medicine I had nowhere further to go," he said. "I already had an M.D. and M.S. in India. I did my ortho and sports-medicine residencies and boards here in the States. I got two B.A.s, two M.A.s, and two postgrad degrees, and all of these were in medicine. What else was there for me to do? I was interested in

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increasing my medical knowledge and also its application in a broader sense, so I joined the MBA classes at SDSU and was just recently graduated.

"I think being a Sikh, once I start something I am committed to it. I wear a turban, and I think that being visible as a Sikh does influence the choices that you make. Being a kind of diplomat for the Sikh community does subconsciously affect you, both here in the United States and back home in India."

Had the doctor's visibility as Sikh caused any problems for him?

"Only once. When I first got here I was in New York for six years. In 1980 I was standing at a bus stop in Newark, and these two men came up and started making fun of me, calling me an 'Iranian.' There was also this Jewish gentleman

there at the bus stop, and he stood up for me. He had no idea who I was, but he told the two men that my having a beard and turban was no reason to assume that I was Iranian or even a Muslim. They left us alone. My oldest son also wears a turban, and you do worry about that. You worry about your children if they go to places where some people do not have cultural acumen."

I asked the doctor why he had established his practice in El Centro.

"After I finished my training in New York, I wanted to settle in California. At that time there was no Sikh gurdwara in San Diego, but there was one in El Centro. The gurdwara here in El Centro is more than 65 years old. You must remember, there have been Sikhs in El Centro for a long time. They're mostly third-

generation Sikhs, and they really don't have much of an idea of the Punjab. But in El Centro I could take my kids to the gurdwara, and it was important to me that they have that contact and that religious experience in their lives."

What was it in Sikhism that Dr. Anand found so valuable?

"What I've gained from my faith is that basically you have to treasure and value life. There are always going to be ups and downs, and, basically, if someone strikes at you, your first step is to ask why. If they strike at you a second time, you should fight back. If you're right and you know you're right, you should be very courageous and try to defend yourself." ■

—Abe Opincar

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CHERRY ON A STUPID SUNDAE

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TREAT HIS
MOTHER
RIGHT, IT
SHOWS HE
WAS RAISED
IN A CARING
WAY AND
KNOWS HOW
TO TREAT A
WOMAN HE
LOVES.

In the teen flick *Ten Things I Hate About You*, Julia Stiles's character reads off a list of the things she hates about her love interest, ranging from his haircut to his behavior. In real life, however, there aren't ten things that boys do to irritate girls; there are about a million.

Some behavior is forgivable; things such as making sexual innuendoes, drinking way too much alcohol, and talking about sports non-stop are impossible to eliminate from the behavior of a teenage guy. Beer, girls, and sports (sometimes substituted by cars): accept them and move on.

There are several unforgivable actions, though. Most of them can also be exhibited by girls, but are generally characteristic of males between the ages of 13 and 21.

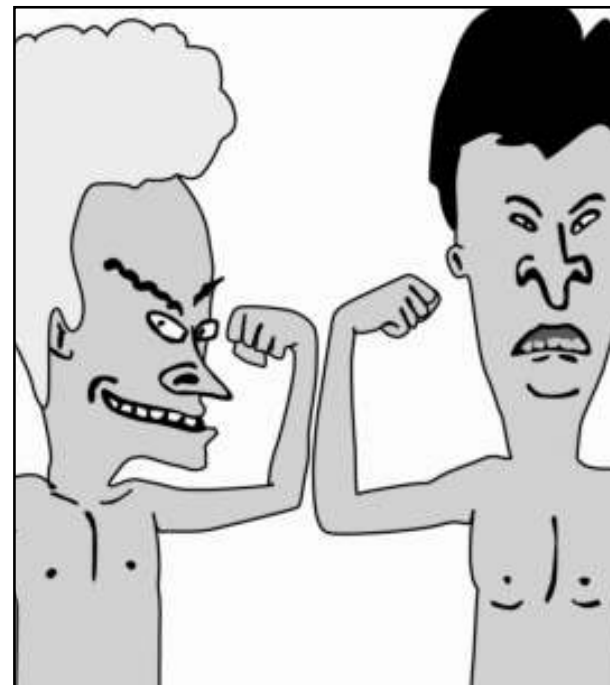
The first unforgivable offense is killing conversation or, worse yet, not attempting to carry one. This happens all the time, as I unfortunately know from personal experience. Be it through text-messaging or in person, guys often kill conversations by replying with one-word answers or grunting. With all that is going on in the world today, it isn't difficult to share some thoughts, even if they are about the weather. Hell, we'll even take sports if the alternative is silence. Girls thrive on talk, which is why this act is so damaging to a potential relationship. Silent dates are never fun.

Somewhat hand-in-hand with conversation killers are guys who are boring. What distinguishes them from the previous group is that they may be able to carry on a conversation, but this is not helpful because their listeners are most likely dead by the time something interesting is said. Once, I was taking a walk with a boy I had not seen in a while, so we were catching up. Considering that we had not seen each other for over a year and that he had just come back from an exotic vacation, one would assume conversation would not be a problem. However, this kid

was a double offender: he would grunt curt responses, and when I tried to make conversation by saying things such as, "We should go paragliding/surfing/do other extreme sports," he would ask disinterestedly, "Why?" That relationship died.

Of course, there are the usual male no-no's, such as cheating, lying, and being disrespectful and immature. These things are bad behavior, and both girls and guys know it. But the thing is (and all guys would do well to remember this), girls will overlook most faults if they are kept engaged, be it in conversation or otherwise.

— Jennie Matusova,
La Jolla H.S.



Beavis and Butthead

Boys, boys, boys...the last thing a teenage girl should worry about. The reason why lies in the fact that most guys my age have never heard the word "manners." If someone attempted to define such a word to a typical guy, the reaction would be a mumbled, "Whatever," and maybe a lovely burp to show how much he really cares. My point: the age of the gentleman has long passed and left us to deal with the simple-minded boy.

My experiences with male teenagers have led me to believe that only a few guys out there really care about how they present themselves to the world. I know that some genuine and unique young men exist. They include those who do not release internal gases in public (and if it accidentally happens, the words "excuse me" actually come out of their mouths), dress modestly, hold open doors for the ladies, respect their mothers, and do not cuss. So many young men do not know how to control their use of dirty words. They're used so often, I could almost become immune to these bleepin' words. If a guy uses cuss words in every sentence, it reveals his lack of knowledge for a better and more descriptive word, rendering him unintelligent...in my mind, at least.

If a man can treat his mother right, it

shows he was raised in a caring way and knows how to treat a woman he loves. But these days, many boys do not make enough time for their mothers, which suggests they don't care.

Finally, one of the worst things a guy can do (and it's happened to me before) is to comment to one of his guy friends about a "hot" girl while he's with another female. Okay...what am I supposed to do? Agree? Laugh? It's called disrespectful and thoughtless. So, boys, next time you're going to swear, crack a crude joke, or let your pants droop to your knees and call it "fashionable," think again. It's not funny or attractive to do things like that. Maybe one day we'll be lucky enough to see the older generations impacting ours by helping the careless boys become thoughtful, kind, and respectful men.

— Lexie Sebring,
Carlsbad H.S. graduate

Sitting at lunch, a group of guys talks about the hot girls around school and waits for any girl to walk by...or should I say step into their court? A court where they are the judges, jury, and lawyers. Before long, a girl strolls by, not knowing the judgment she is subjecting herself to. "Too fat," one boy says. Another one sighs,

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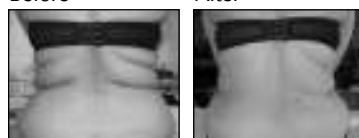
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"Not ugly, but definitely not cute." They continue to bounce rude remarks off each other until the girl is gone or another one walks by.

I wish I could say that the majority of high school guys aren't this way. I wish I could talk about how most guys in high school care about personality more than looks. I wish I could say guys restrain themselves from making degrading comments about girls' phys-

ical appearances, but let's face reality here: the majority of them don't.

I've heard the comments and seen the girls hurt by them. I've even seen guys who hold up signs with numbers one through ten on them when girls walk by. They even start saying that girls are too skinny, too tall, or too short. Girls can't all look like models and most girls don't have perfect bodies. People wonder why girls have eating dis-

orders or low self-confidence.

All I'm asking of guys is to think about what they are about to say before they blurt out an inappropriate comment. I want guys to think about what scale they are judging girls on; they shouldn't evaluate girls' appearances based on girls that are paid to lose weight, look good, and are usually airbrushed to look better.

— Bryanna Schwartz,
Westview H.S.

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All these preconceptions and cynicism that each sex has about the opposite sex amuse me. Every man says female drivers are awful, but every woman says male drivers are awful. I can't help but laugh at thoughts such as these because it has become so clear that these notions form when we're teenagers.

That said, and speaking generally, teenage boys are foolish. I have a friend, Mike, who serves as a shining example of this characterization. Mike's an intelligent kid, in advanced classes, funny, nice, and a good friend of mine. But, Lord, does he do dumb things. A few weeks ago, he called me over and showed me huge scabs on his lateral pelvic bones; he'd been skateboarding, hit a crack in the sidewalk, and slammed his hips on the sidewalk. "Did a 'Superman' for five feet," he said. "Every time I shower, I scream in agony!"

A week or two later, after we sat down in AP Physics, he started to show me more injuries. I didn't think someone could hurt himself so much and be so proud of it. This time, he showed me scabs on his shoulders, his hip, his chest, his elbow, his knee, and his hand, all from one incident. He said he'd been skateboarding downhill at 30 miles per hour and lost his footing and fell down the hill. The moral of this story is that boys are foolish for skateboarding.

In between these two incidents, Mike hurt himself while at the house of a friend who had a big trampoline in the backyard. After front-flipping successfully one time from another kid's roof onto the trampoline, he decided to do it again, this time missing the trampoline and busting open his lip after hitting his face on his knee.

Finally, as a cherry on this stupid sundae, Mike, just this last week, showing off and acting silly, backed his old Toyota Corolla into my older Jeep Cherokee (on purpose, mind you!) and busted his taillight on my bumper without so much as leaving a mark on my Jeep.

— *Laurel Popplewell,
Madison H.S.* ■

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BILLY MARTINEZ IS CAREFULLY APPLYING PAINT TO A SIX-INCH BUST OF WILDFLOWER, the warrior-princess who got him his start in the comics business over a dozen years ago. He dips his brush into a can of pale blue Frazee housepaint, then eases the bristles around the base of the statue — the surface of a pond in which Wildflower is swimming. (She seems to be *au naturel*, though the waterline preserves a measure of modesty.) So far, our heroine is bald; a plastic mop of gray hair, pushed up in front by a broad headband, rests upside down on the table to Martinez's right. Next to the hair lies a brown flying dinosaur, which will eventually perch on the girl's shoulder.



Billy Martinez

"I got the tattoo at the same time I wrote the story," says Martinez.

"I thought, 'What better way to see what it's like?'"

Eight other busts, a fraction of the 100 Martinez has set out to custom-paint in preparation for this year's Comic-Con, occupy the dining-room table of his La Mesa apartment. They wait for his attention in various states of completion, spread out across a broad strip of white paper that is covered with smudges of paint — an impromptu palette. Three are still entirely white, one sports a flesh-toned base coat, three have finished skin and blue water about them, and one is all but complete. The finished bust is glossy, thanks to a spray-on protective sheen. Blue polka-dots adorn the dinosaur's leathery wings. The water around Wildflower's body is tinged with green, and a brown lily pad floats off to her right. Her eyes, brows, and lips have received articulation (in acrylic paint this time); her headband is maroon and gold. (No two busts will be painted exactly alike, enhancing their status as collectibles.) And on her shoulder, a tattoo of a stylized flower — a simpler version of Martinez's own.

In book two of the *Wildflower Tribal Screams* series, Wildflower praises the tattoos of her traveling companion Henna (a bounty hunter):

"Those are beautiful markings on your skin."

"Thank you," answers Henna. "They have been a part of me for many years. Each represents a journey in my life..." Enchanted, Wildflower, whose real name is Cassandra, asks Henna for her own "tribal sign":

"The climate is cooler outside with fall slowly approaching," reads the narration, "but Cassandra's blood is pumping with a

vengeance as each prick pierces her skin. The pain is slowly fading as the endorphins take over her senses. After a few hours pass, the image is complete."

"I got the tattoo at the same time I wrote the story," says Martinez. "I thought, 'What better way to see what it's like?' I just thought it was fitting. I thought, 'This is my character. I've been doing it for this long.' I've always felt like real tattoos are more like stories — they set a place in life. Not just an eight ball: 'I was drunk that day,' or, 'My girlfriend left me.' I felt...it had to mean something." A year later, he got another one, a design on his right forearm. It serves as a calling card of sorts. "I wanted something that would be recognizable — if I didn't want to put my face on a book, I could just show my arm with a pencil in my hand." The artist's author photo. He says it's common to leave forearms tattoo-free, "for the workplace," but thinks that "culturally, people are more accepting now." And in Martinez's case, there isn't any management to contend with; his workplace is his own home and studio.

The shelves above Martinez's desk, set up in the living room just around the corner, show him to be a fan as well as a producer: he has his own collection of comic statuary. The red-haired warrior-woman Dawn perches atop a dragon's tail; Wonder Woman stands with a hand on her star-spangled hip; the monstrous Venom, his freakish tongue snaking forth from his mouth, chases a lissome Spider-Man. Those are the few I recognize; a host of others surround them: a boy and his robot, a couple

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of goofy monsters, an anime-style hero on a futuristic motorcycle, and on and on. They are the sorts of things one finds (and buys) at comic conventions, and Martinez has attended a great many. Comic-Con is merely the largest.

It was at the 1996 Comic-Con that *Wildflower* found a foothold. "I went to Sirius Entertainment four times. I liked the books they were doing." (*Dawn* among them.) "They kept telling me to go away."

"I want to show you something," I said.

"We're not looking at anything any more."

"Well, you haven't seen this."

"Look, do you get the hint?"

"They were really rude. But I went back again, and they said, 'You got a hard time hearing?'"

"No, I'd like to show this to you. I came all the way from Sacramento" — where Martinez was living at the time. "I think you might like what you see."

Persistence won out. The man from Sirius looked, considered, and told Martinez to come back in 30 minutes so he could talk to the publisher. "They went through the portfolio, and a lot of stuff was too artsy for what they were doing, too esoteric." Martinez understood their point. "It's a fine line

with business and art. You want to have fun with it, be creative, but at the same time, if you get too weird, you're out of business. You've got to sell things. I want something that's not only entertaining but a work of art. I want it to stand the test of time, just like the old *Heavy Metal* movie."

The "too-esoteric" stuff was about a couple of futuristic bounty hunters. But the Sirius guys spotted another piece: a fantasy-type, sword-swinging girl.

"Do you have more of this?"

"Yeah, I do." So I developed it. I hadn't named her or anything. The problem was, I had a hard time draw-

ing women." But if Sirius wanted women, they would get women. If you can, you meet the client's needs.

It's a lesson Martinez teaches his students at Neko

would be good at it; I'm good at showing people different ways to do a thing. I worked with other art studios for a while, and then eventually started up my own school.

to draw trees. It's going to save you someday.' Right now, I'm doing something with trading cards for the *Family Guy* TV show." It's a long way from *Wildflower*, but it helps pay the bills.

Versatility also helps grant a measure of independence. "In this day and age, with a lot of corporate entities, it's important to be able to do more of your own thing. People don't realize they can do their own pre-press stuff on comics, save hundreds of dollars by self-publishing, things like that." And independence is what Martinez eventually realized he needed. "I had a bitter-sweet relationship with Sirius. I was selling 1000 books and getting a \$300 advance. There was something fishy going on. I know they made a lot of money off those books, whether they say they did or not." Martinez stresses that he's not looking to get rich quick, but neither did

"Not one soul is larger than the painter. For we are only a smear on the canvas of life!"

Press Art Studios. (The school now operates in La Mesa on University Avenue: "Schooling the art of comic illustration since 1993." But it started "when I was in Sacramento. I started teaching in the local comic shops — I was working in a grocery store at the time. Everybody had *How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way*, but nobody was really teaching that type of thing. I had a feeling I

Just gradually continued to build.") "I tell the students, 'If you go into comics, don't call yourself just a cartoonist; call yourself an artist. Do graphic design. Learn basic Photoshop techniques. Do paintings — acrylics, watercolors. It's important to be able to do the work that's given to you. A lot of the younger students say, 'Oh, I don't want to draw trees.' I say, 'You have to learn how

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he want to get ripped off. He bailed, and then spent 18 months fighting to regain the rights to *Wildflower*. (Other artists followed suit — Dark One, and also *Dawn's* creator, Joe Linser.)

Martinez found a day job as a General Manager for Comics-N-Stuff — by this point, he had moved to San Diego. He hooked up with Peregrine Entertainment, started collaborating on a children's title, *Forty Winks: The Fabled Pirate Queen of the South China Sea*, and began hitting lots of comic shows — the best way to market your product when you lack distribution. He needed something to break his way, and in 1998, something did. "I decided to print this one small run of *Wildflower 2000*. A 16-page book with a card-stock cover — \$10. I made 2000 copies of the book, and took it to Wonder Con in San Francisco. When you opened the book, there was a full-color original illustration that I did right there for everybody at the convention."

Not only did he sell 1700

copies of the book, thus gaining the seed money for his own publishing company, he got himself noticed by someone who mattered. "Kevin Eastman created *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* with Peter Laird," thus making himself into something of a comics legend. Besides the books, the *Turtles* have spawned three movies and two cartoon

7-Eleven to Barnes & Noble — and so it's a great place to get noticed — sort of *The New Yorker* for the comics set. "He brought it back to where it was, made it sexier. The artists, the covers started becoming incredible."

Recalls Martinez, "I was waiting to watch the preview for *Heavy Metal 2000*" — a second animated

"Nobody really needs to read comic books; it's just entertainment. You need to be smart, business savvy, and persistent."

series, with another feature film slated for March of '07. "In 1991, Eastman took over *Heavy Metal* magazine," which, in Martinez's view, had fallen from its former glory. *Heavy Metal* bills itself as "The Mature Illustrated Fantasy Magazine." It has serious distribution — from

feature film — when Eastman approached. "He thought I was crazy for doing 2000 sketches. He said, 'Man, you're going to kill yourself.' " Of course, Martinez didn't kill himself — if anything, he gained a new lease on life. "He invited me up to the bar at the Marriott, and

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he said, 'How would you like to do something for us?' That's how I did my first Wildflower story for *Heavy Metal*." In keeping with the general tone of the magazine, "it was a little more mature than mainstream *Wildflower*."

Armed with cash and

credibility, Martinez started Neko Press in 2000. Artists started signing on: among others, Butch Adams produced a series entitled *Lily: When I Was Dead*, about a girl and her little brother trying to get home from another dimension with the aid of a diminutive zombie

and a "lion-dog thingy." Matt Kimball and Dark One started up *Brutal Planet*, a bloody fantasy series with art reminiscent of the early *Turtles*. And Foo Swee Chin, the Singapore-based artist behind *I Feel Sick* and *Nightmares & Fairy Tales*, contributed *A Lost Stock of Chil-*

dren, which struck me as being in the vein of a Tim Burton/ Corpse Bride-style nightmare. (Come to think of it, Lily might owe something of her comical-Goth look to Burton as well — she looks like what would have happened if Beetlejuice had actually married Lydia.)

Meanwhile, Martinez kept on producing *Wildflower*, a fantasy story set in a world of monsters, dinosaurs, renegade aliens, and girls in leather bikinis. It's mostly fun stuff, but now and then, the author lets himself get thoughtful. In a short segment entitled, "Life,"

a hunter-beast considers his existence. "It is not always easy to understand the scheme of things... But we are only a small part of the painting upon the very large canvas our painter has created." A mosquito disturbs his reverie, and he squashes it. This leads him to medi-

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tate on hate: "...at times we think it has won. As it laughs in the face of love and all that is created..." Just then, a dinosaur swings its tail and squashes the hunter, and the meditation concludes, "Not one soul is larger than the painter. For we are only a smear on the canvas of life!"

The piece has a theological tone, one that shows through more clearly in what is easily Martinez's most successful work: *Kickass Girl: Skeletons in the Closet*. The story follows Katrina, a young woman who discovers, after a horrific childhood, that she is an incredible fighting machine — a kickass girl. "It was like for a moment my strength and emotions were out of my control. Some primal instinct from deep down took control of the situation, and an ass kickin' was administered immedi-

ately." She even beats up her abusive father, whose violence led her mother to commit suicide.

Soon after her discovery, Katrina begins having visions of a beautiful angel and a half-pint skeleton — and also a gaggle of demons. She's been chosen for a mission, one with explicitly theological consequences, but she's not sure what it is, or who to trust for guidance. "That book had more of a personal meaning to it," says Martinez. "It was a story I put together for exploring a more spiritual realm, but also my personal experiences. She's been blinded. She's seeing things not as they should be. There are a lot of wolves in sheep's clothing," and vice versa. Here and there, ruminations on love, evil, free will, and the divine are scattered amid the ass-kicking

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Cartoon Network has expressed interest, though nothing has come of it yet. Martinez isn't fretting. "I'm not one of those desperate guys, saying 'Oh, I want to be in Hollywood.' I didn't get into this business to make movie deals. I want to do good comic books. I want people to work with me because they want to work with me, not because it'll buy them a bigger mansion next week." In the meantime, Martinez has created Kickass Girl skateboards, posters, and cell phone skins. In the meantime, he has published a number of art books — collections of sketches and finished drawings from Neko Press's artists — glorified sketchbooks, unencumbered by story. ("They're selling really well.") In the meantime, he has kept on teaching comic book illustration to the next generation.

* * *

"I think it's only another five to ten years before comics in America are where they are



in Japan," says Martinez. "They'll have the appreciation they deserve, and parents and adults will realize

that they're not just for kids." Now, "people see artwork, and they think, 'That's really great, but it's a child's book.'

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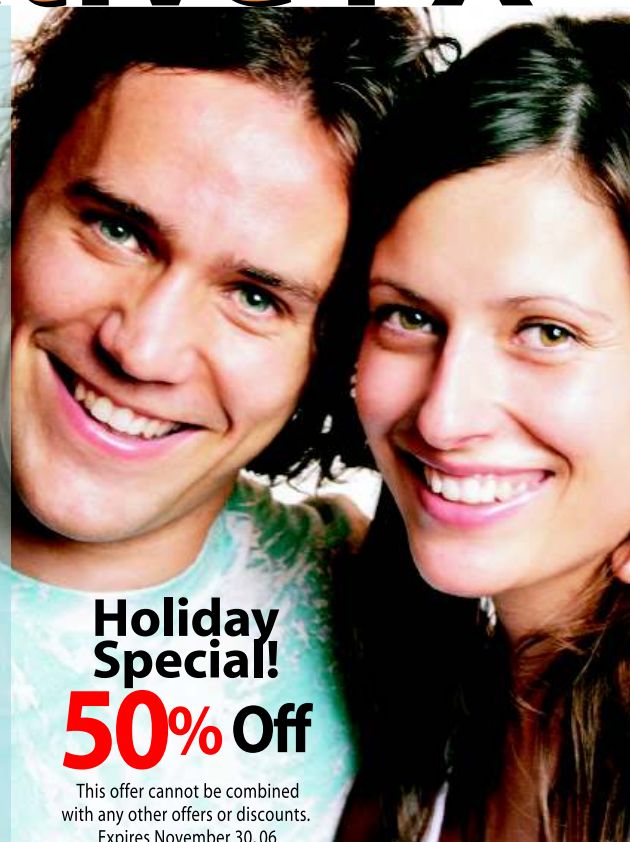


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"Growing up, it was a mark of pride for a young reader — the ratio of pictures to words on the page gradually reversing, until eventually, the imagination was deemed strong enough to

do its own heavy lifting in the illustration department, and the pictures disappeared altogether. I was six — still young enough to be proud of being 'smart' — and if I was in a mood to boast, I might inform my peers that I read books with 'just words.' Books like *The Great Brain*

series, *The Treasure of Alpheus Winterborn*, *The City of Gold and Lead*.

"But not only books with just words. I still had my Illustrated Junior Classics: *Arabian Nights*, *Huck Finn*, and *Tom Sawyer*, the first of stark pen-and-ink drawings, the latter two dappled with

lush watercolors. I still had my Great Illustrated Classics, text and pictures on facing pages, the superhero comic-y style serving to soften the horror of a story like Poe's 'A Cask of Amontillado.' And I still had my comic books.

"Thanks to my older brother, there were plenty of superheroes: *Spider-Man*, *Daredevil*, and *The X-Men* chief among them. (All three recently made into feature films. My generation has come of age.) And while I read lots of books with 'just words,' the comics were what I read and re-read, hundreds of times, savoring particular exchanges (Doctor Doom: 'It was all a trick! A cursed lie of the mind!'), particular sequences (any Frank Miller fight scene involving ninjas), and particular artists' treatment of this or that hero (Gene Colan's *Doctor Strange*).

"Outside of the super-

hero realm, I had Tintin, globe-trotting boy reporter, and Asterix, hero of the only village in all Gaul that Rome had failed to conquer. *Tintin* showed me the world. *Asterix* gave me history, language play, and social comedy (a bard, Cacophonix, who can't sing; a chief, Vitalstatistix, who is governed by his wife, etc.). Those comics have stayed with me, and once my own children started showing an interest, I was happy to pass them along, happy to buy them their own."

But of course, the comics had changed. Mister Fantastic, the moral giant who once resolved to save the world-eating Galactus rather than play God and watch him die, was shown going in for ends-justify-means-type reasoning. The dialogue had shifted to embrace modern slang. And the art...if Japanese-style respectability was still a few years off, Japanese-

style illustration was clearly already here, and making its influence felt. Triangular noses. Enormous eyes. Simplistic inks. Anime had infiltrated *The Fantastic Four*.

And it has infiltrated Neko Press. "I do a Manga-style hybrid," says Martinez of his own work — Manga being the book-length anime-style graphic novels that have famously made comics appealing to the fair sex.

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Bisley's Illustrations from the Bible. But nobody buys things during my visits to the studio's single, art-laden room. When I visit, everybody's busy making things, and there is Manga in the air and on the page.

Kristina has been attending classes at Neko Press Studio for two months; she is

13 years old. This class is better than others, she says, because "I like to read those comic books and stuff. It's more like the anime that I like to read and watch on TV."

Katy, also 13, found out about the studio when Martinez visited her school and left a brochure at Career Day.

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"It was basically anime/Manga style, and that's the type of drawing I like to do." She's been working on a drawing of a dark angel. "It's going to be my role-play character on Gaia Online; it'll go on my signature."

Leanna, 16, has been copying a picture she found on an ad for Hook-Ups, which sells anime-decorated skateboard decks and T-shirts: Alice from Wonderland, her white stockings torn, her dress-front spattered with blood. In one hand, a bloody axe; in the other, the corpse of the Cheshire cat. "I can't tell from the picture where she cacked him." It sounds grisly, and it is—except. Except the anime style has a way of

making even a murderous Alice seem almost cute somehow. (Still, there are limits. Says Leanna, "I don't even read the ones that look disgusting. You pick up books, and the cover looks gross, and you're like, 'I'm not reading that.' " Anime can wander into some pretty nasty, and rather adult, territory.)

She's also been working on other, original works. "My mom says this one looks like my sister, and if you know her, it does. But she doesn't think so."

"It looks like your sister," says Katy.

Leanna wants to be a comic-book artist. "It's the chance to be myself for once. Everywhere else I go, I'm not allowed to do the things

I want to do, because people think I'm weird. I don't really care about that, but, like, they just won't let me. Then I come here, and I can do whatever I want. It lets me get out what I've been feel-

"I've always loved Manga. I was drawing a little bit before, just copying things, because I didn't know the basics. Billy taught me gesture drawings, stuff like that. He had me work on facial expressions,

The panels are black and white, lots of clean lines, very little shading. Only blood is given the privilege of color.

ing all day, and it's pretty cool drawing. Even if people don't like it, they appreciate the drawings."

Michelle, 15, has been attending for about a year:

whole-body turnaround drawings. Now, I'm trying to finish this comic about these two angels of destiny. They have a bet that if these two twin angels are split up, what

will happen when they come together. One bets that the universe is going to go to war and everything is going to be chaotic. The other one bets that it will create a giant being of great power, and bring peace to the universe and stuff." ("They were both right," reads one panel of the comic, which is still mostly sketchwork at this point.) "This story is about when they meet. It's taking me a while, though — I'm kind of lazy. I come once a week for an hour and a half. Billy's real chill; he's real nice — he just goes along with it. He motivates me to stay on task."

Over at another table, Billy is leading a couple of beginners through a turnaround drawing. "We're going to work on proportions. You want to keep the character accurate, and I'm going to show you how to do that. Most adult characters are between seven-and-a-half and eight heads tall. So we use this to map out the length of a character," he says, drawing eight egg-shaped heads

up one side of the paper. "We start using shapes — cylinders and circles" to create the form of the body. "We call it a gesture drawing. You can use the mannequin" — a jointed, wooden figure on a stand — "to look at proportions. Then we just break it down. A lot of times, I'll have breakdowns where the joints are." His figure complete, he lays down his ruler and draws lines across the page through top of head, eyeline, chin, shoulders, bust, elbows, wrists, fingertips, knees, and ankles. The goal is to draw the same character as seen from the side and from the rear, maintaining proportions throughout, as if you were turning the character around, looking at him from all sides. One such figure hangs on the studio's display wall: a young man in a ball cap, gray sweatshirt, and jeans.

Nearly everything on the wall has been created by students; many (if not all) of the pieces were done as part of exercises. A flying saucer attacks a city — a study in

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perspective, making sure all the buildings share a vanishing point. A bloated rabbit with droopy ears and a missing eye was done as part of a single-color shading exercise, dark and light tones applied to indicate shape and shadow. Comic-book panels demonstrate composition and point-of-view techniques. There are pieces done in pencil, colored pencil, ink, and magic marker. "You have to come up with interesting assignments," says Martinez. "Instead of apples and oranges, draw a character. Some people might like to draw vases and stuff, and that's great — maybe you're 70 years old, and that's what you like. But some of these guys are into different things."

Today, most students are painting Tikis, design-

ing their own or taking inspiration from the designs in Douglas Nason's *Night of the Tiki*. "Maybe a student has trouble with anatomy. Doing something like a Tiki helps get a sense of other strong points he might have. I don't want to have them drawing the same thing over and over again; it can get frustrating. They're using their imaginations, learning about color values."

And learning about dry-brush painting. Danielle is 17; she's been coming to the studio for about five years. "I've always liked art, always been into drawing," she explains. Now, she is also into Manga — a stack of paperbacks sits at the top of her desk. "I want to become a publisher, but I want to draw them as well." The novels are black-and-white, pen-

and-ink. Right now, however, "I'm working on dry-brush skills, even though I hate it. Billy's making me." Stay versatile. Learn to draw trees.

Danielle's Tiki is black and white like the Manga, with gray thrown in as a concession to the exercise. A white line runs along one side, a pale glare to give the impression of roundness and depth. Martinez stops by, mashes a paintbrush into a patch of pale gray, and starts spreading it over the white line and the darker patch next to it. "This is to add more tones, to overlay so that it will start blending."

"Do you know how many times I went over those lines?" asks Danielle, feigning exasperation.

"That's what painting is about — overlaying col-

ors." Martinez turns to me. "She doesn't have the patience for this. She's very good with pencils and stuff." Back to Danielle: "Now go back over this part. Bring it into the white, so that it fades into it."

"Thank you, Billy." Besides a short demo at the opening of class, this is how Martinez teaches, floating from student to student, giving advice and demonstrations. "Some students who have been here a long time prefer me not to touch their paper." Usually, with Danielle, "she'll call me when there's a problem."

The same goes for Kai Martin, 21, and a six-year veteran of the studio. Though he usually works on his own stuff instead of joining in the exercises, coming in "is sort of a ritual. To some degree, it feels like you're

among friends. And every artist, no matter what age, can always get better. Sometimes, when you're trying to do something yourself, all you have is yourself. It helps to have someone outside to give you direction and pointers. I still ask Billy for help all the time. I had a comic page, and all the angles were really similar. He said, 'No, you need to angle the panels differently, make it more dynamic. Don't have everything approached from the same direction.'"

Martin fell in love with comics during the John Romita Jr. era at *The Amazing Spider-Man*. "His style was simplistic, but it also had a lot of detail." He started shopping at Comics-N-Stuff and couldn't help but notice all the ads for Neko Press Studio. Now he's one of

Martinez's bright young things, ready to start getting out into the world. "If I have students who have been with me a long time," says Martinez, "and I know I can count on their work ethic because I see how they're getting stuff done, I'll sit down with them: 'Look, I'm going to refer you to this person for this job. This is the deal: you have to do this job, do it well, and finish it. My name is good with these people. This is how many revisions they might ask you to do...' It's kind of a foot in the door; they have something to put in their portfolio. They can say, 'I've worked with this company.' I think that in our culture, a lot of people want everything now. I try to get students to understand, 'Go through the right channels this year, build

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yourself a foundation.' The guy who designs our web-site is an old student of mine. He's gotten jobs doing design work for T-shirt stuff, off-roading stuff."

"Billy's suggested me in a couple of areas," Martin says, "but it hasn't worked out so far. Not that it's his fault — it's just that they found somebody else at the other end." But there are always other projects; when we spoke, he was being considered for some work with Velvet Elvis Studios. And maybe Neko Press. "He hasn't actually said he's going to do it, but he's said that he's really interested. But I started the project on my own; whether he accepts it or not is irrelevant."

The story concerns a young samurai who is slowly going blind, and is racing against his dimming eyesight to find those responsible for the murder of his family. "The problem is that...he's a totally ruined person, and he has to try to put himself back together before he can even attempt to avenge his family." Work on the project has been slow;

Martin drew the first page over a year ago. (School and work have a way of taking time away from drawing.) "My style has improved since then. My stuff isn't as blocky as it used to be. Back then, everybody had more corners on them. But I don't think I'll redraw the pages; I think they're really good."

The panels are black and white, lots of clean lines,

needs to read comic books; it's just entertainment. You need to be smart, business savvy, and persistent. And you have to be able to take rejection."

And it helps to have another platform — not a day job, necessarily, but a sideline. Martin says that, stylistically, he is "trying to find a balance between cartooning and fine art. I've

"Some students who have been here a long time prefer me not to touch their paper."

very little shading. Only blood is given the privilege of color. Martin and Martinez discuss the expense of printing those crimson splashes. Publishing the book, says Martinez, "just depends on what we can afford. It's hard to sell people on something new."

Martin agrees. "It's very competitive. Nobody really

been trying to do some paintings in my style, to get them put up in cafes. They're slightly anime, but I'm trying to find my own style. There's another student here who works at the Living Room in Hillcrest; I talked to her and got my artwork up for display over there."

Here, he is following Martinez's lead. Martinez

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may not have started out painting, and he may not have started out drawing women, but his "Girls" paintings have done well enough to merit their own art book. "They're unique," says Martinez, "the way they're cut and everything. It's given me a chance to recreate myself, be a little more well rounded." In between rounds of helping his beginning students to layer their acrylics, Martinez sneaks in bits of work on a Girl, borrowing a student-mixed golden-yellow to add highlights to her dark hair. Like all the rest — there are 56 in the book — she appears on a long, narrow panel — about one foot by five feet. (This is the unique cut that Martinez mentioned.) The paintings are rarely full-body depictions. Most often, they stop just below the pelvis; sometimes, little more than the face is visible. The girls are often exotic in some way — often pierced, often tattooed, often sporting some piece of skull-themed jewelry. Today's Girl wears a stylized bone necklace. Her eyes are closed, but

tears stream forth as she seems to pray, hands pressed together, before a pair of candles.

These girls have been good to Billy. They've been displayed in cafes — Claire de Lune, Cosmos Coffee, Wine Steals. They have begun to find space in galleries: Imperial Beach Art Gallery, Outer Edge Gallery in Mon-

Sometimes I'll sell three, four, five paintings, right there on the spot. People will buy the ones I'm doing at the time, or one of the others off to the side. I get very nervous — stage fright. But people like to know a little bit about the artist. The best way to represent yourself is by yourself, instead of having an agent do it."

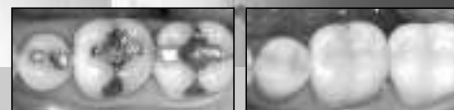
"I have a lot of standards; I'm just not like your typical 38-year-old. If I see something that I think is going to be questionable, I won't do it."

terey. And they sell. Depending on the piece, they can sometimes fetch \$450, sometimes \$800. "I sell them at live art shows." (Vinyl Elements has hosted him for several events at the Honey Bee Hive downtown.) "They'll have a band, and I'll be up on stage, painting for five hours.

People also like to make requests. "I take commissions all the time. Sometimes, when I'm drawing the boards, people will ask me, 'Would you draw this character with a beach ball?' Or, 'I saw a girl like this once, would you do that for me?' Or, 'Paint my girlfriend here.'"

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"Risqué," in this case, means a few things: lots of cleavage, occasional toplessness with obscured naughty bits, and a whiff of suggested sexuality. A come-hither look, a peppermint stick between the lips, a lingerie set. "I don't do adult stuff," says Martinez, "just sexier stuff. The women are clothed, you don't see anything... which I've always thought was actually more erotic. I have a wife; I'm not doing nude models or anything. I don't like half the stuff that's on MTV; I won't let my daughters watch it. I have a lot of standards; I'm just not like your typical 38-year-old. If I see something that I think is going to be questionable, I won't do it. But I'm still a kid at heart, and I think that's one of the successes I have with the studio."

He has a point; what he

depicts is nothing new for kids today. Comics have long gloried in depictions of the female form, and if anything, anime and Manga take things a step further than traditional American comics. Martinez points out a turnaround drawing on the wall, done by one of his female students. "I don't tell them to draw the skirts that short," he explains. It's what they see in their comics, and it's what they draw in their own. Remember that line from the Barenaked Ladies hit, "One Week"? "Gotta get in tune with *Sailor Moon*'cause that cartoon has got the boom anime babes that make me think the wrong thing." Fifteen-year-old Michelle's twin angels don't wear a whole lot; the dark twin sports a teeny black bikini and fishnet stockings.

"I'm pretty honest with everybody: 'This is what we do here. If you have a problem with sending your son here because he's 11 years old and sees cleavage on my comic book covers, then you shouldn't send him here. But if you're going to be in

the art business, you're going to be drawing nudes in college.' I've had only one or two people say anything, and once they get to know me, know that I have a family, they're not too worried."

* * *

So Martinez paints, and teaches, and publishes, and markets, and waits. A licensing deal with Cartoon Network would be sweet. It would let him go with a smaller distributor, using his clout to help it succeed against the industry big boy, Diamond. "I'm not trying to stick it to the man or anything. It's just that we need more competition in our business. You've got a lot of guys running it that don't draw, and don't really care about art. I understand you've got to feed yourself, but when they just care about dollars, you start losing the artistic side. I've been in this business 13 years; I kind of figured, 'If I can get a book out there, if these guys can run a publishing company, then I surely can.'"

— Matthew Lickona

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LETTERS

continued from page 12

blade, it *does* stay inflated. I got mine at Wal-Mart for about \$35 for the queen size. It comes with an external pump, which runs on four D-cell batteries. The Swiss Gear air mattress is a reliable and remarkably comfortable bed that offers good support. It's great for visiting company or nightly personal use — and at the price, you can't beat it.

Scott Marinoff
via e-mail

Felis Toomanynamus

I enjoyed your animal-tracking article ("They See You," Cover Story, September 28) and am glad there are people who care about

such endeavors but agree with William Pease (Letters, October 5) that a cougar is a mountain lion is a catamount is a fish cat is a Florida panther is a *Felis concolor* (cat of one color); the North American animal with the most common names.

Drew Peterson
via e-mail

One Man's Story

In response to "Not the Average Joe" (Letters) by Mike McAlister in the September 28 issue.

Mr. Foley's blood alcohol count may have been .23, and he may have been driving 90 miles per hour, but an off-duty officer in a situation of observing a possible reckless or drunk driver is required only to report it.

Only in a case where a felony crime is being committed is he required to act. We were not there so we cannot say exactly what happened. To be followed all the way to your home by an unknown individual would alarm me as well. Especially being a wealthy public figure, he should be overly concerned. Mr. Foley's infractions and violations of the law should never have resulted in his being followed to his home and gunned down. I feel there is so much more here; actions tell me that there may have been a jealous nature.

What I do know is many of our police officers are recklessly out of control out there. They have a tough job, and I would never do it. This type of thing hap-

pens to the ordinary Joe as well.

In 2004 I was in fear for my life. For two days, I called 911, awaited assistance, but was just passed by. It was not until I was out of fuel and using a call box for assistance did the CHP arrive. I was able to contact my family after speaking to three different operators explaining my situation and my condition of being bipolar. But yet the officers arrived and came guns drawn on me, then maced me in the eyes. I could not believe their actions towards me. I had informed them on their arrival of my medical condition and the need to keep space between us as they were making me feel like a caged

animal. When they maced me I turned and ran to protect myself from further violent actions or harm. I crossed the eastbound lanes to the center of the freeway. I stood motionless, hands high in the air, stating, "I surrender and will remain motionless." They greeted me with an elbow to the head and a body slam to the ground. The gravel was as sharp as glass. A knee drove my face into the ground and held me there. The other officers were pulling me in opposite directions while striking me in the kidney area repeatedly.

My family did arrive on the scene to see the bloody results. The officers informed them that I'm going to be taken for medical

attention at County Mental Health to get the attention and medication I was in need of. Instead, they jailed me on assault and resisting arrest charges.

Two court dates and a couple weeks later I'm released on two years' probation for resisting only. A day and a half later, I collapse at home. Rushed to the hospital where they had to remove my spleen because it was ruptured and I was bleeding internally. The surgeon said if I had been 25 minutes later, I would have been completely bled out. To rupture the spleen — that is excessive.

When my father arrived at the scene, he asked, "What, did my son take a swing at you guys?" The re-

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ply was, “No, it did not happen like that at all!”

Would you believe that the police report only ever mentions two officers, when there were actually four? I suppose it is due to the fact that there was a disagreement of facts so the officer was simply omitted from the report.

The ordinary Joe cannot even get an attorney who will go up against the mighty state of California. I live every day in torture and so overwhelmed at how they can just simply get away with this kind of behavior and no compensation for what they should be held responsible for.

Trust and believe they are out of control — and it happens all the time. Truth always should be told.

B.S.R.
Santee

Slime Mouth Promotions

The *Reader* has an identity crisis. You say you reserve the right “not to accept an advertiser’s order.” I presume this means you have standards of some kind. You take on the morality of the city, state, and nation, right-

fully investigating all manner of indiscretions, outright graft and abuse, and expose it to the public. In the September 21 issue, in “The Hip List” (Cover Story), you give free advertising to and aid a campaign that sees children as pornographic billboards when you name slime-mouth Sik World Productions best on the hip list for “smart-mouthed shirts.” Smart has meaning. Misogyny and child abuse are not smart. These shirts encourage both. Maybe you need to take a look at your editorial purpose. The general community goes to the *Reader* for information about the area. This article would send them somewhere else.

Therese Tappouni
via e-mail

Old And Irrelevant

In response to your article printed September 21 titled “They’re All Bad” (Feature Story) about the crime in Mid-City, you make clear to the reader that “this part of town [is] dangerous at night, dangerous during the day. Dangerous, period.” What you do not make clear to the reader is the article was written and originally published

in August of 1990, and you chose not to investigate the state of Mid-City today.

You provide microtype at the top of the first page of the article, above the margin of the printed page, indicating the article originally ran in 1990, but for the remaining 20 pages of the article on which you needed to sell advertising, you misled the reader into thinking the information is current and relevant to their daily life.

With an editorial choice beyond ignorance, you purposefully ran a sensational article rather than investigate the state of Mid-City today. The disservice to the work of charities such as Price Charities and the hard work of residents and public employees is beyond measure. The efforts of committed organizations have resulted in the re-development of the area. It thrives today with an Urban Village, a new police station, new elementary schools, a six-story office building, housing, recreational fields, new library, new rec center with tennis courts and swimming pool, community college, shopping center, senior housing, new medical clinics

by Children’s Hospital, La Maestra, and a wellness center by Sharp Hospital.

You instead chose not to investigate the community and chose instead to run an article 16 years old. How is that relevant or honest? I invite you to join me in Mid-City at any time, any day. After a visit, maybe you can write an article that is relevant and honest.

Matthew Hervey
Community Development
Director
Price Charities

Shaky Foundations

This is about a letter printed in the September 14 *Reader*, titled “Stacks of Money Block the View.” The letter may have underestimated the elected and appointed officials’ — local political bureaucracy’s — effect on the course of building development. Not only do such agents “approve” local terrain rearrangement; such also emphatically guide, direct, and support, even as far as subsidize, based on agendas more extreme, less naturally moderate than if based on time-tested, true economic principle in a democracy inclinations and drives. For example, haven’t we this year learned that Petco pro sports arena was built with no more substantial financial backing than promises?

Even “Name Withheld” might recall, as Henry David Thoreau stated: that government governs best that governs least.

Name Withheld
San Diego

Smartypants Outsmarted

Regarding Matthew Alice’s column (“Straight From the Hip,” October 12), I am glad to see that I am among the clever few who have a question

that Matt, Grandma, and the elves can’t answer. Owing to the popularity of the *Reader*, I have respectfully submitted my question several times by various media in accordance with the instructions in the column and given ample time for each entry to be answered in the column. Therefore, I can only conclude that I am among the illustrious regular readers of the *Reader* who have stumped Matt Alice! Maybe we should start a club?

Thom Hogan
via e-mail

Crashing Bore

I realize that making a fun or interesting party fun or interesting to read about is difficult. But seeing as Josh Board is not capable of doing so, why do you force him to attempt it week after week? Likewise, why do you expect your readers to plod through the “Crasher” column week after week? (I normally have difficulty by the second paragraph.)

Note to editors: talking to actual people at a party about Tom Hanks = possibly interesting. Reading about actual people talking about Tom Hanks at a party = definitely boring.

Note to Josh Board: Hemmingway wrote fiction.
A. Videra
via e-mail

You’re Joking, Right?

Your “Remote Control King,” Ollie, is contributing to the moral decay of this country. I highly recommend he find God and start writing about wholesome TeeVee programming, like the Olsen twins or *The 700 Club*.

Bubba Lee
American

Ollie The Anthropologist

I like Ollie’s TV column...a lot! My friend turned me on

to it by explaining that the *Reader* should be read from back to front, Ollie’s “What I will and won’t watch on TV this week” as our mutual highlight.

I always used to just pass over it because I don’t have cable or rabbit ears, so I mistakenly thought, Why would I want to read his TV reviews!? Little did I know they were micro-socio-anthropological insights as keen as the aurora borealis shot through the prism of a black Pink Floyd T-shirt.

After Ollie, I go to the cartoons, then usually some off-on garde articles up front, the monk and the Airstream, the PLNU grad, “A Flag You Can Live In,” opossums and pygmy goats, just to name a few that were of personal interest recently.

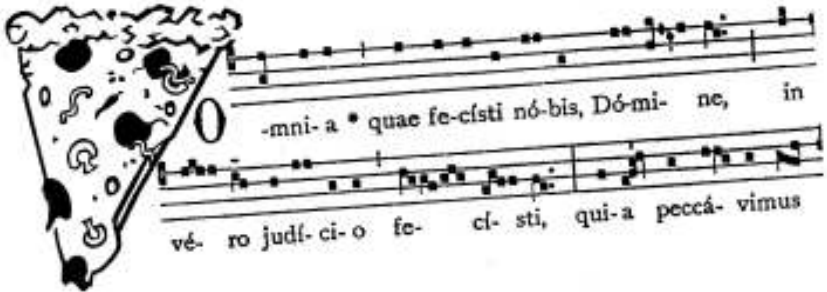
I religiously grab a *Reader* at the local 7-Eleven and keep it in the car till Friday, safe from the wife and kids, then devour my favorite parts between all the boob- and nose-enhancement ads, which sadly, make me really wonder about our society in its current state. Yes, boobs and cellulite *are* important, but *that* important? Come on...your Achilles’ heel?

Very little awareness of South Bay politics. We have crazy and Machiavellian school board members and mayors too! In fact, they’d give San Diego Central a run for its money any day of the Peyton Place week.

Secondly, you need a little more on religion than “Sheep and Goats.” I like the reviews of church services plenty, but there’s so much more to be said about the current state of religion and faith in San Diego than what they are currently being given.

Jauhn Hinkle
via e-mail



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Coronado and Oz

The Myth and the Reality

People like to say that Hotel del Coronado was the inspiration for the Emerald City, but [L. Frank Baum] wrote the first Oz book before he ever stayed there," says Ellen Jarosz, special collections librarian for San Diego State University. "It's possible he'd seen photographs of the hotel, but unlikely."

The library is currently hosting two related exhibitions. The first, on display through February 12, 2007, features items from the library's permanent collection, donated by the hotel in the 1970s. "There is some material in that collection that is about

Baum," says Jarosz. "His signature is in the guest book, and there are pictures of him reading to children at the Del."

LOCAL EVENTS

The second exhibit, "The Writer's Muse: L. Frank Baum and the Hotel del Coronado," features items donated by Baum's great-granddaughter and is on display until February 28.

The famed children's book author was born 150 years ago this year, on May 15, 1856. He published his first book, *Mother Goose in Prose* (illustrated by Maxfield Parrish), in 1897. In 1900, with illustrator William Wallace Denslow, Baum created *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. He is said to have written several of his 14 Oz books during visits to the hotel between 1904 and 1908.

"[Baum] didn't actually enjoy writing the Oz books very much," says Jarosz. "That's the reason he had to publish under pseudonyms — if he wrote another story [under his own name], he would get angry fan mail from people wondering why he

wasn't spending that time writing about Oz. He intended to end the series after six books; he had pretty much wrapped [the story] up at the end of the sixth book, in 1910. But then he ran into financial trouble and wrote another eight. I can understand how, if you spent all your time writing the same stories over and over again, you'd get really bored."

Baum wrote at least 35 children's books under several pseudonyms. "Some books in the Aunt Jane series, and other miscellaneous works, highlight San Diego and La Jolla," says Jarosz. In *Aunt Jane's Nieces and Uncle John* (written in 1911 by "Edith Van Dyne"), a family travels from New York to California and stays at the Hotel del Coronado.

"One popular rumor about Baum and his visits [to the hotel] is that he designed the chandeliers in the Crown Room," notes Jarosz. "It's difficult to tell where these rumors start. One person says it, and it pops up, and you have to be really careful and double and triple check people's citations. We think this rumor is false; it looks very much like Baum did not design the chandeliers."

Many theories regarding the underlying message of Baum's most popular work have developed over time. Salman Rushdie interpreted the story to be about "the inadequacy of adults." Some view the Oz books as an allegory of the populist movement in the U.S. in the late 19th Century.

Even the word "Oz" has been the object of interpretive scrutiny. Perhaps the most popular rumor is that, while struggling to name the mythical land, Baum happened to glance at a nearby filing cabinet marked



"O-Z." Another speculation is that the word is derived from "Uz," referred to as the land of Job in the Bible. Some members of the Populist Party believe it is the abbreviation for "ounce" and that the wizard represents the gold standard against which party members rebelled. In Gregory Maguire's book *Wicked* (in which the story of Oz is told from the perspective of the Wicked Witch of the West), the witch Elphaba believes the origin of Oz is "oasis" because the land itself is surrounded on all sides by the "Deadly Desert." None of these theories has been confirmed.

"Baum's great-granddaughter, who lives locally, lent us several materials that are family heirlooms for us to display," says Jarosz. "There is a family copy of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, manuscript pages, lots of inscribed books with the title pages dedicated to his sons, a Wizard of Oz program from the first showing of the film in 1939, artist's proofs for *The Enchanted Island of Yew* [another illustrated children's book by

Baum], and Oz dolls the great-granddaughter made for her mother as a Christmas gift."

Among the objects in the library's permanent collection related to the Hotel del Coronado are "a complete run of all guest registries from the beginning of the hotel until they stopped keeping [a registry] around World War II, publicity materials, brochures dating from the turn of the century, advertisements in magazines and newspapers, and train schedules."

— Barbarella

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Events that are underlined occur after November 9.

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.

B A J A

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 ex-

hibit 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)

Tijuana Open Supercross 2006 with participants from Chile, Ecuador, Colombia, Guatemala, U.S.A., Brazil, and Mexico is Saturday, November 4, starting at 9 a.m. at Estadio Calimax. Tickets: \$25 U.S. (TIJUANA)

Wine and Dine in Ensenada, Baja California Tours hosts outing led by Dave Clark, Saturday, November 4. Event includes tours and tasting at Chateau Camou, Monte Xanic, L.A. Cetto wineries in Valle de Guadalupe. Barbecue lunch at L.A. Cetto Winery. \$89 fee includes lunch, transportation. Reservations: 858-454-7166. (GUADALUPE VALLEY)

Intocable in Concert, Saturday, November 4, 6 p.m., at Terrenazo Caliente (on Boulevard Agua Caliente). 011-52-664-684-2569.

“Danza, Folklore, y Magia,” Mexican folkloric dances by Ticuan Ballet Company, Saturday, November 4, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). \$10 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636.

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OUT & ABOUT

WORKS BY WISTRICH & More, City Ballet of San Diego, November 3-5, Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre.

(SEE DANCE)



PHOTOGRAPH BY DALE STOKES

tronic music and DJs,” Saturday, November 4, 6 p.m., at Mexitlán (at 2nd Street and Avenida Madero). Tickets: \$20, \$40 U.S. 619-476-1212. (TIJUANA)

Middle Eastern Dance promised Saturday, November 4, 8 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). Dancers include Renata Lobo (Brazil), Niral, Samirah of Las Mujeres de la Luna of Tijuana, Vilía and the Hipslingers (U.S.A.). Tickets: \$15 general, \$25 VIP, benefiting Ciudad de los Niños. 011-52-664-216-0770 x71 or 858-232-7417. (TIJUANA)

International Half Marathon starts at 7 a.m. on Sunday, November 5, in Zona Río. 011-52-664-215-9000. (TIJUANA)

Skeleton Run for Children 6–12 years old, Sunday, Novem-

ber 5, starting at 9 a.m. at Modelo Cemetery. 011-52-646-178-1811. (TIJUANA)

“La Aguja de Luz” read from and signed by author Isabel Turrent, Tuesday, November 7, 7 p.m., in Reading Room at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“Los Límites de la Identidad” explored by Rosa Elba Rodriguez Tomp on Wednesday, November 8, in Reading Room at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Lecture about cultural development of ethnic groups in Baja California starts at 7 p.m. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Furniture and International Design Expo showcasing Mexican factories runs Thursday–Saturday, November 9–11, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., at Design Outlet Home and Garden Building (on Paseo de los Héroes in Zona Río). Free admission. 011-52-664-215-1791. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Local Temperatures should be declining most rapidly during this time of year, according to more than a century of local meteorological records. With every successive week, daily maximum temperatures are declining by about three-quarters of a degree Fahrenheit, and daily minimum temperatures are plummeting by about 1° Fahren-

heit. (This gradual onset of fall/winter chill is probably all but unnoticed by most newcomers from harsher climates.) By January, our mean temperature will have fallen to about 55°, from an average temperature of about 70° in August.

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.

Mission Hills Meander, enjoy great views and picturesque homes and gardens during moderate, one-hour walk on Friday, November 3, 5:45 p.m., hosted by Walkabout. Walk starts at Espresso Mio, 1920 Fort Stockton Drive. Free. 619-231-7463. (MISSION HILLS)

Seize the Opportunity to see a vermilion flycatcher when Audubon Society birders head to Lindo Lake Park (9841 Vine Street) on Saturday, November 4, 8 a.m. Other possibilities: American white pelicans. Bring water. Easy hiking. Free. Directions: 619-692-3246. (LAKE SIDE)

Clean Up! Learn differences between native plants and weeds, help clean up around Buena Audubon Nature Center, Saturday, November 4, 8–10 a.m. Bring weeding tools, gloves if you have them; water. Free. Find center at

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2202 South Coast Highway; 760-439-2473. (OCEANSIDE)

Whelan Lake Bird Walk, see many different species during walk hosted by Buena Vista Audubon Society to scope out fall migrants, Saturday, November 4, starting at 8 a.m. Free. Directions: 760-941-7824. (OCEANSIDE)

Guided Trail Walk exploring animals, history, geology, and ecology in Mission Trails Regional Park, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, November 4, 5, and 8, 9:30-11 a.m. Find park at One Father Junipero Serra Trail, 619-668-3281. Free. (SAN CARLOS)

History Walk, Offshoot Tours offers hour-long history walk, blending Balboa Park history with its wealth of architectural and botanical treasures, Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m., from visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1121. (BALBOA PARK)

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

Watch for Hawks and Owls during Canyoneers hike in Rose Canyon Open-Space Park, Saturday, November 4, 1 p.m. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Friends of Ruffin Canyon seek volunteers for help cleaning up the canyon, maintaining native garden on first Saturday of each month, including November 4, 2-3 p.m., at Taft Middle School (9191 Gramercy Drive). Free. 858-560-8327, 858-268-0106. (SERRA MESA)

Very Low Tides this weekend and early next week coincide with optimum times of day for tide-pooling: Saturday, November 4, at 2:12 p.m. (-0.8 feet); Sunday at 2:59 p.m. (-1.1 feet); Monday at 3:46 p.m. (-1.2 feet); and Tuesday at 4:36 p.m. (-0.9 feet). Very high tides will also occur within that string of days, most notably on Sunday at 7:56 a.m. (+6.8 feet) and on Monday at 8:32 a.m. (+6.8 feet).

California Native Plant Society leads walk on first Sunday of each month, including November 5, 9 a.m., from Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. 858-581-9961. (CLAIREMONT)

Observe Nature Restoring Itself in San Diego Audubon Society's Silverwood Sanctuary, which was burned extensively during 2003 wildfires. Guided walks offered at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Sundays by reservation (619-682-7200). The sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road (five miles from Ashwood-Mapleview turn). Free. (LAKESIDE)

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Nature Hike, mountain naturalist Clint Powell leads nature hikes around Lake Cuyamaca the first

Sunday of every month, including November 5, 1 p.m. Three-hour hike covers about 3.5 miles. Bring binoculars. Day-use fee: \$6 per car. Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District center, 15027 Highway 79. 877-581-9904, 619-447-8123. (JULIAN)

Ven Explora la Naturaleza Conmigo, Chula Vista Nature Center hosts bilingual nature walk, Sunday, November 5, 1 p.m. Led

by a Spanish-speaking interpretive guide, walks introduce visitors to Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and the nature center. Free. Find center at 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

November's Full Moon rises dramatically in the east at around 5 p.m. (some 10 minutes after the sun sets) on Sunday, November 5. Barring the incursion of overnight low clouds

across the coastal strip, San Diegans can witness the same full moon setting over the Pacific Ocean at sunrise the following morning. Some folk names for November full moons include "snow moon," "dark moon," "fog moon," "moon of storms," and "moon when deer shed antlers."

The Planet Mercury transits (crosses in front of) the sun during daytime hours on Wednesday, November 8. Events like this occur

on average less than once a decade as seen from any given location on Earth. Mercury's transit begins at around 11:15 a.m. and lasts until about 4 p.m. The tiny size of Mercury in silhouette against the sun gives a rough indication of the relative sizes of an inner planet and the sun itself. The event can be safely observed by projecting the image of the sun through a small telescope. Never directly look through a telescope at the sun.

DANCE

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)



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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

56th Fiesta de la Cuadrilla Square Dance Festival hosted by San Diego Square Dance Association, November 3–5, in Balboa Park Gymnasium, Recital Hall, and Balboa Park Club. All square and round dancers are invited to participate — or just watch. Festival starts at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, wraps up at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Three-day fee: \$36; single days available at door. 619-235-8151. (BALBOA PARK)

Polkamanía (not just for Oktoberfest) highlights beginner-friendly dance on Friday, November 3, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing. All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Barn Dance, traditional dances and music of the southern Appalachians and New England featured at fundraiser for the University Dance Company, Friday, November 3, in ENS-200 (dance studio) at San Diego State University. All dances will be taught. No partner necessary. Lesson at 7:30, dancing 8–11 p.m. Graham Hempel calls, Old Twine String Band makes music. \$8 general. 619-594-6828. (SDSU)

“Works by Wistrich & More,” City Ballet of San Diego, under direction of Steven and Elizabeth

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)

Double Delight Dance, English country dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Guest caller is Sharon Green, pianist is Jacqueline Schwab on November 5. All dances will be taught and walked through (beginners’ session starts promptly at 6 p.m.). \$8. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Meditation in Motion, Toni Michael leads Sufi dancing to live music on Monday, November 6, 7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street, room 112). \$3. 619-692-3079. (MISSION HILLS)

Zydeco Dances with lessons are offered Tuesdays, including November 7, at Tio Leo’s (5302 Napa Street, between Morena Boulevard and Linda Vista Road). Beginning dance lessons at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes from 8–10 p.m. \$5 (first visit free). 619-857-8409. (LINDA VISTA)

Street-Funk, Hip-Hop, MTV-style dance moves taught by instructor Prince on Thursdays at 4569 30th Street. Beginners at 7–8 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8–9 p.m. \$10 per class, \$35 for four. 858-635-1211. (NORTH PARK)

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

OUT & ABOUT

COMPAÑERAS

for Cinefemme, Thursday, November 9, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego.

(SEE FILM)



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

“First Friday Film Series” offered Friday, November 3, 6 p.m., at Santee Library (9225 Carlton Hills Boulevard, suite 17). Short discussion follows film. Free. 619-448-1863. (SANTÉE)

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 Cope with Death*.

Catch festival on Friday, November 3, 8:30 p.m. \$10. For those 18 and over. Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Heritage Language Program Film Festival, Saturday, November 4, in room 4301 of Applied Physics and Mathematics Building at UCSD’s Muir College. See Yousef Malouf’s *Broken Wings* (1962), in Arabic with English subtitles, at 11 a.m. Free. 858-534-0693. (LA JOLLA)

Cinema Society of Carlsbad season continues with *Dear Frankie*, Saturday, November 4, 2 p.m. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m. with Andy Friedenberg in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

“The Language You Cry In” traces history of a song, a burial hymn of the Mende people brought by slaves to rice plantations more than 200 years ago; during 1990s, two scholars discovered the song was still remembered in Sierra Leone. Catch Angel Serano’s detective story/documentary when Film Forum convenes Monday, November 6, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Film is in English and Mende with English subtitles. UCSD literature professor Sara

Johnson leads following discussion. Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

“Leading the Way to Peace,” film following women from countries including Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Guatemala, tracing their “stories of peacemaking, courage, and hope.” Documentary screens at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 6, in University of San Diego’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (5998 Alcalá Park). Free. 760-735-8300. (LINDA VISTA)

Spiritual Cinema Series continues with *Arctic Dance: The Mardy Murie Story*, Monday, November 6, 7 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Drive). Free. 760-731-7683. Discussion follows. (ENCINITAS)

“Edges of the Lord,” Haley Joel Osment as Jewish boy hidden from Nazis in occupied Poland by local priest (Willem Defoe). Flick screens for First Tuesday Films series exploring “controversial issues,” November 7, 6:30 p.m., at Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Discussion follows. Free. 760-839-4601. (ESCONDIDO)

Fault Line Productions Film Festival — boasting films by Deborah Fabiano-Falagan and T. Falagan including *Hank*, *ManFight: The Trials of Chester*, *40/40 Investigates: The Paranormal*, *Eternally Yours* — is Wednesday, November 8, 6 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). 619-692-3382. (MISSION VALLEY)

“Compañeras” showcased during Cinefemme screening on

Thursday, November 9, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Documentary is shown along with short films including *Something Other Than Other*, *Top of the Circle*, *Rendez-Vous*. Reception, question and answer follows. \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

“Projecting Past, Present, and Future in 1960s Film” is theme for ongoing film series hosted by history department at San Diego State University. Enjoy two episodes of *Star Trek* on Thursday, November 9, 7:30 p.m., in Little Theatre of Hepner Hall. Free. 619-594-7120. (SDSU)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Roving Mars* and *Deep Sea*. “Fridays at the Fleet” features *The Discoverers* (6 p.m.) and *Top Speed* (7 p.m.) on November 3. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

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)

“Guercino’s Creative Process: From Paper to Paint” presented by Getty Center assistant curator Julian Brooks for “Art in the Afternoon” lecture series at Timken Museum of Art on Thursday, November 2. SDSU classics and humanities professor Charles Cutter offers “Baroque a la Bolognese: A Taste of the Times” on Thursday, November 9. Talks in conjunction with “Guercino: Stylistic Evolution in Focus” exhibition begin at 12:30 p.m. Free. 619-239-5548 x15. (BALBOA PARK)

Marine Historian Sean Cadigan presents “We Will Have Bread or Blood: Science, Markets, and Popular Culture in Fisheries Management: A Long-Term Perspective from Canada’s East Coast,” Thursday, November 2, 2 p.m., in Summer Auditorium at Scripps Institu-

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Barenaked Ladies Dec. 3

Larry The Cable Guy Dec. 3

93.3 Holiday Show Dec. 6

Andre Rieu Dec. 7

Panic! At The Disco Dec. 9

Justin Timberlake
January 8

Chargers vs. Browns
November 5



Aerosmith/Mötley Crüe
November 9

Cheetah Girls Jan. 13

Guns N' Roses Jan. 16

Christina Aguilera Mar. 2

Doodlebops Mar. 4

“Doubt” through Nov. 5

“Blue Man Group” Nov. 4

“Barney Live!” Nov. 18 & 19

“High School Musical” Nov. 30

Chargers Home Games

vs. Raiders Nov. 26

vs. Broncos Dec. 10

vs. Chiefs Dec. 17

vs. Cardinals Dec. 31

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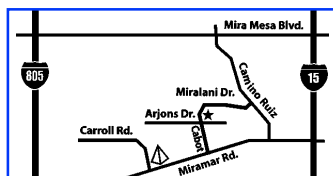
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tion of Oceanography (8602 La Jolla Shores Drive). Free. 858-534-3624. (LA JOLLA)

"Personal Views: Regarding Private Collections in San Diego" — tour exhibit with docent manager Cornelia Feye during Insight Gallery talk on Thursday, November 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)

Sculptor/Painter/Filmmaker Dan Peragrine presents art demonstration when San Dieguito Art Guild meets, Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Free. 760-942-3636. (ENCINITAS)

"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)

"Drawing the Present: From Pen and Ink to DNA?" Artists Joan Linder and Paul Vanouse work with different tools to reflect on contemporary experience. They'll discuss their work, Friday, November 3, 9 a.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

"Día de los Muertos — Day of the Dead Traditions" explored by Museum of Man Latin American ethnography curator Grace Johnson for docent guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, November 3, 10 a.m. \$10. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Let's Rock! 31st annual "Rock Art Symposium" hosted by San Diego Museum of Man is Saturday, November 4, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at San Diego Zoo's Otto Center. Participants hear presentations by noted archaeologists and researchers on latest research on petroglyphs and pictographs. \$45. Registration: 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

“Happiness from a Different Source,” Buddhist meditation teacher Jeff Goin speaks on Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 619-692-3676. (CARMEL VALLEY)

“Holiday Herbivore Smorgasbord” offered on Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum. Discover recipes to “satisfy herbivores and carnivores alike” for Thanksgiving. \$33. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

What Are You Made Of? Learn about fundamental cell biology and DNA on Saturday, November 4, noon–3 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. “DNA Day at the Fleet” is included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Pruning and Grafting illuminated at City Farmer’s Nursery (4832 Home Avenue), Saturday, November 4, 1 p.m., Free. 619-284-6358. (CITY HEIGHTS)

“Finding Bliss in Your Heart With Jupiter” presented by Jim Hennum for California Institute for Open Studies, Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., in Sleepy Hollow Canyonview Clubhouse (4201 Sixth Avenue). For novice and intermediate astrology students. \$45. Registration: 619-299-2897. (HILLCREST)

“Everything You Need to Know About Bird Flu” divulged by veterinarian and wildlife disease expert Walter Boyce during lecture for Anza-Borrego Institute, Saturday, November 4. Talk starts at 7:30 p.m. at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. \$15. Reservations: 760-767-0446. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Creating Cooperative Families Workshop presented by Bonnie Friedmann and Nakisha Sivers on Sunday, November 5, 1–4 p.m., at United Church of Christ (5940 Kelton Avenue). Fee: \$35 per per-

ROAM-ORAMA

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

The name Robbers Peak commemorates the notorious outlaws Joaquin Murietta, Three Finger Jack, and others of the late 1800s. Swooping down out of the hills, these bandits terrorized farmers below and preyed upon passengers traveling the Butterfield Stage route. From Robbers Peak the miscreants could easily spot and evade sheriff’s posses by slipping into the rugged ravines leading back toward the Santa Ana Mountains.

Whatever historical charm Robbers Peak has is not reflected in the current condition of its summit, which has a sandstone outcrop emblazoned with graffiti. Still, from this height you get a panoramic view of the lowlands to the



Santiago Oaks Regional Park

south and west — a composite of disappearing pastoral landscapes and spreading suburban sprawl. On clear days, the panorama includes the blue arc of the Pacific Ocean and Santa Catalina Island.

There’s a trivially easy way to reach Robbers Peak from a public-access gravel roadway starting at Nohl Ranch Road and Serrano Avenue in Anaheim Hills — but

the looping route described here, beginning at Santiago Oaks Regional Park, is far more scenic and exciting. To reach the park, take Freeway 55 north from Interstate 5, and exit at Katella Avenue in Orange. Travel east on Katella (which quickly becomes Villa Park Road and finally Santiago Canyon Road) a total of three miles to Windes Drive on the left. Follow Windes Drive to the Santiago Oaks’ parking lot.

On the main trail ahead, cross Santiago Creek at the first opportunity, and continue along the Santiago Creek Trail, with Santiago Creek on your right for 0.6 mile. At that point you reach a trail junction where Santiago Creek Trail continues south, bound for Irvine Regional Park, and the Bobcat Loop trail veers left. Go left, and shortly thereafter find and follow a steep, eroded trail going east up a ridge. As you climb, the massive Villa Park flood-control dam comes into full view, along with its spillway on the far side.

At the top of the ridge-running trail (1.1 miles) lies a 948-foot knoll (just west) with the best view yet of the dam and the endless suburbs beyond it. Continue northeast, along the same ridge, which undulates a bit as it climbs toward Robbers Peak. A side trail (the designated Anaheim Hills Trail) intersects at 1.6 miles on the left. Just beyond, in a saddle, the same Anaheim Hills Trail diverges to the right. Keep following the ridge, curling north and then west toward the 1152-foot summit of Robbers Peak, 2.0 miles from the start.

After taking in the comprehensive view, walk back down the east side of the peak and turn left on a dirt road heading west just below the peak. You go down along a ridge — taking note of the Anaheim Hills Trail plunging on the left

and a gravel road branching on the right leading to an elementary school on Serrano Avenue — and proceed

the parking lot where you began.

This article contains information about a publicly

ROBBERS PEAK

Enjoy a panorama of mountains, blue ocean, and plenty of urban sprawl from Orange County’s Robbers Peak.

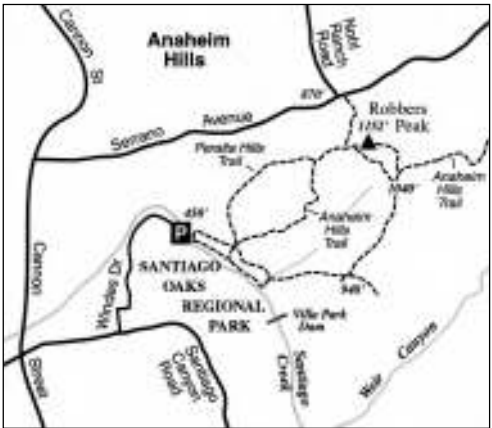
Distance from downtown San Diego: 97 miles

Hiking Length: 3.5 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

to junction with the Peralta Hills Trail (2.5 miles). Stay left on the Anaheim Hills Trail, choosing the more scenic alternative route back down to the starting point. As you descend, Anaheim Hills Trail becomes Oak Trail, and you soon find yourself in a wooded area close to Santiago Creek and not far from

owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. The *Reader* and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.



son (and bring a guest at no additional charge). Required reservations: 619-925-3512. (LA MESA)

“Ancient Pottery of Mesa Verde Country: A Window into Another World” presented by archaeologist Scott Ortman, Sunday, November 5, 3 p.m., at SANA Art

Foundation (131 South Orange Avenue). Ortman will examine varied symbolic uses of pottery as example of how humans accumulate abstract knowledge through everyday experiences. Donation: \$5. Requested reservations: 760-737-2903. (ESCONDIDO)

“The Weavers of Guatemala” discussed by guest curator Linda Fisk for 12 O’Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man on Monday, November 6. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

“Voyage of the Turtle: In Pursuit of the Last Dinosaur” — pre-

sentation and booksigning by author Carl Safina, Monday, November 6, 6 p.m., at Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way). Learn about these giant reptiles “that can weigh a ton and behave like a mammal.” \$8. Required

reservations: 858-534-5771. (LA JOLLA)

Planning and Honoring End-of-Life Choices subject for workshop by psychiatrist Stanley A. Terman, M.D., Monday, November 6, 6:30 p.m., at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Requested donation: \$15–\$30. 60-431-2233. (LA COSTA)

Wild Mushrooms, Anyone? Mushroom chef David Campbell of San Francisco Mycological Society presents “an evening of mushroom delights” and cooking techniques for San Diego Mycological Society, Monday, November 6, 6:30 p.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Free. 760-419-9453. (BALBOA PARK)

“De Pardo Bazan a Maruja Torres: El Viaje Femenino en Perspectiva” presented in Spanish by Javier Torre from University of Denver, Tuesday, November 7, 5 p.m., in room 430 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. Talk reviews “most important female works of the late 20th Century and early 21st Century.” Free. 619-594-1103. (SDSU)

“How to Best Frame Artwork” explained by Patty Smith of Art Expressions Gallery, Wednesday, November 8, 6 p.m., at San Diego Art Institute. \$10. 619-236-0011. (BALBOA PARK)

Animator Tom Sito is guest when Southern California Cartoonists Society meets on Wednesday, November 8, in San Diego Blood Bank lunch lounge (440 Upas Street). Sito’s credits include Disney classics *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King*, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, *Pocahontas*, *Antz*, *Shrek*; co-directed animation for *Osmosis Jones*, more! Bring your portfolio for show and tell, dinner. \$10. 619-921-1936. (HILLCREST)

“Conservation Genetics: The Next Generation,” learn about Oliver Ryder and Jay Vavra’s project focusing on identification of African bushmeat — the slaughter and trafficking of wild animals for food — during Special Speakers lecture, Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., in San Diego Zoo’s Otto Center Auditorium. Nonmembers: \$17. Required reservations: 619-557-3969. (BALBOA PARK)

“Matta and Matta-Clark: The Exploded Cube — From Painting into Solid Form” presented by art historian and critic Martica Sawin for Meet the Masters programs at San Diego Museum of Art on Thursday, November 9. Sawin, an expert on surrealists who has written more than 100 essays on contemporary artists, will speak at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. \$12. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Members of Consular Corps of San Diego plan panel discussion on responsibilities, challenges, requests, adventures on Thursday, November 9, 6 p.m., at Art Expressions Gallery (2645 Financial Court, suite C). San Diego is home to approximately 26 foreign consulates. \$15. Reservations required by November 7; 619-291-8105. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Canine Massage Lecture presented by Ann Yerevanian, graduate of the Lang Institute for Canine Massage, Thursday, November 9, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). \$10. 619-243-3424. (LINDA VISTA)

What’s “Really Happening” in Iraq? How will November 7 elec-

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tions in U.S. affect policy in that war-torn country? Journalist James O. Goldsborough and Iraqi professor Naba Saleem Hamid address these questions, Thursday, November 9, 7 p.m., at University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (5998 Alcalá Park). Free. RSVP: 858-642-6770. (LINDA VISTA)

"C-130 Ski Operations at the Poles" is subject when Colonel Graham Pritchard Jr. speaks for "Rescue!" lecture series at San Diego Air and Space Museum on Thursday, November 9, 7:30 p.m. Pritchard was mission commander during risky recovery of a South Pole Station doctor. \$15. Registration: 619-234-8291 x19. (BALBOA PARK)

"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

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 (November 4), Harold S. Kushner (November 5), Alan Dershowitz (November 6), Ayelet Waldman (November 6), klezmer artist Yale Strom (November 7), Nonie Darwish (November 8), many more writers. Family day is Sunday, November 5, 1-5 p.m. For complete schedule, including times and prices, call 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Artist and Author Hailey Lind discusses *Shooting Gallery*, Thursday, November 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)

"On the Razzle," Tom Stoppard's adaptation of a Thornton Wilder story presented in Roundabout Theatre at San Dieguito Academy (room 95, 800 Santa Fe Drive) through 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)

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)

"Son of a Bush" presented by Washington D.C. comedy troupe Gross National Product through November 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)

"Elevated" series celebrates one-year anniversary with performance by spoken-word artist Taalam Acey, Thursday, November 2, 8 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). \$7. 619-795-9587. (NORTH PARK)

The Backyard concert series continues (indoors) with performance by Blake Williams and Henry Haney, Friday, November 3, 7 p.m., at Community Reformed Church

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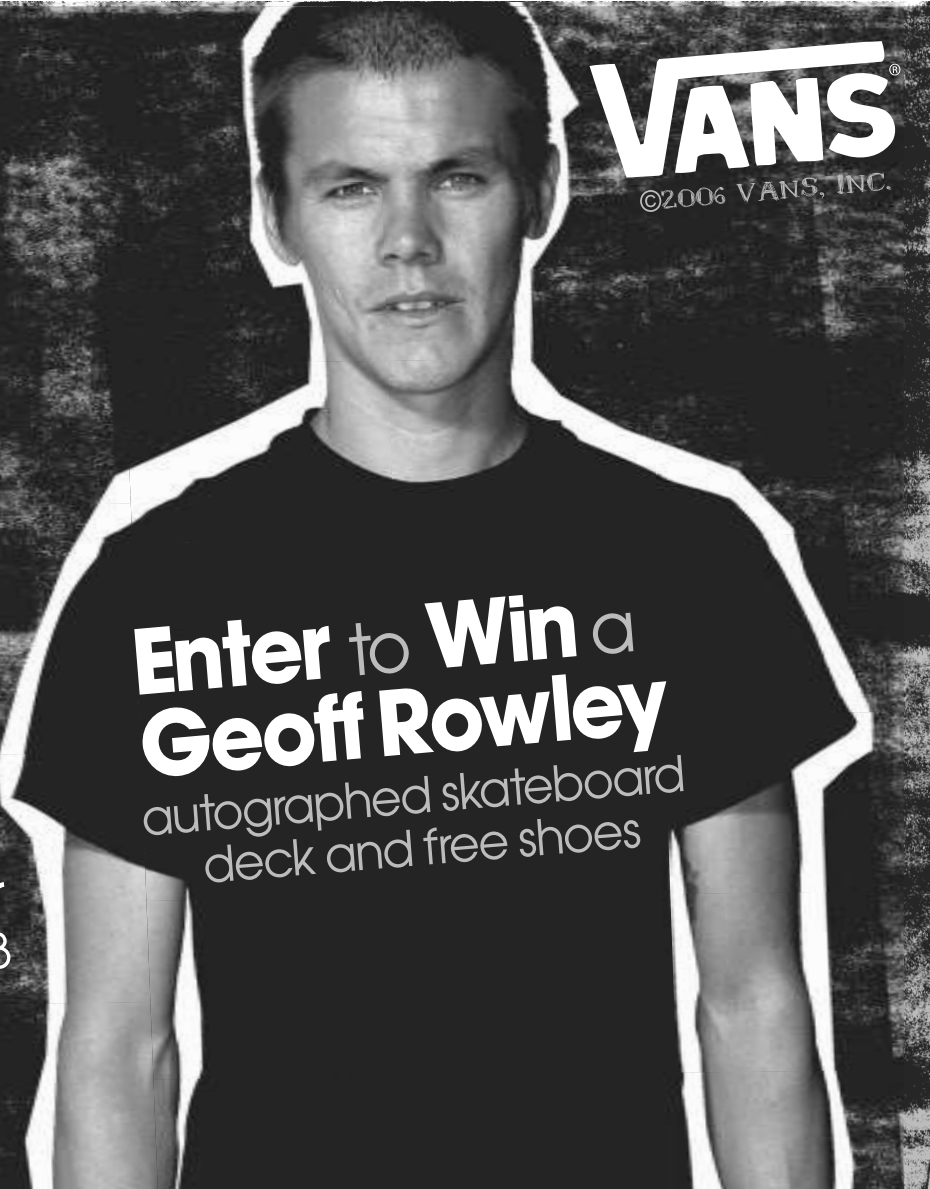
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

(777 West Felicita Avenue). Free. 760-746-1322. (ESCONDIDO)

"The Odd Couple" presented in two versions by actors of San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts. Neil Simon's play is performed with female cast Friday, November 3, 7 p.m., and Saturday, November 4, at 2 and 7 p.m. Original (male) versions performed Thursday, November 16, 7 p.m., and Saturday, November 18, 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets: \$7. Find campus at 2425 Dusk Drive. 619-475-8556 (PARADISE HILLS)

"The Boy Band of Comedies" Kyle Smith, Brandon McPherson, Zoltan Kaszas, Amadeus Tafoya, and Stuart Swanson — performs Friday and Saturday, November 3 and 4, 8, and 9:30 p.m., at Comedy Co-Op Warehouse Theatre (11211 Sorrento Valley Road, suite M). Mark Whitney performs "Bad Dad: A Comedy of Errors" Wednesday, November 8, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10 general, \$5 students. Open-mike nights with 10–20 local comics, Thursdays, 7 p.m. (free). 888-567-4464. All shows for those over 18. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

In Celebration of Veterans Day, three local contributors to *Chicken Soup for the Military Wife's Soul* will be on hand to read their stories, Saturday, November 4, 11 a.m., at Oceanside Mission Branch Library (3861-B Mission Avenue). Writers include Cindy Pedersen, Martha Pope Gorris, Liz Rae. Free. 760-435-5640. (OCEANSIDE)

Anti-Gang Officer Will Beall fictionalizes streets of South Central Los Angeles in *L.A. Rex*, which he'll sign, discuss Saturday, November 4, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). 858-268-4747. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Jazz Ensemble #1 is joined by Mundell Lowe (jazz guitar), Saturday, November 4, 2 p.m., in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. \$12 general. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

World Fusion Music played by Strange Woods, Saturday, November 4, 3:30 p.m., for Saturdays in Shadowridge series concert at Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (1600 Buena Vista Drive). \$10 adults, \$5 for children 6–16. 760-631-7055. (VISTA)

North Coast Repertory Theatre Actors present a "snippet" from their current production, *Tuesdays With Morrie*, Saturday, November 4, 4 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway, 858-684-3166). Free. (MIRA MESA)

"The Secret Life of Banjos," Jody Stecher and Bill Evans play solos and duets; original pieces, chest-

OUT & ABOUT

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

altar, San Diego Museum of Man, through Sunday, November 5.

(SEE SPECIAL)



nuts and rarities; 19th-Century minstrel and classic banjo; bluegrass, rags, blues and old-time playing; banjo songs and instrumentals for San Diego Folk Heritage, Saturday, November 4, 7 p.m., at Templar's Hall in Old Poway Park (14134 Midland Road). \$15. Reservations: 858-566-4040. (POWAY)

Not Just for Guitar Freaks! California Guitar Trio covers all kinds of musical ground for AcousticMusicSanDiego on Tuesday, November 7 (\$18, \$22). Trio follows concert by P.F. Sloan on Saturday, November 4 (\$15, \$20). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Jest-in-Time Comedy Show improv sketch comedy show based on audience suggestions, Saturday, November 4, 7:30 p.m., in community room at Clairemont Town Square (4731 Clairemont Drive). Expect "unique and traditional pieces." \$5. 858-581-0050. Suitable for family. (CLAIREMONT)

Sean and Sara Watkins, the North County siblings of Nickel Creek, plan benefit concert for Bring Me Hope, Saturday, November 4, 8 p.m., at New Song Church (3985 Mission Avenue). Tickets: \$10, \$90 VIP. 760-723-5885. (OCEANSIDE)

The Killers of Comedy, comedians best known for their work on *Howard Stern Show*, perform Saturday, November 4, 8 and 11 p.m.,

at 'Canes (3105 Ocean Front Walk). Cringes provided by Reverend Bob Levy, Jim Florentine, Sal "The Stockbroker" Governale, Richard Christy, Shuli. Tickets: \$22 in advance, \$25 at door. 858-488-1780. (MISSION BEACH)

"Work and Poverty in America," Palomar Chamber Singers explore "humor and pain of labor and protest songs" along with material from Great Depression and World War II, November 4 and 5, in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$5. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Humorous Crime Author Steve Brewer signs and discusses *Monkey Man*, Sunday, November 5, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Lori Lacefield will also be on hand to sign her suspense novel *The Seventh Survivor*. Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

The Jazz Pigs perform for mini-concert at noon on Monday,

November 6, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Write on Centre, the "positive action creative writing group," plans reading of "their true stories of pleasure and pain pre- and post-Stonewall and the advent of AIDS" on Monday, November 6, 7 p.m., at San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center (3909 Centre Street). 619-692-2077 x133. (HILLCREST)

Mystery Author Marcia Talley visits Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard) to discuss, sign *Through the Darkness*, Tuesday, November 7, 6 p.m. Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

Acclaimed Poet and Creative Nonfiction Writer Susan Luz-zaro reads from her first volume of poems (*The Flesh Envelope*) on Tuesday, November 7, 7 p.m., in Griffin Gate at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive). Free. 619-644-7523. (EL CAJON)

The Brombies play for music night hosted by San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club on Tuesday, November 7, 7 p.m., at Round Table Pizza (1161 East Washington Street). Free. 760-489-0191. (ESCONDIDO)

"Swallowed Whole: Stories from Inside the Painting" — Stephanie Juno plans multimedia performance based on paintings and life stories of Monet, Picasso, Francis Bacon, Joseph Cornell, and Egyptian era on Tuesday, November 7, 7 p.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

"ExtravaGANJA," this "medical marijuana comedy show...in support of Americans for Safe Access" starts at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7, at Comedy Store

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(916 Pearl Street). \$10. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

Mark O'Connor and Apalachian Waltz Trio, Wednesday, November 8, 6 p.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). O'Connor is known for compositions with folk, Celtic, and classical shadings. \$15 general. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

Fun Family Comedy, magician Joe Mystic and ventriloquist Kevin Johnson perform Wednesday nights, 7 p.m., at Welk Resort Theatre (8860 Lawrence Welk Drive). Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 3-15. No performances on November 15 and 22. 760-749-3448 or 888-802-7469. (ESCONDIDO)

American Music on tap when fiddler Carol McCollum and Friends present concert on Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., at Clairemont Library (2920 Bургuner Boulevard). 858-581-9935. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Rock the Library, the Last Revival — winner of 2006 Battle of the Bands — in concert, Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2058. (LA COSTA)

The Poetic Matrix Group plans poetry reading by John Peterson, James Downs, and others, Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Poetic Matrix Press prints books and chapbooks. Free. 760-602-2026. (CARLSBAD)

The Sakura Quartet plays Japanese traditional and folk music, along with contemporary Japanese and Western music arranged for Japanese instruments,

for family music series on Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 858-552-1668. (CARMEL VALLEY)

African and African American Folktales, legends, and original stories told by storyteller Alyce Smith Cooper, Thursday, November 9, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

"From Baghdad, With Love: A Marine, the War, and a Dog Named Lava" read and signed by author Lieutenant Colonel Jay Kopelman, Thursday, November 9, 1 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347). Free.

Busy at 1 p.m.? Kopelman will also appear at 7 p.m. on 9th at Borders Books and Music (11160 Rancho Carmel Drive). Free. 858-618-1814. (LA JOLLA, RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Grand Idol Singing Competition with ten contestants is Thursday, November 9, 6:30 p.m., at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Kimberly King is host; Michael Tierman, Paige Aufhammer, Dayna Carroll will perform. Your vote counts for the finalists! \$35. 858-481-2882. (DEL MAR)

Author E.A. Guest discusses, signs *Secret of the Amazon Queen*, Thursday, November 9, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). Free. 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)

"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)

Political Journalist Judy Woodruff discusses her newest project, *Generation Next*, reviews midterm elections, and looks at 2008 presidential election when speaking for KPBS on Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 p.m., in Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). \$25 for members, \$35 general. Reservations: 619-260-4277. (LINDA VISTA)

SPORTS

Western Surfing Association Championship Tour hits beach at north harbor jetty near Ocean-side Harbor, Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Free for spectators. 949-369-6677. (OCEANSIDE)

Fall Foliage and Apples, 16th annual Julian 10k run, 5k run/walk, and 1k kids' event is Saturday, November 4, starting at Julian High School (1656 Highway 78) at 8 a.m. Race-day registration: 6:30 a.m. 619-298-7400. (JULIAN)

Buffalo Alley 10K Run, Saturday, November 4, 8:30 a.m., boasts a cross-country 10k through hills of 53 Area Camp Horno at Camp Pendleton. 760-725-6836. Civilians welcome. (CAMP PENDLETON)

Carlsbad Lagoon Bike Ride hosted by Bicycle Touring Society

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**HOWARD TV
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

on Saturday, November 4. The 50-miler starts at 8:45 a.m. in Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road), heads to Carlsbad and back on El Camino Real. Free. 619-562-2882. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Tenth Annual Komen Race for the Cure 5k run/walk is Sunday, November 5, starting at 8 a.m. in Balboa Park. 760-692-2900. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Chargers host Cleveland Browns in Qualcomm Stadium on Sunday, November 5, 1:15 p.m. Game broadcast on CBS; listen on radio station KIOZ, Rock 105.3. Tickets for future games start at \$54, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (MISSION VALLEY)

Full Moon Kayak Paddling on Mission Bay hosted by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego and Allen's Kayaks on Sunday, November 5, 7 p.m. \$55 fee includes guided tour, equipment. Reservations, starting points: 858-551-9510 or 58-488-5599. (MISSION BAY)

SPECIAL

"Urban Trees 3," public art exhibit of 30 "urban trees" along North Embarcadero on Harbor Drive (between cruise ship terminal and Hawthorne Street) continues through April. Free. 619-686-6200. (DOWNTOWN)

Have a Story to Tell? San Diego Public Library's digital community storytelling station remains available through Saturday, December 30. Gather reminiscences of your neighborhood, memories of interesting jobs, tales of special interests and activities,

to record San Diego history as told by general public. Find library at 820 E Street. Requirements, reservations: 619-236-5821 or 619-230-1938. (DOWNTOWN)

"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)

"Suburban Trees" continues through fall 2007, at Carlsbad 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)

Día de los Muertos Altar on view through Sunday, November 5, inside San Diego Museum of Man. Altar was constructed by museum staff and decorated with skeletons, photos, candles, sugar skulls, and flowers created by students of Rosa Parks and Hamilton Elementary Schools. Included in regular museum admission. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

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-

OUT & ABOUT

LET'S ROCK!

San Diego Museum of Man's Rock Art Symposium 2006, Saturday, November 4, at San Diego Zoo's Otto Center.

(SEE LECTURES)



cuss topic on Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

There Are 4500 More Homeless People in San Diego than shelter beds for them, according to Girls' Think Tank, planning benefit on Thursday, November 2, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., at Kava Lounge (2812 Kettner Boulevard). Beats by DJ All Good Vibes. Donation: \$10, plus items for street survival packs such as umbrellas, socks, gloves, hats, shoes. 619-228-1686. (DOWNTOWN)

Jack Jordan Art Exhibition and sale benefiting Heritage of the Americas Museum is Friday, November 3, 5:30-8 p.m., on patio at museum, located at Cuyamaca College, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. Over 35 paintings offered. Admission is free. 619-670-5194. (EL CAJON)

"Drag Yourself Home for the Holidays" when Hotel Solamar (435 Sixth Avenue) hosts benefit for Mama's Kitchen on Friday,

November 3, 7-10 p.m. "Gals in drag," a "do-it-yourself art experience," silent auction, hors d'oeuvres. Donation: \$10. RSVP: 619-295-8232. (EAST VILLAGE)

Cider Making from freshly picked Palomar Mountain apples demonstrated Saturday, November 4, 1:30 p.m., in Doane Pond parking lot at Palomar Mountain State Park. Grinding and pressing apples on old-fashioned hand-cracked cider press; samples for all who attend. \$6 per car. 760-742-3462. (PALOMAR MOUNTAIN)

Downtown by Design Home Tour, Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. This "urban lifestyle housing tour" boasts "dynamic and spectacular homes." Tickets: \$30 single, \$55 per pair; will-call in front of Tin Fish Restaurant (at Fifth Avenue and L Street). 619-233-5008. (DOWNTOWN)

Gem Diego, annual show hosted by San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, November 4 and 5 at Al

Bahr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). Gems, minerals, jewelry, fossils, books. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. \$3 general. 858-586-1637. (KEARNY MESA)

Life Drawing and Painting Open Studio offered every Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Art Academy of San Diego (840 G Street). Bring drawing and painting supplies. No formal instruction. \$10. 619-231-3900. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Co-Creating a Better World," Holistic Living Expo, Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Scottish Rite Center (1895 Camino del Rio South). Lectures, 60 vendors offering products and services. \$5 general, \$8 for two, \$3 seniors and teens, children under 12 free. 800-722-7330. (MISSION VALLEY)

Home Tour and craft show, Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Sweetwater Woman's Club (3855 Sweetwater Road). Tickets for touring three decorated homes: \$10. Craft show only on

Sunday, November 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (free). 619-482-5617 or 619-479-5629. (BONITA)

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," Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, 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)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, noon-6 p.m., at Alexandra's Book-Store (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS ARENA)

California Wolf Center hosts public programs focusing on North American gray wolves every Saturday at 2 p.m. Programs include slide show, visit and tour with resident wolf pack. Tickets: \$8 general, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children ten and younger. Required reservations: 619-234-WOLF. (JULIAN)

"Beowulf" is topic when Great Books Reading and Discussion Group gathers in third-floor conference room of San Diego Public Library (820 E Street) on Saturday, November 4, 2 p.m. Newcomers welcome. Free. 619-440-5625. (DOWNTOWN)

Denim Day Benefit 4 Kids hosted by Boys & Girls Club, Saturday, November 4, at Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum

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Reading

Beyond Chinatown: The Metropolitan Water District, Growth and the Environment in Southern California



Steven P. Erie

By Steven P. Erie, with the assistance of Harold Brackman
Stanford University Press, 2006,
\$21.95, 364 pages

FROM THE PUBLISHER:

As urban growth outstrips water supplies, how can the global challenge of providing water be met? Mixing history and policy analysis, Steven Erie tells the compelling story of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) — one of the world's largest

and most important public water agencies — and its role in building the world's eighth largest economy in a semi-desert. Using untapped primary sources, the author reexamines this great regional experiment from its obscure 1920s-era origins, through the Colorado River Aqueduct and State Water Projects, to today's daunting mis-

sion of drought management, water quality, environmental stewardship, and post-9/11 supply security. A key focus is MWD's navigation of recent epic water battles: San Diego's combative quest for water independence.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

"Erie's persuasive argument that the Metropolitan Water District is one of the creative but flawed designers of Southern California is haunted by forgetfulness: We forget where our water comes from.... We forget who manages it for us and why water policy is the most important political decision we never get to make."
— *L.A. Times Book Review*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr. Steven Erie is Director of the

Urban Studies and Planning Program at UCSD, and Professor of Political Science. He is the author of two other books: *Rainbow's End: Irish-Americans and the Dilemma of Urban Machine Politics, 1840-1985*, and *Globalizing L.A.*

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

"Dr. Erie, you are originally from California. A native."

"I was born in Glendale and raised in Eagle Rock and Arcadia. The first half of my life was spent in L.A. But for a while I lived in Washington, D.C. I'm a refugee from the Reagan revolution."

"You're happy in California."

"I spent great weekends in New York City, Washington, Boston, Montreal. But listen,

when I went to Albany, N.Y., and discovered winter wasn't optional, I couldn't get back to Southern California quick enough."

"I'm going to ask some simple questions. Who owns water? Is it a private resource?"

"There's a big debate about whether it's a public resource or a private commodity. That has been one of the big issues about the growth of water markets and water transfers. There are many who still see it as a public resource. But certainly rights to it, as property, have grown in the last 40 or 50 years."

"We've got six billion people on the planet now. You say [in the book], only three percent of the planet's water is drinkable. The rest is oceans."

"Yes, most of it is seawater — salty. What we're thinking about

doing here in San Diego, is desalination — tap into the huge amount of water immediately to the west of us."

"Professor, has anyone estimated how many people that three percent — that drinkable water — can support? When do we reach critical mass?"

"I'm sure somebody has. I haven't. I'm just not a global person, I'm a regional person. I can talk knowledgeably about Southern California. And certainly I can tell you, we could not have a population of more than 750,000 living from Santa Barbara to San Diego without imported water."

"How many folks are there now residing in that arid area?"

"We're at about 18 million in Southern California."

"But you're saying local

(continued on page 88)

"There's a big debate about whether it's a public resource or a private commodity."

(2040 North Santa Fe Avenue). Carnival; chili cook-off challenge, with sampling and voting, runs 3–5 p.m. Competition divisions for individuals, organizations, restaurants. Tickets: \$30 per person, \$55 for couples, \$75 for family of four. 760-224-6606. (VISTA)

Carlsbad Village Faire, Sunday, November 5, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., along downtown streets. Organizers call it the "country's largest one-day street fair," with arts and crafts booths, antiques, pancake breakfast, children's rides. Admission: free. 760-945-9288. (CARLSBAD)

Living History in San Pasqual, cannon-firing drills, demonstrations of crafts and skills from the 1800s, history lectures, entertainment, volunteers in period attire, and authentic food for sale during San Pasqual History Days, Sunday, November 5, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park (15808 San Pasqual Valley Road). Free. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

Fall Village Home Tour hosted by Coronado School of the Arts is Sunday, November 5, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Four homes in "array of old and new architectural motifs" featured; tour guests entertained by CoSA musical theater, dance, instrumental music students. \$35. 619-522-8969. (CORONADO)

Sisters Day at Flower Hill Promenade is celebrated on Sunday, November 5, noon–5 p.m. Author Vikki Stark reads from and discusses *My Sister, My Self* at 2 p.m. at Book Works. "Sisters of Song: A Tribute to Women Songwriters" presented by Kay Etheridge and Peggy Watson at 3 p.m., promotions for "shopping sisters" at many stores. Find Flower Hill Promenade at 2670 Via de la Valle. Free. 858-755-3735. (DEL MAR)

Aki No Matsuri: Fall Festival hosted by Japanese Friendship Garden is Sunday, November 5, 1–4 p.m. Fourteen food stations with Japanese food, live entertainment, children's crafts. \$30. 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

Veteran's Day Program planned at International Cottages

on Sunday, November 5, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Experience a Traditional Tea Ceremony when Sohya Ayako Stott and assistants present demonstrations, Tuesday, November 7, at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. Included in garden admission. 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival, with 150 wineries, food from 50 San Diego restaurants, gourmet foods, celebrity chefs, auctions, runs Thursday–Saturday, November 9–11. Locations, times, details, tickets: 619-342-7337. (DOWNTOWN)

Filial Piety International Conference, runs Thursday and Friday, November 9 and 10, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., at Four Points Sheraton Hotel (8110 Aero Drive). Speakers focus on problems and issues of world aging. Keynote speakers: Dr. David Ho (*Time* magazine man of the year in 1996) and Joseph Wong. \$150 for both days. Registration: 858-505-9906. (CLAIREMONT)

"Communication Between the Sexes — Just What's the Problem?" Present your theory on Thursday, November 9, 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 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)

Fine Art Festival III hosted by San Diego Museum of Art Artists Guild opens with preview on Friday, November 10, 5 p.m. (\$20); continues from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12 (\$10). Thirty-five painters, sculptors, photographers,

printmakers have work on offer. \$5. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

FOR KIDS

"Pacific Tales" told by Old Fashioned Flying Kite Puppeteers through Sunday, November 5, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. *Cinderella* is presented by Puppet Express and Weaver's Tales, November 8–12. 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)

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)

Fine Arts Field Day hosted by Greater San Diego Academy Home School, Friday, November 3, 9 a.m.–2 p.m., in Casa del Prado room 101. Art workshops, music and dance performances, more. Free. RSVP: 619-669-3050. (BALBOA PARK)

A Magical Lamp and Three Wishes — actors and crew of San Diego Junior Theatre present *Disney's Aladdin Jr.* through 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)

Explore Dinosaur Robotics during class for those 10–14 at San Diego Natural History Museum on Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m. Participants explore "Dinosaurs: Reel and Robotic," learn how engineering and "movie magic" make robotic monsters come to life. \$20. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

Saturday Storytelling, storyteller Harlynn Geisler plans program, November 4, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at Timken Museum of Art. For those five and older. Free. 619-239-5548 x15. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Magic Flute" performed by Salzburg Marionette Theatre for Mainly Mozart on Saturday, November 4, in Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Twelve puppeteers manipulate elaborately costumed marionettes, each more than two feet tall. Company is under direction of Gretl Aicher, granddaughter of founder Anton Aicher.

Curtain rises at 2 p.m. for hour-long children's matinee (\$5–\$25) and at 7 p.m. for full-length perfor-

mance (\$15–\$50). Reservations: 619-239-0100. (NORTH PARK)

"Reusing, Rediscovering, and Representing" is theme for family day events on Sunday, November 5, 2–5 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Included in regular museum admission (\$6 general). 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

MUSEUMS

Chinese Historical Society and Museum, "Strokes of Elegance" boasts paintings by Ping-Guang Zhou. The artist has adapted ancient Chinese painting concepts to his own style, combining highly decorative *gongbi* technique with modern artistic feeling to produce a unique style of painting. He is

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Reading

(continued from page 87)

water sources alone could only support 750,000 people?

"Maybe a million, with conservation."

"How close," I ask, "are San Diegans to turning on their water taps and having nothing come out?"

"We're not there yet. We bought a little bit of time with this very controversial Imperial Valley deal, the cost of which has still not been fully estimated. Salt and sea restoration, lining of the canals and things like that [help too]."

"Yes," I interject, "could you explain the purpose of lining canals?"

"Well, when the All-American and Coachella Canals were constructed way back when, they were earthen. Water leaks out of them. Ironically, [this] seepage helped replenish the Salton Sea and it allowed the Mexicali farmers to grow crops. Lining involved

sealing the porous surfaces of canals. It was intended as a conservation measure to limit water loss, but in the process we created real problems for the Salton Sea. Seepage is not replenishing it nor the Mexicali Valley farms on the Mexican side. It's the reason that they've been in court."

"How many water systems — aqueducts, reservoirs — are there supplying the Southern California region?"

"There are 7 Colorado River states in the south, and also 7 northern states. So 14 states are drawing from the river. Anyway, the Colorado River Aqueduct is one source, the State Water Project (passed by the voters in 1962) is a second, and then there are two Los Angeles City aqueducts, I and II. So there are roughly four sources of imported water coming into Southern California."

"Is there any one agency or body that governs it all?"

"If there is a [water] policymaker in the region, it's MWD [Metropolitan Water District of

Southern California]. It was set up to provide a supplemental source of water for Los Angeles and all of its suburbs. It's municipal. MWD is a special district created by the state legislature. It started small. It included only L.A. and 12 of its suburbs back in 1928, and it started out as a water wholesaler. The retailers were the Department of Water and Power, and the Beverly Hills, Pasadena, and Glendale municipal water departments. Since then, its responsibilities have grown significantly. MWD now motivates member agencies and retail water-users with incentives and subsidies for conservation and for desalination projects."

"Is desalination a practical answer — any kind of help at all?"

Dr. Erie pauses. "That's a complicated question. Gathering the water is still costly, and people don't realize that there are hidden costs to 'desal.' There's the treatment process, to make it drinkable. There are also the power costs, which are extremely

high in many places, for pumping the water back up hill, because our whole water complex is a gravity flow system. The reservoirs are elevated, and you've got to pump the water upward to put it in those reservoirs. And there's been a big debate about the impact of the required power plants on the marine environment, and on the coast by the intake and discharge of seawater. These are very contentious issues. Environmentalists are trying to fight desalination, saying that we really ought to move toward better conservation [first], including desert landscaping. But I think there's a role for desal, particularly as [water] carrying capacity reaches its limits. By 2030 all of those aqueducts literally won't bring enough imported water into Southern California, so there's going to be growing pressure. The bottleneck we're facing in the next 20 years is that the conveyance system is only so big, and we're not going to make it any bigger."

A sobering thought. I press

"Global warming ultimately means that the snow pack will melt much earlier, so water will flow to us sooner."

on: "I realize that there's scarcity, but to what degree is the Los Angeles/San Diego battle over water political? Is it an ego fight?"

"I think it's largely a political or ego fight. MWD is never going to cut off its biggest customer, San Diego. That would be suicidal. In fact, every time we've had a drought, they've devised plans to make it easy on San Diego. Back in the late '80s and early '90s, we were looking at cutting agriculture water supplies totally, because they get discounted [water] prices because it's 'interruptible.' They're the first who could be cut off. Yet

MWD didn't do that as it would have harmed the economy of the county. MWD has bent over backwards to try to accommodate San Diego. But the threat of drought and the threat of cutoff remains a rallying cry down here."

"Why is it," I ask, "that L.A. doesn't have priority over San Diego?"

"Well, L.A. does — on paper. It has 'scarcity rights.' About half of the Colorado River Aqueduct was paid for by Los Angeles taxpayers and rate payers. We paid a much smaller share of the capital costs. But everybody that I have talked to — every lawyer — says

best known for bird and flower motifs, painting cranes, peacocks, plum blossoms and peonies.

Concurrently see artifacts from San Diego's Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord's bed, exhibits on Chinese footbinding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall.

Find the museum at 404 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (EAST VILLAGE)

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, the museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, "Exit 7," an exhibit by Christie Dunning featuring pho-

tography combined with textile techniques "to examine Bonita's changing land-use" over the last 60 years, continues through Saturday, November 11.

"Cows, Chickens, and Sheep, Oh My!" Exhibit includes dairies in Sweetwater Valley, chicken hatchery in National City, Frank Pekarek's milk bottle collection, and spinning and weaving items, on view through Saturday, November 11.

The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s "Jim Crow" segregated passenger cars.

Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. Find the depot on

Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista's past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original *Star* newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum, a museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views is found at 10946 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-448-0900 x231. (SANTEE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum, permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects

William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

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

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon-4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, *Children Around the World* videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 619-538-4069. (BALBOA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from

1886-1915, "some classics and a concept car." Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, "Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology" chronicles scientific accomplishments and technological spin-offs resulting from NASA missions. How have these discoveries entered our everyday lives?

Ongoing exhibitions include "More Than Meets the Eye" (through May), "Aging for All Ages," "San Diego Science Showcase," "Kid City" (for preschoolers), "The Best of Symmetry and Signals," and "TryScience!"

"Comet Impact" is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center, "A Letter from the Ocean Hotel: Victorian Lady Traveler's Adventures in San Diego, 1888" includes glassware, dishes, bottles, personal items dating from late 1880s that were excavated from a block in East Village area downtown in 2002.

The museum is dedicated to "curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the public." Find center at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road; 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum, "Chevrolet in the U.S.A., 1911-2006" continues through Monday, October 23. Chevrolet classics and lesser-known models are displayed, as well as advertising and memorabilia.

More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum's permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in

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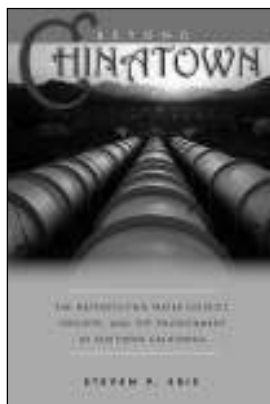
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that these scarcity rights are unenforceable and are superseded by the California Water Code. By the way, in the next ten years we will have more [so-called] scarcity or preferential rights than Los Angeles. Ours are growing, theirs are decreasing, because we're such a large customer and contributing [accordingly] to the capital costs."

"What," I want to know, "is the effect of global warming on all this?"

"Global warming ultimately means that the snow pack will melt much earlier, so water will flow to us sooner. Which probably means that we're going to have to build more storage facilities to capture that earlier runoff."

"What's the effect of earthquakes on the water supply?"

"The effect. Well, levees can break, aqueducts can be torn apart. One of the reasons for building Diamond Valley Lake Reservoir, with half a year's storage, was to have a facility south of the San Andreas Fault Line, away from possible earthquake centers."

"You write that water to the 21st Century is going to be what oil was to the 20th. That there are states in the eastern U.S. vying for water sources, and you point out that there are cities overseas (like Bangkok) that are sinking because of water depletion. Iran is threatening Syria over a dam. India is competing with Pakistan over the Indus River system. At what point does this all come to blows? Could we really have a

water war, Professor?"

"We've got massive growth in metropolitan areas, huge mega regions around the world with limited water supplies. These are flash points for conflict. There could easily be disputes between urban and rural zones. In many places in the world, farmers and ranchers settled near established water sources and simply have more water [than city dwellers]. The urban areas need it and they're going to go after it. Oh, yes, you could have wars over water."

"Do you think water will be increasingly treated as a private-sector commodity or a public resource? Which view will prevail?"

"Worldwide you've got these huge private providers now, big European companies, French and English, that supply water. Investors in such firms will see scarcity as a chance to make a windfall profit as demand increases. So there will be greater and greater pressure to privatize water. And we're likely going

to find the price of water going up."

"Professor, how was it made possible for those 18 million Southern Californians to be supplied with extra water in a region so arid that it can only support 750,000?"

"Some call it a miracle, others call it a curse. It took an awful lot of leadership, foresight, and enormous public investments to build this massive infrastructure system. In 1931 we were slipping into a depression. The voters of L.A. and 12 of its suburbs — the founding members of MWD — were asked to add the equivalent of 13 Proposition 13s to their tax bill. That is, 13 percent of assessed property valuation. (Proposition 13 caps your property tax bill at one percent.) They were asked to add the equivalent burden of 13 percent. Eighty-four percent of them said yes. Can you imagine that happening today? It really was foresight and leadership."

"And was Mulholland the chief architect in this?"

"No, William Mulholland

"Some call it a miracle, others call it a curse."

was the chief architect for the City of Los Angeles, and certainly he is the one who filed for the Colorado River rights on behalf of L.A. Once he had those, he pioneered the early work exploring the possibility of an aqueduct. But L.A. didn't have the money to do the project alone."

"Your book is called *Beyond Chinatown*. Back in April, in a *Reader City Lights* column, you were quoted as saying that you wanted the book to lay to rest the noir legend the film *Chinatown* promulgated. What is that myth or impression you wanted to correct?"

"It's that water decision-making in Southern California is secret backroom deals with developers that benefit the plotters

and hurt the public and ruin unsuspecting farmers in outside areas. What I'm trying to point out is that most Metropolitan Water District decisions have been made in public forums and some of them, the early ones, required public votes."

"But you do have situations like the Bass brothers' secret negotiations that feed the *Chinatown* legend, no?"

"Oh, absolutely. Not only feed it, but the Bass brothers [episode] comes closer to the movie script than anything L.A. ever did up in the Owens Valley." Professor Erie's voice turns plaintive. "Of course, we're never going to get beyond 'Chinatown,' Juri."

— Juris Jurjevics

Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza, 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of San Diego History, career of local artist is highlighted in "Belle Baranceau: The Artist at Work." Baranceau was "one of the foremost expressionist painters of the 1920s and 1930s" who moved to San Diego in 1933 and received assignments from the WPA. Two of her murals are still in their original locations at Balboa Park Club and La Jolla post office. Exhibit provides broad overview of her career, look at her creative process. Through Tuesday, May 29.

"Nikkei Youth Culture: Past, Present, Future" — opening Thursday, November 9 — includes photographs, documents, school yearbooks, military medals, clothing to illustrate children's and teenagers' activities from early 1900s to present day. Exhibit includes look at experiences of Japanese-American youths living in World War II internment camps. Through Monday, March 5.

"Romp! Children Discover Balboa Park" focuses on why Balboa Park exists, examines the 1915-16 and 1935-36 Expositions, and includes exhibits, attractions, and "marvels that were found in the

monumental buildings created to showcase the West." Historic film footage allows visitors to tour the Ford Building as it existed in 1935 and see displays and machinery that were there. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum, "Taming the Pacific Swell: The Evolution of Surfing" continues through January, tracing history of modern surfing from its Hawaiian beginnings to billion-dollar industry it is today. Changes in surfboard design used to illustrate evolution of the sport.

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of India*, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The H.M.S. *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrof class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the Earth's oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model

building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

The museum is located at 1306 North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man, "Guatemala! Celebrations of Weaving" features hand-woven clothing items, plus musical instruments such as oboes, a drum, and a marimba with gourd resonators. Items included in exhibit, on display through March, were selected "principally for their timeless beauty."

"Body Ornamentation: Artistic Representations of Self," continuing through Tuesday, March 27, examines this enduring art form. Exhibit focuses on many different types of body art in variety of cultures around the world, as well as underlying reasons behind the ornamentation. See examples of body painting, tattooing, scarification, piercing; documentary videos, photo murals.

"Reflections" showcases rare and significant objects representing 90 years of the museum's collection history; some of the objects have never been displayed for public. Items include a *Seri* woodcarving of a whale; bronze sculpture by Alan Houser; more. Through Saturday, March 24.

"Passage to Panama: Past to Present" continues through

Thursday, January 25. Exhibit documents culture of Embera, Wounaan, and Ngöbe with ethnographic materials, cultural items, photographs.

Permanent anthropology exhibit "Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution" features "more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine)." 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tug Boat Museum, a 100-foot retired Korean War-era tug boat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway. 619-200-7417. (DOWNTOWN)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) during the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors

and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. The museum is found at 15808 San Pasqual Valley Road. 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

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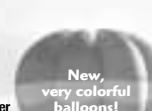
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Transactions

The corollary to the art world's axiom, "Anything goes," is "Art makes arguments about identity."

I recently sat on a panel — before I sat I should have had my head examined, but that's another subject — and the topic was a mouthful: "The International Style and the Influence of Globalization on Art." (What one will do for money.) Immediately apparent was the rift between my colleagues' notion of style and my own. They're involved in the day-to-day operations of the commercial art world, and I'm not. Their remarks on style had to do with the market-driven Rolodex of mannerisms that turn up everywhere these days. For me, an international style is a contradiction in terms, because style, which is idiosyncratic and specific to a temperament-driven practice, is the shape of feeling created by a medium. One panelist argued that art generally was tending toward homogenization, toward a shared set of aesthetic assumptions pressured by what sells. What I see when I view contemporary art, though, is not a global mixmastering but a lexicon, growing by the day, of different languages and energies. I see a voracity to appropriate new materials and ideas and a working assumption that everything is, possibly, art of some kind. Whether this is a good thing is arguable. But an engaging anthology exhibition running at the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla makes wrinkles in any notion that contemporary art is approaching a sameness of appearance and effect.

The show, *Transactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art*, puts several mediums on view: photography, easel painting, installment, performance, video, and sculpture. And within each medium the artists work sharp variations. Consider this: In one of David Cronenberg's early movies, *Videodrome*, the actor James Woods plays an over-the-edge TV producer who hallucinates pulling a lurid videotape from a vaginal slit in his belly. (TV, in the movie, is realer than reality.) The American-born artist Daniel J. Martinez has always been a provocateur. He started by going public, distributing buttons, for instance, at the 1993 Whitney Biennial that said, "I can't imagine ever wanting to be white." His recent photo essay, a gallery of autobiographical grotesquerie, narrates "self-in-

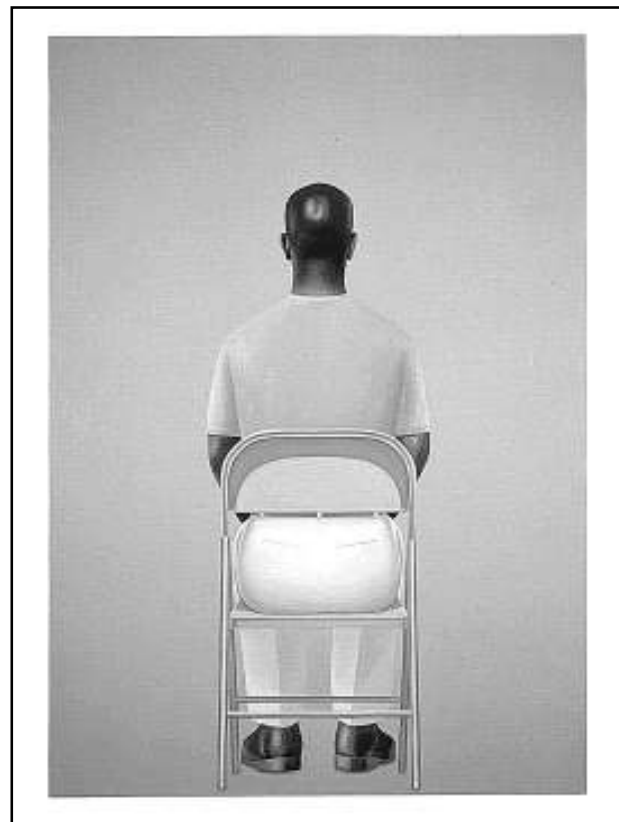
terventions." Mutilations, that is: he manipulates images so that he seems to be slitting his wrists, or shooting himself in the head, or, as in the 2001 picture in *Transactions*, eviscerating himself. He's bare-chested, his hand plunged wrist-deep into a slit beneath his sternum, where we catch a tasty glimpse of guts. This image, titled *Self-portrait #9b, Fifth attempt to clone mental disorder or How one philosophizes with a hammer*, After *Gustave Moreau, Prometheus, 1868*; *David Cronenberg, Videodrome, 1981*, is a finger down your throat, for sure, but it's also pretty clever. This grisly physical activity is about reproducing out of oneself, excavating from oneself, yet more mental disorder; Martinez's intellectual cronies are the mad Nietzsche (who said he philosophized with a hammer), Moreau (whose paintings depict stories of the murderous Salome and Prometheus, who had his liver picked at by a raven), and the Canadian filmmaker who never relents in brutally reminding us of the inseparability of psyche and corpus.

Martinez's picture *does* announce at least one global preoccupation: identity, whether nationalistic, racial, or cultural. The corollary to the art world's axiom, "Anything goes," is "Art makes arguments about identity." Item: the Mexican-born American, Salomón Huerta, makes portraits of men's heads and bodies, but he literally turns the genre around — we see his subjects from behind. His *Untitled Figure* depicts a stumpy male on a metal folding chair, his back toward us, facing not so much a wall as the ochre space of the painting. The blocky physique, heavy shoes, khaki pants, flamingo-pink T-shirt, and shaved black skull, even the chair, all look cut and creased, painted with a sharp Renaissance clarity of line. But the higher the definition, the more indeterminate the sitter's identity. African American? Brazilian? Cuban? His garb is so "GAP"-ish universal that, unlike Renaissance portraits, he has no specific identifying data. It's a portrait of affectless recondite anonymity.

Transactions puts all sorts of expressive means on parade, from "modified" baseball caps by Rubén Ortiz Torres (one a riff on the "Rodney Kings") to a flat floor circle constructed of

stitched-together rubber re-treads by the Mexican Jaime Ruiz Otis, which, even if it is a one-liner, triggers suggestions of migrant life: wheels, huarache bottoms, and traction in *el norte*. But the richest vein is photography. Rochelle Costi, a Brazilian, has made images of bedrooms in São Paulo, which she depicts as cribs of socioeconomic identities. One is an overstuffed airless cave of sensual pleasures, with bed canopy, ceiling baldachin, faux Tiffany ceiling shade, lace-covered vanity, and bedside wall-length mirror that repeats all that pasha junk. Costi's image of an adolescent's room, florid with posters, floor mattress, inflated animals, books, and CDs lying around the walls like floor molding, has the same foreshortened concave space of the other, as does her cramped depiction of a mean shanty in one of São Paulo's *favelas*. Every picture looks like an embrace of someone's absence, as if each bedroom, in its way, no matter the social class, were a softened, form-fitting bathrobe. They "contain" people we never see.

The sheer weight of information borne by an art object sometimes overcomes the object's autonomy. This isn't always a bad thing. Silvia Gruner's installation *El Nacimiento de Venus* (*The Birth of Venus*), ostensibly a saga about soap-making, is a layered meditation on public and private histories. One video monitor shows soap-making machines from Mexico, stamped with swastika designs, cranking out Pepto Bismol-colored goo; others show the hands of the artist's grandmother and mother, who were rescued from concentration camps. On a factory scale sits a sack overflowing with hundreds of tiny, fragrant soaps shaped like pre-Columbian statuettes, each with a number (or tattoo) on its back: the sack's weight equals the artist's. These mixed materials, spread around the room, create a resonance chamber: each element speaks to some other, and once you enter its energy field you want to follow those



Untitled Figure, 2000, Salomón Huerta

Transactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, 700

Prospect Street, La Jolla

Through Sunday, May 13, 2007. For additional information, call 858-454-3541.

lines of connectedness between the Reich's industrial power, the holocaust, and the legacies of Latino family histories.

Gabriel Orozco's photos fuse information and object with tightly coiled efficiency. A "homeless futon" slumped over like a dummy, a melted Popsicle that streaks the pavement with a mandrake-root shape, bicycles ranked outside a cotton factory with wads of cotton (placed by the photographer) on each carrier rack — such images stream human actions backward into the forms they leave behind. And his shot of a trash-choked riverbed — more human traces — reminds us that an intimidating archive is being built by photographers worldwide recording the transition








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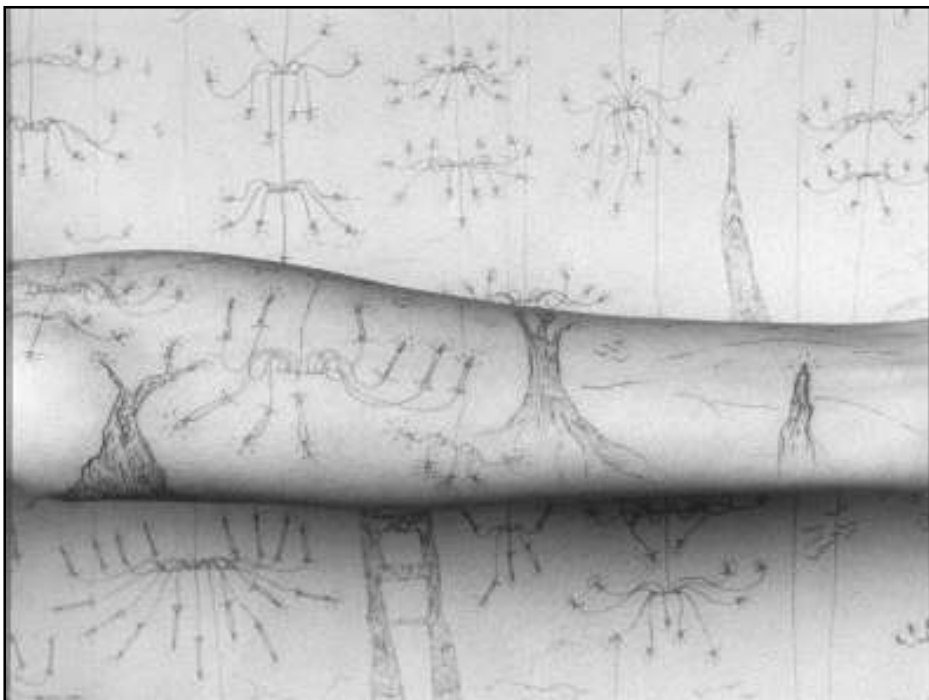
August 19–November 12, 2006

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, *Inscape* (detail), oil on canvas, 1943. Collection of Thomas R. Monahan, Chicago.

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART
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COURTESY OF MCASD

Untitled, 1998, Sandra Cinto

of a marginally healthy biosphere into an irreversibly poisoned planet.

The most arresting collaborative process included in *Transactions* is practiced by Francis Alÿs, a Belgian living in Mexico City, who puts his own spin on art made from revisions. Fascinated by Mexico City signage, he makes paintings of buildings topped with, say, a Coca-Cola sign or election campaign billboard, then has the original sign painters copy his work. He, in turn, copies their copies of his originals, with spooky results that blend documentation, authenticity, re-fabrication, and the oldest of representational practices: re-imagining the motif.

The finished pictures, by the way, themselves look like billboard paintings, flat and garishly lit. To remind us we're watching the highest kind of play, Alÿs plays the optical trick of curling the hem of a curtain fluffing from an upper-storey window down and into the window below. In an exhibition that wears its earnestness on its sleeve, in which some artists take their ideas more seriously than the objects they make, Alÿs's paintings are a buoyant tease. To these I'd add the sassy pictures of the Chicano muralist John Valdez, whose work I'm very keen on and whose paintings and pas-

tels of Southland youth culture — lowriders, sex, hot-pants fashion, gang life — have the passion for personality, lived experience, and cultural identity that we'd expect from Dutch baroque art, not from a local, hip visionary of the down-and-dirty real. ■

ART LISTINGS

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HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for



COURTESY OF MCASD

Keep on Crossin', Perry Vasquez

consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to **READER ART**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

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)

"Pilgrimage," juried cash awards show with 90 water-media paintings continues through Saturday,

November 25, in San Diego Watercolor Society's Showcase Gallery (Studio Building, 2400 Kettner Boulevard). Juror: Elaine Harvey. Reception: Friday, November 3, 5 p.m. 619-338-0502. (LITTLE ITALY)

Artists Michael Fenton (painting), Joseph Lipas (sculpture), and Nicholas Roberti (photography) have exhibition of work opening with reception, Friday, November 3, 6 p.m., at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Closes Tuesday, December 12. 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

Mixed-Media Painters Pat MacGillis and Linda Wood Feldman have exhibit opening with reception on Saturday, November 4, 1 p.m., in Borrelli Space Gallery (second floor, 4411 Park Boulevard). 619-437-1564. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Retrospective Exhibit of Paintings by Donald Borthwick and Michael Dormer is on view through December, along with high-fired stoneware, at Falling Sky Pottery (1951-B Abbott Street). Reception is Saturday, November 4, 1 p.m. 619-226-6920. (OCEAN BEACH)

Seventh Annual Miniature Fine Art Show opens with reception for artists on Saturday, November 4, 1-6 p.m., at Banner Queen Trading Post Gallery (36766 Highway 78, eight miles east of Julian). 760-765-2168, 760-765-0815. Closes Sunday, December 3. (JULIAN)

"The Photography of Lynn Goldsmith" — whose subjects have ranged from entertainment personalities and musicians to athletes, film directors, and authors — is on display through Sunday, November 26, at Morrison Hotel Gallery (1230 Prospect Street). This exhibit of her rock and roll photography opens with

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Calendar

ART

reception, Saturday, November 4, 6 p.m. 858-551-0835. (LA JOLLA)

“Points of Convergence — When Spirit and Glass Make Art” is theme for 25th annual Art Glass Association of Southern California juried exhibit, opening with reception on Saturday, November 4, 7 p.m., in Gallery 21 at Spanish Village. More than 30 glass artists exhibit their latest work in all forms of art glass. Through Tuesday, November 14. 619-702-8006. (BALBOA PARK)

“Gratitude,” exhibition of work by Gail Ackley and Lyn White continues through Wednesday, November 15, in Southwestern Artists’ Association’s Gallery 23 at Spanish Village (1770 Village Place). Meet artists during reception on Sunday, November 5, 1 p.m. 619-232-3522. (BALBOA PARK)

“Festive Expressions” — with work in variety of media by members — opens with reception on Thursday, November 9, 5 p.m., at Rancho Santa Fe Art Guild Gallery (Union Bank Building, 6004 Paseo Delicias). 858-759-3545. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

“2006 Faculty Exhibition,” new work in a variety of media by art and design faculty members of San Diego State University exhibited beginning with reception on Thursday, November 9, 6 p.m., in University Art Gallery at SDSU. 619-594-5171. Closes Saturday, December 2. (SDSU)

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*). 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 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 being 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.

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 important 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

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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.*

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)

Donizetti’s Romantic Comedy *Don Pasquale* presented by Lyric Opera San Diego, November 3–12, in Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Cast members include soprano Megan Weston, tenor John Zuckerman, Leon Natker, Gustavo Halley, others.

Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays–Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets: \$30–\$50; children 5–17 half-price. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)

Trio Arion — whose members include Elizabeth Fontan-Binoche (harp), Pascal Saunier (violin), Sibel Kumru-Pensel (flute) — plays French music composed for “this fascinating combination of instruments” in concert on Friday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). \$27. Reservations: 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Respighi’s Suite “The Birds” is on the program when pianist Peter Serkin joins conductor Jahja Ling and San Diego Symphony for “Jacobs’ Masterworks” concerts November 3–5. Also on tap: selections by Messiaen, Bach, and Strauss. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$20–\$85. Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

“Guitar Fantasy in Spain and Italy” presented during faculty recital by Robert Wetzel, Friday, November 3, 8 p.m., in Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Listen for music by Luys Milan, Francisco Guerau, Sor, Chopin, Malats, Legnani, Marcello. \$10 general. 619-260-4171. (LINDA VISTA)

“The Magic Flute” performed by Salzburg Marionette Theatre for Mainly Mozart on Saturday, November 4, in Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Twelve puppeteers manipulate elaborately costumed marionettes, each more than two feet tall. Company is under direction of Gretl Aicher, granddaughter of founder Anton Aicher.

Curtain rises at 2 p.m. for hour-long children’s matinee (\$5–\$25) and at 7 p.m. for full-length performance (\$15–\$50). Reservations: 619-239-0100. (NORTH PARK)

Opera Nights...After Dusk, head to Piazza Villaggio (at India and Beech Streets) for live singing and music, Saturday, November 4, 7–9 p.m. Free. 619-233-3898. (LITTLE ITALY)

Musica Antiqua Köln plays pieces by Heinichen, Telemann, Bach, and Zelenka for “farewell tour” concert for La Jolla Music Society’s Revelle Series, Saturday, November 4, 8 p.m., in Sherwood Auditorium, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Tickets: \$25, \$55, \$75. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (LA JOLLA)

Former Civic Organist Jared Jabosen presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, November 5, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Cellist Charles Curtis performs Sunday, November 5, 2:30 p.m., for fall concert series at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

“A Keyboard Feast” is served up by organist Robert Plimpton and pianist Bryan Verhoye, Sunday, November 5, 7 p.m., at First United Methodist Church of San Diego (2111 Camino del Rio South). Listen for pieces by Mozart, Duruflé, Debussy, Saint-Saëns, others. Offering. 619-297-4366. (MISSION VALLEY)

Aleck Karis and Charles Curtis in concert, Tuesday, November 7, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD. \$8 general. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

The Sakura Quartet plays Japanese traditional and folk music, along with contemporary Japanese and Western music arranged for Japanese instruments, for family music series on Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 858-552-1668. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Classical Music Concert by Inez Irawati on piano and Erin Breene on cello, Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m., at Earl and Birdie Taylor Library (Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass Street). Free. 858-581-9934. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Soirée for Music Lovers planned Wednesday, November 8, 8 p.m., in Recital Hall at UCSD’s Mandeville Center. 858-534-4830. \$8 general. (LA JOLLA)

Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, and 20th-Century arrangements promised when Presidio Brass performs for Concert Hour series, Thursday, November 9, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

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Smaller Is Better?...

San Diego's largest concert venue, the 20,000-capacity outdoor Coors Amphitheatre, has not had a

which controls nightclubs and concert venues across the country. An insider says the 2006 success of Bayside is due to talent buyer John Wojas and the fact that Viejas outbids HoB for headliners.

"Viejas has money to burn and they are using it," says the insider.

Stephen Redfearn, CEO

blurt

the inside track

good year; 84,450 tickets were sold during the first nine months of 2006, making it the 51st-most-used amphitheater in the country. During the same period last year (according to *Pollstar* magazine), Coors sold more than twice as many tickets (190,809) and ranked 19th on that list. The venue hosted 22 events in the first nine months of last year; 15 during the first nine months of 2006.

The Bayside venue at the Embarcadero, meanwhile, which can hold 10,000 (general admission) or 5000 (with seats), has sold 118,631 tickets so far this year. Thus, it became the 42nd-most-visited amphitheater in the country. In 2004, Bayside hosted 6 shows; in 2005, 8. This year, 25 concerts have been presented.

The Bayside venue is booked by Viejas Entertainment, which also sets up Viejas Concerts in the Park. Coors is booked by the L.A.-based House of Blues,

of Viejas Entertainment, agrees that Wojas had a lot to



SHERYL CROW WENT SHOPPING DOWNTOWN

do with Viejas' success, but Redfearn bristles at the suggestion that his company wins bidding wars because it is backed by Indian gambling

money.

"There are no slot machines at the Embarcadero," says Redfearn.

The insider suggests that access to the Coors facility doesn't help the Coors concert experience.

"Have you ever been to a packed Coors show? If you have, you know that you have an annoying wait after the show. Who wants to wait an hour in traffic?"

Redfearn doesn't think that Coors access problems have any bearing on the success of Bayside.

"What happens with traffic after a show has no bearing on the agents who decide....

We just do a good job in San Diego. Plus, the artists love the venue. The Radiohead guys loved it. Sheryl Crow went shopping downtown. Paul Simon and Bonnie Raitt rode their bikes around the Gaslamp."

Redfearn is not specific about the lease Viejas holds on Bayside.

"It's a multi-year deal that kind of renews itself."

— Ken Leighton

Still Not Dead As I Lay Dying just left for a three-week tour of Germany. Longtime bassist Clint Norris, who lives in Encinitas, stayed behind and is working at Guitar Center in San Marcos. He didn't care to comment about the situation.

A spokesman for Strong Management of New York says, "Right now everyone [in the band] is still evaluating the situation. I'd rather talk to the band before I give a statement."

"I heard [Norris] was leaving because he wanted to start a family," says a musician. "I also heard there were some problems with the band." The other four members grew up in San Diego County. Norris moved here from Texas.

When As I Lay Dying returns, the band will resume writing material for its third Metal Blade record; they plan to enter the studio early next year. More than 200,000



NORRIS (LEFT) SKIPS EUROPE copies of *Shadows Are Security*, their second release, have been sold.

— Ken Leighton

More, More, More

During a two-year period, Amy Hall, 19, promoted metal, goth, and death-metal shows at two different church facilities. All the proceeds went to charity or directly to the church.

"I still want to promote but not with pastors anymore," says Hall, who works as a medical bill auditor and attends Grossmont College. She

began organizing shows in October 2004, while still a student at Kearny High.



AMY HALL TAKES DEATH METAL TO CHURCH

"I wanted to help kids who were into metal but who were kind of shy. I was going to [a church] in La Mesa. They offered a ["youth"] room that holds 500.... The first show did well; we had, like, 250 to 300 people. We used all local bands. We did really well even though there was a big show at the Epicentre [in Mira Mesa] the same night. The pastor thought it was a great idea."

Hall says she organized nine multi-band shows at the same church and estimates the profit at over \$2000. The money raised was used to help fund an AIDS treatment center in Angola.

"The pastor started pushing us to bring in more, more, more. We took in \$1000 for the first two shows, but he kept wanting more for every show."

Due to the pressure, Hall says she moved on.

"I found another [College Area] church. I did three shows there. The pastors were unreliable. They didn't return

phone calls until the last minute. The first show was punk, but it didn't do well. Nobody likes punk. Punk is dead. The second show was metal, but Soma and Epicentre had shows the same night. The third show was amazing; we had 300 kids."

— Ken Leighton

Inspired by Bears Seven years after he launched www.menwholooklikekennyrogers.com, Vista's Jaimie Muehlhausen says his website of Rogers look-alike photos still gets 1500 hits a day.

"This was a big year. He had a new record, and then the whole thing happened over the plastic surgery. But I won't comment on that because Kenny has been really good to me. He always tells everyone he thinks the site is hilarious. He says his



KENNY'S FAVE KENNY

favorite [look-alike] is 'Hot Tub Kenny.'"

Muehlhausen recently embarked on another commercial enterprise with www.redneckwordsofwisdom.com.

"I'm from Tulsa, Oklahoma. My wife is from South Carolina. Every time



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we went back home we heard all these sayings [such as] 'I'm happier than a puppy with two peters.'... Our relatives talk this way all the time. One time I went back home and my relatives had a big party. This guy got really drunk and passed out on the couch. The next morning I asked him how he felt, and he said, 'I feel like I got eaten by a bear and shit off a cliff.' That inspired me."

Muehlhausen's book, *Redneck Words of Wisdom*, published by Chronicle Books of San Francisco, was released two weeks ago. (Muehlhausen's Americana/roots-rock band, Jensen and the Small Pox Mountain Boys, is a serious

endeavor, he says.)

Formerly art director for *Snowboarder* magazine, Muehlhausen now works as creative director for Tony Hawk Inc.

— Ken Leighton

The Cure, for Drunk Women

"Tribute bands like Atomic Punks [Van Halen], Super Diamond [Neil Diamond], and Dead Man's Party [Oingo Boingo] can make upwards of \$5000 for a single-set show, depending on the venue," says Zippy Twombly, front man in local



PHOTOGRAPH FROM THECURED.NET

ZIPPY OKAY WITH CONFUSION

Cure tribute band the Cured. "There are other tributes out there that will play for \$200. We're currently somewhere

in the middle, but we play just about every week....

"It took us a lot of struggle to get our bass player to wear lipstick," says Twombly, who was the only one to approximate the look of his Cure counterpart when his band formed two years ago. "But when we started doing larger venues like the Belly Up and House of Blues, the rest of the band threatened to hold him down and put it on him. We now have a clothes designer and a

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: BUFFALO BREATH COSTUMES JAY ALLEN SANFORD

OVERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM

WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLENSANFORD

makeup girl, and we spend a lot of time researching the look. Luckily, the Cure has had so many members that it's easy for the band to look like one of them."

Do tribute bands lure groupies?

"Our audience is 75 percent women, most of them drunk and singing along to the songs. Nature will take its course, and if they're confusing us with the band they're really fans of, I'm not real good about correcting them." He draws the line at impersonating Robert Smith offstage. "That would be creepy, like Johnny Depp showing up at a club dressed like a pirate."

The Cured appear Saturday, November 4, at the 710 Beach Club.

— Jay Allen Sanford

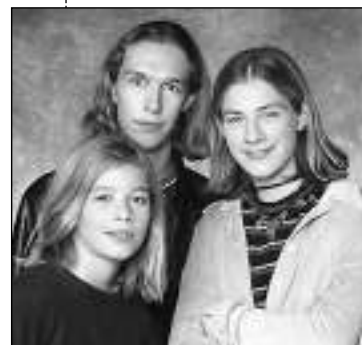
MMMBop! (Sing It!)

"I've used portions of practically every paycheck to fund my artistic adventures," says singer/songwriter Eddie Ray, whose day job is at the Ramona Kmart. He recently started a line of T-shirts.

"I took phrases my friends have coined and that I hear people saying around town, from City Heights to O.B.," he says. "The best sellers are shirts that say 'Old School' with a drawing of a cassette tape." Other shirts (sold at www.cafepress.com/americanretro) feature logos

such as "I Make Beats In My Mom's Garage," "Life Sucks, Just Deal With It," and "I Make Movies, Wanna Star In One?"

Ray's more esoteric creations refer to his favorite group, Hanson (of "MMMBop" fame).



HANSON IN THE DAYS OF PICKLES AND MARSHMALLOWS

"My reason for getting into music was because of that band. The 'Peace, Love and Bullet-Proof Marshmallows' logo is an old saying that fans say to each other. 'Just Pull the Pickle Out of Your Booty' is a line said by the middle brother in the Hanson documentary *Strong Enough to Break*.... I saw an advance screening in Tulsa, Oklahoma, when I went to a mass Hanson Fan Club meeting of more than 2000 fans. More than 10,000 people turned out to see Hanson perform live that same night."

— Jay Allen Sanford

A Trifle Too Messianic? "We were one of the first Messianic Jewish

rock bands," says David Kasdan, bassist for Netzer, which formed in 2001. "All the members are Jews who believe Jesus is the Messiah, and a lot of our music is about that. We recorded a klezmer song, where I play clarinet, and we also do techno rock arrangements of traditional Jewish songs like 'Shabbat Shalom' and 'Mayim.' "

Comments about "Mayim," posted by users at *Jewlicious.com*, include "As Jews by birth, I find it alarming that their parents didn't spring for better music lessons."

"Yeah, we occasionally get a Jewish guy who comes up to us and tries to get us to go to his synagogue and learn more about Judaism," says 21-year-old Kasdan, a full-time student who drives buses at UCSD. "Sometimes they'll test our actual knowledge of Judaism, but we're pretty up on that. Overall, though, people really like the songs we do in Hebrew. These are the songs that most Jews grow up with, so we share a lot of the same culture. And they're easy to adapt to rock because the song structure is the same as punk, with a simple 4/4 beat."

— 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

San Diego songs take the street test

by BRIAN CARVER

Interviewed: Sandra Hallak, La Mesa
Artist: Pearl
Song: "Hey Baby" (From the CD *Can You Feel It*)



SANDRA HALLAK

She bit one of Mariah Carey's songs. She sounds almost exactly like Ashanti and her depth is a little bit like Mary [J. Blige]. I thought it was easy listening but I didn't like how she bit off other songs. Where would I want to listen to it at? Sitting at home, chillin', hanging out.

Interviewed: Troy Pickard, Kensington
Artist: The Hideaways
Song: "Don't Try & Love Me" (From the CD *The Whiskey Tango Sessions*)



TROY PICKARD

It reminded me of Tom Petty mixed with The Wallflowers, with a little bit of The Verve Pipe. It was a little too country for my tastes but I like the piano. I think they could have done more with the background vocals. It would be [good for] going to a slightly country-themed party and doing a little country dancing.

Interviewed: Jürgen Frank, visiting from Minden, Germany
Artist: The Micromantics
Song: "I Never Did" (From the CD *We're All Scared, Son*)



JÜRGEN FRANK

It reminds me of a German band, Die Ärzte. It's translated [as] "the doctors." The melodic part is okay, but the refrain is too slow. I thought I'd heard it before. This would be good music for driving to go surf.

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Goodbye to a Music Mecca

"We're betting on whether it becomes a strip club, a mini-mall, or a Starbucks."

Employees at Tower Records on Sports Arena Boulevard were shocked when they heard on October 6 that the new owner, Great American Group, planned to liquidate the national music retailer and lay off its approximately 3000 employees.

"I came in and everyone was red-eyed and crying," says an employee. "We knew we were going to be sold, but at worst, we were thinking we would have to wear some mall-type uniform. That would be horrible, but at least I can still do what I love. But this just hit us out of the blue."

The next day, L.A.-based Great American showed up and started discounting all merchandise. Once the word got out, shoppers jammed the store and parking lot. A 50-year-old female shopper, not paying attention to traffic, was sent to the hospital with a broken ankle after being hit by an SUV in the crowded parking lot.

"The first day of the sale was horrible," another employee says. "Great American comes in and started putting up the sale signs and basically demoted the manager that has been here for almost 30 years. It's finally got back to normal, sort of."

The store is expected to close sometime in mid-December, once everything is gone. Most

employees are staying on until the doors are shut, which allows them to qualify for unemployment benefits. The hardest hit were the store's managers, all of whom were a few years away from retirement.

"We're betting on whether it becomes a strip club, a mini-mall, or a Starbucks," says a third employee.

As the closing nears, the discounts will increase to get the merchandise out the door. "Eventually, towards the end, it will probably be 80 percent off," a cashier says. "There will be nothing left by then."

Another employee disagrees. "We have a good 90 to 100 copies of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' *Stadium Arcadium*. It's never going to go anywhere," he says. "There's plenty of Fergie CDs and a lot of Frankie J, too."

Memorable in-store appearances and parking-lot concerts have included George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Smashing Pumpkins, the Deftones, the Black Eyed Peas, and locals Sprung Monkey and Unwritten Law.

DJ Atari was one of the store's regulars. "I loved going there late...they were open until midnight," he says. "I even got busted for stealing cassettes there when I was 15. I took *Bad Music*

INTERVIEWS



PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC RIFE

for *Bad People* by the Cramps and PiL's *Second Edition*. They took my picture and made my dad come down. They added my picture to this wall of pictures. I was back there shopping a month later."

— Larry Harmon

gift certificate. What other store was open at 11 p.m. on Christmas? A few decades later a second Tower Records opened in La Jolla. I went to both locations to ask patrons what they like and dislike about Tower Records.

— Josh Board

James Baxter, 23, Bay Park

Favorite music: "New rock, alternative."

What I dislike about Tower: "Columbia House works a lot better. You can get 12 CDs for a cheap price. And DVDs, too. In the long run, it's a better savings."

Tower Records was founded in Sacramento in 1960. It opened its first San Diego location in 1972 on Sports Arena Boulevard. As a teenager, I remember going to Tower on Christmas Day with a friend who'd been given a

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE



James Baxter

My favorite thing about Tower: "Seeing all the art on the CDs I enjoy. Even if you can look at it in a catalog, it's just not the same as holding the disc in your hand. Plus, the listening area. It's always a good thing to be able to put those headphones on and hear a few of the tracks."



Chris Puzzuoli, 28, Detroit, Michigan

Favorite music: "Classic rock and hip-hop."

What I dislike: "The price. The Internet has changed everything when it comes to retail. eBay has narrowed the gap. If I want a really good album, I can find a place online or eBay selling it used for \$3.99 or \$4.99. It might not be wrapped up in plastic and brand new..."

Favorite thing: "The selection. I'm big into hip-hop, and they have a lot of underground stuff."

Rio Mezta, 28, Ocean Beach

Favorite music: "Everything, but grunge is my favorite." (She purchased the Led Zeppelin box set.)



Rio Mezta

What I dislike: "I was sick for a long time, and I wanted to play in the parking lot here to celebrate my recovery. I'm not going to be able to do that now."

Favorite thing: "The employees knew their music. This place is an institution. Tower is the symbolism of rock 'n' roll. This is the place you went before or after the concerts at the Sports Arena across the street, when it wasn't ipayOne...when I walked in here and found out, I cried."



Commander Frederick W. Lynch, Sr., 69, Bonita

Favorite music: "Rock 'n' roll." (Purchased four old film soundtracks.)

What I dislike: "Well, nothing, really."

Favorite thing: "A fabulous selection of CDs and movies and sales at least every other week. Better than anything I ever bought at Kmart or Best Buy or any of those big places. I'm a retired commander, Navy fighter pilot. I don't even shop on the base because these prices are so much better. They have 'easy listening,' all the great singers like Sinatra. I've been shopping here for over 30 years."



Paul Ito, 30, North County

Favorite music: "Pepper, Sublime, Slightly Stoopid-type stuff."

What I dislike: "Over the years, the locations kind of bothered me. There's only the two in San Diego — Sports Arena and La Jolla locations — and I'm up north."

Favorite thing: "They are open late. I think until midnight. That's a huge plus."

Jane Norberg, 66, Pacific Beach

Favorite music: "Classical."

What I dislike: "I don't go all that much."

Favorite thing: "Tower employees seem to be the most knowledgeable and helpful. I like the wide selection. I remember buying the *Messiah* by Handel. I like Beethoven a lot. And from time to time, you hear things on the radio and don't hear everything they say about the song. Tower could usually pinpoint it for me."



Kevin Donaker, 42, Sorrento Valley

Favorite music: "Everything from classic rock, hip-hop, to power pop and modern stuff."

What I dislike: "Nothing I can think of."

Favorite thing: "The huge

selection. They had obscure things and lots of current stuff. You could pretty much find anything you wanted there. Oftentimes I'd see something I didn't expect to buy and would walk out with a stack of CDs. Tower had a local band section, and sometimes our band [the Shambles] could be found in their bins."



Janna Smith, 25, Ocean Beach

Favorite music: "Pop and Top 40...everything but hard-core metal."

What I dislike: "It's easier to just burn CDs now or record them from friends. You can listen to an entire CD online. Usually I only buy CDs if I'm running through Target and I see something on sale that I wanted. I'm not the biggest music buyer. I only have a hundred CDs in my collection."

Favorite thing: "The displays of the certain CDs I'm interested in and being able to listen to them. Sometimes just looking at the artwork or pictures on the CD is enough. You can listen to the entire CD, but only if it's one of the ones they selected. That's why sometimes it's easier to do online."



Dolly Castillo, 40, Rancho Bernardo

Favorite music: "Jazz." (Purchased a Michael Franks

CD and two DVDs.)

What I dislike: "I hate waiting for someone to attend to you. Sometimes I'm looking for a particular artist, and it's hard to find someone to help me find it."

Favorite thing: "The variety of music. And you could buy video games, movies, and even cool posters. I like the fact that they have older, '60s stuff. The prices are reasonable. Some of my friends order things online, but once you pay for shipping and handling, it's the same price or more. Not to mention the fact that it might be damaged in the mail or just not show up."



Bobby Fantasy, 31, Golden Hill

Favorite music: "Reggae."

What I dislike: "The prices are a little high."

Favorite thing: "The diversity of music. They have an amazing world music section. They have music from Africa, India, and non-Western countries. There are no other record stores in town that have a selection like Tower. I'll have to start buying stuff online."



Gene Padigos, 28, Paradise Hills

Favorite music: "Post-punk and rock." (Purchased a Morrissey DVD.)

What I dislike: "The prices. When they go out of business,

I'll probably stick with going to M-Theory Records [in South Park]."

Favorite thing: "The accessibility and great selection."



Monica Cammarano, 43, Carmel Valley

Favorite music: "Alternative rock." (Purchased a Radiohead CD.)

What I dislike: "Nothing bad about Tower. I love this place."

Favorite thing: "That they would bring rock stars to the store. I remember years ago, when I was 17, Jon Anderson from Yes was there. The line wrapped around the building. He gave me a kiss on the cheek."



Mahsa Olamai, 14, Cardiff

Favorite music: "I like everything but country." ("And heavy metal," her mom adds.)

Favorite thing: "When you get it there, it's a hard copy. It's safe. If you buy it online and your computer crashes, it's gone forever. Buying it at a record store, it's really... tangible."

Least favorite: "Sometimes you go, and they don't have the CD. And just the fact that going there...if you're busy, it's easier online and not having my mom drive me." ■

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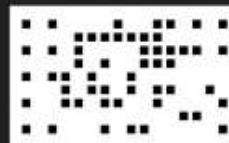


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Calendar CONCERTS

The Lemonheads: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, November 19, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Lady Sovereign: House of Blues, Sunday, November 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

John Legend: House of Blues, Monday, November 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

She Wants Revenge and Pretty Girls Make Graves: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Kevin Federline: 4th & B, Tuesday, November 21, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

30 Seconds to Mars: Soma, Friday, November 24, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Tyrese: House of Blues, Saturday, November 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Talib Kweli: House of Blues, Monday, November 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Black Label Society: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra: Cox Arena, Tuesday, November 28, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

BT and Thomas Dolby: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, November 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

DECEMBER

The All-American Rejects: ipayOne Center, Friday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Melvins: The Casbah, Friday, December 1, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Watermelon Slim: Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, Saturday, December 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego. 619-224-3577.

Geoff Muldaur: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 2, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

"Z-90 Jingle Jam": ipayOne Center, Saturday, December 2, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Barenaked Ladies: RIMAC Arena, Sunday, December 3, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

The Disco Biscuits: House of Blues, Monday, December 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Roches: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Tuesday, December 5, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Gregg Allman: House of Blues, Wednesday, December 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

"93.3's Your Holiday Show": ipayOne Center, Wednesday, December 6, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Andre Rieu: ipayOne Center, Thursday, December 7, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Ziggy Marley: 4th & B, Thursday, December 7, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Aimee Mann: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, December 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Slightly Stoopid and Pepper: 4th & B, Friday, December 8, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Friday, December 8, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

Primus: RIMAC Arena, Friday, December 8, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

Slightly Stoopid and Pepper: 4th & B, Saturday, December 9, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Panic! at the Disco: ipayOne Center, Saturday, December 9, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Tom Russell: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, December 10, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Senses Fail and Saosin: Soma, Saturday, December 16, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Ozomatli: House of Blues, Wednesday, December 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Tha Alkaholiks: 'Canes, Wednesday, December 20, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Redman: House of Blues, Thursday, December 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Jeremy Enigk: The Casbah, Thursday, December 21, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

El Vez: The Casbah, Saturday, December 23, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Donavan Frankenreiter: House of Blues, Sunday, December 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

JANUARY

Beres Hammond and Marcia Griffiths: 4th & B, Sunday, January 7, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Justin Timberlake and Pink: ipayOne Center, Monday, January 8, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Al Kooper: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, January 12, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Manhattan Transfer: California Center for the Arts, Friday, January 12, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

The Cheetah Girls: ipayOne Center, Saturday, January 13, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Guns N' Roses: ipayOne Center, Tuesday, January 16, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Eliza Gilkyson: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, January 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Reverend Horton Heat: 'Canes, Thursday, January 18, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Tom Rush: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, January 20, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Muriel Anderson: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, January 25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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: Thursdays, *4mat* with rotating DJs Veep Reekins, Xavier, Clean Cut, and Myson King. 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.

Dino's: Fridays, *Gimmie 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.

Habana Restaurant: Saturdays, *Adventuras East*, salsa, merengue, and cha-cha with "New Yo Rican" David Garcia and David "Suave." 10 p.m. 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011.

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 Walkkrawler, 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 Grimmerella. 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



DINO'S Nite Club
3829 30TH St.
619-291-DINO (3466)
Near University,
opposite Union Bank

FRI	ILLFONIX DJ Sachamo plus guest DJs Hip-Hop/House/Soul
SAT	Live Comedy 2nd & 4th Saturdays of every month 8 - 10 pm • No cover Party Rock DJ John Quest and guest DJs • 10 pm to close
WED	Girls' Room by SHE Promotions Hip-Hop/House 9 pm-close DJ Tova, DJ Kiss
THU	Happy/Hour/Remixed 5 - 10 pm College Night '80s/Hip-Hop 10 pm-close Free with college ID
	HAPPY HOUR 5-9 pm every night Wednesday-Saturday Sign up for VIP specials at: myspace.com/dinosclub

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Misha

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Dinner 5:30-midnight
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Wednesdays

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\$2 Off HAN cocktails
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Thursdays

TRIBE OF KINGS Present

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PERIL
DASH EYE
JESTER

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\$10 Islandweizen pitcher

Friday

DJ DiBo

Eclectic Soul

Saturday

DJ 1979

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STARCROSSED (CD release)
SWANDIVE
THOUSAND YARD STARE

Friday, November 3
TAZ TAYLOR BAND
 (featuring Graham Bonnet of Rainbow/M.S.G.)
DUST 'N' BONES
 (Guns 'N' Roses tribute)
LOADSTONE
 (Classic Rock cover band)

Saturday, November 4
STEPH JOHNSON BAND
NYA JADE
SVEN-ERIC SEAHOLM

Sunday, November 5
 Fineline presents
DAN BERN
LUKE DOUCET
SIR SPLENDID

Wednesday, November 8
THE BAND OF GOOD MEN
REDEFINED

Thursday, November 9
THE ERUPTION

11/20 **Earthless** • 11/26 **Zombie Ghost Train** • **Hola Ghost** (featuring Pete from Mad Sin & Nekromantix) • 12/8 **Audible Mainframe** • 12/9 **Accident Experiment**

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 619-276-3993 (off Morena Blvd.)

Friday, November 10
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KICKING K8
TESTING TOMORROW

Saturday, November 11
Sikworld's
Dirty Pirate Ball
 featuring
FM REVOLVER
DIVIDED BY ZERO
UNSET
THE FREAK SHOW
 (Punk Rock Break Dancing)

Tuesday, November 14 • C presents
SUICIDE GIRLS
BURLESQUE SHOW
TSU SHI MA RE

Thursday, November 16
NEW YORK STATION
SLITHER

Saturday, November 18
THE RAPTURE
THE PRESETS

Saturday, November 25
NEW MODEL ARMY
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KID ANDERSEN
 Sat 11/4 • 9:00 PM

JACKIE GREENE

TREVOR HALL
 Sun 11/5 • 8:00 PM

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SAUL ZONANA
 Tue 11/7 • 8:00 PM

LISA MARIE PRESLEY

RYAN CABRERA
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COMEDY SHOW!
 Thur 11/9 • 7:00 PM

GET BACK LORETTA
GOODBYE BLUE MONDAY

 Late Show!
A SCRIBE AMIDST THE LIONS
 Thur 11/9 • 9:00 PM

COMMON SENSE

DUMBLUCK
 Fri 11/10 • 9:00 PM

BRAND NEW HEAVIES
 FEAT. N'DEA DAVENPORT

LATANYA LOCKETT BAND
 Sat 11/11 • 9:00 PM

BEN TAYLOR & SONYA KITCHELL

DARREN RASER
 Sun 11/12 • 8:00 PM

FM 94.9 PRESENTS SILVER SUN PICKUPS
 JUST ADDED!

THE STEREOTYPES
 Tue 11/14 • 9:00 PM

THE IDAN RAICHEL PROJECT

 Wed 11/15 • 8:00 PM

AN EVENING WITH GROUNDATION

 Thur 11/16 • 9:00 PM

THE SKATALITES & THE AGGROLITES

DJ LE CHUD
 Fri 11/17 • 9:00 PM

BOOGIE NIGHTS PRESENTS METAL SNAKE

 Sat 11/18 • 9:00 PM

THE LEMONHEADS

VIETNAM • REEVE OLIVER
 Sun 11/19 • 9:00 PM

ELIJAH EMANUEL & THE REVELATIONS

SHAKA BUKU
 Wed 11/22 • 9:00 PM

THE ALBUM LEAF

GRAND OLE PARTY
DIRTY ON PURPOSE
 Fri 11/24 • 9:00 PM

JUST ADDED!
 11/28 **The Sugar Minott, Scientist & Admiral Tibet**
 12/8 **80s Heat** • 12/16 **Atomic Punks w/Motley Crued**

UPCOMING SHOWS:
 11/25 **Joe Bonamassa w/Oliver Pigott**
 11/27 **Stan Ridgway w/The Handsome Family**
 11/29 **BT & Thomas Dolby**
 11/30 **Dynamite Walls, This Holiday Life & Delta Spirit**
 12/1 **Hi-Tek**
 12/4 **Amos Lee**

12/5 **Fourgoodmen** featuring members of Simple Minds & Big Country
 12/7 **Aimee Mann's First Annual Christmas Show** w/surprise guests. Hosted by Paul F. Tompkins
 12/10 **Shooter Jennings**
 12/14 **Venice**
 12/17 **Devotchka**
 12/22 **Buck-O-Nine & Skanick**

12/23 **The Greyboy All Stars**
 12/27 **The Knitters**
 12/28 **Particle**
 1/10 **Mark Hummel's Blues Harp Blowout**
 1/12 **Long Beach Shortbus**
 1/13 **Dead Man's Party**
 1/31 **Jake Shimabukuro**
 3/8 **Leo Kottke & David Lindley**

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS @ 5:30:
 11/10 **BIG RIG DELUXE** • 11/17 **ATOMIC GROOVE**
 11/24 **CANDYE KANE**
SALSA SUNDAY: 11/26



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 SHOWTIME 8 PM

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East County

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Friday, 7 p.m., *Tom Boyer*, acoustic. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Jennifer Jayden*, folk.

Cosmos Coffee Cafe, 8278 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. 619-698-4217. Friday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., *the Sam Johnson Jazz Duo*.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, live rock/country.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, live rock. Saturday, *Rule of 3rds*, rock.

Habana Restaurant, 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa. 619-713-2011. Saturday, salsa dancing.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *the Paul Justin Band*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *6one9*, classic rock.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Wize Guyz*, swing/standards.

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Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

Aiden: Soma

Alexa's Wish: The Jumping Turtle

Anberlin: Soma

Ankla: The Jumping Turtle

The Band of Good Men: Brick By Brick

Barcelona: The Casbah

Between the Buried and Me: Soma



THURSDAY 11.2
Deep 6-Year Anniversary
DJ Die

FRIDAY 11.3
House of Rep 3-Year Anniversary
Main Flow Tribunal
DJ Ketchup

SATURDAY 11.4
House Music
DJ Danger
& Special Guests

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3



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(80's Metal Tribute)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4



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MEET THE RETARDS PART 2

BOB LEVY, SHULI, JIM FLORENTINE, SAL THE STOCKBROKER, YUCKO THE CLOWN & RICHARD CHRISTY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

re:spekt

ONLI SON



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

LUPE FIASCO

THOSE DANG ROBINSONS
DEEP ROOTED • DJ FINGAZ



WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

Surf Music Art Show
BRIAN HOLWERDA
MOLLY JENSON
SEZIO

THURSDAY, NOV. 16

ONE DROP
WHEN I RISE
DUBSHACK
SPLIT FINGER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Rooney & Ben Lee

Special Guest **JOHN RALSTON**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Tainted Love

(80s Tribute)



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

the BIG provider

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Tues. 11/7 **Service Industry Night**
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Drink Specials 10 PM-Close

"GONG HITS" KARAOKE
9 PM-Close

Wed. 11/8 Rock
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Thur. 11/2 Featuring Billy Nershi of

STRING CHEESE INCIDENT

HONKEYTONK HOMESLICE

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Winstons presents

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TONIGHT Family Strong CD Release Party

VEGETATION

Sun. 11/5 Football All Day
Redskins and Chargers Headquarters

TONIGHT Free Cover

OBOKE
with special guest **JOSÉ SINATRA**

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ELECTRIC WASTE BAND

Tues. 11/7 6-8 PM:
"Think & Drink" Trivia

TONIGHT National Touring Singer-Solo Artist

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PETER LANG

Wed. 11/8 5-8 PM:
Winstons Art Show
TONIGHT ListenLocalSD.com presents

"HOT CHICKS IN BANDS"
JULIA OTHMER CHICK BANNED REVENGE CLUB

UPCOMING:
11/9: As seen with The Who
ROSE HILL DRIVE
11/10: **AGUA DULCE**
11/11: **YAMI BOLO**

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Online Club Coupons!

The following nightclubs have valuable coupons in the Music Section of the *Reader's* website.
N indicates North County.

The Aero Club	Free WiFi
Brick By Brick	2 for 1 admission
CA Express VIP Card	Free card
Comedy Co-op	Free tickets
In Cahoots	2 for 1 cover
Lucky 7 Match	\$5 off speed dating
Martini Ranch	Free appetizers
Patricks II	2 for 1 cover
Second Wind Navajo	No cover
710 Beach Club	2 for 1 cover
Tio Leo's Lounge	\$1 off club admission

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Power Hour 4-5 pm — \$2 U-Call-Its • \$1 off drinks till 7 pm

THURSDAY 11/2 Live Hip-Hop

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FRIDAY 11/3 **BarFly** presents
\$5 Cover Fridays
For more info log on to BarFlyPromotions.com

SATURDAY 11/4 Live Hard Rock

Dufreign Praying Mantix Colporter Briegade The Ink Ladies Happy Hour
4-5 pm \$2 U-Call-Its
5-7 pm \$1 off drinks
Hot Food • Hot Music
Raffle prizes & giveaways
Benefit for Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk

WEDNESDAY 11/8 Live Music — Hard Rock

Tried By Fire Shockwave

THURSDAY 11/9 Live Music — Hip-Hop

The Aim featuring **Blue Eagle & Halo**

FRIDAY 11/10 **BarFly** presents
\$5 Cover Fridays
New Castle Night
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SATURDAY 11/11 iSoo7 presents
Winter Bash Island Style featuring **D.U.B. Live Shah The Creator Jah Fire • Shonuff**

The Ink Ladies Happy Hour
4-5 pm \$2 U-Call-Its
5-7 pm \$1 off drinks
Hot Food • Hot Music • Hot Girls
Raffle prizes & giveaways
Benefit for Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk

ALWAYS BOOKING BANDS! Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131
www.myspace.com/kidslam

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE
(continued)

The Black Letter Days: The Jumping Turtle

Blackout Pact: Soma

Bless the Fall: Soma

The Bouncing Souls: House of Blues

Brady Sails: The Jumping Turtle

Buddah Grinder: The Jumping Turtle

The Burning of Rome: The Jumping Turtle

The Chesterfield Kings: Belly Up Tavern

The China Clippers: The Casbah

Colin of Arabia: Ché Café

The Colour: The Casbah

A Dead Giveaway: Epicentre

Death Threat: Ché Café

Delta Spirit: The Casbah

Devil to Pay: The Zombie Lounge

The Dirty Heads: 'Canes

Dramarama: House of Blues

Deuce Eclipse: The Casbah

Dynamite Walls: The Casbah

The Eagles of Death Metal: House of Blues

Ecstatic Sunshine: Ché Café

Eyeshine: Epicentre

Fear Before the March of Flames: Soma

The Greely Estates: Soma

Hostile Combover: The Zombie Lounge

It Dies Today: Soma

Lyfe Jennings: House of Blues

John Brown's Body: Belly Up Tavern

Left Alone: House of Blues

Life's Only Lesson: Epicentre, The Jumping Turtle

Light of Doom: The Jumping Turtle

Living Hell: Ché Café

Long Live Logos: The Jumping Turtle

Longsta: The Jumping Turtle

Make Believe: Ché Café

Masterguru: The Jumping Turtle

Maystar: Brick By Brick

mewithoutyou: House of Blues

A Midday Atlantic: Epicentre

Miles to Go Before I Sleep: Epicentre, The Jumping Turtle

Misery Signals: Soma

Monty Are I: Soma

The New York Dolls: Belly Up Tavern

Norma Jean: Soma

Onli Son: 'Canes

Overcast: The Jumping Turtle

The Paper Life: The Jumping Turtle

PC Death Squad: Ché Café

Piebald: House of Blues

The Pistol Whips: Epicentre

Redefine: Brick By Brick

Sanctified: Epicentre

Say Anything: House of Blues

Scar'd Sanity: 'Canes, Epicentre, The Jumping Turtle

Scars on Scars: The Jumping Turtle

Scary Kids Scaring Kids: Soma

Paul Schrier: Epicentre

Secret Apollo: San Diego Sports Club

Shareefa & Algebra: House of Blues

Silverstein: Soma

Gayle Skidmore & TER: The Jumping Turtle

Slow Car Boost: The Jumping Turtle

Regina Spektor: 'Canes

Starcrossed: Brick By Brick

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NOVEMBER 6

Lee scratch perry

NOVEMBER 8

pink martini

NOVEMBER 12

SEATED SHOW!

Kevin Federline

NOVEMBER 21

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LOVE IS MY RELIGION
TOUR

DECEMBER 7

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www.humphreysbythebay.com

Thursday, Nov. 2
8 pm • Original Rock & Roll

Marie Haddad

Friday, Nov. 3
6 pm • Celtic Music
Skelpin
9:30 pm
Dance & Disco
Makai

Saturday, Nov. 4
6:30 pm • Original Rock
Danielle Storey
9 pm
A Tribute to Luther Vandross
Stellita and Reggie

Sunday, Nov. 5 • 8 pm
The only place to be on Sunday night!
98.1 Smooth Jazz with Host Tayari

Jose Molina Serrano
with **DJ John Phillips**

Monday, Nov. 6
7 pm • Blues

Chet Cannon's Blue Monday Blues Jam

Tuesday, Nov. 7
8 pm • Funk, Soul & Dance

The Soul Persuaders

Wednesday, Nov. 8
8 pm • Blues

Blue Rockit

UPCOMING SHOWS

Thursday, Nov. 9
8 pm • R&B
Booker T. Jones

Friday, Nov. 10
9:30 pm • Blues
Jimmy Thackery

Saturday, Nov. 11
10 pm • Harmonica Blues
Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers

2241 Shelter Island Dr. • 619.224.3577

Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey's. Reserved seating for "Upcoming Shows" available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.

Calendar

BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

(continued)

The Starlight Mints: The Casbah

Starlight Strange: The Jumping Turtle

The Story of the Year: Soma

The Stranger's Six: The Jumping Turtle, Epicentre

The Street Dogs: House of Blues

The Supersuckers: Belly Up Tavern

Swandive: Brick By Brick

Throw Rag: House of Blues

The Travel Agents: The Kraken

Tsk Tsk: Ché Café

The Vanning: The Jumping Turtle

Lilith Velkor: Buster Daly's

Well Rose: The Jumping Turtle

Whole Wheat Bread: House of Blues

Black Williams: Epicentre

ROCK

Ad-Rox: Ocean House

Davie Allan and the Arrows: Belly Up Tavern

Blind Date: Pounder's

Blue Rockit: Dick's Last Resort

Brain Buckit: Tiki House

The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub

The Breakdowns: The Zombie Lounge

Brookville: The Casbah

The Buzzbombs: The Casbah

The Citizen Band: Coyote Bar and Grill

The City's Finest: Hot Monkey Love Cafe

Cold Shower: Surf N'Saddle

Cool Fever: Island Sports & Spirits

The Crosswinds: Whiskey Girl

DaGroove: Island Sports & Spirits

Damage, Inc.: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)

Duckie's Revenge: The Zombie Lounge

Dust N Bones: Brick By Brick

The 86'd: Dick's Last Resort

Eldemur Krimm: The Zombie Lounge

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

The Fall Guys: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Fish & the Seaweeds: Coyote Bar and Grill, Beaumont's

Five for Fighting: Belly Up Tavern

FKA: Pounder's

Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub

Mike Gardner: Mas Fina Cantina

The Ghost of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

Go Jimmy Go: Belly Up Tavern

Henry Haney: The Jumping Turtle

The Hornets: The Casbah

Illicit Behavior: Surf N'Saddle

The Iron Maidens: 'Canes

Joan Jett & the Blackhearts: House of Blues

The Steph Johnson Band: Brick By Brick

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the Marina

Mike Keneally: Dizzy's

Red Lane: Coyote Bar and Grill

Loadstone: Brick By Brick

Night Shift: Pal Joey's

Nite Hawk: Carvers

The Pawnshop Kings: Lestat's Coffee House

Pigeon John: The Casbah

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Singer-pianist-songwriter **Regina Spektor** emerged a few years ago from New York's so-called anti-folk scene, is heavily influenced by jazz and blues, often uses hip-hop beats in her songs, and has toured with rock bands including the Strokes. She was born in Moscow, moved to New York as a child, and now sings in English with some Russian and the occasional line of French or Latin. So, yeah, it's not easy to pin her down.

Unlike Fiona Apple, to whom she is sometimes compared, Spektor's songs aren't blatantly autobiographical, they're more like character studies. On *Begin to Hope*, her most recent album and her first for a major label, Spektor is a woman from bibli-

cal times in one song, a punk-rock junkie's girlfriend in another, and in another she's a lust-filled man singing, "Summer in the city means cleavage, cleavage, cleavage." She sings like Billie Holiday in one song and comes across like Polly Jean Harvey in another. Here and there, her voice invokes Joni Mitchell or Björk.

The really odd thing is that Spektor can do all this and still sound like no one so much as herself. While *Begin to Hope* features somewhat more elaborate arrangements than Spektor has used in the past, the album doesn't have the kind of slick overproduction that so often overwhelms singer-songwriters when they switch to a major label. Her vocals, especially, are recorded without any noticeable reverb or obvious studio tricks. She doesn't need them; she has plenty of tricks of her own. On the song "Fidelity," she



REGINA SPEKTOR

bounces the word "heart" on top of more than a dozen notes. It could easily have been a show-off move, but instead it's silly and fun and charming.

REGINA SPEKTOR, 'Canes, Sunday, November 5, 8 p.m. 858-488-1780. \$12.50.

Plato Soul: The Kraken

Point Blank: Ocean House

The Pop Rocks: Jimmy Love's

Andrew Poulk: Epicentre

The Power Chords: Tower Bar

Lisa Marie Presley: Belly Up Tavern

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort

The Red Hearts: Tower Bar

Rock Dirty Raw: Tiki House

Ron's Garage: Hotel del Coronado

Roxy Monoxide: Tiki House

Rule of 3rds: Fannie's Nightclub

Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Carlos)

Sir Splendid: Brick By Brick

Gone9: Second Wind (Santee)

Gayle Skidmore & TER: Epicentre

The Stiletto: Henry's Pub

Stone Wolf Rocks: Pounder's

Danielle Storey: Humphrey's

The Taz Taylor Band: Brick By Brick

The Texas Twisters: Patrick's II

Three Bad Jacks: The Zombie Lounge

Undecided: Game Time Tavern

Vinyl 45: 710 Beach Club

Viva Santana: Humphrey's

Way Cool, Jr.: 'Canes

West of 5: Tio Leo's (Mira Mesa), Game Time Tavern

The Woolly Bandits: Tower Bar

Zion I & the Grouch: The Casbah

POP / TOP 40

Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect

Jocelyn Celaya: Epicentre

The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort

James East: Pasquale on Prospect

Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect

The Good Times: Henry's Pub

Taran Gray: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Nya Jade: Brick By Brick

Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and Spirits

The Love Rangers: The Alley

The M-80's: Jimmy Love's

Makai: Humphrey's

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect

The Stepping Feet: Whiskey Girl

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The Joseph Angelastro Jazz Duo: E Street Cafe

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

Amelia Browning: South Park Bar and Grill

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze

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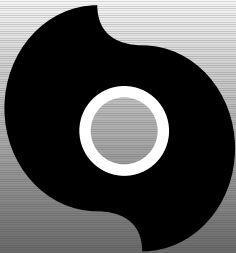


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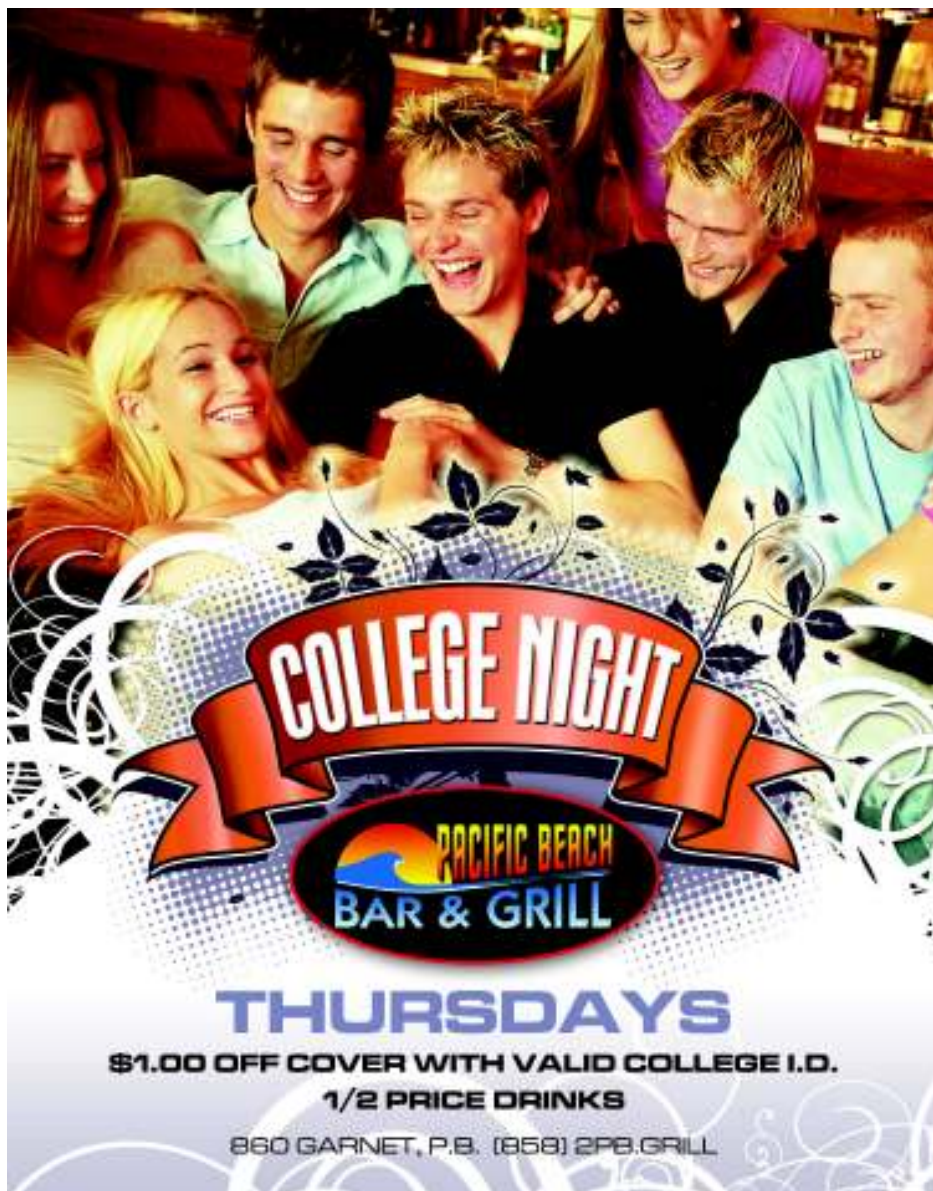
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MONDAY 11-6 MLP presents MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!! FREE TACO BUFFET!! DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT!!	WEDNESDAY 11-8 All ages until 10 pm BGO Events Promotions presents SCARS ON SCARS WELL ROSE HENRY HANEY		

UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

THURSDAY 11-9 All ages until 10 pm K presents The Sickriders Bike Night	DEICIDE DESOLATION BROKEN FOUNDATION WARFACE DAMNATION	FRIDAY 11-10 K presents BEDLAM'S EDGE • JIMMY SUE DELIVERANCE MACHINE DESTRUNG (Featuring Jonas of Buck-O-Nine)
SATURDAY 11-11 K presents INVITRO (Featuring Mikey Doling, formerly of Snot/Soulfly) SIX FOOT DEATH TRAP	MOWER RIKETS	WEDNESDAY 11-15 BGO Events Promotions presents SYLT AMERICAN HITMEN

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Calendar
BANDS

JAZZ / BIG BAND

(continued)
The Karin Carson Trio: The Westgate Hotel
Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze
The Credit Union: Ocean House
Edo Brazil: Samba Grill
Aubrey Fay: Humphrey's
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
Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel
Insight: Jimmy Love's
Keith Jacobsen: Del Mar Plaza
Jalopy: E Street Cafe
Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado
The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect
The Sam Johnson Jazz Duo: Cosmos Coffee Cafe
Dick Koenig: Cody's La Jolla
John Kopecky: South Park Bar and Grill
Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel
Stellita Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado
Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel
Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's
Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn
The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar
Jose Molina Serrano: Humphrey's
Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines
The New Standard Jazz Trio: Busalacchi's Ristorante
Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind: The Calypso Cafe
Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel
Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines
The David Patrone Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar
Primo: Croce's Jazz Bar
Peter Puppig: Ki's Coffee On Top
Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel
Sambajazz: Cuvee Restaurant
Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect, Croce's Jazz Bar
The SDSU Jazz Combos I & II: Dizzy's
Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze
Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time: Coyote Bar and Grill
The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's
The Speak Easy Quartet: People's Food
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

The Wize Guyz: Tommy's Italian Restaurant
Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar
REGGAE / SKA
Dub Twenty: Epicentre
The Jerry McCann Band: Coyote Bar and Grill
Stranger: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

COUNTRY

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club
Cash'd Out: The Casbah
The Paul Justin Band: Renegade Inn
The North County Cowboys: Del Dios Bar and Grill

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

Abby: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Robin Adler: Dizzy's
Joseph Angelaastro: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe
Alonzo Arambu: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Amy Ayres: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Adrian Belew: Belly Up Tavern
Dan Bern: Brick By Brick
Cindy Lee Berryhill: Brick By Brick
Dave Blackburn: Dizzy's
Camille Bloom: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Peter Bolland: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and Grille
Aaron Bowen: Lestat's Coffee House
Tom Boyer: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Bushwalla: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Ryan Cabrera: Belly Up Tavern
The California Guitar Trio: AcousticMusicSanDiego
Joe Cardillo: Cody's La Jolla
Chris Carpenter: Lestat's Coffee House
Philip Carrillo: Beaumont's
The Celtic Ensemble: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Michael Robert Cook: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Tony Cummins: Blarney Stone Pub
The Darling Alarm: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Trevor Davis: Lestat's Coffee House
Kim Divine: Lestat's Coffee House
Luke Doucet: Brick By Brick
Chase Emery: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub
Jackie Greene: Belly Up Tavern
Marie Haddad: Humphrey's
Trevor Hall: Belly Up Tavern
Harmony Road: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
David Hauser: Galley at the Marina
Tom Heinl: The Casbah
Dave Howard: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Alan James: Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)
Jennifer Jayden: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
Gary Jules: Belly Up Tavern
Zoe Keating: AcousticMusicSanDiego
Kama Linden: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)
Ashley Matte: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

Tim Mudd: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Brenda Panneton: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain, Gaslamp)
Pat & Joe: Blarney Stone Pub
Sara Petite & the Sugar Daddies: The Ould Sod
Chris Pierce: Lestat's Coffee House
Tommy Price: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Quincy: Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
Sven-Eric Seaholm: Brick By Brick
Gary Seiler: Galley at the Marina
Skelpin: Humphrey's
P.F. Sloan: AcousticMusicSanDiego
Pete Thurston: Lestat's Coffee House
The Michael Tiernan Trio: La Playa Cantina & Grill
2 Guys Will Move U: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Vladimir & Friends: E Street Cafe
Gene Warren: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Saul Zonana: Belly Up Tavern

BLUES / SOUL

Aunt Kizzy's Boyz: Patrick's II
The Backwater Blues Band: Coyote Bar and Grill
Blue Four: Patrick's II
Blue Largo: Patrick's II
Blue Rockit: Humphrey's
The Blues Brokers: The Kraken
Chet Cannon & the Committee: Patrick's II
The Tommy Castro Band: Belly Up Tavern
The Elevators: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen: Croce's Jazz Bar
Ben Hernandez: Coyote Bar and Grill
Nathan James: Coyote Bar and Grill
Kid Anderson: Belly Up Tavern
Lady Dottie & the Diamonds: Henry's Pub
Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak: Patrick's II
Modern Day Moonshine: Martini Ranch (Gaslamp)
Jeff Moore: The Calypso Cafe
The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band: Patrick's II
The San Diego Blues Trio: The Aero Club
Shelle Blues: Patrick's II
The Soul Persuaders: Humphrey's
Billy Thompson: The Calypso Cafe
Triple Shot: The Calypso Cafe

EVERYTHING ELSE

John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel, Hotel del Coronado
Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop
Deverb: Ocean House
Larry Fulton: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado
Los Reyes Del Ritmo: Estancia Resort Hotel
Orquesta 8.8: Sevilla
Roy Resnikoff: Cody's La Jolla
Eddie Rossi: Red Fox Steakhouse
The David Shaw Duo: Red Fox Steakhouse
Joe Soprano: Red Fox Steakhouse
Tahiti 80: The Casbah
Walter II y Rumbaney: Sevilla
Joey West: Hotel del Coronado

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Fish Tale

I read the news today, oh boy. Seafood is back in the headlines. A few months ago it was bad news about mercury. Now it's good news: eating fish seems to stave off heart disease, tennis elbow, and the blue meanies. A quick summing-up: big, predator fish (like bluefin and albacore, swordfish and king mackerel) are chancy, especially if you're pregnant or a kid. Most other species are A-OK unless they're endangered by poachers (like Chilean sea bass, orange roughy, and Beluga caviar) or are badly farm-raised like so many aquatic factory chickens (which means most Atlantic salmon). Oysters: lotsa cholesterol, but mainly good cholesterol. Confusion, total.

Suddenly I found myself hungry for fish and ravenous for oysters. Over the last couple of years, several friends have reported pleasant experiences snacking at the Oceanaire's Oyster Bar or enjoying seasonal special dinners there, so that's where I headed.

My partner was out of town, so I called on my friend Sam to help scout out Oceanaire's Oyster Bar. As you cozy up to the valet parking stop on Fourth Avenue, you can see the ground-floor kitchen through the window. It's huge, clean, modern, populated with well-spaced line chefs rapidly cooking, heating, flipping, and turning out plates.

The Oyster Bar and dining rooms are up a grand staircase, but ever-dedicated to checking for handicap access, I took the elevator that's to the left of the front door. At the top, on the left, is the moderately crowded Oyster Bar, and next to that, an overpopulated liquor bar, bodies four deep. To the right and ahead, beyond the hostess station, are several oversized dining rooms, decorated to evoke a luxury liner of old, with semi-carpeted hardwood flooring, fish sculptures on the walls, booths of rich brown leather and polished red-brown wood, and tables with white napery and leather-cushioned chairs. Thirties and Forties jazz plays assertively on the sound system.

The Oyster Bar crowd runs to younger couples, eating casually before heading for the club scene. On a Monday night, the adjoining liquor bar was thronged by single guys in jeans and tees; next night, it was all gray hair and suits. The Oyster Bar stools are so high, I wished I had a saddle-horn to grab hold of. I'd forgotten — always mount a horse from the left; I was struggling to do it from the right.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

The menu is printed daily on a 19- x 11-inch sheet of heavy paper. Listed near the top are all the species carried regularly by the restaurant, with checkmarks next to those available that evening. The oysters and clams *du jour* are noted under a "fresh today" heading. You can get your fish "Simply Grilled or Broiled," or go to a list of specialties for more complex preparations. In any week, specialties are largely the same every day, but made with different fish, according to availability. From time to time, there is a major change with five or six replacements. At West Coast outposts (Oceanaire has locations in nine cities nationwide), most fin fishes are Pacific species. The thrilling wine list is printed on the reverse side of the menu.

Whether you're in the Oyster Bar or the dining room, you begin with house-baked sourdough bread and a ramekin of butter with an image of a fish stamped into it, plus a relish tray with pickled cucumbers and peppers, radishes, black olives, carrot and celery strips, and a small box of wine-marinated herring (which tastes just like Lascco brand).

The bar has live shuckers, but you order from a waiter. Our server was expert or bossy or both. We wanted to try two each of all eight oyster variations available that night (after all, oysters have almost no calories), plus an extra pair of the tiny, sweet Kumamotos from Eureka.

The waiter didn't like the New Zealand Coromandels or the Canadian Fanny Bays, so he made us up a platter of an even dozen, bringing Quonset (Rhode Island), Gorge Inlet (British Columbia), Tatamagouche (Nova Scotia), and Cohansy. (*Noo Joisey has ersters?*) We started with the first pair of creamy Kumamotos. They were exceptional — as they often are. The rest were disappointing in comparison, less vibrant than oysters I've eaten at Blue Waters, Lou and Mickey's, and King's Fish House. The "fixin's" were okay — a middle-of-the-road mignonette and a cocktail sauce that welcomed a squeeze of lemon juice.

Second round, we went clam-diving, starting with a pair of raw New York littlenecks (interesting, but not the sweetest) followed by the same bivalves baked as clams casino, one of a dozen-odd corporate dishes you'll find at any of the restau-

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

The Oceanaire Seafood Room

★★½ (Good to Very Good)

400 J Street (at Fourth Avenue), Gaslamp Quarter, 619-858-2277, www.theoceanaire.com.

HOURS: Sunday–Thursday, 5:00–10:00 p.m., weekends until 11:00 p.m.

PRICES: Oysters, \$1.95–\$3.50 each; appetizers, \$11–\$15 (caviar much higher); soups and salads, \$6.50–\$19; simple fish entrées, \$25–\$35; specialty entrées, \$17–\$55 (higher for large lobsters); steaks and roast chicken entrées, \$19–\$49; side dishes, \$5–\$15. Deep discounts on appetizers and snacks at liquor bar and Oyster Bar during nightly happy hour (5:00–7:00 p.m.)

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: All manner of seafood, from simple preparations to complex dishes with international influences (France, Italy, Asia, Louisiana, fusion). Superb wine list, strong on seafood-friendly whites from all regions and at all prices. Over 40 wines by the glass. Full bar, classic cocktails.

PICK HITS: Maryland blue crab cake (as appetizer or entrée), El Diablo squid, red chili rock shrimp, shrimp and crab with orange salad, "simply grilled or broiled" entrées.

NEED TO KNOW: Valet parking \$15 (less than most nearby lots). Restaurant and bars at mezzanine level; elevator next to front door. Restaurant reservations urged, especially weekends. Most patrons favor business-casual dress on weeknights, dressier on weekends. Sound level lively but not painful. (Oyster bar is quieter.)

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

rant's locations. This version has whole clams heated on the half-shell, with a topping of bacon slices and parsley. The shells were awash in a seepage of oil (bacon fat? butter?). It seemed like something a suburban hostess might have served to the bridge club in 1964.

One minute later, we were hungry again. (Re-

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member, oysters have no calories — and no MSG.) We enjoyed a well-balanced salad of shrimp and moist crab with oranges, arugula, and avocado in a citrus dressing. A generously sized appetizer of red chili rock shrimp featured popcorn shrimp in a crisp cornstarch batter, surrounded by a slaw of shredded red-and-white cabbage, carrots, red bell pepper, and toasted garlic slices. The dressing was spicy and tangy, heavy on Asian red chili oil, the excess of which settled into a sump at the bottom of the bowl — but the flavors and textures worked together deliciously.

I returned next night with high hopes, and with reinforcements to tackle the long menu, which runs to some 30 entrées. Dave and Marty had reported that they'd enjoyed a simply grilled fish at the restaurant on New Year's Eve, and they joined me, along with Alan and Esther, who'd just returned from a Central California wine-tasting vacation.

We discovered that, like the Oyster Bar, each table has a full line of condiments — a small bottle of ketchup, a large bottle of Tabasco sauce, a shaker of ground black pepper, a whole yellow box of Old Bay seasoning, and a 26-ounce canister of La Baleine French sea salt. Looking over the menu, Marty pointed out, amused, that the first appetizer listed is a “tomato juice cocktail” for 95 cents. (After that, prices shoot up tenfold.)

We began with crab cakes, which proved some of the best ever — especially if you like your crab unadulterated. The baseball-size orbs are made of pieces of sweet Chesapeake Bay blue crab, with a flour binder that mingles with the crab juices. The flour forms a crisp, brown coating. Alongside sits a steel shot-glass holding mustard-aioli dip. An appetizer consists of one cake, an entrée has two.

El Diablo squid, which the menu labels “Chino Latino,” features battered deep-fried calamari, corn tortilla strips, and hot-pepper strips in a sweet-hot sauce resembling Vietnamese *nguc cham* table sauce. It’s a clever and tasty dish, but Oceanaire’s style was becoming apparent: as in the red chili rock shrimp, the Asian flavors are splashed on like cologne, not thoroughly woven into the character of the dish.

Oysters Gatesafellar (you know — Bill) was okay, but low on cream and a bit dry, with the oysters chopped and mixed with bacon and spinach, then finished with a thin cheese topping that's grilled past melting to the dried-out point. You'd never mistake this for Galatoire's' (in New Orleans) lush original.

About Oceanaire's rendition of Cajun rubbed BBQ prawns: I wonder if they had a Cajun come rub the prawns, or if they rubbed the prawns on a Cajun? The shrimp were dark red from a rub of salt and hot red pepper and then more salt and were served on slabs of red-surfaced salted garlic toast. Cajun is not a red state, but a state of flavor — more complex than salt and hot.

The best was not yet to come. Instead of ordering safely from the Simply Grilled or Broiled section, we gambled on composed entrées. The fusiony appetizers are fun, and it's easy to forgive a little oil in the bowl, but when you're dealing with expensive entrées, the stakes are higher. This is a huge restaurant, often feeding four or five hundred covers on a weekend evening. The kitchen staff is small for the restaurant size (four hot-line chefs, two pantry, two oyster bar, and three roving sous chefs to monitor execution). No matter how good the recipes taste when the chefs create them, they may turn out less perfect when rushed out by the hot-line.

The table favorite highlighted fire-roasted *Mano de León* scallops from Baja, sweet and cooked tender. They were served over pearl pasta in a soy sauce gravy with frisée, chives, and some lost little spiny lobster bits. Here, the soy-sauce gravy was an earthy change from the typical cream or butter sauce.

An entrée of local spiny lobster is called “First of the Season... Angry” — Is it angry at being eaten? Or maddened by the overwhelming sauce of toasted garlic slivers, serrano chilis, fresh basil leaves, and Louie dressing, which came together as a raggedy hot ketchup? “This doneness is perfect, but I can’t taste the lobster under the sauce,” said Esther, to general agreement.

We were excited to find some rarely offered fish on the menu. Oven-roasted Alaskan halibut cheeks are a good excuse for halibut, and the fish was moist and pleasant. The

Provençale-style preparation — capers, sun-dried tomatoes, and soggy Tuscan black olives (with pits) — was a decent idea, but the fish swam in the olive oil at the bottom of the plate.

The Oceanaire website stresses freshness, so we put it to the test by ordering Fijian opah (moonfish). The waitress asked how we wanted it cooked, adding, “The chef likes it medium.” We went with the chef’s choice. It was the wrong choice. I’ve eaten a memorable Hawaiian opah at a great seafood restaurant in Honolulu; there, the chef preferred it medium rare (i.e., opalescent), sauced with *beurre blanc*. (Say, why doesn’t Oceanaire offer *beurre blanc* as a side for its grilled fish?) More crucially, opah (and ono) just don’t seem able to survive the long trip from fishing boat to processor to airport, etc. By the time they arrive in San Diego, they’re mere shadows of themselves. The sauce for the opah was a bright-red parody of a truffled Bordelaise, atop truffled mash, alongside chewy dried wild mushrooms that needed more rehydrating time. Opah can be a delicate fish, but this preparation treats it like salmon, sturgeon, orange roughly — all species that can take a “red meat” treatment.

Unique, to say the least, is Oceanaire's rendition of bouillabaisse. All it has in common with the Marseilles prototype is a mixture of sea creatures. Bouillabaisse is above all about its broth, and here the scant liquid tasted like thin tomato soup (complete with small, unripe fresh tomatoes afloat). It had no fish-stock flavor, merely a lot of salt exuding from the brine-frozen Alaskan crab legs. There was no *rouille* (the customary red-pepper aioli) on the bread or for the bread. There were no fish in the bowl, just shellfish. Can't really complain about that, except for the overall effect on the soup. I loved the scallop in the shell. Loved the first mussel. Prawn was a nice prawn. But I didn't like the crab leg, the villain of this creation, making the mixture saltier and saltier, until nothing tasted good.

Our waitress warned us that, like a steakhouse, most entrées come without vegetables, and she pointed us toward the family-size side dishes listed along the right side of the menu. We chose “firecracker” green beans and broccoli with béarnaise sauce. The beans were garnished

with macadamia nuts and swathed with what tasted like plain hoisin sauce straight from the bottle. Although tasty, it's another Asian ingredient featured out of context as an easy way to grab a flavor and run with it. (It's rare in authentic Chinese cooking to use hoisin sauce straight-up.) As for the broccoli, it wasn't just al dente, it was wood-hard. At home, a bright kitchen light revealed that the florets were old and yellow — \$9 compost.

One of Oceanaire's best features is its seafood-friendly wine list. It's a white-lover's festival, a deserving winner of a *Wine Spectator* award. At the Oyster Bar, I was impressed with the uncharacteristic mineral steeliness of the Bonterra Viognier that Sam ordered. (It'd have been a great palate-cleanser for last week's gourmet salt tasting.) Meanwhile, I'd latched onto something special: It's rare to find a list with more than one Sauvignon blanc from the Marlborough region of New Zealand, and here, they have three. I decided to do a horizontal tasting over two nights. Oyster Bay is available by the glass, so of course I chose it to go with the oysters. It proved the slightest of the trio. With the appetizers the next night, we enjoyed a bright, intensely citric Wairau River, which would also be a fabulous "oyster wine." And finally, for entrées, we turned to the Kathy Linskey—a different flavor given the same grape, area, and year. It was balanced, refined, akin to some French Sauvignons—a terrific fish wine. The much-acclaimed, pricier Linskey Gewürztraminer is also available if you're looking for a match for the menu's spicier dishes.

Each Oceanaire restaurant has its own pastry chef, and Ly Tran's house-made desserts, like the veggies, are mostly family-size, to feed five or six easily. We liked a heavy, standard cheesecake garnished with cubes of caramelized apple. A humongous greenish-white object called "key lime pie" was not that, but a sweet, mile-high panna cotta with a touch of citrus, set atop a thin graham-crumb crust. It's delightful, so long as your mouth isn't set for key lime, a flavor that's unevenly mixed throughout, showing up in bursts of flavor. The fruit crisp had the same apples as bedecked the cheesecake, here topped with a "crisp" that reminded me of bad

homemade granola — pale, underbaked oats, each flake individually visible, that turned into gluey oat-paste when mingled with the hot filling. The sheer size and volume of the restaurant may be to blame — somebody took this out of the oven about six minutes too soon.

Overall, I think Oceanaire's best dishes are its least ambitious ones. With the more elaborate entrées, you're entering the dangerous territory of complex dishes that must be executed rapidly by rushed line chefs feeding multitudes. The kitchen staff know enough to get the seafood off the heat when it's done, but they don't always have time to give the care that the entrée prices deserve. But enjoy a few Kumamotos, some zesty appetizers, and maybe a simple "nice piece of fish," and you'll be out of there with an affordable and tasty light meal that may even do your heart good.

ABOUT THE CHEF

Executive chef and partner Brian Malarkey grew up in Portland, Oregon, in a family that enjoyed eating well and cooking well. His grandmother had a beach house at the coast, where James Beard was a frequent guest. “He divided his time between Portland and the coast, and my grandmother and all her friends did the same — they all had summer homes by the seaside. My father always says, ‘Your grandmother was a great, great chef until she would have to do a dinner with James Beard, and then she’d burn and ruin everything’ — imagine the pressure of cooking for him! I was always in the kitchen, hanging out with her, helping, and my mother also cooked a lot. She was a single mom, so when she wasn’t around — we grew up on a ranch, and she was often out taking care of the horses — I would cook up some food for my brother and me, and I always enjoyed doing it.”

When he decided to become a professional chef, Malarkey studied at Le Cordon Bleu in Portland, then found a job at Citrus, famed chef Michel Richard's Los Angeles restaurant. After that he did a stint traveling and eating in Europe and North Africa. "From there I moved to Minneapolis. I was helping my uncle with photography, and I worked at

different restaurants, which broadened my horizons. I joined the Oceanaire Group [which started in Minneapolis], because I knew they were going to be building a restaurant in Seattle, and I wanted to get back to the Northwest. From there, because I'd had work history in California, if I did what I was supposed to do and met all the expectations, I was going to be made a partner in San Diego. And I was fortunate enough to come down here and find Michael Mitchell [the manager/partner], and it's been a really great relationship ever since."

At all Oceanaire restaurants, the executive chef becomes a partner in the restaurant. "It's the greatest concept I've run into," says Malarkey, "because all of the chefs have a lot of freedom on the menu. We have about 60 percent of the menu where we don't have to talk to anyone about it — as long as we serve the crab cakes and the hash brown potatoes, we really have a lot of freedom to buy from our individual vendors, change the menu on a daily basis, bring in all the different seafoods that we want. We put four new meat items on the menu yesterday — we don't have to ask anyone, we just do it. Our dessert chef, Ly Tran, gets to fly around and help other locations with their desserts, and she has as much freedom as the rest of us to put on her own signature desserts. They put a lot of trust in their chefs. We are limited only by our imaginations. We get to make the fish in all different preparations — from French to Italian to Japanese to Mexican to Pacific Rim.... It's like a cooking university here. A lot of the line cooks bring ideas and we work on them, because it gives them a lot of pride to put something on the menu.

"You get all the support of a big restaurant, yet we get to act like individual restaurants. At each Oceanaire, you're going to find different things, according to the region and the different chefs' personalities and tastes. And I'm really happy to be down here in San Diego amongst a great group of chefs. This is an expanding time for food in San Diego.... It's so much fun, there's so much energy, and we all are sharing purveyors, sharing employees, sharing ideas." ■

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Seductive Teriyaki

"My dream is to have a line like Las Cuatro Milpas."

This guy Mike lifts his shirt so I can see the big tattoo on his back. A buffalo skull and a dream catcher. Not bad.

"Where'd you get it done?" I ask.
"RJD," he says.
"Where's that?"

"RJD, man. Donovan. State Slammer. Rock Mountain. They got great artists in there."

We're chewing the fat outside the corner market in a strip mall in Barrio Logan. I'm on my way to a new place I'd spotted here from the #11 bus. "Fish and Chips Teriyaki." Told Hank. "A new Japanese! Wanna try it? I'm paying."

Knew he'd be hooked.
Two minutes later he swings up in his Camry. Mike's heading south, so Hank and I make our way to the Teriyaki. It's squeezed between "Gina's Hair & Nails" and "Panchita's Bakery #3." We go in and settle at a table with a blue-and-white checkered oil-cloth tablecloth.

"Oh no," says Hank. He's eyeballing the menu. "There's no sushi! I ain't gonna eat grease again, man."
"Don't worry," says this Korean lady. Sun. She owns Teriyaki. "We broil all the meats on BBQ grill. Fat drops through. And we have green salad." Hank mulls. I look around.

Sun's place shines, spick and span, with gold and cream walls and maroon wainscoting, roosters and boat scenes high on the walls around the acoustic ceiling and — this is the part I like best — a big open kitchen up front, Oriental-style. Right now they've

got chicken strips smoking up a storm on the grill bars. At one of the other tables, this guy José Guadalupe is contemplating a whole polystyrene box loaded with chicken strips and grilled shrimp on a mountain of rice. It's a lot of food. He picks up his fork. "I live about three miles south," he says. "But I come here because it's good. Healthy. No grease, unlike other places."

Hank's still not a happy camper. He checks the teriyaki listings. Some dishes have "large" and "small" portions. There's a regular-size chicken on rice with a side salad for \$4.95, or a large for \$5.95. Spicy chicken's \$5.30 and \$6.30. But most are one size fits all. Beef's \$5.95, five pieces of shrimp on rice are also \$5.95, and hey, they even have salmon, halibut, and swordfish (\$7.95, \$8.95, and \$8.98). Then they have "chicken and..." combos like José's chicken-and-shrimp teriyaki and, wow, that's only \$5.95. Chicken with halibut is the most expensive combo at \$8.50.

Fish and chips are in the "Fried Platters" section. They're \$8.95, or \$5.00 for a half-plate. I'm tempted by the "small" plate of catfish with fries, salad, tartar sauce, and cocktail sauce, ...cause it's only \$5.98 (the full size is \$9.95), and this plate looks to be generous on servings.

I scan the rest: fried combo platters, all \$10.95. They look good. The seafood combo has two cod, two shrimp, four scallops, and calamari with fries, salad, and the sauces. Ditto the three catfish pieces and six shrimp. Or you can just do, say, a grilled swordfish with rice and salad for \$8.95. They even have fried-fish bur-

ritos for \$5.95 and burgers starting at \$5.95.

"Decided?" I ask Hank. "They have yakisoba. Noodles, right? Hey, veggie yakisoba, \$5.75. Healthy. And a deal."

Heh heh. Preemptive strike. Steer him off the big-ticket items.

"Gyoza plate," he says. "And ask them if they can replace the rice with more salad."

Banzai! Gyoza's like, \$4.95. Now mebbe I can afford a \$10.95 seafood platter.

"We tell first-time customers, 'Try the teriyaki chicken,'" says Sun. "It's our specialty, and you get plenty."

I think of fighting for my right to spend more, but hey, \$4.95 and \$5.95...

I order the larger teriyaki chicken at \$5.95, just to be sure I get enough food. Completely forget that I coulda had José's chicken-and-shrimp combo for the same price. But what the heck. Yes, it comes in the polystyrene box, but it's packed with beautiful, rich strips of chicken laid over the rice, with a separate box of salad, plus a little pot of dressing and another pot of extra teriyaki.

And here's the thing that gets both Hank and me oohing and aahing: the teriyaki. "It tastes like soy with wine," I say.

"It's nice," says Hank. A rare compliment.

"Here, try it with a gyoza."

Wow. Hank, sharing? Even rarer. I take one and dip it. Oh yes. Crisp fried-dough shell with pork inside.

"That teriyaki's so-o-o seductive," I say. "Voice of its own. Not afraid to speak out for itself. Subtle cherry base notes..."

"Oh please," says Hank. "But yeah, it's good." "We make our own," says Sun. "It's not out of a bottle?"

She shakes her head. And that winey taste? "We use lots of fruits. Our secret recipe. That's why we call our restaurant 'Teriyaki.'"

"I found this location." Sun's husband Chil has joined us. "I saw people lining up to get in to that Mexican restaurant around the corner, Las Cuatro Milpas. I thought, 'Oh, good. Plenty of customers here. If we can only get business like that.'"

"My food is expensive for this area," says Sun. "But we always give big quantity, because most people here work tough jobs. And we make it healthy meat, broiled, not cooked in fat. So we hope they will come back."

"My dream is to have a line like Las Cuatro Milpas," says Chil.

Sun's not worried. She just sticks to the rule her mama told her, back in Inchon, South Korea. " 'Work hard,' Mama said." Sun smiles. " 'Never count the money.' " ■

**TIN
FORK**
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The Place: Teriyaki, 1879 Logan Avenue, Suite J (at César E. Chávez Parkway), 619-238-0567

Type of Food: Japanese, American, Mexican

Prices: Teriyaki chicken (with rice, side salad), \$4.95 (large, \$5.95); ten gyoza, rice, \$4.95; spicy chicken teriyaki, \$5.30 (large, \$6.30); teriyaki beef, \$5.95; shrimp, \$5.95; salmon, \$7.95; halibut, \$8.95; swordfish, \$8.98; chicken and shrimp combo, \$5.95; chicken with halibut, \$8.50; fish and chips, \$8.95 (half-plate, \$5.00); small plate catfish, fries, and salad, \$5.98; grilled swordfish, rice, and salad, \$8.95; fried-fish burrito, \$5.95; burger, \$5.95

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Thursday, October 19, is lobster night," read the sign in the entryway of the La Jolla Country Club. "First course: lobster and butternut squash bisque, delicate puff pastry, crème fraîche. Second course: vanilla bean-poached spiny lobster, truffle mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, citrus beurre blanc..."

People don't usually join a country club, even a country club in La Jolla, for the food and wine. They join for the golf, for the bridge, for the atmosphere and the social life. The food and wine are part of the deal, but they're not why you renew your membership. (And your membership doesn't cover the lobster night — an extra \$38 per person.) A glass of house Chardonnay, a bottle of red with your steak...good enough. You want sublime? Check out the view of the Pacific from the club's dining rooms.

But a few years back, general manager Andy Gorton decided to attempt a shift in the membership's attitude. To that end, he hired Paul Krikorian to be the club's sommelier. "The person before me had kind of gotten the ball rolling," says Krikorian, who signed on in 2003. "But he was the food and beverage director; his time was divided." When he left, "The GM said, 'We don't want to go backwards. We need to hire a wine person.' They made a very conscious decision that wine was going to be part of what we do

here." And they decided that Krikorian was the man for the job.

A brief history of the sommelier: As his high school years drew to a close, Paul Krikorian was headed for the major leagues — at least, in his own estimation. His mother — "Mothers know you very well," he says — said, "Well, have you ever thought about cooking? I always had this love for food, always loved the taste of things." When baseball failed to show interest, Krikorian started commuting from Worcester, Massachusetts, to the recently opened Johnson & Wales Cooking School in Providence, Rhode Island. After graduating, he bounced around with friends — Hawaii, Florida, Vegas, cruise ships around New England — then arrived in San Diego and promptly met the woman who would become his wife.

A different woman, Cindy Black, took him on as a sous chef, and when she went corporate, she brought him with her. He started out as executive chef for the Boathouse Grill downtown, then bounced from here to there until he and his wife "started to think about having kids. The chef thing is a young man's game. I promised my wife — who was tired of going to weddings and Thanksgivings and New Year's Eves alone — that I would try to find something in the industry more suited to family life."

Fortunately, corporate liked him, and they offered him the position of wine buyer for Chicago and San Diego — some 200 restaurants in all. "They said, 'We know you've done wine dinners, and you love wine, and you have a food background.' I think, before Costco came in, we were the biggest wine buyer in San Diego. We were buying on a massive scale — but good wine. An entire trailer full of Napa Ridge wines. Beringer Wines, Chateau Souverain, Meridian. It could be 25 cases of Cardinale, or Opus" — the hot ticket among dot-commers. "Someone before me had started the connections." And when you start buying by the trailer, you make a bunch of new friends in the vendor business. And if you stay friends, you start to hear things. "Wine vendors will tell you what's up." After 14 years in corporate, Krikorian jumped to La Costa, there to serve as food and wine purchasing director — with an emphasis on wine. Two years later, those same vendors — a trio from Young's Market — helped get him an interview at the country club.

He presented a program, talked up his philosophies, and detailed his experience — the highs and the lows. He got the job. Then he found out what was involved. "It was an opportunity to get carte blanche, put together a wine program, no questions asked." But when the time came to actually sell product, "People were really wary at first. You think you're going to come into a place with 700 very wealthy members, so money is no object. But that's not how it works here. People here are very smart. I had to be careful — the new guy coming in. The last thing you want them to think you're saying is, 'I'm here to take your money and sell you something you don't want.' So we started very gradually, bringing in a few new wines." Step one to building the wine program was building trust.

"I think, before I got here, there was a kind of



Paul Krikorian

underground wine clientele. Because nothing great was offered, no one really talked about it or asked for anything." People drank wine — Chardonnays from Goose Cross and Toad Hollow were popular, as was the house label — but they didn't drink wine the way they would have down on Prospect. It wasn't that they weren't wine lovers or weren't willing to spend. Just the opposite: "The people who spend the most are the most conscious of value. They go online. They compare prices. They know what the shops are charging. They know the good vintages. They're voracious readers of wine publications. Some people like ratings; people will sit there with Parker in their Palm at the table." The problem was they were used to their old standbys at the country club, and the new, pricier wines raised an eyebrow.

So Krikorian set about winning trust. "I just told everyone, 'I want this to be the one place where you can come and not feel like you're getting taken advantage of.'" He presented the club as their sanctuary and himself as their advocate. And he started putting wine in glasses. "I run a



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RESTAURANTS

higher wine cost than most sommeliers — or most establishments — because I walk around with bottles of wine all night and taste people constantly. We go through more hand-polished wine glasses than probably anywhere else in California. I have glasses everywhere — on side tables. I’m always offering people a chance to taste. You run a little higher percentage, but you get people to try those wines. And then they start ordering. Maybe instead of buying a cocktail, they get that glass of wine.” ■

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

The Armenian Cafe 3126 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Pine), Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. At this large cottage with a year-round heated sundeck overlook-

ing Highway 101, the menu offers Armenian specialties cooked with a Lebanese accent as well as generic Middle Eastern crowd pleasers, including gyros made from scratch. Lamb shish kebabs is the house specialty, a “loss leader” featuring tender premium lamb cubes with assertive seasonings, grilled over gas. Even better are distinctive dishes from the owner’s family recipes: his mom’s Lebanese *kibbe* (a large, glorified nut-filled lamb meatball) is outstanding, as is her *kashita lea* dessert — an exotic nutmeg sponge cake fragrant with rose-water syrup, topped with pistachios and thickened cream. Dinner platters constitute a full meal, including a great “Armenian salad” and a tasty dip for the meat, along with less-than-great egg-lemon soup, pilaf, and pita wedges. Wine list is dreary, but corkage fee is reasonable. Three meals daily. Live music and belly dancer Friday and Saturday night. Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W.* (8/03)

California Bistro 7100 Four Seasons Point, Four Seasons Resort Aviara, Carlsbad, 760-603-6868. This restaurant features fresh California cuisine in a beautiful, luxurious hotel dining room. Open 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday (to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Reserve for the Friday night seafood buffet (5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.), which includes cooked seafood, sushi, and sashimi. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.* (7/00)

Epazote Southwest Restaurant 1555 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar Plaza, Del Mar, 858-259-9966. The scene is young and lively at this handsome, always-crowded eatery, with seating both indoors and on a patio with a view. The pleasing fare features modern Southwestern-Latino cuisine and a scattering of Pacific Rim flavors. The long appetizer list is a natural for group grazing. Sunday brunch à la carte. Full bar. Open daily, lunch and dinner, with an à la carte Sunday brunch. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* (4/05)

Juanita’s Taco Shop Estilo Tepatitlan 290 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-9612; also in Vista at 248 Main, 760-758-4531. Enticing aromas of fresh tortillas and fragrant frijoles greet you as you enter this busy little *taqueria*, where the food’s cooked in the style of Tepatitlan, a small city near Guadalajara. Its local specialty is *carinitas* — which Juanita’s does up (by the plate or by the pound) as tender, non-greasy shreds, served with fresh, cilantro-

laden mild tomato *salsita*. Standard wraps are fine, too, and the beans taste as good as they smell. Try a “Flying Saucer” — it really takes off, with shredded meat, onions, mild chiles, beans, sour cream, shredded orange cheese, and puréed guacamole riding high on an airy crisped flour tortilla. Quick and good, open daily, three meals until 2 a.m. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (9/01)

Kealani’s 137 West D Street, Encinitas, 760-94-ALOHA. Tucked between a 7-Eleven and a pizzeria, with an exterior sign that says “Saimin” (for Hawaii’s version of Top Ramen), this island of the Islands prescribes “Living Da Aloha Spirit.” A ukulele player sometimes serenades the noonday crowd at the sidewalk tables, and at any hour the food is “plate lunch” — two scoops of short-grain rice, mild house-made macaroni salad, and a choice of authentic “grins.” Don’t miss the outstanding kalua pig, zesty, smoky shreds of *imu*-style roast pork, resembling a moister version of Southern “pulled pork.” The menu covers the whole panoply of island standards, from *malasadas* (Portuguese donuts) to *musubi* (Spam sushi), with a Saturday special of a luau’s worth of “local food.” While you’re waiting, check out the droll Hawaiian vocabulary lessons under the glass tops of the tables. Open Monday through Saturday, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (10/01)

Milton’s Deli Flower Hill Mall, 2660 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-792-2225. This sprawling, family-friendly eatery started out as a non-kosher Jewish deli, but has come to embrace diner food, pub grub, and Italian and Mexican favorites, along with a full cast of Ashkenazi noshes. Sit down and stuff yourself with stuffed cabbage, overstuffed deli sandwiches, crisp-skinned fat cheese blintzes, *matzoh brei*, hot brisket with latkes — or chicken-fried steak, if that’s your bag. Or take out from the attached deli and bakery. The yummy chopped liver will remind you of the Bronx, the smoked whitefish and silky Nova will take you home to Flatbush, but the soft, cottony bagels — *oy!*, so *goy!* Seven days, three meals. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/05)

The Original 101 Diner 552 First Street, Encinitas, 760-753-2123. This is where the caviar crowd from Rancho Santa Fe comes to remember their roots. It’s got all the deliberately down-home cooking you could want, including all-

day breakfast ranging from really cheap biscuits and sausage gravy to a pretty cheap top sirloin steak and eggs. For lunch, the bacon-Cheddar burger with fruit is a good surprise combo. The turkey-cranberry salad sandwich is also good, and try the spinach salad, with bacon, feta cheese, olives, mushrooms, and chopped egg. Even though this 101’s vintage (1983) in no way compares with the Oceanside 101 Café’s (1928), it has become a genuine part of Encinitas life — lines on the weekends will tell you that. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/04)

Pamplemousse Grille 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. The locals’ favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom *cappucini* soup, and *tarte Tatin*. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Dinners expensive. — *E.W.*

Pizza Port 135 North Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-481-7332. (Also in Carlsbad.) “Tasty Grub & Grog,” says the sign, and that’s just what it is. You come here for three things: the pizzas, the beer, and the scene. The place is cavernous, but the tables are communal, with long wooden benches. Rub shoulders with surfers, students, yuppies, and locals. Pizza Port brews their own beer (try Sharkbite Red) and flings their own pizzas, New York style. Filling combos can be great, like the pesto, mesquite-grilled chicken, sundried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and feta (“Pizza Carlsbad”), or shrimp, clams, onions, olives, bell peppers, and mushrooms (“Pizza Solana”). Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/03)

Poseidon 1670 Coast Boulevard (south of 18th Street), Del Mar, 858-755-9345. The two dining rooms and bar here boast airy, stylish decor and ocean views, and the SRO umbrella-shaded patio is right at water’s edge. Lunches run to sandwiches, burgers, and fried seafood of ordinary competence and uneven preparation: wonderfully coconutty fried shrimp, for example, share a sampler plate with dead-dry salmon croquettes. Dinner dishes are modern Cal cuisine — that is, a mix-and-match of Pacific Rim-Mediterranean-Mexican flavors, with some emphasis on seafood. But the view’s the thing here. Full bar. Open daily, lunch

and dinner; breakfast on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* (4/05)

Roxy Natural Foods Restaurant 517 North Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-436-5001. You don’t have to be a Self Realization Fellowship follower to fit in in Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veggie crowd who’ve grown up around the famous seaside compound. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery: the owners have added chicken and fish for Encinitas’s “new people” — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the vegan-veggie spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shahram Naimi’s own invention: the scrumptious Roxy falafelburger. Its green “meat” is made from garbanzo beans, potatoes, onions, cilantro, and herbs, all bedded down with tomatoes, a thick mat of sprouts, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-wheat bun. For chicken-lovers, the garlic chicken pizzas sell big-time. Other healthy treats include the three-egg avocado omelet with toast, the artichoke sandwich (with marinated artichoke hearts), and the squash enchilada dinner (steamed banana squash with corn, bell peppers, and low-fat cream cheese in a flour tortilla). Payoff? You come out feeling good and full, not bad and bloated. Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (5/02)

St. Germain’s Cafe 1010 South Coast Highway 101 (at I Street), Encinitas, 760-753-5411. Despite the Parisian name, the food here is all-American. Omelets are the café’s best-known dish — 14 variations of three-egggers (or Eggbeaters by request) served with toast or a muffin, plus tasty herb-strewn “café potatoes” or fresh fruit salad. But don’t overlook the Belgian waffles, scrambles, pancakes, Louisiana sausages, or the three versions of expertly poached eggs Benedict with genuine hollandaise. Sandwiches run to hearty American classics (including some veg choices), and along with beef burgers, turkey burgers, and veggie burgers, there are no fewer than six twists on lean charbroiled chicken breast on a burger bun. The sheltered patio is always crowded, but there’s a large interior dining room with a separate smoothies-and-ice-cream bar. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (10/01)

Vivace Four Seasons Resort Aviara, 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-3773. If you ever wished to eat like the Medicis did, here’s the place for it. This lovely hotel-restaurant at a gorgeous resort showcases Italian *haute cuisine* which is simpler and more natural than the French equivalent. You’ll find inventive combinations of first-class ingredients, skillfully executed and beautifully presented with none of the culinary clichés of the “mamma mia” joints. Reservations urged. Valet parking free for diners. “Casual-elegant” — no hats, shorts, or tennies — but room may be painfully noisy if patrons get too festive. Dinner seven nights. Four-course tasting dinner a relative bargain, but wine list may blow the budget. Moderate (pastas and risottos) to very expensive. — *N.W.* (8/03)

When In Rome 1108 South Coast Highway 101 (at Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-944-1771. This elegant restaurant offers three dining areas and a menu with outstanding appetizers and pasta dishes. There are many unusual preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. A winner. Dressy-casual crowd. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — *E.W.*

NORTH INLAND

Asia Vous 417 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-5000. Chef-owner Riko Bartolomei produces outstandingly inventive Asian-French fusion cuisine, remaking the classics with fresh twists and superb ingredients, including naturally raised meats and poultry. No one does “fusion” better, and there’s not a culinary cliché on the menu: e.g., everybody else’s warm goat cheese with beet salad is replaced with goat cheese tempura and braised fennel. The inspired combinations include sweetbreads with Chinese sausage, potato gnocchi with lobster and vanilla bean sauce, house-cured hamachi atop a flower-like heirloom tomato mandala, and a Kurobata pork shank treated like French “confit” but lightened by a sprightly salad accompaniment. Bartolomei’s desserts are not only housemade but as brilliant as the earlier courses. The international wine list is adventurous — all this, plus the unpretentious atmosphere and considerate service, too. (But the place can get noisy when full.) Reservations urged, even for lunch. Parties of more than six

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accommodated only with set menus. Two vegetarian entrées (including one vegan) on the typical menu. Lunch Tuesday through Friday; dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (11/05)*

Casa Reveles Mexican and Seafood Restaurant Harvest Farms Village, 29000 Lilac Road, Valley Center, 760-749-8041. (Also at 201 Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-480-5565, with a Mexican-Italian menu.) “Revels,” as the locals pronounce it, is probably the best restaurant in Valley Center proper, offering zesty, careful cooking with some unusually authentic flavors. The Michoacán-style carnitas (available in several “stuffed” dishes as well as an entrée) are outstanding for their moist smokiness, and the house’s slightly crunchy fresh-tomatillo version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen (given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. In fact, everything’s a good deal better than it has to be, given the lack of neighborhood competition. Definitely worth a stop-off when heading to or from the nearby casinos. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Family atmosphere, but watch out for karaoke nights (Wednesday and Saturday). Full bar (cantina attached). Inexpensive to low moderate, with some three-course seafood dinners high moderate. — *N.W. (3/05)*

Centre City Cafe 2680 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-489-6011. In the quiet little “motel row” just north of Lake Hodges, this cute, friendly café serves classic American diner food, including all-day breakfast. The chicken-fried steak is exemplary, with a crackly batter-crust and a smooth, peppery cream gravy. Several cuts of USDA Choice steaks are offered at rock-bottom prices, and early bird dinners and daily specials offer amazing bargains. You can eat inside, in a coffee-shop ambiance, or chow down on the dining terrace in front. Open daily, three meals. Huge portions, low prices. — *N.W. (9/03)*

El Bizcocho Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-675-8500. In this rural golf-and-tennis hideaway, Chef Gavin Kaysen features upscale, creative French-California cuisine, incorporating old-is-new techniques and imaginative combinations of seasonal ingredients. Desserts run fancy and very sweet. The weighty wine tome starts out expensive and goes up from there, with relative bargains at the high end and some half-bottles; by-the-glass choices are just adequate. To find it: Take Bernardo Oaks Drive (a long block west of Pomerado) north to the end of the road, to the RBI parking lot (with validated parking for restaurant-goers). If disabled, specify when you reserve, and they’ll set up your table in an accessible area. Otherwise, there’s a maze of short staircases to negotiate en route to the restaurant. Tie-and-jacket requirement now relaxed, but still very dressy. Great service, luxury resort ambiance. Dinner nightly; Sunday brunch. Very expensive. — *N.W. (11/05)*

Fiore’s Harrah’s Rincon Casino, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This is where Valley Center goes to celebrate special occasions. An island of serenity in the cacophonous casino, the restaurant offers fine certified-Angus grilled steaks and chops of various species and a fine slow-roasted duck. For starters, the salmon tower and shrimp margarita are delicious. Choices include numerous seafood entrées, and for lighter eating there’s an Oyster Bar attached. The best attraction is the long, adventurous wine list, offering international bottles at bargain prices with by-the-glass choices galore. Half the fun is matching wines to foods. The beer list is sophisticated, too, as are well-priced cognacs and aged ports. Business-casual dress code. Kids allowed in casino restaurants, not in gambling area. Reservations advised for weekends. Open for dinner daily. Moderate at Oyster Bar; upper moderate to very expensive in restaurant. — *N.W. (3/05)*

The Grill 10920 Roselle Street, Suite 104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhood eateries. At first glance, the Grill is what you’d expect — standard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, office-lunch oriented. But the Greek owners give it character with generous but really

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cheap breakfast dishes like the feta cheese omelets and lunch specials such as luscious Philly cheese steaks. And they’re flexible. Want bacon, sausage, and ham in your breakfast pita? They’ll do all three, same price as with a single meat. As of this writing, the day of the three-buck breakfast ain’t dead. Not in Sor-

rento Valley. Breakfast and lunch weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/05)*

Hacienda de Vega 2608 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-738-9805. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference — or two. The setting is a gorgeous restored Old California-style hacienda set on two acres, including a verdant courtyard (complete with fountain) for fair-weather dining. The menu is also a leap upward from standard fare. Señora Vega offers authentic Mexican cuisine cooked in the sophisticated manner of Mexico City, her hometown — not border-food compromises. You’ll find an array of fresh and interesting appetizers along with a wide choice of serious entrées featuring complex, delicious sauces. Each dish is seasoned to the optimum spiciness for its overall flavor — this is not the land of the bland. The Sunday all-you-can-eat brunch offers a whole sampling of goodies brought to your table, with refills as desired. Five vegetarian entrées and a kiddie menu available; casual atmosphere. Full bar specializing in margari-

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

tas, of course. Open daily, lunch (or brunch) and dinner. — *N.W. (9/03)*

San Diego Artisan Bakers 1551 S. Escondido Boulevard (at 15th), Escondido, 760-740-5963. This European-style bakery specializes in hearty, handcrafted, slow-fermented breads made from natural ingredients. Pick up their brochure for the schedule of when each of the 24 breads they bake will come out of the oven. Recipes are from France, Italy, Germany, and the U.S. These loaves have textures and depths of flavor you'll never find in supermarket-bakery breads. And for breakfast or a snack, there's nothing better than settling on the front porch with a cup of espresso and one of the moist and chewy scones. Open Monday through Saturday, morning to late afternoon. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (9/03)*

LA JOLLA

A.R. Valentien The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6635. This is the closest in San Diego to dining at Berkeley's famed Chez Panisse — but the scenery is prettier. Chef Jeff Jackson's daily-

changing menu of California cuisine emphasizes peak, in-season produce and top-quality meats and seafood, cooked to maximize and not disguise their natural flavors. For restaurant food it's relatively healthy, with less fat, salt, and "bad carbs" than most. Some frequently served menu highlights include tuna carpaccio, date-marinated Colorado rack of lamb, roasted breast of duck, and dreamy brioche bread pudding. The long California wine list is pricey, but there's plenty by the glass or half-bottle, while cocktail prices are moderate. Reservations essential on weekends. Validated valet parking, free self-parking. Quiet and romantic unless packed. Business-casual to dressy-casual attire. Just south of the Torrey Pines Hilton; look for road signs to golf course and lodge. Three meals daily. Breakfast and lunches high moderate, dinners very expensive. — *N.W. (12/05)*

Azul La Jolla 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-9616. The unobstructed ocean view and opulent interior are glamorous. Cuisine is Mediterranean with California influence. Menus change daily. When available, try pan-seared scallops and the outstanding asparagus soup, not duplicated anywhere. Fresh fish and seafood. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W. (7/99)*

Come On In! 1030-B Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-551-1063. Clunky name, but suave Euro-bistro feel with outside tables under trees. This is your escape to "Paree" anytime you can af-

ford La Jolla. Actually, they keep the price of breakfasts — like two "plain and simple" steamed eggs with fresh fruit and toast, or the "Popeye" omelet, with spinach, Parmesan cheese, prosciutto ham, and diced tomato, fruit, and toast — down to a small roar. Of course, everybody in this neck of the woods is trying *not* to eat, so expect lots of fruit plates and healthy lunch sandwiches like roasted eggplant with zucchini, bell peppers, tomatoes, and mozzarella. Open daily, weekends to 8 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate; dinners a little more expensive. — *E.B. (4/03)*

Donovan's Steak and Chop House 4340 La Jolla Village Drive, Golden Triangle, 858-450-6666. At this excellent traditional steakhouse, the menu includes a variety of appetizers, among them a cocktail of giant shrimp with a spicy, tomatoey sauce and a large, lightly sautéed crab cake with house-made tartar sauce. The wet-aged prime beefsteaks are seasoned with sea salt and pepper and cooked on a gas grill precisely to your order. Bleu cheese, béarnaise, and peppercorn sauces are available at extra charge. Non-beef entrées include fish, seafood, veal chop, pork chop, or a delicate Australian rack of lamb. Unlike many steakhouses where your money buys only the meat, entrées are served with vegetables and potato. Additional à la carte sides include creamed spinach and sautéed mushrooms. Among the house-made desserts the highlights are a light, creamy cheesecake with fresh strawberry sauce and a traditional crème brûlée. The service is attentive, friendly, and knowledgeable, in a masculine setting with dark wood-paneled, dim lighting, and only a moderate noise level. Cigar room off the bar. Open

Monday through Saturday. Very expensive. — *N.W. (9/02)*

George's at the Cove 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. At George's dressy, comfortable downstairs fine-dining restaurant, chef Trey Foshhee's superb California cuisine is based on prime ingredients, emphasizing local seafood and produce and cooked to highlight rather than mask the natural flavors. The menu changes seasonally, so don't miss such treats as squash soup, table-smoked salmon, Sea of Cortez scallops, or wine-braised prime short ribs when available. A long and serious (but costly) wine list at fair prices offers plenty by the glass or half-bottle, including rare dessert wines. Leisurely pace, attentive service — make a special evening of it. Reservations necessary. An informal Café is one flight up, and on the rooftop is the wildly popular Terrace, with its fabulous seacoast views, sharing with the Café a more casual and affordable menu; reservations advised. Wheelchair-access by two elevators; front desk staff will guide you (if arriving alone, ask valet parkers to fetch a staffer). Men's restroom upstairs; disabled can use neighbor Pasquale's facilities. Downstairs dinner only; upstairs lunch and dinner daily. Downstairs expensive to very expensive; Café and Terrace moderate. — *N.W. (12/04)*

Roppongi 875 Prospect Street (at Fay), La Jolla, 858-551-5252. The hard part is deciding whether to sit in the drop-dead gorgeous interior or to people-watch on the large, heated street patio. Then you have to decide what to eat from the long Euro-Asian fusion menu, with its vast choice of tapas and sushi options, as well as entrées. At lunch there are several imaginative *bento* boxes as well as sand-

wiches and appetizers. Reservations a must at dinner. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Some tapas and sushi rolls are inexpensive, but if you enjoy grazing the bill can mount quickly. Entrées are expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *E.W. (4/99)*

Tapenade 7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, 858-551-7500. This is not only one of the finest restaurants in the county but in the country. Featuring sunny Provençal flavors, famed chef-owner Jean-Michel Diot offers superb seasonal ingredients treated with the consummate ease of a master chef. Among the special joys here are a sophisticated *foie gras torchon*, luscious free-range veal, and top-quality seafood, with garnishes that display an impressive balance of venturesome creativity and rigorous technique. Desserts are worth the calories, matching the style and flair of the earlier courses. And you don't even have to dress to the nines for your first-class dinner — the sixes will do in the easy bistro atmosphere. Serving lunch (including a moderate two-course *prix fixe*) and dinner daily, including bargain-priced three-course *prix fixe* "sunset dinners." Otherwise, expensive to very expensive, and worth it. — *N.W. (9/03)*

Zenbu 7660 Fay Avenue (at Kline Street), La Jolla, 858-454-4540. It was a natural for fisherman-restaurateur Matt Rimel to open a sushi bar/fish house, featuring sparkling fresh catch, much of it from his own boats. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls, which can be lunkish. Don't miss the sashimi of live local *uni* (sea urchin) served on its shell most weekends. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood, sometimes in almost goofily elaborate preparations. No reservations; 30-minute wait likely on weekends. Sushi bar is up a short staircase; dining room and patio tables are wheelchair accessible. Several vegetarian choices. Full bar, good sake list. Dinner nightly. Upper moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (6/01)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

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, or-

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Dinner Rolls

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der 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 multiregional, 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)*

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 *gwi*). 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, elemental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner daily. — *M.N. (12/99)*

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)*

Broken Yolk Café 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)*

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, bouillabaisse, 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)*

Hancock St. Cafe 3354 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-296-2060. If you spot Marilyn, Elvis, and Lady Liberty waving at you from the sidewalk, you’re here. They are life-size fiberglass look-alikes, but Mario is real, and his restaurant is a living shrine to jazz pianist Herbie Hancock. Mario has pianos, guitars, and drums inside — even a little stage where you’re often welcome to perform. The food? Italian home cooking. Mario is from New York and knows his pasta. You can usually expect a good-value special, like spaghetti and meatballs. Sometimes he’ll even throw in a bottle of red wine. Here among the little factories and auto shops of Loma Portal may be San Diego’s most popping cultural phenomenon. Worth investigating, even if you just want to eat. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/04)*

Saska’s 3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable, local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the broth-thin homemade teriyaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-the-premises aged beef. The interior’s low wood-slat ceilings, driftwood beams, dim light, and red-leather booths combine with the stay-up-late kitchen to make the space feel like a cozy haven, a respite from the brighter buzz of Mission Beach. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook’s sparkling wine to Cristal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting (if expensive) collection of reserves. Next door is the restaurant’s serviceable sushi bar (858-488-7255) and two-story patio dining. Lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch weekends; dinner seven days. Sushi bar open nightly, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Moderate. — *A.M. (8/02)*

The Third Corner Wine Shop and Bistro 2265 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-223-2700. Ed Moore’s casual, loosey-goosey spot is first of all a wine shop selling most global bottlings for just 20% over wholesale. It’s \$5 to pop the cork there if you plunk down at a table among the racks to enjoy casual bistro-style food designed to go with wine. You can snack on goat cheese salad, smoked duck salad, a cheese plate or a pâté plate, or get serious with braised short ribs or duck confit surprisingly paired with spicy Nawlins red beans and rice. No reservations accepted, so best to go at off-hours or you’ll wait for a table. Comfortable lounge with fireplace for sipping. Full bar. No corkage charge after 11 p.m., when restaurant staffers drop in for after-work noshing. Lunch and dinner until 1 a.m.; closed Monday. Low-moderate. — *N.W. (12/05)*

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)*

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Apertivo 3926 30th Street (between University and Lincoln), North Park, 619-297-7799. This wine bar-bistro offers “Italian tapas” of simple Italian classics lightened up and scaled down to medium-size portions — about the size you probably eat at home. All the condiments are on the table, so you can season or cheese your food to taste as you go instead of having a waiter wait them before you’ve lifted a fork. Good dishes include prosciutto-wrapped shrimp, eggplant rollatini, and for dessert, an airy lemon cheesecake mousse. Parking via alley 1/2-block west. No reservations, but for weeknight large groups, call ahead. Weekends, arrive very early or late or expect a wait. Call-in/take-out food orders okay. Check chalkboard on sidewalk for specials. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Sound level: roaring. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday (weekends until 11 p.m.). Inexpensive. — *N.W. (7/05)*

Big Kitchen 3003 Grape Street (between 30th Street and Fern Street), South Park, 619-234-5789. This isn’t just a restaurant, it’s the social center of the universe — and Judy “The Beauty” Forman is its queen. Blame her for the Fern Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for disgustingly healthy dishes like Judy’s Favorite (spinach, mushrooms, sherry, and eggs). Our favorite: the avocado, cream cheese, and chives omelet. Vegans’ fave may be the “veggie option”: sautéed spinach, mushrooms, onions, cilantro, brown rice, tofu, and roasted garlic. Her cooks make pretty much everything on the spot, including muffins, waffles, and pancakes. While you’re waiting, they always have this “out there” eclectic crowd, plus walls filled with pictures and *bon mots* like “Will Be President For Food.” Breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. most days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Chicken Pie Shop of San Diego 2633 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, 619-295-0156. How much do people love this place? Count the chickens lining the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, painted, even feathered. Hundreds. They’re gifts from generations of customers. Now, as in the 1930s when it started up, the basic chicken pie comes filled with big chunks of chicken meat, doused with white gravy and accompanied by mashed potatoes, veggies, coleslaw, a roll, *and* dessert — like the delicious pineapple pie — all for one really low price. The menu also offers fried chicken, burgers and steaks, but 90 percent of customers still order that same old chicken pie. Seven days. Cash only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/01)*

Krakatoa 1128 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-230-0272. This used to be an abandoned property. Now the swamp-green clapboard house is the coolest, if (reportedly) ghost-ridden, coffee-eatery hang-outery in Golden Hill. Its garden is lush and tropical, and on its wooden deck laptops unfold, essays get written, relationships get worked out. The menu

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Calendar
RESTAURANTS

is light, the names heavy: the breakfast sandwich (scrambled eggs, cheese, fruit) is the Wonchi (an Ethiopian caldera); the roast turkey sandwich with ham, cream cheese, and cranberry sauce is the Ubehebe (a dormant volcano in Death Valley); the Amboy (a Mojave Desert volcano) is a peanut butter, honey, banana, cinnamon, and bacon sandwich. Open 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Sundays till 6 p.m.). Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/05)*

La Dona 1784 Newton (at Beardsley), Barrio Logan, 619-233-4939. This café is steeped in Mexican history, especially Barrio Logan history. You half expect to see several L.A. Zoot-suitors drift in as you inspect the black-and-white shots of the late actress Maria Felix (Mexico's Marilyn Monroe) or the great photos of the Mexican Revolution that include Zapata and Pancho Villa. The place has been here for 63 years, and old-timers say it reminds them of long-ago cafés in Los Angeles, Modesto, or Madera. The food is home cooking, Mexican style, with meals like scrambled eggs and chorizo with rice and refried beans. Watch out for the pot o' salsa — it's a real jaw-slammer. Other dishes to sample include *chicharrones*, *menudo*, and *pozole*. Seven days, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

The Linkery 3386 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-255-8778. The artisanal "slow food" cuisine here features local ingredients and made-from-scratch preparations. Despite the name, there's a full menu that includes tasty grilled vegetable appetizers and some fine entrées. But the focus is on the side dishes of fresh sausages made daily on-premises. These vary not only in composition but in palatability. Good ones include chicken curry, *linguista*, Polynesian pork. Venturesome international wine list at low markups, plus international beers and Mexican Coca-Cola (better tasting than U.S. made). Small parking lot (enter by alley on Upas just east of Jack in the Box). Noisy even when nearly empty. No reservations. Lunch and dinner daily, until 11 p.m. Moderate. — *N.W. (7/05)*

Red Sea Restaurant 4717 University Avenue (at Euclid), City Heights,

619-285-9722. You'll find richly seasoned (and potentially very spicy) Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake, *injera*, which looks like an edible dish towel and serves as both an edible spoon and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up morsels in your right hand.) The meat combination platter here isn't nearly as exciting as several of the specialties. The *kitfo* (spicy beef tartare) is very good, the *gored-gored* (meat cubes in spicy butter) is excellent; both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order, and seasoned to your specifications (if you say "hot," expect fire). Vegetables are fine, too; the yellow split peas, especially, sing with flavor. Restrooms not wheelchair-accessible. Vegetarian friendly. Can be noisy on weekend evenings. Open daily. Very inexpensive. — *N.W. (12/00)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Antonio's Hacienda 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the décor hasn't been updated from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the padded-leather wooden chairs, the chainsaw-weathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station — such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the Ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting; the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liqueur in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas: pale, mush-tender shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and dinner daily. Champagne brunch on Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; all-day buffet Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M. (4/03)*

Geno's West Coast Style Barbecue 291 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-444-3667. Geno's a real guy, a refugee from corporate America who turned this ex-Taco Bell joint into a surfing-themed BBQ place. He's a surfer but he's serious. He has won lots of prizes for his BBQ sauce, using a chili pepper he

says nobody else has. There are three strengths: "Round-up" (mild), "Giddy-up" (spicy), or "Stampede" (hot). Try #5, pulled pork and slaw, or #9, shredded beef, melted jack, and sautéed onions. Sides like dirty rice and cornbread are good, but if you're light on pocket go for the "Ripcul" hot dog, the best deal on the menu. Open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Johnny B's 4738 Fourth Street (at La Mesa Boulevard), La Mesa, 619-464-2465. This "Burgers and Brew" bar is a real 1950s place with burgers to die for and good bar snacks, including a zesty jalapeño dip. Play pool, watch TV, hide from your ex on the smoker's patio out back. On Sundays (1 p.m. to 7 p.m. only), their ten-ounce New York steak, fries, beans, and salad is a must-eat at a rock-bottom price. Open daily, lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, three meals Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (9/05)*

Sala Thai 6161 El Cajon Boulevard (College Plaza), College Area, 619-229-9050. With purple cloth napkins, white tablecloths, green banquettes, butter-colored walls, and a portrait of King Chulalongkorn, Sala Thai has all the trappings of a class joint — except you're only paying six or eight bucks for main dishes. The food? A bit gentle on the spice front. *Tom yum kung*, the famous shrimp soup, should make your neck hairs stick straight out, but if that's what you want you'll have to ask the cooks to make it spicier. Chicken *mussaman*, labeled "medium spicy," is pretty tame but still delicious with its authentic taste-boosters like kaffir lime leaves. Hottest curry: "chicken green." Health treat: *Som tum*, the famous papaya salad. Lunch, dinner daily; dinner only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/04)*

Toshi Sushi 5943 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-287-3536. Don't ask what's in the "dynamite" sauce (besides the obvious mayo and smelt roe) — it's a house secret, one the restaurant dangles before you in numerous contexts. Try it baked onto the rich, everything-goes Garbage Roll, where deep-fried shrimp, freshwater eel, and tuna add flavor to the creamy-crunchy interplay of sauce and vegetables. Rolls, both plain and elaborate, abound here. While some can be heavy on the rice and light on the fish, others are triumphs. The Toshi Tempura Special Roll takes battered whitefish and wraps it around the seaweed casing, which is then filled with just-cooked whitefish and a host of garnishes — an exotic-yet-homey fried-fish alternative. The Johnny Roll shows octopus at its most tender, but watch out

for spotlight-hogging sweet cream cheese. The simpler sushi can vary — a brilliant, translucent slice of tuna offset by a blander, duller salmon. Japanese entrées are also available. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/02)*

Valley House Restaurant 10767 Woodside Avenue (at Magnolia), Santee, 619-562-7878. This is for Cornbelt folks, plus wannabes who enjoy plain-speaking, plenty-of-it Iowan food. Take the morning special, "Iowa Breakfast": breaded pork tenderloin, two eggs, and hash browns, fries, or grits, plus a choice of biscuits, muffins, or toast — it's delicious. Lunch or dinnertime you can't go wrong ordering the signature "Iowa Porker" hot sandwich (breaded pork tenderloin in a bun with soup, potato salad, or steak fries) or the "Iowa Beefers" (seasoned ground beef simmered in chicken broth, piled into a burger bun). Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (8/01)*

FAR EAST

Bernard's The Mall (way in back), 503 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, 760-767-5666. Owner Bernard Hess must be from Alsace, on the French-German border — who else would offer both frog's legs in garlic sauce and a tasty, credible *choucroute garni* (sauerkraut and smoked meat casserole, including house-smoked pork chops)? At this local favorite, the space divided between a convivial bar and a dining room with lunch-counter and booth seating, the menu includes German, French, and truck-stop U.S. classics — *schnitzel* side by side with chicken-fried steak. The waitresses know most patrons by name, and the patrons walk in already knowing what they're going to order — mainly the Alsatian specialties. Wine list runs to third-rate Californian, but there's an affordable chardonnay (and beer works with this food, too). Closed Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Mediterraneo 1347 Tavern Road (Alpine Creek Shopping Center), Alpine, 619-445-9902. The vibe in this tasteful little trattoria (with adjoining bar) is young, and so is the chef, still slipping new dishes into a menu stuffed with local favorites. The pizzas are outstanding — such a lovely, airy, silken crust! Such wafer-thin rounds of pepperoni! Entrées change with the seasons. Desserts are big and sweet. When the weather's fine, dine on the patio and watch the sun drape light over the piney hills. Daily, lunch and dinner, plus Sunday brunch. Expensive. — *A.M. (12/03)*

Paipa's Oasis Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa, 619-445-6002. Forget gambling — gambol through the slots till you pass under two huge elephant tusks. The "Joe and the Volcano" style place with a fountain tower gurgling in the center is Paipa's. Pay the woman. Now decide: a lot of a little, or a little of a lot. The huge salad bar is surrounded by a groaning U-shaped table laden with everything from peel-and-eat shrimp to baked cod to Certified Black Angus prime rib. Keep coming back. Save them from throwing away this stuff. End with, say, strawberry cheesecake and coffee. Unlike the other suckers, you've gotten a return on your money. Moderate. — *E.B. (10/01)*

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Bertrand at Mister A's 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), 12th floor, Banker's Hill, 619-239-1377. Bertrand Hug's airy, open renovation of this formerly "ancient regime" eatery offers a fabled panoramic city view with a casual-chic, highly romantic ambience. Chef Stephane Voitzwinkler's modern French cuisine is a fine fit for the setting, including bistro classics and fresh inventions, emphasizing top-grade seasonal ingredients. A huge, intelligent wine list covers a full range of prices, ages and origins, including "ripe" first-growth Bordeaux. Smoking and fair-weather dining on wraparound terrace/observation deck. Note: parking entrance on Fourth Avenue; wheelchair access via ramp to left of reception desk. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Expensive. — *N.W. (2/04)*

Blue Water Seafood Market and Grill 3667 India Street (at Chalmers), midtown, 619-497-0914. This bright, clean charmer a half-block south of El Indio has a double identity: First, it's a retail fish market; aside from Whole Foods, this is the only restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood south of I-8 and west of City Heights. If you love oysters, don't miss the big, buttery bivalves here. Second, it serves simple, terrific seafood to eat in or out. Plates are plastic, but don't look for greasy fried stuff. Entrées are grilled gently until perfectly done, topped with your pick of flavors (the lemon-garlic butter is especially tasty) and come with rice and a huge salad with your choice of terrific house-made dressings. If indecisive, ask what's best that day. The overstuffed grilled fish tacos are messy and perfect, with just the right proportions of ingredients. Reachable only by driving north on India. Metered street parking by day.

Good choice of beers; a few affordable wines; \$5 corkage for BYOW. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/05)*

El Agave 2304 San Diego Avenue (at Old Town Avenue), Old Town, 619-220-0692. Reservations recommended. Wheelchair access difficult (steep ramp). You'll find upscale, unusual Mexican specialties in an intimate Spanish-style dining room or on a small heated balcony. The menu celebrates three great pre-Hispanic cuisines — Aztec, Mayan, Nahuatl — with discreet admixtures of France, Spain, and Italy. (It's the history of Mexico on a plate.) Among the highlights are the five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas), local sea bass in tangy jamaica (hibiscus) sauce, and a unique appetizer, *tlacogos cuilitacoche*, ovals of blue corn masa topped with a sort of "mushroom" that grows on corn ears. (In English it's called "corn smut," but it tastes much nicer than that sounds.) The bar stocks over 600 tequilas and makes a food-friendly on-the-rocks margarita with fresh fruit juices. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W. (2/01)*

El Indio Mexican Restaurant 3695 India Street, midtown, 619-299-0333. El Indio, "the god of Mexican food," presides over this bustling (expect a line), airy restaurant in an atmosphere of pale blue 1940s solidity. The menu includes the usual suspects (burritos, tacos, etc.), plus slightly less common items (*machaca*, *chile rellenos*). Excellent house-made corn tortillas help the standard fare to better approximate the divine. So do the sublime core flavors of the meats — the chicken in the taco and the beef in the enchiladas. The *carne asada* sports a pleasant char, and the beans have a raw-beany intensity. Less heavenly: seasonings (especially paprika and salt) tend toward the heavy side. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *A.M. (11/01)*

El Zarape 4642 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-692-1652. This stylish little Mexican restaurant on a tony stretch of Park Boulevard is proof that not all taco shop food is equal. Try a shredded beef or chicken taco or tostada and you'll know what we mean, with their generous mounds of juicy, slow-cooked meat. Many enjoy their unusual scallop burritos, vegetarian potato-filled burritos and rolled tacos, and well-prepared soups. We go for the stewed meat. El Zarape is dependable, serving Mexican with solid, homemade, handmade flavor. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (1/00)*

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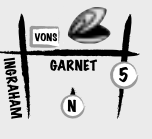
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619-239-8176. It opened in 1944 as a 14-stool lunch counter. Now, you sweep in under the maroon canopy to shiny red booth seats, deep blue carpet, blond wood, paintings, and a half-wall of wine. You're thinking "business class," but don't be fooled. We're talking coffee-shop prices, especially with the all-day breakfasts and sandwiches, not to mention the burgers with a salad tossed in. It's across the street from a retirement condo complex and at dinner, says the owner, "We cater to seniors." While there are à la carte choices, affordable three-course prix fixe dinners (with a regular entrée for each day of the week, Mom-style) are the order of the day — e.g., tasty barbecued pork on Saturday, roast lamb or turkey Sunday. Open daily. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Islander Grill Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard (at Cypress), 619-297-3929. Here's a chance to sample the unique tropical cuisine of Guam, an island at the crossroads of the South Pacific. The cooking includes traces of Mexico, the Philippines, Japan, and Hawaii — all filtered through the spicy Chamorro palate. Try the chicken *kelaguen*, a citric salad resembling ceviche, or the brilliant coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy "pot roast" is definitely not your mother's, unless Mom's from Guam, and the chicken stews are equally savory. Other choices include a range of salty, teriyaki-style barbecued meats, barbecued chicken in a less salty marinade, plus numerous exotic appetizers. Free parking in small hotel lot. Everything available for take out. No alcohol. Lunch through dinner daily, early dinner Sundays. Very inexpensive. — *N.W. (3/05)*

Jimmy Carter's Cafe 3172 Fifth Avenue (at Spruce Street), Hillcrest, 619-295-2070. This comfy, middle-class eatery has a surprise — great Indian breakfasts (until 11:20 a.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. weekends). Try their chicken curry or *pessaratu* (mung bean crepe with onions, peppers, ginger, *dhal*, and chutneys). Or vegetarian *vindaloo*. Jimmy (no, not the ex-pres) does Chinese too — like the Mongolian beef (Chinese vegetables and beef in a hot chili sauce over rice or noodles), or good Mexican dishes such as chili verde (pork or chicken simmered in spicy tomatillo sauce). But center stage is his all-American Jimmy Burger (1/3-pound patty with potato or carrot salad). One bonus: a fine tangential view of Balboa Park's lawns and trees. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/01)*

Laurel Restaurant 505 Laurel Street (at Fifth), uptown, 619-239-2222. Freshly remodeled and remade by Tracey Borkum, the owner of Chive and Kensington Grill, the restaurant looks like a million bucks (the price she bought it for). In a chic, creamy dining room below street level you'll enjoy modern eclectic cuisine with French and Mediterranean flavors showcasing premium in-season ingredients, including free-range chicken. No bread unless you pay for it, but you get *edamame* to nibble while awaiting your order. The global wine list is extensive and expensive; selected bottles are half-price on Sundays. The full bar features creative cocktails and 20 sakes. Valet parking \$6. Several steps down from street level; disabled access via carport on Fifth Avenue (phone before coming to ensure that entry is open). Open for dinner nightly. Expensive, but an early-bird three-course chef menu is moderate. — *N.W. (3/06)*

Max's 3000 Fifth Avenue (at Quince), uptown, 619-298-6445. Max's is the devil, tempting you across Fifth Avenue from Kung Food's health-food heaven. You'll definitely fall from vegan grace with Max's Breakfast Slam Sandwich, stuffed with a wicked sausage patty and three cheeses, or the meatloaf sandwich, or the delicious roast beef Ortega. Visually, the place is no Garden of Eatin', just a gray-and-blue stucco corner lot with a faux-tile roof. So how come passels of lawyers roll up regularly in their BMWs for take-outs? Or to munch, lunch, and number-crunch at the plastic sidewalk tables? Maybe it's Max's awesome American burrito. Still feeling guilty? They have a vegetarian sandwich, "stacked high" with fresh veggies. Open breakfast and lunch, weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/06)*

Parallel 33 741 W. Washington Street (at Hawk), Mission Hills, 619-260-0033. Southern China, Pakistan, Algeria, Morocco, et cetera — are all on the 33rd

parallel. This ethno-blend restaurant in Mission Hills is a hit for shrewd, thoughtful creativity. It's not just "fusion food." Try the superb mango and ahi appetizer. Entrées show that chef Amiko Gubbins, of Café Japengo fame, knows what she's doing. Dinner Monday through Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N. (10/99)*

DOWNTOWN

Brickyard Coffee and Tea 675 West G Street, downtown, 619-696-7220. The problem, if you're rich enough to live in the Marina District, is the lack of café life. That is, until this modest little eatery and café settled in next to the tracks by the Seaport Village trolley stop. You sit under eleven poplar trees in a brick patio that has one unusual downtown advantage — except for the wind shifting through the poplars (or a trolley pulling in), it's completely silent here. Sipping coffee and reading your paper is the thing here, but you can fill up, too, with items like "Texas chili," or grilled cheese and tomato sandwich with a cup of chili, or spinach and mushroom quiche with a small Caesar salad, or *panini*. You can also order half a sandwich — turkey, ham, beef, or tuna — with a cup of soup or Caesar salad. It's the nearest thing to a French country café. Open early morning till 2 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/04)*

Cafe Cerise 1125 Sixth Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-595-0153. The name is French for "cherry," and although the café's logo looks more like a cherry bomb, this craftsmanly kitchen is no dud. Chef-owner Jason Seibert seems blessed with an instinct for deciding what goes with what, and in what proportions. His daily-changing Euro-Cal bistro menu emphasizes fresh, in-season produce and plenty of slow-cooked comfort foods, prepared honestly from scratch. Don't miss the day's choice of house-made pâtés or sausages, the herb-stuffed organic chicken, or the fish *en papillote*. There's an adventurous, affordable wine list and a full bar. The modest bill for such an indulgent feast is the cherry on top. Lunch weekdays; dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W. (5/04)*

Cafe Chloe 721 Ninth Avenue (at G Street), East Village, 619-232-3242. How did we ever manage before this indispensable bistro opened? In a bright and beautiful setting with small tables, bar-seating, and a patio, you'll find light and lovely Parisian-style bistro fare with substantial breakfasts, svelt lunches and

dinners, and sophisticated bar-nibbles. Don't miss breakfast's poached eggs with sage-truffle *beurre blanc*. Nightly specials keep the menu interesting, and desserts are worth every calorie. Beverages include divine lavender lemonade, specialty root beer, and an intelligent wine list at modest markups, everything available by the glass. Metered street-parking daytime. No reservations except large groups. Moderate. — *N.W. (7/05)*

Chive 558 Fourth Avenue (near Island), Gaslamp, 619-232-4483. Here you'll find a new cuisine for the upscale residential neighborhood rising around the restaurant. Diners can choose an adventurous meal or an evening of sophisticated comfort food. Urbane multicultural fusion dishes dance cheek to cheek with remade American classics and the occasional sleek French luxury dish. A "grazing menu" features small bites for folks on a diet or on the run. The menu changes seasonally, but you can trust the kitchen any time of year. Very noisy. Full bar. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. week-ends. Full meals expensive; "grazing" can be moderate. — *N.W. (3/06)*

Dobson's 956 Broadway Circle, downtown, 619-231-6771. This reputable downtown restaurant offers class and comfort, geared for people who enjoy eating well. The food is good, often very good, as with chicken liver mousse pâté, Mediterranean blue mussels, and, when available, the crude but virtuous soft-shell crab. Their sweets, such as brownies, are hefty, louché, and cheap. Bring a date to the upstairs dining room. Dobson's is suave, its confidence infectious. Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday; dinner only on Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N. (10/98)*

Harbor House 831 West Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, downtown, 619-232-1141. This two-story Midwesterner-friendly eatery caters mainly to tourist families and conventioners, but the upstairs Oyster Bar is a pretty spot to chill out and watch the sailboats over a good margarita and a plateful of iced bivalves. Upstairs preparations tend toward simple American coastal dishes; the menu includes more appetizers and the drinks include artisan beers. The downstairs main dining room features more old-fashioned "haute" preparations and has a longer wine list but no view. All foods and drinks from both venues are available by request on both floors (but not all servers know this). Parking free with validation for two hours. Reservations strongly advised for after 6:15 p.m. any evening. Accessible via elevator from main dining room, with entrance on the park (south) side of the building. Lunch and dinner daily upstairs; dinner only

downstairs. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (8/05)*

Indigo Grill 1536 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-6802. This second — and much grander — incarnation of chef Deborah Scott's Indigo Grill expands her original Native American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Now, the Pacific Coastal cuisine takes in more coast than most,



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drawing upon ingredients and techniques from Alaska to Oaxaca. (The decor, dark and urban-primitive, follows the theme.) Unexpected combinations are a mainstay; a single dish, such as the seafood *mixto*, may span the entire distance, bringing together a multitude of flavors that work together to create a wondrous whole. Fine breads are made in-house, as are desserts (try the decadent, crispy-creamy plantain cheesecake *flautas*). The wine list includes interesting varietals. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly; closes early Sundays, but open until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Lunch: inexpensive to moderate; dinner: moderate to expensive. — *A.M.* (11/02)

La Casita 1247 C Street (at 13th Street), downtown, 619-531-0044. Don't be fooled by the li'l old blue-and-white clapboard house at the bottom of City College's hill. Princes and politicians come to this full-service restaurant to hammer out deals, mix with the Latino (or Anglo) community, and eat some of the best *chorizo con huevos* (spicy pork sausage with eggs) in town. Fair-weather eaters flock to the spacious garden patio to chow down among the songbirds. In the cozy Mexican-style interior, the pictures on the walls tell you who-all comes here for the good tacos and enchiladas or the delicious pork burritos. Most delicious of all is watching Anglo City-Hallers trying valiantly to learn to love the house-

made *menudo* (tripe soup). Delivery anywhere downtown 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open daily 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Lou and Mickey's 224 Fifth Avenue (between K and L), Gaslamp, 619-237-4900. The onetime ornate Royale Brasserie across from the Convention Center finally had to bow to conventional tastes and simplify into a fifties-style steak-and-seafood house. Kings Seafood is still the owner, so the fish quality remains fine. The fare is simple, with minimal sauce or garnish; vegetables cost extra, coming in large portions but merely adequate preparations. Best dishes include "BBQ Shrimp, Man-ales' Style," a buttery, spicy New Orleans extravaganza (available as starter or entrée), and the huge, juicy rib-eye "Cow-boy Steak." Valet parking at door. Wraparound heated dining patio. Noisy in dining room near bar; request "Nude Room" for quiet. For interesting wines at good prices, look into "Adventures" sections of the list. Dinner nightly, week-ends until 11 p.m. Fish moderate, meats expensive. — *N.W.* (7/03)

Molly's Marriott Hotel Marina, 333 W. Harbor Drive (at Front Street), North Tower level 1 (sub-lobby level), downtown, 619-230-8909. Liberate this restaurant from the conventioneer occupation! The old gal has come back to life as a lovely, fresh young thing, thanks to chef Brian Sinnott, arriving from San Francisco's top Italian restaurants. His seasonal cuisine offers clever, creative twists and superb local produce. Pick up a miniature menu at the dining room entrance to remind yourself of what you're eating — you'll appreciate all the

more his astute combinations of unex-pected ingredients. (Of course, some dishes are tried-and-trite clichés, how-ever nicely prepared — conventioners, remember?) Try the stuffed squash blossoms, pappardelle with chanterelles, or diver scallops on celery root puree when available. The vegetarian tasting-platter is tempting even to hard-core "carnies." Vast choice of California wines includ-ing half-bottles and generous pours by the glass, as well as a full bar. Reserve, even for two, or expect a wait. Free valet parking at hotel front door (Front Street entrance), validated for three hours. Open daily for dinner. Very expensive. — *N.W.* (12/05)

Napa Valley Grille 502 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp, 619-238-5440. This restaurant at the top of Horton Plaza is staffed by professionals and the food is very good, including the excellent grilled calamari. There is an elegant homeyness to Napa Valley Grille, a comforting, satisfying dining experience. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N.* (3/00)

Sixth Avenue Bistro 1165 Sixth Ave-nue (at B Street), downtown, 619-239-4194. This charming, airy café offers some very credible New Orleans-style cooking at affordable prices. Among the sandwiches are an outstanding oys-ter po' boy (with big juicy oysters and good light batter) and a fine, fully-packed approximation of a *muffuletta*, albeit with a kaiser roll standing in for Central Grocery's big, round Italian bread. The jambalaya is tasty, too, even with the sub-stitute for andouille. Wine and beer. No reservations. Breakfast to dinner (closes 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday). Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (3/01)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Azzura Point Loews Coronado Bay Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road (Silver Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-4000 or 619-424-4477. The quietly luxurious dining room with a serene bayfront view is romantic and a bit dressy, but far from stuffy. It's not just for tourists, but a lovely evening's getaway for locals. The California-French cuisine with an occasional Hawaiian touch emphasizes seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations. Along with a multi-course chef's tasting menu and à la carte dishes, a "sea spa" dinner show-cases fresh seafoods in healthful prepa-rations. A good wine list at reasonable markups is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochère of the main lobby. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Very expensive. — *N.W.* (11/01)

Bay Beach Cafe Ferry Landing Mar-ketplace, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-4900. The dinner menu here has California's typical dumbed-down world-appetizer array, plus salads, pas-tas, grilled meats, a few sautéé items and children's plates. The restaurant is very family-friendly (full o' kids, actually), with a menu that appeals to the young in mouth: The chef seems to have a sweet tooth, since almost every dish involves honey or sugar — for example, the table butter that's intriguingly flavored with a honey-basil mixture. Your server will tell you about the day's fresh-fish selections, which are more attuned to adult palates

with fresh, fine-quality seafood done simply and well. Ultra-noisy inside when crowded; reserve for the lovely terrace with a view of the beach. Open daily, lunch and dinner, with weekend break-fast. Moderate to slightly expensive. — *N.W.* (8/01)

Crown Room Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Let's face it, this is one of the grandest entrances you'll make any-where, into the enormous, gloomy, vaulted timber dining room where pres-idents, princes and Marilyn Monroe have chowed down. It's only open for Sunday brunch these days. The gigantic eat-till-you're-beat buffet feast ranges from made-as-you-watch omelets to salmon, crab legs, prime rib, dizzying desserts, and even long-stemmed straw-berries you hand-dip in chocolate. The downside? Monroe was here to shoot *Some Like It Hot*, but (apart from the chocolate) most food ain't. It's either cold (like the croissants, though the chocolate chunk ones are delicious) or luke-warm (like prime rib and eggs Benedict — and those eggs could do with a lot more Benedict). But this is an Ed-wardian-scale social occasion — see and be seen. The food isn't great, but the atmosphere is grand. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Expensive. — *E.B.* (9/03)

Spiro's Gyros Ferry Landing, 1201 First Street #4, Coronado, 619-435-1225. The food, the music, the view — are we outside Athens? Is this the Aegean? This inside-outside Greek café is located at the water's edge, and the heated patio has a spectacular view of San Diego, the bay, and the boat traffic. At sunset, sip-ping their excellent Greek wine (cheaper

than their California), watch the sun set the city ablaze in gold. The prices keep Spiro's popular with the locals as well as tourists. Try the moussaka (eggplant casserole) or the souvlaki chicken, mar-inated in *tzatziki* sauce, served with tomatoes, onions, and pita bread. Open seven days until 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/00)

Tango Grille Argentine Steak House 635 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-0384. Play *gaucho* and enjoy the most authentic Argentine *parrillada* (mixed grill) in town at this charming, warmly decorated bistro about two min-utes from the Chula Vista Shopping Center. Fine, smoky wood-grilled Col-orado beef appears in several unusual cuts (including succulent steak-cut short-ribs). You can choose from two different mixed grills (sized for one or two), the first with conventional meats, the other — the more adventurous — includes organ meats and blood sausage. For starters, there are brilliantly seasoned mini-empanadas of amazing lightness, as well as several interesting salads. Those not in a grilled-meat mood can opt for numerous pastas (including a big, meaty lasagna) or the ubiquitous *milanesa* (breaded beef or chicken patties) of the pampas. Portions are more than gener-ous, and so are the flavors. Open daily. Low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/02)

Village Pizzeria 1206 Orange Ave-nue, Coronado, 619-522-0449. In the back, Mootime Creamery makes all its ice cream. In the front, Mootime owner David Spatafore decided to set up what he's always wanted: A cheap, back-east Italian, red-and-white-tablecloth, dan-gling Chianti bottle eatery where local

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**

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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**

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The Beach Club **50% off entrée**
Big Jim's Old South Bar-B-Q **50% off entrée**
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House of India **Free dinner**
India Princess **Free dinner***
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Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

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Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Olé Madrid **2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée**
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RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Saigon on Fifth **20% off**
Samba Grill **Free all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast**
Sevilla
The Shout House
St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro **10% off***
Star of India **50% off entrée***
Thai Time II **Free fried spring rolls**
Visions **25% off sushi**
Whiskey Girl
Xavier's **Free appetizer**

families and amateur sports teams can come in and pig out. He wisely didn't destroy what was half of the famous old Mexican Village. Instant atmosphere! Ancient murals of guys with guitars serenading señoritas, arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. The bad news: You might have to handle pumped-up kids' sports teams cramming the booths around you. The good news: Great calzones and pizza by the slice. Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

BAJA

From the United States use the pre-fix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

D'Stefano Pizza Restaurant Carrillo Puerto #7835 (at 3rd Street), between Martinez (D Avenue) and Mutualismo (E Avenue), three blocks west of Avenida Revolución, 638-4309. Evening around nine is the best time to come, when groups are in here carousing with tarros and pizza. Tarros are giant mugs that hold caguamas (large "sea turtle" bottles) of Tecate beer. There's plenty of good standard Italian food to go along with it. You can pay a little — for basic dishes like spaghetti or lasagna — or up to around twenty dollars for a "gigantic" pizza. Inexpensive. Midday to midnight, seven days. — E.B. (2/04)

La Espadaña Avenida Sánchez Taboada #10813, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-1488 or 634-1489. If you learn only one word of Spanish, learn this one: *Borrego*. Because this place does the greatest oven-cooked leg of lamb ever. The meat tastes as if it was cooked in wine, garlic, and herbs, but the owners insist it's just Tecate lamb baked slowly in its own juices with a bit of oregano. But most folks come here for beef — steaks and the popular beef fillet, sizzled at a big flame-and-smoke display counter BBQ grill. All terra-cotta and timber, this is where the local middle classes come for their cross-border food fix. Think Tijuana's version of Mission Valley. Still, it's charming, and you can have fun. For instance, don't forget to ask them to ring

the bells set in their *espadañas* (holes cut in the Mission frontage) above the great arched wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they're great for celebrating your 21st birthday, Mom getting her degree — whatever. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — E.B. (11/04)

Mr. Fish Boulevard Agua Caliente #6000, Tijuana, 686-3603. Also at City Hall, Palacio Municipal (at Paseo del Centenario and Avenida Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez), Río District, Tijuana, 682-8020. The sign is showing its age and the concept (exotic middle-class restaurant in the middle of a parking lot) seems dated, but two-decade-old Mr. Fish is still serving good fish food. Ask for the Spanish-language menu if you can handle it — it's far more extensive than its poor English cousin. Sit outside under the palm thatch if weather permits. All the basic dishes are good, like octopus in white wine, Lucifer's Oysters with white sauce and smoky chipotle chiles, or the Mr. Fish Combination: half a lobster, fish, shrimp, and calamari. Probably the most popular gringo choice is mahi mahi in lemon-pepper sauce, but consider ordering with *salsa eneldo* — dill sauce. Also interesting: seafood fettuccine "a la Goryvachov" (with vodka) and anything (such as the lobster Mr. Fish or thermidor) with the signature *salsa blanca*. It'll remind you of something (could it be Rubio's?). Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days. Moderate. — E.B. (12/04)

Rica Torta Niños Héroes Avenida #890, between 2nd and 3rd Streets (opposite Dorian's department store), Tijuana, 685-8579. This café may have the best *tortas* (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated *carne asada*, slices of ham, squares of cheese, chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado...it's a double-wide, double-high burger. The menu has 16 different kinds of *tortas*, from chorizo with eggs to beefsteak ranchero, all served in huge, three-ribbed, crisp-toasted Mexican bread buns. There's other stuff, but to a burger buff, one of these is quite enough. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

Vallarta Natural 1252 Boulevard Agua Caliente (just before El Toreo de Tijuana), 686-1560. Maybe the only

smoke-free restaurant in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1996 by health-conscious Doctor Georgina Vallarta de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy hash, breads, rolls, salsas — and "meats" like a veal from their own wheat gluten — daily. You sit at wood tables and chairs next to blue-framed yellow walls splattered with Talavera ceramic suns. At breakfast, try the *tartaleta vallarta*, a mix of eggs, spinach, mushrooms, onions, and chile. For lunch (and it's usually busiest around three), their excellent soup, *caldo tlalpeño*, packed with cheese, rice, avocado, and chile, will fill you nicely. The soy *hamburguesa* is good, but go for the *torta*, which has that gluten *milanesa* along with cheese, avocado, and jalapeño. Good organic coffee. Wonderful juices, especially the cactus — if you need cleaning out. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/06)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

D'Lish Pizza and Pasta 2470 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-296-6969. Here in Old Town, at least, D'Lish gets a lot of custom from people who are Mex'd out, foodwise. This growing chain has always prided itself on its Italian/California pastas, pizzas, and salads. Now Old Town (along with Poway) has gone carnivorous, adding marinated flank steak and a rib eye to the "bistro entrées." If you're ordering the flank, well-done is a no-no. That will toughen it. But a rare flank is, well, d'lish in its marination and especially its pesto-like *chimichurri* sauce. Also good: fire-roasted vegetables pizza, where the quick roasting makes for great-tasting, Technicolor-bright broccoli, zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers. And "Mediterranean chicken salad" works well, partly thanks to the tang of pepperoni chips. A big part of the appeal of the Old Town D'Lish branch is the charming patio it occupies, with gas lamps, hanging flowers, and a fountain. Other branches at Chula Vista (386 East H Street, Suite 211, 619-585-1371); Eastlake Village

Center South (2260 Otay Lakes Road, Suite 101, 619-216-3900); and San Diego (5252 Balboa Avenue, Suite 101-B, 619-277-9977). Moderate. — E.B. (8/02)

Oggi's At least ten branches all over the suburbs; see phone book for the nearest one. Is it the pizzas or is it the housemade brewskis (six ales, one lager, one stout) that make Oggi's so popular? Is it the sports-bar ambiance (with multiple video screens) or just the near-ubiquity of branches that has won this chain numerous "best pizza" citations? The pizzas are American-style, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate toppings that sound more adventurous than they taste. (All the cheese alternatives are equally mild.) The menu also offers pub snacks, decent soups and salads, hearty sandwiches, and American-Italian entrées so mall-adapted that no *mamma mia* in Bensonhurst or North Beach would even recognize them. Full bar, lunch and dinner daily at most branches; free local delivery with minimum order. Inexpensive. — N.W. (7/04)

St. Tropez If you love continental breakfast, these bright cafés with indoor-outdoor seating offer scores of house-baked pastries (including brioche) and good coffee. Parisian-style brunch/lunch choices embrace *croque monsieur* and *croque madame* (grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, topped with either light cream sauce or an egg), crêpes, quiche, onion soup gratinée, or chicken-filled puff-pastry. Omelets are rather weighty. Some of the sandwiches offer Mediterranean flavors — try a *pan bagnat* (*salade niçoise* on a baguette) or one of the grilled *panini*. Desserts range from cookies on up to elaborate cakes. Beer and wine. Open daily, breakfast to early dinner. Inexpensive. Encinitas: 947 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103D, 760-633-0084; downtown: 926 Broadway Circle, 619-696-8695 and 600 W. Broadway, 619-234-2560; Hillcrest: 3805 Fifth Avenue, 619-497-0297; Rancho Bernardo: 16625 Dove Canyon #109, 858-673-6824; Sorrento Valley: 9450 Scranton Road, 858-202-0015. — N.W. (12/04)



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How to Nurture A Playwright

"I'm most valuable with a writer who's smarter than I, with a definite vision, clarity, and confidence."

Across the plaza, a stage crew dressed in black strikes the set at the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre. They remove every bolt and screw from the summer productions. They carefully lower fixtures from lighting towers and wind yards of black cable in loops, like lariats, draping them on metallic storage hangers. In effect, the crew performs the creative process in reverse — a step-by-step undoing of theatrical art. They work quietly. A black canopy shields them from the midafternoon sun.

Inside his second-floor office at the Old Globe Theatre, resident artistic director Jerry Patch talks about the stages of creating a play.

As dramaturge at the South Coast Repertory Theatre, from 1975 to 2005, Patch helped develop over 150 world premieres, including Lynn Nottage's *Intimate Apparel*, David Lindsay-Abaire's *Kimberly Akimbo*, and Howard Korder's *Search and Destroy*. In *Scriptwork: A Director's Approach to New Play Development*, David Kahn calls the South Coast Rep during Patch's tenure "a playwright's heaven."

"There's no standard, one-size-fits-all approach," Patch says. "Each one's different. The only constant: you have to be a good writer." It's like the running analogy, he adds. Speed can't be

taught. "If you can run fast, a good coach can teach you to run faster. Ditto playwriting. If it's mediocre, I can't help."

Help includes making resources available: money, actors, space, staged readings, workshop productions, and especially feedback for the writer — "not that you ever have the answer."

Patch doesn't "nurture" new work. That implies a parent-child relationship. "I don't like the inference. You *support* a playwright. I'm most valuable with a writer who's smarter than I, with a definite vision, clarity, and confidence, like Richard Greenberg" — ten of whose plays Patch has dramaturged, including Pulitzer nominee *Three Days of Rain*. "What I can do is maybe help him to extend it, make it more apparent to an audience."

The temptation for directors and dramaturges working on a new script is the fast fix: rewrite it according to their own conception or biases, jump it from an early draft, still finding its way, to a performance.

Too often, says Edward Albee, the process has become a way to "smooth down all the edges so they can't cut, can't hurt. It's to make them commercially tolerable to a smug audience. It's not to make plays any better."

"That's why most TV's so bad," says Patch,

INTERVIEW

JEFF SMITH



Jerry Patch

at SCR, Patch was artistic director of the prestigious Sundance Institute Theatre Lab. In keeping with his "one size doesn't fit all" approach, Patch made sure the play development program had "wiggle room" to accommodate various difficulties, even writer's block.

In 1995, when SCR commissioned him again, Margulies produced only eight or nine pages about a famous writer and her protégé. He was dry, he told Patch, couldn't type a word.

Margulies used to write from 10:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Now he was married with a child. Since his wife, an M.D., was gone during the day, he'd been unable to work at night.

"Come to Sundance and hang out," Patch advised.

who wrote for the medium. "It's done by committee. That said, we are actually in the Golden Age of Television Writing: *The Sopranos*, David Milch's *Deadwood*. He's our Dennis Potter, the greatest TV writer of all. When Milch told HBO he wanted to write a series about how we civilize ourselves, and set in a Gold Rush town, they did what I always do with Greenberg: gave him the money and got the hell out of the way."

In commercial theater, producers have an almost total say in the product. In nonprofit, the playwright has control. "All I ask," says the 64-year-old Patch, "is that I'm listened to."

A team player even in his beloved tennis, where he prefers doubles, Patch begins the process as a sounding board. He tells the playwright what "seems to be in the text." His ruling idea is always: "work on what they wrote, not what they think it should be."

In 1990, the South Coast Rep did a public reading of Donald Margulies's *Heartbreaker*. Twelve long, rambling scenes later, Margulies remarked, "Okay, it sucks."

For feedback, Patch, director David Emmes, and others functioned not as literary critics but as mirrors. They showed Margulies what worked for them and what didn't — effects, not causes. The analytical "why" was up to him.

Margulies chucked ten and a half scenes. He trimmed characters and shaved lumps. He did a second reading. This time Patch and the others focused on what the play was about — "or wanted to be about at that stage" — and what still needed clarification.

Margulies worked through the text frame by frame, sifting, adding scenes, clearing up confusions, listening. Several weeks later he'd turned the disjointed script into *Sight Unseen*, one of the best American dramas of the 1990s.

Between 1990 and 1997, along with his duties

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Margulies did. For two weeks, he wrote all night, faxing down pages. Patch made copies in the morning and distributed them to actors, who rehearsed with director Lisa Peterson.

Around 3:30 each afternoon, actors performed the new material, showing Margulies what they'd discovered. He had the luxury of taking notes for two separate processes: how the play worked and how it worked for actors. He often asked them if a scene or a moment felt true.

"Donald's smart that way," says Patch. "Playwrights often overlook this part of the job. An actor builds a personal truth about a character. Some never tell anyone else what it is. When playwrights cut, you sometimes hear the actor shout, 'Not that!' But it isn't about losing lines. The playwright may be taking away a crutch or stud in the wall that holds up what the actor's doing."

After dinner, and a game or two of volleyball, Margulies went back to work. Fourteen days later, he left Sundance with 85 pages of *Collected Stories* and an unblocked pen.

In 1998, Margulies wrote — and Patch dramaturged — *Dinner with Friends*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2000.

"Ninety-five percent of what I should do has to be done before rehearsals," says Patch. "Others disagree. But I don't think you can fix a script in re-

hearsals. It has to be ready to go."

There have been exceptions. Noah Haidle taught himself playwriting by reading one a day, often transcribing it in longhand to get a feel for structure and character. "The more I learn about writing," he told an interviewer, "the more you can't write like anyone except yourself. Tone is immutable."

Haidle was 25 when he did his first reading, *Mr. Marmalade* at South Coast Rep. It's about Lucy, a 4-year-old who wears a pink tutu and plays house with an imaginary man she wants to marry. He's a coke addict, wife-beater. Another character, 5-year-old Larry, is the youngest person in New Jersey to attempt suicide.

"Noah has such an original voice," says Patch, "he was much smarter about his play than any of us." Patch suggested some ways of making *Marmalade* more stageworthy, "but didn't change it that much."

As they were arranging a second reading at Pacific Playwrights Festival, SCR needed a play to fill a suddenly open slot.

"Unless you say no," Patch told Haidle, "we're throwing you to the wolves."

Two months to turn an early draft into a full production: revise, rehearse, opening night. At the first day of rehearsal, director Ethan McSweeney asked everyone except Patch to leave the room. "I don't know what this f...ing thing is about," he told his dra-

maturge. "Do you?"

"Well, we'll find out, won't we."

Anton Chekhov said good writing often comes from eliminating bad writing. Part of the *Marmalade* process resembled hoeing weeds. They tightened scenes. They cut half the four-letter words ("writers tend to overwrite profanity"). They eliminated "redundant" places where words described things actors could do without them. Over and over they asked of every scene, every beat, "What's the aim?"

Patch doesn't recommend writing plays on deadline. "Most writers just tie up." Haidle flourished under the gun. Several critics have called *Mr. Marmalade* one of the most original — and controversial — dramas of our time.

"Some members of the SCR preview audience confused the play's fantasy elements with realism and objected to me in the lobby at intermission. But the play proved popular as well and brought enthusiastic audiences of young people we'd rarely seen at SCR. I was very proud that we'd done it."

"Theater can be art, or just a massage. Some plays are designed to make you amused and comfortable. But art can stimulate, even startle, and create fresh perspectives *Marmalade* did that."

During his 37 years in theater, Patch estimates he's read over 5000 new scripts and dramaturged over 200 world

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premieres. He doesn't have a favorite ("I have two children and couldn't choose between them"). He's lost count of the Pulitzer Prize nominees and finalists he's helped develop — "maybe nine or ten?" Two have won the award: Margulies's *Dinner with Friends* and Margaret Edson's *Wit*. The amazing genesis of the latter — from a three-and-a-half-hour script by an unknown playwright to the Pulitzer Prize — is the subject of next week's column. ■

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.

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 ma-

jor 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, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Bad Dad, a Comedy of Errors

In Mark Whitney's comedy, Dad opens a Ben & Jerry's. The FBI investigates. "Dad goes to the cooler, but who really gets licked?" WAREHOUSE THEATRE, 11211 SORRENTO VALLEY ROAD, SUITE M, SORRENTO VALLEY, THROUGH DECEMBER 13; WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 8:00 P.M. 888-567-4464.

Bedroom Farce

Moonlight at the Avo presents Alan Ayckbourn's multiple-bedroom comedy. Tracy Williams directed. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-724-2110.

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



Life X 3

aphids. Agnes gets it (or is she just scratching sympathy sores?). Helicopters swarm overhead. Men in black? Or delusional ravings?

Cygnnet 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 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.

Don Pasquale

Lyric Opera San Diego presents Donizetti's "comic Bel Canto romp" about star-crossed lovers having to trick a crafty old man. J. Sherwood Montgomery directed. BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, NORTH PARK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-8836.

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 their performances.

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, THIRD AND B STREETS, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH NOVEMBER 5; 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.

The Glass Menagerie

Tom Wingfield must escape "this two-by-four situation" — stuck at home, dead-end job; his mother Amanda, just as mired, clings to an earlier time of bright smiles and bouquets of jonquils; and his sister, frail Laura, lives in a "world of old phonograph records and little glass crystals." Like her miniature animals, the Wingfields are a fragile menagerie. To grow, Tom must leave. But if he does, he'll shatter what remains behind (*Glass Menagerie's* even more poignant when you recall Tennessee Williams's life, including sister Rose's mental incarceration and lobotomy — symbolized in the play by the unicorn losing its horn — and his lifelong guilt over abandoning her). Ion Theatre's staging of this haunted drama is quite good. But at times tentative performances on opening night left a sense that, once the cast settles in, it could become even richer (Ion is running the Williams in repertory with *The Grapes of Wrath*; the double demands may explain the need for a final polish). Veterans Matt Scott and Dana Hooley, as Tom and Amanda, wage verbal war with some of the most dazzling language in American theater (one quibble: Hooley wears a gaudy pink dress

for the Gentleman Caller that makes her seem grotesque; and Amanda can be, but she also has dreams and monstrous pain as well). Steven Lone's spot-on as the Gentleman Caller who chose this evening to practice his Andrew Carnegie skills on Sara Beth Morgan's understated, moving Laura. **Worth a try.**

NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH 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.

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.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater." HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

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

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Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

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 SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

The Love of the Nightingale

UCSD Theatre and Dance opens its season with Timberlake Wertenbaker's drama, based on the myth of Philomela, about "the horrors of war, lust, and loss." MANDELL WEISS FORUM, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, THROUGH NOVEMBER 11; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, AT 2:00 P.M. 858-534-4574.

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.



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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.

National Comedy Theatre
Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it’d be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone’s TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played “Emotional Sympathy,” “Shakespeare,” “Blind Line,” and “Freeze Tag,” with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

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Patriot Act: The Trial of George W. Bush

Sledgehammer Theatre presents a trial of the 43rd president for violating the constitution, crimes against humanity, and treason. The audience is the jury. Todd Blakesley created and directed the piece.

10TH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, THROUGH NOVEMBER 26; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1484.

Readings of August Wilson's Plays

The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre could do for the late August Wilson what “Grassroots 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



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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, THROUGH NOVEMBER 5; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-482-6367.

San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the “game show” — on Fridays — is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had “Team Sports” — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and “Gorilla Theatre” — five directors invented

scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a “forfeit” (other formats include “Micetro” and “Improv Survivors”). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

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, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

The Sopranos’ Last Supper
Dillstar Productions presents an evening with the notorious Baritone family: “gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun.” HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-

ENDED RUN; SELECTED SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639.

Sweet 15 (Quinceañera)

The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents a workshop production of Rick Najera’s new interactive comedy about the patriarch of a National City family who’s been gone for a decade and vows to set things right. Sam Woodhouse directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — “Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Cocoa Mocha” — Hugh plays ’70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh’s anniversary, got stuck in the ’70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They’re “losers,” they admit, but not “ordinary” ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from *Forever Plaid*. There’s also the *Forever Plaid* problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. Another’s a first-rate mime, and the third’s a crackerjack magician.

The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.)

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN; WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

Tuesdays with Morrie
Mitch Albom’s 1997 book about the slow decline of his favorite professor, Morris Schwartz, to Lou Gehrig’s disease, became a TV movie in 1999, and then a play that straddles the line between wisdom and greeting card sentiments about living and dying (*Tuesdays*, as my colleague Christopher Schneider once remarked in a different connection, “is relentlessly life-affirming”). We learn very little about Schwartz — two of whose students at Brandeis were activists Angela Davis and Jerry Rubin, though you’d never know it — or about Albom. As written he’s just a stencil-thin workaholic who learns to cry. It’s almost as if the story’s generic by design: as you watch you recall lost loved ones and have a real good weep during the 95 intermissionless minutes. The North Coast Rep’s production begins so warm and fuzzy you hanker for ice and sandpaper. Then Robert Grossman’s Morrie takes over: as his body contorts, his mind seems to brighten — far beyond the facile aphorisms he doles out like Halloween candy (“embrace life and it will embrace you back”). At times Grossman’s gestures and ready smile feel calculated to endear. But when Morrie counts how long he can hold his breath, or slumps into paralysis, the real thing enters the room. Mike Sears’s Mitch is more a dramatic “straight man” than a character. But Sears works between the lines, forging a credible bond between the prof and his pet student. Jeanne Reith’s costumes are apt, as always, and Mia Bane Jacobs’s lighting, especially late autumnal effects, ranks among the best I’ve seen at NCRT.

Worth a try.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

Waiting for Lefty
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sion and the “ill effects of capitalism.” Francis Gercke directed. HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE, PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, THROUGH NOVEMBER 19; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE THURSDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-744-1150, X2453.

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.



The Sopranos’ Last Supper

Oz sparkles with Vegas glitter balls; the poppies are giant, flaming red-orange petals. The production dazzles. But the story and several songs have been reduced to sound-bytes. 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 contorting 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-scary Evillene and Heather Lee’s stereotypically goofy witch Adaperle, 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 wondering 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 suggests 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.

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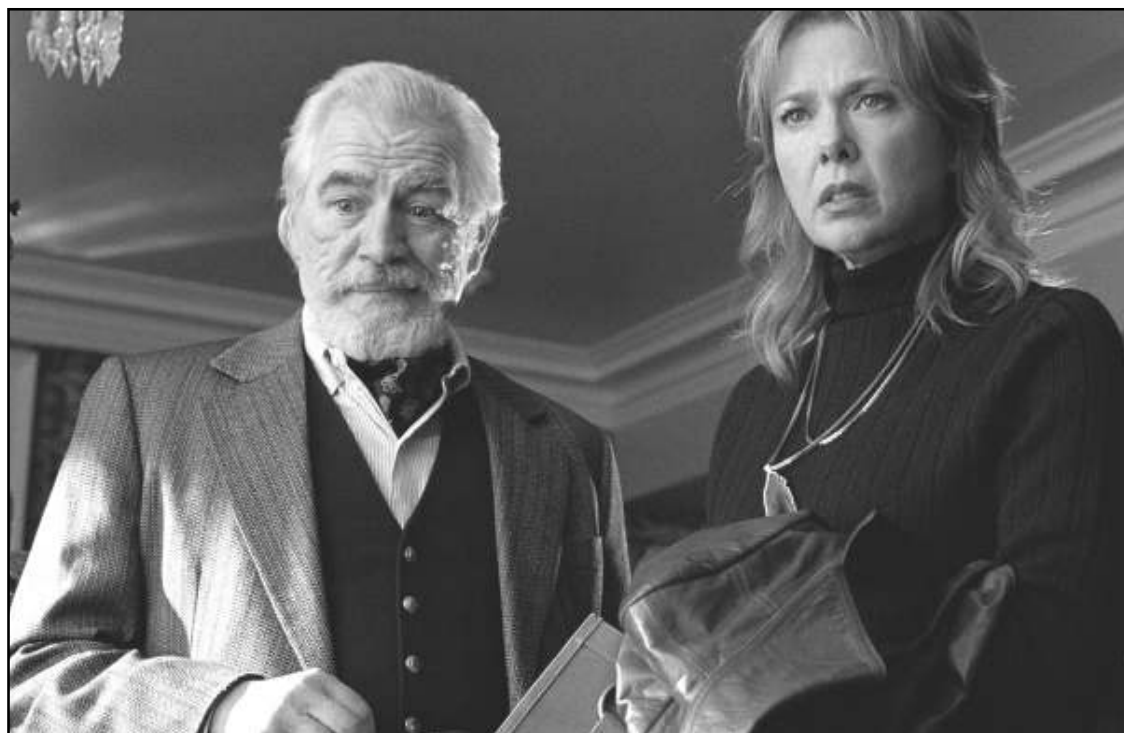
Running with Scissors. Splashy feature debut for the man behind the cable-television series *Nip/Tuck*, writer-director Ryan Murphy, a hey-look-at-me cannonball, adapted from the “memoir” of Augusten Burroughs. Set in the Seventies, it spans his prepubescence (“I guess it doesn’t matter where I begin,” the narrator comments in voice-over, “because nobody’s going to believe me anyway”) into his gloomily gay adolescence. In specific, the breakup of his nuclear family — an alcoholic academic father and a psychobabbling self-deluding poet manqué mother (“Augusten, your mother was meant to be a very famous woman”) — and his subsequent placement in the foster care of the mother’s crackpot analyst, whose first arrival on the scene parodies the arrival of Max von Sydow in *The Exorcist*. (True to the period, for sure.) The boy’s second home is no stabler, a pink-painted monstrosity that accommodates a haggard hausfrau who never misses a day of *Dark Shadows* and snacks on dog kibble; two nubile daughters, one coquettishly virginal and one candidly tarty; a cat named Freud; a perennial Christmas

REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

tree in the parlor; a never-diminishing pile of dishes in the kitchen; the doctor’s private sanctuary known self-explanatorily as his “masturbatorium”; and a trail of neurotic clients prominently including a brooding predatory homosexual.

The basic assumption, trendy and trite as can be, is that the more eccentric, the more lunatic the vision of family life, the more truthful and insightful, the more relevant and revealing, it must be. (And never mind how tortuous the route to a punch line: the sole purpose of the dragged-out practical joke of a cat-meat stew is to enable the humorless homosexual to huff off with an “I don’t eat pussy!”) Annette Bening, whose presence tends to point up the kinship with *American Beauty*, puts on quite a show as the biological mother, running the gamut from the irrepressibly tempestuous (“Get the rage on the page, women,” she rails at her fledgling poets’ circle) to the chemically tranquilized, with nary a misstep along the way. This is a portrait which, floridness notwithstanding, remains recognizably and humorously human. In most of the rest — Brian Cox, Jill Clayburgh,



Running with Scissors

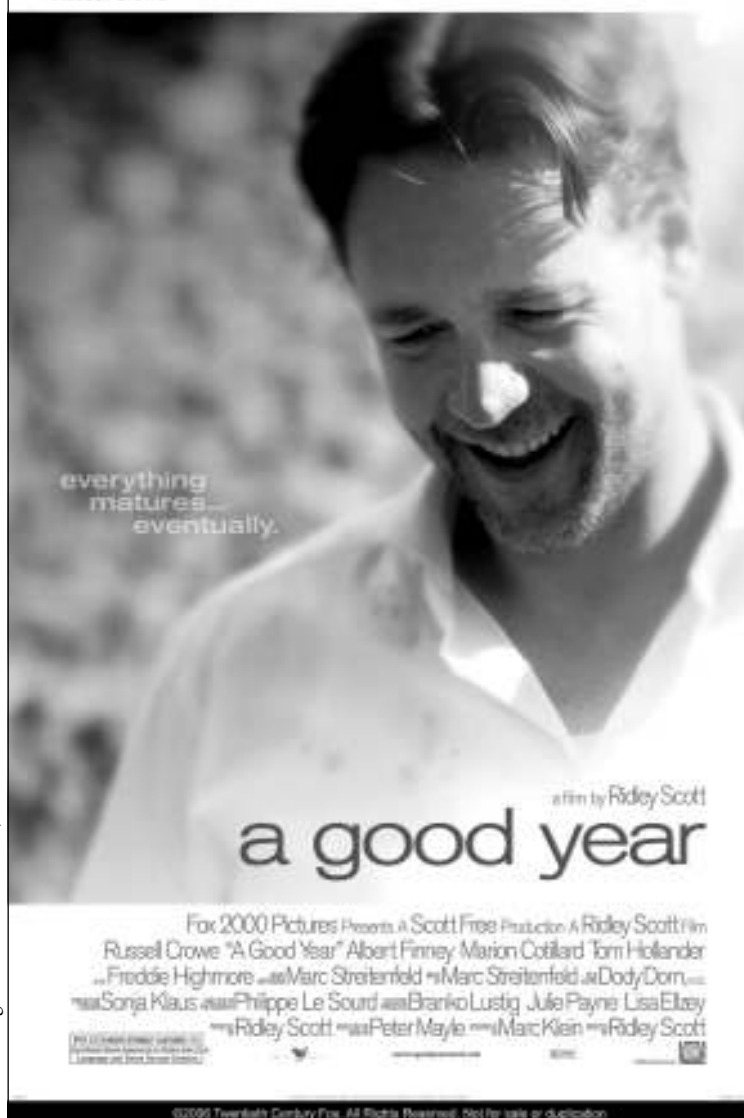
Gwyneth Paltrow, Evan Rachel Wood, Joseph Fiennes — the floridness overgrows and obscures.

Tideland. “Many of you are not going to like this film,” safely predicts Terry Gilliam in a filmed Director’s Statement at the outset, together with other stuff about his discovery of his inner child (“It turned out to be a little girl”) and a viewer advisory not to

forget to laugh. Unhelpfully, he makes no further appearances to advise the viewer on where and when. After the documentary evidence of *Lost in La Mancha* — about the aborted Don Quixote project of the director — and the whopping flop of his *The Brothers Grimm* last year, it is heartening, in the first place, just to see Gilliam working again and working “small.” (Small

cast, small scope, albeit big special effects.) We have ample opportunity, however, to repent our initial generosity over the course of a dark, dark, even slightly dirty fairy tale to do with a modern-day Alice in Wonderland (the Lewis Carroll classic is on open display to help us make the connection), more precisely an Alice in Tideland, who is soon relieved of her

Russell Crowe



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chain-smoking chocoholic mother and her drug-addicted Denmark-obsessed father (not, though, relieved of his rotting corpse), and who, stuck out in the middle of an Andrew Wyeth nowhere, must subsist on peanut butter and settle for companionship with a black-garbed, bee-allergic, one-eyed Wicked Witch or Cruel Queen figure, the latter's lobotomized brother, a talking squirrel, and a literal handful of finger-puppet dolls' heads. Altogether, a farrago of grotesquerie and bizarrerie, shot with a lot of wide-angle lenses, as if it were not hideous enough already.

Catch a Fire. Sympathy for the terrorist. Not, heaven forbid, the Islamic terrorist, but the South African terrorist circa 1980, the hard-working family man who, falsely accused of terrorism, turns to terrorism for real. Parallels to other sorts of terrorists can be drawn all the same, and that would be the only avenue of bravery in this sanctimonious rehash of the evils of apartheid. The drumming-up of suspense proves to be no less grindingly mechanical than the drumming-up of sympathy. This is the Phillip Noyce of *Rabbit-Proof Fence* (not a compliment, coming from me) rather than of *The Quiet American* or *Heatwave* or even *Patriot Games*. Warmly photographed, nonetheless, by Ron Fortunato and Garry Phillips, and warmly played, at times hotly, by Derek Luke and Bonnie Henna. Tim Robbins, the anti-terrorist Afrikaner, is stereotypically stone-cold.

Flicka. Updated remake of the Mary O'Hara horse story, having undergone a sex change in the central character — from Roddy McDowall in 1943 to Alison Lohman today — but not in the wild mustang with whom the girl bonds, identifies, and fuses. In better cinematic times, this would at best be inoffensive. In these times, it offers the additional lure of a refuge from the aggressively offensive. (See *Running with Scissors*. See *Tideland*.) That, needless to add, is apt to hold more appeal for moviegoers nearer to Roddy McDowall's age than to Alison Lohman's. The horses and the Wyoming hills are nice, Maria Bello is professional, and country singer Tim McGraw, if a tad uncomfortable, is dead earnest. His vague resemblance to Kevin Spacey rather cruelly underscores his limitations.

49 Up. Michael Apted's latest bulletin on the motley Brits he has been checking in on, at seven-year intervals, ever since they were seven years old. It would be easy for the American moviegoer, introduced to them three movies ago at the age of twenty-eight, to have become blasé about the matter. It would be only a little more difficult for him to marvel anew at the uniqueness of the project, even to lament that other filmmakers in other countries never thought to copy it. Although there is hardly a whole movie's worth of new material in it, Apted has done an expert job of shuffling in the old material, filling in each step of the journey, so that even a newcomer to the series might feel at home. New developments — new jobs, new relationships, new kids — are minimal; and histrionics, outside of some general grumbles from the participants about the periodic imposition of the camera and one specific threat to discontinue, are nil. Yet any one of these ordinary people, with their ordinary insecurities and ordinary defenses, their ordinary aspirations and ordinary disappointments, is infinitely more interesting than all of the straining zanies of *Running with Scissors* and

Tideland. And the spectacle of advancing age has by now begun to edge up to the epic. ■

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Babel — Alejandro González Iñárritu tells three interlocked stories, with Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, and Gael García Bernal. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 20; FROM 11/3)

Batman — The DC Comics superhero, inadequately incarnated in Michael Keaton. (Batbrat, maybe. Batpunk, perhaps. Batguy, at best.) Even so, the movie is indisputably an impressive thing to look at. The production (with its feel of futurism *circa* the 1940s: sort of what *Brazil* ought to have looked like) doesn't suffocate the action to the degree it did in Tim Burton's previous project, *Beetlejuice*. Maybe that's because the action here has been commensurately inflated. In particular, the ride to the Batcave in the Batmobile creates an interlude

of almost Wagnerian exaltedness, as does the ascent in the cathedral tower at the climax. And there are inessential little examples, in the painterly use of color and light and shadow and the rest, of the pains which this director is prepared to take. For all that, *Batman* started as and still is a comic book. And it seems to be near impossible to do this sort of thing on screen without falling thuddingly between the two stools of the child's world and the adult's world — without, in other words, dishonoring both the humble source material and the higher (or hipper) fictional realms inevitably striven for. (Well, there's Franju's *Judex*, but that movie increasingly has come to seem nothing short of a miracle, or at the very least a work of genius.) The present attempt, essentially and typically a spoof, attains greater heights of seriousness (darkness, grimness) than, say, the Superman or Indiana Jones films, but it keeps being dragged down by things like the electrocutional handshake buzzer or the Ed Koch look-alike for the Mayor of Gotham City. Alternately gaggy and grandiose, the movie never finds a comfortable middle ground, much less a traversable bridge across the gap; it lacks the personal investment in the material (cf. *Judex*) for anything like that. With Jack Nicholson and Kim Basinger.

1989

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 11/4 MIDNIGHT)

The Black Dahlia — James Ellroy's the-

ory 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 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)

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Flyboys

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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 — A summer job with an over-the-hill actress (Julie Walters) emboldens a timid minister’s son (Rupert Grint, the Ronald Weasley of the Harry Potter series) to throw off the yoke of his smothering mother (Laura Linney). Coming-of-age confection, sweet enough to cause tummy ache. Written and directed by Jeremy Brock. 2006. ● (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 11/2)

Flags of Our Fathers — Clint Eastwood, sorely trying the patience of anyone

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 *Mystic River* and *Million Dollar Baby*. Once again, as in *Bridges*, opting for the camera as a weapon of choice, he 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 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 here that Eastwood is 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.) 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

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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. 2006.

★★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; 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 — Reviewed this issue. With Alison Lohman, Tim McGraw, Maria Bello, and Ryan Kwanten; directed by Michael Mayer. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; LA COSTA 6; MIRA MESA 18; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

Flushed Away — Computer-animated mouse tale, with the voices of Hugh Jackman, Kate Winslet, and Ian McKellen, directed by David Bowers and Sam Fell. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; South Bay Drive In; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 11/3)

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 throwback, 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



49 Up

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 com-

pensate 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. 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)

49 Up — Reviewed this issue. With Tony, Jackie, Bruce, Sue, Suzy, Lynn, Nick, John, Paul, Simon, Andrew, and Neil; directed by Michael Apted. ★★★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 11/3)

The Grudge 2 — Well-tailored frights in a disjointed narrative, fattening the portfolio of director Takashi Shimizu. Elegant Jennifer Beals, in the shorter of two intertwined (and ultimately knotted together)

storylines, does everything asked of her and more. With Amber Tamblyn, Arielle Kebbel, Edison Chen, Joanna Cassidy, and Sarah Michelle Gellar. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; 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; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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)

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

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(Rufus Sewell with a joke-shop mustache) volunteers his presumptive fiancée as a pidgeon 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.

● (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; HORTON PLAZA 14)

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 seriocomedy 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.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

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; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; 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)

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; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; 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; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royals-watching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative reenactment 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

SEEN ON DVD

BEN ABERNATHY

Editor, WildStorm

Productions/DC Comics

With Halloween just behind us, let's do a shameless plug for horror films. First, from Down Under comes *Wolf Creek*. Writer-director Greg McLean's lean, mean tale of backpackers running afoul of a madman in the outback is a brutal story that lulls you into thinking it's just a clichéd slasher film — until the four immortal words: head on a stick.

From the other end of the globe comes the French film *High Tension*. Alexandre Aja (the guy who remade *The Hills Have Eyes*) co-writes and directs this tale of two college girls from Paris taking a much-needed break from studying to enjoy a nice, horrific trip to the countryside!

And finally, for everyone who's enjoyed Neil Marshall's recent *The Descent*, his earlier *Dog Soldiers* is worth viewing. Werewolves battling a British military unit in the Scottish Highlands — how can that not be awesome?

WOLF CREEK (Australia) 2005, Weinstein Company
List price: \$19.95

HIGH TENSION (France) 2003, Lions Gate
List price: \$14.98

DOG SOLDIERS (England) 2002, Twentieth Century Fox
List price: \$9.98

JIM CHADWICK

Editor, WildStorm

Productions/DC Comics

Recently, the best writing for grown-ups hasn't been in the movies, it's been on TV, and *Deadwood* is the best of the best. Put aside any criticisms concerning anachronistic obscenities, the baroque dialogue is downright Shakespearean in its scope. It's the West in all its dangerous, corrupt, and shocking glory, painted in appropriate shades of gray.

Michelangelo Antonioni's *The Passenger* virtually disappeared for 30 years but is now thankfully back on DVD. Gorgeously shot, deliberately paced, and typical of European art films, it doesn't serve up its meaning in easily digestible plot points. Featuring Jack Nicholson at the peak of his powers and in a full-length commentary.

Oliver Stone's *JFK* is a bravura piece of filmmaking. Stone's use of editing, sound, jittery camera work, and cascading film stocks was revolutionary in its day and has had an artistic impact on moviemaking for the past decade and a half.

DEADWOOD: THE COMPLETE FIRST TWO SEASONS (USA) 2004, HBO
List price: \$199.98 (12 discs)

THE PASSENGER (Italy/USA) 1975, Sony Pictures
List price: \$24.95

JFK (USA) 1991, Warner Home Video
List price: \$24.98 (two discs)

VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause — Christmas comedy with Tim Allen and Martin Short, directed by Michael Lembeck. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/3)

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 MARKET-

JIM LEE

Editorial director, WildStorm

Productions/DC Comics

My number-one DVD collection is *Star Trek: The Original Series*. I watched this show relentlessly as a kid, and my *Weltanschauung* was formed by its storylines. The fact Kirk, Spock, and McCoy constantly overrode their mission parameters is a testament to the power and need for civil disobedience and demonstrates the exigency and importance of charisma, loyalty, and leadership.

What can I say? *The Sound of Music* remains my favorite movie. Sure, there aren't any CGI effects, but if the saccharine-sweet, heartwarming, true story of the Von Trapp family's flight from Nazis doesn't make your hills go alive, then you really are too cynical and hip for your own good.

What I love about *Entourage* is how dead-on its depiction of the machinations of Hollywood truly is. Before I sold my comics publishing company to DC Comics/Warner Brothers, I was repped by the heavyweight talent agency CAA and saw firsthand the things *Entourage* deals with. Not only is *Entourage* accurate, it's extremely entertaining.

STAR TREK: THE ORIGINAL SERIES (USA) 1966–69, Paramount

List price: \$175.98 (22 discs)
THE SOUND OF MUSIC (USA) 1965, Twentieth Century Fox
List price: \$26.98

ENTOURAGE: THE COMPLETE FIRST TWO SEASONS (USA) 2004, HBO
List price: \$79.98 (five discs)

PLACE 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)

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 braitwisty 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

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LA SEMANA EN ESPAÑOL

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Rondan la calle

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

Grupos pandilleriles controlan el creciente y redituable negocio de la prostitución de menores de edad en la ciudad de Nacional City, aseguraron autoridades y organizaciones no gubernamentales.

De acuerdo a Manolo Guillen, coordinador de Centro de Servicio Comunitario Juvenil y de la Red de Acción Contra Explotación de Menores, las pandillas que mantienen el control de las jóvenes

sexoservidoras son Pinpim Hose Daily (PHD), Lincoln Park Blood y Sky Heights Blood.

"Este es un problema bastante grave, el número de jovencitas prostitutas se ha incrementado porque grupos delictivos las trafican dentro de la ciudad y han encontrado negocio en Nacional City y El Cajon Boulevard", narró Guillen.

En lo que va del 2006 se han realizado 53 arrestos relacionados con la prostitución en Nacional City.

suplemento



Está de lujo

Con gran expectación abrió sus puertas el fastuoso y lujoso Otay Ranch Town Center que se transformó en uno de los más exclusivos centros comerciales en el Condado de San Diego.

Sin duda que este lugar se convierte en una parte importante del desarrollo urbano millonario que vive el Este de Chula Vista.

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aumento en el valor de las propiedades ubicadas en la zona con mayor desarrollo y crecimiento en la región.

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Apoyo a la 85

En California si un menor de edad tiene calentura o le duele una muela en la escuela, nadie puede administrar ni una aspirina al alumno sin que antes se les informe a los padres o tutores.

Sin embargo, estos hechos parecen irónicos y hasta ridículos debido a que la ley de California permite que una jovencita de hasta 13 años de edad se practique un aborto sin que la madre o el padre se enteren.

Como un derecho de

padres de familia para proteger a sus hijas fue creada la Propuesta Estatal 85 que requiere que los padres o tutores legales sean notificados cuando una adolescente menor de edad vaya a practicarse un aborto.

La enmienda modifica la ley constitucional del estado prohibiendo que una menor de edad se practique un aborto sin que antes el médico notifique a los padres o tutores legales 48 horas antes del procedimiento.

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Se abre de capa

**José Santiago Healy
Abraham Nudelstejer**

Diario San Diego

Ni en su oficina de Palacio Municipal podían faltar los animales.

El alcalde de Tijuana, Jorge Hank Rhon, despacha sus asuntos acompañado de su inseparable pastor alemán negro llamado "Amigo" -¿Muerde? Se le preguntó.

"No para nada, es muy noble", responde el servidor público.

"Además ha de estar un poco cansado porque hace unas semanas se la pasó haciendo "amiguitos" o sea que lo cruzamos para ver si tiene cachorros", explicó.

En su despacho había además otros dos perros,

un par de víboras dentro de unas vitrinas transparentes y dos pericos, cada uno en su jaula.

La oficina cuanta también con una televisión de pantalla gigante en donde el político ha colgado guantes de box que le han regalado famosos peleadores.

"Me gusta ver el fútbol o el box por televisión y también me gusta apostar en esos deportes", dijo.

El político aseguró no tenerle miedo a nada en esta vida, que el PRI va a ganar las próximas elecciones a gobernador en el estado de Baja California y que la administración del presidente Fox ha sido la peor en la historia reciente de México.



Sacan las garras

Los Pumas de la UNAM regresaron la senda del triunfo cuando el domingo pasado vencieron 1-0 a los Monarcas de Morelia en la jornada 15 del Torneo de Apertura 2006, lo cual les permite recuperar terreno en el tema del descenso y en la lucha por los boletos a la liguilla.

Con este resultado el conjunto universitario se mantiene dentro de los tres primeros lugares del grupo tres al sumar 23 puntos, lo que le permite aspirar incluso a terminar primero de sector y conseguir el boleto directivo a la liguilla.

El próximo partido de los Pumas de la UNAM será como visitantes frente al San Luis dentro de la jornada 16, mientras que el Morelia recibirá a los Te-

cos de la UAG en su lucha por meterse de nuevo en los primeros lugares del grupo tres.

Al campeonato mexicano de fútbol le quedan solamente dos fechas y todavía no hay ningún equipo que haya calificado a la liguilla.

Con las estadísticas actuales, 15 de los 18 equipos de la Primera División tienen posibilidades de pasar a la segunda fase del torneo.

Cruz Azul, Toluca y Pachuca se perfilan como los equipos favoritos para llevarse el campeonato por el buen fútbol que han desplegado en las últimas semanas.

Chivas de Guadalajara y Águilas del América también esperan colarse a la liguilla.



Crisis en Oaxaca

Agentes de la policía federal con rifles de asalto y protegidos con escudos irrumpieron el domingo pasado en el Centro de Oaxaca, provocando batallas callejeras, para rodear a los manifestantes que ocupan el centro desde hace cinco meses.

La llegada de los agentes federales se apresuró después de que el periodista estadounidense Bradley Roland Will fuera asesinado cuando grababa escenas del caos que reina en la capital oaxaqueña.

El martes, personal de limpieza removió las barricadas que durante varios meses colocó la Asamblea Popular de los Pueblos de Oaxaca (APPO) en las calles del

centro de esta ciudad para restringir el paso de vehículos.

Apoyados con trascabos y palas, decenas de trabajadores retiraron costales de arena, rocas, fierros, láminas y hasta basura que se encontraba en las calles.

Mientras tanto, cientos de elementos de las fuerzas federales permanecen custodiando el centro histórico, sobre todo el zócalo y la Alameda.

No obstante, la actividad comercial en la zona aún no se restablece al cien por ciento.

Un problema que enfrentan los habitantes y los escasos turistas que se encuentran en Oaxaca es el cierre de todas las sucursales bancarias.

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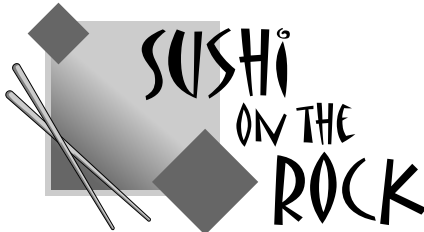
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CORRECTIONAL OFFICER AND Youth Correctional Officer opportunities at 41 adult and juvenile facilities throughout California. Earn over \$70,000 a year and receive good benefits. Must be a U.S. Citizen (or applied); at least 21 years old; possess a highschool diploma/GED; be in good physical condition; and have no felony convictions. Apply online: www.CDCR.ca.gov. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. For more information, visit our web site at www.cdcr.ca.gov or call toll-free at 1-866-232-JOBS.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE REP. High volume call center seeks professional with good communication skills and high energy. Email resume: oceanside@appleone.com and call: 760-966-3682.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. 100 In-bound CSR positions taking gift orders over the phone and Internet. \$10/hour plus incentives. Mission Valley location. Morning and afternoon shifts. Fun, casual environment. Must be Internet savvy. Apply in person 7am-5pm Monday-Friday at Sedona Staffing, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #209, San Diego, CA 92111. Andrea@SedonaStaffing.com. 858-401-2941.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE. Billing and Data Entry. Hours: Monday-Friday, 5:30am-2pm or 10pm-6:30am. Excellent benefits package. Apply: Mission Valley, 7584 Metropolitan, San Diego, 92108. 619-297-8300.

CUSTOMER SERVICE. Immediate openings for the best of the best! Seasonal position for upcoming holidays. Answer incoming calls, help customers place orders, resolve issues, field questions. Fun 24/7 environment. \$10/hour with opportunity for seasonal increases. Flexible schedules. Mira Mesa/Sorrento Valley. E-mail resume: marissarauch@spherion.com. Fax: 858-909-4201.

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senger endorsed, Class B, \$10/hour. Apply at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109. Donna. 858-581-8659.

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DRIVERS: SHUTTLE DRIVERS. Laidlaw Transit Services is hiring 25 Drivers to operate the ADA Disabled for the North County area. Must be able to pass drug and physical tests and work evenings, weekend and holidays. Full-and part-time available. Uniforms provided. Paid training provided to obtain CDL. 100% paid medical and dental. Vacation pay, holiday pay, 401(k). Driver pay starts at \$9.35/hour. For an immediate interview, bring current H-6 DMV printout

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EMTs: MedFleet Ambulance now hiring Emergency Medical Technicians, Dispatchers, Van Drivers. Experienced EMTs start \$10/hour. Full time/part time. MedFleet Ambulance, 3479 Kurtz Street, San Diego, 92110. 619-222-2244. Apply: www.medfleetambulance.com.

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ESTHETICIAN. Part time or full time. Upscale full-service salon in Coronado is seeking an experienced Esthetician. Excellent earning potential. Call Denise at 619-733-3875.

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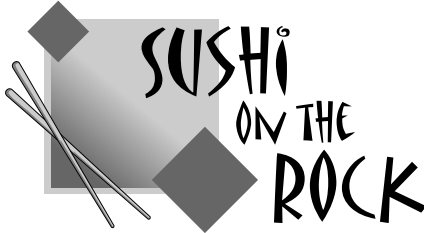
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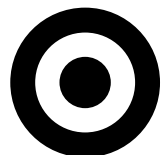
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GENERAL LABOR: Event Production company seeking Set/Strike Personnel to set up, tear down, load and unload props. Flexible hours. Own transportation and valid driver's license required. Apply 10am-1pm Monday/Tuesday: 7140 Engineer Road, 92111.

GENERAL. PRONTO WASH, 100% hand car wash system. Competitive pay plus tips. Start immediately. Westfield Mission Valley Mall, main underground parking entrance. 619-666-0899.

GENERAL. Housekeepers, Laundry Aides and Janitors for Healthcare Services Group. Apply in person: Pleasant Care of San Diego, 2828 Meadow Lark Drive, 92123; Country Villa La Mesa, 5696 Lake Murray Boulevard, 91942; Telecare San Diego Choice, 3853 Rosecrans, 92110.

GENERAL. Permanent, full-time: Customer Service/Advertisement to Management. General work also available. \$335-\$485/week start. Fast advancement, generous bonus program. Must be neat, willing to learn. 619-827-0338.

GENERAL: BELL RINGERS. The Salvation Army seeks temporary seasonal workers. Hours to be arranged. Salary from \$7.00/hour. Apply: 1011 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-4683.

GENERAL: SEASONAL. Full-time, temporary, 11/24-12/23. Kettle Workers/Bell Ringers. \$6.75/hour. Own transportation. Background check. Apply in person: Salvation Army, 3935 Lake Boulevard, Oceanside 92056. 760-631-8212.

GOVERNMENT/POSTAL JOBS. \$16-\$45/hour plus full benefits. Immediate openings. San Diego and Southern California jobs. Call for info & interviews, 858-277-2029.

GROCERY. Whole Foods Market, La Jolla is now hiring: Maintenance, Produce, Floral, Specialty Service and Prepared Foods Team Members; In-Store Systems Support

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GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Cashier Supervisor and Cashiers, Grocery MOD (Graveyard), Vitamin Specialist, Special Event/Demo, Meat and Produce Clerks needed. \$9-\$16 per hour. Great work environment, bonuses and benefits! Jimbo's Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Del Mar, fax: 858-793-7732. 1923 Calle Barcelona #149, Carlsbad, fax: 760-334-7733. 1633 South Center City Parkway, Escondido, fax: 760-489-7773. hr@jimbo.com, www.jimbos.com.

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GUITAR PRODUCTION trainees. 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.tolgorguitars.com.

HAIR AND BEAUTY CENTER has available space for qualified hairstylists, massage therapists, estheticians. Full-service salon Rancho Bernardo, established over 16 years. Call 858-692-1329, 858-592-0755.

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HAIR SALON: HAIR DESIGNERS, Eyebrow Expert, Manicurist. Busy Gaslamp salon seeking booth renters. Walk-ins available! Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. Move-in incentives. 619-231-7588.

HAIRSTYLIST. Beautiful, elegant salon in Hillcrest seeking motivated professionals to

join our team. Model Call Salon, 619-296-8021.

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. Daily/weekly booth rental. Negotiable. Free rent/towels for first month with year commitment. Assist with owner's clientele (pregnancy leave). Partnership available. www.citystylehair.com, 858-755-1202.

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. Booth rental. Salon Bellada, a busy, upscale salon in Mission Valley. Great move-in special! Call Kate, 619-944-0527.

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HAIRSTYLISTS. Friendly, experienced, self-motivated to join first-class hair salon. Booth rental: \$160/week full-time, \$80/week part-time. Solutions Hair Design, 5208 Jackson Drive #116A, La Mesa. 619-368-1010.

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HEALTH CARE: Attentive Home Care has immediate assignments for Live-in Caregivers, CNAs, HHAs and hourly Caregivers--part time or full time. 3 years experience and CA ID or driver's license, Social Security card required. Fingerprint and TB test a plus. Flexible schedules. Overtime for holidays. Health insurance and employer-matched 401(k) benefits available. Call for an interview in North County or San Diego: 760-434-4393 or 619-231-0151. Or apply in person 10am-3pm, Tuesday-Thursday: 2333 1st Avenue, Suite 205, San Diego, CA 92101. *Please bring valid fingerprint card, TB test, Social Security card and California ID.

HEALTHCARE/HOSPITALS. Full time, evenings or nights. Patient room, operating room, emergency room cleaning and disinfecting jobs. \$8.50/hour and up. No criminal record. Mary, 760-747-9944.

HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work--you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency--you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

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HELP WANTED, housecleaner for adult couple. Power area \$8/hour. 6-8 hours every other Tuesday. Speak English. References needed. Have reliable car 858-312-1541.

HOSPITALITY: RANCHO VALENCIA Resort & Spa. Host(ess) (full-time, weekends, holidays). Server (breakfast/lunch), Bussier (AM), Assistant Pastry Cook, Rotisseur (PM), Sautier, Housekeeping Houseperson (full time, AM/PM), Spa Reservationist/Spa Concierge (full-time including weekends, holidays). Apply in person: 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe 92067. Fax resume: 858-756-0165; or e-mail as attachment: hr@ranchovalencia.com. EOE/Drug-Free Workplace.

HOSTESS/HOST needed for Sushi on the Rock in La Jolla. Minimum 1-year experience. Bring resume weekdays, 2pm-4pm, 7734 Girard Avenue (92037). No phone calls.

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@casuitieshotel.com.

HOTEL POSITIONS. The Handlery Hotel and Resort is hiring for service oriented positions. We have competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please apply to: 950 Hotel

Circle North, San Diego, CA, 92108 or fax resume to: 619-298-3948.

HOTEL. Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa, a 4-Diamond Hotel, recently named one of the "Hottest new Hotels in the World" is looking for some enthusiastic people to join our incredible team: Cooks (\$150 bonus for newly hired Cooks), Spa Coordinators, Bellperson. Other positions also currently available! Apply: 9700 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla 92037; call: 858-964-6644. EOE/AA.

HOTEL. Hyatt Regency La Jolla now hiring: Cafe Japengo Bussier, Convention Services Floor Lead, Culinary Cook III, Housekeeping Room Attendants, Laundry Washer, PBX/MIS Administrator, Receiving Clerk, Security Officer, Stewards, Executive Sous Chef, Food and Beverage Assistant Manager, Executive Chef. Cafe Japengo. Excellent benefits. AA/EQE. M/F/D/V. Please apply online: www.lajolla.hyatt.com.

HOTEL. Old Town Inn seeks experienced Front Desk/Relief Night Auditor. Full-time. Competitive pay! Apply 4444 Pacific Highway, fax resume 619-295-5286 or email melissa304@nethera.com.

HOTEL: NIGHT AUDITOR, FRONT Desk Agent, Breakfast Host. Inn At Mission Bay, Sea World/San Diego. Apply in person: 4545 Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. Fax: 858-483-8483; E-mail: kumar@palaciohotels.com.

HOUSECLEANERS WANTED. Flexible hours. Must have car. Immediate work. English speaking. Maid in America Agency. 619-291-5000; 760-434-5150.

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HOUSECLEANING. No nights, weekends, holidays. Merry Maids offers flexible hours, weekly pay, paid mileage. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must speak English. South Coast/all south areas only, 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

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JANITOR. Casa de las Campanas, a luxury retirement community in Rancho Bernardo, has three openings for a full-time janitor. Two positions: 8am to 4:30pm; and one position: 4pm to 12:30am. We offer excellent benefits and a safe working environment. Please visit our Human Resources Department and complete an application, Monday-Friday

8:30am to 12noon and 1-4pm at 18655 West Bernardo Drive, San Diego, CA 92127. EOE.

JOB COACH/COMMUNITY Training Specialist. \$9/hour to start, depending on experience. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. EOE. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax: 619-281-0453. www.vistahill.org.

JOB COACH/COMMUNITY Training Specialist. \$9/hour to start. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. EOE. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego 92120. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax: 619-281-0453. www.vistahill.org.

JOB COACHES. Community-oriented, Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pfcareer@yahoo.com. Call 619-440-6802, or fax 619-440-6864.

KITCHEN SUPERVISOR. Rock the house! The Back of the House, that is. The Hard Rock Cafe, La Jolla, is looking for an experienced Kitchen Supervisor. Wages depend upon experience. Bilingual a plus. Must possess skills in training, ordering, inventory, cost control and communication. Apply in person, ask for Chef Pedro: 909 Prospect Street, La Jolla 92037.

LANDSCAPE/IRRIGATION FOREMEN. Large commercial landscape company in North County hiring Foremen with 7+ years experience for landscaping, irrigation and maintenance. Positions require driving--clean DMV a must. Competitive pay, great benefits. 760-591-4500.

LAW ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department is hiring new Deputies now! Hiring two positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Saturday, November 4, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista CA 91910 or Saturday, November 18, 7am arrival: Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista CA 92083. Detentions and Courts: \$37,901-\$58,675 annual salary, plus yearly benefits package. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,338-\$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 for parking at Southwestern College. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. For additional test dates, go online at www.joinssdsheriff.net. E-mail: Recruit@sdsdsheriff.org or call 858-974-2000.

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@sriawoffice.com.

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LOAN AGENTS/SALES. No real estate license required. Leave message 24 hours a day for return call, 888-313-7226. Fax resume: 858-454-2437.

LOAN OFFICER. Statewide Financial Group. No license required, in-house telemarketing, in-house processing. Will train. Benefits. Two offices: Mission Valley and Escondido. Call: 760-746-2407. E-mail resume: npoblete@statewidefinancialgroup.net.

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LOAN ORIGINATORS. No real estate license or experience required. Work from home/office, part/full-time. Orientations: Tuesday 7pm, Saturday 10am: 4617 Ruffin #200, 92111. 858-278-4993.

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LOBBY AMBASSADORS AND 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. No nights, weekends, holidays. Merry Maids offers flexible hours, weekly pay, paid mileage. Work in teams. Insured car required. Must speak English. South Coast/all south areas only, 619-336-1612; 619-226-2621.

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 wmapplicants@aol.com. Call 888-252-7976.

MAINTENANCE/JANITORIAL position at Senior Care Facility. Full-time, in Point Loma. 3223 Duke Street. Call 619-222-1109.

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: 619-544-1257, attention Commercial Maintenance.

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MANAGER for dispatch/customer service office. Good people and customer service skills desired. Experience preferred. Call and leave message or fax resume to: 619-702-6067.

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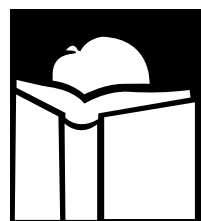
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MANICURIST/PEDICURIST. Hip, young day spa in the heart of Little Italy seeks an energetic and motivated Manicurist/Pedicurist. Commission. Experience/clientele a plus. Urban Skin Care, 2326 India Street, Little Italy. Call Larissa or Erin, 619-233-0306. www.urbanskincare.com.

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MANUFACTURING. Guitar Production Trainees (both shifts), start \$9/hour. Accounting Office Clerk, start \$9/hour. Information Systems desk representative, \$13/hour. Payroll and administrative as-

stant. Excellent benefits after 90 days. Job description details: Employment Hotline, 619-596-5299 x800. Fax resume to 619-258-4345. www.taylorguitars.com.

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MARKETING PROFESSIONALS. Soleil Communications, Inc. is seeking Marketing professionals for exciting new posi-

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Mutual BanCorp, a local mortgage company, has the perfect work situation!

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tions! 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 trolly. 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.

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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.

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NANNIES. \$12-\$16/hour. Carlsbad: 22-month-old, 7-year-old, 10-year-old, Monday-Friday, 2pm-7pm. Encinitas: 3-year-old, 9-year-old (Type 1 diabetes), Friday/Saturday off. US citizenship required. Resume Dara@seasideannies.com, fax 858-274-2540.

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 asses. DSM knowledge needed. Friendly work environment. Call 619-615-0701; or fax resume to attn: Psych RN 619-615-0896.

NURSING for independent retirement community. LVNs, CNAs and Caregivers needed, various shifts. Apply at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109. Donna, 858-581-8659.

OFFICE ASSISTANT/ORDER TAKER. Part/full time. Computer/customer service skills, attention to detail required for restaurant delivery company. \$8 to start. 858-490-3930.

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. Book publishing experience and complete computer knowledge a must! Full or part-time. Salary open. Fax 619-224-4762.

OFFICE. Managers, Recruiters, Receptionist. Immediate long-term, benefits, 401(k) after 1 year, up to \$23/hour. Go-

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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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Community Training Specialist/Job Coach \$9/hr. to start, DOE

To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits.

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Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.

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Staff, 858-292-8562; fax 858-292-0230; e-mail help@gostaff.com. www.gostaff.com.

OFFICE: MARKETING ASSISTANT, temp., possible full time. Some administrative office experience required. \$9.50+/hour DOE. Apply at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, San Diego, 92109. Donna, 858-581-8659.

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.

PARKING ATTENDANTS/Valets. Part-time. 7 days/week, all shifts. Drug-free environment. Platinum Parking Management. 619-778-6394.

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PART TIME. Start building your holiday cash! Top pay \$15-\$22/hour! Immediate openings. Bilingual a plus. Average \$9-\$14/hour. Flexible AM/PM hours. Base salary, weekly pay. Paid training. Management opportunities. DialAmerica Marketing, Inc. www.dialamerica.com/sandiego. 9332 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. 858-292-8822.

PART-TIME HELPER. Pacific Beach. House chores, driving (my car), appointments, etc. 24-35 hours/week, daytime hours. Flexibility helpful. Please live nearby, check not cash. 858-274-5078.

PART-TIME SALES. Will train in Carlsbad. Monday-Thursday, 4pm-8pm. \$12-\$15/hour plus commission. 888-894-6688.

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PART-TIME career opportunity in financial services marketing company with income growth potential. People skills required. Training provided. Call: 858-503-1900 or 760-271-1818. E-mail: wfnorthcounty@yahoo.com.

PAYROLL CLERK, two immediate openings, to assist with company's bi-weekly payroll and health insurance benefit administrator. Experience with Excel and 10-key by touch a must. Prior payroll experience is helpful. Familiarity with company benefit plans a plus. Please e-mail resume to nihr2006@yahoo.com or fax resume to 858-467-6907.

PAYROLL 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.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT NEEDED. Owner of company from Miami seeks a live-in Personal Assistant. Must relocate to Miami, Florida. Ticket paid. English and Spanish speaking required. \$500/week. To interview in San Diego, call 305-965-0419.

PERSONAL CARE AIDE needed for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd shifts. Full-time for Assisted Living Facility, 3223 Duke Street in Point Loma. Call 619-222-1109.

PERSONAL TRAINER. We are looking for certified Personal Trainers with experience in a functional setting to work in our private Functional Training & Metabolic Typing Facility. Must be motivated, great with people and have a holistic mindset. Call Dave at Integrated Health & Fitness, 760-613-5820.

PHONE PROS. Why wait 2 weeks? You're 3 days from payday. Monday-Friday. Get paid while you train to earn \$500-\$1000/weekly. No experience necessary. Sign-on bonus for experienced Reloaders. 619-220-7025.

PHOTOGRAPHERS. Grins 2 Go is growing fast! Hiring Studio and Event Photographers in Poway/Scripps Ranch area. If you like creating a fun/friendly environment for customers, taking photographs, doing digital enhancements, working with computers, and have a great smile, then you may qualify for this fantastic opportunity. Creativity and retail sales a must, professional photography experience is not! We'll train you in this exciting, fast-paced career. E-mail resume: fgonzalez@grins2go.com.

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/EEO. 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.

PMS SLEEP, light study. UCSD recruiting women 20-45, regular menstrual cycles (not smoking, using prescription medication) for 5 months. 8 overnight hospital stays required. 619-543-7393.

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.



The San Diego County Sheriff's Department is hiring qualified men and women.

- Be of good character • No upper age limit
- High school graduate or GED required

Now hiring two positions. Take one exam, apply for either or both!

DEPUTY SHERIFF

- Must be 20.5 years old

- Current annual salary \$47,338-\$67,714 plus yearly benefits package

DEPUTY SHERIFF DETENTION/COURTS

- Must be 18 years old

- Current annual salary \$37,901-\$58,675 plus yearly benefits package

EXAM DATES:

**NOV. 4, 2006
6:30 AM ARRIVAL**

Southwestern College Cafeteria
900 Otay Lakes Road
Chula Vista, CA 91910

**NOV. 18, 2006
7 AM ARRIVAL**

Rancho Buena Vista High School
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Vista, CA 92083

Applications are handed out at the door – first come, first served.
Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 for parking at Southwestern College.

Call: 858-974-2000

www.joinssdsheiff.net

E-mail: recruit@sdsheriff.org



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PREGNANT? Available to take part in a paid clinical study? PrecisionMed is seeking healthy volunteers, between the ages of 20 and 45, who are at least 7 weeks pregnant, and who would like to participate in a research study. Participation in this genetic study involves no medication or treatment and requires between 1 and 3 short office visits to our offices. As compensation for participating, volunteers will receive \$100 for each office visit. For further information and to check if you qualify, please call 800-519-8810 or you can email at carolemarks@precisionmed.com.

PRINTING/DOCUTECH OPERATOR. Experienced only need apply. Xerox Doc 6115 operator with strong computer and software skills. Full-time, all shifts available. Start \$13/hour. Benefits. Apply: A Copy World, 980 Buenos Avenue. Voice: 619-275-5560. Fax: 619-275-5466. Web: www.acopyworld.com.

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.

PROJECT ENGINEER, tech support for environmental remediation and mitigation, design remediation tech, CERCLA docs, groundwater hydrology evaluation, statistics and spatial evaluation with GIS, design wastewater treatment units, industrial and municipal facilities inspection. MS in Civil or Environmental Engineering, 6 months experience. Barajas and Associates, Inc. San Diego, CA, CV at 702-312-3881 (fax), EEO M/F/D/V.

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.

PT ENROLLMENT SPECIALIST. Earn up to \$550 per week, part-time. May work from home. 1-877-822-0279.

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. Commission splits as high as 90%. Many leads! Can also do loans. CFL Lender and DRE Lender. No Real Estate License needed to do loans, but DRE License necessary to sell Real Estate. In business 20+ years. Rapid Funding Realty, 619-692-0031.

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REAL ESTATE. Century 21 Award has a place for you in Real Estate sales. Let us license you; 96% first-time pass ratio. California Live Principles course, books and cram course. Tuition reimbursement program. Award University: learn everything you need to know to open 3 transactions in your first 90 days in the business. Full time or transitional programs available. Attend our free monthly Career Seminars! Century 21 Award. www.Century21Award.com. opportunities@century21award.com. 800-480-5529.

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.

RECREATION THERAPIST, activities coordinator wanted for East County children's facility. BA required. Full time, benefits, EOE. Fax resume to Ben, 619-447-5386.

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. Evans Hotels has immediate opening. Seeking enthusiastic individuals with clear voice, warm demeanor. Bahia Hotel, HR Department, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. Fax: 858-539-7729. Visit: www.evanshotels.com.

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.

RESIDENT MANAGER. Management company specializing in affordable housing seeks experienced Resident Manager for a 24-unit apartment community in downtown San Diego. Salary plus apartment and benefits. Maintenance experience, office procedure, computer skills, fair housing, good people skills. EOE. Bilingual preferred. Fax resume: 760-591-9784 or e-mail: humanresources@hyderco.com.

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.

RESTAURANT COOK. Mexican fast food. Immediate opening. National City location. Loui, 619-213-3521.

RESTAURANT. Baker, Cook and Deli Counter Supervisor and Clerks needed. See ad under "Grocery/Natural Foods." Jimbo's Naturally!

RESTAURANT. Experienced Servers and Banquet Servers. San Diego hospitality company staffing local hotels and caterers. Starting \$10/hour, up to \$20/hour possible. Call 619-238-5745.

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/DELI. Sandwich Maker/Prep. Fun atmosphere. Minimum 1-year experience. Full-time. Long term benefits. Hourly plus tips. La Mesa location. Leave a message, 619-318-0187.

RESTAURANT/HOTEL POSITIONS: Need extra cash for the holidays? It's possible to cover everyone on your list and more working at HEPCat! HEPCat has tons of part-time temporary positions for Servers (must have own black and whites!), Bartenders, Chefs/Cooks, Meeters and Greeters, Dishwashers, Bussers, Housekeepers and much more! Work when you want and have lots of fun doing it! Daily and weekly pay! Flexible work schedules! We provide training and advancement in the hospitality industry! Interviews take place Monday-Friday at 10:30am, 1:30pm and 4:30pm sharp! Se habla espanol. HEPCat, 814 Morena Boulevard, Suite 210, San Diego, CA 92110. 888-472-1829. www.HEPCat.jobs.

RESTAURANT/SANDWICH SHOP. Extremely busy. La Jolla Shores. People skills, multi-tasking, fast-paced environment. Starts \$8/hour plus tips. Flexible hours. Call before 11am, Kim/Phil, 858-459-3921.

RESTAURANT/SPECIAL EVENTS. Earn \$500 bonus! Experienced Servers, Cooks and Bartenders. Catering/banquet experience a plus. Part time. The Party Staff, Inc., 619-563-0515 x2.

RESTAURANT: CALIFORNIA PIZZA Kitchen opening Otay Ranch Town Center, Chula Vista and Vista Village, Vista! Bartenders, Bussers, Cooks, Dishwashers, Hosts/Hostesses, Servers. Apply Monday-Saturday, 9am-6pm at hiring sites: 2525 Windward Way, Chula Vista, 619-495-7550; or Melrose Law Center, 380 South Melrose Drive #300, Vista, 760-643-4037x2285. www.cpk.com. EOE.

RESTAURANT: CHILI'S Grill & Bar, Encinitas, hiring Servers. Apply in person any day between 2-4pm: Chili's, 1004 North El Camino Real, Encinitas.

RESTAURANT: CHILI'S hiring all positions for our newest location opening November 16 in 4S Ranch-Rancho Bernardo area. Apply in person: 10448 Reserve Drive, 92127, 858-385-1746.

RESTAURANT: DINING ROOM Coordinator. Belmont Village at Sabre Springs (near Highway 15 and Poway Road) is looking for a detail-oriented self-starter to oversee dining room operations. You will guide and train dining room staff in proper techniques for timely service of food to residents. This is a hands-on dining room position which actually performs the service as necessary in the dining room. You will oversee the cleaning of public space as time allows in the bistro and dining room. You will also perform multi-functional duties related to food service and cleanup. This positions reports to the Chef Manager. To apply, e-mail: shayden@belmontvillage.com; Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

RESTAURANT: LINE COOK. Great Line Cook/Chef (UTC/La Jolla). Contemporary American and world cooking for an upscale retirement community adjacent to La Jolla. Work in a great team environment focused on being the best. Learn and advance your career from our CIA-grad Executive Chef. If you have been successful in restaurants or hotels but are tired of shifts 'til 11pm, and you are tired of having your hours cut, or not being able to take time off when you'd like to, consider using your talents in our industry. Great benefits, good pay, educational opportunities, advancement opportunities. Ideal opportunities await achievement and performance-oriented culinary grads. Please apply in person: The Patrician, 4025 Pulitzer Place, San Diego, CA 92122. 858-455-9188. EOE.

RESTAURANT: MACARONI GRILL now hiring: Experienced Servers (AM), Hosts, and Expeditors. Apply in person 2pm-4pm, Monday-Thursday: North County

Fair, 202 East Via Rancho Parkway, Escondido.

RETAIL SALES FLOOR SUPERVISOR. Seeking mature self-starter with excellent communication skills, positive attitude and strong customer service abilities. Bilingual (English/Spanish) a plus. Full time with benefits. Cashiering and computer experience preferred. Call Janine at 858-573-1804 x302 or fax resume to 858-573-1805.

RETAIL SALES, full time. Music store on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard seeks self-motivated, enthusiastic Salesperson with friendly customer service skills. No experience necessary, will train. Complete application at Guitar Trader, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92111.

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RETAIL/COPY CENTER. Busy store seeks experienced, friendly, professional copy consultants for copying/finishing. \$9.00-\$13.00/hour. Full-time shifts. Great technology-driven work environment. Growth potential, training, and benefits. Call Nimish, 858-337-3557. Apply in person: Copy2Copy, 3737 Murphy Canyon Road #C, San Diego, 92123. E-mail: jobs@copy2copy.com. Fax: 858-292-8102.

RETAIL: HOLIDAY. Full-/part-time Customer Service, Order Processing, Data Entry. Skateboard/cycling knowledge a plus. Apply Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm: Skate America/Team Cyclist, 13615 Stowe, Poway.

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RETAIL: SPORTS ARENA TARGET is hiring Team Members and Team Leaders (hourly Department Managers). Positions available in Overnight Logistics and Backroom (Stocking, overnight and 4am-11am), Sales Floor, Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service. We offer competitive pay, flexible scheduling and Target merchandise discount. Great benefits for Team Leaders. Apply in person at the store kiosk: 3245 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92110. EOE/drug-free workplace.

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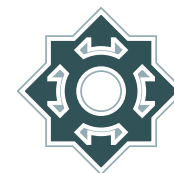
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ARE YOU IN PAIN? Migraine? Shoulder/back/arm/leg pain? Sports injury? Massage Therapist: Deep Tissue/Myofascial Release/Trigger Point Therapy. Lic-02046. \$75/60 minutes. 619-977-4294.

AN AWESOME MASSAGE by Veronique. Exquisite touch. Delightful healing and total relaxation. A must have! Incall/outside. Hotel/motels welcome. Credit cards accepted, MTP-6352. 760-724-3793.

PERFECT HEALING TOUCH. Blissful, nurturing massage, deep tissue to light touch. Experienced, caring, licensed female therapist. Swedish circulatory, shiatsu, reflexology. Centrally located. In/outcalls. Earth Goddess, 619-251-1558.

MASSAGE/SLIMMING/toning in Old Town. Treat yourself to royal treatment at Relaxation Plus. 20% off all services. Gift certificates. Open daily. HHP-92009389. 619-295-5595.

BALANCING TOUCH. Cranial-sacral massage. Joyful wellness from head to toe! 20 years experience! Georgiana, HHP-0317. 760-966-1672.

INCREDIBLE RELAXATION you will never forget! Deep tissue sports to feather light! Experience a massage you will never forget. Complete satisfaction guaranteed. Morena Boulevard and I-5. Monday-Friday only! HHP-98000184. 970-201-4671.

DEEP TISSUE/REAL RESULTS. 4 massages for \$240. Neck/shoulder expert. Back pain/injury/stress. Experience amazing results and more energy. Lic-28020. Anne, 619-992-7318. sandiegopalms@aol.com.

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cess. 20 years professional experience. www.lajollalymphatic.com. Let us be your personal fountain of youth! Cove Wellness Inner Beauty, 858-551-9228.

GENTLE TAI CHI in Balboa Park. Free! Join us every Saturday morning at 9am. 6th and Upas down in the Eucalyptus Grove. All levels and ages welcome! For more information call Susan, 619-441-1165 or ajoyfulmovement.com.

HOT TUB/SPA, deluxe 2006 model, new, neck jets, therapy seat, never used, with warranty, can deliver, worth \$5950, asking \$1950. 858-530-0980.

RESTLESS LEGS? Market Research company located in Downtown San Diego seeks people who suffer from Restless Legs to participate in a paid, non-clinical 2-hour Research Study. Participants must be current or former Requip users or current Mirapex users. No sales involved. Participants will be paid \$80 for their time and opinions. To see if you qualify, reference the RLS Study, please call 619-243-8052.

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES. First class is free! Visitors welcome. Taoist Sanctuary, 4229 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

YOGA STUDIO. Hourly rental: \$15-\$40, 700 square feet plus bathroom, bamboo hardwood, mirrors. Beautiful, clean. Can schedule weekly classes on long term basis. Normal Heights. 619-865-7480.

PARENT RESOURCES

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HELP OUR CHILDREN. You've considered it. Is it time to become a Foster Parent? Seeking qualified single or dual-parents to provide our children 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.

INTERIM FOSTER PARENTS. The stay is short, but the rewards are sweet! Seeking optimistic adults to provide a supportive home to youth for a 9-12 month period. Walden's MTFC program is a nationally recognized, evidence-based model developed by the Oregon Social Learning Center. A team approach to treatment. 24/7 support from expert staff. Compensation for a high level of commitment. License #370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

LICENSED CHILDCARE, 24/7, East County. 20+ years experience. CPR/First Aid. Nutrition program. Potty training. All programs accepted. Phonics, computers. All ages welcome. 619-447-6805.

LICENSED CHILDCARE. Open 24/7. Meals provided. The Mitchell Family Daycare, off 94 freeway. First



Curtis Doss
Realtor/Loan officer
Murietta

I vote because I want to have that sense that I at least did my part. If something is wrong with the politicians or system, I don't want to be the person that they ask, "Well, did you vote?" You can't complain unless you voted. As to whether it's important, yes and no. What's going to happen is what's going to happen, and if the majority is going in a certain direction, your one vote might not affect anything. But at least you'll get a sense that you voted and can't complain that you didn't do anything.



Farah Sheikh
Scientist
La Jolla

No. I can't because I'm not a citizen. I'm from Canada, where voting involves the Parliament, not the government. It is important to vote, to basically vote for the person you are supporting regarding their values and morals and what they want to do for the country and things they want to promote. In Canada, they lowered the voting age from 21 to 18. And a few years back, inmates were given the right to vote.



Andrew Denny
Salesman
Del Mar

No. I think it matters. And people that feel strongly about certain issues should vote. But my one individual vote isn't going to change a whole bunch. I don't have time to study all the things on the ballot, so I don't think if I voted it would be accurate anyway.



Rosalia Matteo
Biotech firm
Chula Vista

I don't vote. I'm not a citizen, but I'm in the process of getting my green card. I'm originally from Venezuela and voted there. It's pretty much like it is here. There are term limits for the president, but they are elected for six years and can only be re-elected a second time. The president there is the head of state and the head of government. I'm married to a U.S. citizen, and when I get my papers, I will definitely vote.



Jeff Locke
Graduate student
San Diego

Yes, I vote. For me personally, it's very important to vote. I'm dissatisfied with the current political situation in this country, and I want my voice to be heard. I'm not satisfied with the current administration, and their policies I don't agree with. I think it's time for a change. Me voting is a way of making that change happen.



Shingo Hosoma
Student
Los Angeles

No, I don't. I don't keep up to date with politics. I feel like I shouldn't vote. I'm just so busy with my personal life and stuff that it doesn't interest me. Maybe there will be a time in the future when I vote, but who knows. Right now, I'd rather use my free time with my social life and not getting involved in politics.

HEADSHOTS BY PAUL SAVAGE: Award-winning photographer. Our mission is to provide you with affordable high-end photos. Visit our galleries. www.savages4hire.com or call 858-496-9629.

HEADSHOTS WITH MAKEUP, \$99. Three outfit changes. 36 or more photos all on CD. Zed cards available. 25 years experience. Member, BBB. 8"x10"/name, \$5 each. Call Kosmicki Photography, www.mgk-shooter.com; 619-583-2229.

MODELS NEEDED- For Website Ads. Get top-rated permanent make up free, \$550 value. Eyebrows, eye/lip liners (full lips). Certified Aestheticians/Permanent Make-up Technicians. Excellent health, over 21. Dr. Kordis, 858-451-6722.

MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash

paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn, 619-379-4964.

MODELS/INTERNET VIDEO. Females 18+. Reality-based/art photography. Excellent pay. Flexible hours. Seeking all body types/races. Open-minded a plus. Paid daily. David, 619-203-3327.

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, models! Make \$100-\$300/day. No experience required. Full time, part time. All looks needed! 1-800-799-6215. (AAN CAN)

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD, Conservatory improvisation, Rudy Quintanilla commercial actor casting director November 14, 2006. 1717 Moreno Boulevard San Diego, 7:30-10pm. Call the SAG hotline, 619-744-8900.

VOICEOVER WORKSHOP. Break into the voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

Counseling & Support Groups

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ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mission Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

COUNSELING/DREAM STUDY. Curious, unsettled by your dreams? Jungian dream study helps with life issues, transitions, relationships. \$40/session. Paul Hartsuyker, MFT-15896. www.sandiegotherapist.com/hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

FEELING STUCK? STRESSED? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Sexual issues? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

FIND THE ULTIMATE Relationship. Are you tired of going from relationship to relationship and not finding happiness? Free consultations, individual coaching and seminars. www.sheilahenry.com. Sheila Henry, MFT-8408. 858-450-1965.

GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, confusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Discretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Karmen, PhD, MFT-12709. 619-296-9442.

HEALTHY ADULTS learning to heal childhood traumas. Emotional recovery from wounds of dysfunctional family. Includes Thought Field Therapy for eliminating anxieties and traumas. Counseling for individuals, couples enrichment and family bonding sessions. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician, and Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975, www.goodlove-online.com.

MALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for mixed process/support group. Relationship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem, childhood issues. Tuesday evenings, UTC area, free. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281. 858-622-0632.

MARRIAGE/FAMILY THERAPIST. Seeking individuals, adolescents, couples, families ready to make changes. Let me help you help yourself. Sliding fee. License #MFC43461. Lilach Harris, 619-241-6006.

PROFESSIONAL SPIRITUAL Counselor. M.A., Human Behavior. 34 years Peer Counseling experience. Focus on PTSD, Emotional Abuse, Addictive Behaviors, Co-dependence, Relationships. Teaching Credential #020171282. www.idaretoheal.com, 619-701-4621.

NOTICES

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A PROSPERITY MINDSET can be yours. Discover and apply spiritual principles that activate prosperity and success in your life. Call Michael or Michele. 858-627-9509.

ADDITION PROBLEMS? Women for Sobriety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549-3533.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Get group support at San Diego Area meetings. Adults who grew up in alcoholic, other types of dysfunctional households. Feel better about yourself. 619-276-6232, www.adulchildren.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.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeking patients in need of free assistance with personal cannabis garden, in accordance with 215. Local guidelines. 619-528-0907. edzepp@yahoo.com.

CHURCH SERVICE, Gaslamp community church. Downtown, 3rd & J street, Sunday at 11am. Chinese historical museum outdoor garden. 619-262-0757 for info www.gaslampchurch.com.

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 sam-

pling. 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. 760-436-3730. 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.

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.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, stop crime and violence. Be a role model. Be a guardian angel! Free martial arts training. 619-964-8099.

MEDITATION. Free classes Tuesdays 7pm, Wednesdays 7:30pm, Saturdays 11:30am. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, Suite 303, Ocean Beach. 858-616-6308. or www.dharmacenter.com.

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! Wait? No! sancho69ya@yahoo.com.

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.

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- ♥ "The best singles parties I have ever seen" - Annie Ory, Relationship Expert
- ♥ Come to this week's event and find the one you are looking for

Don't miss our next event!
Casual Friday Single's Mixer
Friday, November 3, 6:30 PM at
Postcards American Bistro
950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego

RSVP for the event and check out our online dating website at:
www.thesocialplace.com
1-866-635-7241 (Toll Free)

SPEED DATING

Thursday, November 16
at the Bitter End (Downtown SD)
Ages 23-32, 30-42 & 42-55

Thursday, December 7
at 30-Two (inside Rama, Downtown)
Ages 24-34, 35-47 & 48-62
Check-in 7 pm, event 7:30 pm
Advance registration required.

SINGLES NIGHT

Tuesday, November 7
Ages 20s/30s/40s
at 30-Two (inside Rama, Downtown)
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...happen every Tuesday at the 94th Aero Squadron 8885 Balboa Avenue
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Meet new and exciting people. Complimentary buffet.

Singles in San Diego
Dance parties hosted by Darlena
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www.singlesinsandiego.com

NEW MOMS, who are not depressed or nursing, ages 20-45. UCSD department of Psychiatry needs women who are new mothers for a research study using sleep and light therapy. 619-543-7393.

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.

OPEN MIC NIGHT. Every Sunday, 9pm-12am. Tom Giblin's Irish Pub, 640-A Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS Community Walk. Sunday, 10/29, Balboa Park, 5K Walk to benefit American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Register or donate logon 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, "The Power Of the Word," November 27, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200. San Diego, CA 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. 619-236-9046.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Grace Happens," November 16, 7-9pm. 1228-1/2 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 92014. Meeting, no fee. 858-259-1880.

PREGNANT? Available to take part in a paid clinical study? PrecisionMed is seeking healthy volunteers, between the ages of 20 and 45, who are at least 7 weeks pregnant, and who would like to participate in a research study. Participation in this genetic study involves no medication or treatment and requires between 1 and 3 short office visits to our offices. As compensation for participating, volunteers will receive \$100 for each office visit. For further information and to check if you qualify, please call 800-519-8810 or you can email at caroleemarks@precisionmed.com.

PRIVATE COUNSELING. Your journey can be clearer, more peaceful; relationship issues, body image, self-esteem, anger. I can

3

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Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200.

Use your credit card

No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours

No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

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Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.

SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

help. Work toward acceptance of yourself. Fee. 619-838-6817.

RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-dependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate recovery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.recovery4u.cc.

SEARCHING, for clues about another person's sexual behavior? There's help! Call S-Anon, a 12 step program for relatives of sexual compulsives. 619-595-3888 or www.sanon.org.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.slawso.org.

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, addi-

tional 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.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

VOLUNTEER childbirth assistants needed. UCSD Medical Center Double Program needs women to help mothers during labor. Big commitment, lots of gratification! 619-543-6269.

VOLUNTEERS. San Diego's abused/neglected children need your voice. Serve as a Court Appointed special Advocate (CASA). Bilingual needed. Next information sessions: Wednesday, 11/8 and 12/13. Voices for Chil-

dren, 858-569-2019 or visit www.voices4children.com.

WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE, North County. Ages 17-35. Offering free memberships, for those either new to the area, or experiencing emotional/financial troubles. E-mail Jessica@nowomen.org or 760-231-1079.

YOU'RE WELCOME HERE! We're making a difference in Spring Valley. Join us! Spring Valley Community Church. Christian outreach. Sunday Worship: 9:30am-English, 11:30am-Spanish. 730 Concepcion. www.svchurch.org.

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ADVENTURE CRUISE LINES. We offer small ship cruising in Southern California

for up to 54 passengers aboard our cruise ship, Pacific Monarch. Call 310-987-9893. www.adventurecruiselines.com.

AIRLINE TICKETS, 2 roundtrip anywhere Southwest flies, valid through mid-2007, just make the reservation then pay me \$325 plus minimal taxes due. 619-507-3831.

DISCOVER COSTA RICA Paradise! 40 lovely hotel/apartments. Best area of San Jose. From \$195 weekly. www.hotels.co.cr/scotland.html or for investment, www.2buyrentsell.com. Call 760-651-1101.

LIST YOUR VACATION RENTAL with the hottest online directory of luxury rentals and services. www.PoshSoul.com. 1-866-829-9150.

TRAVEL DISCUSSION group for singles 40s-50s forming. Share travel experiences, make new friends. Interested? Call 858-292-7321.

\$15K VACATION ONLY \$1295! Join this vacation club and receive \$15,000 worth of vacations for only \$1295! Not a time-share! No contracts! E-mail ra1057x@yahoo.com.

PERSONALS

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CLOSING OF ONE CYCLE, Beginning of new cycle, begets lively frequencies, affecting earth's energies and life forms therein. "Merry-go-round" continues. Masks for music, humor, sing "nearer to God."

DAVIEBABE in Boston. As seen on TV. My last wife was a wonderful woman. I was stupid to leave her! Still crazy after all these years.

GIRL IN WHITE PORSCHE. After racing 54 and I-5 north, Sunday afternoon, CHP in hot pursuit, red Mustang wants to meet you. Let's meet. Respond here.

JAPANESE, PETITE, Cute, former pianist, great look, who placed ad first week October, reader would like to contact you. Am pianist, reliable, sociable, fun guy. (11/15) ☎70518

WE MET BOTH OF YOU on 4th of July, at the Living Room Cafe, La Jolla. Marco and Sam. Need to see you again. Leave number at Living Room.

WHEN DANIEL BOONE goes by at night, the phantom deer arise, lost, wild America is burning in their eyes. Peace now.

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

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Meet Your Match. Get a free ad in the *Reader* and on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com, and a free voice mailbox for recording and receiving messages. Questions? Call 619-235-8200, 8:30-5:00, Mon.-Fri.

Free Online Placement: Ads submitted online receive e-mail responses and voicemail responses. Tell more about yourself and upload a photo, too! These features are free. Online placement deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

More Free Placement Options: Can't get online? Fill the form below and mail or fax it to us. If faxing, please photocopy first. Fax/mail deadline: 7 am, Saturday.



Meet your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

OPTIONAL HEADLINE: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized; abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is \$12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4
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PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25/FREE	26	27	28	29	30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday

Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 **Fax:** (619) 233-7907
Online: SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday

Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Phone:** (619) 235-8200

Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego *Reader* does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego *Reader* as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego *Reader* and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

We must have the following information. Please print.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) () _____

Phone (evening) () _____

Signature _____

To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)

E-mail: _____

Choose One: ☐ Woman seeking a man
☐ Shared interests ☐ Man seeking a woman

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Headlines _____x \$12 each line\$ _____

First 25 words of printed ad.....\$ **FREE**

Additional words _____x \$1.20 each.....\$ _____

Late fee/walk-in fee: \$20.....\$ _____

TOTAL\$ _____

No cancellations. No refunds. Make check or money order payable to San Diego *Reader*. To order using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

Card number _____

Expiration date _____

Signature _____

MATCHES
WOMEN
SEEKING MEN

CLASSY PRETTY LADY, 60+, slim, world traveler, intelligent, healthy life style, many interests, easy-going. Looking for quality gentleman, travel, explore and enjoy life together. (11/15) ☎70005

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

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

SEXY, SINCERE WOMAN, Looking for a friend for movies, eating out. Trusting, possible long term relationship, easy-going and very worthy. (11/15) ☎70011

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

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

JUST FOR THE FUN, And love of it, let's meet. If you are 60+ with a kind, adventurous and passionate spirit, very pretty lady awaits. (11/15) ☎70019

WELL TRAVELLED, Slim, attractive, real estate agent, 60, enjoys outdoors, arts, dining. Seeks a reasonably fit companion for conversation and a glass of wine. (11/15) ☎70020

WHITE GIRL WANTS BLACK Man. Female, 42, 5'8", full-figured engineer. Seeks single male, 32-52, to watch my son play college ball, us walk along beach. (11/15) ☎70017

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

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

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

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN, All of our lives? Adventurous, educated woman, 57, to meet sense of humor, sincere gent, 55-63, for caring friendship and romance. (11/15) ☎70018

NORTH COUNTY FUN, Upbeat, very attractive, blonde, green eyes, very young 50s homeowner, dog lover. Seeks same,

white male, any age, for travel, love, fun! (11/15) ☎70028

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

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

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

WEEKEND FUN, North Country gal 46, brown hair, medium 164lbs. Seeks fun loving guy who likes Starbucks, walks, art and has a funny side. (11/15) ☎70015

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

SEEKING AFRICAN AMERICAN, Gentleman 55-65 for extraordinary relationship on all levels. I'm a Caucasian lady, blonde, 61. We are educated, open-minded, excited about each new day. Sense of humor important. (11/15) ☎70012

HAPPY, SUCCESSFUL African-American lady. Delightful, devoted, down to earth. 63 years young. Are you 57-70, nonsmoker, ready for serious relationship? Let's play, enjoy life. (11/8) ☎70001

BLONDE, GERMAN-BORN, Very good-looking, adventurous, worldly, loves to laugh and walk along the beach. Seeking educated professional gentleman who enjoys life, 40-50. (11/15) ☎70006

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

38-YEAR-OLD QUALITY LADY, 5'4", slender, brunette/blue eyes, attractive. Seeks physically fit gentleman 36 to 48 for relationship. Must be established and presentable. (11/15) ☎70021

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

BRITISH GENTLEMAN DESIRED By attractive, green-eyed lady, 47, great sense of humor, world traveler, healthy lifestyle. Seeking ages 43-54 with similar interests/lifestyle. (11/15) ☎70004

SINGLE 37 FEMALE, Seeks fun-loving, romantic man who enjoys casinos, diners and loves to travel and explore with a kind, caring, loving lady. (11/8) ☎69986

ACTIVE, CARING, ATTRACTIVE, Single mom 49 enjoy movies, music, sports, kids, outdoors, and quiet times. Looking for an honest optimistic caring guy, North County preferred. (11/15) ☎70013

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. (11/15) ☎70014

QUALITY WOMAN, Accomplished, retired professional, lively, cultured, great body, San Diego. Seeking quality, non-smoking man, financially/emotionally secure, to explore life's possibilities. (11/15) ☎70003

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

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

YOU'RE THE BOSS, No question, an amazing business man, it's true. Let me teach you matters of the heart. (11/15) ☎70025

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

DOCTOR, BEAUTIFUL, AFFECTIONATE. Loves dancing, yoga, traveling. Looking for successful, passionate, intelligent, spontaneous, caring, loving, sincere man, 40s, for long-term relationship. (11/15) ☎70027

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

PETITE BLONDE POWERHOUSE Are you an Afro-American or biracial guy under 5'9" who loves laughter, workouts, theater, movies? Let's explore the possibilities 42-55ish. (11/15) ☎70008

GENTLE TIGRESS, Pretty, playful, passionate. Seeks clean-cut Caucasian, classy, under 50, trim, handsome, sweetheart. Let's share movies, theater, animals, Magic Mountain. No smoking/drinking/drugs! (11/15) ☎70024

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

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

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

VERY ATTRACTIVE, Slim blonde, professional. Seeking a bright, accomplished, tall, fun man, for movies, concerts, travel. Non-smoker, 52-60. (11/15) ☎70010

ASIAN, EXOTIC, SEXY, Nice legs/smile, curvaceous figure, 5'3", 115lbs, professional, childless, homeowner. Desires fun, fit, nonsmoker, upscale, selective, compatible, generous, 36+ Caucasian stable gentleman. (11/15) ☎70023

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

SINCERE, ADVENTURESOME, Loving lady, 5'6", trim, no dependents, enjoys outdoors. Seeks tall, white, healthy, 57-69, to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (11/15) ☎70016

59 ASIAN WIDOWED, Nia, attractive, healthy, secure, non-smoker, younger-looking, no drama, enjoy life. Seeking secure, Christian life partner for serious relationship. No games, games please. (11/15) ☎70007

MATCHES
MEN SEEKING
WOMEN

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

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

NORTH COUNTY, Nice guy. Seeks mature, attractive lady, for traveling companion. Let's do it like nature movies, music and life. Sense of humor a plus. (11/15) ☎70503

BROWN, SMOOTH SKIN Desired by white professional, sweet, funny, caring, handsome, 47, looking 38, shaven face, brown/green, medium 6', 202. Give wonderful back rubs. (11/15) ☎70520

I'M ATTRACTIVE, 50, bright, I've got a killer sense of humor, no money, and I seek a reasonably attractive, loyal woman (any race) to adore. (11/15) ☎70529

GENTLEMAN, 70, TALL, Trim, educated, easygoing, handsome, down to earth. Seeks considerate, petite, slim, sincere 50-60, mate for mutual love, friendship, and good times. (11/15) ☎70530

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

HIGH REGARD FOR WOMEN, Including equal treatment. Unselfish, sensitive, personable, adventurous, liberal, well-traveled. Music, arts, politics, tennis, outdoor adventures, animals. Agnostic, 6'1". Young 59. (11/15) ☎70505

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

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP. Possibly more. I'm 57, 5'10", 175lbs, nonsmoker. I enjoy working out, movies, dining, sports, quiet times together with nice lady, nonsmoker only. (11/15) ☎70525

SOULFUL, ROMANTIC. Seeking common ground, 52, 5'6", athletic, educated, well-traveled, Visual Mac, KPBS, classic rock, traditional values, chemistry, communica-

tion. 38-50, spunky, petite brunette, nonsmoker. (11/15) ☎70526

YOUNG, 60-YEAR-OLD MAN in North County looking for nice, sweet woman in North County, with good sense of humor, nonsmoker, who likes her life. (11/15) ☎70507

POSITIVE MAN, Attractive, slim, 5'11", blue eyes, young 55. Into new thought, personal growth, healing. Seeks slim, positive energy woman for fun, salubrious weeks. (11/8) ☎70487

I HOPE YOU LOVE Italian food! I'm 40, 5'11", 165lbs, Hispanic, attractive, fit and even romantic. I enjoy travel and making my lady feel special! (11/15) ☎70506

50, POLICE OFFICER. Healthy Caucasian, gentleman's standards/morals, Fashion Lady. Seeking motivated lady, 42-50, to enjoy life's adventures and experiences. Possible commitment. (11/8) ☎70481

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

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

SWEET, HUMOROUS, Lively Japanese. Seeks to meet a stable man with more than average qualities. (11/15) ☎70022

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

UNIQUE, GOOD-LOOKIN', Caucasian male, 45. Seeks 35 to 45ish, fun girl. Friendship, trust, romance. Me financially secure homeowner, great references, nothing to hide, let's talk. (11/15) ☎70523

JEWISH MAN Seeking Jewish woman 35-50 for walks, tennis, swimming, movies, live theatre, music and companionship. (11/15) ☎70502

SECURE SENIOR WIDOWER, Active, honest. Seeks slender/petite lady friend/companion, lover, secure, honest. Enjoy sunsets, romance, walks, travel, politics, life's pleasures, together. (11/15) ☎70511

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

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

NICE-APPEARING BACHELOR, Early 50s, trim, successful, childless, blue, brown, North County coastal homeowner without encumbrances. You: 40-something, well groomed, not overweight, serious-minded. (11/8) ☎70491

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

PERSONABLE SENIOR GENTLEMAN, Enjoys Bridge, dancing, short trips, dining

out, music. Seeks happy, thoughtful lady, 70 to 80, who is rather tall, heavy-set. (11/15) ☎70522

RICH WHITE MALE, Handsome nonsmoker, monogamous, strong, blue eyes, college. Seeks woman age/size open for fun times, long term relationship, spontaneous, intimate, affectionate. (11/15) ☎70504

VERY ATTRACTIVE, Tall widower, retired, educated, well-groomed. Seeks attractive, shapely lady, 50-65, little extra padding OK. Dates, dining, fun, romance, dancing, trips, laughter, fun, happiness. (11/15) ☎70515

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

Chocolate Princess

Searching for that special black lady, who still believes life and love can be like it is in the movies. Attractive, sexy white male, movie critic! Born in October, 5'11", mid 40s, slim and trim. Filtritious, loves to cuddle and kiss, nonsmoker. Long term relationship or get married and live happily ever after. (11/15) ☎70531

PAPI CHULO, slim, fit, 5'8", 50, college-educated, outgoing, enjoy reading. I'm a Beatles fan. Seeking companionship with extremely good, unusually lovely woman. (11/15) ☎70528

NEW ENGLAND CHARM, Health researcher, medium build, Christian values, attractive, easygoing. Seeking fit, outgoing, nonsmoker, 42-52, who enjoys dining, dancing, reading and good conversation. (11/15) ☎70509

MALE, 58. I'm transitioning home to San Diego from London, UK, and bring with me the hope that renewal brings. Care to join me? (11/15) ☎70521

MARRY ME, I'm 40, 5'10", 175lbs, handsome, healthy, always exciting, hardworking, dependable homeowner, with nice body/smile. Seeking relationship or marriage with fun, friendly lady. (11/15) ☎70510

WANTED, ATTRACTIVE, 45-65, unencumbered, uninhibited, no excess baggage, knows how to treat a good, intelligent man. Race open. Serious reply only, please. (11/15) ☎70524

PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, 6'1", 160lbs., 54, blue/red, shaved, swing dancer, road bicycle racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking chemistry/connection! (11/15) ☎70508

CUTE, CUDDLY, WARM, Friendly teddybear, young 56 (looks 45). Seeks his honey. Dynamic, creative, Jewish, nonsmoking, enjoys music. Desires younger, petite, attractive, quality, unencumbered lady. (11/15) ☎70513

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

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

ATTENTION ASIAN WOMEN, 30-45, Me, 6'1", 250lbs, single, attractive, educated, nonsmoking, honest, kind, working, intelli-

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gent, fun-loving, spiritual black male. Looking for love partner/love match. (11/8) ☎70484

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

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

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

BEST FRIEND/COMPANION Wanted. Easy-going, educated gentleman, 69, world traveler, humorous, good manners, active, multiple interests. Seeking classy lady, fun, platonic relationship. Beach areas preferred. (11/15) ☎70514

BROWN-EYED, HANDSOME, White male, 55, 5'9", homeowner. Seeks companion/partner to share cooking, gardening, Harley, convertible, camping, boating, bike, hike, fishing, flea markets. (11/15) ☎70512

CARING, FUN, FIT, Romantic stable white male, 6', 56, 185lbs. Seeks special gal for quality time together, walks, dining, travel. Bye for now. (11/15) ☎70517

SEEKING BLACK FEMALE. You, 40 to 50, beautiful, nice body. Me, white, handsome, 58", average build, loving, caring, worth meeting. (11/15) ☎70519

SMART, INQUISITIVE, Self-made, sensual, ethical, unencumbered woman possessing joie de vivre, 50-60. Would you like to meet an apt counterpart, 56? (11/15) ☎70527

MUSIC

EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

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DJ GEAR. Sales, installation, rentals and production services. Cerwin Vega speakers-only \$300/each, Technics 1200-\$350/each. 619-216-4770. www.boogienightsinc.com. Check out our Ebay store-boogienightsinc.

DJ SPEAKERS, 2 Cerwin Vega LR-36 Earthquake bass bins, great condition, \$800/best. Alex, 858-883-3293 or 619-328-2369.

DRUMMERS, We've been serving San Diego since 1989. For the absolute best deals on drum equipment, check out SanDiegoDrum.com or call 760-945-3935.

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ELRAYO GUITARWORKS. Joe Barden pickups are now on the wall. Demo these amazing pickups exclusively at elRayo. We stock Seymour Duncan, EMG, Lindy Fralin, DiMarzio, Rio Grande, TV Jones, Fender, Lace Sensor, Bartolini, Tom Anderson, Lawrence, Nordstrand, LR Baggs, Fishman, B Band, Shatten and more on the way. 3043 Adams Avenue. 619-280-1937, www.elrayoguitarworks.com.

ENTERTAINER, Soloist with gear. Seeks bar or restaurant for gig weekly. 150 Beatles songs. I sing and look like John Lennon. Richard, 619-284-1625.

EQUIPMENT, JBL PA speakers, 2-15s and HF horn in each \$450. Line 6 Rack-mount bass pod, amp modular multi-effects, includes pedal board \$525. 619-466-6099.

FENDER 3-DAY SALE! November 11, 12 and 13. 10% off our already low prices! Free Fender clinic 11/13 at 6pm. Guitar Trader, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego. Call toll free: 888-4-A-GUITAR (888-424-8482). www.GuitarTrader.com.

FENDER, dual bass 400 BXR bass amp. Very powerful. Rack mount. \$200/trade? 760-966-1244.

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GUITAR, 2003 Shecter Diamond, part custom, set neck string through body, tons of abalone inlay, highly figured burst, rusty orange quilt top, mahogany back. 619-962-0545.

GUITAR, GIBSON EPIPHONE, Les Paul classic with Seymour Duncan pickups, must sell \$400 mobile 619-248-1259.

GUITARS AND GEAR. Mexican Strato-caster 62 Reissue burgundy mist, \$450. ESP M-1 Custom, \$949. Jackson USA, \$849. Gibson SG with burst-buckers, \$675. Fender Band Master with 4x12 cabinet design speakers, \$499. Fender Genz-Benz Diablo 60, like new, \$799. Fender Ultimate Chorus, \$279. Gallien-Krueger Backline 350 with 210-BLXII and 115-BLX cabinets, \$650. At Moze Guitars, 619-698-1185.

MIXER, Carvin PA1200 powered with case, 1200-watt amp/mixer combo, perfect condition, \$500. Will include 2 Carvin 822 main speakers for \$750. Jeff, motolaw@aol.com; 619-390-2864.

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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. \$2500. Charming Spanish 3 bedroom, 1.25 bath, 1300 square-feet.

New carpet, paint, appliances. Large kitchen, breakfast nook, basement. No pets/smoking. 619-865-1022, sdagentlisa@yahoo.com.

POWAY/Park Meadows Midland. \$1550, condo. Upgraded upper unit. 2 car garage, patio, all appliances. Custom upgrades, large patio balcony. Walk to train, 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. \$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/4S Ranch. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage. Available now. Pool, spa. 858-335-4078.

RANCHO BERNARDO/Sabre Springs south. \$2900. 5 bedroom, 3 bath house. Large yard, gardener, island kitchen, 3-car garage. Close to Creekside Elementary and shopping. Pets on approval. 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 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.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. \$2695. 5 bedroom, 3 bath. Two homes in one. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on entry level; 2 bedroom, 1 bath granny flat below. Full kitchen each floor. 2 refrigerators/stoves. Washer/dryer. Pets on approval. 3328 San Carlos Drive. CMS, 619-461-1800.

SAN DIEGO. \$1325. 2 bedroom 2 bath with front and back yard, garage. Refrigerator. Cat friendly. 2065 Laurinda Place. Call 858-751-6336.

SAN MARCOS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, single story, 2-car garage, new paint/flooring. Cul-de-sac. Pets on approval. \$1750. Mindy, 760-716-3571.

SAN MARCOS/Santa Fe Hills. \$2795. 3 years new, 2600 square feet. 5 bedroom, 3 bath with black granite floors, kitchen counters. 1 bedroom or office downstairs. High ceilings, high tech DSL and alarm system, top of the line appliances including refrigerator, washer, dryer. Gardener takes care of beautiful, peaceful backyard with walkways. Large custom storage. Cat OK. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

SANTEE, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 story home, over 1500 square feet, vaulted ceilings, fireplace in living room, simulat-

ing wood/tile flooring, \$2000/month. 619-401-3097.

SCRIPPS RANCH/SABRE SPRINGS. \$3498. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Upgraded, very clean, landscaped yard, cook area, spa. 2350 square feet, 3-car garage. 858-414-5337.

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.

SOLANA BEACH, Rent to own. Investor seeks rent to own tenant. Updated 2 bedroom house in San Elijo Hills. \$2590/month. Cats and dogs ok. 858-523-0777.

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.

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. \$1800. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Attached double garage.

Fenced private yard. Central air/heat. Hook-ups. Upgraded kitchen, newer appliances. Pets OK. 619-921-0012.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1400. Newly upgraded 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Huge back yard, attached 2-car garage. Check it out, 8849 Innsdale Avenue. See inside, call 619-934-2833.

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. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 3 bath single family 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.

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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Swimming under Midway?) Scuba instructor Meghann McDonald swims up to the window of the scuba-training tank at Sport Chalet, 3695 Midway Drive, Point Loma. The 14-by-50-foot-long tank is the only one in San Diego's three Sport Chalet stores. McDonald says it can cost around \$2000 to equip yourself for scuba diving, but once you start discovering earth's "inner space," you will be hooked. (Last week's winners: Martine Felts, Tom Lanen, Eric O'Mary, Jane Obara, Malia McKee)

Clue: Ghost's-eye view

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.)



UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Just built 2, 3, and 4 bedroom houses in quiet neighborhood for \$995, \$1495, \$1995. Large bedrooms, washers/dryers, A/C. No pets. 619-220-0705.

VALLEY CENTER. Approximately \$4800. Brand new, 4 bedrooms on 2 acres. No pets. Nonsmoking. Call 858-715-0688.

RENTALS APARTMENTS / CONDOS

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ALLIED GARDENS. \$775. Great studio. New condo conversion. All new appliances, Corrienne 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.

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. \$1150. 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. 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. Laundry; pets on approval; street parking:

2055 2nd Avenue. Elizabeth at 619-239-4846.

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/Downtown. Studios starting at \$750 and efficiency studios at \$560. On-site laundry. Close to I-5. 236 Kalmia. No pets. Call 619-234-0236.

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. \$725. Studio. Gated community, on-site laundry. Fabulous location! No pets, no smoking. 2408 2nd Avenue. Call 858-751-6336.

BANKER'S HILL. \$925. Spanish bungalow in a quiet garden complex. 1 bedroom, spotless and charming. Cedar

closet and neat details. 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.

BANKER'S HILL/HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo 4th floor condo with view, 10' ceilings, fireplace, washer/dryer, balcony, new carpet, 2-car gated parking. No pets. 3450 3rd Avenue. \$2195 rent, \$1000 deposit. 619-281-4698 or 619-788-1592.

BANKER'S HILL. Spacious studio with full size kitchen and bath. All utilities included. \$725. \$500 security deposit. Available 11/20. 619-325-7332.

BANKER'S HILL. Large studio, \$895 includes all utilities. Completely renovated. Hardwood floors. \$500 deposit. OAC. Private entrance. Cat OK. 2132 Albatross. 619-334-1672.

BAY PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. Sunny, large, beautifully upgraded unit. 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.

BONITA. Large 1 bedroom guest house with living room, kitchen and bath. 700 square feet. Very quiet area. \$1000/month, utilities included. Available now! 619-813-0955.

CARDIFF. 2 bedroom duplex on hill, overlooking Downtown, beach, ocean. Large viewing deck. New kitchen/bathroom cabinets, countertops. Cable-ready. 2-car garage with storage. \$2,195, 760-720-4232.

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. \$1695/up. 760-753-4101.

CARLSBAD, SOUTH. \$1800 plus deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Corner unit. 1400 square feet. 1 carport parking. Pet considered. Must see! 760-613-9975.

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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. \$1875. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. \$1875. 1 year lease. 2 story end unit with large patio. Stove, dishwasher and microwave. Located on Terazo Portico. Pets OK with extra deposit. Call for appointment, Michael 858-597-6100 x321.

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. TPPM, 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. TPPM, 760-431-7575.

CARLSBAD/OCEANSIDE South of Highway 78. Walk to beach. \$1200. Quiet, bright. 1000 square foot 2 bedroom apartment. No dogs/smoking. 699 Eaton Street. 760-967-8121.

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. Looking for affordable luxury living? 1 bedrooms from \$1260! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths from \$1575! Near beaches, shopping, easy freeway ac-

cess, 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. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, dual master floor plan. Carport. New paint. Sunny, patio, view. Pool, jacuzzi, tennis. Cats OK. \$1550. 619-737-6708. birlbeck@gmail.com.

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, 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. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$950. Great freeway access, on-site laundry and parking. 583 Park Way. 858-200-9408.

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. \$300 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$990. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1050. Gated, laundry, parking. Section 8 OK. Available now. Open Saturday, 10am-1pm. 210 Quintard Street. 619-422-5062.

CHULA VISTA. \$1425. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in small complex. Washer/dryer, 2-car garage. 256 Beech Avenue. TPPM, 619-585-1959.

CHULA VISTA. \$875. 1 bedroom in beautiful garden setting. Controlled access. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. 161 Fifth Avenue. TPPM, 619-420-8161.

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.

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CITY HEIGHTS condo, \$1050. Newly refurbished 2 bedroom, 1 bath, ground floor. All appliances including microwave and dishwasher, laundry on-site, parking, small pet OK. Half off 1st month's rent on approved credit. Available now. 3215 44th Street, #2. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$650-1 bedroom, \$750-2 bedroom. Gated, downstairs, parking. Available now! 2642 44th Street, #1. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

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.

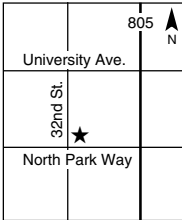
CITY HEIGHTS. Move-in special: \$300 off first month's rent! Assigned parking. Small complex, central location. 4162 51st Street. Call for more information. Donya 619-231-2727.

CITY HEIGHTS. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. \$825. Hardwood floors throughout. Yard. 3816 Wightman Street. Call Donya, 619-231-2727.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$715: 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 4057 Marlborough Avenue. \$950: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 3626 44th Street. \$1600: Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath with garage, 4270 47th Street. Tile, laundry room on site, good location, no pets. 619-701-1221.

CITY HEIGHTS. Garden apartments. \$1050, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$750, 1 bedroom. Secure property, laundry, garage

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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. \$925. 4265 Chamoune Avenue, across KFC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse apartment. Downstairs/upstairs, carpet, dishwasher, central air conditioning, heating, laundry room in building, ample parking not assigned. No pets. Section 8 OK. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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. \$795 rent. \$600 deposit. OAC. Upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, Laundry. No pets. At 4377 Marlborough Avenue #7. Agent, 619-299-8515.

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.

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.

CLAIREMONT. \$825. 1 bedroom, senior complex. Courtyard. Clean and quiet. On bus line. Laundry. No pets. By appointment only. Call 858-735-5587.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Call for our Fabulous \$\$\$ Specials! Designer 1 bedroom starting \$1050, 2 bedrooms starting \$1230. Pets welcome (deposit required). Microwave, dishwashers. Fitness center. Cool breezes, Olympic size pool, tennis, basketball, movie theatre. Garages, \$75. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT, \$899. All new studio. Granite counters, maple cabinets, Murphy bed, appliances, private patio. Quiet complex, onsite laundry, pool. Reserved parking. No smoking/pets. 760-492-8301/

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Designer 1 bedrooms from \$1050, 2 bedrooms from \$1230. Call for our Fabulous \$\$\$ Specials! Dishwasher, microwave. Tennis, basketball. Theatre, pool, gym. Garage \$75. Pets welcome, \$300 pet deposit. Monday-Saturday, 9am-6pm, Sunday, 10am-5pm. Coral Bay Park, 3309 Cowley Way. www.CoralBayCanyonAndParkApartments.com. Toll free: 1-877-585-1146. www.sdreader.com/rent/1070.

CLAIREMONT. \$1875. Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse in Pacific Bluffs. 2-car carport, washer/dryer, patio. Pet OK. 4086 Mount Acadia. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$950-\$1225. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedrooms, \$950 and up. 2 bedrooms, from \$1200 and up. Looking for clean, quiet and peaceful? All bedrooms big enough for king size beds. Walk to all your needs. Patios and garages available. 619-276-3222. For photo, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

CLAIREMONT/BAY PARK. \$2000. 4 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Brand new everything! Washer/dryer in unit. Pool. Fitness center. 5402 Balboa. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

THE READER PUZZLE

Across

- With 67-Across, 1977 movie released in Italy as "Guerre Stellari"
- Parisian pronoun
- Cracks the books
- Spearmint or peppermint
- Genghis the barbarian
- "Able was ____ saw Elba"
- 1954 movie released in Italy as "Fronte del Porto"
- Sidelong pass
- 6 on a phone
- 1952 movie released in Italy as "Cantando Sotto la Pioggia"
- "Man ____ Mancha"
- Inits. in Navy ship names
- 1972 movie released in Italy as "Il Padrino"
- Rev.'s address
- Affected emotionally
- Irradiate
- 1967 movie released in Italy as "Nick Mano Fredda"
- Word with cutie or sweetie
- "Hey, what's going ____ there?"
- 1939 movie released in Italy as "Via Col Vento"
- Moscow's land: Abbr.
- Dressed for business
- 1961 movie released in Italy as "Un Grappolo di Sole"
- Singer Washington
- Tight ends?
- Sound like an ass
- "Them"
- Two of nine?
- See 1-Across

Down

- "Weeds" airer, for short
- Hamilton's bill
- ____ deco
- President after USG
- "Not ____ know of"
- Like granola
- Lifeless
- Winchester, e.g.
- Suffix with auction
- Bakery lures
- Hopper of film
- Squelch
- Skater Michelle
- QB Manning
- Fan's belt
- They're often pickled
- "____ hollers, let ..."
- Card or Met
- Joke
- Sci-fi 1921 play

- Ear: Prefix
- "Yabba dabba ____!"
- Suffix with hand or fist
- Oberhausen "oh"
- Jennifer Lopez album "J to ____ LO!"
- Brooder?
- Jay's "Tonight Show" announcer
- New Mexico native
- Similar (to)
- Remain undecided
- Epcot center?
- First gear
- Arrive by the thousands
- 100% off?
- A- or B+
- ____-washy
- Pasta suffix
- Avignon aunt
- Singapore prime minister Lee ____ Loong
- Top 40 numbers
- Top 40 numbers
- Biblical verb ending
- Descartes' conclusion
- "Charlotte's Web" author's monogram
- Span. lady
- Old Mideast inits.
- Sen. Clinton represents it

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.

CLAIREMONT. \$950. 4495 Clairemont Drive #4. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in small, well maintained complex. No pets. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker. 619-275-LIST.

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.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750/up, large 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. 1 off-street parking, laundry,

No pets. Section 8 OK. 4205 49th. 619-584-0931. 619-465-6588.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedrooms from \$905! Great floorplans! Walking distance to campus! Gated entry. Pool. Barbecue picnic areas. Laundry. Parking. Near busline. On-site management/maintenance. Cat friendly. 6, 9 & 12-month leases available. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Aztec Pacific Apartments, 6663 Montezuma Road. Toll free: 800-433-6120. www.pacificliving.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/1042.

torties, tuxedo, gray tabbies, Russian blue type. 619-466-4391.

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.

LIZARD CAGE, custom, welded steel and alloy frame. 1' coated steel mesh, hinged cedar-shingled roof. 3 lamps. 56"x43"x20". \$150. 619-223-4867.

LOST DOG. Standard schnauzer, salt and pepper female, 38lbs., named Lulu. Lost in Clairemont. \$500 reward. Please help. 858-488-0130.

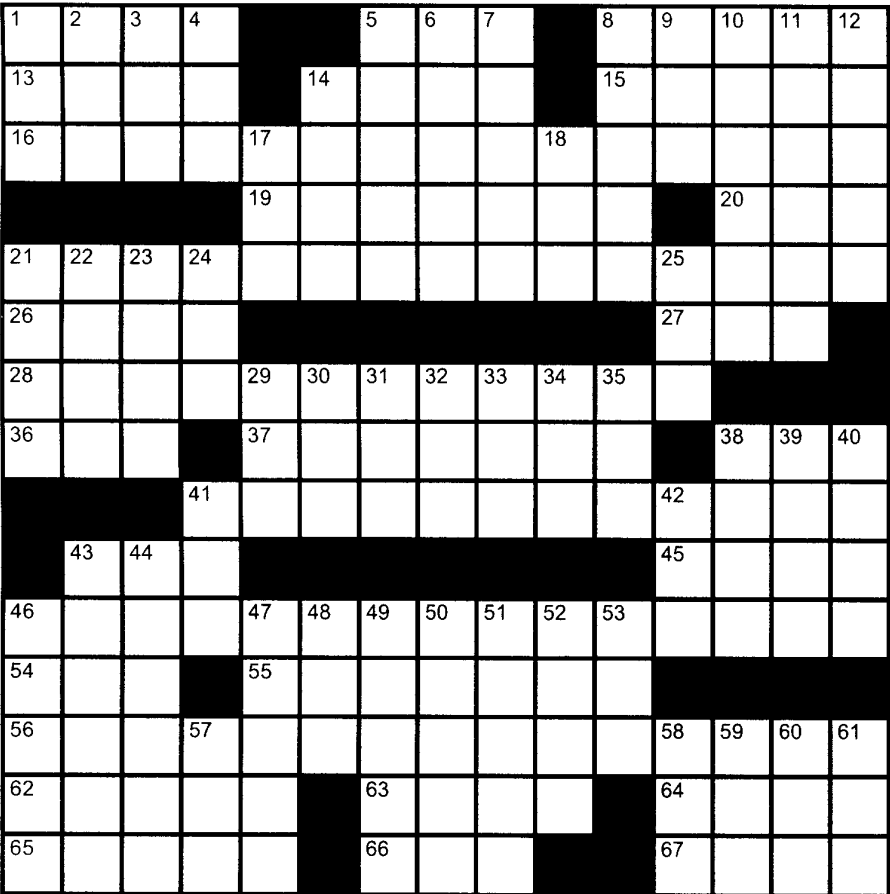
LOST LHASA APSO, Taken fro yard 10/27/06. Tan, female, 13 years old, blind and deaf, collar removed, medical problems. Reward. No questions asked 619-251-2090.

PEKINGESE, bichon mix. Neutered, off white, loyal, sweet. Old eye injury, doing fine. Age 1-1/2 years, 18 pounds. No small kids. Shots, license. \$100 619-466-0426.

ROTTWEILER PUPS, Big heads, no papers \$400. Also pups with papers and shots, \$800. Also adults for sale. 760-788-7160.

TRAINED, NEUTERED, Lovable rabbit is looking for caring, lovable person to take responsibility for him. Cage and food are available at pick-up. Call. EVERYTHING is free. 910-436-3441.

TWO ADORABLE, ABANDONED To starve, young adult spayed female cats. Need loving home. Virus-nega-



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F R U I T Y P E B B L E S
O T E R I A T O E T I E
R A S T S E S O L O N G
 T H E N B A E R G O
 P R E T T Y P E N N Y
O N E I R U B L E S
R O C O C O S O W M T N
B R A A D I M E I E I O
 N I N E T Y P E R C E N T
T Y P E W R I T E R I T O N
B O I S E S H A M N E R O
S U E T A S K A G R E W

COLLEGE AREA. Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment available in new building. Spacious, quiet, upgraded. Air conditioning. \$1300/month, trash/water paid. Call for walk-through, 619-287-9890.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$1195-\$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony/porch. Gas stove, refrigerator. Air conditioning. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Gated. Near all/golf course. 619-285-3822.

COLLEGE AREA/LA MESA. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath top-floor unit. Great layout. Big

bedrooms. Master has walk-in closet. Laundry on site. Pool/spa. Parking. No pets. Available 11/17. 6775 Alvarado Road. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

COLLEGE AREA. \$775. plus \$775 deposit. Nice, quiet, clean 1 bedroom, downstairs. On-site laundry, parking. 4546 54th Street, #3. No pets. Please call 619-698-1400.

COLLEGE AREA from \$735. 1 bedroom. Sparkling pool, on-site laundry, parking, bar-

becue. Central location. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Gated entry. Pool, air conditioning, laundry, parking. Ask about move in special. 4601 63rd Street. Call today! 619-229-9248.

COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$725. Nice 1 bedroom. Upstairs, large rooms, new carpet, coin laundry. Quiet building. No pets. 4438 Menlo Avenue #5. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

by David Levinson Wilk

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Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 10/26/06.

There were 98 entrants. The winners are:

- Gordon R. Morse, *San Diego*
- Michelle Lee Earnshaw, *Ramona*
- Charlotte Brown, *San Diego*
- Naomi Kashiwabara, *San Diego*
- George T. Ericksen, *San Diego*

PET CENTRAL

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!

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.

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.

BENGAL LEOPARD KITTEN, Sweet, exotic female, snow bengal. Just beautiful, loving and full of games! Raised with love in our kitchen. Vista North County 760-724-9316.

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.

CHIHUAHUA MIX, neutered male, off white, smooth coat. 15 pounds, 1-1/2 years, loves to held baby-style. No small kids. \$100. 619-583-5122.

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.

KITTEN, beautiful seal point mixed. 6-1/2 months old, female. She's had all shots, very playful and has been much loved. \$50. Call 619-283-8388.

KITTEN/CAT, adoptions. Spayed/neutered, combo tested, shots, microchipped. 11/4/06. 1-4pm, at Pet People. 8843 Villa La Jolla Drive. La Jolla. 858-457-2036.

KITTENS/CATS. Darling, rescued, many colors. Shots, FeLV and FIV tested negative, fixed. \$49. Calico,

tive. Playful, sweet, hunters, good with small dog. 619-295-6357.

WEIMARANERS, 2 adult. Must stay together. Both fixed. They need a loving home and yardspace. \$500/pair. 760-277-7757.

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COLLEGE AREA/TALMADGE. \$775. Gorgeous 1 bedroom, 1 bath with newer carpet/vinyl. Patio. Remodeled kitchen. Quiet complex. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 619-287-2282.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly remodeled with granite, upgraded appliances, new paint, carpet. Large sun room, off-street parking, laundry. \$1595/month. 6036 Estelle Street. 619-683-9274.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750. 1 bedroom upstairs unit. Very clean. Very quiet complex. Laundry onsite. 4512 Altadena Avenue. Agent, 619-283-2144.

COLLEGE AREA. \$995. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher and central air. Large bedrooms. Balcony. Parking and laundry onsite! Move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent! 4438 56th. Agent, 619-283-2144.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Hardwood floors. Fenced yard. Close to SDSU. Available now. 4760 College Avenue. Agent, 619-260-1368.

COLLEGE AREA/DEL CERRO. View, move-in special \$1595-\$1795. Pets extra. Spacious, 3 bedroom, skylight. New appliances, Roman tub, carpet, fenced. Canyons views, cul-de-sac. 858-270-0214.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laundry. Barbecue area. Pets considered. 3635 College Avenue. 619-582-3993.

COLLEGE. \$450. Studio apartment. Small complex, all utilities included, laundry. No pets. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #11 92115. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large unit. Dining room, balcony, A/C, pool, laundry. Upper unit, lots of storage. Near SDSU, trolley. 6775 Alvarado Blvd. #23 91941. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Small complex, all utilities included, laundry. No pets. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #10 92115. 619-698-6911.

COLLEGE/TALMADGE. \$930/month, \$700/deposit. 2 bedroom upstairs apartment, wood flooring, ceiling fans, gas appliances, off-street parking, on-site laundry, small complex. No pets. 4583 Altadena. 619-795-9844.

CROWN POINT. \$1550. 3755 Jewell Street. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath in a fourplex. Well maintained, private setting. Blocks to Bay. No pets. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

DEL MAR. \$1650. Quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath approximately 1000-square-foot apartment. 1 parking. Small complex, laundry, pool. Close to beach. 425 Stratford. 858-793-2634.

DEL MAR. \$2250. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath duplex. 1200 square feet. Kitchen includes new stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer in unit. Pet friendly. 2 private patios, large fenced backyard with deck, fireplace and garage. 310 La Amatista. Call 858-751-6336 or email lpnyor@sunrisemgmt.com.

DEL MAR. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Lease. Upstairs. 1-car detached garage. Pool, spa, security gate, laundry. Cats OK. \$1400. Available 11/30. Jesse, 858-761-4614.

DEL MAR. Brand new condo! 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Granite kitchen, all stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer, balcony. Pool, spa, gym in complex. \$2150. 661-298-0900.

DEL MAR. From \$2995. 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almost oceanfront). Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Call for other available properties. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.ILoveDelMar.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. \$50 off per month, 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. Jacuzzi. Tennis. Solana Highlands, 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands.com. Toll free: 1-888-543-1952. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Ask about our move-in special! Newly remodeled studios from \$1150 located close to Del Mar Beaches, race track and Cedro's Design District. Perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Separate kitchen and bath, breakfast bar, balconies/patios, mirrored closet doors, ceiling fans, pool, parking. Electricity included. Call 858-755-1466. sandpiper.rasnyder.com.

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Presentation provided by:
Sean Johnson, One Source Realty/GMAC
Quynh Dao, American Consumer Mortgage, Inc.

- Refreshments Provided -

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. 1/2 off first month! \$1550. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome apartments located close to Del Mar Beaches, race track and I-5. Small quaint community perfect for the Southern California lifestyle. Crown molding, fully equipped kitchens with dishwashers. Patios, mirrored closet doors, ceiling fans, pool, on-site laundry, covered parking. Call 858-755-1466. solanapointe.rasnyder.com.

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.

DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT Park Place. Luxury condominium. Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den/office 2 balconies, fully upgraded appliances, carpet and Brazilian wood flooring. Garage parking, gym, pool and spa. Ocean/bay/city views. Spectacular! 1 year lease. \$4500/month. 619-296-8555.

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. Real warehouse live/work loft. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Parking included. Spacious, private 3-unit building. \$2500. Appointment, 619-994-6991.

DOWNTOWN, EAST VILLAGE. 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. 858-583-0182. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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. 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. 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! \$2150 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. \$2095. Furnished/unfurnished. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautiful. 1300 square feet. Washer/dryer, granite, stainless steel, balcony. Gym, jacuzzi. 2 gated. Must see! 858-361-3017.

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.

DOWNTOWN. Studios with kitchen and bath. \$625-\$700. Single room with private bathroom, \$500-\$550. No smoking or pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Management, 619-531-1616.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new! Affordable luxury! Large 1, 2, and 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/patios. \$1,239-\$1,762. Now leasing for November 2006. Lillian Place Apartments. 110% area median income limit. 619-668-1532, x306.

DOWNTOWN. \$100-\$300 off/month! Views! \$1500-\$4300. Spacious 1, 2 bedroom apartments; 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhomes; luxury 2 bedroom penthouses! Low \$500-\$800 deposits! Balconies. Fireplace. Stainless appliances. Washer/dryer. Barbecue. Rooftop deck, sundeck. Controlled access. Pool. Spa. Courtesy patrol. Pets welcome! Allegro Towers, 1455 Kettner Blvd. 1-888-401-3692. www.sdreader.com/rent/2133.

DOWNTOWN. Downtown when you want it! Downtime when you don't! Studios from \$1525. Lofts from \$1825. 1 bedrooms from \$1900. 2 bedrooms from \$2600. 3 bedrooms from \$3100. Near Ralphs, Marina, Horton Plaza, Gaslamp, Petco Park. Daily 10am-6pm. Atria on Market, 101 Market Street. 101Market-Street.com/rent. www.sdreader.com/rent/2155. 619-557-0550.

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 Av-

enue. 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. Furnished studios. From \$59/daily, from \$210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathroom, kitchenette, microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food service daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Balboa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

DOWNTOWN. \$1595. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath plus den in a historical building with charm and class, walking distance to Horton Plaza, Little Italy and more. Rooftop entertaining with city views. Parking included. Pets OK. 619-574-0558.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. Studio. Stove, refrigerator, carpet. All utilities included. Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park, 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. \$1275-\$2195. 1 and 2 bedrooms. Gaslamp's hottest rental lofts located in the heart of restaurant row and Downtown's most popular 5th Avenue night life. Small pets considered. TTPM, 619-544-0017 or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street.

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.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1395. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath 2-level apartment with 9 foot ceilings. All appliances, central heat/air, controlled entry, and parking included. William Penn Building, 511 F Street. By appointment, Agent, 619-298-7232. www.sbayproperties.com.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright corner studio, \$820, 1 bedroom \$1020. Bearclaw tub with shower. Charming, secure, quiet building with laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech, 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$780. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

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DOWNTOWN/East Village. 2 bedroom apartment, second floor with views of ballpark and Gaslamp. Secured parking space and laundry on-site. \$1150. www.sandiegobestrentals.com, 619-696-7368 or 619-405-7368.

DOWNTOWN/East Village. 1 bedroom apartment with back yard. Close to ballpark, Gaslamp, Trolley. Secured parking space and laundry on-site. \$900. www.sandiegobestrentals.com, 619-696-7368 or 619-405-7368.

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DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. \$750. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Balcony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base, Downtown, Coronado, NASSCO. Bay views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365.

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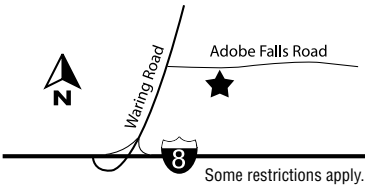
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HILLCREST. \$1150. 1821 University Avenue behind The Crypt. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great cottage. Breakfast nook. Hardwood floors. Laundry room. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$1395-\$1595. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath with new flooring and kitchen with all new appliances. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath lower unit. Refrigerator, stove and dishwasher. 1617 Brookes Avenue. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utiapmanagement.com.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 3588 First Avenue #1. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. In very private, quiet complex. No pets. www.limcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

HILLCREST. \$925 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. \$895/month, unfurnished 1 bedroom apartment. Ground floor, parking, hardwood floors. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST. \$775. 1 bedroom upstairs unit. Brand new carpet and paint. Laundry onsite. Available 11/5. 4272-78 Campus Avenue. Agent, 619-283-2144.

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/Mission Hills. \$900. 1 bedroom apartment. Underground parking, gated building, top floor, balcony, indoor cat OK, non-smoking, laundry room in building. 3775 3rd Avenue. 619-297-7929.

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. Great location! 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.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$1370. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse with loft on quiet cul-de-sac. Gated courtyard entry. Storage. Close to Mercy Hospital. Sorry no pets. 4221 Fourth Avenue. Shown by appointment 619-260-0739.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Large yard, small storage unit, laundry facility, off-street parking. Central location. \$975/water paid, 1189 Ebony Street. 619-435-9442. www.homes4rent.com.

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, #18. 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. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse-style apartment. Washer/dryer in unit. Off-street parking, 951 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-585-1959.

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.

KEARNY MESA/SPECTRUM. \$1800. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Boardwalk at Spectrum. Corian counters, tiled kitchen and bathrooms. Upgraded carpet. Large bedrooms. 858-598-1111 x192. utiapmgmt.com.

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/TALMADGE. \$1100. Spacious, 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Nice, newer building. Washer/dryer included, fireplace, carport. No pets. 4452 Highland Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

KENSINGTON. \$975/month. Spacious bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upper front view. New carpet, ceiling fans, off-street parking. Gated yard area. Coin laundry. No pets. Nonsmoker. 4121 Meade Avenue. 619-889-7568.

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 JOLLA COLONY. \$1750. "Verano", 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet/paint. Dual master suites. Close to all. Pets negotiable. Boone Property Management, 858-274-6856.

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. Condo \$1800. 2 bedroom new paint, sunroom, 2 car garage. All appliances, fireplace, pool, tennis. Near all shopping. 858-453-9618.

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. 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. 1 bedroom condo in beautiful Lucera. Gated community, laundry in unit, 1 parking space. Pool and exercise room. Close to everything! \$1550. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-7368.

LA JOLLA. Luxury condos for rent 2 bedroom 1-1/2 bath. Granite countertops, stainless steel. 1/2 block from beach. Completely renovated. Asking \$2800/month. 619-403-3795.

LA JOLLA. \$1150. 1 bedroom. In the village. Garden setting. New windows. Laundry room. 7555 Herschel Avenue. 858-459-1102.

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. \$1395. 1 bedroom. Cottage style apartment in small complex. Steps to WindanSea. One parking space. 338 Rosemont. TPPM, 858-454-4200 x119.

LA JOLLA. \$1650. Large, 2 bedroom 2 bath. Beamed ceilings, fireplace. Pool, detached 2 car garage. Located in La Jolla Terrace. 3139 Evening Way #C. TPPM, 858-454-4200 x110.

LA JOLLA. \$2950. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, gas fireplace, washer/dryer, 2-car garage, patio, fenced yard, ocean view, new carpet and paint. Pet OK on approval. 1 year lease. 5674 Linda Rosa Avenue. Call 858-490-1600. www.kandrpproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. \$825 rent. \$800 deposit. Studio. Cute studio with stove, new paint. Near all. On-street parking. 7529 Herschel Street #4 & #7. 619-804-3325.

LA JOLLA. \$1400. 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/UTC. \$1800. Spacious 2 master bedrooms, 2 bath condo. Two balconies, washer/dryer. Newer carpet, painted. 2 underground parking. Heated pool/spa. 909-396-7633.

LA JOLLA/BIRD ROCK. \$1795. Utilities included. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Beach, 2 blocks. New hardwood. Pool. Available now. 5377 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-638-7399.

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$2495. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, fully furnished condo at Villa Mallorca. Tennis. Pool. 2-car garage. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Balcony. Pool. 8680 Villa La Jolla Drive. Available 11/4. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. \$1350. 1 bedroom in garden setting. Steps to beach. Patio, coin laundry, parking. Open Saturday, 11/4, 1pm-2pm. 350 Nautilus Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

LA MESA. \$970. Nice 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Close to all. New carpet, parking, coin-operated laundry. Must see! Available 11/20. Move in Special: Half off 1st month's rent, on approved credit. 4261 Lowell Street, #16. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

LA MESA. \$850. Charming, classic 1950s 1 bedroom apartment in the heart of the Village. Small quiet complex, first level. This unit will take you back to a simpler way of life. Still retains its original kitchen countertops, cabinets. All original interior doors, many other unique features. New ceiling fans in bedroom/living room. On-site laundry. Close to many shops, restaurants. Low deposit: \$500. Sorry, no pets allowed. 8437-41 La Mesa Boulevard. Call Scott, 619-846-6615, 9:00AM-5:00PM.

LA MESA. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, balcony; \$1095. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upper, balcony; \$1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, yard. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1035.

LA MESA. \$1125. 2 bedroom, \$500 deposit. Carport space. Storage. Laundry. Pool. Gated. No pets. Available 11/7. 619-698-7926. villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Huge apartment, 1200 square feet. Pool. Air conditioning. View. 1 parking space. Laundry on site. 6-month lease. Available 11/30. 8600 Lemon Avenue. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

LA MESA. \$1150 rent, \$700 deposit. O.A.C. 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex townhouse style apartment. No pets. 4857-1/2 Jessie Street. 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$925 includes utilities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment in gated hillside home. New paint, laminate flooring, shared laundry, on-street parking, patio. Agent, 619-463-2971.

LA MESA. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. Clean. Close to Trolley and Grossmont Center. Laundry. Assigned parking. Cat ok. Section 8 ok. 619-469-3735. www.floit.com.

LA MESA. \$1150 and \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment and 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Garage, pool, laundry, fireplace, patio. 5530 Jackson Drive #8 and #4. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$695. Studio apartments. Parking, laundry, close to Grossmont Center. 8591 Mellmanor Drive #9. AMI Property management, 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$925. 1 bedroom. Great community, superior location, lush landscape. Pool, spa, parking. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA. \$1195. 2 bedroom. Great community, superior location, lush landscape. Pool, spa, parking. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA. \$995 rent, \$900 deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. Appliances, balcony, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Great location. 6006 East Lake Murray Boulevard #E. 619-384-9219.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925/month. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1165/month. Lots of amenities. Close to shopping and freeways. Cats welcome upon approval. Available now. For appointment and details, call Glenna, Manager, 619-465-9934 or 619-469-5010.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom apartment, \$890. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome, \$1180. 2-car carport. Spacious apartments. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all 5545 Morro Way. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1475. Popular area, near all. Fenced patio/yard, hookups, A/C, microwave, pool. No dogs. No Section 8. 619-464-5557.

LA MESA. Huge 1 bedrooms, \$725-\$850. 2 bedroom, 2 baths, \$1100. Parking, pool, laundry, balcony, air conditioning, dishwasher. 7481 Mohawk Street. Call 619-466-6149.

LA MESA. Move-in special! Good credit equals first 2 months at \$725 each, \$900 security deposit. Large 2 bedroom 1 bath. Water included. Pool, parking, laundry. 7629 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. North of I-8 near Costco: 1 bedroom, \$930 and 2 bedroom, \$1195. Ask about our Move-In Special! Large, extra storage, plus outside storage closet, air conditioning. Remodeled. Garage available. Upstairs units available. Small pet OK. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802. SanDiegoApartments.com.

LA MESA. Private 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, trilevel condo, 1450 square feet, 1-car garage and carport. Pool. Close to freeways. \$1800 (water and trash included). No smoking. 619-840-2791.

LA MESA. Section 8 welcome! \$945/month, water included. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool, parking, laundry. 7633 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$880. Air conditioning, patio or garage, on-site coin laundry. Available now! 4751-4757 Jessie Avenue. 619-825-8954 or 619-460-8011.

LA MESA/Hearth of the Village. \$895. Charming, classic 1950s apartment, lower level, small quiet complex. Will take you back to a simpler way of life. Unit retains its original kitchen countertops, cabinets. All original interior doors intact, many other unique features. Current upgrades will be new paint in designer colors, new bathroom vanity, fixtures, new carpet, vinyl, new door hardware, updated light fixtures. Property has on-site laundry. Close to many shops, restaurants. Sorry, no pets allowed. Available late November 2006. 8447 La Mesa Boulevard. Call Scott, 619-846-6615, 9:00AM-5:00PM.

LA MESA/Near Village. WOW! Just reduced to \$1125/month. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath, completely renovated. New paint/carpet, very large patio, washer/dryer hookups or laundry facilities. Convenient, comfortable, and cozy. Great location! No Section 8. Lease. 858-558-8879 or email kwahl@san.rn.com.

LA MESA/CASA DE ORO. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, from \$1325! 2 bedrooms from \$1075! 1 bedrooms from \$850. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming. New Orleans ambience. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and gated parking. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. Call 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LA MESA. \$825. 55+ Community. 1 bedroom, 1 bath mobile homes available now. Coin laundry. Pool. Parking. No pets. Easy freeway access. 619-443-3600.

LA MESA. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry on site. Available now. 12718 Mapleview Avenue, #11. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

LA MESA. From \$625. Nice 1 bedroom in quiet 55+ community. Laundry, air conditioning, clubhouse. Parking. Small pet OK. Ask about our special! 12133 Rockcrest Road. 619-443-9611.

LA MESA. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Brand new, never lived in. All appliances, washer/dryer. Walk-in closet. Pool, recreation room. 9728 Marilla #101, 92040. 619-698-6911.

LEMON GROVE. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 2-assigned parking. Large backyard. Walking distance to trolley. Close to freeways and shopping. Pet negotiable. 619-465-4434.

LEUCADIA. \$1000. 1 bedroom. Shared yard area. Parking. Laundry. Cat OK. Available now. 243 East Glaucaus Street #C. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

LINDA VISTA. \$685. Studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulic Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA/KEARNY MESA. \$1300. All new! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Shared garage. New: kitchen, appliances, carpet, bath! Laundry. Pools. Tennis. De-clawed cat. 951-237-0936.

LITTLE ITALY. All new! Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath penthouse. 807 square feet. Hardwood, granite, stainless appliances. Pets OK. Must see. \$2000. Available now. 858-967-1820.

LITTLE ITALY/La Vita. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. View! View! Amazing Bay and City views and huge balcony for entertaining. \$2450. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-7368.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, \$950/\$950 deposit, storage included. Completely remodeled, new appliances/carpet/floors, parking available. No pets. Available now. 4281 Logan Avenue. 619-584-5900.

MISSION BEACH. \$1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Steps to beach. Parking. Partial utilities included. New paint/floor tile/bathrooms. 1 year lease. No dogs. 858-488-1759.

MISSION BEACH. \$1550. Walk to beach! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Garage plus parking space. Shared patio, laundry hookup. Available mid-November. 3565 Strand Way. 619-447-5873.

MISSION BEACH. \$950. studio. 3rd floor. Balcony. Fireplace. New carpet/paint/windows. Laundry room. Parking. 100 feet from bay. 3630 Bayside Lane. Available now. 619-888-6604.

MISSION BEACH. Nice 2 bedroom duplex, 2 parking, appliances, half block to beach, storage, laundry hookups. No pets. 3628 Mission Boulevard. \$1700/month, water/trash paid. 619-435-0387. 619-206-3089.

MISSION BEACH. \$945. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Once block to beach. Upstairs unit. 1 parking spot. Laundry on site. 6-month lease. 3592 Mission Boulevard. Available 11/25. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$2200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upgraded with granite countertops, tile floors, new bathroom. View, shared boardwalk patio. 1 parking space. Laundry on site. Available now. 3229 Ocean Front Walk. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1700/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Newly remodeled, parking. No pets. 715 Santa Barbara Place. Available now. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. Half block to ocean! Super clean 1 bedroom with parking. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$1200. Available now. Call 562-445-7493.

MISSION BEACH. \$2200/month. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Nearly 1000 square feet, hardwood floors, tons of storage. Available now. Mission at Ensenada Court. Call Greg 909-223-6628.

MISSION BEACH townhouse. \$2400. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath on the sand of Sail Bay. Only available from December 1-June 30. 2 car parking, tile floors, 2-story unit. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

MISSION BEACH. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Bay front property with view. Close to restaurants and shops. Free laundry. Open house Saturday, 11/2, 10am-11am. 3284 Bayside Walk. TTPM, 858-699-3851.

MISSION HILLS. \$1200/up. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

MISSION HILLS/OLD TOWN. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Second floor. Hardwood floors, new refrigerator/oven, on-site laundry. Pets OK. \$1300/month, \$1000/deposit. 3786 Keating Street. 858-613-1069.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. 2500-square-foot townhouse, 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, drop-dead views-bay, city. New Berber, balcony, washer/dryer, double-garage. No pets. 1148 West Palm \$2695. 619-295-7113.

MISSION HILLS. 1-bedroom apartments. New maple cabinets, granite countertops, gas stove, microwave, dishwasher, large refrigerator. Travertine bath. Off-street parking. No pets. \$1095-\$1250. 3633 Columbia. 619-295-7113.

MISSION HILLS. \$1000. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment, private patio, screened porch. Utilities paid. Coin laundry, off street parking. Pets allowed. 1770 West Washington. 858-279-0329.

MISSION HILLS. \$1195. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gorgeous bay views. Private patios. On site laundry.

Available 11/7. 1042 West Spruce. Mike, 619-247-2114.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. Lofts: 2 weeks free! 1 bedrooms: 1/2 off first month. Crane floor! Lofts, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1580. Underground parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Washer/dryer. Internet. Elevator. Gym. Great location! Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons, 4021 Falcon Street. missionhills@propemail.com. 888-404-7952. www.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

MISSION HILLS/OLD TOWN. \$1775. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Top floor. The deck wraps around the entire condo. Great view! Fireplace. Pool. Exercise room. Gated community. 2 covered parking spots. Laundry hook-ups. 3995 Hortensia Street. Available now. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$1095. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Second floor. Minutes to Downtown. Breakfast bar. Open living room and kitchen. Pool. Parking. Available now. 1767 Torrance. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. \$1600. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. Large deck with spectacular Harbor and City views! Stove, refrigerator. Laundry facilities. No pets. 2801 Columbia Street. 619-988-0705.

MISSION HILLS. 2822 Reynard, \$1025. 1 bedroom. Laundry. Off-street parking. On bus line. Donya, 619-231-2727.

MISSION HILLS. \$1275. 2 bedroom 2 bath. Controlled access, on-site laundry, elevator, dishwasher, central air conditioning and parking. Great location in the heart of Mission Hills near shops, restaurants and public transportation. Cat OK. 4043 1st Avenue. 858-571-1970 or e-mail Alfredo at avaquera@sunrisemgmt.com

MISSION HILLS. \$750/up. Studio and 1 bedroom available. Hardwood floors. Murphy bed. Intercom entry. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 West Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS. \$1225. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, lower unit. Small quiet building. 4147 Ingalls Street, Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. \$765. Large studio apartment. Laundry, carport available. Convenient location. No pets. 3687 Keating Street. TTPM, 619-546-5739.

MISSION HILLS. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. On canyon, quiet, near shopping and bus lines. No pets. 619-298-6436.

MISSION VALLEY Condo, \$1450. 2 master suites (bedrooms/baths). Furnished preferred (or unfurnished). Fireplace, breakfast nook, washer/dryer, refrigerator. Great location! 2238 River Run Drive, #240. Community pool, fitness. Agent, Kraig, 858-592-2130.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. Nice 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. Pool, amenities, and garage. No pets. Call 619-977-8861.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1050 and up. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near USD. Walk to the Y. Bike to beach. A quiet, no pets complex. 619-683-7805.

MISSION VALLEY. \$850. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Near USD. Close to beach and shopping. On-site laundry. No pets. 619-683-7805.

MISSION VALLEY. One month free! Open house 11/3-11/5. 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms from \$1495. Brand new! Washer/dryer. Vaulted ceiling. Gated parking garage. Elevator. Theater. Fitness center. Steps to trolley, restaurants and shops! The Village at Morena Vista, 5395 Napa Street. Toll free: 888-602-4170. www.sdreader.com/rent/2153.

MISSION VALLEY. Newly renovated studios/suites-\$345+/week, \$1299+/month. Off-street, covered parking. Full kitchen. Complimentary continental breakfast. Hot coffee/tea, 24 hours. On-site laundry. Free high speed Internet, 80 cable channels, HBO. Fax/copy service. Pool/spa. Near SDSU. Days Inn & Suites, 1-888-298-5168. www.sdreader.com/rent/2139.

MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/Kensington. 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms, \$985-\$1665. Spacious apartment homes include: microwave, dishwasher, balcony/patio. Gated community with tropical landscape, pool, spa, sauna and fitness center. Underground parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific, 4454 44th Street. 1-800-372-9146. www.pacificliving.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$895/month. 626 estimated square feet. Laundry. Jacuzzi. Gated. 6675 Mission Gorge #A214. Agent, 619-471-1755.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Newly renovated. Great location. Pools, jacuzzis, gym, tennis. Security, ample parking. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available 12/4. 619-708-8246.

MISSION VALLEY/West. \$1500. Great 2 bedroom, 2 bath at The Bluffs. Complex has pool, jacuzzi, free Cable. New carpet, new paint. Westbourne Realtors 858-488-4800.

MISSION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story condo. Bright, balcony, view. Washer/dryer, newer appliances, fireplace. Carport. Nonsmoking. Pet? \$1800. Rene, 619-654-6187. Amy, 619-997-2002.

MISSION VALLEY. \$300 off first month! Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 full bath. 3rd floor. 2-underground parking. Fireplace. Washer/dryer. New hardwood. Amenities. \$1700. 619-250-0699.

MISSION VALLEY/Presidio Place, \$1650. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Near shopping, USD. Appliances, private patio, fireplace, central heat/air. Tennis, racquetball, pool. 619-849-0170.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome. On the river. Remodeled, granite kitchen, balcony, includes water/cable, pools, 2-parking spaces, laundry facilities. 619-519-4507.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with new carpet/fresh paint, assigned parking, 2 pools, spa, fitness center. No pets/smoking. Available now. 619-322-0150.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. \$990. 2 bedroom, 1 bath; storage. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Fireplace, air, dishwasher. Oak kitchen. Keyed entry. 6755 Mission Gorge Road. 858-457-0397.

NATIONAL CITY. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. \$1050/up. Spacious. Balcony. Washer/dryer hookups. Gated. Lease. No pets. 940 Palm Avenue. 619-336-0436.

NATIONAL CITY. \$725/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

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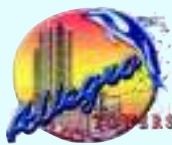
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12,000 miles		
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75,000 miles	• Inspect, clean & adjust brakes • Inspect lights & wiper blades • Inspect drive belts & coolant hoses • Rotate tires • Road test vehicle	
105,000 miles		
30,000 miles	MAJOR SERVICE	Starting at
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90,000 miles	• Inspect lights and wiper blades • Inspect emission control system • Check heating and A/C operation • Drain and replace coolant (up to 1 gal.) • Inspect drive belts and coolant hoses • Road test vehicle	
120,000 miles		
150,000 miles		

*Price does not include tax and hazardous waste removal fee. May not be used in conjunction with any other specials. Adjustments where applicable. Most cars. Present coupon at time order is written. May not be used on previous charges. One per customer, per transaction. Price good for service described above. No substitutions on services at this price. Inspections are visual only.

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Call for appointment.

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Starting at
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upgraded unit. 3 blocks to beach. Garage available for an extra \$75/month. 1065 Missouri Street. Available 11/11. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH/Crown Point. One in a million! Panoramic bay views, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, huge upstairs just remodeled unit. Granite countertops, stainless appliances, balcony, two 1-car garages. Must see to believe. No pets, no co-signers. 1 year minimum lease. \$2500/rent, \$1250/deposit. 3842 Lamont Street. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH, 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo. \$2300/month. Pet-friendly. 1 mile from beach. Washer/dryer included. 1 car garage. Available November. 619-813-0545.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. Studio. 3 blocks to ocean. Nice/clean. Off-street parking. Laundry room. No pets. Available mid-November. 1050 Hornblend Street. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1375. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry facilities, parking, common patio, quiet complex. No pets. Open daily. 8am-6pm. 1537 Missouri Street. #3. 619-224-0306.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs apartment with large bonus room. Half block to bay. 1-year lease. No dogs. Move-in special. \$1650/month, \$1000/deposit. Jason. 858-837-0364.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$850/month plus deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint/carpet. Close to bay and beach. Good credit required. 1-year lease. No pets. 4316 Everts. 858-272-1312.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1975. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath large condo. Near Crown Point. Includes oversized 2-car garage with extra storage space and cabinets. Washer and dryer included. Private entry from garage into unit. Fireplace, private decks, ceiling fans in bedrooms. Vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets. No pets. Available now. 1730 Pacific Beach Drive. John A. Reis and Company, Inc., 858-272-1348.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1600. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit in triplex. Shared yard. 1-car garage included. No pets. Long term only. One year lease. Large porch. Available now. 1046 Turquoise Street. John A. Reis and Company, Inc. 858-272-1348.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with parking and laundry. New carpet, paint and vinyl. No pets! 2035 Grand Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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11/7. 1433 Oliver. DSPM, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1450. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs, end unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace, garage, coin laundry. No pets. 1 year lease required. Available 11/20. 4122 Jewell. DSPM, Broker, 858-270-2071, www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800. Studio. Kitchen and bath. Stove, refrigerator. All utilities paid. Upstairs. Coin laundry. 3 blocks to beach. Cat OK with additional deposit. 5049 Cass. DSPM, broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$1450. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, new carpet, garage space. No pets. Available 11/7. 1051 Diamond. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom, \$875. Spacious, clean, quiet, parking, laundry, ceiling fans, pool. No pets. 2275 Grand Avenue. 619-279-0031.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495 rent, \$1000 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit, appliances, on-site laundry. New carpet, paint/vinyl, courtyard. 1/2 off first month's rent. 4406 Dawes Street. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1895. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, steps to bay, Sea World view, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, carpet, verticals. Garage. No pets. 3980 Crown Point Drive. 619-281-4698.

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POINT LOMA. \$750. Large downstairs studio with laundry facility! Great location! No pets. 3612 Kemper Court #3. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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POINT LOMA. 1 bedrooms, \$1140; studios, \$1000. Pool, laundry, fitness center. No dogs. 2850 Adrian Street. 1 bedrooms get 1 month free! Call 619-523-4325.

POINT LOMA. \$1495 rent, \$1000 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath lower unit, appliances, on-site laundry. New carpet, paint/vinyl, courtyard. 1/2 off first month's rent. 4406 Dawes Street. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA. \$875. 1/2 off first month! Studio living at its finest! Newly remodeled inside and outside! Separate kitchen with breakfast bar. Bathroom with dressing area. Built-in dresser. Large closet with mirrored doors. Controlled access. Assigned parking. On-site laundry. Patio/balcony. 619-226-3171.

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POWAY. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. Nice. Air conditioning, appliances. On-site laundry facilities. Pool/barbecue areas. Assigned off-street parking. Near shopping. Pomerado Gardens, 12330 Ninth Street. Call on-site manager, Blanca 858-486-4834 or 858-254-4837.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Dual master baths, central location, tile flooring, all appliances, 1 parking space. 10351 Azuaga Street, 92129. 619-698-6911.

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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.

SAN CARLOS. 1/2 off first month! Open Sunday, 2pm-3pm: 6878 Navajo Road #79. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1300. Pool, Jacuzzi. Excellent area. vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 619-220-4840 x252.

SAN DIEGO. \$750, \$500 deposit. 1 bedroom, 4165 Idaho Street. 1 person, parking. Window blinds, across from park, no smoking, no pets. References required. 619-462-5525.

SAN MARCOS/Santa Fe Hills, \$2150. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, one story. Wood floors in family room and kitchen. Top of the line appliances, refrigerator, washer, dryer. Built 2004. Pet on approval. Gardener included. 2-car garage. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

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Bryan Bettencourt (Service Technician) also has many years of experience in the automotive business including audio and communications. Bryan is the "go-to" guy for all your electrical needs. He complements Jerry in every way. Together, Jerry, Bryan and their team are a formidable group of technicians, ensuring that you walk away a satisfied customer. Some repair shops take shortcuts and often cover up problems with a temporary fix. We know...we fix their mistakes!

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SPRING VALLEY. \$1525. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Patio, refrigerator. Close to freeway. 2390 Bancroft #B. CSPM, 619-229-2440.

TALMADGE. \$810. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs, apartment. Quiet, clean, nice area, parking, gated, laundry, storage, air conditioning, 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406.

TALMADGE. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1250-\$1295. Deposit \$500. Gated community. Underground parking. Dishwasher, microwave, air conditioning. Pool, laundry room. 619-284-1045. www.melroyproperties.com.

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6-cyl. \$39⁹⁵
8-cyl. \$49⁹⁵

Most cars. Includes new plugs and new oil filter. Inspect cap, rotor wire, air & fuel filters. Some oil filters extra. Platinum plugs extra. Must present coupon at time of service. Coupons may not be combined with any other offers. Expires 11/16/06.

Clutch Premium
Parts & Labor from \$195
Front-wheel drive extra. 12,000-mile warranty.

Smog Check

\$15⁷⁵
+\$8.25 certificate +\$2 ET. Most cars. Bring DMV notice. Vans, SUVs, RVs, trucks, V8 extra.

Must present coupon at time of service. Not to be combined with any other offer. Expires 11/16/06.

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SMOG CHECK \$13⁹⁵

Offering consumer assistance program. With coupon only. Plus \$8.25 for certificate and \$3 transfer fee. Retest free when repair done on site. VIP service, 2 machines. No appointment necessary. Most 4-cyl. cars only. European cars extra.



OIL CHANGE \$16⁹⁵

With free brake and 32-point inspection. Most 4-cyl. cars. Plus \$2.50 disposal fee.

TRANSMISSION FLUSH \$49⁹⁵

Complete transmission flush by Trans Tech 2000 flush machine, unique in its class, flushing 100% of old fluid out and adding new fluid in. Labor only. Most 4-cyl. cars. Ask for details.

A/C SERVICE \$13⁹⁵

Most 4-cyl. cars. Freon extra.

ENGINE FLUSH \$49⁹⁵

State-of-the-art engine flush machine built by Bilstein. Complete engine oil flush from top to bottom. Labor only. Most 4-cyl. cars. Ask for details.

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With repair on-site.

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- Includes:
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 - Change engine oil and filter
 - Inspect brakes
 - Clean & adjust rear brakes
 - Check all belts
 - Replace air filter
 - Inspect suspension
 - Transmission service-drain and refill
 - Top off all fluids
 - 4 tires rotation and balance
 - 38-point inspection

COOLANT SERVICE \$29⁹⁵

Includes 1 gallon of coolant.

Most 4-cyl. cars. Dex coolant extra.

COMPUTERIZED 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Most 4-cyl. cars. Camber and shim extra. **\$39⁹⁵**

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

No newspaper columnist is as carefully read or thoroughly discussed as the society editor. And because he replaced the venerable Eileen Jackson, Burl Stiff of the *Union* has been subject to especially close scrutiny by San Diego's elite.

"He's not the social commentator that Eileen was," said Mrs. David E. Porter. —PRESS PASSES: "IT'S MY PARTY AND I'LL WRITE WHAT I WANT TO," Paul Krueger, November 11, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Bilbray owns an old blue Triumph, but to drive around the city we took a city-owned car. "I went to high school right there — Mar Vista High School," he said as we headed down Imperial Beach Boulevard toward the beach. "I went to elementary school right behind it, at Imperial Beach Elementary, and also at Westview Elementary. I spent almost all my time at the beach. My parents were afraid I would drown. One of the reasons they built a swimming pool in our back yard was to try to keep me off the beach."

—"WHERE THE RIVER MEETS THE SEA,"

Gordon Smith, November 5, 1981

Twenty Years Ago

When *Tribune* columnist Alison DaRosa called Aguirre last week to confirm that he was indeed the *Los Angeles Times*' source of tape recordings in which Chula Vista City Councilman and state Coastal Commissioner David Malcolm allegedly plots to blow up a Mission Hills mansion and collect on a million-dollar insurance policy, Aguirre demanded that *Tribune* deputy editor Robert Witty kill the DaRosa column item.

—THE INSIDE STORY, Paul Krueger,

November 6, 1986

Fifteen Years Ago

Gosh what a dream assignment! I mean like everybody's writin' lately about how all the fixed-income geezers've been havin' to resort to shopliftin' tins of SKINLESS & BONELESS SARDINES (IMPORTED) from the local D'Agostino's and all that Depression-nostalgia poignancy: what *extravagant* mere survival for cryin' out loud! I mean shit there's so much goddam grub just lyin' around that nobody's got any claim on, legal, moral (ho ho!) or otherwise: the city's GARBITCH f'chrissake! Out of which (in the name of literature, social concern

and etc., of course) I will be dining "out" exclusively (nothing but!) for a whole entire week.

—"SLOPPY SECONDS," Richard Meltzer,

November 7, 1991

Ten Years Ago

The first Santa Ana of fall reached Los Angeles around ten o'clock last Saturday night. People eat early here. Across the West Side, dry wind guttered candle flames and rustled curtains just as unambitious dinner guests were finishing their decaf and deciding whether or not it might be fun to head over to Luna Park to catch Sweet Baby Jai. The wind blew throughout the night. On Sunday, Malibu started to burn.

Neurologists say the wind, rushing southwest from the Colorado Plateau, carries a positive electrical charge that causes the brain's serotonin levels to dip and induces sadness and dread. With or without Santa Ana, autumn is edgy in Los Angeles. TV critics and viewers have passed judgment on the fall lineup. Networks are hungry for pilots. Pilots start taping in February, the pool of attractive 20- to 30-year-old actors who can carry a show is limited.

—LOST ANGELENO: "AUTUMN IS EDGY IN

LOS ANGELES, Abe Opincar, October 31, 1996



San Diego Reader, November 11, 1976

Five Years Ago

BOB — Age: 35

Q. How did you meet your Internet date?

A. I met her when she responded to the ad that I placed on *Love@AOL*. She's the only girl who responded to me. She responded to me because under the religion section in my profile I put something like "pagan Buddhist." And she's into sort of witchcraft...Wiccan. She wrote back to me and said, "Gee, you look really cool."

—"HOW BOB AND AMY AND CHRIS AND SAMANTHA AND TED AND ROY AND KURT AND BECKY FOUND LOVE ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB," Doug DeBrul,

November 1, 2001

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

TALMADGE/COLLEGE AREA/Mission Valley. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Patio. New stainless steel appliances, granite, marble and paint. Gated complex. \$1300. Perry, 619-850-9254.

TIERRASANTA/Kearny Mesa, \$2175. 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 Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Bright, spacious 2 bedroom apartment, \$975. Berber carpet, remodeled kitchen, lush landscaping. Only 4 units in building. 619-922-0755.

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. \$850. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry on site, parking. 4522 Utah Street #6. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Remodeled 2 bedroom Spanish-style cottage. Near Adams Avenue. \$1295. Fireplace. New Stainless steel appliances and dishwasher. Wood flooring living room/dining room. Washer, dryer. Patio. 619-990-8187.

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. \$1025/rent. \$900 deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit with appliances, storage, courtyard, new paint, gated, patio, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 4550 Louisiana #6. 619-804-3325.

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.

USD, \$995. \$300 off 1st month! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, on-site laundry. 1232 Azusa. 2 blocks to west entrance of USD. CMS, 619-461-1800.

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. Studio. In custom private residence. Furnished with micro kitchenette, private entrance, garden, gated. No drugs/smoking. \$800/month, \$700/deposit, utilities included. Credit check/references. 760-630-5833.

VISTA. 1 month free rent with 12-14 month lease. \$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.sdreader.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.

ALLIED GARDENS, Senior! Live free, 2 bedroom 1 bath, 1,000 square foot mobile home, attached caregiver, studio to pay space rent. \$49,000/owner, easy terms. 619-286-5966.

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.sdforeclosuresstore.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.

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- Clean & adjust rear brakes
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- Change oil filter
- Change master cylinder brake fluid
- Check suspension
- Top off fluids
- Clean battery terminals

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- Inspect fuel filter
- Check differential fluid
- Check manual transmission fluid
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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.

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SANTEE, Smokin' Deal: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled kitchen/bath. Oak cabinetry and granite counters. Recently painted. Ceiling fans throughout. Huge lot! \$387,800. Robert/Agent: 619-328-0844.

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.

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\$130 4-cyl. • 40-point inspection
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ENGINE REBUILD CALL FOR SPECIAL PRICE!	10% Military Discount	7030 Carroll Rd. • 858-455-5440 (Near Miramar Road) *All offers most cars. Sales extra. MasterCard / Visa / Discover	CLUTCH SPECIAL starting at \$199* Rear wheel.



Dear Saffron,

I have a problem with my mother. She and I have had a tumultuous relationship for a long time. Sometimes our relationship is amazing, and sometimes it's really troubled. My mother is a recovering alcoholic. She's got over ten years of sobriety. For the past two years, she's been homeless. She refuses to work. By this I mean she sometimes has part-time jobs but mostly refuses to keep herself employed and refuses to get a place to live that would work for her, like a roommate situation or something like that. She constantly calls me and says things like she wants to kill herself, or the only reason she is not committing suicide is because of me. She tries to make me feel guilty. She never comes out and directly says I should take care of her, but she communicates this many ways indirectly. She's only 41 and is completely capable of taking full care of herself, she just refuses to. She causes my hus-

band and I constant headaches. I love her very much, and I want to help her as much as I can, but I don't think her behavior is healthy. If she gets money she just spends it and acts completely silly. I wonder what your advice for me might be.

WORRIED DAUGHTER IN ALLIED GARDENS

Dear Worried Daughter,

I commend you for sticking with this difficult relationship. Your mother doesn't know how lucky she is to have such a tolerant, compassionate child. Many people in your situation simply cut the problem parent out of their life, and it's hard to blame them. Sadly, your dilemma is much more common than you might think. Dealing with a mentally ill and/or alcoholic loved one is a huge challenge and can be agonizing. You have nothing to feel guilty about. If you feel it might help you, try Al-Anon, a 12-step program for families and friends of alcoholics, at 619-296-2666 or alanonsandiego.org. Your mother needs to hook up with social services so she can get help taking care of herself. There is a useful website for obtaining information about all kinds of services for the mentally ill and homeless at sandiego.networkofcare.org/mh/resource/find.cfm. The site is sponsored by the California Department of Mental Health and can aid in finding social workers, thera-

pists, housing, substance abuse counseling, legal help, and so on. The San Diego County Mental Health hotline is 800-479-3339. Offer to help your mother help herself obtain the services she needs to improve her life, but remember that you can't force her, and you can't do it for her. Good luck.

Dear Saffron,

For 15 years I've had my hair cut by the same dear man. He moved to different salons over that time, and I faithfully followed because he is such a good stylist, and I am fond of him. He is also expensive, and his prices have steadily risen over the years (like the price of everything). Because he moved so many times, I ended up driving 45 minutes each way to see him. Recently, I got divorced, and money is tight, where it was not before. I'm not on welfare or anything, but I have a couple of kids and am going to have to live more frugally with just one income in my household, instead of two. This includes not wasting gas by driving so far for a haircut and not paying top dollar for it. I found a place close by that charges a third of what I used to pay for getting my hair done, so I have been going there. I feel bad about abandoning my longtime haircutter, but I must. Part of me wants to send him a note or some flowers and explain why I "disappeared" — that it's nothing he did, just finances. But another part of me feels that's a bad idea because I don't want him to think I'm whining for

a discount. I saw one of his clients do that once, and it was nauseating. What would you do — let it go or send an explanation?

ON A BUDGET IN POWAY

Dear On A Budget,

It's very considerate of you to contemplate sending your former hair guy a note, and I think you should do so. You're not asking for a handout and have no intention of taking one — you simply want to thank him for all the great service over the years. I see no reason to squelch that impulse.

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BEST QUESTION OF THE WEEK

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at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at
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A GORGEOUS LA MESA CONDO, upstairs corner end unit with large balcony view. Vacant, move-in ready. Upgraded, all new: paint, flooring, kitchen. Agent, Maria: 858-337-6929.

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CORONADO. Bargain \$629,900. Beautiful, spacious, 5-year old. 2 bedroom, 1

bath upper level condo. Small complex. New kitchen/appliances, washer/dryer. Off-street, 2-car parking. Storage. HOA only \$65/month. Owner, 619-628-1810.

DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 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.

ENCINITAS GEM! MUST SEE! Priced to sell! 270 Caliban Court. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Cul-de-sac. Pool/spa. \$665,000-\$735,876. Info/photos: Yahoo!

RealEstate.com, search PRU2J5B2. Prudential CA, Iris Hirsh, 858-945-8198.

FLORIDA. Tampa Bay, directly on Lake Tarpon. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with garage, 1600 square feet, 2 porches, hardwood floors. \$199,900. www.fsbo.com listing #87751. 727-251-8198.

GASLAMP QUARTER. Exquisite home, great value, 3 bedrooms, highly upgraded. 2 parking (not tandem). Many extras! 1,361 square feet. \$570,000. Barzal/Scotti Real Estate. 858-551-272.

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Smog Check **\$15⁷⁵**
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If repairs done here.
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\$24⁹⁵ 4-cyl.
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Alignment Inspection
\$12⁹⁵
Alignment reading. Front-end safety inspection. Check ball joints, tie rods, steering box & steering links. LIMITED TIME OFFER.

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\$99⁹⁵ 4-cyl.
• Replace spark plugs (platinum plugs additional)
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• Suspension inspection and more!

"Check Engine" Light Diagnostic
\$39⁹⁵ most cars
Some problems may require additional diagnostic procedures.

Coolant Flush
\$59⁹⁹
Dex coolant extra.

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Parts & labor. Most cars. 1-year warranty. Front-wheel drive cars extra.

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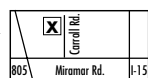
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Tune-up. Lube. Oil & filter. Replace air & fuel filters, crankcase breather element & PCV valve. Drain & refill entire cooling system. Transmission service. Differential service. Tire rotation & brake inspection. Shop supplies/disposal fee extra. Most cars & light trucks. 6-cyl., 8-cyl., fuel-injected models, automatic transmission, trucks & 4x4s higher. Must present coupon. Exp.11/16/06.

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Up to 5 qts. Chevron 11/16 oil. 20-pt. inspection. New oil filter. Top off all fluids. Tire pressure checked. Disposal fee extra. Most cars. Must present coupon. Exp.11/16/06.

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\$40 off

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Includes: throwout bearing, pilot bearing bushings, disk, clutch cover. Most vehicles. Limited time offer. Front-wheel drive extra.

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Includes: boot, parts, labor, grease. 1/2 price for the 2nd boot on same axle. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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Transmission Fluid Flush

From **\$49⁹⁵**

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4-cyl.

\$69⁹⁸

6-cyl.

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8-cyl.

Improves performance & gas mileage. Includes: Tune-up with "Super Bosch" spark plugs. Lube. Oil & filter with 11/16 wt. Chevron motor oil. Fuel injection service. Also includes free safety inspection. Excludes waste fee. Most vehicles. Exp.11/16/06.

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GOLDEN HILL, EAST, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated community, 2 parking spaces, private backyard. Newer cabinetry, fixtures, appliances. 4429 Tremont Street #3, 92101. \$299,000/owner, 619-886-5665.

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. Stainless steel appliances. Great Views! Central air conditioning and heating. Garage. \$370,000-\$385,000. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.

LINDA VISTA, 2 bedroom. Near Fashion Valley amenities, quiet/serene on wooded bluff. Both bedrooms/living room open to private covered balcony. \$365,000/owner. Appointment, 858-614-0223.

MIRA MESA, 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Great pool view from large balcony. New carpeting, refrigerator, flooring. \$199,000-\$218,000. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.

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.

MISSION VALLEY, 432 square feet. 6202 Friars Road, #101. Centrally located. View waterfall setting. All appliances, new kitchen cabinets. Secure parking space. Owner, 619-980-6083.

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POINT LOMA/LA PLAYA, New luxury condo. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Views! Near beach. Granite countertops. Stainless. Hardwood floors. \$769-\$789K. Mike, 619-247-2114.

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SCRIPPS RANCH. Sabre Springs. Great value, great neighborhood. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, recent upgrades, on hillside with view, \$360,000. Owner, 858-752-4835.

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.

TIERRASANTA, 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.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom townhome. 1374 square feet. 2-car garage. Large patio. Breakfast nook. Huge master suite. Large private deck. \$489,000-\$519,000. Agent: Stacie Koehler, 619-261-2280.

UTC AREA. 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.

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Includes: install Bosch spark plugs, adjust idle, check timing; if applicable, inspect distributor cap, rotor, ignition, cables & air filter. Vans & transverse V6 engines extra. Platinum plugs extra. Valid with other coupons. **Present coupon at time of service. Expires 11/30/06.**

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We can help! From **\$44⁹⁵** **With coupon.** Expires 11/30/06.

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Factory Scheduled Service

•15K **\$59⁹⁵** •30K **\$99⁹⁵** •60K/90K **\$139⁹⁵**

15K or 30K may not require all services or parts listed.

- Install new spark plugs
- Change engine oil and filter
- Inspect filters

- Rotate tires
- Check ignition system
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- Check radiator & hoses
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- Inspect and adjust brakes

- Inspect underhood components
- Check fluids • Inspect belts
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Premium plugs extra. Most 4-cyl. cars and light trucks. Some trucks and 4x4s slightly higher.

Timing Belt

\$79⁹⁵

Most cars.

Plus parts. A/C extra. Most cars. All vehicles welcome. Call for a quote for your vehicle.

New Radiator

\$159

AS LOW AS

PLUS LABOR

Most cars.

Free alignment inspection!

(With appointment, please)

Computerized Alignment

\$39⁹⁵

Thrust Angle

4-Wheel Alignment \$49⁹⁵

Set toes to specs.

Most cars. Shims & cams extra.

Complete Axles

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AS LOW AS

Lifetime warranty.

Plus labor. Most cars.

Maintenance Tune-up

\$34⁹⁵

AS LOW AS

Install plugs. Premium plugs extra. Most cars & light trucks. Call for details.

New Clutch

\$239

STARTING AT

Rear-wheel drive.

Front-wheel drive.

light trucks & 4x4 extra.

Shock & Strut Special

BUY THREE, GET THE FOURTH

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KYB MONROE

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Must present coupon at time of service.

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Call for details. Please call for an appointment.



TOWING AVAILABLE



FISH FOR TIGER

Botswana is a land-locked country in Southern Africa, famous for the big game animals that roam large fenced reserves. The population of about 1.5 million is spread around the edges of the Kalahari Desert. In a land of little rain, the currency is called *pula*, which means rain. Karen Ross wrote *Okavango, Jewel of the Kalahari* in the 1980s. If you are planning to visit Botswana, I recommend reading her book about our ecosystem. Ross describes the Okavango River Delta as a “clear, unspoiled, sparkling diamond.”

My friend Tom is visiting from Nova Scotia, Canada, and three of us are taking him for a day trip on the Okavango River to fish for tiger. The tiger fish is well known by fishermen for its fighting skills; hooking one is no guarantee of catching one. The sound of the reel whining, as the line runs out, is thrilling to a fisherman.

Rains in the highlands of Angola feed the delta annually. We are in Shakawe, a village 400 km north of Maun — the tourist gateway to the Delta. Shakawe has water year-round. In Maun the river often dries up for three to four months a year. We have an 18-foot boat stocked with petrol, fishing rods and tackle, sandwiches, fruit, and cold drinks. It is eight o'clock in the morning, and we are all eager to get going.

Travelers know that it is not the destination but the journey that is important. We make sure that the engine is running smoothly before we push off into the river. Our journey is delayed as we watch Carmine Bee Eaters go in and out of their nests along the riverbank. The river has carved a flat two- to three-meter bank, and the Bee Eaters have burrowed out their nests there.

After a few minutes we make way and head up stream toward the Caprivi Strip in Namibia. Our day is off to a good start. Coming up to the first river bend, the captain cuts the engine and we glide toward a sand bar. A three-meter crocodile has been spotted sunning itself and resting after a busy night of hunting. We get to within 20 meters before it notices us and starts to move. Watching the crocodile move into the water and pass under the boat, someone exclaims, “What a size. Look how fast it moves. It's all muscle.” We watch the crocodile disappear into the river's depth. It is clear to all on board that we are on more than a fishing trip. Just as quickly as the crocodile escaped, we have moved into the wilderness.

The captain moves to full steam ahead, and the crew settles back and enjoys the boat as it swings around the bends of the meandering Okavango River. It is not long before we spot hippos. Slowing down and getting closer there appear to be about eight. It is difficult to get an exact count, as they submerge for five minutes and reappear more than 100 meters away or, worse, closer!

The hippopotamus is the most dangerous animal in Africa. Looking fat and seeming to have a smile on its face, it

can fool you into venturing too close. These hippos are giving clear signs of not being happy with us in their territory. The dominant male, in particular, seems unhappy. His ears are flicking and twitching. He is snorting, and when he surfaces, he throws out a big spume. He has come dangerously close to the boat. Jon, our captain, decides on the safest route of evasion, and we continue toward the three-kilogram tiger that all local fishermen dream about. Enough sightseeing, it is time to cut bait and fish.

Tom heard some of our fishing stories the night before, though he knows fishing stories are sometimes exaggerated. Using our local knowledge, we take him to a place we now refer to as Cooper's Corner. It is decided Tom should show us how people from Nova Scotia fish.

This is a true story: within 30 seconds of his first cast, his reel begins to whine. Tom says, “Jeez, what's that!” and the tiger comes straight up out of the water, twisting and fighting all the way. Tom keeps reeling in and things settle down, somewhat. Two more jumps by the tiger and five minutes later, it is netted.

Everyone looks handsome when posing next to a tiger for a picture. Tigers have very powerful jaws and teeth that go every which way. You have to get the hook out with a pair of pliers, so you don't lose a finger. After some picture taking and guessing the weight (about one kilogram), the fish is released back into the river. Tom sits back to take in the scenery and enjoy the moment.

I fish almost exclusively with a Mepps No. 3. Ernest, a far more experienced river fisherman than myself, has a

tackle box that brims over with lures of all sizes and shapes. He wants to show Tom what grown-up tiger looks like. It takes five or six casts before Ernest gets a strike. When we see the tiger come out of the water, it looks three kilograms in weight. With one mighty sweep of its head, those ugly jaws get the back of the leader and snap the line.



There are some mixed emotions and comments as Ernest grabs a second rod and casts again — right where that fish had jumped.

At that moment we hear the plaintive call of a Fish Eagle, watching from a tree on the far bank. Who knows, maybe he has seen this scene many times. Seconds later, the tiger comes straight up about ten meters from the boat with the lure and leader hanging from its mouth. In full sunlight, this is a brilliant, movie-caliber scene. Ernest quickly reels in the line and casts to the new location. Nobody knows what to expect. This is a story you often hear about, but never see. We are all staring at the water, unblinking. You could hear a pin drop. Now the tiger comes up two meters from the boat, spits out the lure and leader, and falls back into the river, never to be seen again. We all watch the lure slowly spiral to the river bottom.

It is time for lunch. Jon finds a good tree hanging out

over the river and we tie-up. The boat swings gently back and forth over the current of the river. Everyone needs to eat and rest from the midday heat. The boat has an upper deck for a tent, which provides needed shade. Everyone gets comfortable for an hour-long rest. Quips and cajoles are circulated about the one that got away.

In the afternoon, we do more touring than fishing. Downstream, we pass Nxamasere Fishing Camp and eventually stop at Drotsky's. There we refresh with a couple of cold drinks and retell our fishing stories. The sun is setting low on the horizon — time to head home.

With twilight approaching, the African sky begins to look more immense than it appeared all day. The few clouds in the sky show tinges of red, turquoise, and purple. Before we reach home it is dark, and we have to use a floodlight for guidance. The light picks up a pair of crocodile eyes, lurking close to the riverbank.

Ten hours have passed, and it has been quite a journey. Tom tries to put into words what the day has meant to him and thanks the crew. We unpack the boat a little slower than we packed in the morning. Everyone looks forward to a pasta dinner and fine South African red wines. Over dinner, we make plans for another trip into the pristine beauty of the Okavango Delta.

Sleep is not far away, and I am sure more than one of us dreams of the tiger who spit out the lure. Until you see it, it is hard to believe. But I assure you, almost every word is true.

<http://afrotrek.blogspot.com/>

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MOUNTAIN BIKE, Gary Fisher "Big Sur" model, 21-speed, 21" frame, quick release wheels, stainless steel spokes, great tires and brakes. Just \$140. 619-224-6947.

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WANTED: Brooks leather seat plus a pair of nonaero brake levers for drop handlebars. 858-484-2253.

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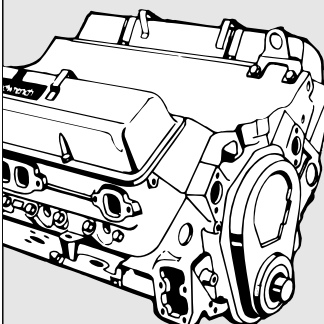
CARLSBAD. Multifamily moving/garage sale. Saturday, 11/4, 8am. Sporting goods, tools, fish tanks, light fixtures, furniture, refrigerator, dryer, desert buggy. Alga (east) to Corentia (right).

CARLSBAD. Big neighborhood yard sale. Saturday, 11/4, 8-11am. 30 homes. All the usual items. Start at Palomar Airport Road and El Fuerte. www.JohnandSean.com or 619-895-2144.

CLAIREMONT. Huge moving/baby sale. Saturday, 10/28, 8am-1pm. Furniture, cookware, home decor, clothes, shoes, toys, stroller, playpens, books, VHS movies, tent trailer. 5535 Noah Way.

CLAIREMONT, Garage sale. Saturday 11/4/06, 8am-noon. Miscellaneous household goods, books, knickknacks, rugs. 7675 Stalmer Street #B, 92111, near Linda Vista. No early birds please.

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DEPUTY-INVOLVED SHOOTING

Location: 1205 North Santa Fe, Vista
Time/Date: 6:15 p.m. on 10/21/06

Investigation: A female...reported a family disturbance at the Vista Terraces Mobile Home Park. Prior to the deputies' arrival, the call had been updated to advise the responding deputies that a male in the household had armed himself with a knife and was threatening the family.

Once on scene, three deputies were directed to a mobile home in space #59, which was not the residence where the call for assistance had originated. It was at that location that the suspect confronted the deputies, which resulted in a physical altercation. It was during that struggle that the suspect was shot. Paramedics who were on scene checked the suspect...he was pronounced dead at 8:12 p.m.

Early reports indicate that the residents of space #59, where the shooting took place, did not know the suspect. This individual is also the suspect in two separate assaults (unrelated to the domestic disturbance call) that occurred in the mobile home park prior to deputies arriving on scene.

AUTO THEFT

Location: 40th and University, City Heights
Time/Date: 10:30 p.m. on 10/05/06

Résumé of Incident: The El Cajon Police Department was contacted by the victim of an auto theft. The victim's vehicle had been stolen in San Diego earlier in the day. There was a cell phone left in the vehicle. The victim called the cell phone, and it was answered by the suspect. The suspect said he would give the victim his vehicle back for \$600, and told him that he would meet him in El Cajon.

An El Cajon police detective assigned to the Regional Auto Theft Taskforce (RATT) was contacted. A Team from RATT responded to the El Cajon Police Department, and a plan was devised to meet with the suspect. Undercover detectives posed as the victim and his friend, and agreed to meet the suspect at a gas station in San Diego. Two suspects [later identified as Miguel V. and a 17-year-old female] approached the undercover detectives and were taken into custody. One of the suspects was in possession of the stolen vehicle keys, and the car was found parked around the corner.

Miguel V. was booked into county jail and the 17-year-old female was taken to Juvenile Hall.

ASSAULT ON AN OFFICER

Location: Alicante Road and Poinsettia, Carlsbad
Time/Date: 7:07 p.m. on 9/28/06



Incident: Corporal Meritt was patrolling a construction site [and] saw a vehicle leaving the closed [area]. Corporal Meritt followed the vehicle and observed traffic violations. He stopped the vehicle on Alga Road and Corinita. Meritt approached the vehicle and contacted the driver (suspect C.). There were two other occupants in the vehicle. Meritt could see several bundles of copper wire in

the vehicle and believed that the wire had just been stolen from the construction site.

While Meritt was talking to C., he fled the suspect vehicle. Meritt pursued the suspects in his police vehicle. At one point during the pursuit, C. stopped his vehicle and backed directly at Meritt, who was unable to take evasive driving action and avoid being hit.

The suspect vehicle drove into a condo complex on Costa del Mar Road and the suspects fled on foot. The abandoned suspect vehicle continued forward and crashed into a parked vehicle.

An officer located C. on Melrose Drive and gave chase. C. fled into a canyon. Officers were able to apprehend C.

C. admitted to stealing the copper wire. C. was booked for assault with a deadly weapon on an officer, possession of stolen property, evading an officer, resisting arrest, and driving under the influence.

OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING

Location: 771 El Cajon Boulevard, El Cajon
Time/Date: 2:06 p.m. on 10/09/06



Résumé of Incident: [Officers] responded to a possible domestic disturbance at the Villa Serena Hotel.

[They] contacted a male and female believed to be involved in the disturbance. After speaking with both parties, officers cleared from the initial call.

At approximately 2:06 p.m., three officers again arrived at the Villa Serena regarding a second possible domestic disturbance involving the two same subjects from the prior incident. During this contact, the officers believed the male suspect was giving them a false name, and recognized the male as a possible wanted parolee-at-large. When the officers went to arrest the suspect, he became combative.

The officers deployed a Taser without success and a foot pursuit ensued. The officers caught up with the suspect on Wilson and El Cajon Boulevard. The suspect then jumped in the back bed of a pickup truck that was traveling on Wilson. The suspect ordered the driver to drive off, but the driver did not comply.

The suspect remained combative as the officers attempted to take him into custody from the bed of the truck, and one of the officers deployed his impact weapon. The suspect was somehow able to get the impact weapon away from the officer, and swung it towards the officer. Fearing for his safety, the officer then shot the suspect two times in the torso.

An ambulance was immediately called for, and the suspect was transported to Sharp Memorial Hospital. The female involved in this incident left the area.

The officers involved have been placed on Administrative Leave per...standard procedure in these types of cases.

— Michael Hemmingson

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. Moving-out-of-state sale. Saturday, 11/4, 7-11am. Computer desk, TV, barbecue, bed, miscellaneous. 1606 Hilton Head Court, #1276.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. Garage sale. Saturday, 11/4, 7am-noon. We're simplifying. Household items, baby clothing, toys, linens, bike, and more. 10901 Avenida Benjamin, La Mesa 91941.

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APPLIANCES: Refrigerator frost-free energy saver, stove, washer/dryer: \$135 each. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances, pick up and delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

CARPET SHAMPOOER, Hoover upright with tools, excellent condition, \$100. Fans: 20" box fan; 15" oscillating. \$15 each. 858-274-6350.

DISHWASHER, BOSCH, HIGH END, 3 years, excellent condition. Super quiet, all digital controls, energy/water saving modes. Brushed steel exterior. New \$1100. Selling \$400, 858-679-7399.

OVENS, stoves, microwave. Kenmore range, never used, \$150. Hotpoint range/tan \$99. Kenmore, oven/microwave/wipetop stove 86" tall. Counter-tops. 858-272-4866.

REFRIGERATOR, white, \$300 by Whirlpool like new. 3 years old. 20.9 cubic feet. 619-593-0266.

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, GE, white, good condition. 67" height, 31" depth, 28" width. \$100/best. 619-596-0373.

REFRIGERATOR, freezer. Washer/dryer, side by side, stackable,

dishwasher, under counter, portable microwave, stand. stove. Energy savers, late models, can separate. \$720/all. 619-670-8356.

STACKABLE WASHER AND DRYER, Electric. Large capacity. Great condition. A great deal at \$100. Call 619-563-1473.

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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.

WASHER/DRYER. Whirlpool, as new \$349, you save \$200. Bosch dishwasher, 500 series, excellent \$299. Cost \$800. new. Used washer/dryers and dishwasher \$129. 858-272-4866.

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WHIRLPOOL WASHER, white. Kenmore Dryer gold, both work great. Both for only \$160. Rancho Bernardo. Have photos. 619-857-4917.

TV, COLOR, 27" remote stereo TV, like new \$115. 27" remote \$99. Excellent pictures. 619-461-4805.

TV, Mitsubishi 36" TV receiver. Model CS-3521 A Black TV stand for components included. \$550. Call David. 619-291-4441x113.

TYPEWRITER, word processor. Smith Corona PWP 5000+. Cost over \$400 new in 1993 low usage. Good condition. Monitor, cartridges, and manual. \$60/best. 858-722-8891.

VCR, Mitsubishi hi-fi stereo, excellent condition, \$20. 619-449-8509.

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cepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County. 800-464-6490.

BED A DISCOUNT store. Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, fast delivery or pickup, national brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

BEDROOM CLEARANCE 6-PIECE SET. \$599. Brand new, still in boxes, solid wood bed, espresso color. Must move! Can deliver. 619-250-1446.

BEDROOM SET, traditional style, full size bed with mattress. Nine drawer, dresser with mirror. Solid red oak. Perfect condition. \$550/best. 619-295-5176.

BURLWOOD TABLE, 100 year old, burlwood makeup table with mirror. 27' 1/2" wide (45" opened). 7 drawers 17"D. \$700. 619-339-8832.

CHAIRS, steelcase, hardwood upholstered for dining room classic design. Excellent condition 6 for \$120. 858-272-9319.

COFFEE TABLE, glass. 40" square glass 3/4" thick. \$495. 619-339-8832.

DESK, small light maple desk stand with detachable wheels, 2 by 3 feet. Includes a white steel with blue vinyl chair. Mint. \$30. 858-499-0099.

DINING ROOM SET, 6 chairs, dark oak, 3 leaves with table pads, sturdy, no scratches or gouges, Queen Anne design, cushioned chairs, \$350/best. 619-562-6613.

DINING TABLE, wood with 2 comfortable chairs, great for studio or small apartment, very good shape, \$75. 619-466-8663.

END TABLES or nightstands (2), pecan wood, matching set with storage and drawer, \$40 each. 619-466-8663.

ENTERTAINMENT UNIT, solid oak. Excellent condition, 60 inches across, 54 inches high. Have photos. Only \$129. Rancho Bernardo. 619-994-1849.

FACIAL BED, not hydraulic, adjustable back, leg and headrest from completely flat to upright, includes stool, \$225. 619-817-5103.

FURNITURE A DISCOUNT Factory Direct store. Lowest prices. Order from manufacturers' catalogues and save. Solid cherry, maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or im-

ported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check www.davisworld.com or email to info@davisworld.com. Call 619-296-1221.

FURNITURE, SOLID WOOD. Dressers, bookcases, buffet, dining table/chairs, kitchen island, canopy bed, desk, cedar chest, TV/microwave stands, coffee/end tables, can separate. \$1980. 619-670-8356.

JC PENNY CRIB, Crib wood, under drawer crib with mattress. Purchased in 2000. \$100. Please contact Yvonne. 858-486-0342, aypalm@sbcglobal.net.

LOVE SEAT, striped linen fabric, dark green and cream stripes, stripes are 2" wide, no pillows, good condition, \$45. 619-426-9319.

MATTRESS A DISCOUNT store-Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials, legitimate warrantees, fast delivery or pickup, name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. Check: www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

MATTRESS A BABY-SOFT QUEEN \$145. Pillow top mattress set. Brand new, in plastic. Must move! Can deliver. 619-808-8205.

MATTRESS BOX PILLOWTOP SET. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$169. King \$239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

OFFICE, task, steno chair. Made in USA. Perfect condition. Just like new. \$50. 619-750-7556.

PATIO TABLE with umbrella, 42" round glass, good condition, \$75. Coffee table 50"x30", dark wood with drawer, like new \$225, 858-274-6785.

RECLINER, La-Z-Boy, peach color, velvet material, rock and swivels, like-new condition, \$150. 619-466-8663.

ROMANESQUE style bedroom set. 6 months old. Includes queen size head and footboard, vanity, nightstands and mattress with box spring. \$550. Keith, 619-563-2362.

SECTIONAL, 3-piece black leather, good condition, \$850. Side-by-side Hotpoint refrigerator, like new, \$600. Teak dining table with 4 chairs, \$150. 858-273-3052.

TABLES, Matching oak cocktail table and end table, good condition, \$55. 619-303-7264.

TWIN BED, 2 with 37x20 corner-table with built-in radio. Have photos. Excellent condition. \$119. Rancho Bernardo. 858-484-6026.

WALL UNIT, 3 piece, oak, tinted glass, paid \$1500, sell \$400. Leave message, 619-557-4523.

WOOD SHUTTERS, flooring, carpet, small slats, good shape, various sizes, approximately 75 all, \$10. Flooring, new from Ikea, 75 cents a square foot. Carpet emnants, \$10+. 619-957-6223.

CASH FOR GOLD/DIAMONDS/Watches. Old/broken/damaged OK. Highest dollar amount to you. Free test on your jewelry. Also buy complete estates. 619-235-6555.

CHANEL sunglasses. \$150. Black 5094 c.501/87. Call 619-203-1316.

CIGARETTES. Attention smokers, deeply discounted cigarettes! 16 brands (premium brands \$20.99), 18+ years. Free USPS delivery. Call 1-877-367-2606. (AAN CAN)

CLOTHES HANGERS, plastic approximately 60 take all for \$7. 760-500-7815.

DRESSES, skirts and blouses, 30 items from '60s '70s and '80s. Sizes 10 and 12. \$150 for collection. 760-945-8613.

ESPRESSO COFFEE MACHINE (Rancilio 3 group). Good working condition. \$900/best. Call 619-250-9989.

FURNITURE LIQUIDATION SALE warehouse blowing out samples, one of a kind! Solid wood dinettes from \$89, mattress sets from \$99, sofas from \$199, 3 days only! Friday-Sunday, 11/3-11/5, 10am-6pm. 706 Energy Way, Chula Vista, 91911. 619-997-7038.

GI JOE collection. 3-3/4" style. 2 boxes of assorted opened and unopened figures and vehicles. 1 box of comics. \$250. 760-753-8726.

GRILL, George Foreman, like new, \$25. 858-523-0058.

HORIZONTAL BLINDS, (3) 5 feet to 6 feet wide \$12 for all 3. 10 plain extendable curtain rods \$5/all. 760-500-7815.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS. New bed. TV and entertainment center, 5 piece sectional couch, computer, chair. Good miscellaneous items. Books and bookshelf, credenza. Call for appointment 619-276-4358.

IRON GATES, 85" high x up to 110" wide \$75. Security screen door 32" x 80" \$28. 619-804-4419.

JAPANESE, authentic samurai naval sword, excellent \$450. Lawnmower 6HP self-propelled, 2 year old \$110. New camp lantern \$15. Stove \$15. Car cover \$20. 858-581-6223.

JET 3, ultra power chair. Less than 6 months old. Excellent condition. \$1000. 619-449-8509.

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.

ELECTRONICS

PLACE PRINTED ADS in the Reader by calling 619-235-8200.

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AUDIO SURROUND, sound. High end home system. 2000 watt, digital, speakers, tuner, display, receiver, cables, in box. New \$600/best. 708-228-6971.

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.

PANASONIC CD stereo system. Plays/records radio, cassette, CD, MP-3. With remote. \$100. 858-274-2676.

PHILIPS, plasma 42" HDTV. Bracket included. TV not working. Best offer. 619-501-1290.

STEREO EQUIPMENT. Buy, sell, trade. High-end home audio. Tube and solid state, working/non-working. Will pick up. Custom cables made in one day! 1-800-311-0196. www.rossexchange.com.

STEREO, speaker towers 350 watt 12" speakers 42" tall \$100/pair. Plain paper business/fax/copier/printer HP office jet, used \$20 work horse. Rob 619-563-5303.

FURNITURE

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ANTIQUE KITCHEN HUTCH, Antique kitchen hutch from a farmhouse in Ohio, \$225. Also selling large stereo cabinet \$75. Call Sue 858-268-3538.

ARMOIRE/ENTERTAINMENT center, elegant, hand carved, 95"Hx55"Wx24"D, holds large HDTV, Kriess brand, focal point of the room, \$3700. 858-793-8916.

BEAUTIFUL OAK FURNITURE, \$100/each. Armoire, dresser with mirror, and dining table with 2 leaves, 619-464-2507.

BED \$100 ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. 619-426-2727. www.tfwarehouse.com.

BED \$169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. All sizes. Credit cards ac-

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ONE TIME, SOME FRIENDS AND I DETONATED A VOLKSWAGEN. It was a field car. When it started having problems, my friend Danny's dad would fix it a little bit, but it was getting worse, and he gave it to Danny when the cost to fill the tank up with gas was greater than the value of the car.

It rusted in a weed patch until Danny and I got it running, albeit with a little bit of a smoking problem. We could start it, give it a shove, then jump in and run it about 30 feet through the field, bumping over rocks and squishing through cow patties, until it died. We'd finally find a magical combination of electricity, fuel, and air that would get it running again for about 30 more feet. The blue smoke that came from the little exposed engine clung to the weeds and filled up the valley.

The next day we took the doors off and the seats out to make it lighter. We spray painted "General Lee" and a crappy rebel flag across its roof in Ford blue. It ran, and we pushed it up a hill until it was tucked under some manzanita bushes. From that hill, we figured we could get it to "launch velocity" by the time it hit the "ramp" that we'd constructed. For safety reasons, we'd donned old motorcycle helmets and gloves.

Danny hit fourth gear and stabbed the accelerator after we'd rambled it all the way down through the brush; it had to be going 30 miles an hour before its half-deflated tires hit the knotty wood ramp.

The front wheels came off. We considered that a successful flight. But, with our safety helmets on we hadn't noticed that the gas tank had torn open on our pre-jump run. And while it was lodged on top of the ramp and tipped downward toward the front, it was leaking gas all over the plywood and weeds.

We didn't notice Danny's dad pull up. It was 20 minutes of frantically attaching garden hoses, filling buckets, sweating, and choking back tears. Eventually the fireball subsided and we sat down in the mud next to the wet, charred VW bug and panted with relief.

Dan's dad stepped out onto the porch, and we scrambled to our feet. "Sorry, Dad," Danny fumbled. "We, uh, we had a little problem with the, uh..."

Danny's dad turned to go back inside and over his shoulder he said, "Good job, Bo and Luke."

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

VH1 JUMP START
VH1 7:00 A.M.

If you're a morning person, please, please, please watch *VH1 Jump Start* until a video called "Lips of an Angel" by a "Hinder" comes on. Your reward will be higher blood pressure and anger that not even three cups of coffee could produce. This is the worst song I've ever heard. This is sour owl piss in your ear. It's almost a privilege to share the same time in history. It's like JFK getting shot for our generation.

100 GREATEST SONGS OF THE '80S
VH1 8:00 P.M.

This would be awesome if it was a no-holds-barred cage match. Milli Vanilli vs. "Rico" Gerardo "Suave." Two men enter, one man leaves!

Bring me the eyebrow of Vanilla Ice!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

SURVIVORMAN
DISC 8:00 P.M.

It's Friday night. You're about half-drunk from happy hour. You think your week sucked? Survivorman lived in the desert for seven days with only a nine-volt battery and a nacho. Sure, your boss is a jerk, and the new clients were up your ass about the missing shipment, but you didn't have to barbecue a scorpion or kill an iguana with your underpants.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA-YA SISTERHOOD (2002)
TBS 10:00 A.M.

Sometimes, I pray to the ghosts of John Wayne

and General Patton: "In a world of soccer, makeup for men, and *this* terrible crap, I'm working, oh, gentlemen, I am working. My back aches and my fingers are bloody from fighting the further womanification of America, but it sometimes seems that I am alone. Grant me strength, gentlemen. Grant me strength."

BLUE COLLAR COMEDY TOUR: ONE FOR THE ROAD
COMEDY 10:00 P.M.

First rule of comedy: Don't beat a joke into the ground. What was funny once isn't funny on the 900th time. I'd like to choke the CEO of Comedy Central with a tape of Ron White's "Tater Salad" skit to get my point across.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

IN DEPTH: RAY KURZWEIL
CSPAN 10:00 A.M.

Ray Kurzweil says that there will be a time when medical science will add more years to our life than we have left to live. In simpler terms, we will be immortal. Then it's only a matter of time before I have a bionic monkey tail and I can survive in the cold vacuum of space. Then I will shut my brain off electrically and drift the thousand-year voyage to Andromeda to populate a planet of slave clones from a chemistry set I've carried in a backpack. Man, that's gonna be so sweet. Monkey-tail slave clones, I said!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

TEXAS CHEER MOMS
TLC 7:00 P.M.

Give me an "S"! Give me a "U"! Give me a "C"! Give me a "K"! What's that spell? What's that spell? What's that spell?!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

CELEBRITY PARANORMAL PROJECT
VH1 1:00 P.M.

Joe Piscopo and Picabo Street investigate the death of a prison warden. Let me repeat that. Joe Piscopo and Picabo Street — a former mediocre comedian and an Olympic downhill



Celebrity Paranormal Project

skier — team up to examine the mysteries of afterlife. What? What the hell is going on? I want to know who the hell was sitting around one day and said, "You know what I'd like to see? Joe Piscopo and Picabo Street..." Give that man a raise. He's weirder than I am.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

INCREDIBLE HULK
SCIFI 10:00 A.M.

I met Lou Ferrigno. If I had been thinking about it, I probably would've tried to feel strong by just being around him. Like when I was a kid, I swear I could whip some major ass at tetherball when I was wearing my Hulk underwear. But, the only thing I could think of when I was shaking Lou's hand was, "look at the size of his head! Good God, that thing's huge! I wonder if he can buy hats or if they have to be specially made or what. Look at that thing."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

PREHISTORIC PARK
ANIMAL PLANET 9:00 P.M.

I've recently had my sabre-teeth removed. What were cool when I was a kid and really set me apart from everyone else at school had become a problem. How many girls do you know that would mind making out with a guy with thick fangs that hang down below his chin? I know I've lost job opportunities because of them, and they made me a spectacle at the gym. It was cool to be "The Sabre-Toothed Baby," and my picture was in all the papers, but I had to move on. I'm okay with it. I might miss them a little, but I'm okay.

JUICER, Omega Twin. Gear model 8000. \$250/best. Wayne. 619-561-7254.

MACHINE HOIST, for lifting engines. 14' long bar 7'9" high. Bolts to floor \$100. 619-656-7840.

MANZANITA, root burls. 70 at \$7 a piece. 760-742-3358.

MASSAGE TABLE, like new, includes cover, \$175. 858-523-0058.

MEN'S COAT, size 40-42 \$5. New single cassette player with ear phones \$5. Bar stool 26" high, foot rest, seat \$10. Razor scooter \$5. 619-583-3751.

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

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.

OAK CABINETS, fine bath or kitchen cabinets. Armstrong, new, still in box. 3'x3'x1'x3'x2", 22 1/4"x33 1/2"x36" for underneath sink. \$100/each. 619-768-3309.

OUTBOARD MOTOR, Johnson 15 horsepower short shaft. Needs work. Must sell. \$185/best/trade. Need flatbed trailer. 951-514-1512 or 619-269-1194.

OVERHEAD projector \$75. Metal detector \$45, vacuum Kirby self propelled attachments with shampooer \$200, Ryobi drill kit \$60. 619-449-8069.

PAINTINGS, all kinds. Reasonably prices. Also collectibles. Come and browse. 619-276-1507.

PERSIAN RUG, silk. 49'x75" 2 1/2" fringe on both sides. \$575. 619-339-8832.

POTS/PANS, 10 pieces \$7/all, 7 large plates \$7/all, 10 coffee mugs \$7/all. 5 baking sheets pans, \$10/all. Escondido. 760-685-8290

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QUILTING MATERIALS, beautiful fabrics. Books, laces, bindings, pictures. Reasonable offers. 760-599-9772.

RING, Ben Bridge round diamond solitary ring. Platinum 5-1/4 1/2 carat. US 211.50. Brand new. \$2400/best. 619-698-3507.

SILK FLOWER, baskets/arrangements for office, house, large, care-free, elegant 4 for \$25. 5 silk trees \$4/each. 760-685-8290.

SINKS, tubs. New and used. Large over-size, stainless double with faucets. Excellent condition. \$800 new. \$275 takes cast iron double Kohler with faucet. 858-272-4866.

SNOW CHAINS, 31x10.50 R15LT 109Q M&S \$20. 858-486-0933.

TRAILER full of 25+ new dual-paned Milgard windows. Trailer bed is 13'x6-1/2', perfect for work or hauling your toys. Windows are various sizes. \$4000/best. 619-549-7026.

VASES, glass white, varying sizes 7 for \$10/all. 760-685-8290.

WHEELCHAIR, \$35. Office chair on wheels, \$8. Golf clubs, countertop, youth bed, \$15. Rolltop desk, collector's Oriental dolls, Mexican doll, ladies' coats, vintage dresses, fan. 858-270-0565.

WINDOWS, like new. 53-1/2' long, 42" wide. Milguard low E, double hung. 8' wide 2'long. Milguard Low E slider. \$100/each or best. After 6pm. 619-596-0373.

WOOL AREA RUG, never used. 5x8. Gorgeous quality rug. Heavy weight, thick nap. Black/tan back round, floral accenting in subtle tones. \$225. 858-688-2604.

WOOL RUGS, maple leaf shapes. 2.3x2.4 three \$45. Oak ice box cabinet \$99. Power shread #110 \$45 Sears sewing machine/attachments \$45. 760-753-6996.

WORMS, redworm. Nature's fertilizer. 1 bucket \$40. Guarantee 1000+ worms. Lisa. 619-449-7875.

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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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BMW 325ci, 2005, leather, premium package, assist service, sport package, Harman-Kardon stereo, chrome wheels, 4-year/50K-mile maintenance program, tint, automatic, 17K miles, \$36,000/best. 619-250-7364.

BMW 330Ci, 2002. Black, auto, 56K, M3 custom wheels. 100K warranty. 235HP. EV-everything except navigation. \$24,000. 858-472-0499. eldirectorJJ@netscape.net.

BMW 740i, 1993. Very reliable, new transmission, and more. Automatic. Gray on gray. \$2500. 858-353-1641.

BMW C. S. 1970. 2.8 liter in line, 6 cylinder, 4 speed automatic, 2 door. Needs restoration \$2950/best. Call 619-250-9989.

BMW M3, 1998. 5 speed. Silver. Runs strong/smooth. Always garaged. New shocks, tires. Recent tune-up, very clean interior, nice JL Audio system. \$13,500. 619-572-9743.

BMW M3, 2002. Titanium silver with Imola red leather, 35,000 miles, 6 speed, Xenon, moonroof, navigation system, 19" premium wheels. Premium package. WBSBL93442JR16396, \$36,425, 619-218-8417.

CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE, 2000, immaculate, well maintained, bronze mist, great gas mileage, takes regular gas, maintenance records available, nonsmoker, 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.

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.

DODGE NEON, 2004, silver, only 29K miles, 4-door sedan, 2.0L engine, automatic, alarm, front/rear defrost, alloys, spoiler, fold-down seats, air bags, \$8900. 619-757-6985.

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, 1996, excellent condition, well maintained, 5 speed, 115K miles, stereo, all power, must sell, \$2800. 619-204-9785.

FORD RANGER XLT, Super cab, 2001. 4 doors (suicide back doors). 85,000 miles. Power locks/doors/windows/steering. Alarm, AC, CD player, more \$8500, 619-804-3299.

FORD TAURUS, LX 1994. Gray station wagon. 54K, all extras, leather seats, new tires. Well maintained with records. \$300. 619-449-6216.

HONDA CIVIC EX, 2004, 19,500 miles, excellent condition, 4 cylinder, 5-speed manual, air conditioning, tilt, ABS, cruise, tilt, spoiler, air bags, sunroof, \$15,000. 619-301-5100.

HONDA CIVIC, 1997, coupe HX, automatic power steering, power windows, air conditioning, moonroof, Custom wheels. \$5250. Black. All original, excellent condition. 124,000 miles. 619-607-7079.

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INFINITI, 1999, loaded, power seats, power windows, sunroof, leather, CD player, cruise control. \$5995. 619-607-7079.

JAGUAR XJ6, 1989, leather interior and paint in excellent condition, runs great, 2nd owner, registration 2007, 93K miles, \$5600. 619-540-7613 or 619-933-8809.

JEEP WRANGLER SPORT, 2005, 3' lift, 12,500 miles, silver, black interior, 6 cylinder, 6-speed manual, 4-wheel drive, tinted glass, tow package, premium sound, \$24,500. 619-847-1617.

KIA SPORTAGE, 2000, 4 cylinder, 4x4, 60,000 millas, 4 puertas, toda electrica, con CD, bien cuidada y economica en gas. \$4998. 619-723-1307.

LINCOLN MARK 8, 1995 LSC, damage to left side. All else excellent \$2000. 858-538-3347.

MAZDA 3S, 2004, automatic, leather seats, 28K miles, cruise, power locks, steering, remote keyless entry, air bag, CD player, 4 speed, 17" alloys, \$15,995. 619-977-3230.

MAZDA MIATA, 1999. Dark blue. New top/tires. Manual, fantastic car. Need more luggage space so must find new home for it. \$10,000. 619-517-2308.

MERCEDES-BENZ 420SE, well maintained, great cruising vehicle, rides like a dream, stereo cassette, cruise, sunroof, air conditioning, few door dings, leather torn, \$1500. 858-357-4921.

MITSUBISHI LANCER, 2002, great condition, 43K miles, new tires and battery, 1-owner car, \$7500. 858-208-7615.

MITSUBISHI MIRAGE, 1997, black, 113,600 miles, dual air bags, automatic, air conditioning, stereo, cassette player, CD, surround sound, amplifier, subwoofer, tow bars, spoiler, \$3200. 760-822-0391.

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STERLING 827 SLI, 1989, luxury and reliability, good motor and transmission, power sunroof, all power, new paint, rims, tires, owned/serviced to date, \$3200. 619-269-2654.

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, 52,000 miles. Excellent condition. Power everything. Smooth ride! \$13,495. 619-948-5370.

TOYOTA COROLLA, 1992, great engine, 5 speed, air conditioning, CD, new tires, brakes, and alternator, metallic blue, registered June 2007, 160K miles, \$2100. Denise, 858-569-1366.

TOYOTA COROLLA, 1990, wagon. White with serious front end body damage. Engine/transmission okay. Must sell for parts. \$335/offer/trade or utility trailer. 619-269-1194.

TOYOTA TACOMA, 1998 regular cab. 5 speed, air, 4 cylinder, 65K. Excellent. 30

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VOLVO 240, 1992, silver, dark gray interior, good condition, 170K miles, new front tires and rear tail lights, recent brake and other maintenance, \$2900. 760-230-1910.

VW BEETLE, 2003, dark blue, 37,400 miles, under factory warranty, leather interior, automatic, Monsoon sound system, good condition, fun and beautiful, must sell, \$15,500/best. 858-205-3844.

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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, timothyrsrster@gmail.com.

CHEVY BLAZER, 1999, \$10, 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 CARGO VAN 2500, 2003, white, chrome wheels, new tires, air conditioning, AM/FM stereo, CD, power windows/locks, 83K miles. Excellent condition. It's a beauty! \$12,000/firm. 619-670-5734.

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CHEVY SILVERADO, 1500LS. Save full with a 4.8L, V8, extended cab. 3 door, CD, full power, bedliner, tow packages. 96000 miles. Clean. \$9700/best. 619-662-9718.

CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4, 1999, original owner, dual air, seats 8, AM/FM, CD cassette, well maintained, 115K miles, pewter over charcoal, asking \$11,500/best. 619-258-9811.

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DODGE, 1980 1/2 ton longbed, 318 motor. Automatic. \$925 takes. 1992 Dodge Caravan V6 auto. Runs great and straight. \$1950. 619-660-8491.

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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 WORK VAN, secure type, \$1350. Fifth wheel trailer, \$1350. Must sell ASAP. 619-606-0217.

GMC JIMMY, 1991. 2 door white, 4x4, roof rack, all power, CD player, runs great, 128,000 miles, \$2000/best, 858-344-3420.

HONDA PILOT, 2004. EX. All leather, red rock pearl. 240hp, V-6, 4x4, CD/cassette, chrome wheels, front/side air bags, 28mpg. 8300 miles. \$26,500. 619-757-6880.

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NISSAN XTERRA, 2004, loaded, 6 cylinder, 2-wheel drive, roof rack, running boards, automatic, power everything, 24.2K miles, factory warranty, excellent condition, must sell, \$14,500/best. 619-723-9797, 858-663-0150.

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SUZUKI STATION WAGON, 1998, 4 cylinder, 4 door, luggage rack, power steering, automatic, air conditioning, 83,000 original miles. \$2650, 619-607-7079.

TOYOTA 4RUNNER, 2005. SR54x2. Black, 46,900 miles. 16" alloy wheels, P26570R16 tires, automatic, much more. Very safe/reliable car. \$21,500/best. Cashiers check only, 858-736-5335.

TOYOTA 4RUNNER, 1992, dark gray exterior/interior, 145K miles, good condition, 4x4, tow package, power windows/locks, CD/tape players, air conditioning, racks, \$5000/best. 858-205-8399.

TOYOTA TRUCK, 1997. Regular cab, 5 speed. Excellent condition, well maintain, no dents or scratches. Runs great, very clean, must sell. Encinitas 760-944-7972, mornings best.

TOYOTA TUNDRA, 2006, mint, 9K, V6, all power, air, 4 wheel abs, extra long bed with liner. \$16,500/best. Must sell. 619-298-0117.

VW VANAGON, 1982 Westfalia camper, pop top, vintage original, good looking, fun, needs a little work, must come check it out, \$3800/best. 858-220-1540.

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DATSUN 240Z, 1973, recently disassembled, media blazed and primered, complete suspension and drivetrain, new floor pan kit included, \$1800/best. 858-395-9115.

FORD MUSTANG, 1966, with performance modifications, many mods, great shape, 331 stroker, T52, upgraded suspension, steering, brakes, more, \$11,800. Dave, 858-560-2071.

FORD TUDOR, 1950, 2-door sedan, flat-head, 3-speed manual, 6 volt, 99% original, all complete, no major rust, project car, not running, needs starter, \$3500. 619-921-0758.

PLYMOUTH BARRACUDA, 1965. 4K on 360 HP motor. Transmission, radiator, suspension, brakes, tires, solid CA car. \$10,000 invested. \$7200/best. 760-754-1172.

TOY DISPENSAL, 1953 MGTD Roadster, 1967 Cadillac Eldorado 52K, 1973 450 SL convertible, 1985 Ford Diesel, Lift gate 26' sailboat dropkeel, 12; sailboat. 858-663-3399.

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KEYSTONE LAREDO, 2006 fifth wheel. Like new, sleeps 8, central vacuum, corner shower, separate toilet. Surround sound and tv. Must sell, \$28,000, 619-672-7785.

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T.G.I.F.

Back then, I remember thinking Mexico is a good place to die.

By John Brizzolara

Green milk curdled; ash and smoke dumplings in ham and pea soup. Cigar and pipe smoke wafted against white fluorescence, hovered like the slow and fat flies near the entrance to the Tijuana coroner's office where I had spent most of the week watching autopsies, then trying to sleep. The nearly complete charring of a 12-year-old boy was a feature of what dreams I managed. That was well over 12 years ago and never fully enough forgotten, journeyman journalist's unpleasant dues.

The doctors would break and smoke their pungent Mexican and Cuban tobaccos in the lighted doorway, the lights themselves covered with dead insects, nicotine, and dust from the road. The odor no longer plagued them, and the smoking seemed to be a hang-over from younger days in the forensics facility. Back then, I remember thinking Mexico is a good place to die. It seems so much more a part of things here than a few miles north, where it only happens to actors, who get up and walk away. The Day of the Dead; it seems only right that they should have their say one day of the year, a day to think about that day we'll join them.

It is the perfect holiday for the morbid little kid I was and the shot-out geezer I am. Still, it would never fly

up here. No one dies in America; everyone knows that. It is the worst that can happen, no? That is the unspoken thing, paradoxical in a place with so many exceptions; like the Ice Follies and John Denver on CD.

Memories of the Mexican dead are what accompany my thoughts on November second each year: the woman with a purse of chicken fat around her heart on the table, her chest pried open with heavy metal teeth. "Too much grease," the examiner had said.

And the boy, burned beyond recognition, looking like charcoal driftwood. "Every winter they burn whatever they can on the hillsides in the *colonias* to keep warm. There are always fires." Then there was the man with the top of his skull removed, his brain in a suspended tray for weighing. The brain was browned, as if it had been sautéed. "Alcohol," was the sole pronouncement. Or, "drugs"; and here the doctor was pointing to five bullet wounds in the side of an 18-year-old boy and through one palm, as if the lad had turned away from a pointed gun, his arm upraised to ward off the shot during a drug deal. Ten million ways to die in Tijuana, and here were some of the representatives, illustrations.

Of course, I picture my own death. I always have. I said I was a morbid kid. I enacted my death for the entertainment of my friends as I plummeted from rooftops onto mattresses, clutching a toy arrow to my gut. Or breathing my last after a shoot-out, "The gold...it's in the..." Now I envision it far more realistically, the curse of years of rehearsal. I am in a hospital bed; my midsection around my liver is swollen as if I had swallowed a basketball. I am begging God's forgiveness and asking a friend to pull the plug, kill me, as a friend once asked me to do, an alcoholic that died too young. Or I could easily go out beneath an oxygen tent gasping like a beached flounder, grabbing at fistfuls of imagined air and gathering only bed sheets in my bony white fingers. Even more likely is a "cardiac event," which might bring the curtain down with merciful alacrity or leave me drooling, mumbling, paralyzed, whining at a nurse with a kind of gravelly lockjaw, "Matlock. I want to watch Matlock!"

Death is more a vehicle for comedy to me than it is for horror, though it does have that vital ingredient of the mundane, or at least its first definition in the *Oxford American*: "dull or routine." Mundane's second definition



may or may not fit, depending on your beliefs, and that is, "worldly, not spiritual."

Weirdsmith Arthur Machen in the last century defined horror more or less in *The White People*, when he wrote, "What would your feelings be, seriously, if your cat or your dog began to talk to you, and to dispute with you in human accents? You would be overwhelmed with horror. I am sure of it. And if the roses in your garden sang a weird song, you would go mad. And suppose the stones in the road began to swell and grow before your eyes, and if the pebble that you noticed at night had shot out stony blossoms in the morning?"

Which brings us back to John Denver in the Ice Follies, John Denver *dead* and in *The Ice Follies*.

Happy All Souls' Day.

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CHEVY, 1975 1/2 ton van and pick up parts. No drivetrain. \$5-\$20. Chevy 4WD front stabilizer \$10. 619-750-7556.

RIMS. Polished aluminum for 1998 Ford F-150. Brand new. \$200. Firm! 619-670-5734.

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WHEELS, set of four 18" alloy wheels (no tires), were on 2000 Nissan Altima, 4-lug bolt pattern, in great condition, \$200. 858-571-7763.

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